

Lesson #5 – KNOW YOUR STRING BEAN

The purpose of this activity is to help group members see that each of us is unique. Buy enough fresh, whole green string beans so that each person in your group will get one. (Keep a few extras in reserve). *Select beans that look similar* – same length, shape, etc.

Give one bean to each group member. Tell them to give their bean a name and then become well acquainted with their bean, study it and learn all there is to know about it. After three or four minutes, collect all of the beans in a bowl. **Don't tell them why you are collecting them.** Mix all of the beans up and dump them in a pile on a table. Then ask the group members to find their beans. It is amazing how well they are able to do this.

When they go back to their seats, ask if they are sure they found their bean. Then ask them to introduce the group to their bean and tell why they feel so sure that they found the right one. After the sharing, emphasize how all the beans looked alike at first, but as we got to know them better, we discovered that each one is actually unique.

The point here is that God does not see crowds, only individuals, and because He knows us so well we are unique and special to Him. We may each feel, “Oh, I’m just one of the church members” or “One of the crowd.” But actually we differ from everyone else in valuable ways. Everyone is important and needed!