



# PARENT DEVOTION

TIME TO DREAM | LESSON 3

## DARE TO BE UNIQUE

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*“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” – Ephesians 2:10*

## PAUL’S MINISTRY

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READ ACTS 9

Have you ever noticed it’s often easier to point out the good and special things we see in other people than we do in ourselves? We are quick to compliment a friend or encourage our children, pointing out the things they do well and telling them specific things we love about them. But when was the last time you did the same for yourself? God made you special too! And he created you to do things that only you can do.

The apostle Paul was uniquely gifted to preach about Jesus. His experience as a Jewish leader, his encounter with God on the Damascus road, and his God-given bold personality and talent for teaching and writing made him the ideal person to help spread God’s Word. But the hardships and difficulties he faced (being shipwrecked, imprisoned, dealing with a painful physical condition, to name a few) also contributed to who he was. God used Paul’s unique personality and unique life experiences to make him who he was. And who he was changed the world for Jesus!

The next time you are tempted to think you are nothing special, remember that when God looks at you, he sees the unique, gifted person he created you to be. Just like we recognize the wonderfully special things about our kids, God recognizes our specialness too. And he wants to use us to spread his Word in a way that only we can do. He has opportunities designed just for you. Ask him to help you recognize those opportunities and be ready to fulfill them.

## QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

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Take a moment to consider the following questions, then think about and pray over your responses. As you do, consider what ways God can use you to serve based on the unique way he shaped you.

1. Have you ever done a spiritual gift assessment? [www.spiritualgiftstest.com](http://www.spiritualgiftstest.com) is a great place to start as you learn and understand the spiritual gifts God may have given you.
2. What are some things or groups of people you love? What breaks your heart? What gets you excited?
3. What are things you are good at? What special skills and abilities do you have?
4. What is your personality like? Are you friendly, outspoken, reserved, silly?
5. What life experiences – good or bad – have defined and shaped you?