



YEAR-ONE · WEEK-02

God Creates Humanity in His Image

Complete Week Guide

Includes: Overview, Adults, Youth, Kids, Kids Sermon Activity, Family Worship, Spouses, Singles, Sermon Outline

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31; Psalm 8

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27

Manna Curriculum — 100% free church curriculum

God Creates Humanity in His Image Manna Curriculum

Big Idea: Because God created humanity in His image, every person has dignity, purpose, and value.

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31; Psalm 8

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27

Week 2 Overview

God Creates Humanity in His Image

Placement in the Series

Week 2 sits within **Weeks 1–3: God the Creator & King**.

- **Week 1:** God creates all things by His Word
- **Week 2:** God creates humanity in His image
- **Week 3:** God rules over all He made

This week intentionally narrows the focus from *creation as a whole* to *humanity's unique role* within creation. Humanity is not presented as independent or autonomous, but as **image-bearers living under God's rule**.

Week Summary

Genesis 1 presents humanity as the climax of God's creative work. Unlike the rest of creation, humanity is created with deliberation, blessing, and responsibility. God speaks in counsel — “Let Us make man in Our image” — and entrusts humanity with a role that reflects His authority and character.

Psalm 8 reinforces this truth by celebrating humanity's honored place within creation. Though small in comparison to the vastness of the universe, humanity is crowned with glory and entrusted with responsibility under God's kingship.

This week establishes:

- Human dignity rooted in God's design

- Purpose that flows from God's authority
- Identity defined by creation, not achievement

This foundation is essential before addressing:

- God's kingship (Week 3)
 - God's holiness (Weeks 4–6)
 - Humanity's fall and need for mercy
-

Central Big Truth

Because God created humanity in His image, every person has dignity, purpose, and value.

This truth remains consistent across all age groups and learning environments.

Theological Emphasis

This week introduces key biblical theology that will be built upon throughout the curriculum:

- Humanity is uniquely created in the image of God
- Human value is inherent, not earned
- Authority and responsibility are gifts from God
- Humanity's role is representative, not independent

Importantly, this week:

- Does **not** address sin or the fall yet
- Does **not** shift focus away from God to humanity
- Keeps God as Creator and King at the center

Humanity's dignity is always shown **under God's authority**, never apart from it.

Scripture Focus

Primary texts to be read and referenced:

- **Genesis 1:26–31** — Genesis 1:26–31

God's intentional creation of humanity, blessing, and purpose

- **Psalms 8** — Psalm 8

Humanity's honored place within God's ordered creation

Read the passages:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26-31

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. They will be yours for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth and every bird of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth—everything that has the breath of life in it—I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Scripture (BSB): Psalms 8

How Majestic Is Your Name!

For the choirmaster. According to Gittith. A Psalm of David.

1 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens.

2 From the mouths of children and infants You have ordained praise on account of Your adversaries, to silence the enemy and avenger.

3 When I behold Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place—

4 what is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You care for him?

5 You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You made him ruler of the works of Your hands; You have placed everything under his feet:

- 7 all sheep and oxen, and even the beasts of the field,
8 the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.
9 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
-

Teaching Aim by Audience

Whole Church (Sermon)

- Establish a biblical understanding of human identity
- Emphasize God's authority in creating and assigning purpose
- Prepare the congregation for God's kingship in Week 3

Kids

- Help children understand they were made on purpose by God
- Reinforce that every person matters because God made them
- Encourage kindness and respect rooted in God's design

Youth

- Address identity, worth, and belonging
- Challenge false sources of value (appearance, popularity, success)
- Anchor identity in God as Creator and King

Adults / Groups

- Reflect on dignity, responsibility, and calling
 - Consider how being an image-bearer shapes daily life
 - Prepare hearts for the themes of authority and holiness ahead
-

Progression Toward Next Weeks

This week intentionally prepares for:

- **Week 3:** God's rightful rule over creation (Psalm 24; Psalm 104)
- **Weeks 4–6:** The contrast between God's holiness and human sin

By establishing humanity as created good, valuable, and purposeful, later discussions of sin and redemption carry greater clarity and weight.

