



Renewal

Genesis 1

WORSHIP

Read Hebrews 1:1-4 aloud. Take a moment to reflect on God's Word and center in Him.

FELLOWSHIP

What is one thing you appreciate about Fall?

DISCUSSION

How would you answer the question of who (or what) you are? Why do our answers matter?

Read Genesis 1:26-31.

What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

What implications does that have for our understanding of identity?

How do you know what God is like?



Do you believe that you are created by God and made in His image?

How is a creature different from the Creator?

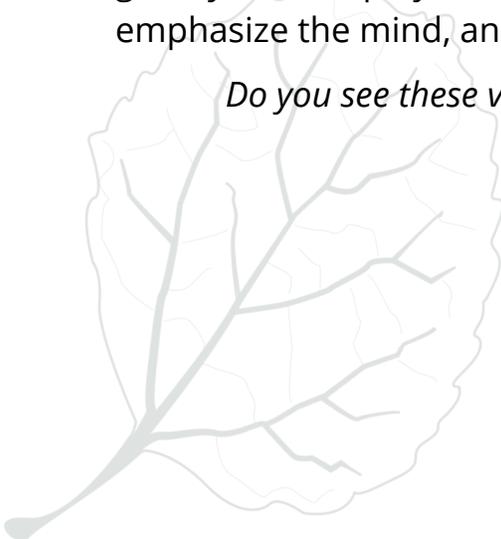
How are you embracing or resisting your identity as a creature?

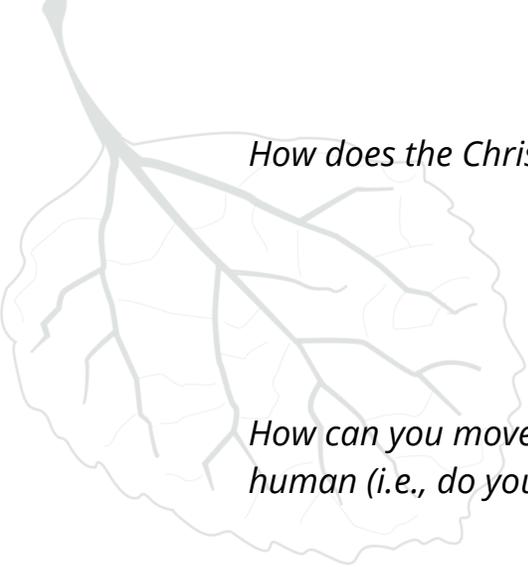
What do you believe about the uniqueness of humanity in creation?

How are you embracing or resisting that uniqueness? Consider your relationships with God, yourself, other people, and Creation.

Pastor Mike presented several perspectives on the nature of humanity. To greatly oversimplify these views, Naturalists emphasize the body, Idealists emphasize the mind, and Mystics emphasize the soul.

Do you see these views embraced in our culture today?





How does the Christian understanding balance body, mind, and spirit?

How can you move toward a more balanced, Christian understanding of being human (i.e., do you tend to elevate body, mind, or spirit)?

RENEWAL PLAN

During this 8-week series, we are encouraging the whole church to utilize a set of questions and exercises to help us reflect on Identity and then create a personal Rule of Life. We will share about this during future Small Group meetings, so invite your group to download the Renewal Plan guide and find more resources on the website (link).

This week, we will look at scripture and ask, "What does God say is true of me?" Would anyone like to share a Bible verse or passage that helps them with this question?

PRAYER

Ask for prayer requests; try to remember any needs that came up during the fellowship or discussion time. Check in on requests from last week, if you can. Does anyone have a practical need that another group member may be able to help with?

Pray for group, church, and community needs.