

# Discovering Talents

*Happy is the family that knows children are full of potential for they will develop their talents!*

God made each person unique with special qualities and talents. Discovering abilities and talents is a lifetime treasure hunt! Use these activities to excite children in discovering their potential!

— MATERIALS —

- ◆ envelopes – 1 per person
- ◆ small objects from around the house (elastics, cotton balls, coins, bandage, stickers, paper clips, etc.)
- ◆ cardboard
- ◆ glue and tape
- ◆ crayons or pencils – one per person

*NOTE: This is one of the few devotions needing advance preparation.*

## Preparation

Before the family gathers, cut cardboard slightly smaller than the envelopes and attach random office and household items to the cardboard. Then place the cardboard inside an envelope and seal it. Attempt to have each envelope contain a different combination of items with at least 3 items on each cardboard. Written words dealing with talents can be included. Make 1 envelope per person.



DAY 1

## SEALED TREASURES

**PSALM 139:1-2** 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.

## Activity

Each person takes an envelope and writes their own name on it. Keep the envelopes closed. Let everyone feel their envelope. Can they guess any of the contents just by touching?


## Talk about it

How does God give us special talents? We are still discovering our abilities. Some of the contents of the envelope can be discovered by touch. Some people know their gifts and talents easily in life – such as singing, sports ability and natural beauty! Let each person talk about one talent they know God gave them! What talents did a parent first notice in each child? When did they discover it?

DAY 2

RUBBING UP ANSWERS

**PSALM 139:13-14** For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made, your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

 **Activity**

Pass out pencils or crayons and use them to rub across the envelopes revealing more about the contents.

 **Talk about it**

Some things were revealed by rubbing. Some abilities are discovered when people do things with one another – such as a talent of encouraging others, counseling, or problem solving. Parents, tell each child one hidden talent you have seen in them when they are with other people.




DAY 3

REVEALED ANSWERS


**ROMANS 12:6** We have different gifts, according to the grace given us...

 **Activity**

Open the envelopes and look inside!

 **Talk about it**

Some things were only revealed by opening up the envelope. Some people's talents are not known until God opens their lives and reveals them. We are different and we each have distinct gifts and talents. Ask God to reveal your gifts and talents and help you to use them wisely! Take time to pray for God's wisdom.

 **Deeper exploration**

Talk about the contents and how the items can be used. For example a coin can be saved, spent, tossed, used as a game marker, given away, or used for bribery. Talents can be used for good or evil. God gives us the talents but we choose how to use them.

Let everyone list the talents they notice in themselves and see if someone else observes other talents to add to the list. Discuss how creativity adds sparkle to these talents and how these talents can be used.