

## **Carrollton Christian Fellowship**

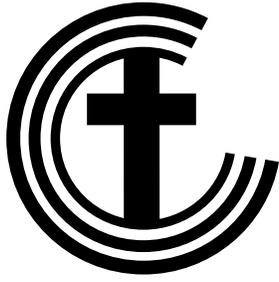
### **Understanding Our Origins and Purpose**

#### **Day 1: Created in God's Image**

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:27 "So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

**Focus:** Identity in God's Image

**Devotional:** University is full of huge milestones, just as you've achieved this milestone of getting into university, it's crucial to remember that your intrinsic value stems from being created in God's image. The world may offer various definitions of success, but your worth is rooted in the fact that you are a reflection of God's own image. This isn't just a poetic idea; it's a foundational truth that affects every aspect of your life.



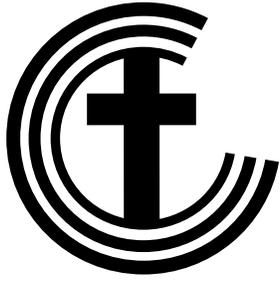
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The societal pressure to conform to cultural norms can be overwhelming, especially as you go from one milestone to the next and prepare to enter your carrier. Grad Schools, masters programs, doctoral programs, and employers may all value your resume, abilities, or experiences. However, God's perspective is far more comprehensive. He sees you as inherently valuable.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does knowing you are made in God's image impact your self-worth?
2. In what ways can you remind yourself of this truth daily, especially as you navigate new challenges?

**Prayer:** Lord, remind me daily that my worth is found in You. Help me to carry the confidence that comes from being made in Your image into every new opportunity and challenge. Amen.



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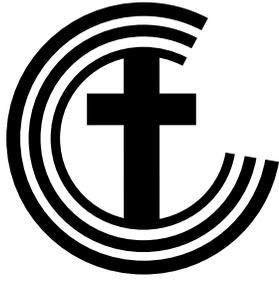
### **Day 2: Role in Creation**

**Scripture:** Genesis 2:15 "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

**Focus:** Purpose and Stewardship

**Devotional:** As you navigate through college, it's essential to remember that God has a unique role for you in His creation. You have been given the responsibility to work and take care of the environment you find yourself in, whether that's in your job, family, or community.

Your talents, skills, and education have equipped you to be a steward in some aspect of life. This stewardship goes beyond simply doing a job; it involves preserving and enhancing the world around you. Jesus says that we are to be like salt and light to the world.



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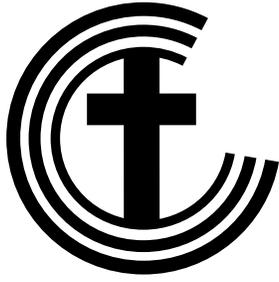
### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How do you see your classes, new role, relationships with friends or job as an act of stewardship?
2. What steps can you take to ensure that you are taking this responsibility seriously?

**Prayer:** Lord, help me to see my career and responsibilities as opportunities to serve You and others. Teach me how to be a good steward of the talents and gifts You've given me. Amen.

### **Day 3: Distinctiveness and Unity**

**Scripture:** 1 Thessalonians 2:7, 11 "But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. As you know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children."



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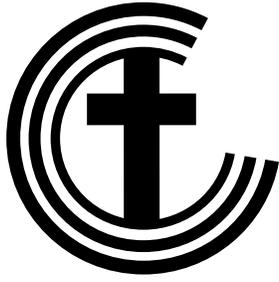
**Focus:** Embracing Gender Roles and Unity

**Devotional:** Gender roles have become a hot topic, especially in academic and professional settings. Biblical teaching about male and female roles might appear counter-cultural, but both roles are unique and valuable in God's eyes.

As you interact with diverse people, remember that God created male and female with distinct, complementary roles. Embrace these differences and seek to build unity in your interactions, using your unique perspectives to point relationships to Jesus, than divide relationships.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How can you respect and value the different contributions that men and women bring to your work or community?
2. In what ways can you promote unity and understanding in diverse environments?



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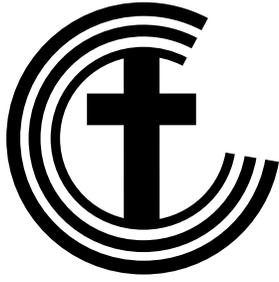
**Prayer:** Lord, teach me to value the distinctive roles of men and women as You designed them. Help me to build bridges of unity and respect in all my interactions. Amen.

### **Day 4: Relationship and Restoration**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

**Focus:** New Relationships and Restoration

**Devotional:** Being created in Christ Jesus means you are a work in progress, constantly being restored and renewed. New environments like university, a workplace, or a new community can present challenges, especially in forming new relationships. Remember that God has good works prepared specifically for you, including restoring relationships and fostering new ones.



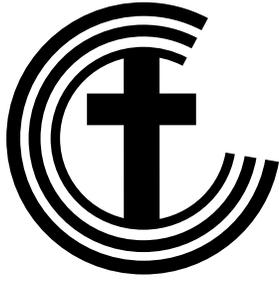
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You might face misunderstandings, conflicts, or even feel like an outsider. But take heart; your identity in Christ equips you to bring love and restoration wherever you go.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How can you actively contribute to the health of your new relationships?
2. What practical steps can you take to be a restorer and peacemaker in your new settings?

**Prayer:** Lord, guide me as I navigate new relationships and opportunities. Give me the wisdom and strength to be an instrument of Your peace and love. Amen.



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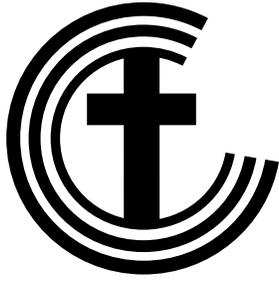
### **Day 5: Facing Cultural Challenges**

**Scripture:** 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."

**Focus:** Standing Firm against Cultural Pressures

**Devotional:** The world will pressure you to conform to its standards, especially now that you are stepping into adulthood and professional life. But as a believer, you are called to stand firm in the foundational truths you've learned—truths from Genesis 1 and 2 about who you are, who God is, and your purpose.

By continually renewing your mind with God's word, you can remain steadfast and not be swayed by cultural trends or societal pressures.



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### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What are some cultural pressures you anticipate facing, and how can you prepare to stand against them?
2. How can renewing your mind with God's Word help you in this next season of life?

**Prayer:** Lord, help me to not conform to the patterns of this world, but to be transformed by Your Word. Give me the courage to stand firm in my faith and to seek Your will in all circumstances. Amen.

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This 5-day devotional is designed to provide you with a spiritual foundation as you transition into postgrad and post-graduate life. Remember, your identity, purpose, and relationships are deeply rooted in your Creator, and He has equipped you for every step of this new journey.