

LESSON 1

We Are Made in God's Image

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you know that you are made in the image of God? Do you reflect His image to others? Whether you are a man or a woman, you have the privilege of reflecting His image.

KEY POINT

God made male and female in His image.

MEMORY VERSE

Genesis 1:27

"So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them."

MAIN LESSON

Created in His Image: Genesis 1:27-31

ITEMS NEEDED FOR A SUCCESSFUL SERVICE:

Introduction	Get as many hand mirrors as possible or one large standing mirror – this should be placed at the entrance of the class, a team member.
Memory Verse	Print the memory verse to reflect normally in the mirror on a sheet of paper, a mirror.
Main Lesson	A mirror, a white board pen to write on the mirror, cards with the words: R – Righteous E – Excellent F – Faithful L – Loving E – Endures C – Caring T – Truthful
Life Application	The NIV Bible, a chef's hat with a spider hanging off it.
Conclusion	A mirror.

This lesson will help the children understand that we are made in God's image and that they need to reflect His image to others.





Introduction

(5 minutes)

What you need:

As many hand mirrors as you can get or one large standing mirror – this should be placed at the entrance of the class, a team member.

(As the children arrive encourage them to look at themselves in the large standing mirror. If you are using hand mirrors, pass them around the class and encourage each child to look at themselves).

Good morning children what a wonderful day it is today – we are going to learn about 'being made in God's image'. You have all had the opportunity to look at yourselves in the mirror. The amazing thing is that when you looked in the mirror you saw yourself looking back at you – that means that your image was reflected in the mirror and you could see whether you had brushed your hair – 00000000000R brushed your teeth. I know my mom and dad would not be able to go to work in the morning if they did not have a mirror; they are always checking to see if their hair is right, or if their clothes are creased. **(Teacher holds up the mirror)**. When I look in the mirror I see that I have **(insert the colour of your hair)** hair, and I have **(insert colour of your eyes)** eyes. **(Smile into the mirror)** I guess I must have the best smile in ALL the world. **(Volunteer walks around the class and encourages some of the children to smile into the mirror)**. What a happy crowd of children we have today. **(Holding up the mirror again)** OH!!!!!! I love looking at myself in the mirror because the Bible says that God created ME!!!! **(point to yourself)**. I can see my image in the mirror so that must be what God looks like! But when **(insert name of another teacher)** sees her/his image is not like mine. She/he has different coloured hair and eyes and their nose is smaller/ bigger than mine. So whether you are a boy or a girl the Bible says we are all made in God's image so we are ALL God's special creation because ALL of us look like Him BUT we come in different packages. We are ALL called to do His work here on earth. AWESOME!!! **(Ask children to 'high 5' their neighbour and say the Key Point: God made male and female in His image)**.



Memory Verse

(10 minutes)

What you need:

Print the memory verse to reflect normally in the mirror on a sheet of paper, a mirror.

Genesis 1:27

"So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them."

(Hold the sheet of paper up and ask for a volunteer to come forward and read the verse – try and help. Once they have given it a go place the sheet of paper in front of the mirror so that it reflects to read normally and ask the volunteer to read it again).

Children today our memory verse is very special – it is a verse that says that whether you are a girl or a boy it does not matter because we are ALL created in God's image.

(Teacher encourages all the children with socks on to repeat the verse. Then all the children that brushed their teeth repeat the verse. Lastly ask the boys to repeat the verse and then the girls repeat the verse – then everyone together).

What we have learnt today is that no matter what you look like you are created in the image of God – how amazing is that! **(Ask children to 'high 5' their neighbour and say 'You are made in the image of God')**.



**Created in His Image: Genesis 1: 27-31**

(Teacher walks in with a mirror and white board pen. Ask children to 'high 5' their neighbour and say 'You are made in the image of God.')

