

Created in His Image

Session FOUR

TEACHING NOTES

God's Plan

- ...to create humans in His image
- ...to bring purpose and meaning to our lives through a personal relationship with Him
- ...to have all our needs met in Him
- ...to have us reflect His image

In God's Image (Genesis 1:26-27, Ephesians 2:10)

Paradise Past, Paradise Future

Our Minds - So we can _____ Him

Our Emotions - So we can _____ Him

Our Will - So we can _____ Him

For a Purpose (Genesis 1:28-2:3)

God is our owner

One Prohibition in Paradise (Genesis 2:4-17)

- Only God decides what is right.
- Trust and love are inseparable.

KEY VERSE(S)

Genesis 1:26-2:25

KEY THEME(S)

People are created in God's image

God is our owner

God = Elohim
(creator, judge)

LORD God = Jehovah
(personal name, promise
keeper)

NOTES

A Blueprint for Human Relationship (Genesis 2:18-25)

- Equal, but different

- Primary relationship

- Naked and unashamed

Our Divine Image (Ephesians 2:10)

- Know what God says about you (Ephesians 3:15-19)

- See people the way God does (1 Samuel 16:7, Matthew 9:36)

- Reflect and honor God with your life (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

PERSONAL STUDY

NOTES

Prepare your heart and mind.

Take a moment to thank God for His word, and His desire to communicate to you. Ask Him to give you an understanding of what it means to be created in His image. Ask Him to help you understand why He did that, and how that should affect you.

Read Genesis 1:26-2:25

While you are reading, take note where God describes His plan and provision. In this passage we see God's goodness and the way He prepared things for Adam and Eve.

Now having read the whole text, go back and reread verses 1:26-27.

The triune God created mankind in His image.

How do you see God using His mind, will and emotions in the creation story? (for example with emotion, He shows His love and care for Adam by creating Eve)

Mind -

Will -

Emotion -

God made us with a mind so that we could know Him. God gave us a will so that we could choose Him. And God gave us emotions so that we could love Him.

The triune God = God the Father,
God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

He made us in His image with three parts: mind, will, and emotion.

NOTES**Read Ephesians 2:8-10**

Read verse 10 again and think of the implication of the all-knowing, all-powerful God creating a masterpiece (handiwork). Is that how you see yourself? Is that how you see others? Do you have His view? Has the world shaped your view of yourself?

This is the time to let the truth of what God says about you begin to change your worldview.

Why is it so hard to see yourself the way God sees you and others?

What messages are you hearing that cause you to think of yourself as less than God's masterpiece? What has the world told you? Your family? Your friends? Your workplace? Yourself?

Pause now and ask God to help you replace your distorted views of yourself and others with His truth.

Receive and celebrate the truth - you are His masterpiece, created anew so that God could use you to do His good works.

Key verses

Genesis 1:27 says, "So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

This week we would like for you to memorize this verse.

Put the card provided up where you can see it throughout the day.

PARENT GUIDE**NOTES**

In an increasingly post-modern world where things like truth and morality are relative to the beholder, the first few chapters of Genesis can be revolting or at least unsettling. Certainly, the first thing most people will see is that God created humanity in a reflection of His image with a mind, a will, and emotions. Teenagers may think that they have the right to decide what is right and wrong in their lives, which is partially true. However, it is really God who decides this in all of our lives and we can choose to believe it or not. You see, your teenager will probably simply disagree that God has the right to decide what is good and bad.

Here is a question to ask your teenager:

Does God really decide what is right and wrong or good and bad or good and evil?

Does God have that right?

The answers from them may disturb you. As an older generation, this question is a no-brainer for you, that's not true with your kids.

If you are bold and brave you might also ask this question of your teenagers:

Do you think that I believe that what I do is right and wrong according to God?

By this question you are giving your kids the chance to critique your life in accordance to what God might think of it.

What might you and your teenagers' lives look like if you sat down and talked at an age appropriate level about God ultimately knowing what is best for both of your lives?

Remember that if you choose to have this conversation, teenagers have been raised by our culture to expect to be heard, even if you think it isn't true. So, give ample time to listen to them talk about how they feel, what they think about God, and what they think is right and wrong. Be slow to disagree with them on issues that you can't back up easily, but quick to listen to their words and feelings.

NOTES

OPTIONAL STUDY

Optional Further Study:

In response to suggestions for further study, we will start providing you with this additional material for continued personal growth. The intent of this study time will be to look at other supporting passages in God's Word that help us learn the concepts that have already been covered. Please feel no pressure to look at this additional material.

Ultimately mankind was created in God's image to have eternal fellowship with the Father and the Son.

Read John 14:1-3

- Who is Jesus going to prepare a place for?

- How do we know that Jesus will return for us? (see verse 3)

Read Revelation 21-22:5

- Take note of the awesome place that Jesus went to prepare for those of us who believe. (beauty and size)

- What will God do for the inhabitants of the New Jerusalem?

- What needs will God meet in their lives?