

5-Day Devotional: Created in His Image

Day 1: The Foundation of Human Dignity

Reading: Genesis 1:26-31

Devotional:

Before you accomplished anything, before you proved your worth, before you contributed to society, God declared you valuable. "Let us make man in our image" wasn't a statement about your potential; it was a declaration of your identity. Your dignity isn't earned through performance or granted by others—it's given by your Creator. This truth dismantles the world's measuring system that constantly evaluates your worth based on productivity, appearance, or usefulness. Today, rest in this: you bear God's image simply because He made you. Your value precedes your function. Let this truth reshape how you see yourself and every person you encounter, from the unborn child to the elderly, from the successful to the struggling.

Reflection: How does knowing you're made in God's image change the way you view your own worth and the worth of others?

Day 2: Known Before Formation

Reading: Psalm 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:4-5

Devotional:

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you." These words shatter our cultural narratives about when life matters. God's knowledge of you preceded your existence—you were in His mind before you were in your mother's womb. David celebrates this intimate creative process: "You wove me together." This isn't the language of potential personhood; it's the language of relationship. Even in the hidden, vulnerable stages of development, God was present, purposeful, and personal. Your life story didn't begin at birth or even at conception—it began in the heart of God. Whatever circumstances surrounded your beginning, they don't define your value. God knew you, formed you, and has appointed purposes for your life.

Reflection: How does it impact you to know that God knew and loved you before you even existed?

Day 3: Authority and Submission

Reading: Romans 9:19-21; Isaiah 45:9-12

Devotional:

The potter-and-clay metaphor confronts our deepest rebellion: the desire to be our own authority. When we claim the right to determine which lives have value, we're attempting to take God's place. This is the ancient sin of Eden repeating itself—"You will be like God." But we are clay, not the potter. Abortion, euthanasia, and every form of devaluing human life flows from rejecting God's authority over life and death. True freedom isn't found in autonomy but in submission to our Creator. When we surrender our perceived right to define reality and instead trust God's design, we discover peace. The question isn't whether a life is convenient or wanted—it's whether we acknowledge God as the giver and definer of all life.

Reflection: In what areas of life are you tempted to be the potter rather than the clay?

Day 4: Truth Spoken in Love

Reading: Ephesians 4:15; 1 Peter 3:15-16

Devotional:

Speaking truth without love distorts the gospel; showing love without truth abandons those who need rescue. The church must hold both in tension. When addressing abortion and human dignity, we cannot whisper where God has spoken clearly, yet we must never wield truth as a weapon against the wounded. Many carry deep guilt from past decisions, bearing shame in silence for years. Others face impossible circumstances, feeling abandoned and afraid. Christ calls us to be a community where fear is met with help, shame is met with grace, and life is protected not just in principle but in practice. This means late nights, early mornings, sacrificial giving, and opening our homes. Truth demands we call abortion what it is; love demands we embrace those affected by it with the same grace Christ extended to us.

Reflection: Who in your life needs both truth and compassion right now? How can you offer both?

Day 5: The Gospel of Restoration

Reading: John 8:1-11; 1 John 1:9

Devotional:

"Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" Jesus asked. "No one, Lord." "Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more." This is the heart of the gospel—not minimizing sin, but offering complete forgiveness. If you carry guilt from abortion, sexual sin, or encouraging others toward destructive choices, Christ offers you full restoration. Confession isn't about public performance; it's about bringing your hidden shame into His healing light. God doesn't commercialize your brokenness—He redeems it. The same grace that saves you empowers you

to pour hope into others walking similar paths. Your story of healing becomes a bridge for others to find Christ. Surrender your guilt, receive His forgiveness, and walk in the freedom of being fully known and fully loved.

Reflection: What burden are you carrying that you need to bring to Jesus today? Will you trust His promise of forgiveness?

Closing Prayer:

Father, thank You that human value is not determined by performance, circumstance, or the opinions of others, but by Your creative love. Help us to see every person—including ourselves—through Your eyes. Give us courage to speak truth, compassion to bear burdens, and wisdom to be agents of Your grace in a broken world. Where there is guilt, bring healing. Where there is confusion, bring clarity. Where there is despair, bring hope. Make us a people who protect life, proclaim truth, and extend mercy, just as Christ has done for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.