



The *Sunday Recap* is a quick rundown of our time of worship together on Sunday and a quick look at next Sunday. Our hope is that this will help us continue to reflect on the good news of the gospel all week and prepare for the upcoming Sunday. Enjoy!

#### SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON:

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

#### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- Was there anything from the songs we sang or the readings we read that you'd like to think more upon? If so what was it and why?
- What does it mean to be created in God's image? Why does it mean that?
- What is significant about the instructions God gives to Adam and Eve after He creates them? (see Gen 1:28-30)
- How should being created in the image of the TRIUNE GOD inform how we live?

#### QUESTIONS FOR KIDS

- See the [NEW CITY CATECHISM](#) app for great questions to review with your children to help them understand Christian Theology.
- New City Catechism Question #3 - How many persons are there in God? Answer: There are three persons in the one true and living God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They are the same in substance, equal in power and glory.
- If God exists in relationship within himself what does that mean for us if we are made like him?

#### SUGGESTED RESOURCES

["Who Are You? Why Are You Here?"](#) by Chad Bird

["The Image of God: We are Defined in Relation to Reality"](#) by Tim Chester

## SONGS WE SANG:

*\*Check out our Spotify playlist here: <https://goo.gl/BQddvV>*

[This is Amazing Grace](#) by Phil Wickham

[Come Boldly to the Throne of Grace](#) by Red Mountain Church

[You Have Redeemed My Soul](#) by Page CXVI

[It is Well](#) by Mark Roach

## READINGS:

### *Call To Worship*

L: The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him. -Psalm 24:1

**C: Praise the Lord, all you nations. Praise him, all you people of the earth. For his unfailing love for us is powerful; the Lord's faithfulness endures forever. Praise the Lord!**

**- Psalm 117**

### *Prayer of Confession*

L: Lord, we have valued 'doing' over 'being', and have trusted in our strategic efforts to give us new life.

**C: Forgive us for trusting ourselves as gods.**

L: Lord, we have judged for ourselves what is worth our time and what is worthless, often missing your invitation in the ordinary moments of life.

**C: Forgive us for trusting our own judgments instead of resting in yours.**

L: We have been preoccupied feeding our egos and our comfort. The kingdoms we pour our time and resources into are already crumbling.

**C: Forgive us for rejecting your kingdom and for disbelieving your promise.**

L: We come humbly before you, our maker and redeemer.

We acknowledge that your ways often seem strange to us.

We confess that we are blind to so many aspects of your kingdom.

**C: Jesus, open the eyes of our hearts.**

L: Jesus, you are the forever king who's reign is marked by sacrificial love and compassion for the sinner.

**C: Jesus, may your splendor captivate our hearts.**

L: Lord, you even invite us into your kingdom, bidding us to taste, see, and enjoy!

**C: May your loving acceptance eternally satisfy our souls.**

### *Passing of the Peace*

We were outcasts, strangers, and orphans. But through Jesus we have been adopted in and made God's own people. We are now beloved children of God. As we take great joy in our new status by faith in Christ, let us also take great joy in greeting each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

### *Word of Assurance*

And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them.

**Jeremiah 32:38-40**

## **Benediction**

L: To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. (1 Tim. 1:17) Go in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you!

**C: And Also with you!**

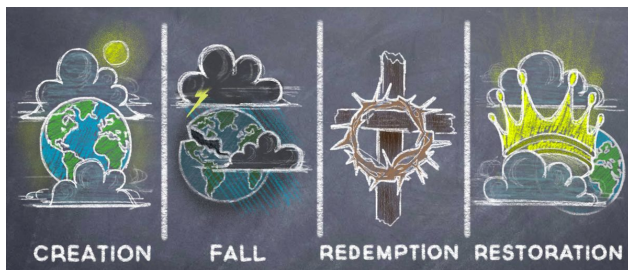
## **SERMON NOTES**

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

The Story of Redemption in 4 Parts:

The typical breakdown: Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration



We're adjusting that to help us see the WHY behind the WHAT.

Here are our categories: **Communion, Separation, (Promise), Union, Forever Communion**

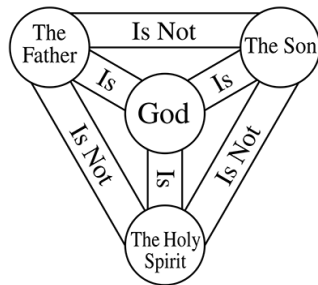
### **1. Who is God?**

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make..."

- 1) Notice the difference in the rhythm that was repeated- **"Let there be... and there was..."** Now, "Let us make" That change communicates at least two things:
  - a) First, there is **a difference in involvement and care**
    - "Let there be" is simply a **command**
    - "Let us make" is an **invitation** (arising out of a relationship)
  - b) Second, who is this "us"?
    - Before it was "And God said, 'Let there be..'" Sounds like a singular being creating. But now in v.26, on day 6 of creation, it changes to "WE?" Who else is there besides God?
    - **Genesis 1:2** (p.1) The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And *the Spirit of God* was hovering over the face of the waters.
    - **John 1:1-3** (p.886) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.
      - The word was WITH God (separate)
      - The Word WAS God (same)
    - **Colossians 1:15-19** (p.983) He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things

were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

### The "Trinity Shield"



How do you define God? **Triune**. 3 in 1.

