## Key Truth: You and I were created for relationship with God.

Genesis 2–3 tells us that Adam was created in the **image of God**, and with the **capacity for relationship** with God. The story reveals conversation, cooperation, partnership, and relationship between Adam and God.

Your identity, your purpose in life, your worth, your value, your mission, and your goals are all tied to your being created in the image of God.

God's desire for relationship was not limited to Adam. He entered covenant relationship with Israel. "*I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people*" (Leviticus 26:12).

Jesus stressed the importance of relationship by instructing His disciples to **abide in Him** (John 15:1-10), promising to reveal Himself to those who **love Him** (John 14:21), and by referring to His followers as **friends** (John 15:15).

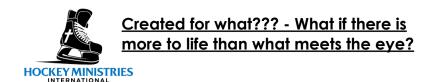
When Jesus called the original disciples, Mark records, "<u>And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach</u>" (Mark 3:14). They were called to be with Him, and <u>then</u> He would send them out into service. The emphasis is on the relationship.

All of these passages show God's desire for relationship. You were created for relationship with God. Out of that relationship flows everything else.

## Make it personal:

- \* How do you respond to the statement, "You and I were created for relationship with God?"
- \* What do you make of the fact that you are created in God's image?
- $\star$  In what ways do you reflect God's image? In which ways do you not?
- \* How would you rate your relationship with God today?
- \* In what ways can you pursue relationship with God every day?
- \* What are several barriers that get in the way of pursuing relationship with God?

In light of the above, remember that **where you go**, **what you do**, and **how you do it** are always secondary to **Who you're with**.



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