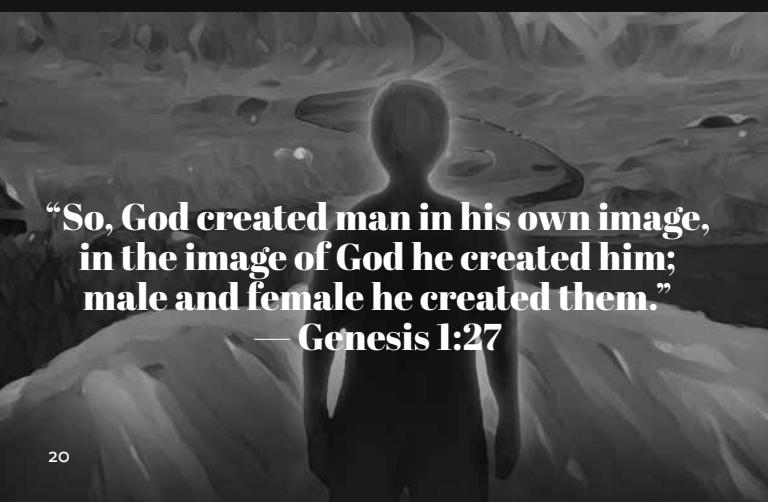


2.2

HOW TO KNOW GOD



God loves you and created you in his image. He wants you to know him personally and be part of his family so you can experience the honor, love and freedom he offers, both now and forever in his kingdom.



**“So, God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.”**
— Genesis 1:27

God created you with honor and harmony

God created everything and made it good. God displays his image in men and women from every ethnicity and culture.

*“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold,
it was very good.” — Genesis 1:31*

In the beginning, God bestowed honor, love and freedom on the first humans, Adam and Eve. They honored him rightly as their father and lived in a perfect relationship with him and each other. He created them to be a reflection of himself in the world. This truth gives each person, including you, tremendous and inherent dignity and value. God created you to live out this identity in the context of a family that is much larger than your biological family.

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”
— John 3:16*

God’s love for you is unconditional and he created you to have a relationship with him. This relationship brings freedom from the slavery of guilt, shame and fear.

*“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they
may have life and have it abundantly.” — John 10:10*

*“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not
submit again to a yoke of slavery.” — Galatians 5:1*

*“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans
for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”
— Jeremiah 29:11*