

# **S.P.E.C.I.A.L. Forces Club**

## **Faith In Action**

Something that is SPECIAL is something that's not commonplace. Special also means to be set apart, unique or designed for a particular purpose. When someone is considered special it should mean the same thing. But too often it carries with it only the notion that someone deserves extra rights and/or privileges.

While this use of the word "special" is correct, it's far from complete. To be special means so much more.

In God's eyes we're all special. To fully understand this, we should consider that it's not just a matter of how but also why we are special to him. Using the above definition, if we are set apart, unique and designed for a particular purpose it means God has a purpose for each of our lives. So instead of just having rights and privileges this also means we have responsibilities.

In FIA we are going to look at many of the ways of how our kids are special. But we will also take a look at why they are special. We'll do this by taking each letter in the word special and allowing it to stand for a different attribute. You'll find them listed below. Our goal will be to consider each of these from the perspective of God and his WORD. Along the way the kids will learn what it means to belong to what we will call... God's "SPECIAL FORCES".

**Eph 2:10** God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.

- S.    **Super**
- P.    **Positive**
- E.    **Excellent Example**
- C.    **Creative**
- I.    **Important**
- A.    **Amazing**
- L.    **Likable**

## Basic Nightly Schedule:

This to give an estimated time we will try to start individual activities and what a typical night may look like

Before Class	Craft Bible drills, hangman, I Spy... Singing Check in and say memory verse We can have music playing through sound system
6:35	Start Class: 1. Review weekly theme with scripture (memory verse) 2. Announce SPECIAL Boy and Girl for the week <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Have other kids say good things about the special kids and thank them with a standing ovation.</li></ul> 3. Adult lead prayer for Boy and Girl
6:45	Start Main Activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Drama/Skits</li><li>- Puppets</li><li>- Share Time</li><li>- Worship Time</li><li>- Guest Speaker</li><li>- Wacky Science with Prof Tim(Buk-tu)</li><li>- Video</li><li>- Split into Small Groups by grades for Bible Story/Activity<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Small groups will take the rest of class 6:45-7:25</li></ul></li></ul>
7:15-7:25	Other Activity if no rotation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Craft</li><li>- Game</li><li>- Story Time, Read about the Wemicks</li><li>- Devotional Lesson</li></ul>
7:25-7:30	Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- If time remains: review, singing, games, cleanup, interact with kids...</li></ul>

## SPECIAL Forces weekly outline of activities

### Sept 7      **First Night**

1. Welcome Back
2. SPECIAL Spell magic trick to introduce theme -Paul
3. Interview with Joe Lee
4. Lucky Stars Game –Dawn
5. Discussion about the game and how it made you feel
5. “You Are Special” by Max Lucado –Lisa
6. If time... the Name Game (to emphasize the importance of knowing each other’s names.)

### Sept 14      **S for SUPER**

1. Special Kids and prayer,
  - We will choose 2 students each night to make them the “Special Person” of the night. Our goal is to choose every student by the end of the fall. That means we may need to choose more than 2 at times.
2. Mine field game
  - Give several kids a turn going through a “mine field” obstacle course while blind folded. He/She will have 2 helpers. One will give them wrong directions. The other will give only good directions. The saboteur can trick them by giving good directions part of the time.
  - This game will be used to introduce our topic. Sometimes we have two thoughts in our heads. One that says “go for it and do your best”. The other says “this is too hard or this is boring or ah who cares because this doesn’t really matter...”
  - So which should we listen to? Well because you’re SPECIAL, let’s find out what God wants us to do.... (Keep wrap-up SHORT!!!!!! Remember KISS, Keep It Short and Simple, a segue into Intro)
3. Play Trailer to the movie “Shy High”
4. Intro S is for Super (Do your best)
5. What does the bible say? We’ll have kids read the verses while teacher leads a very short Q and A about how each verse fits our topic and how this makes you special.
6. Puppets, **Flatman & Bumblin**
  - Collin will be using 4 puppeteers/teachers
7. Gold Metal craft
  - Draw a picture of you winning the Gold Metal at the Olympics for \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank)

