



# Lesson 3: “I Can Be God’s Son or Daughter”

## 6-8 In-Person Crew Club Plan

<b><u>Key Teaching Point</u></b>	God is good, and I can be his son or daughter.
<b><u>Key Bible Verse</u></b>	“See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!” 1 John 3:1 (NLT)
<b><u>Scripture Passage</u></b>	“Jesus blesses his children” (Luke 18:15-17, Psalm 139:13-16)
<b><u>Materials</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Bible</li><li>• Sheets of 8.5-by-11 inch copy paper, two per student</li><li>• Pens or pencils*</li><li>• Index cards, one per student*</li><li>• A sandwich bag with individually-wrapped candies inside, at least one piece per student</li></ul>

\*Materials marked by an asterisk are in the CKC Games Bag.

### **Relate** (20 minutes)

#### Welcome crew members with a snack.

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while the students eat their snack:

#### Icebreaker Options (Choose one):

- **Rosebud:** Ask students to share a highlight or success from the week (a rose), a challenge or disappointment from the week (a thorn) and something they are looking forward to doing or experiencing in the week ahead (a bud).



- Let students take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the Feelings Wheel (from the CKC Games Bag).
- Open a discussion with the question, "How did God make you unique?"

### Build relationships.

Open a discussion:

- **What was your favorite memory from when you were a little kid? What was your favorite toy? What did you like to do?**
- **Take a moment and think back to when you were a young child. What did you like about being a young child? What were some of the disadvantages or challenges?**
- **When you think about little kids, what words come to mind now?**

### Play a game.

#### Find Things in Common

In this game, each student will need to find a partner. The goal is for students to find things in common with their partner without using words or speaking to one another. Students must communicate by drawing pictures. Give each student a sheet of paper and a pencil. Give them a set amount of time (for example, two minutes), and the pair that finds the most things in common wins! (If you have an odd number of students in your group, you will need to pair up with one student.)



### **Receive (20 minutes)**

#### Hear God's Word.

**We are learning about what it means to be God's son or daughter. The best way to learn about what it means to be a child of God is to see how Jesus, God's Son, responds to young children. In the book of Luke, there is a very brief story of Jesus's encounter with some little kids. His response might surprise you because little kids can sometimes be pretty annoying.**

**Here's what happened: Jesus is with his disciples teaching crowds of people when a group of parents arrives. These parents want to bring their little kids to Jesus so he can bless them. These parents want Jesus to speak kind words over their children. The disciples scold the parents for disturbing Jesus and try to stop them from bringing their children to Jesus. But Jesus speaks up and says to his disciples, "Bring the children to me. Do not stop them from coming to me. The Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children."**

Ask students:

- **What do you think it means to bless someone?** (to speak good words over



them and to desire good for them)

- **Why do you think Jesus blesses the children? Tell a friend next to you what you think.**

Call the group to attention, and take responses from two students.

**Jesus loves each child because he made every one of them. Jesus is God! Did you know that God made you, too?**

**God created the whole world and has a purpose for every living thing, including you and me. The Bible tells us that when God made the world, he called it good. Then, when he finished his work by making people, he called us “very good.” You are God’s good creation, and he wants you to be his son or daughter.**

**David, one of the writers of the Bible, wrote about how God created each one of us and cares deeply for us.**

Read aloud Psalm 139:13-16 from *The Message* version.

**Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out;  
you formed me in my mother’s womb.  
I thank you, High God—you’re breathtaking!  
Body and soul, I am marvelously made!  
I worship in adoration—what a creation!  
You know me inside and out,  
you know every bone in my body;  
You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit,  
how I was sculpted from nothing into something.**

**God, the Creator, loves us and blesses us by calling us to be his sons and daughters and forming each one of us in a uniquely wonderful way. He invites us to become his son or daughter by choosing to follow Jesus. When we choose to follow Jesus and become a son or daughter of God, we are able to draw near to a good and loving Father and receive his blessings.**

Review the [Bible verse](#):

“See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!” 1 John 3:1 (NLT)

Engage and explore the story.



Ask students to retell the story in Luke 18 imagining it from each of the following character's perspectives:

**If {name character} were telling their version of what happened in this story, what do you think they might say?**

- Jesus
- The children
- The disciples
- The parents
- The crowd

Then, look up Psalm 139:13-16 in a Bible, and read it aloud. Ask students, **how does this passage show you that you can be God's child?**

Take student responses.

Encourage students to participate in an interactive discussion by incorporating observation questions into a game whenever possible. (See the CKC Games Bag for ideas.)

- **How do the disciples react when the children come near to Jesus?** (The disciples are angry at the parents for bringing their children.)
- **Why do you think the disciples respond that way?** (Answers will vary.)
- **How does Jesus respond to the children?** (He welcomes them, and he blesses them. Jesus tells the crowd and the disciples to let the children come to him.)
- **How does God welcome you and me?** (God wants his children to draw near to him, and he wants to bless them. He invites us to be his children.)
- **What does it mean to be God's child? How can you become God's child?** (Answers will vary. There is an opportunity to share the gospel here if the Holy Spirit leads.)



## **Respond (20 minutes)**

Apply God's truth.

**Imagine meeting someone really important. Who might that be?**

Take student responses. (Examples: a president, a movie star, a famous singer, etc.)

**Think of how great it would feel to receive a blessing of kind words, like,**



**“Good job,” or “I think you’re really cool,” from someone really important. How would you feel? What would you think?**

Take student responses.

**The words of Jesus are more valuable than the kind words you might receive from a really important person. Jesus came and lived on earth as a person, but he is also the Son of God. So the words of blessing that Jesus speaks over us come from God who created all things and rules over everything in the universe!**

**Jesus speaks a blessing over you, too! You can be God’s child, and God is a good and loving Father. He created you in a unique way, and he loves and cares for you! He has blessed you with characteristics, abilities and interests that make you who you are. No one else is exactly like you!**

**We’re going to do an activity to learn about and celebrate the way that God has uniquely created each of us.**

### Activity: “Five Fun Facts” Interviews

Give each student a sheet of blank paper and a pen or pencil. Have students pair up and ask questions about their partner, recording answers on their sheet. After both partners have had a chance to interview one another, each student should introduce their partner to the group. They will be allotted a one-minute “commercial” spot to highlight what’s uniquely wonderful about the way God made their friend.

**You are wonderfully made by a good and loving Father!**

### Play a Bible verse game.

Play the suggested Bible verse game.

### Bible Verse Game: Candy Pass

Choose a student to go first, and instruct them to say the first three words of the verse. Then they pass the bag of candy to the student to their right. Each student says three words. When the last word (the reference) is said, the student holding the bag takes a candy from the bag and passes the bag to the right. Repeat until each student has received a piece of candy.

Sing and worship together.



Pick a song from the [Praise and Worship Guide](#) or choose one of your own. Incorporate movement into the songs whenever possible.

Pray together.

God's Word says,

**“I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” (NIV)**

**When we give praise to God, we tell God about all the wonderful things he has done and we remind ourselves of God's kindness and love towards us! We give praise to God not because God needs to be reminded about what he has done or how wonderful he is, but because God knows that it is good for us to remember and recognize God's love in our lives.**

**Today we are going to praise God for how he has created each of us so wonderfully unique. As we do so, we are acknowledging that God is a good Father who cherishes us and longs to call us his children and to draw us near.**

Give each student an index card and instruct them to write down three to five ways that God made them unique.

Take prayer requests, and close in prayer.

