A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Image Bearers - Week 2

SERMON SUMMARY

This week we focus on the Garden of Eden and the roles given to Adam and Eve as God's image bearers. Some of the key themes included the vocation they are given to work and care for the garden, the permission they are given to eat from any tree, the prohibition not to eat from one specific tree, the meaning of "helper" attributed to Eve and the idyllic vision of a humanity that is without shame.

KEY VERSES

Genesis 2:15-17 Genesis 2:25

SERMON NOTES LINK

bible.com/events/49329867

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- 1. What does it mean to you that humans are created in the image of God?
- 2. In Genesis 2:15, God places Adam in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. How does this shape your understanding of work and vocation?
- 3. How can we find purpose and fulfillment in our work, regardless of our job?
- 4. God gives Adam permission to eat from any tree except one (Genesis 2:16-17). How do you see the balance of freedom and boundaries in your own life and in what it means to be human?
- 5. Read Genesis 2:18 where Eve is described as a "helper". In Hebrew this is the word "ezer" and is most often used to describe God. Read Psalm 121:1-2 and Psalm 146:5 and see how the word "ezer/help" is used. How does this change how you read Eve described as an "ezer"?
- 6. Genesis 2 ends with Adam and Eve in an idyllic state saying they "were both naked and felt no shame". This is a fascinating detail. What do you think it would be like to live with no shame?
- 7. What steps can we take to address and overcome feelings of shame in our lives?

PRAYER

Ask your group if there is something about their job or a specific relationship that they would like prayer for