Sept 21

**S for SUPER**

1. Special Kids and prayer
  - We will sit in the floor at the beginning of class and stay here for the set up for the video. This will give the kids a break from sitting in the same place the whole night. Great time for a demo of the “Death Crawl”!
2. Facing the Giants video (Death Crawl Scene)
  - Teacher sets up the scene for anyone that may not understand football. Should explain the size of a field (100 yards) and possibly demonstrate what the “death crawl” is. Following video, have a wrap-up (remember theme) with memory verse.
  - KEY.... Keep It Short and Simple!!!! KISS
3. Bible Story, Luke 21 (Two pennies or Twenty Bucks?)
  - We will not split for this because of time.
  - Story is introduced with “Would you rather have Two pennies or Twenty bucks (with visual props)? Well would you believe that God would choose the 2 pennies? Read story
  - How does this fit our theme?
  - How does it relate the video we watched?
4. Rest Room/Stretch break if time before story with Lisa
5. “Best of All” by Max Lucado -with Lisa

Sept 28

**P for POSITIVE**

1. Open class with an Activity, Can You Do This Challenge
  - While doing any activity/game always keep in mind the night’s theme and how it might relate. KISS
  - In an organized game fashion, demo a skill and challenge individuals to do it. Can be a Boy vs. Girl game. Limit it to 3 to 4 challenges
  - Ideas: balance a stick on your nose, toss a piece of popcorn in the air and catch it...
2. Special Kids and prayer
3. Faith like a Hammer and Egg.... KISS
4. Intro P is for POSITIVE (God is in charge!) KISS
5. Split by grades for Bible Story, Joshua and Caleb
  - Key verses to keep from having to read it all Numbers 13: 1, 26-28, 31-32, 14:1-4 and 14:36-38
  - Topic: dealing with our fears
  - A good opening to class would be to have kids talk about the things that frighten them.

Oct 5

**P for POSITIVE**

1. Open class while they come in with Puzzle/Riddle challenge
  - In front of dry/erase board
  - After a couple of games of hangman, give them this challenge: Remember the riddle/puzzle with the chicken, the fox and the basket of corn. Split them into groups for them to work out the solution together. We can also have them act it out and attempt to solve it as a group.
2. Special Kids and prayer
3. What does the bible say? First Review being POSITIVE.
  - Assign different kids the verses listed in notes and briefly discuss our theme. Remember KISS
  - One of the best ways to stay Positive is to never focus on the negative.... duh, but how can we do this? Simple, you focus on our blessings. Those things for which we are thankful!
4. Activity, Practicing Gratitude
  - Split into groups (preferably 6, one per teacher)
  - Teacher will simply supervise and help only if they need it i.e. the youngest kids.
  - First: each group will come up with a list of the things for which we are thankful. We'll have a time limit and see who has the longest list.
  - Second: It's one thing to quickly say "thanks" and another to truly show gratitude. There are many ways to say thanks. And there are many ways to show thanks. In each group have kids list as many creative ways as they can to show gratitude. We'll have a time limit then come back together to see which group came up with 1. the most and 2. the most creative.
5. "You Are Mine" by Max Lucado –with Lisa

Oct 12

**E for Excellent Example**

1. Open with Charades, start as kids enter
  - Teachers can take turns acting out things for the kids to guess. Examples: an animal, a song, a movie...
  - If we keep it just the teachers then there will be no "It's my turn" stuff or impossible to guess stuff.
  - This is intended to introduce our nightly theme.
2. Special Kids and prayer
3. Intro Excellent Example (Live like you Believe)
4. "Andy Griffith" Canon Episode
5. Q and A about the show and with What does the bible say?

