



We are unique and wonderfully different from anything else God has created.

- We are able to have a relationship with God in ways no other creature on earth can.
- If we fail to connect to God, we lose touch with our worth and the value of life.

The significance of being created in the image of God: *Genesis 1:26,27*

1. We are designed to relate to God - Built with capacity to hear and understand God.
 - **You are Connected:** Invited into the inner circle of the living Triune God.
2. We are designed to resemble God - Enabled to emanate the characteristics of God.
 - **You are Amazing:** Your identity is rooted deeply in the DNA of the Living God.
3. We are designed to represent God - Authorized to bring God's rule into our world.
 - **You are Significant:** Created with the purpose of ruling over God's domain.

God's first mention of humanity clearly designates two distinct genders. *Genesis 1:27,28*

- Jesus referenced Genesis (gender) to define marriage. *Genesis 1:27; 2:24; Mark 10:6-8*
- Genders: Equal value but distinct - Not interchangeable - A team on a mission *1:28*

Practical implications of being created in the image of God:

1. All human life is precious and has dignity - Every human being is of infinite value.
2. Our relationships should express the image of God, the deep richness of the Trinity.
3. You are personally of great worth - God has declared you "very good."

The disaster of sin didn't negate the infusion of God's image in mankind. *Gen. 9:6; James 3:9*

- Work required: The work of Christ. *Col. 1:13-15* Work of becoming like Jesus. *Col. 3:5-10*

Further study and pondering:

1. In what ways should connecting to God increase our sense of worth and value of life?
2. How do you think God views society's views about gender? What's driving the shifts?
3. "You are connected to the inner circle of the living Triune God." What adjustments can you make to better enjoy and benefit from your privileged connection to God?
4. "You are Amazing - Your identity is rooted deeply in the DNA of the Living God." Strategize ways you can bring God's DNA (His characteristics) into your relationships.
5. "You are significant - Designated to rule over the domain of the Living God." Strategize practical ways you can bring God's rule/authority into your world.
6. What do you think about God's appraisal of you - "very good?" Read: (Psalm 139:1-18; 1 Peter 1:18,19) Believe the Voice of Truth. Allow God's approval to wash over you.

Allow God's approval to wash over you!