



KIDMIN
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD®

SESSIONS

MISSION

MISSION

LESSON 1 - OUR FAITH STORY

What is our faith story, and how can Jesus use it to show others how good He is?

LESSON 2 - SHARING GOOD THINGS

How can we take the amazing faith we have in Jesus and share it with others?

LESSON 3 - EVERY DAY

Do we live every day like a follower of Jesus?

LESSON 4 - LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

How are we the light of the world, and how do we make sure our light doesn't go dim?

LESSON 5 - FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Does the fruit in our lives show others we follow Jesus?

LESSON 6 - EXTRA POWER

What happens when we are too nervous to share our faith story with others?

LESSON 7 - SPIRITUAL POP QUIZ

Are we ready to share our faith story at any moment?

LESSON 8 - I'M LISTENING

Do we take time every day to listen for God's voice and what he might be speaking to us?

LESSON 9 - A GOOD SHEPHERD

Can we recognize God's voice over other voices in our lives?

LESSON 10 - GOD'S CALLING

What is God calling me to right now in my life?

WEEK 1

OUR FAITH STORY

Items Needed: None

SAY

Leader: Invite a few children to the front to help you create a story. You, as the leader, start the story out with the first sentence on a white board or you can also use a piece of paper on the wall. Then, a kid will say the next sentence of the story. They are only allowed to give one sentence and then it moves onto the next kid. Do this 4–9 times depending on time available. After the last turn, usually you will have created a rather funny story.

That was fun to write that story together, wasn't it? Creating this story reminds me a lot of the story of our lives. Our story started when we were born, and all the things that we do in our life become part of our story. God has already written out what He wants the story of our lives to look like, but we have to choose to follow His story and what He wants for us, rather than trying to write our own.

Does anyone have an idea what a faith story might be? Sometimes it is also called a testimony. A faith story is the story of how you came to know Jesus and you're growing in Jesus right now! A faith story can include what your life was like before you met Jesus, what happened on the day you decided to follow Jesus, and could even include some of the things you're learning about Jesus now. Your faith story as a follower of Jesus, never ends!

God loves the world so much that He has a specific story for every person He created. Jesus didn't come and die on the cross just for you; He came for the whole world! He wants every person, young and old, every tribe, and every nation, to have their own faith story. That means they need to come to know Jesus and make the decision to follow Him! Our mission from Jesus (Matthew 28:19) is to make disciples, and sharing our faith story with others can be a part of that!

Take some time to think about what your faith story looks like. It might help to try to answer some of these questions.

- What was your life like before you met Jesus?
- Who introduced you to Jesus?
- When did you make the decision to follow Jesus?
- What is your life like now that you're living for Jesus?

PRAY

"God, thank You that You have a perfect story for my life already. Thank You for sending Jesus so that I could have a relationship with You and start my faith story. Help me to live for You every day! In Jesus' name, amen."

WEEK 2

SHARING GOOD THINGS

Items Needed: Donuts

SAY

Leader: Have a leader come up to you right as you start the lesson to tell you that there are donuts in the leaders' break room. Get excited and ask the leader to bring you one. The leader will go out and bring you back a donut.

When something good happens, we want to tell people about it. Think about Christmas morning. How awesome is Christmas morning!? When you get back to school after Christmas break, what are you and your friends talking about? You're telling each other about the presents you got. It's good news, and humans love to share good news with each other.

(Whisper the following.) Can I tell you something?

Everything Jesus did for us is good news! Your faith story happened all because of what Jesus did. Do you remember what a faith story is? Sometimes people call it a testimony. Our faith story is the story of how we came to know and follow Jesus. It can include what our lives looked like before and what it looks like after. You have a faith story because someone told you the good news about Jesus! We should share that good news with other people. In fact, Jesus commands us to go and tell the world about Him. How do we do that? One way we can start talking about Jesus is by sharing our faith story with others.

(Have the leader arrive back with the donut.)