Oct 19

**E for Excellent Example**

1. To start class..... Activity, Consequences Game
  - A classic game for teaching kids to **Do the Right Thing**. Present a situation and two different ways to respond to it. Also have prepared the consequences for each choice.
  - Example: a clerk at the candy store gives you \$10 too much change by mistake. Do you 1. Keep it or 2. give it back?
  - Have the kids chose which side of the room to go on based upon their choice.
  - Then give consequences: Keeping it makes you feel guilty later and giving it back instills a sense of pride
  - Invent several situations to play and then sum up with a reminder of our topic.
2. Special Kids and prayer
3. Split by grades for bible story
  - Open with mirror game
  - Doing what's right whether in public or private
  - Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (public)
  - Daniel and the Lion's den (private)

Oct 26

**C for CREATIVE**

1. Special Kids and prayer
2. Intro C is for Creative (Discover your gifts)
3. A couple of the teachers demo their talent to promote next week's Talent Show!
4. Wacky Science with Professor Tim(buk-tu)

Nov 2

**C for CREATIVE**

Talent Show Night!!!!!!

Nov 9

**I for IMPORTANT**

1. Special Kids and prayer
2. "Your Special Gift" by Max Lucado – with Lisa
3. Discussion about book using it to connect both the Creative and Important themes.
4. Intro I for Important (Use your talents to serve others)
5. Activity: Let's Build Something Game
  - We will let each kid have a slip of paper with a name of an object written on it. Examples: hammer, spoon, guitar, needle... They are not to reveal this to anyone until the game starts.
  - There will be groups of objects that go together such as: Things to sew something (needle, thread, thimble...) or Things to build something (hammer, nail, wood...) There are 4 different groups.
  - On go... The students are to circulate around the room and find the group they belong to.
  - If time, let each group come up with an idea for what they are going to do and why each item is important.
6. 1 Cor 12:14-20 Devo thought to end class
  - Remember it Keep It Short and Simple! KISS

Nov 16

**I for IMPORTANT**

1. Special Kids and prayer
2. Split by grades for bible story, Esther
  - Share the story and tie it to the topic
  - Esther 4:12-14, as well as ch 10:1-3
  - We'll go to class first tonight because we will need time to come back together for the last 15 to 20 minutes of FIA to do the project.
3. Thanksgiving project as a group
  - We'll come back together for this project
  - Perhaps we can color thank you cards/picture to the ministers and staff here at the church.
  - Or thank you cards/pictures for our parents.
  - Purpose? To celebrate Thanksgiving of course but to also show these people that we believe they are IMPORTANT!

Nov 23

**No Class**

Nov 30

**A for AMAZING**

1. Special kids and prayer
2. Our Amazing Planet video -I've got several ideas on YouTube but I'm still looking for the perfect video(s)
3. Intro A is for Amazing
4. Split by grades for bible story,
  - Gen 1, The Creation
  - Art/Craft – age appropriate
  - i.e. A sheet of paper handout with 7 squares drawn on it. Each numbered 1 through 7. As the teacher goes through the story the kids draw a picture of that day.
  - You guys may actually have many better ideas than that!
  - The goal: God is Amazing, His creation is Amazing and we are part of creation. So we are Amazing too!

Dec 7

**A for AMAZING**

1. Special Kids and prayer
2. Balloon Sculpting 101 (Life is more than a twist of fate)
  - This is an illustration idea using balloon animals that I came up with several years ago.
3. Tonight's theme: Spending Time with our Amazing God
  - Remember our first night when we read "You Are Special"? Lucia suggested to Punchinello, that if he wanted to feel special he needed to spend time with Eli the wood carver.
4. Drama? Guest Speaker?

Dec 14

**L for LIKABLE**

1. Special Kids and prayer
2. "If Only I Had a Green Nose" by Max Lucado –Lisa
3. Discussion: use the book to review AMAZING and intro LIKABLE (Matt 22:36-40)
4. What does the bible say?
5. Suggestions for being likable
6. Activity: The Name Game

Dec 21

**L for LIKABLE**

1. Puppets (Based on Matt 25:37-40)
2. Party!!!!!!
3. Activity?



## Super... Do Your Best

To be SUPER most often means to be first-rate or excellent. This is a common designation for being special. But what if you're someone who's not the best at what you're doing or anything for that matter? Can you still be super? Sure! Did you know, even if you are not the best at what you're doing, you can still do your best at what you're doing? In other words, it's not about being the best; it's about doing your best! You know that special feeling you get when you've completed a tough task. God made you that way. He wants you to feel good about a job well done. Even He felt that way during the creation of the world.

