



Sermon Questions

January 28, 2024 | Scripture: Gen 1:26-31 (Dignity)

Pre-study: 3 things from the sermon. *Note down 3 ideas, illustrations, quotes, or points that made an impression in the sermon.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Core Questions

1. What does it mean that each human is created bearing the image of God?
2. Some philosophies and theologies have isolated the image of God in the soul, the conscious mind, virtuous actions, or the body. What damage does this narrowing of the image of God do, both to human dignity and to our understanding of God?
3. How do the realities of sin and the cross nuance our understanding of mankind as created in the image of God?

Inward Grace in Action

4. Questions of abortion, euthanasia, and caring for the marginalized (whether for medical, age, or social reasons) are often deeply personal, and our responses are shaped both by known and unknown forces in our stories. Where have you seen beautiful stories in these things? How have they taught you about the character of God?
5. Where do you struggle to treat others as made in the image of God?

Outward Grace in Action

6. In the face of massive offences against the dignity of image bearers, we can let anger predominate in our conversations. Yet Christ, seeing the same problems, primarily fought to affirm dignity rather than attack its attackers. Many Christians have modelled this in campaigning against mass abortion and euthanasia. How can we do likewise?

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- Job 10:8-12
- Psalm 139
- Isaiah 13:13-24
- Luke 8:40-56
- Romans 8:18-30
- Hebrews 2:5-18
- James 3:1-12

Serve: Consider someone whose (perhaps neglected) dignity you could honor through friendship. Make steps this week to serve and honor them.

Pray: Pray for the Lord to move your heart to ache for the dignity of the marginalized, oppressed, and suffering.

Reach out if you need assistance:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org

Additional resources:

You can find more on our dedicated series Resource Page [here](#).

Book: Dennis Hollinger's [Choosing the Good: Christian Ethics in a Complex World](#) helps parse out some of the cultural currents shaping our thinking, and provides some helpful frameworks for thinking Christian-ly in these things.

Video: Dr Paige Comstock Cunningham introduces the relationship between bioethics and the practices of welcome, neighborliness, and hospitality in [this brief video about the dignity of life](#).