



WEEK 4

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE

REVEALED

BIG IDEA

God made me to do great things.

THE BIBLE

The Faithful Servant: Matthew 25:14-30;
(Ephesians 2:10)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

ACTIVITY | Amazing Hidden Talents

- Lots of people have all kinds of hidden talents. Look at what these kids can do!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show [this video](#) of kids with amazing sports talents, and/or [this video](#) of kids with amazing musical talents.
- **To you, which one of these talents was the coolest?**

QUESTION | Your Hidden Talents

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Encourage a discussion about some interesting skills your kids may have (e.g., tongue rolling, wiggling ears, doing a cartwheel, whistling, etc.).
- God also gives us unique gifts. **What are some of your hidden talents? Can you show or describe it to us?**
- Look at how many different and unique talents we have here! What a creative God we have!

SO WHAT? *Why does it matter to God and to us?*

VIDEO | Revealed, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#).



BIBLE STORY | Matthew 25:14-30

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tell the Bible story from the perspective of the third servant. Ask for three kid volunteers. Designate one kid to be the "boss," two kids to be "worker 1" and "worker 2," and yourself as "worker 3." Have the "boss" give each of the "workers" five, two, and one pouch(es) of coins for workers 1, 2, and 3, respectively. Ask the workers to scatter around a designated area where you should have already hidden five more pouches for worker 1 and two more pouches for worker 2. Ask them to return to "center stage" with their extra money pouches. [Make sure you are narrating the story from the third servant's point of view. Such as, "Hmph. The boss only gave me one bag of gold! That's not fair!" or "Can you believe it? My boss got mad at me! All I did was protect his money!"]*
- Let's go over this story again. So, two of the workers took the money they were taking care of and they went and earned more money with it. This made the boss super happy! But the third worker was afraid he might lose the boss's money, so he took it and buried it to keep it safe. **Was the boss happy with that worker?** No! The boss was seriously angry! He trusted the worker with something great, and the servant didn't do anything worthwhile with it.
- What does this mean for us? God hasn't given us bags of cash, but God *has* given us all kinds of abilities, interests, gifts, and unique characteristics that make us who we are. Maybe God made you really kind and understanding. Maybe God made you to be a good listener. Maybe God made you really strong or really fast. God made some of you to be interested in art, and others in sports or in gaming. God doesn't want you to hide any of these things – God wants you to use those talents to do great things! That's how God made you!

ACTIVITY | God's Bag of Greatness

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide a big stack of old magazines and/or catalogs. Give each kid a brown paper lunch bag with "God made me to do great things!" written on it. The kids can dig through the magazines for pictures and words that represent stuff they're good at and/or that they love. They should gather these up and put them in their bag. (Some kids may need some encouragement or help, and your team should be on the lookout for kids who aren't feeling great or who are struggling in some way with the activity. Remind them of how great they are and help them think of ways to represent their gifts.)*
- A little later, we are going to share with each other about all the things we put in our greatness bags. For now, think about this: **Does it matter how many things we put in our bags? Why or why not?**
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *When you have finished with this activity, take a few minutes to brainstorm with your preteens on how the talents and abilities in their bags might be used to help people know about Jesus, or help others grow in their faith. When students are done, show them how some of these ideas have direct connections with ministry opportunities in your church right now and how other ideas could even lead to creating a new ministry! Ask things like: "Out of all the talents and abilities you have that you thought about today, which one are you*



most likely to use to help the church grow? What might that look like? What's your next step to moving that from an idea to an action?"

- **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Have our friends with special needs make a comment about what they find are talents their peers have. Have their peers reciprocate. Create an atmosphere of encouragement as they do this activity.*

VIDEO | Rescued by Kids

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show [this video](#) of a group of boys rescuing a younger child who was falling from a ski lift.
- God made those boys creative and strong and brave! And God even made it so they would be right there on that ski slope in that exact moment so they could save a kid. And God has great things for all of you to do, too. Sometimes, they will be big things and sometimes, they will be small things, but no matter what, they are great because God gave them to you!

SCRIPTURE | Ephesians 2:10

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Ephesians 2:10.
- This verse is basically today's Big Idea!—God made us to do great things! The first part —"We are God's handiwork" means God made us. We are no accident. **Have you ever not liked something about yourself?** It's normal to feel that way, but I hope this cheers you up: God made each of us exactly the way we are, and God is super happy with how we turned out!
- The "to do great things" part of our Big Idea also shows up in Ephesians 2:10: "...to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." God wants us to do great things and that is why God has made us who we are!

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

REFLECTION | Something Great

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the kids to close their eyes for about one minute and think about something great they want to do in their lives right now or in the future (it's basically a reworded "What do you want to be when you grow up?" question). Then, have them think about how that great thing can be used for God!
- Not only does God want us to do great things, God wants us to do some specific great things that help other people get to know about God. Doing great things doesn't have to mean something big and heroic. It could mean choosing to be kind to someone at school who most people are mean to. Or maybe God made you great at soccer because God wants you to be an amazing teammate who is a great example for all the other kids on the team. And maybe someday someone will ask you why you are such a great teammate and you can tell them you're just trying to love your teammates the way God loves them.

ACTIVITY | The Great Scatter Plot

- Let's share with everyone the things we were just reflecting on!



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Hang large pieces of paper around the room and write a heading on each of them. Use headings like: "I can do something great through..." (1) Sports (2) Music or Dance (3) Drawing or Making Things (4) Computer or Video Games (5) Math (6) Cooking or Baking (7) Something Unique (if anyone selects this option, ask them if they would like to share/demonstrate). Give each kid a sticker (or more than one), and have them put the sticker on the paper where they think their talents would be best used for God.
- Let's look around. **Which things does it look like most people are going to do?** Do you think this will please God, having us all use those gifts God gave us to do great things? I think so, too.
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** An alternative activity can be to bring out sensory boxes and hide items/toys that represent what we've learned today (e.g., money or coins, musical instrument, ball, etc.).

MEMORY VERSE | Jeremiah 33:3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the kids to pick an easy song or tune they know (such as Mary Had a Little Lamb, It's a Small World, or even the chorus of a pop song!) and set today's memory verse to that melody! Don't worry too much if the words don't fit perfectly into the rhythm – that's part of the fun! Sing your newly created song a few times with the kids.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- What did the master (or boss) in today's story want his workers to do with the coins he gave to them?
- What did the master say to the first two workers?
- Why was the boss angry that the third worker buried his coins?
- Re-read Ephesians 2:10. What are some "good works" you can do this week?
- What did God give us that is represented by the bags of gold?
- Do you ever feel like God didn't give you enough special abilities? What are some you might want?
- How can you grow the talents you do have?

ACTIVITY | My Greatness

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids share what they put in their greatness bags. Discuss why they chose the images they did. How has God made them uniquely to do great things? Can they think of ways their gifts might be used to do great things for God?
- It doesn't matter how many things you have in your bag. The important thing to remember is that, just like how no two bags are exactly the same, no two people are exactly the same! But the one thing we all have in common is **God made us to do great things!**