

DOCTRINE

WHAT CHRISTIANS SHOULD BELIEVE

**Image:
God Loves**

Then God said “Let us make man in our image...”(Gen 1:26) This declaration by God has profound implications for the dignity, value and worth for all of mankind. Sadly however, our culture continues to deny this truth and seek for meaning outside of God’s design for man. Even more disturbing is that many of us who belong to Christ do not experience the joy and freedom that comes from knowing and living out this truth. :Let us discuss what it means to live out our image of God.

Relevant Scriptures:

Creation: Gen 1:26-27, 5:1-3,9:6, Jas. 3:9

Imago Dei in Jesus: 2 Cor 4:4, Col. 1:15, Heb 1:3

Imago Dei in a believer: Rom 8:26, Eph. 4:22-24, Col 3:9-10, 1 Cor 11:7,15:49, Phil. 3:20-21

Theology: What does scripture say about the image of God in the creation of man?

What attributes of God do you see reflected in Mankind?

What attributes of God are not reflected in mankind?

List some key verses in Gen 1-2 that indicate that man is significantly different than the rest of creation?

How does a non-regenerate person image God? How is it different for a Christian?

What is the significance of Jesus being the perfect image of God?

Implications: discuss the implications of being an image bearer of God in our daily lives.

When describing yourself, what images do you begin with? (mother, bartender, addict)

How does being an image bearer of God change the way you see yourself?

In what way is your image of God marred or distorted by sin?

How do you distort the image of God in such a way that you make God less and you more?

In what ways are you prone to diminish self and elevate creation?

List some key areas of your life that you need to confess and repent of in order to image God more truthfully.

Prayer: Reflect and meditate on the work of Creation and what it reveals about the glory of God.

Pray for that we would live out of the image of God to bring glory to Jesus.

Pray for forgiveness for the times we bear false witness to God’s image.

Pray for those who are image bearers of God but have yet to meet Him.