



Created by Julia Marshall





Psalms 139



#### EVENT GOALS

- Foster community amongst families with children 3-5
- Teach children of God's love
- Build relationship between attendees and Christ

#### MEMORY VERSES

Psalms 139:13-14 (NIV)

#### TODAY'S TRUTH

God will always be with me, and loves me for who I am!

## **PRAYER BEFORE EVENT**

Prayer prompts to prepare your heart

- Pray for the families that will attend
- Pray that God will use you fully to minister to families
- Pray for volunteers
- Pray thanksgiving for God creating us each unique and always being with us





## EVENT MERCHANDISE

#### Merchandise that could be ordered before the event

Consider ordering various items for families to take home after the event. Adding a personal touch to their experience can help them remember the lessons of the day, and spark conversation with those around them. Some items you can look into creating with today's logo (in Appendix F) are:

- T-shirts with event logo on the front for volunteers from a local or virtual printing company. This will help families know who they can ask key questions to, or seek advice from during the event. These individuals could have different colored shirts to help match the theme of "God making us unique"!
- Children should receive their own shirts with the symbol on the front to design at the craft time station. If not cost friendly to order with print on front, consider purchasing blank shirts at local stores or online, as well as Walmart, Michaels, or Amazon.ca.
- Beverage containers with logo to be used for the day, as well as a keepsake. This could help with reducing single-use garbage from your day, and remind families of the lessons learned.
- Reusable bags could also be purchased to keep all items from the day to bring home with. This would be another common item at some t-shirt printing companies to be made with your logo, or possibly a generic one purchased at a local store, such as Dollarama.
- Another item to be custom made could be bracelets that say "God made me" to wear during the day provided at one of the stations.

Take the time to consider various purchasing options and what may fit best in your ministry unit budget for the event.

## PREPARE

## Things to consider ahead of time:

- Pick a park that is suitable for your group size and age group. Some important things to consider while looking for a park is if the park has a washroom facility that can accommodate any family needs with younger children, and is also spacious for activities and leisure.
- It would be valuable to reach out to your families in advance to provide the details of the event. Choose a time and date. Alongside such, encourage families to bring blankets or chairs so that they can be comfortable at the park.

#### 66

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Psalm 139:13-14

## EVENT AGENDA

Timeline for your Party at the Park

#### Welcome

Open The Space Provide Agenda Opening Prayer

#### **Free-Play**

Stations:

- Photo Booth
- Craft Area
- Snack Shack
- Fishing Pond of truth
- Bubbles and Toys
- Bouncy Castles
- Face Painting
- Obstacle Course
- Chalk Outline

#### Worship & The Word

Song: If you're happy and you know it song Song: If I were a butterfly Song: Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

Devotional - God's Fingerprint

Song: I am Special Song: He's got the whole world Song: Jesus Loves Me

#### Closing

Event Review Closing Prayer and Farewell





## **SUPPLIES**

List of all items to find to make your day a success

#### Generic

Sound System Water Jugs for water station (2) Event Merchandise (60 of each) Extra blankets & Chairs (5) Appendix B posters to put up (10 copies) Appendix A & E take home handout (60 copies)

#### Free-Play Items needed

Photo Booth Camera, Printer and supplies, Appendix D printout signs (1 copy), sticks

#### Craft Area

T-shirts with Logo (30), Non-Toxic Fabric Paints and Markers (5 packs), Tables (4)

Snack Shack

Pre-made person cookies (60), various coloured frosting, candies, chocolate, sprinkles, Snowcone machine and supplies (60 cups & 2 flavours) Watermelons (4)

Fishing Pond of Truth

Appendix C printout promises (1 copy), Laminate pages (5), Stick on Magnets, Kiddie Pool, Toy fishing rods

Bubbles and Toys Bubble Mix (4 large), Bubble toys and wands etc., Various other yard toys

> Bouncy Castles Bouncy Castles (2)

Face Painting Face paints and brushes (3), Chairs (4) Tables (1)

Obstacle Course Jump Ropes, hoolahoops, pylons, tunnel toys, ball, etc.

