



"I praise you, for I am *fearfully* and *wonderfully* made.
Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."

Intergenerational Devotion

REFLECTIONS of Wonderful in Each Other!



For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. —Psalm 139:13-14 NIV

Materials Needed: Hand mirror, dry-erase marker

There is a famous fairy tale that says, "Mirror, Mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?" The evil queen who asks this question needs the mirror to tell her she is wonderful. We all know real mirrors don't talk; they show us a reflection of what we look like. We are the ones who think good or bad things when we look in the mirror and see ourselves. Sometimes we laugh when we see ourselves in the early morning. Sometimes we smile after we have combed our hair or gotten all dressed up for a special dinner. Sometimes we frown if we see a pimple or dirt on our face. Either way, what we see in the mirror tends to make us feel a certain way.

DISCUSS.

Let's use this mirror I have here and try to find one thing we find wonderful. Look in the mirror and tell us one thing you like, one thing about you that makes you smile. (Pass mirror around. Give each person a chance to say one thing they like.

READ PSALM 139:13-14

This Bible passage tells us that, not only did God create us, but He made us wonderful. God does not just see one thing He likes about us; God sees all of us as wonderful. God made us exactly the way He wanted to. Let's listen to the Bible passage again.

READ PSALM 139:13-14

- How does it feel to know God sees you as wonderful?
- How does it feel to know God made you exactly the way He wanted you to be made?
- Think about the way God made you. What is a gift or talent God gave to you?
- Is there a way you could use that gift or talent to show God's love to others?

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In the summer of our lives, we grow in age and wisdom, and we experience both joy and pain. In the summer of our faith lives, we also grow. We grow in our understanding and relationship with our Lord, and we learn to live among our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is here we experience more growth in community, participation and service.

REFLECT UPON GROWTH:

- How does it feel to be included in community? How do you participate? How do you serve? Do you allow others to serve you?

In the season of fall the colors of the earth change, and in the fall of our lives our own bodies change. We age and begin to wonder about the legacy we will leave our families; we might begin preparations for when we are no longer here. In the fall of our faith lives we can also prepare and teach others. It is a time to share our knowledge and tell our experiences so we can help those in the earlier seasons of their lives.

REFLECT UPON PREPARATION AND TEACHING:

- How have you passed on your knowledge to others? Are their people in your life you still need to reach? What are you waiting for?

In the winter of our lives we slow down; we reflect and rest in the Lord. In the winter of our faith lives we can also rest. We rest in God's grace and love as our Creator and Savior. We are anxious for Him to come again; we are thankful for our eternal home.

REFLECT UPON REST:

- Do you rest in the knowledge of God's grace? Why or why not? Do you feel the desire to help others know of God's grace?

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! —Psalm 139:23-24 ESV

Think about people with disabilities. Our Lord created everyone fearfully and wonderfully to live in community with each other through all of life's seasons. Our Lord created everyone in His image; He created us all to love and participate and to serve. As leaders and teachers in the Body of Christ, think about the seasons of our faith lives.

- How can you support people with disabilities through the seasons of their lives?
- How can you support people with disabilities through the seasons of their faith lives?

PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the seasons of our lives and for being with us through all of them. Grant us eyes to see the gifts in all those around us. Help us love and serve each other with gladness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.