

ANSWERS GROUNDED



IN FAITH AND HOPE

### I have hope because... God is real

I have hope because...

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God is infinite and personal

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God is sovereign and providential

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**Essence Existence** 

I have hope because...

There is meaning and purpose for life here and now.

# What is the meaning and purpose of life here and now?

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

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God's purpose and design: "Let us make...Let them have dominion..."

## What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

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Meaning and purpose cannot be found apart from God.

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The purpose and meaning of life is the same for each of us.

This breaks down the sacred/secular divide.

What does it mean to be made in the image of God?

Human beings are relational

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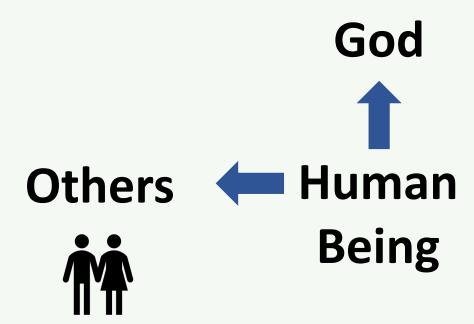
#### **Human Relationships**

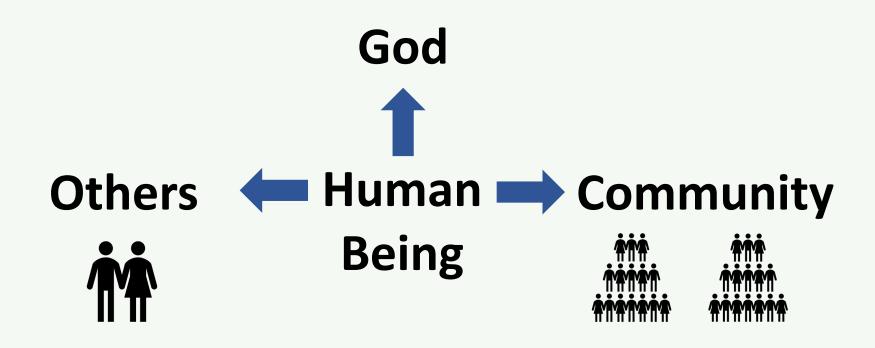
Human Being

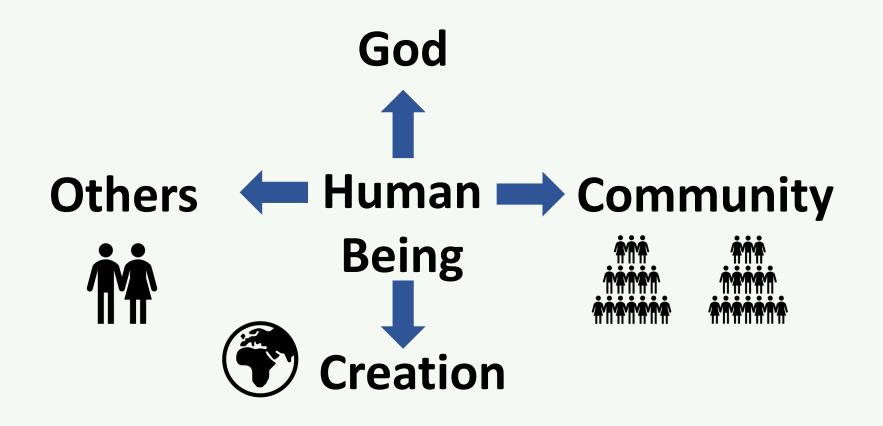
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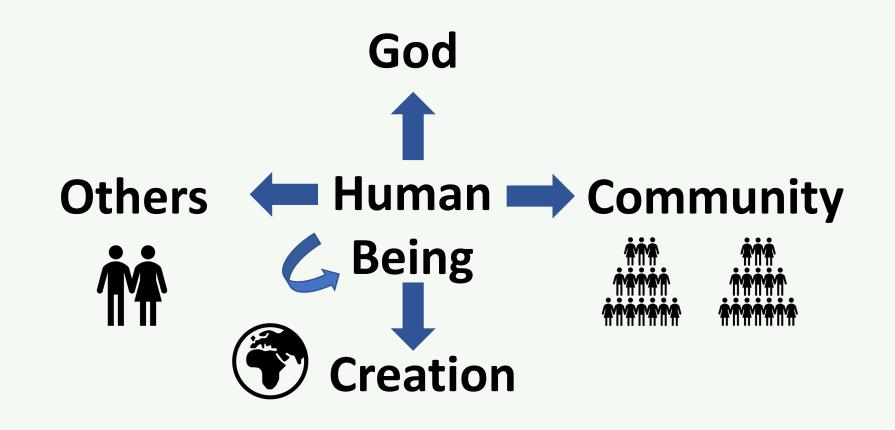
God