What does God's image look like? **(Encourage some of the children to give an answer – clap for each child when they are finished).** That's awesome – some people believe that they need to keep up their image to be accepted by their friends – they like to buy only name brand clothes such as Nike, Puma and when their mom or dad wants to buy them some clothes they will only wear a certain brand. These children are looking after their outside image. If we are made in God's image how are we going to know what God looks like? **(Encourage some of the children to give an answer – clap for each child when they are finished).** We believe in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We know the stories of Jesus when he was born and walked on the earth and taught us all through the Bible to represent Him and we also know that He is Spirit because the Bible tells us that He sent His Holy Spirit to be with us. **(Ask for 7 children from the class to come forward and give each one a card to hold in front of them without showing the class what is written on it. Hold the mirror up in front of your face).** Children when I look in this mirror I see my image in it – can anyone give me another word for 'image'? **(Encourage some of the children to give an answer – clap for each child when they are finished).** Yes did I hear the word 'Reflect' – that is an excellent word to describe the word 'image'. When I look in the mirror I can see my reflection. **(Ask the 1st child to turn their card around to face the class).** This card says : –

'R' – Righteous – We are made righteous in Jesus Christ through His blood.

(Ask 2nd child to turn their card around to face the class).

'E' – Excellent – When you have Christ in your life we should live life excellently because we are His children.

(Ask 3rd child to turn their card around to face the class).

'F' – Faithful – God is always faithful to those that know Him.

(Ask 4th child to turn their card around to face the class).

'L' – Loving – He is a loving God and will always take care of you.

(Ask 5th child to turn their card around to face the class).

'E' – Endures – His love endures forever.

(Ask 6th child to turn their card around to face the class).

'C' – Caring – God is a caring God.

(Ask 7th child to turn their card around to face the class).

'T' – Truthful – Our God is truthful.

Children if we put all these letters together it spells the word 'REFLECT' which is what we said we see when we look in the mirror. So if we are made in God's image we should 'REFLECT' all these qualities in our life so that ALL those around us will know we are made in the image of God. That means that we don't have to wear a certain brand of clothing to reflect God's image – we don't have to only have blue eyes to reflect the image of God.

What you need:

A mirror, a white board pen to write on mirror, cards with the words:

- R – Righteous
- E – Excellent
- F – Faithful
- L – Loving
- E – Endures
- C – Caring
- T – Truthful



(Using the mirror place it in front of a child and ask the children to give you some words that remind them of the image of God). We have to be righteous, excellent, faithful, loving, we must endure, care and be truthful – these are all qualities that God has given us to reflect His image. So in conclusion we are made in the image of God and He has given both male and female, boys and girls, the same power and authority to reflect His image. Let's end off by shouting out our Key Point: *God made male and female in His image.*



Life Application

(10 minutes)

What you need:

NIV Bible, chef's hat with spider hanging off it.

(Encourage one of the children to come forward and read the passage out of the Bible. It is important to mention the version of the Bible, as some Bibles use different words. If there is not a child that can read, read the passage for the group. Make a point of telling the children that the Bible is God's Word and that it is true).

Children this is a very important passage in the Bible and as we know the Bible is God's Word and that it is true we should take it very seriously. In this passage it says that as we are made in God's image and we have authority – My! That is a BIG word. Authority means that we rule over things – NOT EACH OTHER – but all the things that are mentioned in this passage – birds, plants, creatures that move on the ground. **(Put the chef's hat on with the spider hanging off it and get the other volunteers to run away when they see the spider on the hat – overreact as well and pretend to be scared).** Wow that was a close call – I thought that spider was REAL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I am sorry I got SUCH A FRIGHT but can I tell you a secret I am scared of spiders – thank goodness this is not a real one. I bet you thought that only girls are 'scaredy-cats' and I bet you thought that ONLY GIRLS can cook – well I LOVE COOKING – it's the BEST! Do you know that I have seen some girls that LOVE working with spiders and all sorts of scary creepy crawlies – they are called 'zoologists'. So you can have girls and boys chefs and you can have girls and boys zoologists.

(If the teacher is female change the roles).

So God has made both; male and female, girls and boys, in His image and we have authority to do what God has called us to do.



Conclusion

(5 minutes)

What you need:

A mirror.

(Teacher holds up mirror and looks at himself/herself).

Today we have learnt that we are made in the image of God and that we need to reflect God's image to others by being Righteous, Excellent, Faithful, Loving, Enduring, Caring and Truthful.

It is important to remember that it's not about whether we are a boy or a girl BUT what is inside our hearts so that we can '**reflect**' God to all those around us. One last time let's shout out our Key Point: *God made male and female in His image.* Wow! That was awesome. Don't ever forget it.



Closing Prayer

(2 minutes)

Lord, thank You for making both male and female in Your image. Help us to encourage each other to reflect Your image. In Jesus name, Amen!

