

Living as a community intentionally focused on cultivating the life of Christ in others.

# GROUP GUIDE - God's Marvelous Design - Week 3

## **GENDER IDENTITY**

**ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK:** (15 minutes) Spend time catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on prayer requests and any action steps from your last time together.

# SHORT OPENING PRAYER FOR YOUR TIME TOGETHER: (2 minutes)

**SCRIPTURE and DISCUSSION:** (40-50 minutes) Open your Bibles and read **Genesis 1:26-28 and Genesis 3:1-11 together.** With each Scripture passage, have a different person read slowly enough for everyone to enjoy, reflect quietly for a moment, then discuss the questions.

## Genesis 1:26-28

- What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
- How did God intend males and females complement and balance each other in a covenantal relationship?

### Genesis 3:1-6

- What was the serpents goal in his conversation with Eve?
- Belief in a lie about God causes us to reject God's truths. When we reject God's truth, it leads to rebellion. What are some of the lies the enemy has tried to deceive you with, that might have caused you to question God? What are some truths and promises from Scripture that can help you combat the enemy in your own life?
- In our culture, what are some of the lies the enemy is telling when it comes to identity and gender? How are those lies effecting the culture around us today?

#### Genesis 3:7

- Some are convinced gender changes will cover them the way they need to be covered to feel secure. What is the problem with that belief?
- Think to yourself, or maybe share if you feel comfortable doing so: Apart from Christ, what are some of the ways that you have tried to cover yourself in your brokenness? How has that worked out

#### **Genesis 3:8-11**

- What is your natural response when you encounter those wrestling with gender identity? Do recoil and withdraw or do you engage and draw near in grace?
- How does understanding your own brokenness affect the way you engage with others concerning gender identity?
- What are the main truths you should focus on when engaging with others concerning gender identity?

### **SURRENDER:** (15 minutes)

### Genesis 3:21

- How can you engage the culture and draw near to those experiencing with gender identity issues? How can you offer a "gospel covering" to those you pursue?
- What is your "fig leaf"? How can you allow God to cover you with the gospel this week in those areas that you try to define and fix yourself?

**PRAYER:** (10 min) Pray for one another in light of what has been shared.