

# SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

## Genesis 1:26-27

**Ice Breaker:** What is one evidence of God's grace you've seen this week?

**Ice Breaker:** Is there a nickname you went by growing up or still have amongst friends? What is the origin of that name?

### DISCUSSION 1: Image of God

1. According to the world what makes human life valuable? How is that value determined?
2. What does it mean that we are made in the image of God? How does that make us distinct from the rest of creation? According to the Bible, what makes human life valuable?
3. In what ways are humans like God and what ways are we not like Him?
4. What is the significance that Scripture affirms that people are made in God's image both before the Fall (Gen. 1:17) and after the Fall (Gen. 9:6, James 3:9)?
5. Colossians 1:15 tells us that Jesus is the perfect image of the invisible God. What does it mean for us to made into Christ likeness? (see further study for more passages)
6. How should our being made in the image of God affect the way we understand our identity? What are some false identities that the world and Christian subculture have wrongly elevated above God's word?

### DISCUSSION 2: Male and Female

1. What do we learn about men and women from Genesis 1:27?
2. Looking at the nature and character of God, how do we come to understand that men and women share different and complimentary roles yet also possess the same value?
3. What are ways we have seen both men and women abuse or misuse the roles God has given them? What are ways that the church or Christian subculture failed in teaching rightly God's roles for men and women? Why is it important that we maintain the distinction between worth and role?
4. What are ways you've seen men and women fulfill their God-given roles well that as encouraged you as you seek to understand God's calling on your own life?
5. How can we as a church make sure affirm with our words and actions that both men and women are of equal value in God's eyes? How does faith play a role in living out the role God has instructed for men and women?

### APPLICATION

- **Group:** Break up into men and women's groups and discuss further what it means to live out biblical manhood and womanhood in the season of life God has called you. Discuss ways you can encourage one another to grow in Christ-likeness and pray that our church would be a place that each person feels valued as a beloved image-bearer of God.

- **Individual:** What are ways you've not lived in accordance with God's design? In your marriage? In your relationships? Confess your sin to the Lord and consider talking to a trusted friend about how you can better reflect God's design for you.
- **Individual:** Take an inventory of your interactions with people on Sunday and throughout the week and ask the Lord to help treat each person as a valuable image bearer of God.

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

- **Image of Christ:** John 14:9, 1 Cor. 15:47-49, 2 Cor. 3:18, Col. 3:9-10, Rom. 8:29,
- **Male & Female:** Gen 2:18, Prov. 31, I Kings 2:2, I Cor. 16:13, Rom. 5:12-21, I Cor. 6:19;11:3, Rom. 1:26-27, 1 Thess. 2:7-8;11-12, I Tim. 2:8-3:13
- **Husbands & Wives:** Gen. 2:18-25, Eph. 5:22-33, I Pet. 3:1-7