



CHILDREN'S LESSON

PREPARED BY
VALERIE PAVEY

made for a divine purpose

JEREMIAH 1:5



CALL AND COMMITMENT 2026



Shaped by God

You Were Made for a Divine Purpose

Call & Commitment Sunday - Children's Time
Valerie Pavey

Preparation:

Purchase small containers of playdough for each student in your church service and one container for yourself. (You can order 1 oz containers of Play-Doh from [Amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca).) Gather two brown paper bags or gift bags. Download the Shaped by God - Bible Verses.pptx.

Place a small container of playdough in a brown paper bag or gift bag. In the second bag place enough small containers of playdough for each student in the service.

Share:

I've brought something with me today. *(Hold up the bag with playdough inside.)* Anyone want to guess what it might be? It comes in different colours. It's very soft and squishy. It's fun to use to make things. What do you think it might be?

(Pull the playdough out of the bag.) It's playdough! I love playdough. *(Open container and let everyone see the playdough ball.)* It's so soft and squishy—at least when it's new and fresh! I can take this little blob of playdough and create so many things. What about you—how many of you like to use playdough? What kinds of things have you made with playdough? *(Encourage responses.)*

What is something we need to do before we create something with playdough? *(Encourage responses.)* We must have an idea or a plan. If I want to make a colourful snowman I have to stop and think about what parts will make up my snowman. Then I have to divide up my playdough into smaller pieces, I need two or three to make a snowman's body and head, another couple pieces to make a hat, smaller pieces for arms, a nose, eyes and mouth and maybe even a few tiny buttons. *(If you have the time, you could make the pieces mentioned and put together a snowman as you talk about it.)*

Playdough also makes me think of God and His amazing creation. God had a plan when He made each of us. God had plans for how He wants each of us to live for Him even when it is difficult to do so.

Listen to what it says in Jeremiah 1:5-9 (The Message): *(Use provided PowerPoint slides to help students follow along.)*

- ⁵ "Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you:
A prophet to the nations—
that's what I had in mind for you."
⁶ But I said, "Hold it, Master God! Look at me.
I don't know anything. I'm only a boy!"

⁷⁻⁸ God told me, “Don’t say, ‘I’m only a boy.’
I’ll tell you where to go and you’ll go there.
I’ll tell you what to say and you’ll say it.
Don’t be afraid of a soul.
I’ll be right there, looking after you.”
God’s Decree.

⁹⁻¹⁰ God reached out, touched my mouth, and said,
“Look! I’ve just put my words in your mouth—hand-delivered!”

Here are a few things we need to know about Jeremiah.

1. **He was a prophet.** Who knows what a prophet is? (*Encourage responses.*) A prophet is a man or woman chosen by God to tell His message to people. Jeremiah was chosen by God before he was shaped in his mother’s womb with this special task of sharing God’s messages to others (v. 5).
2. **Jeremiah was young.** He was “only a boy” (v. 6) when God called him to speak on His behalf.
3. **God told Jeremiah that his age did not matter.** That he shouldn’t be afraid because God will tell him where to go, what to say and be there to look after him (v. 7-8).
4. **Jeremiah obeyed and followed God instructions.** He shared God’s messages even when he knew it would get him in trouble. He did what was right even when it was hard to do. And God was with him.

Look at my playdough. It just looks like a small lump—not really anything important. Maybe some days we feel like this. But if we look at Jeremiah 1:5 (The Message) we read that: (*Use PPT slide 3.*)

“Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you: a prophet to the nations—that’s what I had in mind for you.”

(*While speaking and without drawing attention, form your playdough into a megaphone shape. Make a funnel shape and give it a handle at the narrow end. If you think your students may not know what a megaphone is, consider making a microphone instead.*) Before He shaped us in our mother’s womb God knew all about us. Before He shaped us God had a special plan in mind for each of us. He had a divine purpose for each of us!

