



September: Image-Reflector

Learning Target: I can develop my talents and gifts to reflect God and serve others.

We learn to see God's image in others and in ourselves. People reflect God's image! While we don't always ACT righteously, and while we don't always DO things successfully, what we ARE are image bearers of God (Larry Day, Manhattan Teachers Convention, 1988). Being an image bearer isn't something we DO. It is deeper than that. Image bearer is what we ARE. We reflect God's image! We are all image bearers of Christ! Think about it like a mirror – the image of the 'real person' is reflected in the mirror. You don't see the actual real person, but you see what they are like. All the characteristics we admire in God are also within us – we are His reflection. And not only us! All humans were created in that image.

Sin can often fog the mirror and make the reflection more difficult to see. Seeing ourselves and each other as reflecting God's image is only part of our task. We need to also challenge each other to see the image bearer in the hungry child, the hardened criminal, the school bully and the careless teacher! People around us often form impressions of who God is by looking at God's followers. We need to learn that while we are image bearers, we can distort the image by what they do. The more Christlike our actions are, the more clearly Christ's light shines in a dark world.

Verses to Read: Genesis 1:27 Matthew 25:31-43 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31
 2 Corinthians 4:10 Galatians 2:20 Colossians 3:17

Verse for this year as we seek to Live God's Story: Colossians 3:12

Questions to talk about as a family: ● As God's children, what are we reflecting about our Heavenly Father? Do we reflect God's love? ● Do the choices that we make reflect God? Will others see Him through us?

Family activities that reflect God's image: ● random acts of kindness ● "Pay it Forward" ● write encouraging cards/notes to local organizations, pastors, others in leadership.

Information adapted from the Tft Throughlines Devotional, Beacon Christian School in St. Catherines, Ontario and Calgary Christian School in Calgary, Alberta