Desired Outcome

By the end of Week 2, participants should:

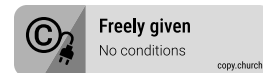
- Understand that being made in God's image gives real value and purpose
 - See themselves and others as God's intentional creations
 - Recognize that human dignity exists under God's authority as King
-

Internal Curriculum Notes

- Maintain God-centered language at all times
 - Avoid abstract philosophical explanations
 - Keep application relational and concrete
 - Preserve consistency in Big Truth wording across all materials
-

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God Creates Humanity in His Image Manna Curriculum

Big Idea: Because God created humanity in His image, our value and purpose come from Him, not from ourselves.

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31; Psalm 8

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27

Adults — Community Group (60 Minutes)

God Creates Humanity in His Image

CONNECT — 0–10 Minutes

Purpose: Build trust and invite every voice.

Leader Script

“Welcome, everyone. Tonight isn’t about having all the right answers — it’s about listening to God’s Word and learning together. Take a breath, settle in, and let’s trust God to guide our time.”

Icebreaker

- What is one role or title you’ve held in life that shaped how you saw yourself?
 - OR: If you could instantly become great at one skill, what would it be?
-

ENCOUNTER — 10–20 Minutes

Purpose: Let God’s Word lead.

Leader Script

“As we read, listen for what God reveals about Himself and about people. Don’t rush to application yet — just notice what stands out.”

Read Aloud

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26-31

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every

creature that crawls upon it.”

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. They will be yours for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth and every bird of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth—everything that has the breath of life in it—I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Scripture (BSB): Psalm 8

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3 When I behold Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place—

4 what is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You care for him?

5 You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You made him ruler of the works of Your hands; You have placed everything under his feet:

7 all sheep and oxen, and even the beasts of the field,

8 the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

9 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

Discovery Questions

- What stands out to you?

- What repeats or feels important?
-

ANCHOR — 20–40 Minutes

Purpose: Understand the meaning of the text.

Teaching Summary

Genesis shows that humanity is created with intention and dignity. Being made in God's image means our value is inherent, not achieved. Psalm 8 reinforces this by placing humanity within the vastness of creation while still affirming God's care and purpose for people. Together, these texts remind us that identity flows from God's design and authority.

Digging Deeper

- What does this reveal about God as Creator and King?
 - What does this reveal about how God views people?
 - Why is it important that dignity comes before responsibility?
-

RESPOND — 40–55 Minutes

Purpose: Move toward obedience.

Personal Reflection

- Where are you most tempted to find your worth outside of God?
- Who is hardest for you to treat as an image-bearer?
- Who is someone you struggle to see as an image-bearer?

Group Sharing

Invite volunteers to share one insight or challenge from the discussion.

SEND — 55–60 Minutes

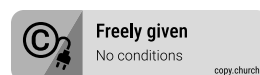
Weekly Practice:

Image-Bearer Awareness — Each day this week, pause before one interaction and remind yourself: "This person is made in God's image." Let that shape how you speak or respond.

Closing Prayer

"God, thank You for creating us with purpose and value. Help us live this week in ways that honor You and reflect Your character. Amen."

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God Creates Humanity in His Image Manna Curriculum

Big Idea: My value comes from God because He made me in His image.

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27

Youth Group (60 Minutes)

God Creates Humanity in His Image

CONNECT — 0–10 Minutes

Game: *First Impressions*

Leader names a category (shoes, hairstyles, music taste). Students quickly group themselves based on similarities.

Debrief briefly: how fast we judge or categorize people.

ENCOUNTER — 10–20 Minutes

Leader Script

“As we read today, listen for what God says about people — not what culture says, not what social media says.”