I don't know about you, but I love when people share good things with me. *(Take a bite of the donut.)* Now, you might be saying, "Sometimes I get worried that people won't listen." I understand that. Sometimes that will happen, but don't worry about it. In fact, those are great opportunities to be kind to someone even if they don't want to hear about Jesus. Remember, some people don't like donuts, and that's okay. *(Show the donut.)* Our job is to tell people the good news about Jesus, not to make them like it.

Find one person in this room right now, and ask them what their faith story is. Then, find two kids and two adults this week to talk to about their faith story. Ask them to tell you about how they came to know Jesus and how it changed their lives.

PRAY

"Jesus, You are so good to us. Give us courage as we look for opportunities to share Your good news and our faith story with people in our lives. Help us to be kind even if someone doesn't respond well. In Your name we pray, amen."



WEEK 3

EVERY DAY

Items Needed: Sports jersey

SAY

Leader: Have a sports jersey to wear during this lesson.

Did you guys know I play for the (jersey team)? Yep! And all I had to do was buy this jersey. I just have to dress like the players and show up to the field. At least, that's what I thought until I did just that and I was politely escorted out by a very nice police officer who told me to never try that again. I couldn't believe it! I had bought the jersey. I even brought my own ball, but apparently it takes more than that to play on the team—a lot more—like practice, tryouts, and agents! I'm just kidding about trying to be a player, but there's a good point here.

It requires a lot of commitment to play for a professional team. I can buy a jersey and sit in the stands. But to play, I would have to spend years training. That's true for a lot of things in life. Think about a doctor! You don't want just anybody going online, buying a doctor costume, and showing up to give you medicine! Of course not.

Think about the most important part of our lives, our faith in Jesus. Let me ask you a question. Do you think that just coming to church on Sunday is enough for us to love God? (*Allow for some responses.*)

I want to read you a verse from the Bible. Matthew 22:37 says, "Jesus replied, 'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.'" Wow, all my heart, soul, and mind. God wants every part of us. That sure seems like more than just one day a week. God wants us to love him by being a part of his team all the time, every day of the week. That means how we act on Tuesdays and the words we speak on Fridays, or any day of the week, matter.

You and I are walking faith stories all the time, and the way we live can help the world know Jesus. Do our lives show the world how good God is? Think about this jersey. A player must have a jersey to play in the game. We, as Christians, must have church as a part of our lives. But if we only love God at church and not every day and every moment of our lives, we are like a fan who buys a jersey and expects to play the game.

Take a moment to think about something you do every day. After something comes to mind, pray and ask God to help that thing remind you that being a Christian is an everyday thing, too.

PRAY

"God, I love Sundays with my friends at church, but help me to remember my faith in You is for every day of the week. Help me to remember to live out my love for You every day of my life. In Jesus' name, amen."



WEEK 4

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Items Needed: Lamp with multiple brightness settings, pencils, and copies of the Light Bulb page

SAY

Leader: Find a lamp that has two or more settings for brightness. Place this on a stool and have another helper prepared to turn out the lights in the room. Begin the lesson in the dark, or, if you can find a lamp with multiple settings and your group doesn't handle the dark well, you can start the lesson on one of the low settings on your lamp. Also, included are slides that might help with the illustration as well.

Sitting in the dark can be a little scary. You can't see where you're going or who else is in the room with you. However, in a dark room even the smallest light can be seen by all. *(Turn the light on to low setting.)* See how much difference just that small amount of light can make.

I want to read you something Jesus said about how light reacts to the darkness. In Matthew 5:14–16 said, “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”

(Turn light up a setting)

Jesus was explaining to the disciples that how they lived their normal everyday lives mattered. It could be a light to those who don't know Jesus, or *(turn the lamp off or down)* the way we live can offer no light and no hope.

When we're being kind to people, we're shining the light Jesus is talking about. *(Turn the lamp up.)* When we're talking to our friends about how good God is, we are shining that light. However, if we only love Jesus on Sundays when we're at church, that light dims. *(Turn light down.)* Remember, Jesus said, “Let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.” We can tell the world about Jesus by living a life that shines the light of Jesus.

(Pass out one Light Bulb page and a pencil to each kid. Give kids time to write places they will be this week where they can be light for Jesus. If time allows, let kids color and cut out their light bulb.)

