

## HOME CHURCH SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Genesis 2:4-25 • NOVEMBER 15, 2020

# GENESIS

Man and Woman - God Breathed, Hand Made Living Likenesses of their LORD

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### WARM UP

Describe someone you know who seems to be “comfortable in their own skin”. Why does this draw us?

1. God had spoken creation into existence, but **now the LORD like a potter, personally shapes the earth into His child and breathes His own life and image into a living soul.** What does this personal intimate act reveal: **About God?** - His intentions, relationship, and intimacy? **About us?** - our human identity, purpose, value, worth and dignity How does Jn 3:16 validate worth?

Adam's only recorded words in paradise before sin is a love poem of delight in the gift of his wife. She was a game changer V23. He renamed himself and named her as a sign of absolute intimate oneness.

### THE IMPLICATIONS OF IMAGO DEI

**Value** - Recognizing the inherent worth set by God the authoritative Creator on all humanity. Imago Dei.

i.e. The US Gov authority stands behind its \$100 bills as worth \$100 regardless of its damaged condition.

**Worth** - How we see ourselves in light of the fixed value our Creator placed on us - made in His image.

**Dignity** - How we see and treat other fellow image bearers made in the image of God.

2. Discuss how the Biblical doctrine of Imago Dei impacts each statement below.
  - a) Man is a useless ... It is meaningless that we live and meaningless that we die. J-Paul Sartre
  - b) When I see the news and Arabs screaming and firing rifles into the air, I say let's nuke'em.
  - c) I am somebody because God don't make junk
  - d) My dad was a worthless drunk. I lost my job six months ago and I am now just as worthless.
  - e) "Black is Beautiful" Mid 60s counter cultural slogan to recognize ethnic beauty standards.
  - f) Sure, if I had her body type and looks, I would feel good about myself too.
  - g) I am disgusted with those people. They are not like us so why are they here?

Does what we believe matter? How has the church's failure to live up to the truth that all races have equal worth and dignity before God deeply hurt people and undermined the witness of the gospel?

3. Judging from God's actions how well does He understand and meet Man's needs and longings? List specific examples from this Chapter. What does it teach us that in a perfect world people have work to do?

Always remember that you are absolutely unique, just like everyone else.

MARGARET MEAD

4. Adam was in paradise with God and his situation wasn't good. Why? Why did Adam's Father delay making it right? How was Woman the perfectly suitable or corresponding helper to complete Man.

God has hard wired us for community. We are wired to need one another. MIKE SLAYDEN

### CONCLUDING CHALLENGE

**On an emotional level how well do you feel God understands and meets your needs and longings?**

Why? How can we as a group strengthen each other to choose faith in the goodness of the Lord?

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**THE WELL** - Helping people connect to God and to each other in every neighborhood