

6th & 7th Grade Edge Homestudy

Lesson #5: Limited Edition

What Makes Me Unique?

GOAL

The goal of this lesson is to help you understand that, while all human beings have a common origin and dignity, we have a unique identity, who we are matters, and we are a part of something bigger than ourselves.

GAME

CHARACTERISTICS

Read the following list of characteristics and circle the top five that apply to you the most.

Active	Adventurous	Agreeable	Appreciative	Athletic	
Attractive	Brilliant	Calm	Capable	Caring	Cheerful
Clean	Confident	Courageous	Creative	Dedicated	
Disciplined	Dramatic	Enthusiastic	Faithful	Forgiving	
Friendly	Fun-loving	Generous	Gentle	Hardworking	
Helpful	Honest	Humble	Impressive	Kind	Leader
Loyal	Open	Optimistic	Original	Patient	Peaceful

Practical Punctual Reliable Resourceful Responsible
Sensitive Selfless Strong Sweet Trustworthy Warm
Wise

TEACHING

Limited Edition

Companies have many strategies for creating limited edition products. Usually there are a limited number of items made, and they are exclusive, unique, and desirable. While we might get excited about limited edition items from our favorite companies or brands, we often forget that each individual human being is created as a “limited edition.” We have each been created uniquely with specific detail, purpose, and love.

Foundation of Identity

There are concrete realities at the core of our identity that we all share as human beings, which are foundational to who we are. (CCC 360, 1934)
Every human being is created in the image of God, and we all have equal dignity and deserve to be treated with honor and respect. (CCC 366, 1702)
Human beings are set apart from all of creation because we are made in the image of God; we have a soul as well as a physical body. (CCC 366)
God created human beings to be male or female. (CCC 366) These three elements make us human. From this foundation of who we are, there is a great deal of diversity among all people. While we are all part of the human race, no two human beings are exactly the same.

The differences we see in each other are a part of God’s plan. These differences serve as a beautiful reminder of how great God is because, created in His image and likeness, we each reveal an aspect of Him. These differences make us unique, and we each have something to offer the world through the specific gifts and talents God has given us.

A part of discovering who you are is recognizing the goodness of your body and what you are capable of, but it is also recognizing the different aspects of your personality and how you relate to other people and the world around you. It is important to learn what gifts and talents God has given you, but it is also important to grow physically and spiritually. As you do so, you have to remember that your dignity and worth is not based on your success. Your worth is not based on how you look or what you do. Your dignity and worth come from the fact that you are a human being, created in God's image and likeness. This reality is unchanging; it does not increase or decrease depending on how good you are at something.

You Are Not Alone

While it may feel like you have to figure out who you are by yourself because it is your identity you are trying to figure out, the truth is that we were not created to be alone. God created us to live in communion with other people, and we need other people in order to grow and develop into who we were created to be.

All of us, from the moment of our birth, depend on others to grow. (CCC 1936) For example, as a baby, you cannot do anything for yourself. Someone else had to teach you to walk, eat, get dressed, etc. As you continue to grow, you still need other people. You need teachers to help you learn, coaches to teach you how to play sports, family members to teach you how to love and have relationships with others, and friends to help you along the way.

People in your life also need you. They need your specific gifts and talents. Whether your team needs you in the game, your teacher needs you to do your best, or your parents simply need you to be present when you are home because who you are makes your family complete, no one else can replace you in your communities.

You are entirely unique. You are a limited edition. But you need other people in your life because you were created to live in communion with others, to give of yourself and receive from others. (CCC 357) Do not isolate yourself from the people God has brought into your life. Be open to the advice and guidance of your parents, family members, priests, teachers, and coaches.

As you discover who you are and what makes you unique, remember you are not alone, your worth and dignity is unchanging, and you are known and loved by God, who created you. (1 John 4:16)

Prayer

Whether or not you feel like it, you are a limited edition. Sometimes the last thing you want is to be unique. You might even try to change who you are to be more like others. Other times, you spend a lot of energy trying to stand out or prove that you are different, so you do not actually enjoy the unique things about yourself. During quiet prayer, you are going to bring all of these thoughts and feelings to the Lord. Using your Characteristics game from the start of the lesson, go through each characteristic, even beyond the five you chose for your activity, and thank God for them individually. Once you thank God for them, ask Him to show you His love for you — the one-of-a-kind person He delighted in creating.

Spend 15-30 minutes in quiet prayer.

Close with a Hail Mary.

Lectio Divina

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12

What word or verse jumped out at you?

What is God saying to you through this scripture?

What is God asking you to do?

Read Revelation 7:9-10

What word or verse jumped out at you?

What is God saying to you through this scripture?

What is God asking you to do?

