

DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR: MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE - JANUARY 8, 2023

PRIMARY PASSAGES:

26 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

Genesis 1:26-27 (NIV)

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die." - Genesis 2:15-17 (NIV)

...*"Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent."*
John 17:1b-3 (NIV)

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." - Genesis 1:28 (ESV)

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it...Genesis 2:15 (NIV)

19 Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. - Genesis 2:19-20 (NIV)

MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Trust that God's good design is good.
2. We are made in God's image to reflect him to the rest of creation.
3. We are **ETERNAL** and must live in light of eternity
4. We are **RESPONSIBLE** and must work diligently to cultivate and care for our world.
5. We are **ONE** and must treat everyone with dignity and respect.
6. We are **DISTINCT** and must embrace God's good design for our sexuality.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some ways you reflect the personality or character traits of your parents?
2. To be made in God's image simply means we are designed to reflect who God is to the rest of creation. Why is it important to understand we were designed and created to be **ETERNAL** beings? What might "living in light of eternity" mean for you this week?



3. In what ways has God uniquely designed you to be **RESPONSIBLE** for (to cultivate or care for) our world?
4. What are some practical implications of understanding that all human beings are **ONE** because we all have been made in the image of God? What difficult person is God wanting you to show the love of God to by treating them with dignity and respect?
5. Why is it good that males and females were created to be **DISTINCT**? Why is it important to maintain that distinction? What does that distinction enable us to image or reflect about God? What might it look like to embrace God's good design for your sexuality this week?

God, we thank You that we can trust that Your design is good. We recognize the countless ways that we are broken reflections of Your image and thank You for Your mercy and grace. Help us to live into Your good design for our lives and for Your glory. It's all because of Jesus that we bring these prayers and requests to You. Amen.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Want to better understand God's good design for our sexuality? Register for our 12-week Christian Sexuality class at: <https://immanuelhome.org/adults/classes>

