

# MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

*A Five-Day Devotional*

from Genesis 1:25–31

Bridge Fellowship Church

## Day One: Set Apart by Divine Intention

### Scripture Reading

*Genesis 1:26–27 (CSB)*

*“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth.’ So God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.”*

### Commentary

Throughout the creation narrative, God speaks and things come into existence: “Let there be light,” and there was light. But when God creates humanity, the language shifts dramatically. He does not say, “Let there be man.” He says, “Let us make man.” This is divine counsel—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit deliberating together before forming the crown of creation. Before you ever did anything, before you achieved anything, before you proved anything, God already set a unique dignity on humanity.

The *imago Dei*—the image of God—is the single most dignity-granting statement ever made about a human being. No government gave it. No culture invented it. No court can improve upon it. God declared it. This means your worth is not a man-made construct that shifts with cultural winds. It is God-given, stamped on every human being from the moment of creation. You were marked as special before you took your first breath.

### Reflection Questions

1. How does knowing that God deliberated before creating humanity change the way you view your own existence?
2. What voices or experiences have caused you to question your inherent worth and dignity?
3. In what areas of your life do you need to replace the world’s verdict about you with God’s verdict?
4. How might your interactions with others change if you truly saw every person as bearing the image of God?

### Thought of the Day

Before you ever performed for anyone, before you succeeded or failed, before anyone spoke a verdict over your life—God had already spoken. You are not an accident of nature or a product of chance. You are the deliberate creation of the eternal God, made in His very image.

### Song

*“Known” by Tauren Wells*

### Quote for Reflection

*“Before you ever did anything, before you achieved anything, before you proved anything—God already set a unique dignity on humanity. ‘Let us make man.’ That is value. That is purpose. That is identity.”*

### Daily Challenge

Today, write down three lies you have believed about your identity. Beside each one, write the truth from Scripture that counters it. Spend time speaking those truths aloud over yourself.

## Prayer Focus

Pray that God would reveal any areas where you have adopted the world's definition of your worth instead of His. Ask Him to root your identity deeply in the truth that you are made in His image—deliberately, intentionally, and with purpose.

## Day Two: Designed with Purpose

### Scripture Reading

*Genesis 1:27 (CSB)*

*“So God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.”*

### Commentary

Notice how Moses repeats the central truth: “in his own image” and “in the image of God.” This is not redundancy—it is emphasis. Just as a parent repeats a warning to ensure the child understands its importance, God wants the weight of this truth to settle into our souls. We are not merely biological organisms; we are theological statements walking the earth, reflecting something of the Creator in our very being.

The text also reveals that the image of God is displayed collectively through male and female. Neither the man alone nor the woman alone gives the full picture. It takes both—in their complementary distinctiveness—to display what God looks like in the earth. This is not about marriage; it is about creation. A man who never marries still images something about God that a woman does not, and a woman who never marries still images something about God that a man does not. Your gender is not an accident to be corrected—it is a gift to be received and stewarded for God's glory.

### Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to you that God wanted to ensure you understood the weight of being made in His image?
2. How does the complementary nature of male and female enrich your understanding of God's character?
3. In what ways have cultural messages about gender conflicted with Scripture's teaching?
4. How can you honor God through the way you steward your identity as male or female?

### Thought of the Day

Your maleness or femaleness is not a cage that holds you captive. It is the very shape through which the image of God is expressed in you. To embrace who God made you to be is to step into the fullness of His design.

### Song

*“Who You Say I Am” by Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan*

### Quote for Reflection

*“The image of God is borne collectively. Neither the man alone nor the woman alone gives you the full picture. It takes both—in their complementary distinctiveness—to display what God looks like in the earth.”*

### Daily Challenge

Identify one way your unique design as male or female can be used to reflect God's character today. Look for an opportunity to serve, lead, nurture, protect, or encourage in a way that honors God's design.

## Prayer Focus

Pray for anyone you know who is wrestling with confusion about identity or gender. Ask God to bring clarity, healing, and a return to the truth of His design. Pray also for courage to walk confidently in the identity God has assigned you.

## Day Three: Blessed Before Commissioned

### Scripture Reading

*Genesis 1:28 (CSB)*

*“God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth.’”*

### Commentary

Notice the sequence: God blessed them first. Before He gave the mandate, He gave the blessing. When God blesses, He is not simply wishing you well. He is releasing life, fruitfulness, and favor over you before you have done a single thing to earn it. This is the heart of the Father—love moves first. The blessing is not a reward for obedience; it is the foundation from which obedience flows. You are not out here earning what God has already given.

After the blessing comes the commission: be fruitful, multiply, fill, subdue, and rule. This is a royal charge. Image without mandate is like a king who never takes his throne. You were not made to carry God’s image and do nothing with it. You were made to function—to take charge over creation until the whole earth overflows with God’s goodness and glory. Every farmer, every engineer, every builder, every parent is carrying out the oldest assignment ever given to a human being.

### Reflection Questions

1. How does understanding that blessing precedes commission change your approach to serving God?
2. In what ways have you been trying to earn what God has already freely given you?
3. What areas of your life represent opportunities to exercise dominion for God’s glory?
4. How can you steward your sphere of influence in a way that reflects God’s character?

