

Image Matters

- We have been created in _____
- The image of God is the _____ of His _____ that we have been created to bear and reflect.
 - The image of God is primarily ontological (_____)
not functional (_____)
- The image of God has significant implications for _____
- The image of God makes us _____ from the rest of creation.
 - The image of God makes us inherently _____
 - The image of God makes us _____ with every other person.
 - The image of God makes us _____ to God.

Make It Real

Because of what Jesus Christ has done for me and what I have heard today . . .

- I will turn from my sin and trust Jesus to forgive me, make me acceptable to the Father, and give me new life now and forever.
- I will help others think through the issues of the day by explaining the implications of being made in the image of God.
- I will examine my heart and pray for God to show me instances in my life where I consider myself better than others. I will then seek forgiveness and work to change.

Personal observations from the message.

1. How would you summarize what you learned in a sentence or two?
2. What point or verse did you find most helpful? Why?
3. What is a question you have?

Discussion questions from the message.

1. What happens when you play a game with others and everyone has a different set of rules? What problems are created, how enjoyable is the game, how are disputes settled? How does this illustration reflect what we see going on in our culture? Share examples.
2. (1) Read Genesis 1:1-3 and 26-28. What do these passages teach us about God, our world, and us? (2) Read Romans 1:18-23. What has happened between Genesis 1 and Romans 1 that makes things so different? (3) What examples do we see of people suppressing the truth in unrighteousness in our day? (4) What are some implications of this in terms of us being made in God's image?
3. What were the four significant implications of being made in the image of God discussed in the sermon on Sunday?
4. (1) How does the image of God make us distinct from the rest of creation? (2) (3) Why is this important to understand? What happens when we deny this?
5. The image of God makes us inherently valuable. (1) How is this different from thinking we are valuable because of what we can do? (2) Why is this important to understand as we interact with people who are different from us? (3) How do these differences work themselves out in the issues of abortion and euthanasia?
6. The image of God makes us equal with every other person. (1) Who are people (groups) we are tempted to think we are better than? (2) Why do we think we are better than they are? (3) Read Luke 18:9-12. Why is the attitude of the Pharisee so appalling to God? (4) How do we guard against this kind of thinking?
7. (1) How does understanding the image of God bring clarity to the "game" of life (question 1). (2) How can this help us to engage others who are not playing by the same rules?