

# KIDMUNITY | This I Believe

## Lesson 06: Made in God's Image

### Small Group Guide

#### Bottom Line:

*We were made in God's image, but sin broke our relationship with Him.*

#### Memory Verse:

*So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."*

**Genesis 1:27**

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## Activity: Mirror Mirror

### Supplies Needed:

- Hand mirror (1 per group or shared)
- Plastic wrap (or another way to lightly distort the mirror)

Have kids take turns looking into the mirror and ask, "What do you see?" Let them respond and describe what they notice. Explain that a mirror reflects what is in front of it. Then connect it: in the same way, God created people to reflect Him, to show the world what He is like.

After that, lightly cover or distort the mirror using plastic wrap or another method. Have them look again and ask, "Can you still see yourself?" They will say yes, but not clearly. Have the kids try different ways to distort the image (e.g., multiple layers of plastic wrap, folding, or wrinkling the plastic wrap).

Explain: *"That's what sin does. It doesn't remove the image of God from us, it distorts it."*

### Discussion (during activity):

- Can you still tell who it is in the mirror?
- Is it as clear as before?
- What changed?
- Why is seeing a clear image important?

## **Teaching Moment:**

That's why you might see people who don't know God, maybe they're not Christians, but they still do good things. They can be kind. They can make wise choices. They can be really great friends.

Why is that? Because people are still made in God's image.

Even though sin has affected us, we still reflect parts of who God is. That's why we see goodness all around us. But it's not the way God originally designed it.

Because sin has distorted that image, we don't always reflect Him clearly. Along with the good, we also see:

- Selfishness
- Dishonesty
- Hurt
- brokenness

So we see both at once, good and broken.

## **Leader Emphasis:**

We still reflect God, but not perfectly. Sin didn't erase the image; it distorted it.

## **Activity: Same... But Different**

### **Supplies Needed:**

- Two similar images per group (with small differences)

Show kids two images that look almost the same but have small differences. Ask them to study the pictures and point out what's different. Let them call out as many differences as they can find.

After they've identified several, say: "These pictures look really similar... but something is off."

Connect it to the lesson: even though the images still resemble each other, they aren't identical. In the same way, people were created to reflect God, but sin has distorted that reflection. We can still see glimpses of what God is like in people, but they're not as clear as they should be.

## Discussion Questions

### Kindergarten / 1st Grade

- Are the pictures the same or different?
- Can you still tell what the picture is supposed to be?

### 2nd / 3rd Grade

- What differences did you notice between the pictures?
- How is this like how people still show good things, but not perfectly?

### 4th / 5th Grade

- How do these pictures help you understand what sin did to how we reflect God?
- Why do you think we still see good things in people even though sin has affected us?

## Final Discussion Questions

### Kindergarten / 1st Grade

1. What does it mean that God made you in His image?
2. Can people still do good things? What are some examples?
3. Do people always choose what's right?
4. What is sin? (choosing our way instead of God's way)

### 2nd / 3rd Grade

1. What does it mean to reflect God in the way you live?
2. What are some ways people show what God is like?
3. What are some ways people don't reflect God well?
4. Why do you think it feels natural to choose our own way sometimes?

### 4th / 5th Grade

1. What does it mean that humans are made in the image of God?
2. How did sin affect both our relationship with God and how we reflect Him?
3. Why do you think sin is something we are born into, not just something we do?
4. Where do you see both good and brokenness in people? (or yourself)?

# Leader Wrap-Up & Prayer

Gather everyone back together and take a moment to remind them what they learned today. From the very beginning, God created people differently from everything else. He made us in His image, which means we were created to reflect Him and show what He is like through the way we live, love, and treat others. That was God's design from the start.

But something went wrong. Sin entered the world when people chose their way instead of God's way. And sin didn't just break the rules; it broke our relationship with God and affected how we reflect Him. Even though we still see good in people, we also see brokenness. That's the world we live in now.

Remind them that this is not the end of the story. God didn't leave things broken. From the very beginning, He had a plan to fix what was broken and restore what was lost.

Encourage them that when they notice both good and broken things in themselves or others, it points to two important truths. We were created in God's image, and we live in a world that has been affected by sin.

## Prayer

"God, thank You for creating us in Your image. Thank You that we were made to reflect You and show what You are like. We know that sin has broken things and that we don't always choose Your way. But thank You that You didn't leave us that way. Thank You that You have a plan to fix what is broken. Help us to trust You, to follow You, and to reflect You in the way we live this week. We love You. Amen."