Do you know that God calls each one of us to be “Jeremiahs”? God calls each of us to share His good news with others. It doesn’t matter how old we are. God’s divine purpose is for each of us to have a relationship with Him and to tell our family, our friends and our neighbours about Jesus. God wants them to know that He loved them soooo much that He sent Jesus to take the punishment for our disobedience toward Him (our sin) and to give us eternal life.

(*Hold up your playdough megaphone.*) Look at my playdough. What does it look like now? I formed it into a megaphone to remind me that God formed me to speak, to tell others that God loved us so much He sent Jesus into the world to die for our sin so that we might live with God forever in Heaven.

(*Hold up the second bag.*) I’ve brought something else with me today. I’ve brought each of you a small container of playdough. I want you to stop, think of something that reminds you that God formed you to serve Him, then I’m going to give you a moment to quickly make that item. (*If students need ideas, encourage them to think about skills and abilities they have. Think about how they can be used to serve God. Make something that reminds them of those abilities and skills. If time allows, invite the students to hold up what they made and tell the audience what it is and what it reminds them of. If you want to make this into a Sunday school lesson (see pages 5-13), make this a separate activity for the students.*)

Great job with your creations. If you need more time, work on your creation as you sit in your seat and come show me after church what you have made that reminds you that God made you with a divine purpose.

Just like our playdough can become anything we imagine, God made you to do amazing things for Him—and it doesn’t matter what age you are!

Prayer:

Invite your students to hold their playdough in the palms of their hands. Pray with them thanking God for knowing each of them, for creating each of them to be special and for giving each a divine purpose. Invite God to remind us that we have a purpose, that He will give us the words and actions needed to fulfill that purpose. Ask for God's help in telling others about His great love for each of us.

Extra Activity:

Feel free to print and distribute the activity sheet on the next page to remind the students that they have been made for a divine purpose.

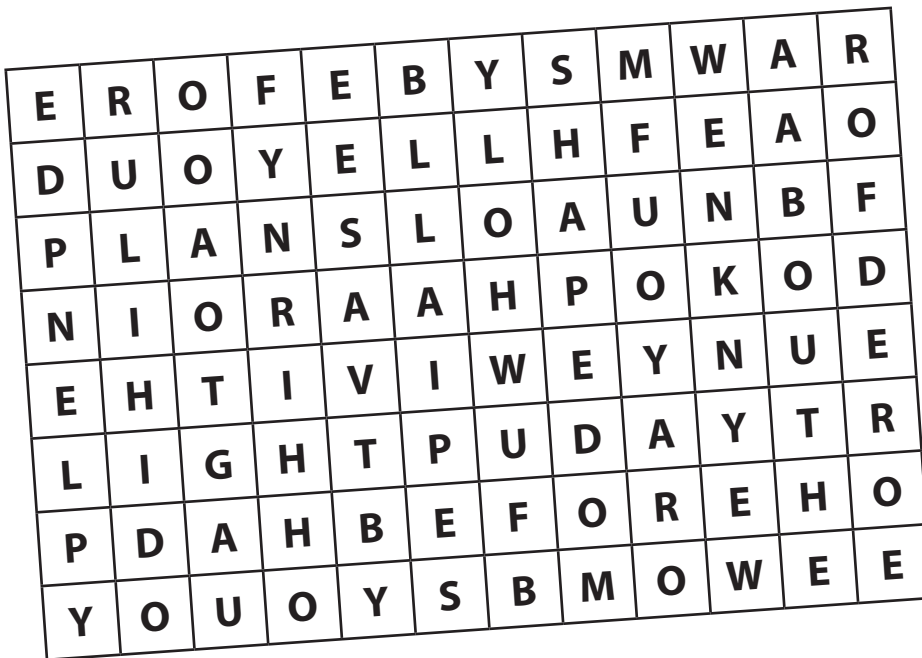
Shaped by God

You Were Made for a Divine Purpose



Can you find all the **bold** words from today's Bible verse in the word search? Strike out the words as you find them.

**"Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you."**
Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)



There are 21 extra letters in the word search. Write them down in the order you find them to reveal a message.

