

Being **CHANGED** into God's image



Worship + Read Bible + Pray + Holy Communion + Follow Jesus

MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

Lesson 11: *Being Changed into God's Image* (Condensed Version)

Saint Matthew's Anglican Church Children's Ministries

BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS (Scripture: 2 Cor. 3:18)

Year 2. Kingdom Life
Unit 3: Made in God's Image

Objectives: To explain that: *God made us in his image when he created us, but he also is still changing us into his image now. *When we turn our love and attention towards Jesus (through worship, reading the Bible, praying, taking Holy Communion, and following Jesus), we are being changed by the Holy Spirit and can reflect his glory. *There are some parts of God's glory that we get to share in. *When we become like Jesus, we become most fully and truly human and can reflect the beauty of his glory and shine his light into the world.

"I Wonder" Questions: We have learned that God made us in his image when he created us. Today we will learn that he is still changing us into his image day by day so we can become more and more like Jesus. * I wonder **how** we are changed into God's image. Let's find out more in our lesson...

Lesson Props: Bible memory verse (pg. 3)

Lesson Summary: God is still changing us because even though we are in God's Kingdom, we still sin sometimes. Have you ever had a time when you were not kind to someone, perhaps a sibling or a friend? Later you may have felt badly about it in your heart. Well, that has happened to ALL of us. It is our conscience telling us that we were unkind.

(Point to poster title) Thankfully, God is able to **change** us into his own image. Let's talk about what that means. We learned that we are all made in the image of God. But who is the ONLY person who is the **perfect** image of God? Yes, it is Jesus. *(Point to Jesus)* Jesus is fully God and fully man. God is changing us to be more and more like Jesus, the perfect image of God. Day by day and bit by bit, God is working through the Holy Spirit to move us away from our own selfishness and closer to his holiness. How is God making this happen in us? Our Bible memory verse tells us something about this. Let's read it. *(Hold up memory verse and read)* The Bible tells us that *(point to Jesus on poster)* when we ponder and think deeply about Jesus and his glory, we become more and more **like** Jesus and get to share in some of his glory! We get to share in his goodness, his holiness, his love, and his life. When we become more like Jesus we become most truly and beautifully human, just as God originally meant for us to be. God wants us to become pure in heart, pure in thought, and pure in deed. *(Point to mirror symbol)* By becoming more like Jesus, we will be a bit like mirrors that reflect God's glory. And by reflecting God's glory, we also shine his light into the world. *(Point to world)* When other people see God's goodness, holiness, love, and life in us, they will want to follow Jesus too. Does reflecting God's glory happen all at once? No, becoming like Jesus takes time. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we learn how to follow (trust and obey) Jesus **and** fight against temptations that can lead to sin. Becoming like Jesus won't be completed until we are in Heaven with him and see him face to face. But right now, we can join in God's work and share in God's glory by loving Jesus and turning our attention towards him! So, **how** do we turn our attention more towards Jesus? Try to think of one way that will help us. *(Listen to children's responses)* Our poster mentions 5 wonderful ways that God has given us to help us turn our attention to Jesus: **1.** Worship Jesus **2.** Read the Bible **3.** Pray **4.** Take Holy Communion **5.** Follow (trust and obey) Jesus. When we do these things, God's Holy Spirit, our teacher and helper, will change us day by day and bit by bit to reflect the beauty of his glory.

Suggested Questions: ***What does this lesson tell us about God?** (He is able to change us into his image so we can share in some of his glory.) ***Does Jesus have all of God's glory?** (Yes, he is the image of the invisible God.) ***Why does God want us to become more and more like Jesus?** (Because that is what he created us to be. When we become like Jesus we become most truly and beautifully human, as humans were meant to be. Then we can also reflect the beauty of his glory and shine his light into the world.) ***Which parts of God's glory can we reflect?** (His holiness, goodness, love and life) ***How do we turn our love and attention towards Jesus so we can become more like him?** (Worship him, read the Bible, pray, take Holy Communion, follow Jesus) ***Who helps us become more like Jesus?** (The Holy Spirit)

Bible Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NCV)

"All of us can see the Lord's glory
and think deeply about it.
So we are being changed to become
more like him so that we have
more and more glory.
And this glory comes from the Lord,
who is the Holy Spirit."

(2 Corinthians 3:18)

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