

# Recognizing the Image of God in All People

*Genesis 1:27*

**Main idea:** To inspire the congregation to see and respect the sacred worth of every individual as a reflection of God's image

**Topic:** Seeing Others as God Sees Them Sacred Worth

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Scripture Verses to Support the Sermon Topic:

1. Psalm 139:14 - "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." This verse emphasizes the uniqueness and value of each individual as a creation of God.
2. Ephesians 2:10 - "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." This verse highlights the purpose and significance of every person in God's plan.
3. Matthew 25:40 - "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" This verse emphasizes the importance of treating others with love and compassion, recognizing the presence of God in them.

Language Suggestions:

1. In Genesis 1:27, the phrase "in the image of God" can be explored further. The Hebrew word for "image" is "tselem," which can also mean "likeness" or "representation." This can be used to emphasize that every person reflects a part of God's character and should be treated accordingly.

2. The Hebrew word for "God" in Genesis 1:27 is "Elohim," which is a plural form. This can be used to highlight the communal aspect of humanity and the importance of valuing diversity and unity.

#### Additional Ideas:

1. Explore the concept of sacred worth by discussing how Jesus treated people from all walks of life during his ministry. Use examples from the Gospels to illustrate how Jesus saw the value in each person, regardless of their social status or background.
2. Discuss the implications of recognizing the image of God in others, such as promoting justice, equality, and inclusivity in society. Use relevant passages like Micah 6:8 and Galatians 3:28 to support these ideas.
3. Address common barriers that hinder people from seeing others as God sees them, such as prejudice, stereotypes, or personal biases. Offer practical suggestions on how to overcome these barriers and cultivate a mindset of seeing the sacred worth in every individual.

Remember to weave these additional ideas and Scripture passages seamlessly into your existing sermon outline, reinforcing the central message of recognizing the image of God in all people.