

Home Group Notes **Human 2**

Genesis 1:26-2:2 Mark 10:1-9 God's image bearers

Introduction

What do you think it means to be human?

Do you agree/disagree with some/all of the below? Why?

David Attenborough: "We are animals...there's no question about that. We're a special kind of animal...we all live and die. We're apes with clothes on.

Peter Tatchell: (LGBT rights campaigner) "Protest makes us human. We'd be still living in the dark ages without it. Our capacity to discern and speak against injustice is what makes us human. We're hard wired to rebel."

Recap

As a human what was the main aspect of Jesus' approach to life, according to Philippians 2?

What is our given human situation in Psalm 8?

Hear from God

1. Read Genesis 1:26-2:2

The start for understanding our humanity is that we are made.

What does God say humans are made like? How pleased is God?

2. Do all humans bear God's image (v27)?

3. Which distinction among humans is most relevant to us bearing God's image? Is this an important and helpful part of your identity?

4. Which relationship among humans is representative of the image of God? Why might that be?

5. To understand who we are made to be, we must look at what God is like. Look at the following passages and consider how God is revealed to us:

Genesis 1:1-3, Psalm 2:7 + Psalm 110:1, John 1:1-5, John 5:19-29, John 14:1-17

In which ways are the persons of the Triune God the same?

In which ways are the persons of the Triune God different?

6. Could you explain to someone else how the revealed nature of God can help us understand our humanity?
7. How can we work out the truth of God's image being equal and different
 - a. In our church family
 - b. In our home situation
 - c. In our work situation
 - d. In our wider society

Apply these things to your life

8. Read Mark 10:1-9. How does Jesus apply these verses? Why is this significant?
9. Have you ever wondered why toilets in societies influenced by Judeo-Christian ethics tend to be 'ladies and gents' and not 'rich and poor' or 'high caste' only?
10. Following Genesis 1, which ought to be the main personal questions on an application form or an identity document?
11. How does understanding humans as God's image bearers impact
 - a. Our approach to relationships and marriage?
 - b. Our understanding of gender and identity? Ours and others?
12. Has your 'Introduction' answer changed? Why/why not?
13. How can you serve one another this week, as God's image bearers?

Prayer Points

Pray for Peter and Julie Fraser as they seek to continue the work of Bible Encounter and pray for Peter's recovery from serious illness. Also pray for initial plans for an Easter Storytrail at St. George's in 2020

Pray for our plans to respond to Dany & Flavia's invitation for a leadership team from our churches to visit Salta, NW Argentina later this year

Pray for our vicar, churchwardens and PCC as they seek to oversee the work and growth of the churches

Pray that we will people with a good understanding of our identity as humans which gives confidence and purpose in our lives