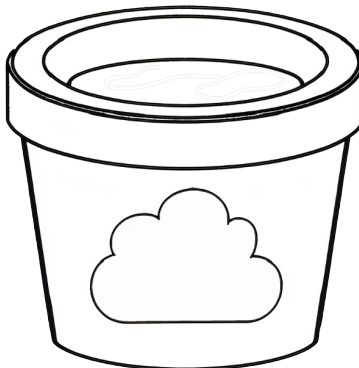
I AM _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ !

On the playdough containers, write the names of three people you can tell about Jesus and how He loves them.





Shaped by God

You Were Made for a Divine Purpose

Call & Commitment Sunday - Sunday School Elements
Valerie Pavey

If you wish to use this resource for a Sunday school or class time, consider adding the following elements to the Children's Time.

1. Opening Activities

Today's lesson focuses on God's plan for each of us. Before we were formed in our mother's womb God knew us and had a divine plan for our lives. These activities require our students to make a plan before their next move, or reminds them that God knows each of us. Choose one or two activities that will work best in your setting and time frame.

Pick Up Sticks

Materials Needed: A couple sets of pick up sticks, and an instruction sheet using instructions listed below.

1. Hold sticks in one hand against your playing surface (floor or table).
2. Drop the sticks onto your playing surface.
3. Taking turns remove one stick at a time without moving any other sticks.
4. If you move another stick you must put down your stick and let the next player go.
5. If you remove a stick without touching or moving others you keep that stick.
6. Continue taking turns until all sticks have been picked up.

Team Tic Tac Toe

Materials Needed: Playing space and removable tape, two different coloured bandannas or construction paper or paper plates to easily identify the two teams.

Ahead of time create a large tic tac toe grid on the floor in the centre of your meeting space. Divide your students into two teams. Each team will need their own colour of bandanna or construction paper taped onto the players. Teams take turns placing one of their players on the grid to mark their spot. Team members work together on (or plan) their moves and attempt to win the round. Play a few rounds as time permits. If you have small teams, have team members use paper plates as the X and O markers on the grid.

Who Am I?

Materials Needed: Gather photos of celebrities, Disney characters or members of your church. From each picture create another image of a zoomed in portion of their face or identifiable clothing. These can be shared as paper images but works best if you create a PowerPoint presentation.

Play "Who Am I?" by showing the close-up image to your students. Let the students guess who they think it might be. Then show the full picture to see if they guessed correctly. Continue playing with a few more images.

Optional: Make it a competition between two teams and see which team can guess the most correct images.

2. Worship Time

Look through this list of potential songs that you can use with your students. Choose a couple songs to begin your time together and another to finish.

- **God Has A Plan** from Make Some Noise Kids (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f0s3qO7w8ak>)
- **Jeremiah's Song** from Worship House Kids (<https://www.worshiphousekids.com/products/song-tracks-sgt-ekg-00000026-jeremiahs-song>) – purchase for \$15.00
- **You Know Me/Jeremiah 1:5** from Kingdom Crusaders (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=mrErs2mzs8s>)
- **I Wanna Do Right** by Jana Alayra (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIxxuTV-5vk>)
- **Your Way's Better** by Forrest Frank (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1LRsp8qBY0>) Encourage your student to get up and dance the viral dance to this song (see <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/BUJwrExcpzA>)
- **When I Look** from KidSpring Children's Ministry (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4iW9MN7vMpQ>)

3. Lesson Time

Use the children's time lesson here as your Bible story lesson. You can give each child a container of playdough during this lesson time, or you could add the playdough activity to your activity stations.

4. Discussion Time

Spend a few moments leading your students through a discussion time. If you have a larger group, consider breaking them into smaller discussion groups.

1. Have you ever felt you were too young to do something? What did you feel too young to do?
2. What are some things you are good at doing? (I.e., speaking, art, music, sport, etc.)
3. What is something you think God created you to do? How can you use the things you are good at doing to share God with others?

