

Local Church Budget



“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’. So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it...’ Genesis 1:26-28 (NIV)

Genesis tells us that we are created in God’s image. This is something unique to humanity! What does it mean to be created in the image of God? Do we have similar characteristics? Is it the capacity to love? The Creation account shows how a generous Creator God desired to lavish love and blessings upon His creation. Perhaps in the context of stewardship this also means being created in God’s generous image.

Perhaps the relationship between Adam and Eve was also an example of being created in God’s image. He created us to live in relationship, just like God Himself lives in relationship. Through God’s life-giving power, parents bring children into the world and learn to love them like God loves us. We learn to love our spouses, children, family, friends and co-workers, but above and beyond that, God calls us to love the stranger on the street, the difficult person, the unlovable. As a community of faith we are to be the love of God to those around us. Through the generous return of our offerings to the local church budget we are able to do this more effectively.

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Appeal

Each time we take part in the collection we are reflecting and recognising the generous image of God in which we are created.

Prayer

Dear God, remind us today that we are created in Your generous image. Amen.