### Thought of the Day

Dominion is not domination. It is a royal charge to govern this world the way God Himself would—with order, care, and wisdom. Everywhere an image-bearer goes, the glory of God is supposed to follow.

### Song

*“So Will I (100 Billion X)” by Tori Kelly*

### Quote for Reflection

*“You were not made to carry God’s image and do nothing with it. You were made to function—to take charge over creation, until the whole earth overflows with God’s goodness and glory.”*

### Daily Challenge

Identify one area where God has given you authority or responsibility—your home, workplace, relationships, or community. Take one intentional step today to steward that area in a way that brings order, care, and reflects God’s glory.

### Prayer Focus

Thank God for blessing you before commissioning you. Ask Him to help you rest in His favor rather than striving to earn it. Pray for wisdom to exercise faithful dominion over the spheres He has entrusted to you.

## Day Four: Provision Before Assignment

### Scripture Reading

*Genesis 1:29–30 (CSB)*

*“God also said, ‘Look, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the surface of the entire earth and every tree whose fruit contains seed. This will be food for you, for all the wildlife of the earth, for every bird of the sky, and for every creature that crawls on the earth—everything having the breath of life in it—I have given every green plant for food.’ And it was so.”*

### Commentary

Before humanity takes a single step into the mandate, God has already stocked the storehouse. You cannot separate the calling from the equipping. God does not issue mandates without supplying the means. The text is emphatic: every seed-bearing plant, every tree. Not some plants. Not a few trees. The repetition declares that there is more than enough. God covers His people completely before He sends them out.

This truth should settle the anxiety that rises whenever we consider God’s calling on our lives. Do I have what it takes? Is there enough? Am I enough? God answers all these questions before we even ask them. He has already prepared what you need. The question is not whether God will provide—it is whether you will trust Him enough to receive it. Trusting God’s provision is not passive; it is an act of faith that wages war against doubt and self-reliance.

### Reflection Questions

1. What areas of calling or responsibility cause you to doubt whether you have what it takes?
2. How does knowing God provides before He sends change your approach to new challenges?
3. In what ways has God already provided for needs you have yet to encounter?
4. What would it look like to trust God’s provision more fully this week?

### Thought of the Day

God does not send His children on assignment and then scramble to figure out how to provide. The storehouse was full before the work began. Trust is not wondering if God will come through; trust is walking forward knowing He already has.

### Song

*“Provider” by Maverick City Music*

### Quote for Reflection

*“God has already prepared what you need. The question is whether you will trust Him enough to receive it.”*

### Daily Challenge

Make a list of ways God has provided for you in the past. Include both material provisions and intangible ones like wisdom, relationships, opportunities, and strength. Let this list build your faith for the provisions you need today and tomorrow.

### Prayer Focus

Confess any areas where you have operated out of anxiety rather than trust. Thank God for His track record of faithfulness. Ask Him to strengthen your confidence in His provision as you step forward into the assignments He has given you.

## Day Five: The “Very Good” Verdict

### Scripture Reading

*Genesis 1:31 (CSB)*

*“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed. Evening came and then morning: the sixth day.”*

### Commentary

Six times in Genesis 1, God pauses, steps back, and declares His work good. Light—good. Land—good. Seasons—good. Living creatures—good. But then He makes humanity, and something changes. He does not say merely good. He says “very good indeed.” This is the highest affirmation in the entire creation narrative. With man and woman in place—bearing His image, carrying His charge—creation finally arrives at its intended destination.

That verdict was spoken over you. Before you performed. Before you proved anything. Before you succeeded or failed or fell or got back up. You are not incidental to God’s story; you are integral to it. No failure, no shame, no confusion, no enemy, and no lie has the authority to change what God has already declared. The world offers identity that must be achieved and maintained. God offers identity that was spoken at creation and has never been overturned. This is who you are. Know it. Own it. Stand on it. Now go live like it.

### Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean to you that God’s “very good” verdict was spoken before you did anything?
2. What failures or shame have you allowed to define you instead of God’s declaration?
3. How would your daily life change if you truly believed you were integral to God’s story?
4. What practical step can you take today to “live like it”—to walk in the identity God has declared over you?

### Thought of the Day

Every day the world will try to hand you a verdict based on your performance, your appearance, your failures, or your success. Every day you have a choice: receive the world’s shifting verdict or stand on the unshakable declaration of the God who made you. He said “very good.” He has never taken it back.

### Song

*“You Say” by Lauren Daigle*

### Quote for Reflection

*“This is who you are. Know it. Own it. Stand on it. Now go live like it.”*

### Daily Challenge

Write out Genesis 1:27 and Genesis 1:31 on a card or in your phone. Read them aloud three times today—morning, midday, and evening. Each time, personalize it: “God created me in His own image. God looked at what He made when He made me and said, ‘Very good.’” Let God’s verdict settle into your soul.

### Prayer Focus

Thank God for declaring you “very good” before you ever performed. Surrender any false verdicts you have been carrying—from others or from yourself. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you live each day from the foundation of your God-given identity rather than striving to create your own.