

# Created in the Image of God

## Practicing the Way series: Honoring the Image of God in All People

Sunday message from April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

~ Notes & Reflections ~

- **Human beings are set apart from the rest of creation, both as a whole and individually.**
  - ❖ Read [Genesis 1](#). What differences do you notice in the creation of humans versus the rest of creation?
  - ❖ What might those differences signify?
- **Human beings were created with the intimacy of God's hands and breath.**
  - ❖ Read [Genesis 2.7, 18-25](#) and [Psalm 139.13-14](#). How do you see the intimate, personal interaction of God in the creation of humans?
  - ❖ How does this impact your understanding of God and His relationship to you? His relationship to others?
- **Human beings are created in the image of God.**
  - ❖ We resemble and reflect God. We are capable of relationship with God. We represent God in the world.
  - ❖ "The imago Dei is that in man which constitutes him as him-whom-God-loves." ~ John Piper
  - ❖ How do these statements sit with you? What might God be speaking to you through them?
- **We have solidarity in identity with all of humanity.**
  - ❖ The image of God is our identity not our possession.
  - ❖ How does this truth impact your view of yourself and others?
- **We have solidarity in brokenness with all of humanity.** (Henri Nouwen)
  - ❖ Even as sinners, we bear the image of God. (See [Genesis 9.6](#), [James 3.9](#))
  - ❖ How does this truth impact your view of yourself and others?
- **Your worth is connected to your Creator. Your neighbor's worth is connected to their Creator.**
  - ❖ How might you place your worth in other things? How might you connect the value of people around you to things other than their Creator? What might God be speaking to you in this?
- **"How we treat others is an indication of how we value God." ~ Dr. Art Lindsley**
  - ❖ Read [James 3.9-11](#). What do you notice? What stands out to you? What might God be speaking to you?
  - ❖ How would people around you describe God based on how you interact with them?
  - ❖ How might the truth that every person is handmade by God and has a story impact your perspective of and interactions with others?
- **The image of God in us and in our fellow human beings was marred by the Fall and sin. But, the restored image of God looks like Jesus.**
  - ❖ Read [Colossians 1.15-20](#). What do you notice about Jesus? How might that impact how we honor the image of God in all people?
- **The formation of the church is what God has been doing from the beginning.**
  - ❖ Read [2 Corinthians 3.18](#) and [Colossians 3.10](#). What do you notice about how God forms us?
  - ❖ How might the church (journeying together) impact your practice of honoring the image of God in all people?
  - ❖ What next step might God be inviting you to take? How might you join God in His restoration work?