

Sonship
Callings on Your Life
September 6, 2026
Genesis 1:26-31

Sermon Points:

I. Introduction: What is a Human Being?

- **The Core Distinction:** While technology can convincingly mimic human interaction, human beings are uniquely created with a soul and spirit.
- **The Trinitarian Community:** In Genesis 1:26-31, God's use of the plural "Let us..." reveals a Triune Godhead—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—existing as the perfect unity of community.
- **The *Imago Dei* (The Image of God):** Human beings are created in God's likeness, setting humanity apart with inherent dignity, spiritual significance, and moral responsibility.

II. The Call to Sonship and the Gospel

- **The Good News (*Euangelion*):** Salvation is the deliverance from the bondage of sin into relationship with God the Father.
- **An Inclusive Inheritance:** Legally, the Near Eastern custom of "Sonship" denotes receiving the full status and inheritance of the eldest son; in Christ, this status is inclusive of all believers as full heirs (alluding to Numbers 27:8).
- **The Perfect Parent:** Though earthly fathers are imperfect and fall short, our Heavenly Father never fails to provide security, guidance, and belonging.

III. The Heart and Orientation of a Son

- **Delighting in the Father's Will:** True sonship is defined by a heart aligned with God's heart, desiring to do His will (John 4:34).
- **Relationship Over Religious Obligation:**
 - Believers are saved by grace through faith, and good works serve to verify that true faith has taken root (Ephesians 2:8-10, James 2:14-18).
 - Approaching spiritual practices (Bible reading, prayer, tithing) out of mere duty leads to burnout and stunted growth.

IV. From Slave to Son (Galatians 4:1-7)

- **The Maturity of Adoption:** An underage heir is legally treated no differently than a slave until the appointed time. Embracing adoption requires an identity shift and spiritual maturation.
- **Representing the Family:** Carrying God's image means representing His family. We look and act like Jesus, who is the perfect revelation of the Father (John 14:9).

- **Abiding in Christ:** Just as branches connect to the vine, we must stay connected to Jesus to be sustained, laying down false beliefs at the cross to live in close relationship.
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Personal Notes