> Chalk Outline Chalks (4 packs)



## WELCOME OUTLINE

## OPEN THE SPACE AND PROVIDE TODAY'S AGENDA

SAY:

Well welcome to today's event! We are so happy that you are here with us. Are you ready for a day of fun? Me too! Today we have some exciting things planned. I'd like to begin first, however with some housekeeping. The bathrooms at the park are just to the left of where we are sitting by the trees. We also have a water station set up to the right on the tables for you to access, feel free to use your brand new water bottles!

We're now going to move into a time of free play. There are several stations set up for you to have fun as a family. This time is unstructured to allow your family to do what suits you best! Feel free to move from station to station at your own pace. You're also welcome to stay here in our circle to chat with one another. If anyone needs blankets or chairs, we have brought extras. Please just find me if you'd like one!

#### OPENING PRAYER AND RELEASE TO FREE PLAY

Spend some time in prayer to open the afternoon together. Allow free time to begin, and play music through sound system. Page 5





## FREE PLAY OUTLINE

#### STATION 1: PHOTO BOOTH

Have props from Appendix D printed on card-stock paper.

Photo booth will also have someone working a camera so that photos can be printed off at the photo booth from their day to take home.

- This station uses our senses by feel, sight, hearing
- This station helps to foster meeting God's family
- Two volunteers needed at this station

#### STATION 2: CRAFT AREA

Children will receive white t-shirts with the day's logo on the front. Appropriate craft items such as washable fabric markers and non-toxic paints can be used with parents there to assist them.

- This station uses our senses by feel, sight
- This station helps to foster knowing God's love and igniting their imagination
- 5 volunteers needed at this station

#### STATION 3: SNACK SHACK

Children and parents will be able to create sugar cookie versions of themselves! There will be supplies to decorate their cookies with frosting, sprinkles, chocolate, and candy. Other misc. snacks available as well such as snow cones and watermelon.

- This station uses our senses by feel, taste, smell
- This station helps to foster knowing God's love and activate their senses
- 5 volunteers needed at this station





## FREE PLAY OUTLINE

#### STATION 4: FISH POND OF TRUTH

Children will be able to fish out of a small kiddie pool laminated promises found in scripture that share how God made us perfectly and loves us for who we are. Language will be intentional to be inclusive to the learning level of children. These will be fished out with a plastic fishing rod with a magnet on the end. Parents will help to read to the children.

- This station uses our senses by feel, sight
- This station helps to foster knowing God's love
- 2 volunteers needed at this station

#### STATION 5: BUBBLES AND TOYS

Children will have the ability to play with bubbles and other outside toys at this station.

- This station uses our senses by feel
- This station helps to foster activating their senses and meeting God's family
- 2 volunteers needed at this station

#### STATION 6: BOUNCY CASTLES

Children can have the opportunity to play on various bouncy castles that should be rented out for the event. Search online and contact various locations near you that can provide bouncy castles for a price that fits into your ministry unit budget.

- This station uses our senses by feel
- This station helps to foster activating their senses
- 4 volunteers needed at this station along with possible workers from company renting out from



## FREE PLAY OUTLINE

#### STATION 7: FACE PAINTING

Children will be able to have their face painted with unique designs of their choosing, or some examples provided for them.

- This station uses our senses by feel
- This station helps to foster igniting their imagination
- 3 volunteers needed at this station



#### STATION 8: OBSTACLE COURSE

Children will be able to travel through created obstacle course created at their age level. There is no winner for this station, however if you complete the obstacle course a treat will be given to you. This treat will be a small bracelet that emphasizes our scripture verse. This bracelet will be age friendly. Items could be pylons, jump ropes for a "tightrope", hoolahoops to jump in and out of, items to crawl through, etc.

- This station uses our senses by feel, sight
- This station helps to foster activating their senses
- 2 volunteers needed at this station

#### STATION 9: CHALK OUTLINE

Children and parents are able to trace their bodies with chalk and draw themselves and fill in their shape with pictures or words that describe them with the help of a parent.

