

WEEK 5 - SEEING THE IMAGE OF GOD IN YOURSELF

OVERVIEW

In our final message in this series, we will explore what it means to see *ourselves* as image-bearers of God. How might we be invited to internalize the profound love God has for each of us? This isn't about self-absorption or pride. It's about recognizing that we were each made on purpose, for a purpose, by a Father who adores us. By ridding ourselves of the shame and self-loathing which is so common in our world today, and instead replacing it with a deep, soul-level conviction that we were loved before the creation of the world, we can begin to recognize that being made in the image of God is an invitation to come home and rest in who we really are.

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us
in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.
Ephesians 1:4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever thought of yourself as a "*little Christ*"? What does that mean to you?
2. Read Genesis 2:7.
   a. How are humans set apart from everything else God made?
   b. How might recognizing and embracing this reality in ourselves and in each other reshape our perspectives and our interactions?!
3. What does Ephesians 1:4-5 mean for us practically?
4. Read Genesis 1:28, Psalm 139:13-14, and Ephesians 2:10. What do these verses say about the purpose God has for us?
5. Have you taken the time to get to know yourself the way the God knows you? What do you think that would entail?
6. How is being made in God's image both an unbelievable privilege and a daunting responsibility?
7. Jeff suggested that for some of us, the way we see God's image in ourselves is tarnished, blurry, or incomplete.
   a. What did he mean by those descriptions?
   b. Tell about a time in your life when you were living with a tarnished, blurry, or incomplete image. How was your image restored?