



### **Week 3**

#### **Growth Group Opener:**

**When you were younger, was there anyone (whether famous or family) people told you that you looked like?**

#### ***Read Genesis 1:26-31***

What is the first thing that we know about humanity?

What does God say about humans that is different from the other things he created?

What voices currently shape how you see yourself?

How might the fact that you are made in God's image either support or contradict those voices?

**Say out loud, both alone at home, and together as a group, "I am made in the image of God."** What truth might God want you to receive, and what lie might he want you to release?

**In this passage, we see that the blessing comes before the command.**

How does culture (and sometimes believers) get this backwards?

How does being an image bearer shape how you treat other people who also bear God's image...even the difficult ones?

**To be made in God's image means that we resemble him. We should reflect him. The more we grow to look like Jesus, the more we become what we were created to be in the first place, a more fully formed image-bearer of God himself.**

**For believers, when God looks at us, he sees Christ within us. When the world looks at us, they should see the same.**

What characteristics of God do you see reflected in the individuals in your growth group? Take a few minutes to speak what you see, and affirm each other as people made in the image of our creator until each group member has been spoken into.

What do we learn about God in these passages?

Is there anything you feel the Holy Spirit inviting you to look at more closely?

#### **Prayer:**

Father, you are so good. Thank you for creating each of us in your image. Help us to live into that likeness so that when others see us, they see you. Help us to rest securely in that identity so that we live out of the blessing of being your child, and not out of striving to be your child. In the name of Jesus, amen.