Doing your best is also about being a good steward. God has entrusted each of us with all kinds of things here on earth. We have personal possessions, our health and nature. It is our responsibility to take care of these things to the best of our ability. We are to care for his creation.

No matter how big or small the job, you're being super when you always do your best. (Do your best, let God do the rest.)

MEMORY VERSES: Col 3:23, Eph 2:10

### Additional Verses:

#### **Colossians 3:23-24**

New Century Version (NCV)

**23** In all the work you are doing, work the best you can. Work as if you were doing it for the Lord, not for people. **24** Remember that you will receive your reward from the Lord, which he promised to his people. You are serving the Lord Christ.

#### **Proverbs 13:4**

New Century Version (NCV)

**4** The lazy will not get what they want, but those who work hard will.

#### **1 Corinthians 9:24-25**

New Century Version (NCV)

**24** You know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize. So run to win! **25** All those who compete in the games use self-control so they can win a crown. That crown is an earthly thing that lasts only a short time, but our crown will never be destroyed.

#### **Ecclesiastes 9:10**

New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

**10** No matter what you do, work at it with all your might.

### Possible Bible Stories:

Luke 21:1-4 The Widow's Offering

## Positive... Remember God's in Charge

Have you ever heard someone say that you need to have an "I Can" attitude to be successful? Well that is great advice but being positive is more than just having faith in your self. It's also about having faith in God! We have tremendous "God Given Potential"! This means we can do great things because God created us that way. So go ahead be optimistic, believe in yourself and go for your dreams. Just remember to include God when you give credit.

But what about those times when things just aren't going your way? Or those times when you get really anxious about what's happening around you? Just know that God doesn't want us to be controlled by fear. Neither does He want us to worry about what may or may not happen. We can over come any fear no matter what it is, as long as we remember who is really in charge.

MEMORY VERSES: Phil 4:13, Proverbs 17:22

### **Additional Verses:**

#### **Philippians 4:13**

New Century Version (NCV)

**13** I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength.

#### **Proverbs 17:22**

Good News Translation (GNT)

**22** Being cheerful keeps you healthy. It is slow death to be gloomy all the time.

New Century Version (NCV)

**22** A happy heart is like good medicine, but a broken spirit drains your strength.

#### **Psalms 46**

New Century Version (NCV)

**1** God is our protection and our strength.

He always helps in times of trouble.

**2** So we will not be afraid even if the earth shakes,  
or the mountains fall into the sea,

**3** even if the oceans roar and foam,  
or the mountains shake at the raging sea.

#### **Philippians 4:8**

Good News Translation (GNT)

**8** In conclusion, my friends, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honorable.

### **Possible Bible Stories:**

Joshua and Caleb    Matt 6:25-24, do not be anxious

# Excellent Example...Live what you Believe

Not only are we to do our best, we must also do what's right. Whether you realize it or not, chances are good there is someone who looks up to you. It's a big responsibility to have someone look to you as his or her example. And often it's the little things you do that make an impression. For instance, inviting friends to worship is a good thing to do. But how do you act around your friends when you're not at worship? That's a little thing, but that's the real you. Whether you are alone or just hanging out with friends and you're just being you, do you make wise choices? Do you give in to peer pressure? Do you do what's right? It's one thing to say we believe in God, it's another thing to live like we believe. A simple rule to remember is... Others are more likely to believe what you say, if they see you live what you believe.

MEMORY VERSES: 1Tim 4:12, 1 Cor 15:33

## Additional Verses:

### 1 Timothy 4:12

New Century Version (NCV)

**12** Do not let anyone treat you as if you are unimportant because you are young. Instead, be an example to the believers with your words, your actions, your love, your faith, and your pure life.

