

BY DESIGN



if only

(Study Guide taken from the message on Sunday – October 30, 2016)

"Then God looked over all He had made, and He saw that it was very good!"

Genesis 1:31 NLT

In this series of messages our main focus is to discover the truth about God's original intent for His creation, especially mankind. Then, we hope to find purpose for our lives living in this world of decay and corruption.

REVIEW

On the first Sunday (Oct 16th) we examined the design of the human body. We discovered how we all have the same origination, connecting us all together at a single point in time – creation. We defined our greatest attributes and how they are connected to our creator and are displayed in the design of our bodies: Our head (knowledge, language, reason, understanding, vision and creativity); our physical body (strength, our senses, and ability to express – mouth, hands, arms, eyes, and legs); our soul (spirit, emotions, passion and decision) where eternity is marked for every person.

The second week (Oct 23rd) we talked about the first step to connecting in relationships with others was to be in a healthy relationship with God. We used three very common sins that believers have a difficult time getting rid of: Fear (Matt 14:27); Apathy – we want the benefit of being connected with the Lord without the experience (Jesus to His followers to "follow Me"... to experience Him; Worry (Matt 6:33).

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 30TH

Connecting with God was not an effort in those first days (possibly months or years) in the garden. God intended for us to be walking with Him daily. If only we could live like that now! If only... this is where we start. God has made possible for us to live in harmony with Him, the choices we make determine how this goes.

Read Genesis 2:4-25 to answer the following questions:

1. Is there anything that God does not have a relationship with?
2. What is God's relationship with the earth?

if only...

3. What is God's relationship with the animals?
4. How would you describe God's relationship with mankind?

Read Genesis 3:1-13 and answer the following questions

5. What are the actions that took place in this passage that bear evidence to the presence of sin?
6. What happened to man's relationship with God?
7. What was introduced to every human being's relationship to one another?
8. What does this affect our marriages and families as we strive to live in peace and harmony? (Name actions and consequences that come from strife in families and marriages.)

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.