

STRUGGLING TO LOVE HOW GOD MADE YOU



For God so loved the world that He gave us Jesus, isn't that enough? Our longing for love.

Enough is our Concordia University Texas theme for the 2023-2024 academic year.

CONNECT

with self and others:

1. What is something unique to your nature that you cherish?

2. Have you ever had a problem with how you were madeperhaps an insecurity about your capabilities, looks, talents, or difficulties?

3. Does the way we view ourselves affect how we go about life? How?

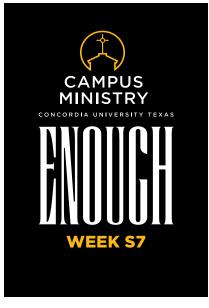
ENGAGE

the word:

I remember when I first moved from Nigeria to Texas. I was so excited to experience that high school musical American life. My first day of school outfit was laid on the bed ready to be worn, with my shoes at the bottom of the jeans. I felt so ready and confident the night before. I got to school hoping to mingle with people I thought I was friends with, but I ended up calling my mom during lunch to keep me company and comfort me after being rejected. We have all had that feeling one way or another. Where you feel like you do not belong or you feel like an outcast because no one understands you or speaks your language. At those times we need a safe place to go, someone to turn to, and make us feel accepted. Christ wants to be our safe place. He died for us to be able to communicate and find refuge in God's presence, not for a semester but for eternity. What amazing grace.



READ Genesis 1:26-28



"Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created mankind 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 increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

- Genesis 1:26-28

NOTES:

READ BIBLE VERSE

It is far too easy to let the world tell us who we are. Somewhere between our GPA not being high enough, our posts not being liked enough, and our ex being a little too okay without us, we can easily feel our worth diminished by not meeting the demands of the systems around us. Everyone has times in life when they feel they are incapable, unworthy, or just weak. No matter how insufficient we feel, the world does not hold the power to tell us who we are, and truthfully, neither do we. Our creator is the one who has taken care to define who we are. Jesus conquered the consequences of death for us, let's listen to Him then. He is the one whose voice really defines what can be said about our core identity. And while we are freely justified under God's grace for us, declared righteous and sinless (Romans 3:24), God was also intentional when He made human beings. Being made in God's image means we were designed with the full potential to reflect the nature of God. That sounds like a mighty job, but it's not an impossible task to attain. It's something we were made for! This context is a blessing, and it makes those Instagram likes seem silly in comparison.

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

- Romans 3:24

NOTES:

OUESTIONS:

1. What do you think it means to bear this likeness to God? Why is it so important?

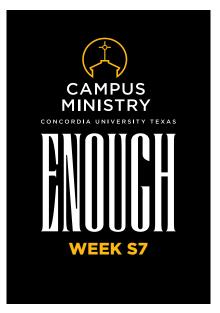
2. Can you think of a human who has... full likeness to God? What can we learn from them? (Jesus!)

3. How can you bless others with the knowledge of who God made you to be?

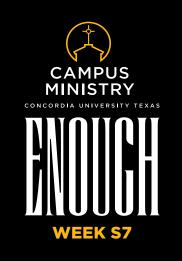
LOOK UP Romans 3:24-25

PRAYER:

Dear Lord, thank You for this day and for allowing us to experience the wonders of Your creation. Thank You for making us in Your likeness. I pray we will be reminded of this fact, letting it inform how we see ourselves and be guided by Your persisting faithfulness. Amen



Connect at Concordia.edu/enough and @ctxcampusministry throughout the semester!



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