

# Reflecting on the Image of God in Man – Part 2

October 1, 2023

## Introduction

In Genesis 1:28-31, God gave Adam a directive to rule and have dominion over His creation. This included a number of do's and don'ts as he began life in the Garden of Eden. We call this the Creation Mandate. This still applies to us as humankind on the earth today. What are some lessons that we can learn from this passage?

## Discuss

- 1.) **Read Genesis 1:28-31.** What are the individual directives that God told Adam that he was supposed to do? Do all of these apply today? How does this look different today? What are some practical applications of this in our everyday lives today? (Hint: How does our hard work, being creative, being productive, replenishing the earth, making a difference where we are, give us an opportunity to share the gospel?)
  
- 2.) We see God walking Adam through the details of his responsibilities in **Genesis 2:15–22.** What were some practical lessons Adam learned about God and about himself that day? How can that apply to us today?
  
- 3.) God made Adam a steward of this earth which means it didn't belong to him. What are some other stewardships that God has given to us including the care of this earth?

4.) God's plan is to redeem His creation through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ starting with our redemption. **Read Romans 8:18–33.** What kind of hope should fill our hearts? How can we share that good news today with others?

5.) Compare the creation mandate in Genesis with the great commission in **Matthew 28:19-20.** What are the similarities and what are the differences?

6.) How should the creation mandate effect our biblical worldview? Who do I belong to? Does He have a plan for my life? Do I live for my glory or His? How does God define success?

**Live:** What is one way that I can live out the creation mandate today that will give me new opportunities to share the gospel with others? Share your ideas with each other in the group. Encourage each other in the new venture. Pray for each other and in days to come ask, "How it is going?"

**Pray:** Let's close our time in prayer thanking God for our redemption through Christ and praying for God's work here on this earth of spreading the gospel to all people groups. Let's include some of our Gospel Partners in our closing prayer today.