

Come and See

Week 1: For young people

What does it mean to be human?

To be human...

To have like a consciousness and to be able to make decisions.

It's all about what you feel and your emotions as a person and your thoughts.

Yeah, just being alive, I reckon. Kind of with that understanding, I would say, of other life.

I guess it's like a collective experience of living with other people.

To be human is to be able to have feelings and express yourself and think.

What does it mean to be baptised?

Being baptised, it's like giving yourself to God.

I see it just as a strengthening of your faith with God.

To sort of be cleansed or sort of cleaned from the badness.

To be baptised, it's like saying that you want to change your past ways and to dedicate your life to God.

Restart a new life.

What are we made for?

I think you're just made to live your life, really.

I think we're made to love, to be his disciple, you know, follow his teachings.

I think we're made to just experience life and obviously to be friends with God and to let him work through us.

Where do you feel you belong?

That's a really difficult question.

I feel I belong in the musical theatre industry. It's just sort of my kind of people. All a little bit wacky or a little bit cuckoo. But we kind of just all get on and it's nice.

So this is tough.

I think just wherever you have people that you trust and you like being around, like whether they're your friends or your family or so for me, like at church, because all my friends are here and then with my family.

Fashioned from Earth

Laverne

My name is Laverne.

Mark

Hi, and my name is Mark.

Laverne

Amazing, so yeah, so this week we are talking about 'Fashioned from the earth.'

Mark

That was a biggie.

It was a biggie. Absolutely a biggie.

So I suppose it would be good really just to explain what we think that means. Yeah, so I think I would describe being fashioned from the earth is you know when you think about creation and you think about you know, making the- the world in like six days - not seven, we used to say seven but

it's actually six days because he rests on the seventh and on the sixth day he created us from the dirt and we're made in His fashion and like, you know, the Bible talks about that we're fearfully and wonderfully made because we're made in His image.

So that's like really important for us to know actually as Christian, as believers, actually we're made in God's image. He made us. Yeah. Yeah. It's really, really good actually.

Mark

And there's that sense of, yeah, we share some characteristics with creation because we're made by God and something to be human is that we're intelligent. We're able to build connections and relationships with other people.

And that sort of flows into what is the real purpose of being human. And it's more than just what we see around us. It's a sense of ultimately our purpose or our value or our real sense of who we are as humans when we have a relationship with God.

And it seems to me that we're made from earth, yes, but we're made for more. We're made to have a relationship with God.

Laverne

Yeah, absolutely, absolutely. I know that one of the things were, actually, where do we belong? Why? that kind of a question there. So what would you say?

Mark

So for me, that sense of belonging is flowing out of my relationship with God. That means I have a sense of belonging in my church family with one another. But ultimately, that sense of belonging with God, He knows me, He loves me. And I think one of our young people made that wonderful comment that ultimately what it means to be human is to be loved and know you're loved. And where does that love come from? Ultimately that love comes from God.

Laverne

Absolutely. You know, in the Bible it talks about loving God with all your mind, your heart, everything that you are, and loving your neighbour as yourself. And that's actually what it means to be human is to love your neighbour as yourself.

And I always ask young people, actually, who's your neighbour? And it's not like Bob who lives at number 53. Actually your neighbour is whoever's next to you at that. So you're my neighbours. Actually, it's loving you. So wherever I am, it's loving that person as I would love God and love myself. So, yeah, really cool.

Mark

As we go into the rest of this course, I think this is a great foundation. So, we're made human, but to be human is to know that God loves us. And from that, find out where our sense of belonging is with others and then actually with God. That's a good place to start this little journey that we're on.

Laverne

Absolutely. We are absolutely excited about this these couple of weeks and really excited to hear more and more opinions and thoughts from young people and looking forward to seeing everyone next week.

Mark

See you next week.