- If you want to simplify that, you say, **God has and always will exist in relationship.**
- He is relationship. He is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- ALWAYS existed as LOVING COMMUNION OF FATHER, SON, HS

### First part of our SERMON SUMMARY: God, who is Loving Communion...

#### 2. Who is Man?

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.

Knowing what we just said about WHO GOD IS, When God says "**Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.**"

- We just said that *FUNDAMENTALLY*, God is trinitarian. The CORE of who He is is 3-in-1 relational being. He exists in relationship. Always has.
- So when he creates in His image, what is that going to have to mean? That those beings made in His image will be BEINGS OF COMMUNION as well. Just like Him.
- "Relationality" is **foundational** to what it means to be human. To be human means to exist in relationship. Because what it means to be God means to exist in relationship and God created humans in HIS image, so we are images of the trinitarian (relationally-existing) God.

### Second part of our SERMON SUMMARY: God, who is Loving Communion, creates humanity IN HIS IMAGE as loving communion...

#### 3. What was man created for?

Genesis 2:18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone..."

- This is another abrupt detour from the rhythm we had going.
- The rhythm was- "God created... and it was good" "God created.... And it was good" (Ch. 1 Verse 10, 12, 18, 21, & 25)

God is stopping to note:

**“If this man is going to image me there is a problem. How can a singular being image a Trinitarian God? Well, he can't. In order to have a relational existence like me, he has to be part of a whole.”**

So what does God do, continuing in Gen 2:18..

**Genesis 2:18**

Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; *I will make him a helper fit for him.*”

- A “helper” to exist in true humanity & image me in my TRIUNE-NESS

How God creates the “helper”

Genesis 2:19-23 Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. *But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him.*

- Adam had relationship to, he cared for them, he named them, he was like a father to them, BUT among all those, there wasn't a helper suitable for Adam. There wasn't any in there that could exist with Adam so that they could image God TOGETHER AND LIVE TOGETHER IN LOVING COMMUNION LIKE THEIR CREATOR

**Does God then merely take some more dust**, form it into another more beautiful human than Adam and give her to him? No. I think that would be too separate. Instead, look what he does....

GEN 2:21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. [22] And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. [23] Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called Woman,  
because she was taken out of Man.”

- God creates the woman not out of a separate substance than the man but **creates her FROM the man.**
- You might say they are one. They are separate, but they are one.
- This is what Adam has been longing for, he says- **“At last! Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh”**

Then listen to how God describes this union they have together.

*Gen 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.*

**Who is God?** Trinity, forever existing in loving communion

**Who is Man?** Male and Female, relational persons in God's trinitarian image.

**THIRD part of our SERMON SUMMARY:**

**God, who is Loving Communion, creates humanity IN HIS IMAGE as loving communion for loving communion”**

# PREPARE FOR THIS SUNDAY

To help you prepare your heart and mind for this Sunday, we encourage you to read the scripture & readings and listen to the songs we'll be singing this Sunday. May God prepare our hearts to hear what He has to say to us.

## **SERMON SCRIPTURE**

### **Genesis 3:6-13**

*So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.*

*And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

## **SONGS WE'LL SING**

[Give Me Faith](#) by Elevation Worship

[Satisfied](#) by Red Mountain Church

[Rock of Ages](#) by Brooks Ritter

## **READINGS:**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Beloved of God, enter into this place and find your rest. Our God is a good and holy God, inviting us to Himself.

**C: We will enter into this place. Lord, receive us.**

L: Children of God, see before you the mystery of our salvation: Christ in us, the very hope of glory in you and in your family gathered here.

**C: We will love one another and rejoice. Lord, embrace us.**

L: O Saints of God, behold your savior: Jesus, a man of countless sorrows, who is acquainted with all our daily afflictions.

**C: We will marvel at Christ here. Lord, open our eyes.**

L: Though the troubles of this world are too many and the resources of this world too few, our God has promised us Himself.

**C: We will trust in His promises, made known in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

L: Father in heaven, we confess we are discontent with our lives. We want what we don't have and don't want what we do have. As a result, we harbor resentment toward you and envy the good of our neighbor. We confess we love your good gifts more than we love you and so commit idolatry against you.

**C: Help us to repent of our desires to turn good things into ultimate things. Deliver us from every desire that prevents us from taking our deepest delight in you.**

L: Wash us, that we may be whiter than snow, for a broken and contrite heart you will not despise.

**C: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the power of your Holy Spirit and help us to walk in newness of life through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF GRACE**

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**- Romans 5:8-11**

### **BENEDICTION**

L: May the God who breathed life into creation be your delight. May Christ Jesus give you hope in your longing, and may the Holy Spirit set your hearts ablaze with a passion for glory of God. Peace be with you!

**C: And Also with You!**