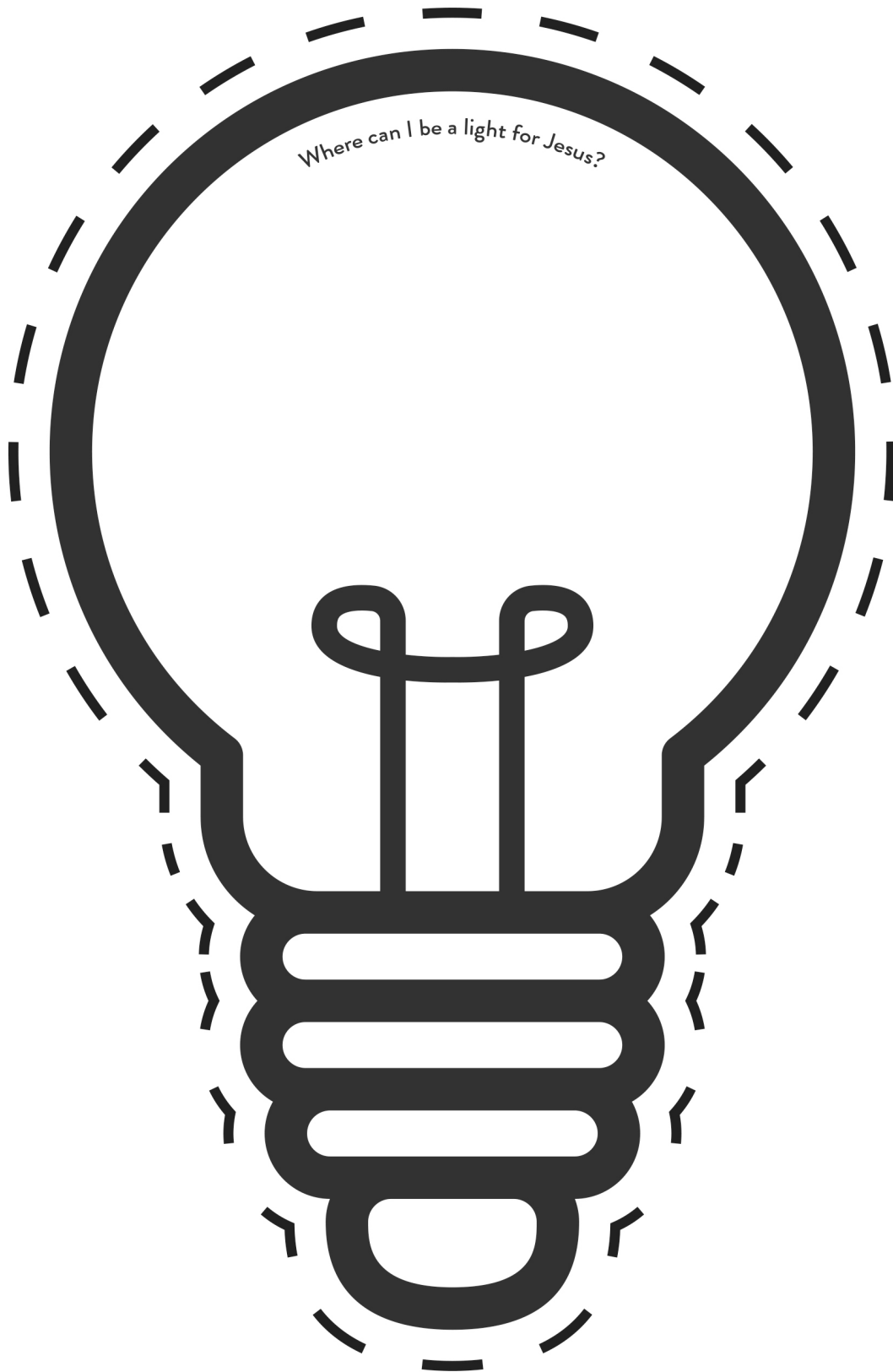
We're going to spend some time writing down places we will be this week. Maybe that is school, soccer practice, or even friends' houses. Then, take this paper and post it in your bedroom as an encouragement to focus on being the light of Jesus in those places.

