

Created by God

"We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."

Ephesians 2:10

Decorations: Display pictures of your past year on a slide show before the service. Make sure you have several pictures of each one of your GAs participating in a variety of projects and activities. Ask girls to create self-portraits to display in the fellowship area or in the foyer leading to your sanctuary.

Have each GA write a poem about being created by God. Encourage girls to include things they like about themselves, things that make them unique, and a statement about God's love for each of them. Display poems as well as self-portraits at the event.

Theme Interpretation

Before the service, enlist two or three GAs to read their poems aloud to the congregation.

GA® leader: Ephesians 2:10 tells us, "We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."

This year, our girls have learned they are created by God as unique individuals. If you take time to read their poetry or view their self-portraits, you'll soon realize God gave each of them individual talents that are already beginning to develop, even at very young ages.

A few of our GAs will share their poems with you.

(Call GAs forward to share their poems.)

Presentation of Awards

Ahead of time, ask each girl to be prepared to explain one of the awards she has earned this year and share how God made her unique. This could be as simple as stating a fact (I'm the only GA who . . .) or could become a mini talent showcase.

GA leader: As I call our GAs forward to receive their awards, each girl will explain one of her earned badges and then will showcase a talent that makes her unique.

Call GAs forward one at a time. Allow each GA to share what she has learned this year and then to share her statement or show her talent before she receives her awards.

Challenge

Ask your WMU® director or a visiting missionary to present the following challenge.

Say: Each of you is specially crafted by God's hand. There has never been anyone else like any of you. This should tell you just how special you are to God! He made you for a special purpose. And God already knows which good works each of you should do. I challenge each of you to listen to God, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and Christian adults as you look to your future. If you listen, you will hear from the God who created you to be the beautiful, unique person you are.

Closing Comments

A GA leader or your WMU director can close this service.

Say: GAs have shown us how God has created each one of them to be a unique individual. As we come to the close of our service, I want us as a congregation to remember how we started our service with Ephesians 2:10.

(Read verse aloud.)

You and I were also created as unique individuals. Isn't God amazing? As adults, we have the responsibility to lead these girls to live missional lifestyles. For us, that means we should continue to encourage them to use these talents and gifts to share God's love with others.

The GA leader can thank each person for his or her part in the program and invite everyone to a time of fellowship, if one is planned.

Tips

- ✿ Send home copies of original poems for assigned girls to practice reading aloud.
- ✿ Help girls choose appropriate talents to showcase ahead of time and ensure plenty of practice time. Set time limits for each girl to showcase her talent to ensure your service doesn't run over your allotted time.
- ✿ Enlist the help of other adults to help girls create self-portraits and poems, as needed.