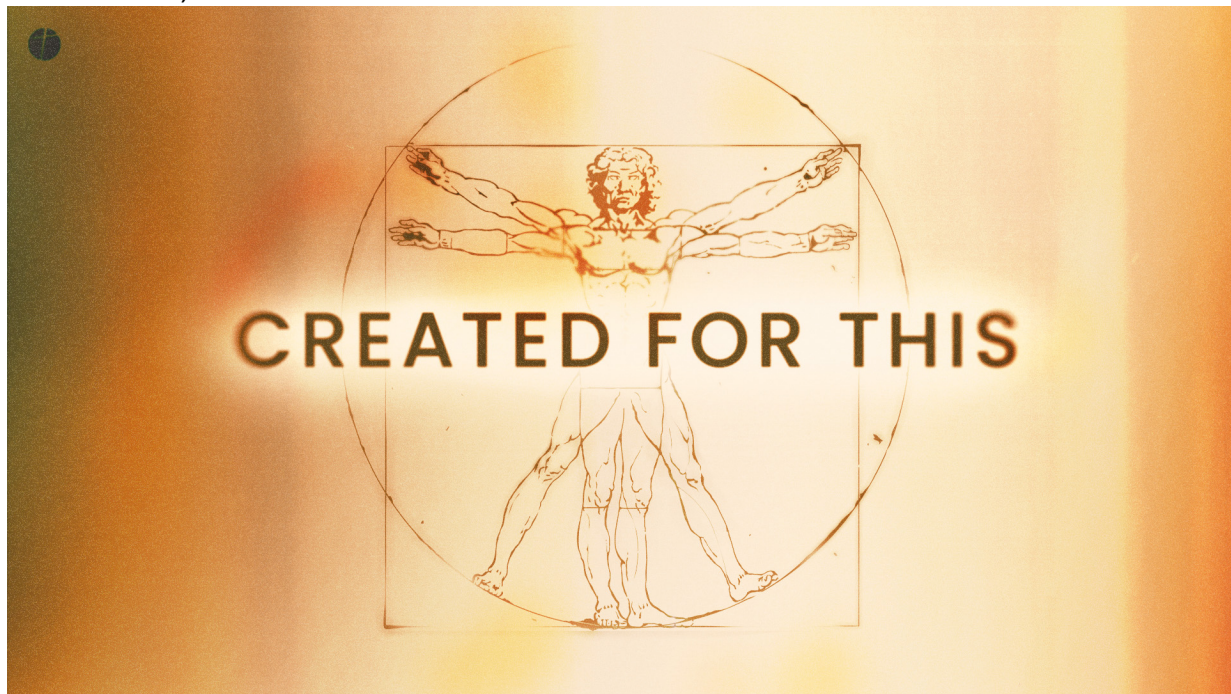


December 31, 2023



Created for This – Week #1

Created to Reflect

If we don't know what we're created for, we tend to live for all the wrong things.

We are created to reflect God's Glory

Reflection = a thing that is a consequence of or arises

Exodus 34 :28: Moses was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant—the Ten Commandments.

29 When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the Lord.

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

30 When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. 31 But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them.

It is in an authentic encounter with the Lord that we experience transformation, and others can see it

Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Tony Evans "God wants to transform you too, and he wants others to see the transformation. But first, you have to be hungry for him. When a person has lost his physical appetite, it's typically because he's either sick or has been snacking on junk food between meals. The same is often true in terms of spiritual matters. We eat Christian doughnuts and religious french fries, taking in a little gospel music and adding a little Christian lingo to our vocabularies as if that's what a life with Jesus is all about. We reduce Christianity to a matter of tradition, and then we wonder why we don't hunger for God. We need extended, uninterrupted time with him. We need to go much deeper in our commitment."

32 Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the Lord had given him on Mount Sinai.

33 When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face.

34 But whenever he entered the Lord's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

We are created to reflect God's Glory

Matthew 5:16 - "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Isaiah 60:1-3 60 "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. 2 See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the people, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. 3 Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

When we reflected God's glory, we become a tool that God will use to draw others out of darkness.

We reflect Christ when we have prioritized spending time with him in prayer.

1 Corinthians 11:1 "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

2 Corinthians 3:18 "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

James 4:8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

We can't reflect what we are not in proximity to

Romans 10:9-10 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.