WEEK 1: YOU ARE SPECIAL

Adam and Eve

So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them... Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! – Genesis 1:27, 31

Read: Genesis 1:26-31

With the release of the popular movie "It's A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," people became captivated by a television icon, Mr. Fred Rogers. People of all ages rediscovered comfort in the simple yet profound messages and life of Mr. Rogers. But one of his messages seemed to especially strike a chord in our hearts: You are special.

This message isn't an original idea. From the very beginning, with each new wonder that God created, he declared "It is good." But on the last day of creation, after he made man and woman, "good" wasn't good enough. He looked over all of creation and said "it was VERY good." In other words, *they were VERY special*.

What was special? God says that we are made in his image! We are different from every other thing God created because he put his image in us. We bear a likeness to him that nothing else on Earth does.

So the next time you're tempted to think that your life is no big deal, be reminded that God, the Creator of the universe, disagrees. He calls you special and unique. He has things for you to do that only you can do – things he designed with you in mind. Like Ephesians 2:10 says, you are God's masterpiece. He created you to carry out the good things he planned for you! He has plans just for you that *only you* can accomplish. God looks at you and he sees his very own image in you. And he says it is very good.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT:

- 1. What are some things you tend to think about yourself?
- 2. What does the Bible say God thinks about you? How does that change how you view yourself?
- 3. List 3 positive things about yourself that make you special or unique. Thank God for these qualities and ask him to help you use them for his glory.