



IMAGE OF GOD

5 STUDIES



Growth Groups



WEEK 1: CREATION

In this 5 part series we'll be seeking to answer a number of big questions.

- What does it mean for men and women to be made in the image of God?
- Is that image marred or changed after the fall?
- What impact does the Bible's teaching on men and women being made in God's image affect our understanding of how we treat every human being? See Genesis 9:6
- What alternative views do we hear about mankind from our surrounding culture?





- What is lost when we fail to uphold the Bible's teaching on this subject?
- Jesus is the image of the invisible God - Does this mean that Jesus as the image bearer is the genuine article and that we humans are not?
- Is there are sense in which humans are being restored so as to conform to God's image some time in the future?
- Is being made in God's image unique to Adam and Eve? See Genesis 5:2-3



Now read Genesis 1

1. What makes verses 26 and 27 particularly stand out in the overall flow of Genesis 1?

2. "in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.". There looks to be an apparent contradiction here. How can there be an image, when there is both male and female? Shouldn't we expect to see 2 different images, one male and the other female, both of them somehow reflecting the God's image? Where might such an idea lead us?





3. What do verses 26b and 28 add to our understanding of what it means for the man and the woman to be created in God's image?

4. Compare verses 31 with 4b, 12b & 18b). What is different about what is said in verse 31? What does this tell us about significance of the man and woman's creation?

5. Lest we think that this is the goal of the LORD's creating, now read 2:1-3. What does this tell us about the goal towards which the creation tends?

In Psalm 8 the psalmist is musing on the whole of Genesis 1 when he asks the question, "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?"

6. In the verses that follow, Psalm 8:5-8 he answers his own question and even though the word image does not appear in what way do you see Genesis 1:26-27 figuring particularly in that answer?





Let's think about the inherent dignity and worth that we should accord to every human being in the light of the Bible's teaching about humanity?

How might this apply in the following:

- The respect with which we treat any cadaver?
- The person suffering from severe depression or illness and who is unable to work?
- The person who has done great evil and has been the cause of enormous suffering for other people?
- My own prideful attitude that leads me to see myself as superior to other people?

