

## Genesis: The Book That Started It All

Group Guide | August 17

**Read this prayer out loud together:**

**LEADER:**

*Dear God,  
You are the creator.*

**ALL:**

*We are your creation.*

**LEADER:**

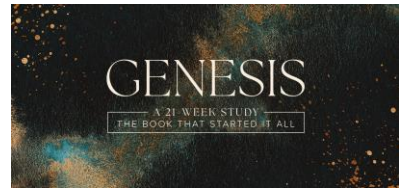
*You are love, wisdom, grace, goodness, and mercy.  
You are creator, sustainer, and restorer.  
And you made us in your image.*

**ALL:**

*Let us honor the divine likeness in how we live.  
May we reflect your virtues in who we are and in all we do this week.  
And every day.  
We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ,  
Who alone is the perfect image of the invisible God.  
Amen.*

**READ Genesis 1:26 – 2:25**

- What stands out to you about Dan's sermon on Sunday?
- There are several features in which being made in the image of God are reflected in humanity: **resemblance, respect, relationship, responsibility, and renewal**. Let's take some time today to explore these features:
  - **Resemblance:** In what ways do you notice the God's attributes being resembled in the lives of people in your life group? Just take a few minutes to think about God's virtues and how you have seen them in people in the group. Share those. This is a wonderful way to honor God for the work He is doing and to honor one another!
  - **Respect:** The life of every single human being holds intrinsic value. How does this message support or confront the narrative you received growing up? How do you find yourself being



challenged with this idea in the world we live in? What does it look like for you to hold human life with a high level of respect and dignity in your day-in and day-out life?

- **Relationship:** If God is love, then relationships sit at the core of what it means to be made in God's image. What is one area in your life where your relationships might look differently if you saw them through the lens of how the members of the Triune God interact with each other (how do you see the relationship between Father, Son and Spirit impacting the way you relate to others?)
- **Responsibility:** God seems to delight in handing over opportunities for us to steward what He has created. This is one of the powerful ways that we represent Him in our world. What are some responsibilities that you get to carry that when you do it, you sense that you are actually representing God?
- **Renewal:** The work we do here on earth and how we relate with one another are all pictures of the "renewal of all things" under the reign of Jesus. In these ways we get to participate in the fulfilling of Jesus' vision for "on earth as it is in heaven." Where do you notice people in our city, our church and this life group contributing to the world in such a way that it points toward our future hope? How do you personally find yourself inspired to reflect the image of God in a way that contributes to the renewal of all things?
- **What seems to be the most important invitation from God for you today as you lean into bearing God's image in the world?**

**Pray:**

Spend some time praying over the things that have just been shared in the circle... asking for God's character to be poured in and out through the members of this group.

**CLOSE with the same prayer you began with:**

**LEADER:**

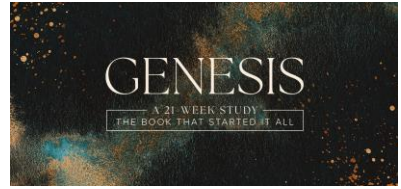
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**LEADER:**

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*And you made us in your image.*

**ALL:**

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*May we reflect your virtues in who we are and in all we do this week.*

*And every day.*

*We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ,*

*Who alone is the perfect image of the invisible God.*

*Amen.*