

**Sermon Application/Discussion Questions – 1/21/2018**  
**Sunday Message: Scott Faris – Genesis 1:26-27**  
**Sanctity of Life Sunday**

1. In our text (Genesis 1) we see that human beings are unique, specific creations of God, both male and female. Together, in a “one flesh” union, they were given authority (together) to fill the earth and carry out God’s command to “subdue” it. Have you ever given thought to God’s purpose in creating you? How does being created in the image of God (Imago Dei) influence how you see yourself? How does it influence how you think about the inherent value of others, whether they are unborn or mature; Christian or non-Christian? How does this text help you think about your own identity as a man or woman?
2. The term “Cultural Mandate” represents a way of thinking about how all human beings (and especially Christians) engage in work and life in a fallen world. When you think of the purpose of mankind and what men and women are called to do in life, what are some of the other arenas of life where you observe that we are called to be “like” God and reflect his character in our endeavors? What does expressing the Imago Dei look like in your work, or study, or other diversions?
3. In a fallen world, there are multitudes of ways that our sin mars the image of God in ourselves and others. In Christ, we can experience significant healing from past wounds and the consequences of sin, though that healing will not be total until Christ returns, and until then, Christians participate in helping to restore some of the loss as they proclaim the gospel as they do mercy to others. (This was an idea set forth by theologian Francis Schaeffer.) How have you seen God’s power restore you or others? How do you biblically process the impact and consequences of sins such as homosexuality or abortion or euthanasia? What might the Lord be calling you to do to participate in ministry that restores the lost image, and “kicks the darkness” of sin’s impact in our world?