Read Aloud

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26-31

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. They will be yours for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth and every bird of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth—everything that has the breath of life in it—I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Ask

- What stands out to you?
 - What feels important?
 - What questions does this raise?
-

ANCHOR — 20–35 Minutes

Main Idea

God made every person in His image, which means our value is given by God — not earned, compared, or voted on. Being made in God’s image also means our lives belong to God, and we live under His authority—not our own.

Illustration

Talk about social media profiles: likes, follows, comments, and filters.

Contrast that with identity given at creation — before anyone could perform, post, or impress.

RESPOND — 35–50 Minutes

Group Discussion

- Where do teens usually look for value or identity?
- What happens when those things are taken away?
- How would school, friendships, or online behavior change if everyone believed people are made in God’s image?

Encourage honesty. No pressure to answer everything.

SEND — 50–60 Minutes

Challenge

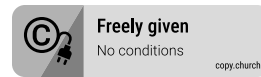
This week, choose one way to treat someone with dignity because God made them — especially someone who is usually ignored or judged.

Prayer

Invite students to pray silently, thanking God for making them on purpose and asking for help to see others the same way.

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God Creates Humanity in His Image Manna Curriculum

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27

Kids Church (60 Minutes)

God Creates Humanity in His Image

CONNECT — 0–10 Minutes

Game: *Mirror Me*

Leader makes slow motions (wave, smile, arms up). Kids must copy exactly. Switch leaders if time allows.

Leader Script

“Good morning! Today we’re going to learn something very important about how God made people. We’re going to listen carefully, have fun, and learn why every person matters to God.”

ENCOUNTER — 10–20 Minutes

Leader Script

“While we listen to the Bible today, pay attention to what God says about people and why they are special.”

Read Aloud

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26-31

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls

upon the earth.”

29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. They will be yours for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth and every bird of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth—everything that has the breath of life in it—I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Ask

- Who made people?
 - What does this tell us about God?
 - What does this tell us about people?
-

ANCHOR — 20–35 Minutes

Tell the Story

God made everything in the world. When God made people, He made them in a special way. People were not made like animals or plants. God made people to reflect Him and care for what He made. God looked at everything He made and said it was very good. Even though God made the whole world and the skies above us, the Bible says God still cares deeply about people.

Ask

- What makes people different from the rest of creation?
 - Why do you think God cares about people so much?
 - How should we treat others if God made them special?
-

RESPOND — 35–50 Minutes

Craft or Activity

Image Bearers Craft

Give each child a paper with a simple face outline or blank page. Have them draw themselves. Around the picture, help them write words like “Loved,” “Made by God,” or “Special.”

Explain that being made in God’s image means we are loved and valuable.

SEND — 50–60 Minutes

Memory Verse Motions

- “God made people” (point upward)
- “in His image” (point to face)
- “so people matter” (arms wide)

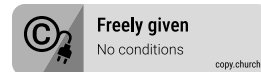
Repeat together several times.

Blessing

“May you remember this week that God made you, God loves you, and you matter to Him.”

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Kids Sermon Activity Page

God Creates Humanity in His Image

Scripture: Genesis 1:26–31; Psalm 8

Big Truth: **Because God created humanity in His image, every person has dignity, purpose, and value.**

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27

Name _____ Date _____

SERMON LISTENING

****Word Hunt:**** Listen carefully during the sermon. Mark a tally each time you hear one of these words or ideas.

IMAGE	Tally: _____
CREATED	Tally: _____
PURPOSE	Tally: _____
VALUE	Tally: _____
GOD	Tally: _____
VERY GOOD	Tally: _____

SERMON MAP

Listen for how the sermon moves. You may draw or write in each space.

1. God Created People on Purpose

What does it mean that God chose to make people?

2. People Are Made in God's Image

What makes people special in creation?

3. God Gave People a Special Responsibility

What job did God give people to do?

PRAYER

- Thank You, God, for _____.
- Help me remember I am made in Your image when _____.

HEART RESPONSE

- I feel _____ when I think about God making people.
- One thing I want to remember about God is _____.
- I want to treat others kindly when _____.

