

PART 3: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN?

Sermon Notes

Text: Genesis 1:26-28

Intro:

Genesis 1:26-28 observations:

- i. The creation of humans was a more personal act "Let US make..."
- ii. Humans are special "in our image," instead of "according to their kind."
- iii. God does not separate the idea of biological sex from gender "... male and female he created them."
- iv. God refers to himself with plural pronouns "Us, Our." Indicates that the image bearers will need each other, and also hints at the doctrine of the Trinity.

What does it mean to be human?

1. You Represent God

A brand ambassador for God

A monument to God's reign

2. You Are Made To Reign

v. 28 "govern," "rule"

Connected to the "blessing"

Jesus comes as the true image of God to show us how to rule: Colossians 1:15, Hebrews 1:3

We were made to become like Jesus: Romans 8:29

Mark 10:42-45

Conclusion:

Colossians 1:15-20

Connect Group Discussion

Warm up:

- 1. If you could be any animal, what would you be and why? What are some similarities and differences between that animal and a human?
- 2. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

Study & Discussion:

- 1. If you asked the average person on the street "what does it mean to be human?" what do you think they would say?
- 2. Read Genesis 1:26-28. What about the creation of humans is similar or different to the other acts of creation in Genesis 1?
- 3. To be made in the image of God means that you represent God. Pastor Dave used two examples to illustrate this idea: 1) a brand ambassador, like a professional athlete. 2) a statue of a monarch representing that monarch's rule. Do these examples resonate with you? Why or why not? How else might you describe what it means to represent God as his image?
- 4. Being made in God's image also means that you were made to rule. Have you ever thought about yourself that way? Jesus shows us what it means to rule in Mark 10:42-45. Read that passage, and also read Philippians 2:5-11. How can we apply these passages in times when we have authority or influence?

Practice:

As God's image you represent God wherever you go. The only question is, are you representing him accurately? It's possible for us to tarnish God's reputation by representing him poorly. This is one of the meanings of the commandment, "You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God" (Exodus 20:7).

What are some things you can do this week to represent God well?