

Bible Learning Group

Topic: God's Desire for Fellowship with Man

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Discussion point: Why did God create the heavens and the earth?

- God created the world (and everything in it) for His glory. Isaiah 43:6-7 confirms this truth: *"Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by My name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."*
- God did not create the world out of any need or deficiency, but rather because of His love He desired to fellowship with man, and therefore created earth as a dwelling place.
- He created the earth as a dwelling place for man.

Genesis 1:26-27

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Discussion Point: What does it mean to you, to be created in God's image?

- Carly shared how it reveals the value and worth of mankind to God.
- Rosemary shared that God's creation of man reveals our design to be attached to Him. A special bond was designed for mankind, as we are the only beings that were created in the image of our Creator.

Genesis 3:8

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...

Discussion Point: What does this show us about God?

- God walked in the garden and talked with Adam as one would with a friend. This kind of fellowship is one of the richest privileges experienced by unfallen man.
- What a humbling thought – God created us for fellowship with Him. However, because of the fall of man, the ability to enter into fellowship with God was taken away. However, God still made a way for man to return to a reconciled relationship with Him – through Messiah Yeshua. His desire for relationship with man is so great, and He finds such value in us, that He sent His only begotten Son to die for us and to remove the penalty of our sin, that we may still enter into relationship with the Father.