

## Unit 2 — Who Am I?

### Lesson 2 — We have capacity for good.

**Introduction** — No doubt your children already know the story of Adam and Eve. When God first made people, there was nothing wrong with them at all. They were given the chance to take care of the world God had made. They planted crops and enjoyed naming all the friendly animals. They loved one another just as God intended.

But when Adam and Eve rebelled against God, everything changed.

Can we still be good people today? Yes, and a lot of people do good things for others every year. We can also still compose beautiful music, paint wonderful pictures and invent helpful things to make life easier.

Of course, selfishness spoils most of what goes on in our world. (But we'll get to that next week . . .)

### Here's the Activity:

#### Read this short story to your family: Dylan's Gift

On Sept. 13, 2001, 8-year-old Dylan of Fincastle, Va., rode in the car with his mom when the Star Country disc jockey announced that the station was auctioning tickets to a famous country artist's concert. The money would go to the American Red Cross to help the victims of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington D.C.

Dylan used his mom's cell phone to call the radio station. DJ Chuck Marsh answered. Dylan said he wanted to use the \$60 in his savings account to bid on the tickets, but Chuck thought Dylan said \$50.

"I'm sorry, Buddy," he told Dylan, "but somebody's already made a higher bid."

"That's OK," Dylan said. "I want to give my money anyway."

Dylan's unselfish gift made Chuck want to help. So Chuck and another DJ added some money to Dylan's offer so Dylan would have the highest bid. But after the DJs played Dylan's call on the radio, a man called in, bid \$100 and said something that surprised Chuck.

"I want my money to go with Dylan's."

Soon all the phone lines in the radio station were ringing. Numerous people and businesses called in to give money, and everybody wanted it to go to "the Dylan Fund." Before the day was over, almost \$115,000 had been raised for the 9/11 victims—all because of Dylan's gift.

The next day, Dylan went to the concert with his younger sister, his parents and some friends. Dylan and his mom went backstage to meet the performers before the concert. During the concert, Dylan was invited on stage.

"My teeth were chattering," Dylan said. "You should have seen me. I was walking so slow."

Dylan's mom went up with him to explain why they were there. When she finished telling the story, the whole crowd chanted: "USA. USA. USA." After the concert, Dylan visited the tour bus. And best of all, Dylan says, he got to shoot baskets with the musicians.

Dylan's story appeared in the local newspaper, which got Congressman Bob Goodlatte's attention. He mailed a letter to President Bush, explaining how Dylan's gift had inspired so many people to donate money for the 9/11 victims.

A few months later, President Bush sent Dylan a letter. "Your story is a wonderful example of how one person can make a big difference," President Bush wrote.

Dylan never expected to become a hero or a celebrity. He was just doing something he likes to do—help others.

### Memory Verse:

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).