

# The Apostles' Creed: Humanity

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*I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

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## **Genesis 1:26—27**

*Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

When I was a kid, Silly Putty was one thing we liked to play with. You could stretch it, mold it, and bounce it. Another thing you could do with it was get the image from a newspaper on it. If I hold it here, a few inches away from the paper, will it work? No. But if I press it to the paper like this (press Silly Putty to the newspaper), I get the image that was on the paper (show the children).

That tells us something about the image of God. We just read that Adam and Eve were made in God's image. They understood the things of God and they were happy in their relationship with Him. But when they sinned, that image was lost. That's what Adam and Eve passed on to all their descendants. We call that the sin nature, or the natural man. Paul says in **1 Corinthians 2: The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14).**

But in the Christian, God is restoring that image. He does this through Word and Sacrament. Like Silly Putty, we must stay in His Word and not avoid it to be imprinted with His image. That means coming to church, reading the Bible, and doing what it says. Let's be like Silly Putty and stick to God's Word so He can imprint us with His image.

## *Prayer:*

*Lord, You made us in Your image but we have lost it through sin. Restore that image within us as we stick to Your Word. In Jesus' name, Amen.*