

LEADER'S GUIDE

BIG PICTURE:

GOD LOVES YOU

BIG IDEA:

IN 'MY' BEGINNING

BIG POINT:

GOD LOVES ME, CREATED ME AND KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT ME

BIG WORD:

AND MAY YOU HAVE THE POWER TO UNDERSTAND, AS ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SHOULD, HOW WIDE, HOW LONG, HOW HIGH, AND HOW DEEP HIS LOVE IS. EPHESIANS 3:18 (NLT)



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DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture GOD LOVES YOU TTW1.1. It contains a summary of the BIG Message 'LIVE'.

The BIG 'Tell The World' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Know that they were created by God and that they are valuable to Him.
- Know how much God loves them and that He shows this by His interest in us, even numbering the very hairs on their head.
- Understand that they were created by God on purpose and for a purpose.

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BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this outline to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry.

INTRO

To introduce today's **BIG IDEA:** "IN 'MY' BEGINNING", choose three children with different hair types to join you at the front of the group. Ask the children to guess how many hairs your helpers have on their heads. After they have had a turn at guessing, point out the different hair types and the approximate number of strands they would have: BLONDE - 140,000 strands; BROWN - 110,000 strands; BLACK - 108,000 strands; RED - 90,000 strands.

God knows the exact amount of hair on our heads; He loves even the small details of our lives. Even when we lose up to 100 hairs a day, He keeps count (Note: A perfect opportunity to insert a bald joke, at your own, or a long suffering team member's expense).

STORYTELLING

- Involve the children in a short retelling of the birth of Jesus (Luke 2).
- Dress up one of the children as baby Jesus (put a sheet around them, or have them wear a diaper/nappy).
- Dress up other children as animals, shepherds, wise men and have them visit Jesus.
- Take the time to demonstrate that all this happened, just at His birth!

God sent out angels, organised wise men to come from hundreds of miles away with baby gifts... what a great Dad in heaven we have! He looked after the smallest details of His only Son's birth. In order for us to understand how much we are loved by God, we need to realise how much God loved Jesus, as He gave up Jesus, His only Son... for us.

Scripture References:

Jeremiah 31:3

Psalms 139

Matthew 10:29-31

Mark 16:15

Luke 2:1-20

Luke 12:6-7

John 3:16

John 18:28-40

Romans 5:8

Romans 8:28

Romans 8:35

Ephesians 3:18

1 Peter 5:7

OBJECT LESSON**'Hammer Time'**

Show the children a big red juicy tomato. Explain that this tomato is going on your sandwich for lunch, but first you are going to need to slice it up.

1. *A drill*

Drill a big hole into one of the tomatoes (be sure to make a big mess). Ask the group if they think this was the best way to slice the tomato, and if it could go on the sandwich.

2. *A hammer (the bigger the better!)*

Using a second tomato, smash it up with the hammer, making a big mess. Ask the children if a hammer was the best thing to use to slice the tomato, and if it could go on the sandwich.

3. *A knife*

Using the third tomato, take the knife and slice it into perfect clean slices. Announce proudly that this tomato is perfect for your sandwich. (Be mindful to put the knife in a safe place after use).

Just like these different tools, we have all been created for a purpose. The drill can drive a screw into wood; it has been created for that special purpose. The hammer can drive a nail into wood, it has been created for that special purpose. The knife has also been created for a special purpose and look how great it was at doing what it was created for! Each of us have been designed and created by God for His purpose.

POINTS1. *You are one of a kind.*

You are created by God and are valuable to Him (Psalm 139). God has created each person individually unique and special, you are His most precious creation.

God knows how many hairs you have (or don't have) on your head. He cares even for the birds, and each one of us is worth more to Him than many birds (Luke 12:6-7 NIV).

2. *God is interested in your life.*

God showed His love for us by sending Jesus (Romans 5:8 NIV). He died on the cross for every person who has lived and will ever live. He is interested in every part of your life. No matter how small and insignificant we think something is, God is interested. He cares for us, can help us and we can talk to God about anything and everything at any time (1 Peter 5:7 NIV).

3. *You were created on purpose for a purpose.*

You are no accident; you are designed by God. He doesn't want you to try and be somebody else. He wants you to be you (Romans 8:28 NIV). God works through everything that happens in your life to fulfil His purpose in you. You have your own unique way to tell the world about Him! (Mark 16:15 NIV).

Supplies Needed:

Screwdriver/electric drill

Hammer

Knife

Three tomatoes