FAMILY TAKE-HOME

1. What does it mean that God made people in His image?
2. How should we treat others because God made them?
3. What is one way our family can show God's love this week?



God Creates Humanity in His Image

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31; Psalm 8

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:27

Family Worship — 5 Nights

God Creates Humanity in His Image

CONNECT — Night 1

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

Talk:

- What do you notice about how God talks before He makes people?
- What does this tell us about how important people are to God?

Pray:

Thank God for creating people with care and purpose.

ENCOUNTER — Night 2

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:27

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Talk:

- What does it mean that people are made in God’s image?

- How does this make people different from the rest of creation?

Pray:

Praise God for making people special and valuable.

ANCHOR — Night 3

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:28

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

Talk:

- What responsibility does God give people in this verse?
- Why do you think God trusts people with His creation?

Pray:

Ask God to help our family take responsibility seriously.

RESPOND — Night 4

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Psalm 8:4-6

4 what is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You care for him?
5 You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned him with glory and honor.
6 You made him ruler of the works of Your hands; You have placed everything under his feet:

Talk:

- How does this psalm describe how God feels about people?
- How should this change the way we see ourselves and others?

Pray:

Ask God to help us treat people with dignity and respect.

SEND — Night 5

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:31

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Talk:

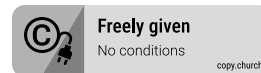
- How does God describe His creation at the end?
- How can our family reflect God's goodness this week?

Pray:

Ask God to help our family live as His image-bearers.

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God Creates Humanity in His Image Manna Curriculum

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31; Psalm 8

Spouses — 5 Nights

God Creates Humanity in His Image

CONNECT — Night 1

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

Talk:

- What does this verse tell us about God’s intention in creating people?
- How does this shape how we see our marriage under God?

Pray:

Thank God for creating both of you with purpose.

ENCOUNTER — Night 2

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:27

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Talk:

- What does it mean that both of you are made in God’s image?

- How should this shape the way you treat each other?

Pray:

Praise God for giving dignity and worth to both husband and wife.

ANCHOR — Night 3

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:28

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

Talk:

- What responsibility does God give to people in this verse?
- How can you steward what God has given you together?

Pray:

Ask God to help you live responsibly as a couple.

RESPOND — Night 4

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Psalm 8:4-6

4 what is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You care for him?

5 You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You made him ruler of the works of Your hands; You have placed everything under his feet:

Talk:

- How does this passage describe humanity’s place under God?
- How should this shape humility and respect in your marriage?

Pray:

Ask God to help your marriage reflect His character.

SEND — Night 5

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:31

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Talk:

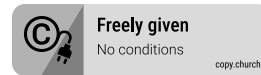
- How does God's delight in His creation encourage you as a couple?
- What is one way you can live as image-bearers together this week?

Pray:

Ask God to use your marriage for His glory.

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God Creates Humanity in His Image Manna Curriculum

Primary Text: Genesis 1:26–31; Psalm 8

Singles — 5 Nights

God Creates Humanity in His Image

CONNECT — Night 1

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

Reflect:

- What stands out to you about how God chooses to create people?
- What does this say about your value before anything you do?

Pray:

Thank God for creating you intentionally.

ENCOUNTER — Night 2

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:27

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Reflect:

- What does being made in God’s image say about who you are?

- Where do you most struggle to believe this is true?

Pray:

Praise God for giving you value that cannot be taken away.

ANCHOR — Night 3

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:28

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

Reflect:

- What responsibility does God give humanity in this verse?
- How does this shape your sense of purpose?

Pray:

Ask God to help you live responsibly under His authority.

RESPOND — Night 4

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Psalm 8:4-6

4 what is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You care for him?

5 You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You made him ruler of the works of Your hands; You have placed everything under his feet:

Reflect:

- How does this passage balance humility and dignity?
- How should this affect the way you see yourself and others?

Pray:

Ask God to help you walk with confidence and humility.

