


## “The Image of God”

Genesis 1:26–2:3

Rev. Ray Cortese, June 14 & 15, 2014

### Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read Genesis 1:26–2:3. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

### Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1 You can’t know who you are if you don’t know your story. What is one aspect of your story that you were surprised to find out later in life?
- 2 Summarize the *Big Idea* of the sermon in *one phrase or sentence* (Note: this is not the same as listing the main points). In other words, if someone woke you up at 3am on Monday morning and asked, “What was the sermon about on Sunday?” what would you say in the midst of your sleepy haze?

#### IMAGE OF GOD: OUR WORTH

- 3 What distinguishes human beings from the rest of creation? Why is the phrase, “a glorious ruin”, an apt description of us?

- 4 Ray said, “There are no unimportant people. Every person is a treasure and deserves to be treated as sacred.” To whom do you have a difficult time applying these truths? In other words, who do you regularly look down on or treat as unimportant?
- 5 How do the values of Christianity compare to the values of the world today with regard to the elderly, the mentally ill, and the unborn? How can Christians be salt and light in this area?

#### IMAGE OF GOD: OUR PURPOSE

- 6 In your own words, what does it mean that we are God’s representatives, his co-regents, his ambassadors in the world?
- 7 How does the image of God affect the way we think about parenting and grand parenting?
- 8 Ray said, “Whatever you do, you are in the family business. Every morning you are on mission.” How is what you do M-F, 9-5, just as valuable as the pastor or the missionary?

#### IMAGE OF GOD: OUR FAMILY

- 9 You were created for an intimate relationship with your heavenly Father. Did your relationship with your earthly father enhance or hinder your embracing God as Father?
- 10 How do you get into the family of God? How do you become a child of God?

### **Step 3: Final Reflections**

- ✠ How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?