

²⁷ God created humankind 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 1:27-28 (NET)

We are created in the image of God. What does this “image” mean?

Being made in God’s image is connected to responsibility here – how are our bodies involved in being God’s representative in the world?

Your Reactions:

Partner Group Reactions:

Group Reactions:

¹³ The body is not for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ Now God indeed raised the Lord and he will raise us by his power. ¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? . . . ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God with your body.

1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 19-20 (NET)

“Your” is plural, referring to the church together as a body. What does it mean that we together are a “temple” made to “glorify God” with our body?

Your Reactions:

Partner Group Reactions:

Group Reactions:

¹³ Certainly you made my mind and heart;
you wove me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I will give you thanks because your deeds are awesome and amazing.
You knew me thoroughly...

Psalm 139:13-14 (NET)

We are “knit” together and “fearfully and wonderfully made.” How might this affect how we see our bodies?

We are called to praise God for our bodies—can we also praise God with our bodies?

Your Reactions:

Partner Group Reactions:

Group Reactions:

⁷ Woe to the world because of stumbling blocks! It is necessary that stumbling blocks come, but woe to the person through whom they come. ⁸ If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into fiery hell.

Matthew 18:7-9 (NET)

Does God really expect us to cut off part of our bodies? What else could this passage mean?

How might this passage relate to other passages that positively honor the body?

Your Reactions:

Partner Group Reactions:

Group Reactions:

¹ Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice—alive, holy, and pleasing to God—which is your reasonable service. ² Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God—what is good and well-pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2 (NET)

Is God only concerned with our soul, as opposed to our body?

We are called to offer ourselves—our bodies—as sacrifices for worship. What implications might that have for how we live with our bodies?

Your Reactions:

Partner Group Reactions:

Group Reactions:

²⁴ Do not seek your own good, but the good of the other person. ²⁵ Eat anything that is sold in the marketplace without questions of conscience, ²⁶ for *the earth and its abundance are the Lord's*. ²⁷ If an unbeliever invites you to dinner and you want to go, eat whatever is served without asking questions of conscience. ²⁸ But if someone says to you, "This is from a sacrifice," do not eat, because of the one who told you and because of conscience—²⁹ I do not mean yours but the other person's. For why is my freedom being judged by another's conscience? ³⁰ If I partake with thankfulness, why am I blamed for the food that I give thanks for? ³¹ So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:24-31 (NET)

What does it mean to eat and drink "for the glory of God"?

Your Reactions:

Partner Group Reactions:

Group Reactions:

⁵² For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ Now when this perishable puts on the imperishable, and this mortal puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will happen,

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

1 Corinthians 15:52-55 (NET)

What is the future of our bodies in this passage?

Does Paul here picture a soul being saved out of a body and the body discarded?

Your Reactions:

Partner Group Reactions:

Group Reactions: