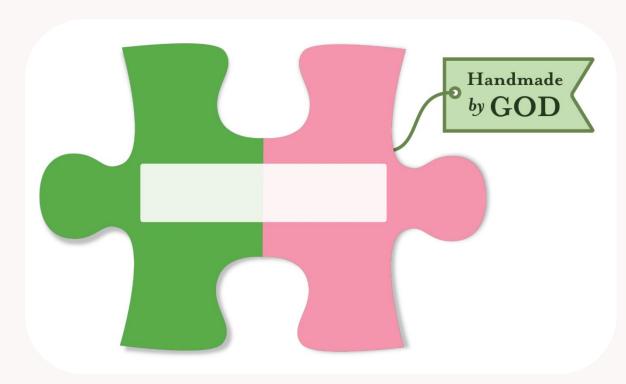


Build your own green and pink puzzle piece wall display. This excerpt from Worship As One: Varied Abilities in the Body of Christ provides a simplified lesson which you can use to create your own visual example of community. Try it in youth group, adult small group, children's setting, staff/volunteer training, or large group setting. It works best if everyone present has access to their own puzzle piece to design.

PUZZLE PIECE LESSON PLAN



1: Introduce the Idea of Puzzle Pieces

Play the 3-minute <u>puzzle piece animation video from All Belong</u> (found at <u>withministries.org/worship-as-one/</u>) or share with the group, "The Bible tells us in Psalm 139:13 that God knit us together before we were even born. He created us and had a plan for us from the moment we were conceived. Each person in the group gathered today has a page in God's pattern book." As you hold up a green and pink puzzle piece, discuss with the group the idea of strengths and weaknesses. Say, "Part of God's pattern is that we all have things that are easy for us and things that are difficult for us. It's part of God's plan. We have green parts—areas of strength. Green stands for growth and strength. We also have pink parts— areas of weakness and challenge. Pink stands for hot spots or things that are difficult."

2: Lead by Example



Talk about your own puzzle piece (feel free to make your piece ahead of time). Talk about areas that are easy for you and things that are more difficult. As you discuss your own puzzle piece, it will help others begin to form their own ideas.

3: Engage the Group

Give each person a puzzle piece that is half green and half pink. Ask each participant to add two or three words on the green side to represent their areas of strength and one or two words on the pink side to represent areas of need or challenge.

4: Put It All Together

Using some sort of adhesive, connect the puzzle pieces to form a wall display. These can either be in one long line or in a square or rectangular formation. If you did not view the video, you can share with the group that "God made us on purpose" to fit together. He calls us one body. If I was "all green," I would not need any other people. I could fix the broken furnace, mow the lawn, decorate the building, write the newsletter, preach a sermon, teach a class, make a meal for someone who is sick, and watch all of the children in the nursery. I would not need anyone else. That's not how God made us. He made us to fit together like a puzzle (demonstrate with some of their pieces). Where _____ [insert person's name] is strong, that person can help someone else. Where _____ [insert person's name] is weak, another one can come alongside and help that person. It's part of God's design for His church. When we give our life to Jesus, we give Him our entire puzzle piece. He gets the green and the pink. With our life in His hands, He can use it all. Sometimes God uses our areas of challenge in His service as well as things that are easy for us. He also loves our entire puzzle piece. He treasures you as a person, not for what you can or cannot do." While the display is going up, or when it is complete, read or listen to an audio version of 1 Corinthians 12:14–20 together.

From *Worship As One: Varied Abilities in the Body of Christ*, Barbara J. Newman (2023), (Rev. Ed.) With Ministries, pp. 41-43. See withministries.org/worship-as-one.



Use this puzzle piece, order pre-cut pieces, or create your own for each individual participating. Add two or three words on the green side to represent areas of strength and one or two words on the pink side to represent areas of need or challenge. The image has been modified for greater readability.

PUZZLE PIECE LESSON PLAN

