Preschool Lesson (1 Cor 12:27) As Unique as a Snowflake

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This simple Bible lesson is perfect for those Sundays when you have snow on the ground. It could be used in Sunday School or Kids church. Some families could use it as an outline for a family devotion.

Memory Verse: "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27

Gospel Connection: When children look at snow they see individual snowflakes that are all uniquely made, but can make a big impact on the world when they stick together. Likewise, all children are made in the image of God and are unique. As the church, we are the body of Christ and are called to work together to accomplish the work of the church.

Learning Aim: Children will learn that they have been made in the image of Christ and that God created them to be unique individuals. God's ability to create is infinite and He should be praised for the diversity that he created. Children will also learn that made us all unique so that we could world together to accomplish the work of His church.

Bible Reference: Genesis 1:27-28, 1 Corinthians 12:27

Target Age Group: Preschool or Younger Elementary (K-1st) but you can adapt the content for any age group

Learning Context: Sunday School

Target Time Frame: 1 hour

You Can Help: Please share your feedback and suggestions to improve this children's Bible lesson.

Basic Supply List for this Lesson

- 1. Bible
- 2. A large bucket of snow
- 3. Sensory table or bowls to hold the snow
- 4. Construction paper
- 5. White Chalk
- 6. Several large bags of cotton balls
- 7. Masking tape
- 8. Coffee Filters

9. Scissors

10. Winter Coloring Pages (optional activity)

Note: In the teaching plan below the words in *italics* are meant to be read aloud. The regular text is simply directions for the teacher.

>>>> Bible Teaching Plan < < < <

Open the Lesson: Greet the children and explain that we will begin by playing a game called *Alike and Unalike*. In this game the teacher will give a category and the children must sort themselves based on that category. Say, *When I say go, put yourselves in a group with children that have the same eye color as you.* Say go and help children put themselves into the appropriate groups. Say, *Great! We all have eyes, but they all look different. Now, put yourself in a group with people who have the same hair color as you.* Continue the game with categories of shirt color, shoe type, number of siblings, age, favorite color, etc. When the game is finished ask all the children to sit down and say, *God made us all unique, that means that we are all different. What are some of the things that make us different from one another?* Allow responses. *God made us different in many physical ways, such as eye color or height or age, but He also made us different in the ways that we think and act. We all have different likes and act in different ways. Why do you think that God made us all uniquely? Allow for responses and tell the children that we will find out soon.*

Biblical Background: Read and show Genesis 1:27 to the class. "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." Say, God is the Creator of the whole world. There is no end to the things that He can create. He can keep creating more and more things and will never run out of ideas. Human beings are His best creation because He also gave us the ability to think and create new things. We are all created in the image of God, but are very different.

Sensory Time: If it is available to you, get a large bucket of snow and place it in either a sensory table, in large bowls, or directly on the table. If you do not have access to snow, you could find several picture of snow from Google images to show the children in place of real snow. Place the snow in front of the children and tell them to look at it closely. Ask, *What do you see? What does the snow feel like? What does it smell like?* Allow responses and give the children plenty of time to play with the snow. Say, *all of this snow is made up of tiny snowflakes. Look very closely and you will be able to see the tiny flakes. Every snow flake is unique. No two are exactly alike, just like no two people are exactly alike. God made them all unique just like we are unique. But look at what snow can do when all the little flakes stick together. Have you ever built a snowman or had a snowball fight? It takes millions of snowflakes to make those things happen. Allow the children to play until they lose interest or the snow melts. Be prepared to clean up the melting snow and warm the children's fingers when you are finished.*

Biblical Evidence: Once the snow is cleaned up and the children are warm, have them sit back down and display and read 1 Corinthians 12:27 to them. "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." Say, *When all the tiny snowflakes stick together they make a big snowstorm. When all of God's children stick together we make the Church. We can all do different jobs in the church because we are all different. What are some of the different things that people in our church do?* Allow children

to respond, and tell them that there are people who preach, teach, pray, evangelize, care for the babies, clean, cook, manage the money, etc. *God made you unique because He has a specific plan for your life and a specific job for you to do in the Church. What can our class do if we all stick together and work together?* Allow children to respond and help them come up with ideas of things that they can do to minister to the people in your church.

Craft: Snow Self-Portraits:

Have children create self-portraits that highlight the things that are unique about them. Give each child a dark colored piece of construction and a 'snow stick' (white chalk). Have the children draw themselves with the chalk and ask them to tell you what makes them unique. When all the children are finished, hang the pictures on the wall to create a large collage of the class. Remind the children that they are created in the image of God, and that they are all unique.