SEND — Night 5

Read:

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:31

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Reflect:

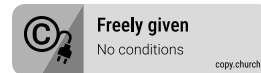
- How does God’s declaration of “very good” shape how you view life?
- What is one way you can live as an image-bearer this week?

Pray:

Ask God to use your life to reflect His goodness.

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God Creates Humanity in His Image Manna Curriculum

Week 2 Sermon

God Creates Humanity in His Image

Introduction

In Week 1, we saw that God creates by His Word. Creation happens because God speaks, and everything responds.

When Genesis turns to the creation of humanity, the pace slows and the language changes. God does not merely command; He acts with intention and purpose. Humanity is introduced differently than the rest of creation.

This tells us something foundational before we ever talk about behavior, morality, or responsibility:
human identity begins with God.

Reading of the Text

Primary Reading

- **Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26-31**

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. They will be yours for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth and every bird of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth—everything that has the breath of life in it—I have given every

green plant for food.” And it was so.

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

Supporting Reading

- **Scripture (BSB): Psalm 8**

How Majestic Is Your Name!

For the choirmaster. According to Gittith. A Psalm of David.

1 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens.

2 From the mouths of children and infants You have ordained praise on account of Your adversaries, to silence the enemy and avenger.

3 When I behold Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place—

4 what is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You care for him?

5 You made him a little lower than the angels; You crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You made him ruler of the works of Your hands; You have placed everything under his feet:

7 all sheep and oxen, and even the beasts of the field,

8 the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

9 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

Main Truth

Because God created humanity in His image, every person has dignity, purpose, and value.

Sermon Outline

1. Humanity Is Created by God’s Intentional Counsel

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

Humanity is not the result of chance or impulse. The text shows God acting with deliberate purpose. This moment stands apart from the rest of creation and signals that humanity holds a unique place within God’s design.

This means:

- Human life is intentional
- Identity is received, not constructed
- Worth is rooted in God’s will, not human approval

No one exists accidentally, and no life is meaningless.

2. Humanity Bears God’s Image and Likeness

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:26-27

26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, to rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, and over all the earth itself and every creature that crawls upon it.”

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

To be made in God’s image means humanity is created to reflect God within creation. This does not elevate humans above God, nor does it make them independent rulers. It establishes them as representatives under God’s authority.

Key truths:

- Every person bears God’s image
- Dignity is shared equally by men and women
- Value is inherent, not earned

Psalm 8 reinforces this by showing humanity’s honored place within God’s ordered world.

3. Humanity Is Blessed and Entrusted with Responsibility

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:28-30

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth.”

29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit contains seed. They will be yours for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth and every bird of the air and every creature that crawls upon the earth—everything that has the breath of life in it—I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

Before God gives responsibility, He gives blessing. Authority is not seized; it is entrusted.

Humanity’s role is to steward what belongs to God. This authority is real, but it is always exercised under God’s kingship. Purpose flows from relationship, not self-determination.

This helps us understand that responsibility is not a burden—it is a calling.

4. God Declares His Creation “Very Good”

Scripture (BSB): Genesis 1:31

31 And God looked upon all that He had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

At the completion of creation, God evaluates His work and declares it good. Humanity is included in that declaration.

This tells us that goodness precedes brokenness. God delights in His creation, and humanity exists within that delight.

Psalms 8 responds not with self-exaltation, but with worship directed toward the Creator.

Reflection Pause

Invite reflection:

- Where do you currently derive your sense of worth?
 - Do you view others primarily as image-bearers or as obstacles?
 - What might change if you lived daily under God’s authority as Creator and King?
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Application

Identity

You do not need to create your worth. God has already given it.

Relationships

Every person you encounter reflects God's image. This shapes how we speak, listen, and act.

Purpose

You were created to live under God's rule, reflecting His character in the world He made.

Call to Obedience

This week, live intentionally as an image-bearer of God:

- Honor God as Creator
 - Treat others with dignity
 - Steward what God has entrusted to you
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Looking Ahead

Next week, we will see that the God who creates is also the God who rules. The One who made all things has rightful authority over all He has made.

