

Many Shapes and Sizes

by Brooke Fandrich

7th grader at St. John's Lutheran School in Portage, WI

Teacher email: shovland@stjohnsportage.com

Submitted by Stephenie Hovland (language arts teacher)

In Genesis 2:7 it is written “the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.” When God created humans, he didn't give any specifications on what they should be like. God created man in whatever way he wanted to.

So why do we dislike the handicapped? Why do we abort children as soon as the ultrasound says that they're 'imperfect?' God never said that one must have arms or that one couldn't have a different way of functioning. He never said that if one thinks differently or may need special care we should kill them before they even have a chance to live. In fact, God does say through David in Psalm 139:16 “Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.” That means the infant that is being killed has a life--a future. It already has a life full of love, lessons, and beautiful memories all carved out. When one takes a life like that, it's called murder.

Psalm 139:16 also says that all people are unique. It's a fact that our society is proud of. Or is it? In a classroom, when someone is awkward or has a different sense of style than what is 'the norm,' they're left out. Similarly, when someone has autism or a strange birth defect, they are

also left out. Our society says these people are very different because of the way they were born.

Ephesians 6:11 says “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.” Now, that armor is tailored to fit each person. It can always stand against the schemes of the devil. We may look different, think differently, or act differently, but we are still humans. We're beautiful, unique, and strong.

So when that ultrasound says something different than what we're used to, let's give that child a chance to be exactly who God wanted her to be.