



Questioning

Devotional featuring John Stonestreet

What does it mean to be human? Why are we here? These are fundamental questions that must be answered if we're going to get things like psychology and sociology and law and education right. Unfortunately, we have a culture that doesn't give us strong grounding for what it means to be human, but it suggests all kinds of answers to these questions. We are what we can do. How many times at a party do we look at each other and not say, who are you? Not, tell me about yourself, but what do you do? As if we are human doings, not human beings.

Scripture starts with humans as the image of God is the central character in this grand, redemptive narrative. Everything that follows, including what Jesus is going to accomplish when He becomes human, is going to be predicated on this identity that we're given: as created by God. We're made in His image. The poet and cultural thinker, T.S. Eliot, had an interesting observation. He said, "Whenever we see something new and we don't really know what it is, two questions come to mind. What can it do - what can I do with it? And the second one is, what is it for?" Which question is more important?



 **Watch Here**

If you came across a laptop and had no idea what a laptop was, you could say, what can it do? It opens and closes. True, but it would be really underutilizing the power of a laptop. You could also try to skip it across the lake. But you wouldn't want to do that because it would destroy it, right? The only way to know what to do with the laptop and what not to do is to know what a laptop is for.

The same thing is true with humans. Before we can decide human behavior and human morality, what should we ask ourselves? We need to first get clear on what humans are for. What has God fashioned us for, for what purpose? God created us for something: responsibility to care for the world around us, to love, to create, to embellish, to build. And as we fulfill this purpose, God is glorified.

MEDITATE

"Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." — GENESIS 1:26-27, NIV

REFLECT

What do we learn about God from Genesis 1:26-27?

What were you created for?

What is our school created for and how is God glorified as we fulfill this purpose?