



# LEADER'S GUIDE

## PRE-CONFERENCE BIBLE STUDY

### WHO AM I 2024

Lesson 1: to God?

#### TARGET GRADE

High School/9-12th grade

#### DESCRIPTION

In this lesson, students will learn that God defines them through the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Students will hear that they are loved, forgiven, and redeemed; they are baptized children of God.

#### OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to explain that God's Word clearly teaches who we are before God. Students will be able to confidently declare that they are precious to God, redeemed by Jesus' blood, and claimed as His children through Baptism.

#### AMOUNT OF TIME NEEDED

Approximately 50-60 minutes

#### MATERIALS NEEDED

- ✓ Bibles and catechisms
- ✓ Laptop for presentation slides and audio
- ✓ Provided student handout
- ✓ Pens/pencils

#### LESSON OUTLINE

1. **Activity.** Use the Four Corners activity to discover what students already know and think about who we are to God.
2. **Opening.** Begin with today's [Reflection](#).
3. **Discuss.** Read and discuss slide 6 as a class.
4. **Watch.** [Catechism Video 1](#).
5. **Discuss.** Read and discuss slide 8 as a class.
6. **Watch.** [Hymn Video 1](#).
7. **Discuss.** Read and discuss slide 10 as a class.
8. **Watch.** [Liturgy Video 1](#).
9. **Closing.** Close by praying together Luther's Morning or Evening Prayer or the Lord's Prayer.



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#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

##### Psalm 8

**What are some of the amazing works of the finger of God and things He has made?**

Some creations of God might include: the heavens/space and the sun, moon, and stars, the universe and all the planets and galaxies; the depths and expanse of the seas and oceans of the earth and all that is in them; the arctics, deserts, rain forests and everything in between with all the animals and plants that are in them.

**What is mankind in comparison to all of this?**

We were created in the image and likeness of God, crowned with glory and honor just a little lower than the heavenly beings, given dominion over all that He has made. He entrusted it to us and put us over all things as the pinnacle and high point of His creation. To be human means something special, a special and most important part of His creation.

##### Isaiah 49:13-16

**Could God possibly forget or forsake mankind?**

God would not forget or forsake (leave alone) the most important thing He made no more than a mother could forget her nursing child.

**What does it mean that we are engraved on the palms of God's hands? How did that happen?**

Like an important phone number, snap, or Instagram information, or answers to a test written on a hand, God is aware and will not forget us as we are always before Him as the work of His hands. We are written, not in ink that will smudge or wash away, but with a nail in the hands of Christ using his blood as ink that will not fade or be wiped away. It happens at the cross.

##### 1 John 3:1-3

**What kind of love has the Father shown to us that we would be called children of God?**

For God loved the world in this way, that he gave His only son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (Jn 3:16). But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God (John 1:12)

**How does God make us his children?**

Through Baptism we are born into the Church and into God's kingdom, made his children and heirs of his kingdom. By the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life (Titus 3:6-7).

**Who am I to God?**

You are his most precious and important creation. You have been bought and paid for by the blood of Christ. You are worth so much to God that he is willing to sacrifice His Son for you. You are written on the palms of His hands with blood and nails. You are His baptized, redeemed, justified, sanctified child and an heir of His kingdom so that all that belongs to the Son is yours.