

**Theme:** The hope of peace in our own lives and in our land rests in the knowledge of who we are as image bearers restored in the image of the risen savior.

**Background & Introduction:** Maybe most important question you will ever answer: Who am I?

## I. Made of Dust

### A. In the image of God

1. Created, living creatures/souls
  - Genesis 1:27; 2:7
2. With purpose
  - Genesis 1:28
  - Dominion, not “domination”

### B. Losing our identity

1. Disobedience – sin – rebellion
  - The image of God is marred!
2. Disorientation and disintegration!
  - Rejecting God, we lose grip on who we are
    - a. Individually – Set adrift relationally, morally, and existentially
    - b. Corporately – We see the same “fruit”
3. Death
  - Made from the dust, we return to dust (Genesis 3:19)
  - The “dust” exercises dominion over us

### C. God’s treasured possession?

- God wants his image restored in his treasured possession
- Deuteronomy 7:6

EXAMPLE: Defining a “treasured possession”

## II. The Man of Heaven

### A. God’s *most* treasured possession

1. His own Son, God the Son
  - The beloved son (Matthew 3:17; 17:5)
2. Who *is* the image of God
  - God’s “image” is not just *on* him
  - Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3

### B. Marred for our sake

1. Bearing our sin (Isaiah 52:13-53:12)
2. Dying for us

C. Rising from the dead!

1. To restore his image in us  
- 1 Corinthians 15:20-23
2. We may bear the image of the man of heaven  
- 1 Corinthians 15:42-44  
- 2 Corinthians 4:6
3. To renew us in glory  
- 2 Corinthians 3:18

D. Restoring God's image in us

1. We can know who we are!
2. We can live with purpose
3. A treasured possession (Titus 2:14)

Do you know who you are?