

The Passage: Genesis 1:26-27

26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” **27** So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

1. God made us in His image.

- a. God finished creation on the sixth day by making a very special set of creatures (male and female) that are very different from the other creatures that He made. He made them special by making them in His own image and likeness. The creatures made in God’s image are humans. Men and women (guys and girls) have all been made in God’s image.
 - i. The word image means statue or model.
 1. Playdough exercise
 - i. One student sculpts another student out of playdough.
 1. Notice the similarities between the student and the playdough sculpture.
 - a. The sculpture is made in the image or likeness of the student.
 2. It’s as if God has stamped all of us with His image and likeness.
 - ii. Being made in God’s image and likeness means that we should live as His image-bearers.
 1. We rule over creation.
 - a. God puts mankind in place to rule over the other creatures responsibly and lovingly similar to how God rules over us.
 - i. We are supposed to take what God has made and be creative with it and make other wonderful and beautiful things from them.
 1. Kit Kats bars for example.
 - a. Genesis 1:26
 2. We reflect God’s character.
 - a. We all have the ability to display God’s characteristics.
 - i. For example:

1. We can sacrificially love like God sacrificially loves.
 2. We should value people as God values people.
 3. We can show justice like God upholds justice.
 4. We can forgive like God forgives.
3. Everyone has value.
- a. God is infinitely valuable and since we are stamped with His image, we have value as well.
 - b. Since we have worth:
 - i. We shouldn't harm or kill each other because we all have value.
 1. Genesis 9:6
 - a. Issues with Abortion, Suicide, Murder, and Racism.
 - c. We should never use our words to tear down others because they are made in the image of God.
 - i. James 3:9
 - d. Everyone having worth given to them from God is a very big idea.
 - i. Here's why...Because this means that God gives us value and we do not.
 1. So, our value isn't based on what we achieve, but who God says we are.

2. God made us separate genders.

- a. Our American culture does not agree with this idea of two genders.
 - i. Our culture demands that even though males and females are different on every level, they should act the same, live the same, and think exactly the same as females.
- b. The two genders God made when he formed humans.
 - i. Male and female.
 1. Both were created equal in value because both males and females are made in God's image.
 2. Genesis 1:26-27 show us that both genders are
 - a. Valuable and necessary
 - b. A gift from God
 - c. Apart of God's good creation
 - d. Males and Females were created differently.

- i. Physically, Mentally, and Emotionally different.
- ii. No gender is better than the other.
- iii. Paul even includes this in the gospel.
 - 1. Here's the point...we are all equal, but have different roles to play.
 - 2. We are all equal in our relationship with Jesus. Just as we all equally have value...we all equally belong to Christ if we have put our faith in Him.
 - a. Galatians 3:28-29

3. Small Group Discussion Questions:

- a. What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
- b. How does God making us in His image give everyone value?
- c. List the differences between what the bible says about gender to what you hear on TV, Social Media, etc. about gender.
- d. Real-life Scenario: Huckleberry and Gertrude are arguing. Huckleberry thinks men are better than women. Gertrude thinks women should rise up and rule the world and men should become like women. They are looking at you to settle the argument. What do you tell them?