5. Decision Time

During this lesson we are encouraging our students to know that God has a plan for their lives, and that like Jeremiah we are all called to share God's Good News with others. You may have students who have not heard God's Good News or have invited Him into a saving relationship with them. We encourage you to use the decision resource: [God's Good News Colours](#) to share the gospel message simply and creatively. Match the gospel message to this lesson's theme by using six colours of playdough.

6. Activity Stations

Choose whether you will set up multiple activity stations with students divided into smaller groups and rotate through each station, or students pick only one station. You may also choose only one station to use with your group.

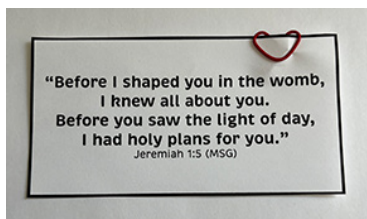
Playdough Plans

Materials Needed: A small container of playdough for each student.

Remind students that before we were formed in our mother's womb (before we were born), God had a divine plan for our life. Give each student a container of playdough and encourage them to stop, think about what thing reminds them that God has a plan for them and what steps they need to plan to make the item, and then have them create the item from the playdough.

Heart-Shaped Plans

Materials Needed: Paperclips (1-2 per student), printed heart shaped paperclip instructions (see [page 9](#)), and today's key verse printed on card stock for each student (see [page 10](#)).



Give each student a copy of today's key verse and a paperclip. Spend a few moments saying the verse together a few times. Show the students how to bend the paperclip into a heart shape following the printed instructions. Have students clip the heart-shaped paperclip to their verse card. Be sure to remind the students that just like we shaped our paperclip into something special, God has shaped them with a divine purpose.

Twist and Tell Good News

Materials Needed: Pipe cleaners (1 per student) and instruction sheet from [page 11](#). Optional: red or pink pipe cleaners cut in half (one-half pipe cleaner per student).



Take one pipe cleaner and fold it in half so both ends meet. The fold will be the top of your cross. About one inch below the fold, bend the right side of the pipe cleaner to make a short arm. Do the same on the left side so that you have two matching arms. Twist the long ends (or legs) of the pipe cleaner together. Go back to the top of the cross and twist it to make it more secure. Then twist the left arm and the right arm a few times to help them stay in place. Share with your student that the cross reminds us that Jesus gave His life for each of us, so we can have a loving relationship with God. God calls each of us to share this good news with others.

Optional: Take the red or pink pipe cleaner and shape it into a heart. Use the ends of the pipe cleaner to attach it to the centre of the cross.

Beaded Butterfly Plan

Materials Needed: A large supply of Perler beads, small bowls to divide beads by colour or one bowl for each student, peg boards (1 per student), butterfly pattern from [page 12](#) (1 per student), parchment paper, and an iron (for adult use only). Note: You may want to have a few samples of the butterfly made up ahead of time to show the students. You may also want to have tongs or tweezers available for students who need assistance with fine motor skills. (This station may take more time than the other two.)



Divide beads into bowls for each student or by colour. Provide each student with a peg board and a copy of the butterfly pattern. Students create their own butterfly by placing the beads on the peg board following the pattern. Once beads are on the peg board an adult will cover them with parchment paper and gently melt the beads with the iron. When slightly cool, gently remove beads and turn over. Cover this side with parchment paper and gently melt again to make the shape more stable. Remind the students that like a colourful butterfly we can attract others to God when we have experienced His love in our lives.

7. Wrap-Up and Reflection Time

Finish your time together with an opportunity for your students to identify the characteristics, skills and abilities God created within them, and to discuss how they can use those skills to share Him with others.

Created With a Purpose

Materials Needed: Print a copy of "You Were Created With A Divine Purpose" for each student (see [page 13](#)), a supply of colourful pencils or markers. Optional: Invisible ink pens with UV light available from [Amazon.ca](#).

End your time together today by giving each student a "You Were Created With A Divine Purpose" sheet. Invite them to write or draw inside the outline characteristics, abilities or skills that they have (*Ideas: gentle with others, good at sports, can cook, draw, play an instrument, kind, see good in others, good in a school subject, etc.*).

