

## Group Guide

### Ice-Breaker Questions

1. What's one thing that makes humans different from the rest of creation?
2. What's one message our culture sends about what it means to be human?

### Reflection Questions – Read Genesis 1:26-28

3. Genesis says God created humanity in His image. Why does that matter for how we see ourselves and others? (Genesis 1:26-27)
4. The lesson said that you are not an accident. How does that truth confront shame, insecurity, or purposelessness? (Genesis 2:7; Psalm 139:13-16)
5. God created us for relationship with Him, others, nature, and ourselves. Which of those relationships feels most broken in our world today? Which one feels most broken to you, personally? (Genesis 2:18; Genesis 2:25)
6. Psalm 8 says God crowned humanity with glory and honor. Why is it important to remember that we are under God, but over creation? (Psalm 8:4-6)
7. Sin has marred God's image in us, but it has not erased it. Why does every person still have sacred dignity and also need redemption? (Genesis 9:6; Romans 3:23-24)

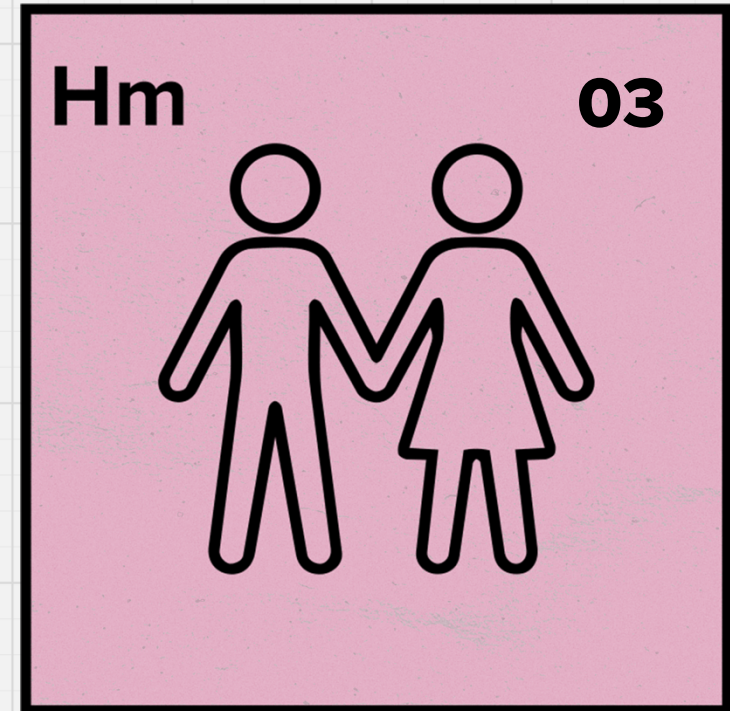
### Action-Oriented Questions

8. Where are you most tempted to see people as less valuable: politics, class, race, age, ability, sexuality, usefulness, or personal offense? (James 3:9-10)
9. Jesus came as the second Adam and the perfect human. How does He show us what humanity was meant to be and become our way back to the Father? (Romans 5:18-19; John 14:6)
10. God commissioned humanity to represent Him in the world, and Jesus recommissioned His disciples. What is one place you need to represent Jesus more faithfully this week? (Genesis 1:28; Matthew 28:18-20)

**Prayer Focus:** Pray that God would help us see every person as made in His image. Ask Him to confront our pride, heal our shame, redeem what sin has broken, and send us back into the world as faithful representatives of Jesus.



## Humanity



# Elements of Faith

Joshua Diggs

**We believe...** *that God created men and women in His image to love and enjoy Him and to represent Him to creation.*

**Question: What does it mean to be a \_\_\_\_\_?**

### Being a human being means...



**You are not an \_\_\_\_\_.**

- ...*God created the heavens and the earth.* (Genesis 1:1)
- *“Let us make man...”* (Genesis 1:26)
- Creation’s precise design proves that God prepared for you.
- *God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”* (Genesis 2:7)
- You \_\_\_\_\_ a body and a soul.
- Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**You are intrinsically \_\_\_\_\_.**

- *“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” ... “So God created man in his own image... male and female he created them.”* (Genesis 1:26-27)
- *What is man that you are mindful of him... Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.* (Psalm 8:4-5)
- Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**You are made for \_\_\_\_\_.**

- The Lord walked and talked with the man (Genesis 3:8,9).
- *“You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.”* (St. Augustine)
- *“What is the chief end of man? Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.”* (Westminster Shorter Catechism)
- God made you to \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
- Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**You are made for \_\_\_\_\_.**

- *“It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”* (Genesis 1:26)
- *Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.* (Genesis 2:22)
- Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**You have a \_\_\_\_\_.**

- *“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion...”* (Genesis 1:28)
- *“Let us make man in our image...”* (Genesis 1:26)
- “Image” is from the Hebrew word *şelem*.
- In the ancient world, a king would place *şelem* of himself around his \_\_\_\_\_, so that his subjects would know who he was like.
- Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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