

Study Guide #4 – Sunday March 29th
Growing in Greater Intimacy with Jesus – Spring 2020
(Adapted from *“Experiencing God’s story of life and hope”* - Dr Scott Duvall)
Man - Created in God’s Image
Genesis 1:26-28/Matt 11:28-30

Remember the goal of our study: To know and understand our **beliefs** which issue into **behaviors** (habits) that cause us to grow to **become** like Jesus.

Summary: Because we have been created in God’s image, every human being has value and dignity and we have important work to do - kingdom work; work that is fulfilled as we submit to him and find rest in him.

The Weight of Glory
Humanity

BELIEVING

Because we have been created in God’s image Every Human being has value and dignity

A Closer Look at Genesis 1:26-28 (Genesis 1 & 5 & 9)

What do we learn about the image of God from this text?

What does these text reveal about the value God place on the human soul?

Consider/Reflect/Discuss:

Consider the list of principles listed on pages 65 &66 related to the image of God. Which ones really stand out for you?

Describe how you feel God feels about you? It there anything that keeps you from believing God is very fond of you?

Where does your primary identity come from? How does God’s estimation of you impact your identity?

What on earth are we here for?

Seeking His Kingdom

BEHAVING

Because we have been created in God’s image, we have important Kingdom Work to do – Matt 6:33

A Closer Look at Matthew 6:33

What are the aspects of your life that need to be brought under the rule of the Lord Jesus?

What does “all these things” refer to?

Consider/Reflect/Discuss:

What does being created in God’s image have to do with seeking His kingdom?

Why do you believe God has put you on earth? What on earth are you here for?

What is the controlling drive in your life? Where do you spend most of your time and energy?

Come to Me, all who are weary
REST

Becoming

Because we have been created in God's image, we must submit to Him and find rest in him.

A Closer look at Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to Me all who are weary and heavy burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

What are the three commands in this text? What characteristics do the people have who are invited to come to Jesus?

What does *"my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"* mean to you?

Discuss the quote by Augustine? How do you feel about what it means to you?

- *"Because you have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in Thee."*
Augustine, Confessions, 1.1.1.

Consider/Reflect/Discuss:

Consider the quote on page 76, *"Jesus' yoke is not lighter because he demands less, but because he bears more of the load with the burdened"*.

Our *"kingdom work"* is tied to our spiritual gift and to learning to rest in the Lord and His strength. How are you learning to submit to and rest in the Lord?

Do you ever feel tired in serving the Lord? What do you do to experience rest and renewal?

Living overloaded lives means that we fail to acknowledge our limits and communicate healthy boundaries. What might be some things that keep you from acknowledging your limits?

For the Pastor, *please consider these 2 discussion questions. I welcome feedback.*

- What can the church do to help you serve the lord in a fulfilling and "restful" way?
- Do you feel this study is helping you to grow in communicating healthy limits? What are some ways the pastor and church might help you grow in these areas?