

Small groups: as I go through think of your own questions for your small group
-there are questions scattered throughout so you can use them or think of your own

What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

What is image?

“image” vs “likeness” (25)

-Image is indelible, it is part of our humanity

-likeness is lost because of sin but can be found again

What is “to be made?”

-what parts of God? what isn't included?

-what characteristics aren't included, or are included?

GENESIS 1:26-31

-what do you notice about the person of God in this passage? How does it describe Him?

How does that impact us being made in God's image?

What does that mean for you and me?

Quick review of the Trinity:

GET acronym

-if “us” is used than it is clear God is telling the reader that His Being is at least two people, and we know from the rest of the Bible that it is three Persons

-Father, Son, Holy Spirit

-If we are to understand what it means to be made “in the image of God”, than we have to consider all Persons of the Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)

-Every person reflects the Trinity

“being in the image of God is to be understood as a mirroring of the Father, a mirroring of the Son and a mirroring of the Holy Spirit” (22)

-We reflect the relationships between the Persons as well as the distinct characteristics of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Each Person had a role in the creation of man

LEWIS SPERRY CHAFER Book 1 Systematic Theology (306)

“This creative act of God is also the work of the separate Persons in the Trinity” (306)

-Father: breathed life into us (Gen 2:7)

-Christ: all things were created (col 1:16)

-Spirit: made us (Job 33:4)

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

Smail, T.A

C. Attributes for creature

- **FATHER** (28)

COMPARE TWO SIDES: WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE FOR FATHER AND FOR PEOPLE

Distinctive: purposeful initiation of love

-Treatment of Israel in OT

-Initiation of incarnation (John 3:16)

in relation to human life, must be proactive to intervene in situations over the social constraints we have

“image of the Father is the image of the leader” (28)

Opposite side is when people are oppressed, no longer accurately showing the Father

-either deprived or abusing it

- **SON** (29)

Distinctive: willing responsiveness

He is sent, does not send himself

-free responses

-John 5

-has the authority of the Father, but is also under the Father

relation to human life, we must be in relationships where we are second, not first (30)

-made to put others first and defer to someone else

-must also be willing obedience, like that of Christ

- **HOLY SPIRIT**

Distinctive: creative fulfillment (30)

Take what was done by Son and Father and achieve the purpose of it

In relation to human life, we must live in a way that moves those we interact with closer towards their God given goal (31)

-Working things out to positive ends, when we struggle with spiritual questions that lead us to God

laziness and apathy are the opposite (31)

Overall, our image of God is reflected in relationships

-The trinity is built on relationships

Humans fulfill their image of God through interacting with others

Isaiah NENGEAN

“likeness to God is not reflected through human individual activity, nor as an isolated human life but is attained through human communal interaction in loving relationships” (97)

“implies human beings standing in need of and also responding to each other and only in this communal perspective are humans in the image of God” (97)

“sociality is an indispensable facet of the image of God” (97)

James 3:19 With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God

WHAT ABOUT SIN?

- How does this impact our image?
- What does it change?
- What is lost?
- What is kept?

8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9 With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. 10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers,[a] these things ought not to be so.