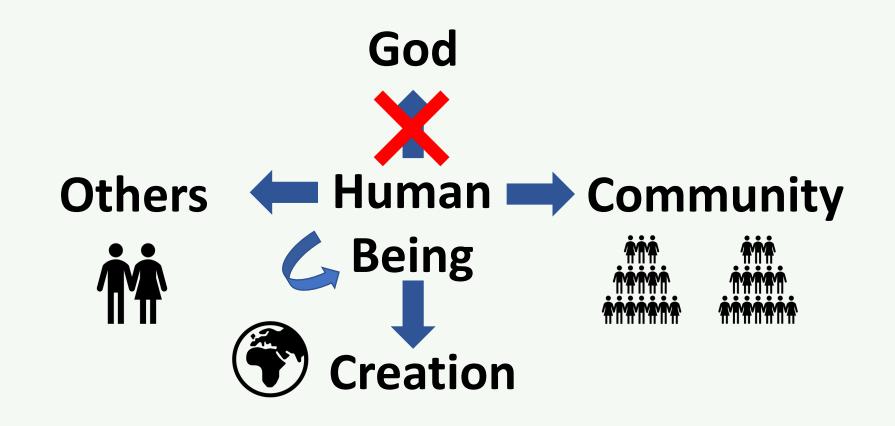
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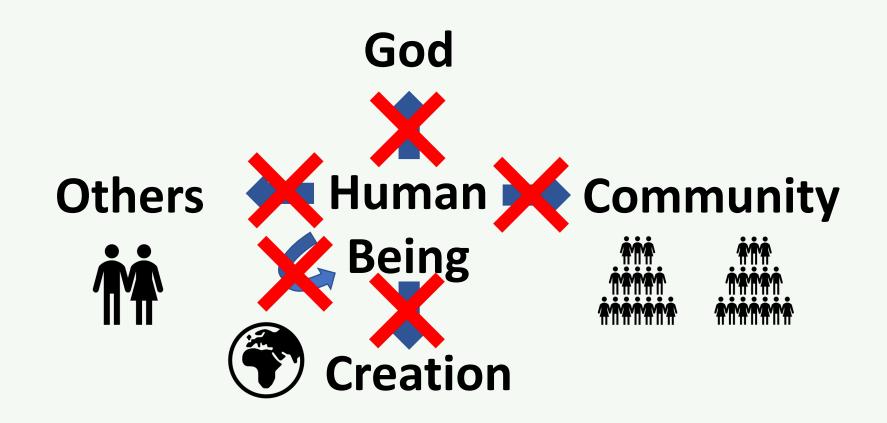




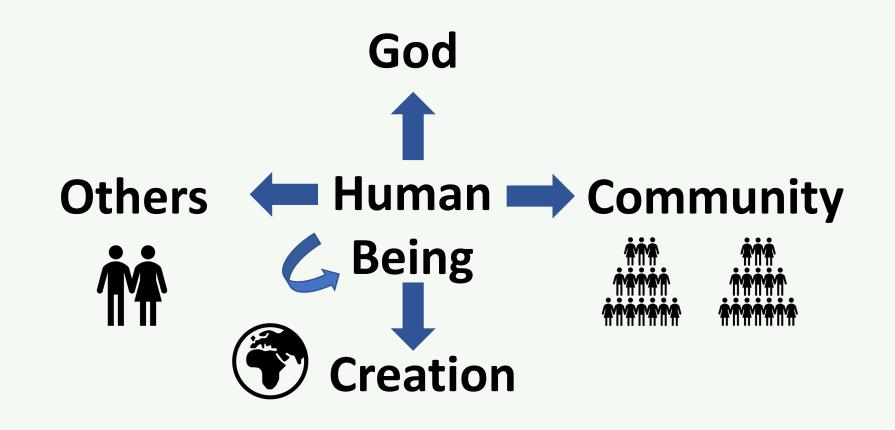












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# What is the meaning and purpose of life here and now?

Human beings resemble God, which enables us to represent God and reflect his character, in our relationships with others and to the creation.

### The Westminster Shorter Catechism (1646)

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Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

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Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

## How does this give us hope?

#### WHAT & WHY Hebrews 1:1-3

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

#### WHAT & WHY Colossians 1:13-20

<sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

#### WHAT & WHY Colossians 1:13-20

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

#### WHAT & WHY Colossians 1:13-20

<sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.