

Lesson Truth: God has called all people by name, to be his children.

Bible Verse: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, you are mine.

-Isaiah 43:1 NRSV

Deaconess Katie Willman, Wisconsin

Children's Message: I am a Child of God

Materials Needed: One large "Hello, My Name Is" nametag, the words CHILD, OF, GOD printed or written on three separate pieces of paper, an easel or place to hang nametag, tape.

Song Suggestion: "Hello, My Name Is" by Matthew West

(Hang nametag up for all to see.)

• After saying hello, what do you usually tell someone the first time you meet? (Your name!)

You introduce yourself. You wave or shake hands and say, "Hello, my name is <u>say your name</u>." (Use a child to demonstrate.) Turn to the person next to you and try it. (Give children a chance to introduce themselves to one person.)

Names are important. They can tell a lot about us. They can tell what family we belong to or where we come from. Names may also tell a story. For example, my name is <u>leader's name</u> and <u>tell story of your name here</u>.

• Do any of you have a family name, or are you named after someone special? (Allow a few children to answer.)

We know people by their names.

• Where do you use nametags? Perhaps you have nametags at school on your desk or your backpack, maybe your lunch bag? (Allow a few children to answer.)

Every person has a name whether they are old or young, have brown hair or red, or use a wheelchair or walk.

Our Bible verse tells us not to be afraid, because God has redeemed us. Redeemed means God made us and then the devil took us because of sin. God needed to buy us back, so he did. God had Jesus redeem us. Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins; he redeemed us! Now your name is "Child of God." This is the reason we call Jesus our Redeemer.

Knowing Jesus died to save us from our sins and that we have been redeemed, we can introduce ourselves in a whole new way. (Shake a child's hand.) Hello, my name is <u>leader's name</u>. I am a child of God.

(Have children tape words Child of God on the large nametag)

Let's read the nametag together. (Read nametag.)

The most important name we will ever have is Child of God! Every person is a child of God, no matter what they look like, how they talk or where they live. Every person is a child of God, no matter if they can see or hear or jump up and down. God loves us all and he loves us all the same.

Let's say our Bible verse together: (Break it into sections saying "repeat after me." Then, try the whole verse together.)

[Do not fear,] [for I have redeemed you.] [I have called you by name,] [you are mine.] [Isaiah 43:1]

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for loving us all the same! Thank you for making us your children. We know we are a child of God because Jesus redeemed us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.





CHILD

OF

GOD