

# 3

## In God's Image Genesis 1:26—2:3



Is the world broken?

If it is, what about it is broken?



Genesis 1:31: "And God saw everything that he had made, and behold it was very good."



God has an order for all of creation, including us.



### CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE Read Genesis 1:26-27

1. What does it mean to be created in God's image? Consider the comments in the sidebar
2. If we are created by God in God's image, what does that say about our relationship with God? What about how we treat others?
3. What kind of things are done today that violate God's image? What, about us, doesn't reflect the image of God?

### THE CREATED ORDER Read Genesis 1:28-31

4. Considering verses 26-31, what separates mankind from the animals?
5. God grants mankind authority over the earth, what does that say about our relationship with him?



*R.C. Sproul writes...*

"So what does it mean to be made in the image of God? ... Even though the scriptures make clear that there is a wide gap between the nature of God and the nature of any creature, there is some way in which we are like God. We certainly are not God; we are creatures, and He has the power of bring in Himself...

It is crucial to Christian thought that there is some similarity between God and man that makes it possible for God to speak to us. Even though he speaks to us in human terms, what he says is meaningful because we share some similarity.

Throughout history, there have been attempts to pinpoint that similarity. The most popular view has been that the image is found in our rationality [minds and a power of contemplation], our volition [ the faculty of choosing] and our affections.

Of all the creatures in the world, human beings are given a unique responsibility, and with that responsibility is a corresponding ability.

## THE SEVENTH DAY

### Read Genesis 2:1-3

6. Why did God bless the seventh day?
7. In what ways do we keep the seventh day for rest?  
How can we do better?

### THINK THROUGH FURTHER

#### Read Colossians 1: 15-23



8. What does the perfect image of God in man look like?

THINK &  
APPLY

9. Can the image of God be restored in us? How?



PRAYER

Praise God for the challenges raised by God's word through this study

Praying for others in your group:

Pray for others in your group



FAMILY  
DISCUSSION

How do we apply this passage in our daily life?

Part of the uniqueness of the human race is the mission we have received from God to be His representatives to the rest of creation, to reflect the very character of God. This becomes clear when we reason back to Genesis from the New Testament picture of Christ Himself, the second Adam, in whom we see the perfect fulfillment of what it means to be made in the image of God...

I am convinced that what we find in the image is a unique ability to mirror the character of God such that the rest of the world should be able to look at humans and say, "That gives us an idea of what God is like."

Even though we are fallen, we can think... and we can still reason... We have a will... Likewise, we have affections. Therefore, the image of God remains in human beings.

**PRAISE GOD** for his great gifts to us in creation and for creating us in his image.

**CONFESS** that we fail to live according to God's image and God's order for creation.

**ASK GOD** to help restore our image of God; to help us in imitating Christ, the perfect image; and to help us in relating to God and others.

**PRAY ALSO** for finding time to rest and enjoy God's creation



READ AHEAD

Next week's topic is the Garden of God. Read: Genesis 2:2-17