



SMALL GROUPS

Life alone isn't living. We SHARE community.

Beautiful Design

Week 2 – In His Image

1/27/19

This week we continue our conversation on God's design. We'll take a closer look at the designed order God built into the world and what happens when we turn to anything other than God to set our own lives in order. We'll also examine "imago Dei" and its importance in our lives as Christians and in society as a whole.

First, did God speak to or challenge you last week concerning anything from last week's lesson?

If so, what action steps did you take?

Read Revelation 4:11.

How is this the first step in recognizing God's designed order?

Read Genesis 1:24-31.

Discuss God's designed order as revealed in this passage.

Imago Dei means "the image of God".

When you consider Genesis 1:26-28, what are some of the unique responsibilities entrusted to God's image bearers? *

Re-read Genesis 1:27.

In what ways do we dishonor the image of God in ourselves and others? What kinds of thoughts, behaviors, or attitudes devalue or belittle God's design for the created order? *

It is important to note that both men and women were made in the image of God.

What are some stereotypical views that our culture holds about masculinity and femininity? *

How do contradictory voices in our culture distract us from seeing each other as image bearers? *

Have you ever been uncomfortable or felt devalued in a group setting?*

How does God value you? How do you value yourself? What do you base that value on?

What type of person might be uncomfortable in your church because of whom you tend to value? *

What are some marginalized people groups we may fail to recognize imago Dei in?

Discuss the following statement. "We must be ready to welcome anyone who walks through the doors of our church with the worth they were created with." Pastor Bob

Additional statements for discussion...

God gives us dominion and authority over the created order.

We have a relationship with one another that is different than our relationship with the rest of the created beings.

We must fight for racial equality and racial reconciliation.

Men must think Biblically of women and push against the stereotypes of women as mere sexual creatures or servants put here for our pleasure and comfort.

Women must think Biblically about men and push against the stereotypes of men as idiot Neanderthals.

** Taken from, "a beautiful design," by Matt Chandler*