PRAY

“Jesus, I know You want us to be the light that shines in this world. Help us to live in a way that the world can see how amazing You are. In Your name we pray, amen.”



Write inside the lightbulb places that you go where you can shine the light of Jesus. Then color your lightbulb, cut it out, and put it somewhere you can see it everyday this week.



Where can I be a light for Jesus?

WEEK 5

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Items Needed: Seeds from apples, oranges, or other types of fruit, pencils, and copies of the Fruit of the Spirit page

SAY

Leader: Consider getting several different types of seeds and show them to the kids. Allow them to try to guess what fruit or plant might grow from those seeds.

What kind of fruit does an apple tree produce? An apple tree produces apples. What about an orange tree? Of course, you'll get oranges from an orange tree. Can you imagine how crazy it would be if you could pick lemons from a pear tree? It doesn't work like that because God designed a tree to produce its own kind of fruit. By looking at a fruit, people can know what kind of tree it came from.

The Bible uses fruit to talk about the ways the Holy Spirit helps us live our lives like Jesus lived His life. When we choose to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes into our lives and begins to help us develop what's called the fruit of the Spirit. The Bible says in Galatians 5:22–23 that, “The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” As we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives, He helps us to grow and be more like Jesus.

As our lives look more and more like Jesus, others can see by the way we live that we're different. They may not know it's because we're followers of Jesus, but they should know we're different. Just like an apple seed will produce apple trees, when we say we are followers of Jesus, our lives should produce the same kind of fruit that Jesus' life did. In this way, others can see how amazing Jesus is just by how we live our lives.

(Pass out the Fruit of the Spirit page.)

Take a moment to look at the list of the fruit of the Spirit, and ask Jesus to show you where you may need help. Circle what Jesus speaks to you, then, we are going to pray.

PRAY

“Jesus, I want to look more like You in every part of my life. I want the Holy Spirit to help me grow in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control so that others can see You in me and become Your followers, too! In Your name we pray, amen.”

Fruit of the Spirit

Take a moment to look at the list below. Ask God to show you which ones you need more of in your life.
Circle any that you believe He is saying you need more of. Then ask for God to help you grow to
become more like Jesus.

LOVE

JOY

PEACE

PATIENCE

KINDNESS

GOODNESS

FAITHFULNESS

SELF-CONTROL

GENTLENESS

WEEK 6

EXTRA POWER

Items Needed: Glow sticks

SAY

Leader: Give each child a glow stick that's not yet broken and turn the lights out.

Boys and girls, glow sticks can be a lot of fun. Inside each stick are two chemicals that have a powerful reaction with each other, but it's not until you snap the light stick that you see that reaction. The power of this reaction gives the light stick what it needs to glow bright!

(Have the kids snap their glow sticks.)

Jesus knew His followers would need some extra power to do everything He wanted them to do! As Jesus was getting ready to go back to Heaven, He promised his disciples power that would help them be His witnesses to the world. He also knew that we can't do it all on our own either. We needed some extra power. Acts 1:8 says, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

This promise wasn't just for the disciples in Bible times. The promised baptism in the Holy Spirit is for us now! When we choose to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes into our lives to help us live for Jesus. But Jesus has more for us. We can also be baptized in the Holy Spirit. When that happens, He gives us an extra boost of power to be able to share Jesus with those around us, even in the most difficult situations.

Have you ever found it difficult to tell someone about your faith story? Maybe a family member that's close to you, or perhaps a bully? Maybe you were nervous because you didn't know what to say, or you were afraid of how they might respond. When we're baptized in the Holy Spirit, He gives us boldness and helps us share Jesus with those around us.

Think about someone in your life who doesn't know Jesus. As you hold your glow stick in your hand, ask Jesus to baptize you in the Holy Spirit and give you boldness to tell others about. Take your glow stick home with you, and put it somewhere you're going to see it every day this week. Every time you see it, pray that you would receive more of the Holy Spirit in your life. Ask that He would give you boldness to share Jesus with that person.

