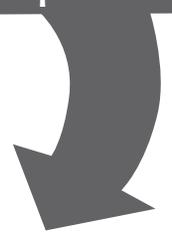


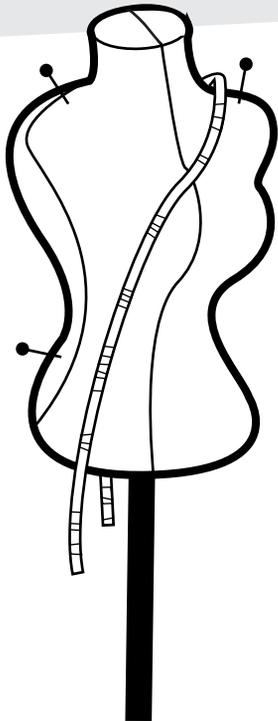
Tailor-Made Lesson Fittings



“Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head... ‘I cannot go in these,’ he said to Saul, ‘because I am not used to them.’ So he took them off” (1 Samuel 17:38, 39b).

• What part of your life feels like you are wearing the “wrong outfit”?

• Why can't we fit into someone else's image or purpose for us?



▼ Training Session

Just as David couldn't fight effectively in the wrong armor, we can't make someone else's lessons fit us perfectly.

We teachers love to try different ideas in our classrooms. But, as you know, alterations are required based on your personality and the way kids learn best.

Lessons about God aren't patterned after the latest fad—they're to be fashioned from unchangeable truth. If you want to make a lesson your own, first acknowledge that God owns the material.

Spend some time in prayer, asking God to use you to teach what he wants. You're special, and God chose you to teach. God *will* use your unique gifts and style to bring kids closer to him.

Don't be afraid to make a few tweaks and changes to your lesson to fit your abilities.

Maybe your lesson wants you to lead a worship song. But you're sure that your singing would cause kids to *not* be worshipful. This might be a good time to change the lesson so you have a student leader up front.

Another thing to keep in mind as you prepare your lesson: The only one who knows your kids is you! Your lesson might be heavy on teacher talk—and you're sure your kids can't sit and listen that long. Rework the teacher talk into group talk.

Finally, you can take it a step further in making it your own by adding personal examples and stories. Have your own example of not quite following God's directions? Tell that story as you teach about Jonah. You'll not only fit the lesson to your style, you'll give kids a glimpse into your life!

If you see that a lesson doesn't fit the way your kids learn or isn't engaging for your students, change it. We're teaching kids, not lessons. You have full permission to make it work.



Take this training deeper as you think over these questions:

- What does it take to make your lessons work for you?
- How can you teach for maximum impact?
- How can tailoring your lesson help your students learn?

▼ Journal

Lord, teach me to customize lessons by...

Tailor my life by...

Praise God for the gifts and experience he's entrusted to you to teach his children. You make a difference because you're part of the body of Christ. You are needed to teach as God has equipped you.

▼ Application

Make a list of the things you're good at as a teacher. Then look at your next lesson. Highlight (yes, it's OK to write in the book) the parts of the lesson that make those talents and gifts shine.

Then tweak an activity to make it work for you and your environment. Add a story. Reword the things you're supposed to say. Make it sound just like you wrote it yourself!