

## Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
<b>Lower Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> God made me like no one else.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None
<b>PAPER BAG PUPPETS:</b> Kids celebrate their differences as they create unique paper bag puppets.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> None	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Markers, paint, crayons, feathers, glue, tissue paper, glitter, googly eyes, fabric scraps
<b>Upper Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> God created me unique.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None
<b>STUFFED ANIMALS:</b> Kids celebrate their uniqueness as they create stuffed animals.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Pencils	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Old file folders, fabric squares, markers, scissors, sewing needles, thread, cotton or other stuffing, googly or button eyes, yarn, ribbon, fabric scraps, glue
<b>All Kids</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> I can do wonderful things because God made me.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None
<b>BODY ART:</b> Kids create images on their bodies using face paint.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Pencils	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Face paint, paintbrushes, digital camera



Looking for additional Spark content to further engage kids? Visit [www.wearesparkhouse.org](http://www.wearesparkhouse.org) to learn more about these options for purchase.

- The Director CD-Rom contains Activity Pages, Coloring Pages, Family Pages, Large Group Openings, and two additional in-class activities for each lesson.
- A Sparkhouse Digital annual subscription gives you access to all content contained in the Director CD-Rom and the Spark Leader Guides, plus administrative tools and other extras.



**Workshop Focus:** God made me like no one else.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

**God made each of us completely unique . . . there is no one else exactly like you! You have your own personalities, you have your own gifts, and you know what you like.**

Have the kids move to one side of the room or the other, based on what they prefer:

**Would you rather color a picture . . . (stand on one side of the room) or run around? (stand on the other side of the room)**

**Do you like sweet foods . . . or salty foods?**

**Do you like cats . . . or dogs?**

**Do you like talking about your day . . . or keeping it to yourself?**

**Would you rather climb . . . or keep your feet on the ground?**

**There is no one who likes exactly the same things as you. The people in our story liked different things, too. But they fought and fought about their differences.**

**Let's open our Spark Story Bibles to Fruit of the Spirit on page 550.** Read it to the group. **What was the problem in the Galatian church?** (*They were always fighting.*)

Spark Resources  
Spark Story Bibles

Supplies  
None

**What did Paul tell them to do?** (*stop fighting; live the way the Holy Spirit tells them; show love, joy, peace, and more*)

**The Galatians learned to celebrate their differences instead of fighting over them. They learned that God made them like no one else, and that was good.**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Paper Bag Puppets

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**The Galatians fought over their differences. Paul told them to celebrate their differences and to use them for good. God made each of us like no one else. We can celebrate our differences, too. Today, we're going to make paper bag puppets, and we're going to learn what makes our puppets unique!**

1. Give each kid a paper bag and enough supplies to make a face on the puppet and decorate it.
2. Have kids draw or color faces using markers, crayons, or paint.
3. Glue on googly eyes.
4. Use fabric scraps, tissue paper, feathers, and glitter for clothes and accessories.
5. When the kids are finished, have their puppets talk to each other and ask each other questions: *What's your puppet's name? What does it like? Is it loud or quiet? Does it like the indoors or outdoors? Who is in the puppet's family? Does it like sports? Music? Art? TV? What else makes your puppet unique?*

**You've made a puppet like no other! Bring your puppet home to remind you that God made you like no one else, and that's a good thing.**

Spark Resources  
None

Supplies  
Markers  
Paint  
Crayons  
Googly eyes  
Feathers  
Glue  
Tissue paper  
Glitter  
Fabric scraps

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**Share one thing about your puppet with the group.** Give each kid time to share.  
**None of our puppets is exactly like another. God made us like no other, too! God wants us to celebrate what makes us unique.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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Have the kids' puppets repeat the prayer using unique puppet voices.

**Creator God,** (repeat)

**You made everyone unique.** (repeat)

**Help us celebrate our differences.** (repeat)

**Help us be kind.** (repeat)

**Help us be faithful.** (repeat)

**Help us be loving.** (repeat)

**Amen.** (repeat)



**Workshop Focus:** God created me unique.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

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- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

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**God created everyone unique. There is no one in the world exactly like you. What do you think about being completely unique?** Give kids time to answer. **Do our differences make it harder or easier to live around other people? Why?**

**Today, we'll read about people who fought about their differences. Let's open our Spark Bibles and read from Galatians 5:16-26 on page 1293. The book of Galatians is a letter written by Paul to the people in the churches of Galatia.** Ask a volunteer to read the story.