### 1 Corinthians 15:33

New Century Version (NCV)

**33** Do not be fooled: "Bad friends will ruin good habits."

### 2 Timothy 2:22

Contemporary English Version (CEV)

**22** Run from temptations that capture young people. Always do the right thing. Be faithful, loving, and easy to get along with. Worship with people whose hearts are pure.

### Matthew 5:14-17

New Living Translation (NLT)

**14** "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.

**15** No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

## Possible Bible Stories:

Daniel and the lion's den      Shadrach, Meshach, and Abedigo

Compare the two stories. One was a good example in private the others in public.

# Creative... Discover Your Gifts

When you hear the word “creative”, you probably think of art, music or writing. Being creative though is not limited just to people who are artistic. Anyone can be creative! God gave each of us our own special gifts: you know, those abilities that seem to come easy and natural for us. Well get this, since God is the creator of all things then that should mean he is the source of all creativity. Right? Then I’m going to guess that means he enjoys watching us use our creativity! As we discover our talents whether it’s artistic, athletics or academics, God the creator also wants us to use those talents to “create”. We can do this by using our imagination and abilities to make new things, improve old things or perhaps just inspire others, all to bring him glory in this world. So... what are your gifts?

MEMORY VERSES: Romans 12:6, Gen 12:27

## **Additional Verses:**

### **Ephesians 2:10**

New Century Version (NCV)

**10** God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.

### **Romans 12:6**

New Living Translation (NLT)

**6** In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.

### **Genesis 1:27-28**

New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

**27** So God created man in his own likeness.

He created him in the likeness of God.

He created them as male and female.

**28** God blessed them. He said to them, “Have children and increase your numbers. Fill the earth and bring it under your control. Rule over the fish in the waters and the birds of the air. Rule over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

### **Romans 12:6**

Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)

**6** We all have different gifts. Each gift came because of the grace God gave us.

## **Possible Bible Stories:**

Parable of the talents, Luke 19:12-28

## Important... Use Your Talents to Serve Others

Everyone wants to feel important. Well guess what? You are! We've learned that we reflect the image of God when we use our creative gifts. Well, we also reflect the image of God when we use our gifts and talents to bless others. God has a specific purpose for the gifts he has given you. That's right, you are a special part of his plan! Now doesn't that make you feel important?

MEMORY VERSES: Jeremiah 29:11, 1 Cor 12:27

### Additional Verses:

#### Psalm 8: 4-6

New Century Version (NCV)

**4** But why are people even important to you?

Why do you take care of human beings?

**5** You made them a little lower than the angels  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

**6** You put them in charge of everything you made.  
You put all things under their control:

#### 2 Timothy 1:6-7

Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)

**6** That is why I want you to remember the gift God gave you. God gave you that gift when I laid my hands on you. Now I want you to use that gift and let it grow more and more, like a small flame grows into a fire.

#### Romans 12:7-8

Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)

**7** Whoever has the gift of serving should serve. Whoever has the gift of teaching should teach. **8** Whoever has the gift of comforting others should do that. Whoever has the gift of giving to help others should give generously. Whoever has the gift of leading should work hard at it. Whoever has the gift of showing kindness to others should do it gladly.

#### Jeremiah 29:11

New International Version (NIV)

**11** For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord

#### 1 Cor 12:27

**27** Together you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of that body.

### Possible Bible Stories:

1 Corinthians 12:14-20      Story of Esther

# Amazing...You are Worth More Than You Think

Have you ever been amazed? Was it when you first saw a really cool invention? Maybe you were in awe when you saw something in nature like Niagara Falls, the Grand Canon, a beautiful ocean beach or a spectacular cavern? If you think all those things are amazing did you ever stop to think about the most amazing thing of all... you? Can you explain how your eyes work? What makes your heart tick? Why do things taste or smell so good? How are we able to talk and communicate? Why do we have emotions? How did we get smart enough to even invent those cool things in the first place? Wow! All those things make you pretty amazing.