Once they've identified their skills or abilities, have them think of ways God may want them to use them to tell others about Him. (*Ideas: make cookies and share with a neighbour, teach someone younger how to kick a soccer ball, invite others over for a meal or to play games, be a friend to someone who is alone, help someone with their homework, etc.*) Have the students write these ideas around the outline.

Optional: Have your students use their invisible ink pen to write down the characteristics or skills God has given them. They can use the UV light to shine on what they wrote down to remind themselves of how amazing God created them to be and that He gave each of them a divine purpose.

Share:

(*Gather students back together.*) You have done a great job at identifying the characteristics, skills and abilities God created you to have. There are so many different ways each of those skills and abilities can be used to fulfill God's divine purpose for your life. And just like Jeremiah was used by God at a young age, He can use you at the age you are right now.

This week at home, try doing these three things to remind you that you were created for a divine purpose:

1. **Talk to God** – Invite God to show you the special purpose He planned you for.
2. **Share Jesus** – Take the opportunity to share about Jesus with a friend or family member.
3. **Create something** – Use your playdough and make something that will remind you that God created you with a divine purpose. Place it some where it will remind you that God made you to do something special for Him.

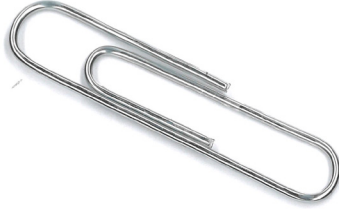
Closing Prayer

(*Have your students hold whichever item you made today.*) Encourage your students to look at what they created. Then pray with them thanking God for loving us so much that before we were even born, He had great plans for us and gave each of us a divine purpose. Invite God to help each of us to remember the characteristics, skills and abilities He gave to us. Ask Him to help each of you to use those skills and abilities to live lives that will point others to Him through our words and actions. Thank Him for being with you and helping you to live for Him even when it may be difficult.

Heart Shaped Plans

Step 1:

Place paperclip on table like this.



Step 2:

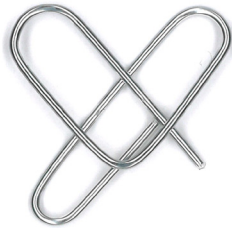
Begin to bend paperclip downwards like this.

(Tip: Pointy end of left side goes down through middle of paperclip.)



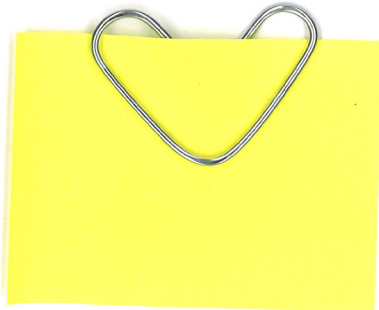
Step 3:

Continue to bend paperclip until you see the heart shape.



Step 4:

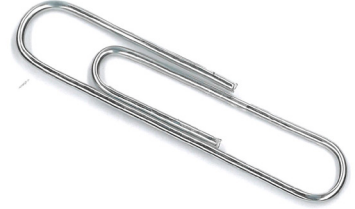
Place your paperclip onto your Bible verse card like this.



Heart Shaped Plans

Step 1:

Place paperclip on table like this.



Step 2:

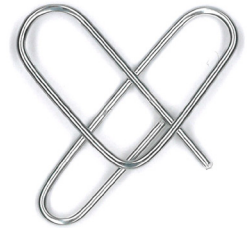
Begin to bend paperclip downwards like this.

(Tip: Pointy end of left side goes down through middle of paperclip.)



Step 3:

Continue to bend paperclip until you see the heart shape.



Step 4:

Place your paperclip onto your Bible verse card like this.