PRAY

"Jesus, I ask that You would baptize me in Holy Spirit. I want to have the boldness to tell everyone I meet about You and Your love. In Your name we pray, amen."



WEEK 7

SPIRITUAL POP QUIZ

Items Needed: Note cards and pens or pencils for each kid

SAY

What is one of the worst things you can hear when a class at school begins? For me it was, “Class, today we are going to have a POP QUIZ!” Ugh! The teacher always makes it sound so fun. I think they enjoy it too much. But there’s a verse in the Bible that made me wonder, *Does Jesus give pop quizzes, too?*

Jesus is such a good part of our life. Imagine what life would be like if we didn’t believe that Jesus loved us and saved us from being separated from God forever. Ugh, I don’t like that thought. So, Jesus being a part of our lives is amazing. And let’s remember, Jesus commanded us to tell the world about the good news about Him. Telling others about this amazing part of our lives is a way we get to do that.

Now, back to that verse I read. 1 Peter 3:15 says, “If someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.”

Are we ready at any moment to share our faith stories with others? It’s a tough question, but that is what God wants us to do. It’s a spiritual pop quiz! You could be talking to a friend who is going through a tough time, and the Holy Spirit might ask you to share the good news of Jesus with that person. You could be sitting with your aunt or uncle, and they are sad about something happening in their lives, and the Holy Spirit might ask you to share your faith story to encourage them.

How do we tell people about Jesus? First, we need to be ready to talk about it. Sharing your faith story can be part of it. Second, we need to look for times and places to share with others. You never know when you’ll get a chance, so you need to always be ready for this spiritual pop quiz.

Let’s take some time to write our faith story down. Then, take your story and put it somewhere you will see it a lot. This will help you memorize it, so you can be ready to share it with others.

(If time allows, put kids into small groups and let them practice sharing their faith story.)

PRAY

“Jesus, we know that You want us to be ready at any moment to share about You with others. Help us to listen to Your voice and have boldness when You speak. In Your name we pray, amen.”

WEEK 8

I'M LISTENING

Items Needed: Megaphone

SAY

Leader: Begin by asking kids to explain what a megaphone is used for; then demonstrate what the megaphone sounds like. Be sure to use the megaphone throughout the lesson to help drive the illustration home.

A megaphone is something that is used not just to make your voice sound louder, but it is also used to help direct the sound of your voice in the way you want it to go. You hold the megaphone up to your mouth and direct the other end of the megaphone toward the place where you want your voice to be heard.

There's a story in the Bible of a young boy named Samuel who heard the voice of God speaking to him. Has anyone heard this story? It's found in 1 Samuel 3. Samuel worked and lived in the tabernacle, serving the Lord and helping Eli, the priest. The Bible says in verse 1 that "In those days messages from the LORD were very rare." But God had a special message that He wanted to give to Eli. However, instead of speaking directly to Eli, God chose to speak through Samuel.

While Samuel slept, God called his name two times. Each time Samuel got up and ran to Eli's side, thinking that it was Eli who called for him. However, Eli instructed him that if he heard it again, he was to respond with, "Speak, LORD, your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 1:9). God called on Samuel because He had a special job for Samuel to do and a special message that God wanted Samuel to speak. It was almost like God was using Samuel like a megaphone to speak His message.

You see, God has a special job for each one of us, too! He has the special message of His salvation that He wants the world to hear, and He wants to use us to help deliver that message. So, sometimes God calls us in specific ways to do specific things for Him.

Imagine God using you like megaphone. Imagine that He is calling your name, just like He did with Samuel, so that He can share a message through you. Spend a moment or two right now and practice listening for His voice; not with your ears, but with your heart. What do you think He might be trying to speak to you? Challenge yourself every day this week to take a couple minutes at some point in your day and say to God, "Speak, LORD. I'm listening." Then take time to actually listen and see what God may want you to share.

PRAY

"God, thank You that You speak to us. Help us to take the time to stop and listen for Your voice and do what You call us to do. In Jesus' name, amen."

