

I Am Created in God's Image

Week 1:

The Big Point: I Am Created in God's Image

God's Word: God Created Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:26-31, 2:4-25)

Memory Verse: How you make me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well. Psalm 139:14 (NIRV)

Application: I will know I am created to be like God.

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Series Aim: To understand we are all created in God's image and loved by Him.

Creative Video:  Adam and Eve

TEACHER'S WORD STUDY!

♥ CENTER YOUR HEART!

Why we do what we do

What would you choose if you were asked to pick out the most glorious part of God's creation? Many will pick mountain ranges or oceans and rugged shorelines, but not many will pick an answer that the Bible provides us with: you and me! Human beings are really the greatest part, the masterpiece of God's creation! This is because we are made in God's image and we show more of God than anything else in Creation. God said all that He created were good, but after Adam and Eve were created, He said that His creations were "very good"! Revel in the fact that men and women, boys and girls, we are all God's masterpieces! We are created in God's image, loved and known by God and accepted through Jesus!

Series Aim: To understand we are all created in God's image and loved by Him.

♥ Memory Verse Write Up

How you make me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well. Psalm 139:14 (NIRV)

God is the one who created us and we are His greatest creation and masterpiece, simply because He made us to be like Him - to be in God's image! This means that we show more of God than anything else in creation. Even though each person is created by God, God knows and has wonderful plans for each of us and how He made us is amazing and wonderful. He made us with care and love, with purpose and plans. God was the one who

put each of us together in our mother's womb and He has plans and purpose for each of us even before we each are born! God shows care and love for each of us even before any of our mothers know we exist. We are created in God's image and greatly loved by Him! We are each wonderfully made by God.

♥ Prayer Points

Keep the Kids and the Kingdom in our hearts!

Let's pray for the following (and feel free to add on your own!) :

- For kids from our Children's Day ESS to come back to our HopeKids regular services!
- Kids learn that they are God's masterpiece, created in God's Image - We show more of God than anything else in creation!
- Kids learn that they are loved and known by God, before they were even born!
- Kids learn that they are loved and accepted through Jesus.
- Kids learn to see how precious they are to God and learn to respect themselves and others.

🔍 GROW DEEP ROOTS!

Understand the Big Point's focus

TRUTH: We are all created in God's Image

While we might not feel so, human beings were made to display what God is like more than anything else in all of creation. To be created in God's image is simply that we are created to be like God and show what He is like.

READ: Genesis 1:26-31

Genesis 1:26a, 27

The biggest indication that we are made to be like God is in God's own words in Genesis 1:26a and v27. Before God created humans, He said some words that He never said earlier about any other part of creation. God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." God used the pronouns "us" and "our", thus showing the first hints of the Trinity in the Bible. But more importantly, it's how God says that humans are made male and female, in the image of God.

It is important to note that this "image" and this dignity apply to *both* "male and female" human beings. The Hebrew term '*adam*', translated as man, is often a generic term that denotes both male and female, while sometimes it refers to man in distinction from woman (2:22, 23, 25; 3:8, 9, 12, 20): it becomes the proper name "Adam", referring to the first male man God created. (2:20; 3:17, 21; 4:1; 5:1).

Genesis 1:26-28

Here is where we see clearly again, what being made in the “image of God” looks like: human beings are given the right and responsibility to rule over all the animals of the earth. God said it in no unclear terms in v26b and in v28 that humans are to rule over the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and all living things that move on the earth. God’s giving human beings the authority to take care and rule over the rest of creation.

Traditionally, the “image of God” has been seen as the capacities that set man apart from animals—ways in which humans resemble God, such as in the characteristics of reason, morality, language, a capacity for relationships governed by love and commitment, and creativity in all forms of art. We are the only ones in God’s creation who have minds and emotions and the ability to choose. All these insights can be put together by observing that the *resemblances* (man is like God in a series of ways) allow mankind to *represent* God in ruling, and to establish worthy *relationships* with God, with one another, and with the rest of the creation.

At this stage, humanity as a species is set apart from all other creatures and crowned with glory and honor as ruler of the earth ([Psalm 8:5–8](#)).

