

MAIN POINT

Having been created in the image of God, our identity is linked directly to Him.

INTRODUCTION

What physical characteristics of your parents do you possess?

In what other ways are you similar to your mother and father?

According to the Bible, man has been created distinct from the rest of God's creation. Man, Scripture says, is created in the image of God, making him the pinnacle of God's creative efforts. Made in God's image, we possess certain qualities, abilities, and characteristics of our heavenly Father.

DISCUSSION

> READ GENESIS 1:26-31.

In what ways were humans set apart from the rest of God's creation?

What does it mean to be made in God's image or likeness?

How do these verses reflect the unique relationship between God and man?

What responsibilities did God give to men and women?

What do the concepts of subduing the earth and ruling over its creatures mean?

What are the limits to our ruling and subduing?

After making and blessing mankind, God indicates that this creation is "very good." What is the significance of that phrase?

How does God calling His creation "very good" relate to being made in the image of God?

How might our lives look different when we live in a constant realization that we are made in the image of God?

What are some areas where you need the most work in order to demonstrate that you're living in light of the fact that you are made in God's image?

Share some specific ways you see the image of God in other believers and in the church body.

APPLICATION

How should the image of God in every person impact the way you interact with others—both inside and outside of the church?