GRACE NOTES

Message: The Gift of Life
Scripture: Genesis 1:26-27
Date: Sunday, January 22, 2017

Genesis 1:26-27

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.

Study Notes --

Have you had a time in your life when you realized just how precious life is?

A vivid image from the civil rights movement showed an African-American sanitation worker in a protest march holding a sign reading "I Am a Man." He was simply affirming what the Lord said about each person - We are all created in God's image and, because of that, we each have dignity.

Are you aware of groups who are not shown the respect and dignity that they deserve? What groups are these?

Thinking back to Sunday's service, what spoke to you, inspired you, encouraged you, challenged you, or confused you?

What is the significance of being made in the image of God?

Realizing that all people are made in the God's image, why do you believe some are not shown the dignity due them?

How would you explain being made in the image of God to someone who wasn't a Christian?

How should the reality of God-given human dignity shape the way we view human cruelty, slavery, euthanasia, abortion, homosexuality, and other issues impacting our culture and world?

Read Psalm 8

What does this Psalm teach us about God's attitude toward us?

If people do not recognize the value of a person in God's eyes, does that truly diminish that person's worth?

In this Psalm, what does David acknowledge about God?

Read Psalm 118:13-18

This Psalm says that God remembers we are dust. Does this demean our value? Explain your answer.

Knowing what Scripture says, how should we value ourselves and others?