

Look

“Icons” are everywhere in our culture. Magazines, t.v. shows, commercials and movies provide us with images of how we should look, live and act.

1. Talk about the icons and images of our culture and the positives and negatives you see.
2. In what way do cultural icons and images create a false reality? How does that impact the way we live?
3. What icon or image do you see yourself trying to live into the most? How has that impacted your life?

Book

Matthew 22: 12-22; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-11

Jesus challenges people to give themselves to God. St. Paul commends those who do.

1. Jesus answers the Pharisees question by showing we have dual citizenship--citizenship in the state and citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven. How are they different? What do we give to each?
2. The Thessalonians were persecuted for their faith. Despite these difficulties and challenges, how did they live as icons of God?
3. Did they receive anything in return? What? How might that have impacted the way they continued to live?

Took

We are called to live as icons or images of God because we are made in the image of God.

1. In what way do you live into your calling as an icon of God?
2. What happens to your image when you face difficulties and challenges?
3. Have you felt God calling you to bear his image or be his icon to the world in a particular way? Discuss.