

1. Created to reflect the image of our Creator

- a) Genesis 1:26-27 What important truths are found in this inspired account of creation?
- b) How do we see the image of God in human beings marred after the entrance of sin? Genesis 3:6-13, 4:8, 6:5, Romans 1:18-25
- c) What story in the Scriptures impacts you as an illustration of how far human beings can fall from God's ideal for their lives?

2. Restoring the image of God in our lives

- a) What is God's plan for every repentant sinner through the redemption that is ours in Jesus Christ? Romans 8:29-30, 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
- b) How does our loving Creator and Redeemer restore His image in our sin-damaged lives? John 15:1-5, Philippians 1:6, etc.
- c) Why does the LORD sometimes allow fiery trials to come as part of His refining process for our lives?
- d) Consider the experience of Job. What fiery trial did he endure? How does his testimony recorded in Job 19:25-26 and Job 23:1-10 demonstrate that this refining fire was accomplishing God's purpose for his life?
- e) What other Bible characters faced a fiery trial and came out more fully reflecting the image of their Creator and Redeemer? Daniel 3:14-18, 19-28

- f) Was the fire in the fiery furnace on the Plain of Dura Nebuchadnezzar's fire, or God's refining fire?
- g) What fiery trials has God allowed you to experience as part of His refining work in your life?
- h) James 1:2-5 How is it possible to welcome suffering and trials rather than simply endure them?

3. Saved by grace and transformed by grace

- a) Why is it important to always remember we are not only saved by grace, but the image of God is also restored in us by grace? Ephesians 2:8-10
- b) What story of Jesus illustrates the transformation that occurs in the life of His redeemed children? Matthew 25:31-40, etc.
- c) Where do you see the image of God reflected in the conduct of the early Christians even in times of suffering and trial? Acts 2:44-47, 4:32-35, etc.
- d) What prophecy did the prophet Daniel give about the image of God being reflected in His redeemed children in the troubled last days of earth's history? Daniel 12:1-3
- e) What is your response to God's beautiful plan for each one of us? Ephesians 4:11-16

