

Adventures with GOD!

MY PERSONALITY IS A GIFT FROM GOD (B.3.WINTER.6)

Biblical Reference	John 12:1-7, Luke 10:38-42
Key Verse	Isaiah 64:8
Key Concept	I am thankful to God because I have been given my own unique personality.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Express the different elements of our personality.2. Name aspects of the personality of someone else.3. Say the Key Verse by memory.

Life Application

God has made us whole people with abilities, emotions, and personalities. Each person is unique. God is only one who molds us and shapes us and transforms us to be more like God. Help the children to think about what aspects of their personality are pleasing to God and in what aspects God might be inviting them to change or follow Jesus' example.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Introduction	Playdoh, modeling clay	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, perfume, or baby oil	10 minutes
Key Verse Craft	See instructions	15 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

Adventures with GOD!

INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets, and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials at CovChurch.org/children/adventures-with-god.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible, we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched, palms up, to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read Luke 10:38-42 two times, and ask children to respond.

Question Examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you through the passage?

Introduction: Give modeling clay or playdoh to each of the children. Ask them to make a figure of a person. These people will be used later during the Bible Exploration.

Bible Exploration: God has made each of us different, and the way we relate to God is sometimes different. Today the children will have the opportunity to meet two very special people who have different personalities. The Bible tells us about two sisters, Mary and Martha, who were friends of Jesus. Jesus spent time with them and their brother Lazarus on many different occasions. The story of Luke 10:38-42 tells of one time when Jesus visited Mary and Martha. Read Luke 10:38-42, and then discuss with the children. What does this story tell us about the two sisters? How are they alike? Different?

Adventures with GOD!

Now read John 12:1-7, another story about Jesus visiting Martha and Mary. Have some smelly oil or perfume available to recreate the scene, and involve the sense of smell. What else do we learn about the way Mary and Martha related to Jesus? How did they treat Jesus? How did each of them show Jesus friendship? Write out children's answers. Discuss how Mary and Martha each had a different personality. Martha showed her love and friendship through service and hospitality. Mary showed her love and friendship through listening and anointing. God made each of these sisters unique. God has made each of us unique.

Now using the playdoh people they made, have each child go around and describe the personality of the person they created. Is he/she quiet or loud? Outgoing or timid? What are our personalities like? Describe someone in the class and see if the children can guess who you are describing. Next have children describe someone else in the group, and have others guess. This is a time to build each other up, not tear each other down. You should focus on the positive aspects of personalities.

Imagine that, just as you have these clay people in your hands, we are in God's hands. God has made us, and God continues to form us. Are there some aspects of our personality that God might be changing or forming?

Key Verse Craft: See pages 5-8.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G= God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R= Relationships: Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others. Give children a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O= Outward Action: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week.

W= Worship: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? What would you like to say to God?

Adventures with GOD!

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. The candle reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

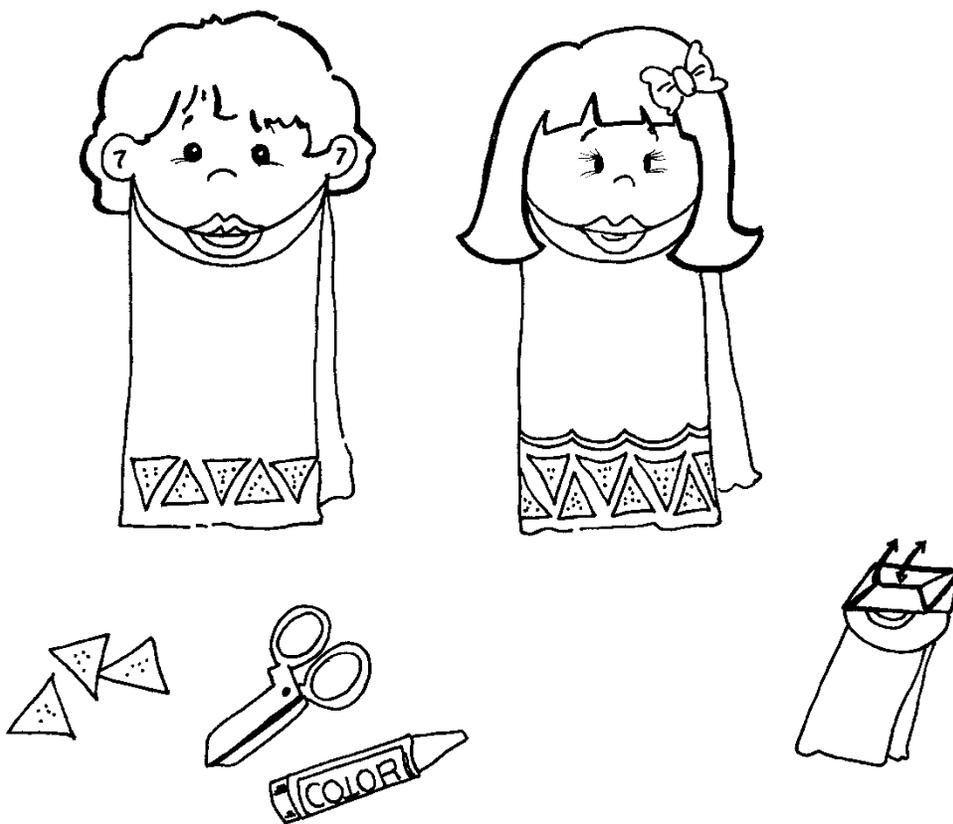
Adventures with GOD!

