

It's all about "The Image"

WHO AM I?

1. I am an image of God. (a mirror, a reflection)

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in OUR IMAGE, to be like us." Genesis 1:26 (NLT)

Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person. **Genesis 2:7 (NLT)**

Seven Characteristics that prove we are His image:

- We are *spiritual* beings. (Gen. 1:26, 2:7; Ecc. 3:11; John 4:24)
- We are *personal* beings. (Gen. 1:26, 5:2; Ps. 139:13-14; Isaiah 64:8)
- We are *moral* beings. (Galatians 5:19-21; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10)
- We are *relational* beings. (Gen. 1:26, 2:18-25; Matthew 19: 1-12; Galatians 3:26-29)
- We are *rational* beings. (Matt. 22:37; Eph. 4:23; Romans 12:2)
- We are emotional beings. (Genesis 1:26, 1 John 4:7, Exodus 34:6, Deuteronomy 4:25, Galatians 5:22-23)
- We are creative beings. (Genesis1:26-27)

2. I am an image of God made for a reason. (to reflect)

...for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests (that goes both ways), a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can

show others the goodness of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light. **1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)**

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 (ESV)

3. I am an image of God that has been marred. (a broken reflection)

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned Romans 5:12 (NIV)

...As a result, their minds became dark and confused. Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols... Rom. 1:21-23 (NLT)

4. I am an <u>image of God</u> that can be <u>restored</u>. (the reflection made new)

For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost. Luke 19:10 (NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! **2 Cor. 5:17 (NLT)**

Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like Him. Colossians 3:10 (NLT)

Going deeper on your own: Read through today's lesson looking up all the passages for yourself. Then answer the following questions: Have you ever thought that you were made in the image of God? What does it mean to you to be made in His image? What does it mean to those in your family, your friends, or your coworkers? If they were to be asked, "Does (enter your name) have a personal relationship with God?" how do you think they would answer? If they answered "yes", how do you think they would know? Learning that we are to be the image of God in our world, how does that make you approach your home life, work life, and church life? What is one thing you could do this week to demonstrate the image of God to someone in your world? Write it down, pray about it, and ask God to give you that opportunity this week. For additional study you may want to consider reading the following verses: Genesis 1:27, Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a, Romans 3:23 and Isaiah 59:1-2.