

4. Look at your list from question 3. Choose one attribute that is God's alone (i.e., an attribute that we can never imitate). Why is it a good thing that you and other humans don't possess it?

5. Why is the fact that God owns everything a good thing to you personally (where does it touch your heart)?

6. How have you seen the outcome spoken of the passage below in the lives of people you know?

1 Timothy 6: ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

7. How can we grow to be better managers/stewards of what God has entrusted to us?

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

The First Page (A Series on Genesis 1)

"5 Ways We Are Not Like God (Thank God!)"

Genesis 1:1

"What if God was one of us?"

We are made in the image of the _____ of the first page.

- We _____ God and his interests as his image bearers, but we are not him, and that's a very good thing.
- Being God's image bearers speaks to our value and purpose but only if God, whose image we bear, is _____ valuable and purposeful.

God is the Subject (Grammar and God)

God is the _____ of the first line, the first page, and the entirety of his story, the Bible.

God is the subject, the _____ are important, too.

Every time the Hebrew word for _____ occurs in the Hebrew Bible, God is the one who is creating.

Only God has the _____ and the authority to do what he does on the first page.

We are all hacks, arrangers of Someone else's palette of colors, wavelengths, and building blocks. The most creative human you know is a rip-off artist, shamelessly (gleefully?) rearranging and recombining existing materials into new forms. No one has ever truly created anything. No one, that is, except God. (Jen Wilkin)

Whatever exalted ideas we have about ourselves should come crashing down in light this chapter, unless those ideas are _____ in who we are because of God.

5 Ways We Are Not Like God (Thank God!)

1. We are only stewards and God _____ it all.
Because God creates everything, everything _____ to him.

Everything that is ours is God's, and it's only ours to use and to _____
(i.e., to steward) in a way that meets God's approval and furthers his purposes.

Daniel 4:28-37

"For many years I thought this story [in Daniel 4] was telling us that God punished Nebuchadnezzar's pride by turning him over to insanity. But I see now that by stripping away his power and authority, God merely revealed the insanity that already operated behind Nebuchadnezzar's creator complex. It is sheer wild-eyed grass-eating madness to ascribe to ourselves the role of creator. But we do it all the time." (Jen Wilkin)

"There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!" (Abraham Kuyper)

"Thank God That What's Mine Is Not Ultimately Mine"

What more would you truly _____ if what is yours is ultimately yours?

Genesis 1:29

1 Timothy 6:17

1 Timothy 6:6-10

If the ethic is that what's mine is mine to do with as I want without regard for God or others, and God shared that ethic, what would you _____?

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. The first page says we are made in God's image. Why are we tempted to make God in our image?
3. Make your own list of sentences where God is subject. As you look at each thing does, in what way is something only God can do? What attribute of God is on display with each action (e.g., all-powerful, most wise, sovereign king, unlimited, most loving, perfect, all-knowing, most good, infinite, most patient)?