**By whom did Paul ask the people to live?** (*by the Spirit*) **What were some things Paul warned against?** (*jealousy, anger, fighting*) **What is the fruit of the Spirit? In other words, what qualities did Paul ask the people to show?** (*love, joy, peace, etc.*) **The people were fighting over their differences. Paul asked them to celebrate their differences and to use their unique qualities to enhance—rather than detract from—the community of faith.**

**Put a Makes Me Want To sticker next to the story. What is something you can do to live by the Spirit and produce good fruit of the Spirit? Write your answer to that question in the margin of your Bible.**

Spark Resources  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies  
Pencils

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Stuffed Animals

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**Set Up:** Before kids arrive, draw several different animal shape patterns on file folders. Cut these to use as templates to prepare two matching fabric animal shapes for each kid. Thread the needles. Set out the fabric shapes and threaded needles. Place decorating items at workstations. Make two samples—one that is complete and one at the end of Step Two (sewn together inside out showing the hole where kids will turn and stuff the fabric).

### Activity Instructions

**The Galatians were fighting about their differences. Paul asked them to recognize that their differences could be used to make the community of faith better. We can recognize that God made each of us unique. We can celebrate our differences.**

**Today, you're going to make stuffed animals to remind us that we are unique. While you work, talk about the unique personalities you are creating for your animals.**

1. Invite each kid to pick up two identical animal shapes and a threaded sewing needle.
2. **Use the needle and thread to sew the two fabric shapes together inside out. Do not sew the entire shape; leave a hole for stuffing the animal.**
3. **Through the hole, turn the stitched fabric squares right side out. That hides the stitching and makes the animal's edges smoother.**
4. **Stuff the animal with cotton or other stuffing, but don't make it too full.**
5. **Use the needle and thread to sew the hole closed.**
6. **Decorate your animal using yarn, glue, markers, ribbon, or fabric scraps.**
7. **Sew or stick on googly or button eyes.**
8. **Glue yarn for a nose or mouth.**
9. **Glue ribbon or fabric scraps for clothing.**

### Spark Resources

None

### Supplies

Old file folders  
Fabric squares, at least 8" (20 cm), 2 per kid  
Markers  
Scissors, 1 per kid  
Sewing needles, 1 per kid  
Thread  
Cotton or other stuffing  
Googly or button eyes  
Yarn  
Ribbon  
Fabric scraps  
Glue

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**Introduce your stuffed animals to the group. What is your animal's name? What is it like? Is it shy or outgoing? Does it like music or sports? Is it artistic or scientific?**

**You've created an animal that no one else could have created. God gave you the creativity to make these animals and give them their personality traits.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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Have the kids repeat the prayer.

**God who made me unique,** (repeat)

**Thank you for making me ME!** (repeat)

**Help me to celebrate my differences with others.** (repeat)

**Help me to live by the Spirit.** (repeat)

**Help me to produce good fruit of the Spirit.** (repeat)

**Amen.** (repeat)



**Workshop Focus:** I can do wonderful things because God made me.

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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

**Everybody has a fight with someone else from time to time. Tell somebody about a fight or an argument you've had recently. Allow kids time to discuss. Often, we fight with people over our differences. Today, we'll read about the Galatians. They were Christians who fought over their differences. Open your Spark Story Bible to Fruit of the Spirit on page 550 or your Spark Bible to Galatians 5:16-26 on page 1293. This story is told in the book of Galatians, which is a letter Paul wrote.** Read the story aloud or ask a volunteer to read.

**Paul wanted the Galatians to celebrate their differences. He wanted them to use their unique gifts to make the community of faith a better place. Because God made everyone unique, the people could use their differences to accomplish amazing things! We, too, can do wonderful things because God made us unique.**

**If you're using a Spark Bible, put a Makes Me Want To . . . sticker next to the story. What is something you can do to live by the Spirit and produce good fruit of the Spirit? Jot your response in the margin of your Bible.**

Spark Resources  
Spark Story Bibles  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies  
Pencils

# Activate Faith (25 minutes)

## Body Art

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**Set Up:** Place face paint and brushes at the sites where kids will work.

### Activity Instructions

**Paul asked the Galatians to live by the Spirit. He wanted them to recognize that their differences could be used to enhance—rather than detract from—the community of faith. We can celebrate our differences, too.**

**Today, we'll use face paint on our bodies (arms, legs, faces) to show symbols of things that make us unique.**

1. Invite kids to go the paint stations.
2. Have them paint symbols reflecting their gifts and passions on their arms, legs, or faces. Encourage them to help each other taking turns painting symbols on each other's faces. These might be balls, musical instruments, personality traits (bubbles, flowers, lightning), or Christian symbols (cross, dove, fish). Encourage conversation about their choices while painting.
3. When all kids are done painting, invite them to share why they chose the symbols they did. Take individual pictures of each kid and a picture of the entire group.

### Spark Resources

None

### Supplies

Face paint  
Paintbrushes  
Digital camera

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**We all have chosen different symbols that represent us. We can use our differences to make our community better. We can do wonderful things because God made us unique.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Spark Resources

None

## Prayer Time

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Have kids listen to the prayer.

**God who made us,**

**Your creative hand formed and stirred us into wonderful, unique, gifted, kind, faithful, and loving creatures. Help us to use our gifts for good. Help us to live by the Spirit. Help us to produce the fruit of the Spirit.**

**Amen.**