

## Identify: Created Discussion Guide

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**Start with 2 minutes of silence:** Focus your mind, slow your breathing, hold any thought that enters your mind captive, and refocus on God. Don't ask for anything or pray; just be still.

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**Pray:** Ask God to speak to you as you read.

Many believers live their entire lives without understanding or living out their identity in Christ. If we want to experience the abundant life Jesus promised us, we must know and live out our true identity. Week one starts with God's plan for creating us in the first place.

### **Discuss:**

What defines your identity the most? (Career, ethnicity, family, education, a hobby, a sport, an art, your past failures?)

**Read:** Genesis 1:26-28 NIV - "26 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." 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

1. What does the passage say about God's plan for us?
2. Based on these statements, why were we created?

3. What is the difference between being made in God's image and God's likeness?
4. How do you fulfill your role as a caretaker of God's creation in daily life?
5. How do these truths shape how you see yourself?  
Identity Transformation:  
Image of God - We display God to the world  
The likeness of God- We demonstrate God to the world  
Caretakers for God- We are to care for God's creation

**Pray together:**

Confession: Forgive me, God, for not acknowledging you as my Creator and living according to my own purpose and not Yours

**I Am Statement:**

I am made in the image and likeness of God; I will live out His purpose in my life.