- This station uses our senses by feel
- This station helps to foster knowing God's love, meeting god's family, and ignite their imagination
- 2 volunteers needed at this station



## WORSHIP & THE WORD OUTLINE

#### SONG 1: IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT

V1: If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands If you're happy and you know it and you really want to show it If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands

V2: If you're happy and you know it, stomp your feet

V3: If you're happy and you know it, make a smile

V4: If you're happy and you know it, shout, "Hooray" (hooray)

#### SONG 2: IF I WERE A BUTTERFLY

If I were a butterfly, I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings. And if I were a robin in a tree, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could sing. And if I were a fish in the sea, I'd wiggle my tail, and I'd giggle with glee, But I'd just thank you, Father, for making me Me!

(CHORUS) 'Cause you gave me a heart, And you gave me a smile You gave me Jesus, And you made me your child. And I just thank you, Father, for making me Me!

If I were a wiggly worm, I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm. And if I were a crocodile, I'd thank you, Lord, for my big smile. And if I were a fuzzy wuzzy bear, I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy wuzzy hair. But I'd just thank you, Father, for making me Me!

(CHORUS x2)

#### SONG 3: HEAD,SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES

Head, shoulders, knees and toes Knees and toes Head, shoulders, knees and toes Knees and toes And eyes, and ears, and mouth, and nose Head, shoulders, knees and toes Knees and toes

(Gets faster each verse)

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## DEVOTIONAL

#### God's Fingerprints

SAY:

I want to take a moment to share an incredible fun fact I've learned. Take a moment with me to look at your hands. Consider the way they look. Did you know that every person's hand is different from the next? Specifically, the tips of our fingers?

Sure, there are similarities and patterns, but if you look really closely, there are differences that make us unique! Take a moment now to compare your hands with the person next to you.

It is incredible to know that each and every one of us has been designed unique – special – and unlike any other person. Not only are our hands unique, but we have favorite foods, toys, clothes, colours - dreams and goals that make us special too! There is no one that is exactly like me, or you, or any one of us.

As I think about this, a key scripture passage comes to mind. Psalm 139:13-14 says that God created us, and he created us and was there even before we were born. He made us wonderful, and we praise him for this! The psalmist, who is the writer of this part of the bible, shares that God is with us always... and there is not a moment in time where we are alone. There is so much power behind these words. We know that God knows us and each of our movements. He is present with every breath in, and breath out. From before we were even born, through every moment of our lives, he will be right there (Martin, 2020, p. 336)! As we sing our next song, and go home from this place, I want to encourage you to look at your hands in times of sadness, fear, or even loneliness to remember that God is always present with us, and he has made us perfectly!

(Pray over families with today's truth)

66

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made: your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

> Psalm 139: 13-14

#### Reference

Martin, L. R. (2020). Psalms. In K. J. Collins & R. W. Wall (Eds.), Wesley One Volume Commentary (pp. 304–339). Abington Press.



#### SONG 4: I AM SPECIAL

#### TUNE: FRÈRE JACQUES

I am special (point to yourself) I am special Don't you see? (make binoculars with your fingers) Don't you see? Someone very special (hands out to the side, palms up) Someone very special 'cause God (point to heaven) made me (point to yourself) God made me!

#### SONG 5: HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD

He's got the whole world in His hands He's got the whole wide world in His hands He's got the whole world in His hands He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got the little bitty baby in His hands He's got the little bitty baby in His hands He's got the little bitty baby in His hands He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got you and me brother in His hands He's got you and me sister in His hands He's got you and me brother in His hands He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got everybody here in His hands He's got everybody here in His hands He's got everybody here in His hands He's got the whole world in His hands

#### SONG 6: JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me, this I know For the Bible tells me so Little ones to Him belong They are weak, but He is strong

Yes, Jesus loves me Yes, Jesus loves me Yes, Jesus loves me The Bible tells me so





## **CLOSING OUTLINE**

#### EVENT REVIEW

SAY:

We've made it to the end of our time together! The time has gone so fast. To review our time, we began with a welcome to learn more about today's events, and a prayer to start our time with God. We then began our freetime where we could participate in various stations set up. We had lots of fun with bouncy castles, face painting, snacks, and crafts! Then we spent some time in song and worship, and got to learn more about God making us unique, and always being with us! I don't know about you all, but I've had a fantastic afternoon. If I was to describe my time this afternoon I would say "free"!

ASK:

I'm wondering, what are some words you would all use to describe your afternoon?

#### **CLOSING PRAYER AND FAREWELL**

Spend some time in prayer to close the afternoon together.

