

CREATIVITY

BIG IDEA

Creativity is being resourceful and imaginative in using the best of the goods and talents we have been given to serve the Lord.

KEY VERSES

Ephesians 2:10

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 2:10

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

• PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

BIBLE LESSON: BIOGRAPHICAL STORY

- No materials required for this lesson.

GAME

- Toilet paper tubes cut in half lengthwise (one piece per player)
- Large marbles or ping pong balls (one marble or ball per team)

CRAFT

- Variety of lids from spaghetti sauce, pickles, etc.
- Elmers type glue
- Ribbon about 1/4 - 1/2 inch wide
- Colorful plastic jewel beads and/or sequins

WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)



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BIBLE LESSON • BIOGRAPHICAL

Joni was a young girl who loved to ride horses. Her horse's name was Tumbleweed. Her and her dad would ride together often. She would also learned painting by sitting by her father as he worked at his easel and then experimenting with paints on her own.

One summer, when Joni was a teen, she went Bible Camp. At camp she heard about how she could have a relationship with the Lord Jesus. Joni knew that she had sinned, she heard about a Savior who loved her and wanted to forgive her. She learned that Jesus paid for her sins on the cross. She couldn't save herself, only God could take away her sin.

As Joni sat under a tree one night at camp. She believed the message for herself. She put her faith in the Lord Jesus for her salvation and asked the Lord to help her obey his word. That night, Joni became a child of God. Soon Joni began to tell many of he friends that Jesus was her Savior. The months sped by quickly. While she did many things to obey God's word, but other activities began to crowd out time for God. Then one day Joni prayed that things would change. "God do something in my life to help me to know you better. Want you to change my life so that I'll love you more."

A few weeks later on a hot day, Joni went swimming with her sister Kathy. Whoosh! Joni dove down into the water. She felt it rush up her arms and legs.

Then, Joni's head had hit something hard. She heard a loud buzzing noise and found herself at the bottom of the lake. "Why won't my arms and legs move?" she thought to herself. She held her breath for as long as she could but she soon realized she was drowning. She had no power to save herself. She quickly remembered her Lord Jesus and how that she knew she was ready to meet him, just at that moment she heard her sister calling. The next thing she knew, Joni found herself in a hospital. She had no feeling from her chest down. She couldn't move her hands or feet. She was a quadriplegic, meaning her arms and legs were paralyzed.

She stayed in the hospital for a couple of years. She had many surgeries and had to deal with the emotional reality that she would never walk again. Through it all she held on to the promises of God. The nurses would prop her Bible so she could read it. Her family always prayed with her when they visited. It wasn't always easy, but she knew she wasn't alone. Joni learned to thank God for the

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BIBLE LESSON • BIOGRAPHICAL (PAGE 2)

things she could do. She asked God to help her with everything. Her therapist encouraged her to keep painting by learning how to hold the paint brushes between her teeth. The hardest part of re-learning how to paint was learning how to relax. If her neck or jaw muscles get tense, it showed up in her brush strokes. It took her several years before she enjoyed painting and could be relaxed enough to paint without making mistakes.

Joni's real passion was to tell other's about the Lord. Many people trusted in the Lord Jesus, when they saw how her life had changed on the inside. She had the power of God in her life!

Joni has many physical challenges, but has been able to focus her passion and energy on what she is able to do. Joni now has a radio program, writes books and reaches out to children around the world who have disabilities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How did Joni hear about Jesus?
2. What decision did Joni make under the tree at camp?
3. How did Joni get hurt?
4. How do you think Joni felt during the months she was in the hospital?
5. Where did Joni find strength and courage?
6. What creative talents did Joni pursue?
7. What did Joni do with her creativity?

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CRAFT & GAME

• CRAFT •

OBJECTIVE: SPARKLING SUN CATCHER

Make a mosaic faith symbol out of colored rocks.

DIRECTIONS

- Glue a ribbon around the outside circle of the lid leaving a long tail
- Tie tail into a loop for hanging
- Pour glue into bottom of lid until glue reaches every part
- Place jewels in the glue until entire inside of lid is covered.

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, staplers, hole punches

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Variety of lids from spaghetti sauce, pickles, etc.
- Elmers type glue
- Ribbon about 1/4 - 1/2 inch wide
- Colorful plastic jewel beads and/or sequins

EXAMPLE



• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: MARBLE RELAY

A race that requires a steady hand!

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Toilet paper tubes cut in half lengthwise (one piece per player)
- Large marbles or ping pong balls (one marble or ball per team)



INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide kids into equal teams of 10-12
- Each player has a piece of toilet paper tube
- Teams line up
- On “go” the first player from each team rolls the marble/ball down his tube while the second player positions his tube to catch the marble/ball
- If the marble/ball falls it must start again at the beginning.
- When the marble/ball makes it to the last player, he runs to the front of the line and starts again.
- Game progresses until each player has had a turn at the front of the line

SIMPLIFIED GAME OPTION

Play in two big teams. The first team to get their marble/ball to the end wins!

