



## Wired

### Week 2: Made in God's Image

**What we want students to learn:** God loves you exactly as you are.

**What we want students to do with what they've learned:** Love themselves and others by realizing the love God has for them.

**Scripture Focus:** Mathew 22:37-39 and 1 John 3:1

**Supporting Scripture:** Psalm 16:8 and Jeremiah 17:7

### The Main Point

Just like we talked about last week, middle school can be a tough time for students. Everyone is trying to figure out who they are, where they fit in, what they believe and many other things. As you prepare to lead your small group, remember that the students are right in the middle of this chaos. That's why this week's lesson is so important. Jesus' love can change everything about who they are or even who they want to be. They are all made in the image of God, like everyone else around them.

### INTRODUCTION

Ask the icebreaker question to kick off small group.

- **If you could be a celebrity, what would you want to be famous for?**
- **What would the best part be about being famous for that? What about the worst?**

We all want to be remembered and known for something. But, our goal as Christians feels different than most people's goals. As Christians, we want to be remembered for loving like Jesus did.

PRAY, as you begin your small group, that your students would begin to recognize the love Jesus has for them.

---

### LESSON

We may never be famous in our lifetime. But, we all still know what it feels like to worry what other people, maybe even God, think about us.

- **What do you think people think about you?**
  - *Funny, silly, smart, kind, etc.*
- **What do you want others to think about you?**
- **What do you think of yourself?**
  - *Hopefully, they all think they are awesome, because they are! For those who may be struggling to positively identify who they are, encourage them that they are a child of God and He loves them and chose them.*
- **What do you think God thinks about you?**

- *Before discussing some of the potential answers below, let your students spend some time thinking about and talking about what God may think about them.*
- *God thinks you are forgiven, called and chosen!*

Have someone in your group read Mathew 22:37-39.

- **Why do you think Jesus said we should love ourselves and others?**

- *This is something we are called to do as believers of Christ. As the verse talks about, this is named the "Greatest Commandment." We are called to love ourselves and others to reflect what Jesus did for us.*

Have someone else read 1 John 3:1.

- **If you know that God loves you, how does it help you love yourself?**

- God created us in His image for His plan. We are loved by God, our Creator, so we can now know our worth and purpose.

- **What would you do differently if you saw yourself the way God sees you?**

- *For many of us, our doubts, insecurities and fears would all go away. We could then have confidence in ourselves because we are made perfect in God's eyes!*

## LIFE APPLICATION

Students will need notecards or a piece of paper for this activity. Your student pastor will provide these for you. Give each student a notecard and ask them to write down their name and one thing they think about themselves on the card. Encourage your students to think about the talents or passions God has given them, the compassion they have for others and the unique things about themselves. Ask them to place their cards around the room. Then, encourage them to walk around to someone else's card and write one thing they God thinks about that person on their card. Have them write on several other people's cards if time permits. Lastly, ask them to find their original card.

*You know your group dynamic better than we do. So, if walking around may hinder your group experience or get out of hand, feel free to let your small group pass around the cards in a circle.*

- **How does it feel to read the things listed on your card?**

- *It feels good, right? This is a love we are created to feel and share with others.*

## CLOSING ACTIVITY

Challenge: For the next week, read an encouraging verse to yourself every day. Psalm 16:8 and Jeremiah 17:7 are both great examples for this. Encourage students to tell you some of these verses they used the following week. As their leader, you can help them with this by sending them a verse every day or reminding them to checkout the verse of the day on the YouVersion Bible app.

## TAKE IT OUT

Close small group out with prayer requests. Pray that your small group would grow in their understanding of God's love for them this week.

After prayer, be sure to remind them of any upcoming group serving activities or student events and THE WEEKEND!