Genesis 1:29

The creation of human beings can also be seen as God’s final act of creation. It seems like God saved the very best of His creative work for the very end. The creation of human beings was His grand finale as He made humans to show forth more of Himself than any other part of the creation he had made. Truly, we are God’s masterpiece! God had previously affirmed on six occasions that the various aspects of creation are “good” ([v 4](#), [10](#), [12](#), [18](#), [21](#), [25](#)), but it wasn’t until God created the man and the woman that he affirmed all his creation as “very good”.

READ Genesis 2:4-25

Genesis 2:4-25 zooms into God’s creation of Adam and Eve that took place in Genesis 1:26-28, giving us the details and explanation. This simply tells us God’s heart for us, his human creation and how important we are to him. In fact, the whole Bible is simply about God’s relationship with humans.

This is further emphasized in *how* God even created human beings, where he didn’t just speak humans into existence as he did with all the rest of creation, but he took time to purposefully shape and form the man from dust of the ground (V7). The Hebrew verb used when God created humans was *yatsar*, meaning “formed” - conveying the picture of a potter fashioning clay into a particular shape. This is in contrast to the other Hebrew

word for create (*bara*) in Genesis 1. God then specially breathes life—physical, mental, and spiritual—into the man, who is created to bear his image.

The Woman too, was purposefully shaped and formed by God, using the rib that was taken out of Adam. The bible did not state how God brought the woman to life, but we know that God created women, also in His image and thus, it is likely that God too, *yatsar* Eve into form and breathed His breath of life into her, making her alive. (Genesis 1:27).

From here, we know indeed that God created us fearfully (with deep precision and purposefully set-apart) and wonderfully (Psalm 139:14)!

What It Means to be Made in God's Image:

1. First, it is important for us to know that we are made in the image of God and God values us more than any other part of creation. Yet, it is simply because God made us as such. It is out of His goodness and kindness that He made us in His image. All credit goes to God and not to us.
2. As all human beings are made in the image of God, it is important for us all to see human life dearly and precious, never to be taken lightly. We should respect and treat all persons as the valuable persons that God made in His image as each person is fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14) in His image! This is important to note, even though all of us have sinned and need to be forgiven and made new by Christ.

Link to Gospel

As humans who are created in the image of God, we bear a responsibility in how we should carry ourselves and take care of the world that God has placed us in. We also know from Genesis 2:16-17 that Adam was commanded not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Unfortunately, we know that Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, since then, causing all humans to have sin in our lives and become sinners. Sin separates us from God who is perfect and Holy and the result of sin is death and being forever separated from God. Even so, God still loves us and wants us to know Him and be with Him.

This is why God designed the most amazing way to bring us, his rebellious humans back to Himself. God did so by sending Jesus to come as a man to earth to be with us and to save us. After 30 years of life on earth and 3 years of teaching people to love and follow God, Jesus died on the cross, taking away all our sins and saved us all. Jesus came back to life on the third day, showing once again that He really is from God and has the power to save us all. The image of God in human beings is now fully brought to how it was before, as long as we are sorry for our sins and believe in what Jesus did on the cross. With this

faith, we can walk each day, becoming more and more into the person God made us to be!



CHECK YOUR HEART'S TEMPERATURE!

Reflect and Challenge

God made people as his masterpieces in all of creation. Humans are of much greater value in God's eyes than any other part of creation. We are made to show God's likeness more than any other creation!

Reflect and Pray:

1. Have you belittled your value as God's creation, despite being fearfully and wonderfully made in His image? Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you see how immensely precious you are to Him. Despite the world population of (approx.) 800 million, He sees you, He knows you and He loves you. :')
2. Or have you gone the other extreme and given yourself all the credit for being special and great? While each of us are indeed special and great and unique, we need to have a heart of humility when it comes to our identity as well. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you remember and understand that it is all by God's kindness and grace that we are made as we are and in His image!
3. Have you ever seen a fellow human being lesser than you simply because they are different from you? What should our attitudes be towards all people regardless of the colour of skin, or nationality or gender?