Before families leave, provide each home with a take-away document that outlines today's learning and fun.







#### NOTES

- Our handprint is unique, and reminds us of God's love
- There are many other things that make us unique
- God has always been with us, even before birth
- God goes everywhere with us, and never leaves us!

#### MEMORY VERSES

Psalms 139:13-14 (NIV)

#### TODAY'S TRUTH

God will always be with me, and loves me for who I am!

## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Game to play at home with your family

Complete the "20 Challenges of Love" board found in Appendix E.

Challenge your family to complete all the activities on the board! Mark off each activity with a unique colour, pattern, or scribble as your family finishes them all. God has made each person unique, loved, and known. Take the time to reflect on these truths and how we can care for ourselves and others as his creation!



PERSONALIZE THIS POSTER ON CANVA BY CLICKING THIS LINK: https://bit.ly/4h0wYL9



Who?

Where?

When?

Families with children aged 3-5

YOUR LOCATION HERE

YOUR DATE HERE

Want to learn more about how God has made us perfect, and never leaves our side? Please join us at the park for a relaxed day of fun!

> your ministry unit name here your email here your phone number here

Matthew 28:20 "I am with you always..."

l John 4:7 "...love one another, for love comes from God."

1 John 4:19 "We love because he first loved us."

1 John 4:9 "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world..."

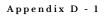
Psalm 103:8 "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love." (NIV) Psalm 136:26 "...His love endures forever."

1 Corinthians 13:13 "...the greatest of these is love."

Ephesians 4:2 "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."

Deuteronomy 6:5 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your strength."

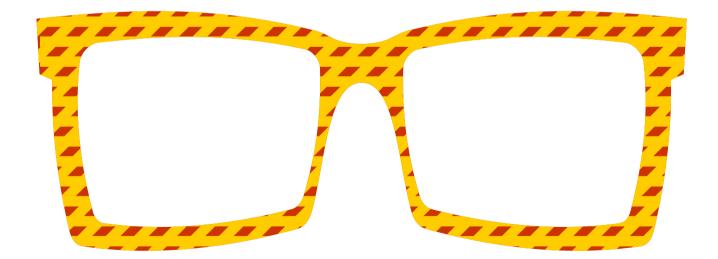
> Proverbs 10:12 "...love covers all wrongs."











# GOD MADE ME

# LOVED BY GOD

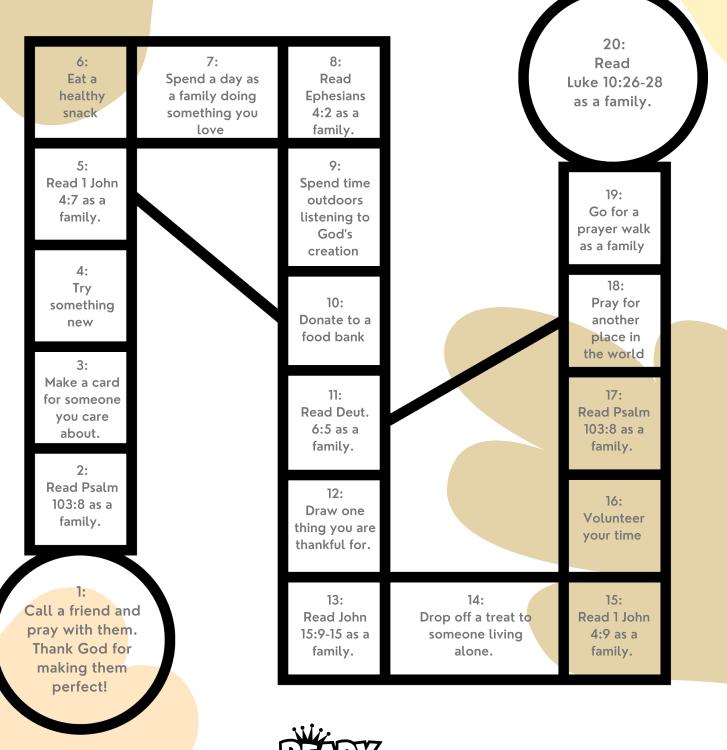
# UNIQUE

## WONDERFULLY MADE





## 20 CHALLENGES OF LOVE





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