



GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING

GENESIS 1:28-30

God's Purpose for People

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." GENESIS 1:28

I. God created people to be fruitful and multiply.

- A. People can be fruitful and multiply through a godly _____.
- B. People can be fruitful and multiply through a godly _____.

II. God created people to exercise dominion over creation.

- A. To have dominion over creation implies that there is some _____ to be done.
- B. To have dominion over creation implies that we need to be good _____ of what God has entrusted into our care.
- C. To have dominion over creation means that God designed nature to _____ man.
And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. vv. 29-31

CONCLUSION:

*God created people to **reflect** His image, **reproduce** a godly heritage and **exercise** dominion over creation.*

Conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the King!

Be a good steward of what God has placed under your charge.

Be dependent upon the Holy Spirit to accomplish His purpose.

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DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Genesis 1:24-31. In what ways do people at times exalt creation over humans?

“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

GENESIS 1:28

“This verse explains that God’s purpose in creating human beings was that they should rule over the animal world, indeed, over the rest of His creation. When Adam and Eve fell (3:6), they took themselves out from under God’s authority and put themselves under Satan’s authority. Today, Satan is the authority under whom Adam and Eve’s descendants live. Nevertheless, God promised to raise up a descendant of the woman (Eve) who would conquer Satan and thereby enable mankind to fulfill the commission to rule under God’s authority (3:15). In time, this Seed proved to be Jesus Christ, who will one day return to earth to subdue His enemies and rule over the creation, thus fulfilling this commission. This is really the story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.”

TOM CONSTABLE

“The ‘submission’ implied in Genesis 1:28 is that of the earth to man—not of man to other men. This definition seems to be the most in keeping with the Bible’s perspective on government and society. ... While making scriptural laws into civil laws sounds fine in theory, we find that the human beings who have to enforce those rules are not so infallible. Attempting to force people to adhere to Christian ideas when they have no personal relationship with Christ is futile (1 Cor 2:14). Worse, it leads to abuses and excesses that are then blamed on the Bible rather than on fallible people. History makes the reality of this problem abundantly clear.”

MULTIPLE AUTHORS, GotQuestions.org

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
“Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.”

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

EMBARK We're here to help you find a place for your community, gifts and faith to deepen! Embark is where we begin to walk with you as you journey here at Christ Chapel. Learn more today at www.ccbcfamily.org/embark.

UPCOMING CAMPS FOR MSM If you have a student in middle school ministry, check out the details for our Winter and Summer Camp. Winter Camp, happening the weekend of Feb. 16-18, will be a time for your student to ask honest, open questions about their identity and find answers in the gospel. Then, July 24-27, we'll be going to Carolina Creek to host summer camp. Both are opportunities for faith and community to grow. Learn more at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

FORGIVEN AND FREE We all have stories that come from living in a hurting world. If abortion has been a part of your story, it can be difficult living in another chapter when there is still pain from a previous one. Our heart is to provide a space to move from shame to freedom because of the love and grace that Jesus offers! We invite you to step into a new chapter of your story, but not alone – with Jesus' power, and with a group of other women pursuing restoration together. Read more at www.ccbcfamily.org/forgiven.

FOSTER AND ADOPT MINISTRY Are you a foster or adoptive parent? We would love to connect with you. Are you passionate about serving foster and adoptive families? Serve alongside us! Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/local.

STRUGGLING WITH GROWING YOUR FAMILY? If you're facing infertility, miscarriage, adoption or prolonged difficulty in growing your family, you're not alone. Our Wait With Me group wants to walk with you during this difficult season. Join us for encouragement, community and biblical lessons as we learn to wait together with hope in the Lord. This group is for women. Learn more at www.ccbcfamily.org/wait.

THE OBEDIENT CHRISTIAN LIFE Disciples of Jesus are called to live a life that reflects the hope of our salvation and a surrender to God's will – but how does that play out in everyday life as we relate to ourselves, others and God? Join us for the Discipleship Class, The Obedient Christian Life, taught by Dr. Doug Cecil to find out. Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/ocl.

FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE We all know that marriage has its ups and downs, but it's another thing to experience it! Whether you are happily married or just hanging on by a thread, come and be reminded of God's good agenda through the highs and lows. Beyond that, be encouraged and equipped from the Scriptures to love your spouse with a love that can only come from God. Register today at www.ccbcfamily.org/bw.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.