

For Better or Worse

By Jill Meek

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 2**Focus:**

God knows all about you
and still loves you.

Lesson 2**Bible Basis:**

Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18,
23-24

Lesson 2**Memory Verse:**

O LORD, you have searched me and you
know me. You know when I sit and when I
rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.
—Psalm 139:1-2

Students will consider who knows them best as they explore how God knows all about us and still loves us.

Materials:

Internet access

“Avengers: Infinity War” released in April with a gigantic ensemble cast of superheroes. In interviews, the cast has been quizzed on their knowledge of Marvel comics, and each other.

Play the following video [2:01].

Avengers: Infinity War cast plays 'Friends For Infinity'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxN0qngqYx0>

➤ **Who knows you best? How did that person come to know you best?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Students will likely name a parent or close friend. Time spent together and shared experiences may be reasons why this person knows them best.)

➤ **What do you want people to think or see when they see you?** (Accept all reasonable answers. We tend to present the best parts of ourselves or project what we hope to be—smart, funny, brave, etc. We sometimes present ourselves so that we will blend in or so that we will stand out.)

➤ **In what ways do we hide aspects of ourselves from others? What do you think are the reasons for this?** (Accept all reasonable answers. We often hide our flaws or secrets—things we think people will not appreciate or understand. We may do this by pretending or withdrawing.)

The truth is that God knows you better than anyone else knows you. God knows everything about you. Even better, God loves you just as you are, without condition.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher’s guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

For Better or Worse

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 2 Focus:

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Lesson 2 Bible Basis:

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23-24

Lesson 2 Memory Verse:

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Materials:

- Internet access
- Pens/pencils
- Index cards

It's time for your group to play your own game to see how well you know each other. The game is Two Truths and a Lie. In this game, a person thinks up two true statements and one untrue statement to tell about themselves. They make the three statements to the group as if all are true and the group guesses which one is the lie. If you are short on time, you can play just one round in which you make statements about yourself, but if time allows, have a few students take a turn as well.

After the game, discuss:

➤ **What are two true things you like about yourself and the way God made you?** (Accept all reasonable answers. This could be any gift or personality trait specific to each student. For example, students might like that they are empathetic, a good public speaker, a natural leader, a good friend, etc.)

➤ **What lies do you hear that make you doubt your self-worth or feel unlovable?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Lies might be things like: a certain interest or personality trait is uncool or undesirable; a mistake is unforgiveable; their gender, race, etc. is less than another; a family circumstance is embarrassing; their secret is shameful; their difference is a problem; etc.)

Remind students that God knows about each of them—who they are, what they've done, and what has happened to them. God loves each of them as they are and nothing can stop God from loving them.

Allow time for reflection on this truth by playing the following song, based on Psalm 139, as a prayer [5:13]:

Psalm 139 – Far Too Wonderful – by Shane & Shane (Lyric Video) | Christian Worship Music
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GmsgYY-INf8>

Pass it on. Having been reminded of the truths in Psalm 139, ask students to each think of one person who might need to hear the truth that God loves them as they are, no matter what, and challenge students to share that message this week. This might be done through words or actions. If time permits, allow your teens to brainstorm ways they might carry out such an assignment.

Have students write their note or action plan on an index card and record the results during the week to share when you next meet.

Close in prayer.

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