Game & Lesson Review:

To play this game you will need a large bag of cotton balls. The cotton balls will represent snowballs. Divide the children into two teams, team 1 and team 2. You will ask team 1 a question and if they get it right they will get 3 cotton balls. Then ask team 2 a question and if they get it right they get 3 cotton balls. If a team answers the question wrong the question goes to the next team. Once all the questions have been answered, have both team build a snow tower out of their cotton balls. Whichever team builds the tallest tower wins.

Lesson Review and Discussion Questions:

- 1. In whose image are we created? God's image
- 2. What does unique mean? It means that we all have things that make us different and special.
- 3. Why did God make us all unique? *God made us unique because He has a specific plan for all of our lives.*
- 4. How many things can God create? *God can keep creating and creating. He will never run out of ideas.*

- 5. What are some of the ways that God made us different? *He made us with different hair and eye color, different interests, ability to do different jobs. Allow children to use their imagination as they answer this question.*
- 6. Can we do more when we work alone, or when we work together? *We can do more when we work together.*
- 7. According to 1 Corinthians 12:27, what are we a part of? We are a part of body of Christ.
- 8. What do the children of God make when we all stick together? *We make the church.*
- 9. What are some of the different things that we can do in the church because we are all different? *We can be Preachers, Teachers, care for children, keep the church clean, secretaries, etc.*
- 10. Name something that our class can do for our church when we all stick together. Allow the children to use their imagination as they say things that they can do when they stick together.

Children's Prayer Moment

Say, Every time that you see snow, remember that God made you unique and has a plan for your life. You are a part of the church and only you can do the job that God has planned for you since He created you to do it. When we stick together we can do great things for the kingdom of God. Let's pray. Dear Lord, thank you for making all of us different and special and in your image. Help us to always remember that we are special because of our differences. Show us what we can do to bring glory to your kingdom. Amen.

>>>> Extension Activities <<<<

Snowball fight: This snowy game is just for fun. Divide the children in half and put a piece of masking tape on the floor to divide the room. Give each team a large bag of cotton balls and let them have a snowball fight. No one may cross the line in the middle of the room. The object of the game is to have as few cotton balls on your side of the room as possible. At the end of the game see who has the least amount of cotton balls to determine the winner.

Unique Snowflakes: Have the children create their own unique snowflakes by folding a coffee filter and cutting out small triangles from the folds. When the coffee filter is unfolded you will have some very pretty snowflakes.



Circles make a snowman!



Winter Crafts Ideas for Children

http://winter-crafts-ideas

Brandi Riddle

January 17, 2013

What better way to enjoy the cold weather than to make some fun winter crafts! On those days when it's snowy or just too cold to get outside, bring the fun in.

Grab a cup of hot cocoa and try one of these fun, easy crafts.

1. Snowy scene

Materials Needed: blue construction paper, white circle stickers, white paper, glue

Directions: Children place white circle stickers all over the blue paper to create a snowy scene. At the bottom of the page you can add blankets of snow by cutting pieces of white paper into curves and gluing them onto the blue paper. Simple, easy, and kids love it!

2. Snowman

Materials Needed: snowman picture (we used the snowman to talk about circles), cotton balls, glue, markers or crayons, googly eyes, buttons — <u>download snowman template</u>

Directions: Cover the snowman template (bottom 2 circles) with the cotton balls. Using the markers or crayons, create the snowman's face. You can also you googly eyes and buttons to create the face!

3. Winter Tree Hand Print

Materials Needed: blue construction paper (we used light blue), brown paint, paintbrush, paper plate, sugar or silver glitter, glue, wipes (for cleaning hands) optional

Directions: Put some of the brown paint onto the paper plate. Using a paintbrush, paint the child's hand and place it in the middle-upper portion of the paper. Use the paintbrush to paint a trunk that extends from the bottom of the child's handprint to the bottom of the page. Once the paint is dry, spread some glue around the sides of the handprint and a little on the handprint. Next, sprinkle sugar or glitter (either works fine) onto the glue. This creates a snowy look to the winter tree!

4. Cup of Hot Cocoa

Materials Needed: photocopy of mug, crayons, marshmallows, glue, hot chocolate mix — <u>download cup template</u>

Directions: have child color the mug. Spread glue near the top of the mug and sprinkle some of the hot chocolate mix. Let dry. Once glue/chocolate mix is dry, add a little more glue and put marshmallows on.

5. Paper Snowflakes

Materials Needed: white copy paper, scissors

Directions: fold the paper in half. Find the middle of the paper and fold the left corner down to the middle forming a triangle. Fold the right side of the paper to the middle to form a second triangle (the two corners meet). Cut the bottom of the paper in an arc. Now you can begin cutting the paper to create the snowflake. You will cut away a lot of the paper. Have fun and be creative! After you have finished cutting, carefully open your paper to see what your snowflake looks like!

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