I'M SO GLAD GOD MADE THIS PLANET

WEEK 2 - WHAT SHOULD I DO?

OVERVIEW

Why did God create humanity? In Scripture we learn the answer: to be God's "images" and to represent his loving and creative intentions in this world. Our original vocation, spelled out in Genesis 1:28, is to govern over creation and help it thrive. This vocation was disrupted by humanity's choice to reject God's desires, exemplified by the now fraught relationship between humans and the ground from which we were made (Gen 3:17-19) and the living creatures, once our companions, now fleeing from us in terror (Gen 9:2). However, thanks to Jesus, our original vocation can be restored, and we can join him in healing this broken world. In this message we will explore the ways in which we can recapture our best life by once again becoming the benevolent and compassionate rulers of Creation, tasting again of the abundance of Eden. We will also dig more deeply into practical ways each of us can engage in Creation Care.

Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

Genesis 1:28

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. According to Genesis 1:27-28, Genesis 2:15, and Psalm 8:4-8, what was God's intended relationship between humans and His creation?
- 2. Do you think its possible to live in Eden, or "return to Eden", in this lifetime? What would that look like?
- 3. Does the world around you look like Eden? What do you see as evidence of that?
- 4. Barry discussed three ways we could care for God's creation: pay attention, steward your patch of Eden, and follow your passion.
 - a. How can you personally "pay attention"?
 - b. What could you do to steward your patch of Eden?
 - c. What is your passion when it comes to healing the broken place of decay?

RESOURCES

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