

# THIS IS WHO WE ARE



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Inside Out

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When we clarify our spiritual identity it gives us confidence to fulfill our mandate as God's image bearers.

## SERMON SUMMARY

Our new series is called Inside Out. It is focused on the spiritual transformation God wants for each one of us. In this first message we look at the creation account in Genesis 1 to clarify our identity as God's image bearers. When we have a clear sense of who God designed us to be, it should give us a confidence to live out the call God has on our lives. In Genesis 1 we are reminded that we are God's creation, fearfully and wonderfully made. But we are not just an image to be displayed on a shelf, we are given the mandate of representing God in our world and working hard to see that He is glorified. It's not easy, but the value God has placed on us should motivate and encourage us to work together to see what God can do in and through us!

- In Genesis 1 we get a window into the incredible act of God's creation.
  - What is the main emphasis of this creation account? What would have stood out to those living in the ancient world when they heard these words? What should the modern day impact of the creation account be on us?
  - How is the description of the creation of man and woman different than all the other acts of God's creation? What does this tell us about how God feels about us?
- As the pinnacle of God's creation, there are some significant implications for us.
  - As part of God's creation, we are reminded that we need God and we are dependent on him for everything we need. Why is it important to remember God is Lord of All and we are His creation?
  - When God created men and women, He said they were created in His image. What aspects of who we are, and what we are called to do, does this include?
- When we clarify our identity, it should impact us personally and also on a corporate level, as the people of God.
  - What are the most significant everyday implications of being created in the image of God? How can understanding how God sees you clarify your role at work, at home, in your school? How can the way the world defines our value negatively impact our behavior? What can we do to counteract these negative influences?
  - As we examine the concept of being made in the image of God, there is a corporate aspect to this as well. How does the creation account suggest that we need one another to fulfill God's plan to be His image bearers? What can we do to encourage and strengthen those we are on this journey with?

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS



## PRACTICAL APPLICATION & READING REFLECTIONS

*This week let's begin each day reminding ourselves that we have been created in the image of God. And, let's consider how this can make an impact in every situation we find ourselves in.*

**Sunday:** Genesis 1:26–31 (The Foundation: Created in God's Image)  
**Monday:** Psalm 139:1–18 (Fearfully and Wonderfully Made)  
**Tuesday:** Ephesians 1:3–14 (Chosen and Adopted)  
**Wednesday:** Ephesians 2:1–10 (God's Masterpiece)  
**Thursday:** 2 Corinthians 5:11–21 (A New Creation)  
**Friday:** Galatians 4:1–7 (No Longer Slaves, but Heirs)  
**Saturday:** 1 Peter 2:4–10 (A Chosen People, A Royal Priesthood)