KEY VERSE CRAFT

Materials: paper bags, pieces of fabric or felt, scissors, glue, crayons, markers, buttons, etc.

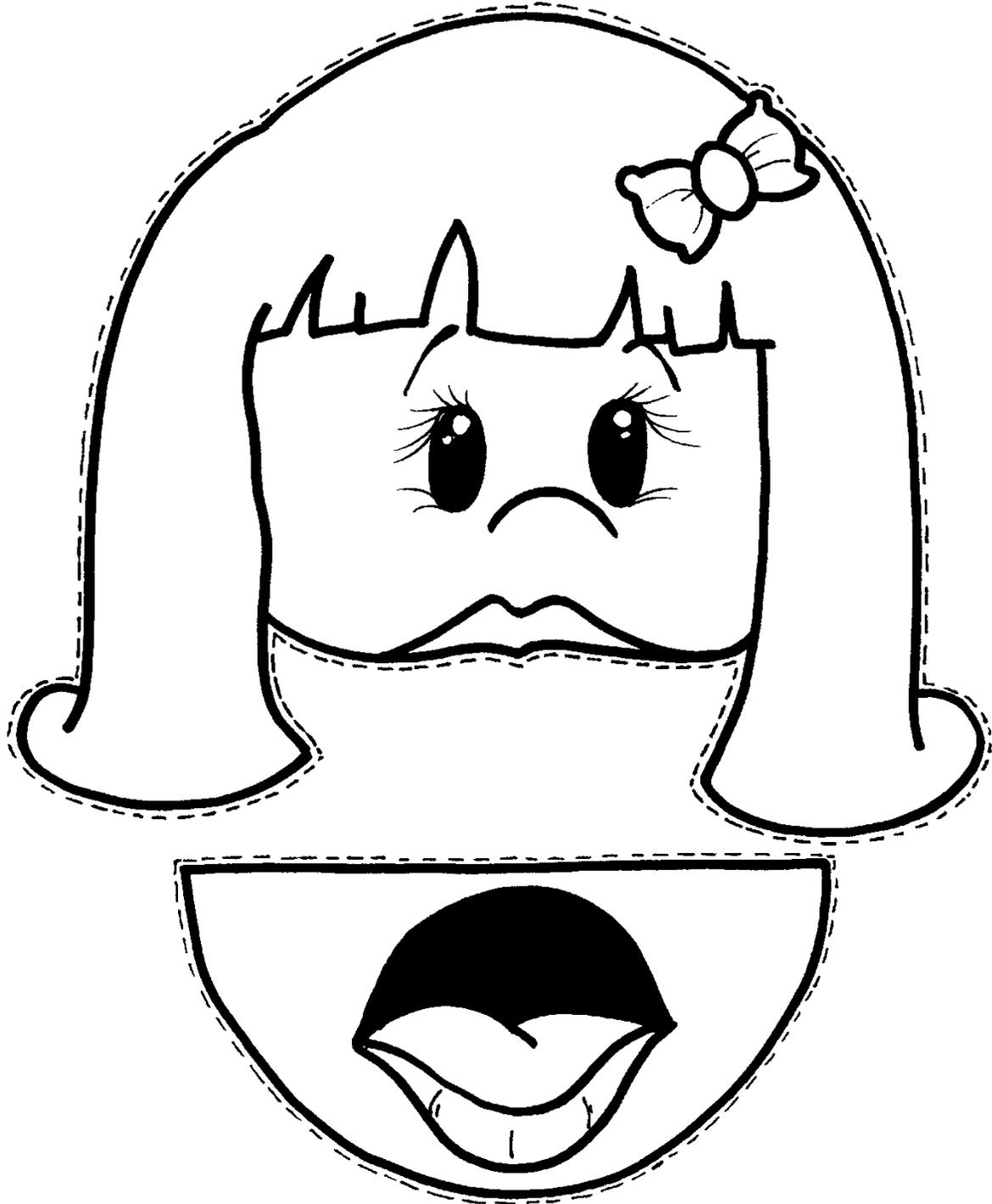
Instructions:

1. Make copies of the puppet patterns (pages 7-8) so each child can make a puppet.
2. Allow them time to color, cut out and decorate their puppets.
3. Give each child a paper bag, and instruct them on how to glue the puppet face and body on the paper bag.
4. When they've finished, they can use the puppet to tell another child the Key Verse.



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PUPPET PATTERN



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