

Family Devotional Guide – 9.20.2020

“The Story of All Things” – Genesis 1:26-31 – *Made in the Image of God*

Say: Genesis 1:26 says, “Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’”

Ask: In the Genesis 1 account of creation, is anything else created in the image of God? Do you think that being created in the image of God makes people distinctively different, special, and unique in God’s eyes? Why or why not? If someone has a worldview of “no God”, or “no Creator”, will they have the same value of human life?

Say: Let’s look at what it means to be made in the image of God.

Read: Genesis 1:28

Say: Made in the image of God means we can hear and know the truth of God. We can commune with God, we are responsible, moral and spiritual beings, and we can respond to Him.

Ask: What does it mean to commune (intimate communication or rapport) with God? How do we commune with God?

Discuss: Think and talk through what it means to be responsible. What about moral? What about spiritual?

Ask: What does it mean, “to respond to God”? Is responding to God always in obedience? If you choose to disobey, have you responded?

Read: Genesis 1:26, 28

Say: As creations made in the image of God, we are rulers, or agents over creation. God has given us dominion (put us in charge of and given us authority over creation). This is a responsibility He has given us.

Read: Psalm 8:3-8

Say: Being made in the image or likeness of God, we are sons. No other creation is that! Again, this speaks of our value to God and His purposes for us.

Read: Genesis 5:3; Luke 3:38

Say: As image bearers of God, we are not like Him physically, but we were created with the characteristic of the righteousness of God. And then something happened. Something messed up God’s original state for us as image bearers. That something was SIN! The image has been marred!

Say: Righteous means “One who is right”, being in right relationship with God.

Ask: Can you see how sin would mean we are not right with God? Righteousness is the opposite of sin. It is the perfect holiness of God. Where sin is present, there cannot be righteousness.

Read: Romans 3:9-12

Say: In ourselves, this passage says, “no one is righteous, not one”.

Read: Isaiah 64:6

Ask: What does this verse say our righteous deeds are like?

Say: As those separated from God by our sin, we can try to do good deeds, or righteous deeds, but they are a “like a polluted garment” to God. Righteousness produces good works, but good works do not produce righteousness. The only way we can be restored is through the work of Christ on the cross.

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:21

Say: When we are restored by Christ, we become the righteousness of God. It is not our righteousness, but His!

Consider this: Have you been restored to what God intended for you as one made in His image by responding to what Christ did for you on the cross? He did everything that needs to be done – He did the work, you just have to respond by putting your faith and trust in Him. If you have not, respond to Him today by turning from your sin to follow Him.

Pray, thanking God for creating you in His image, to be a hearer, a ruler, and a son. Thank Him for the work done on the cross by Jesus so you could be restored to God’s original intent for you as an image bearer.