

The Promises of God, Part 1:

I Will Create You in My Own Image

September 13-19, 2020

Texts: Genesis 1:1-31 (Creation) / Psalm 139 (God knows me) / Romans 3:21-26 (All have sinned) / Matthew 5:43-48 (Love your enemies)

1. Knowing that (from Psalm 139):
 - O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
 - ²You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
 - ³You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
 - ⁴Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

How does this help you understand your worth in God's eyes and the great depth of love that He has for you? Do you truly believe that God loves you with an all-encompassing, all-surpassing love?

2. Knowing that EVERY HUMAN BEING on the planet is made in God's image, how might this change how you treat others, especially those different from you and those who are not Christians?
3. Read this passage from C. S. Lewis's sermon, "The Weight of Glory":

"The load, or weight, or burden of my neighbour's glory should be laid daily on my back, a load so heavy that only humility can carry it, and the backs of the proud will be broken. It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all, only in a nightmare. All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or other of these destinations. It is in the light of these overwhelming possibilities, it is with the awe and the circumspection proper to them, that we should conduct all our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, all politics. There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal....And our charity must be a real and costly love, with deep feeling for the sins in spite of which we love the sinner—no mere tolerance or indulgence which parodies love as flippancy parodies merriment. Next to the Blessed Sacrament itself, your neighbour is the holiest object presented to your senses."

How does this inform your everyday interactions with people?
4. Understanding that being made in God's image also includes a call to use that imaging for the glory of God, how might you pray for yourself and others for this to be more fully revealed? What might that look like, if we saw it as our mission as a Church to help others discover their calling by God?