



Pastor Toby Locke • Week 4 • 11/7/2021

Image-Bearers

Genesis 1:26-27

<u>Introduction</u> : While it is good as humans to embrace humility	y
we can't afford to ignore that God made us to be unique.	

How did God make us? "In His, after His, after His,
What is God trying to tell us about who we are? God.
■ We God.
■ We to God.
■ We were made to to God.

<u>Conclusion</u>: We humans, as creatures of dust made in God's image, belong both with God and with all of Creation.



Debrief Plan: 11/7/2021

Icebreakers:

- 1. How are you like one (or both) of your parents?
- 2. If you have children, have you noticed any ways that you have left enough of a mark on them that it can be said that they are in your "image" or "likeness"?

Sermon Summary: Though we are undoubtedly creatures of dust, we are so much more: we were also made in God's image, which gives us the unique ability and calling to resemble God and represent Him to the rest of Creation. It also reminds us that we matter to God and are invited to enjoy an intimate relationship with Him.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What side of our identity do you identify with the most "creature of dust" or "image-bearer"? Why?
- 2. Is it important to hold on to both sides of this identity, or can we afford to emphasize one over the other? Explain your answer!

* We Resemble God.

- 3. In what ways has the church through the centuries done a good job of resembling God in our world?
- 4. What part of God's nature or character do you long to resemble MORE than you currently do?

* We Represent God.

- 5. In what practical ways can we "represent" God and His order and truth to Creation today?
- 6. When, if ever, does "having dominion" over Creation go horribly wrong?

* We Matter to God.

- 7. What barriers get in the way of us truly believing that we matter to God, that we have sacred value just because we exist as God's image-bearers?
- 8. Can you remember a time when God impressed this truth upon you? Tell your group the story!

* We were made to Connect to God.

9. Can you think of a time when you felt very close and connected to God? How do you protect that connection over time? What gets in the way?