

BELONGING AS CREATION

Genesis 1:26-31

From the very beginning, God declared God's work "very good," affirming the inherent worth and purpose of every piece of creation. In other stories of creation around the time of the writing of Genesis, the creation of humanity was unintentional, an accident in some of the stories. Genesis tells a different story about the one God and Creator. We are not random or insignificant. Instead, we are intentionally created in God's image, entrusted with the care of creation and the earth. We are designed in goodness and grace.

☐ **Monday: Read Genesis 1:26-27.**

What words would you use to describe God's image?

How does being made in God's image shape your view of yourself and others?

☐ **Tuesday: Read Genesis 1:28-30.**

How do you see our human role in caring for God's creation?

What is one way you can join God in caring for God's creation?

☐ **Wednesday: Read Genesis 1:31.**

Do you ever think of yourself as "very good"? Why or why not?

How does it feel to know that in God's community, you are "very good" and you belong?

☐ **Thursday: Read Psalm 8:1-4.**

How can remembering your smallness in the universe *and* the honor and place given you by God shape your humility and confidence at the same time?

☐ **Friday: Read Psalm 8:5-9.**

Where do you see the "glory and honor" of God in others?

Why do you think God chose to give humans such an important role in creation?

☐ **Saturday: Read Psalm 139:13-18.**

How does it feel to know that you are "fearfully and wonderfully made" by God?

When have you felt God's nearness most strongly in your life?

In embracing our divine calling, we find our true identity and purpose in God's design. We belong as God's creation, called to reflect God's goodness in how we live, work, and care for the world around us. **God created you with purpose and identity.**