

Email Exchanges on the Topic of Sexuality
Mako Nagasawa
Letter 1

Hi *****,

Thanks for sending me this. I've been a little busy but have had the chance to read your file more carefully. So, I wonder if you could tell me a bit more about what you think God's purpose in creation was, especially as it relates to human beings having children and spreading over the creation? The phrasing of Genesis 1:27 - 28 seems to indicate that the "image of God" is located in the phrase "male and female He created them". While it is certainly true that each person is "in the image of God" individually, it does seem like the marriage of male and female is "in the image of God" in a special way. This is supported by the semantics of Genesis 1:27 and also logically by the establishment of human childbearing as a mirror of God's creation of humanity. What does it mean to bear the image of God? As far as marriage is concerned, it is to be a life-bearing union of male and female. This does not exhaust what it means to be "in the image of God" but it seems like a significant component as a category. You seem to take only Genesis 2 into account, and highlight only love between a couple. But does this take adequate account of Genesis 1? And Matthew 19:1 - 12? While love is also certainly meant to be a component of human marriage, the larger creational category of marriage as "male and female" being in the image of God is also significant. Would love your thoughts.

Thanks,
Mako