

SERMON NOTES

Series: Foundations: The DNA of Creation

Sermon Title: Design Over Desire

Scripture: Genesis 1:3-25

Speaker: Pastor Adam Burton | Central Baptist Church

THE MAIN IDEA

Our feelings are unstable, but God's Word is fixed. True freedom is found when we trust God's design over the uncertainty of our personal desires.

FILL-IN-THE-BLANK OUTLINE

1. The _____ (Verses 3-13)

- God does more than create. He also divides (Light/Dark, Land/Sea).
- God's boundaries are not meant to limit us but to make flourishing possible.
- *The Playground Illustration:* A fence on a hill creates a safe space for _____. Without it, we live in fear.

2. The _____ (Verses 14-25)

- Everything produces "according to its kind."
- *The Puzzle Illustration:* You cannot _____ a piece where it does not fit.
- Reality does not bend to our feelings (Example: A blood transfusion). God knows what makes us whole.

3. The _____ (Verses 3, 6, 9)

- Ten times we read the phrase: "And God _____."
- The universe is not a random accident. It is built on the _____ of God.
- Because God spoke you into existence, your life has meaning and purpose.

FOR REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

Use these questions for your personal journal or small group discussion.

1. **The Rainstorm:** Pastor Adam opened with the image of driving in a storm without road lines. Where do you feel the most "lack of clarity" in your life right now?
 2. **The Fence:** Do you tend to view God's commandments as a cage that restricts you, or a fence that protects you? Why?
 3. **The Puzzle:** Have you ever tried to "force" a puzzle piece in your life (a relationship, a job, a habit) that clearly didn't fit God's design? What was the result?
 4. **Feelings vs. Reality:** Why is it so dangerous to let our feelings define our truth? How does Genesis 1 challenge the modern idea of "following your heart"?
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Answer Key:

1. Fence / Play
2. Design / Force
3. Logic / Said / Word