**“Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you.”**

Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)

**“Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you.”**

Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)

**“Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you.”**

Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)

**“Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you.”**

Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)

**“Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you.”**

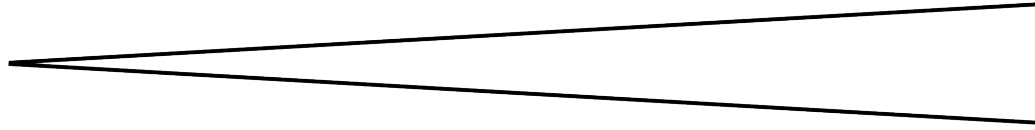
Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)

**“Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you.”**

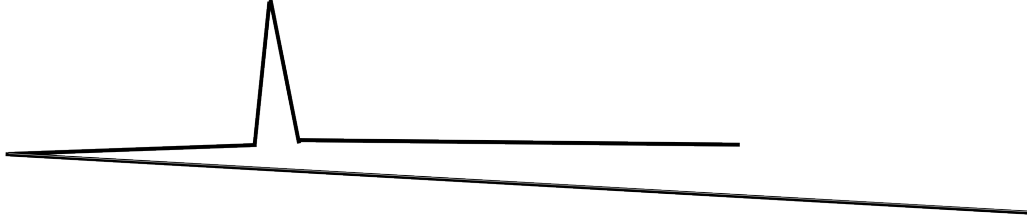
Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG)

Twist and Tell Good News

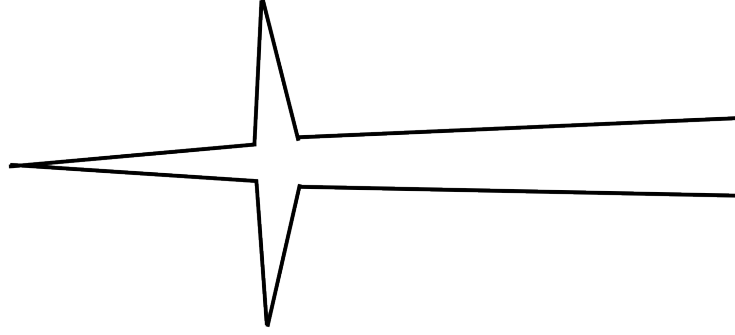
Follow the steps below to form a pipe cleaner cross.



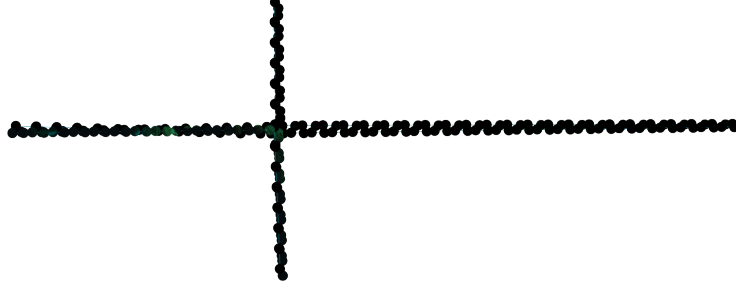
Step 1: Fold pipe cleaner in half.



Step 2: Fold to form right arm.



Step 3: Fold to form left arm.



Step 4: Twist each section of the cross to give it stability.

Perler Bead Butterfly Pattern

		X	X						X	X		
	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	
	X	A	A	X	X		X	X	A	A	X	
	X	X	A	A	X	B	X	A	A	X	X	
		X	X	A	X	B	X	A	X	X		
			X	X	X	B	X	X	X			
		X	X	B	X	B	X	B	X	X		
		X	B	X	X	B	X	X	B	X		
			X	X	X		X	X	X			
				X				X				



Perler Bead Butterfly Pattern

		X	X						X	X		
	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	
	X	A	A	X	X		X	X	A	A	X	
	X	X	A	A	X	B	X	A	A	X	X	
		X	X	A	X	B	X	A	X	X		
			X	X	X	B	X	X	X			
		X	X	B	X	B	X	B	X	X		
		X	B	X	X	B	X	X	B	X		
			X	X	X		X	X	X			
				X				X				

YOU WERE CREATED WITH A DIVINE PURPOSE