Since God made some pretty amazing stuff, that makes Him pretty amazing. And to think... you are God's special crown of creation! Now to the point.... when you truly begin to understand just how amazing our creator is, then you naturally will want to spend time with him.

MEMORY VERSES: Psalm 139:14, Psalm 42:1-2

## **Additional Verses:**

### **Psalm 139:14**

*New Century Version (NCV)*

**14** I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful. I know this very well.

### **Nehemiah 9:6**

You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.

### **Psalm 42: 1-2**

*New Living Translation (NLT)*

**1** As the deer longs for streams of water,  
so I long for you, O God.

**2** I thirst for God, the living God.

When can I go and stand before him?

### **Genesis 1:26**

*The Message (MSG)*

**26** God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature. So they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, And, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth." God created human beings; he created them godlike, Reflecting God's nature. He created them male and female.

## **Possible Bible Stories:**

Gen 1, Story of Creation

## Likable... Treat Others the Way You Want to be Treated

Hopefully by now, you have a better understanding of how and why you are special. It's important to remember that while God did create you special, he also created others special as well. Being different and unique can be pretty cool, however some people are uncomfortable being different. So here's an important question: how do you treat others? Part of being likable is having the ability to help others feel good about who they are especially when they just don't feel like they fit in with the crowd.

Let's also consider that perhaps someone has hurt you in some way? As awesome as you are, you sometimes make mistakes don't you? It's great when God and others forgive us when we make mistakes. Don't you think others would enjoy being forgiven as well? So, it's important that we learn to forgive others.

To put it simply, being likable is treating others the way you want to be treated.

MEMORY VERSES: Luke 6:31, Phil 2:3

### Additional Verses:

#### **Matthew 25:37-40**

The Message (MSG)

**37-40** "Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.'

#### **Philippians 2:3-4**

New Living Translation (NLT)

**3** Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. **4** Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

#### **Hebrews 13:1-2**

Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)

**13** Continue loving each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. **2** Always remember to help people by welcoming them into your home. Some people have done that and have helped angels without knowing it.

#### **Luke 6:31**

Common English Bible (CEB)

**31** Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you.

### Possible Bible Stories:

1 Sam 25... David, Abigail and Nabal

Luke 10... The Good Samaritan

# S.P.E.C.I.A.L. Forces

Memory Verses

Fall 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Verse</u>	<u>Topic</u>
September 7	Eph 2:10	SPECIAL Forces intro
September 14	Col 3:23	Be Super, Do your best
September 21	Ecclesiastes 9:10	Be Super, Do your best
September 28	Phil 4:13	Be Positive
October 5	Proverbs 17:22	Be Positive
October 12	1 Tim 4:12	Be an Excellent Example
October 19	1 Cor 15:33	Be an Excellent Example
October 26	Gen 1:27	Be Creative
November 2	Rom 12:6	Be Creative
November 9	Jeremiah 29:11	You are Important
November 16	1 Cor 12:27	You are Important
November 23	No Class	
November 30	Psalms 139:14	You are Amazing
December 7	Psalms 42: 1-2	You are Amazing
December 14	Luke 6:31	Be Likable
December 21	Phil 2:3	Be Likable



## Easy To Memorize Versions

### **Eph 2:10 (NCV)**

**10** God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works, which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing.

### **Col 3:23 (NCV)**

**23** In all the work you are doing, work the best you can. Work as if you were doing it for the Lord, not for people.

### **Ecclesiastes 9:10**

**10** No matter what you do, work at it with all your might.

### **Phil 4:13 (NCV)**

**13** I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength.

### **Proverbs 17:22 (NCV)**

**22** A happy heart is like good medicine, but a broken spirit drains your strength.

### **1 Tim 4:12 (NCV)**

**12** Do not let anyone treat you as if you are unimportant because you are young. Instead, be an example to the believers with your words, your actions, your love, your faith, and your pure life.