WEEK 9

A GOOD SHEPHERD

Items Needed: Note cards and pens or pencils for each kid

SAY

Leader: Choose two people who know each other well to play a game. Have one person be the “Caller” and stand on one side of the room. Have the other person, the “Follower” wear a blindfold and stand on the opposite side of the room. Tell the rest of the kids to begin to talk in normal inside voices giving random directions to the Follower. Have the Caller begin to say the name of the Follower and give them directions on how to get across the room. See if the Follower can pick out the voice of the Caller and follow their directions, instead of the rest of the kids.

You know, this game is like life sometimes. God is always calling to us and giving us directions on how to live life. It’s our job to follow His leading. It can be hard, though, when there are a bunch of other voices around us. We have to tune out all the other voices and listen to God’s voice alone.

Sheep do this so well. Sheep can be loud with all their baaing at each other. However, sheep know the voice of their shepherd. In fact, they’ll often ignore anyone else who tries to call them. But as soon as their shepherd calls to them, their ears perk up and they come running to follow their shepherd. Sheep even know the difference between their shepherd and other people! That’s amazing.

The Bible talks about how Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and He calls for us to follow Him. John 10:27 Jesus said, “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” As a follower of Jesus, it’s our job to make sure that we are listening to His voice calling to us. He has special jobs for us, but we must listen to know them. There are people He wants us to pray for. There are people who need to know that Jesus loves them, and He wants to use us to tell them. There are special ways He wants us to give so that people all over the world can know who He is. This is why it’s so important for us to be tuned in and listening for the voice of our Shepherd, so that we can follow His leading and do whatever it is that He wants us to do.

(Use the note cards to help kids think through what God may be calling them to do.)

Grab a card and take a minute to listen to the voice of your Shepherd. Think about the things He may be calling you to do. How is He calling you to pray for the world? What is He asking you to give? Where or to whom is He calling you to go? Take this card home and share what you wrote on it with a parent or grown-up.

PRAY

“Jesus, thank You for being the Good Shepherd and for calling us and leading our lives. Help us to follow You in everything we do. In Your Name we pray, amen.”

WEEK 10

GOD'S CALLING

Items Needed: Slips of paper for charades

SAY

Leader: Consider playing a stage game that is like charades. Before service, take several slips of paper and write on them different things that God might call people to do. Choose kids to act out what is on the slips and see if the rest of the kids can guess the calling.

Have you ever wondered how people choose to become teachers, nurses, pastors, missionaries, electricians, judges, or any other kind of job for that matter? Sometimes it's because they discovered that they loved doing some of the things that are required for those kinds of jobs. And, if they're following Jesus, sometimes they're in those jobs because God has called them and they're being obedient to what God wants them to do.

You may be thinking to yourself, *Great, but I'm just a kid, and I have a long time before I need to think about what I'm going to do for a job as an adult.* However, even as a kid, you can start asking God for a special job. That doesn't mean that you're going to know right now exactly what job you're going to do for the rest of your life. But you can ask God to help you see the areas that He's gifted you in—like caring for people, being really organized, or understanding how to use different pieces of technology. God may be using things right now in your life to help prepare you for how He wants to use you in the future. So, keep working at them. God doesn't want to use you just when you're older; He can use skills and talents in you right now to help draw people to Him.

Maybe as we've been talking you felt like have an idea of what God might be calling you to do. That's great! But even if you don't, you can still start a conversation with God. You can say, "God, would You show me how You want to use me. I want to live my life for You, doing what You've created me to do. I want to use everything in my life to bring You glory and help others come to know who You are."

Take a minute and ask God to help you think about some of the things you're good at. Perhaps these are some of the things you will use to do what He's called you to do. Remember to take time to practice those things to get better at them. Ask God to show you how He might want to use those things in you to help bring people to Him.

PRAY

"God, thank You for making each of us different and special. And thank You for Your call on our lives. Please show us how You want to use us. We want to live our lives for You! In Jesus' name, amen."



GO INTO ALL THE WORLD

