

Sermon Title: Being God's Image
Sermon Scripture: Genesis 1:26-27



Sermon Discussion Guide (5/25)

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

Scripture

Read Genesis 1:1-27 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

Observation

What do you notice about the patterns present in these verses? What differences are there between the ways that God created humanity and the ways that God created everything else? What do you think is the meaning behind these differences?

In verse 26, what responsibilities does God give to people? As people created in the image of God, how should we carry out these responsibilities?

Read Genesis 2:1-4. What do these verses reveal to us about the nature of rest?

What is the significance of the seventh day being the first day after humans were created?

Application

Because we are created in God's image, we are called to reflect God's presence to the rest of creation. In what ways are you currently reflecting God's presence to others in your family, workplace, and community?

To rightly live as people created in the image of God, we must reject sin and not act on our impulsive and self-centered desires. How is God calling you to say no to habits or desires that keep you from rightly reflecting His image?

In Pastor Matt's sermon, he explained that we are meant to work from our rest in God. Are you currently practicing a weekly sabbath? If so, how is this practice allowing you to rest in God's presence? If you are not practicing a weekly sabbath, is there one small step God is calling you to take so that you can rest in Him?

Through the fall, the image of God that is within us is broken and distorted by sin, yet through Jesus Christ, this image can be restored. How do you sense Christ working in you to more fully restore you to someone who is created in God's image? What is one step you will take this week to cooperate with Christ's transforming work in your life?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for creating us in Your image and calling us to reflect Your presence and purpose in the world. We confess that we fall short of being the people You have created us to be, but we praise You for the redeeming work of Jesus Christ, who heals and redeems the brokenness in our lives. Teach us to rest in Your presence, to reflect Your love, and to live as true image-bearers of You. Strengthen us through Your Spirit, Your presence, and the gift of Christian community. In Jesus's name we pray, Amen.