### **1 Cor 15:33 (NCV)**

**33** Do not be fooled: "Bad friends will ruin good habits."

### **Gen 1:27**

**27** So God created man in his own likeness.  
He created him in the likeness of God.  
He created them as male and female.

**Rom 12:6**

**6** We all have different gifts. Each gift came because of the grace God gave us.

**Jeremiah 29:11**

**11** For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord

**1 Cor 12:27**

**27** Together you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of that body.

**Psalms 139:14 (NCV)**

**14** I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way. What you have done is wonderful. I know this very well.

**Psalms 42: 1-2 (NLT)**

**1** As the deer longs for streams of water,  
so I long for you, O God.  
**2** I thirst for God, the living God.  
When can I go and stand before him?

**Luke 6:31 (CEB)**

**31** Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you.

**Phil 2:3 (NLT)**

**3** Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

## The Lucky Star Game

Are you familiar with the book by Max Lacado "You are Special"? It's about Punchinello the wooden Wemmick who was carved by Eli the wood carver. The wemmicks hand out gold stars to other wemmicks who deserve one for and gray dots to those who aren't really very smart or good-looking. (Lisa will read this book Wed night to help set up the Special Forces club.)

The game is based on an activity we youth ministers have used for years. Where you take a regular deck of cards and hand one to each student without them knowing what card they have. They hold the card on their forehead for everyone else to see. Then they are to walk around and treat each other good or bad etc... based up the value of the card on their friend's forehead. Example: you have an Ace or King on your forehead so I'll treat you really well, you have a two or three on your forehead I'll probably avoid you. Now based on how I'm treated, I should be able to figure out what I've got on my own forehead. After several minutes of interaction, they then are asked to line up from Ace to King without looking at their own card. It's fun watching them try to figure out if they are an Ace or King!

I thought we could play this game before we read the book just to help have fresh in their minds how we sometimes treat each other differently. Then I thought we may need to make it a bit more simple....

What if we write/print on slips of paper (post-it notes would be perfect) different money values? Like \$1, \$5, \$10, \$15, all the way up to \$100. We could even go as low as 10 cent and up to \$1,000!

We can then tape these on their backs so they will not be able to see how much they are worth. Then allow them to interact with each other. Instead of just treating each other good/bad perhaps we can give them gold stars to give each other. (or star stickers). Not sure if we can come up with gray dots but that's an idea. Or simply not have dots to keep from actually hurting each other's feelings. I'm guessing the key to this is to emphasis that this is only based upon the **random piece of paper on their backs!** And not who they really are. (Maybe the grown ups can play and we wear the low values.)

We can eventually have them line up from lowest value to highest or just try to guess the value on their backs. We then can end the activity by making a really big deal about pulling all the stickers off (as well as the slips of paper) and throwing them in the trash! Why? Because that's Not who we are! What if we pulled the paper off our backs and we all got stars?

Your thoughts? Ideas? Variations?

We will then read the book together. Our goal is to make everyone feel special.

## **S.P.E.C.I.A.L. Forces Talent Show**

On **Wednesday night November 2<sup>nd</sup>** during **Faith-in-Action** we want to share your Talent! This will be an opportunity to perform or simply show and tell. So if you're good at something don't just tell us, dress the part and show us. You can even team up with a friend and do this together. Here are a few examples:

- Sing, dance or play an instrument.
- If you can perform live that's great but you can also bring a video of a performance from a recital.
- Read something like your favorite short story, poem or scripture.
- Maybe you've written a poem or short story.
- Drama, team up with friends to perform a skit.
- Produce your own music video or short movie.
- Art
- Present a Special Award you received
- Bring a science project you did at school
- Magic or any cool trick
- Sports, show us your trophy and/or newspaper clippings
- Gymnastics or Cheer
- Hunting and fishing. Dress the part and show us photos/video from your trip
- Models
- Sewing
- Any hobby, bring it and show us

If you don't like getting in front of everyone we will help you. Bring a project, photo or award and we will present it for you. Or we will display them on a table for all to see. This is your chance to tell us about something you love to do.