**Sunday 12th July 2020**

**Online Zoom service at 10 am.**

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/564464275?pwd=QzUyNFRBUTZRN2dGemxzWlhtSG5XZz09

Meeting ID: 564 464 275

Password: 158647

Or you can join us by dialling in from your phone on

0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

And then inputting when asked the following:-

Meeting ID: 564 464 275

Password: 158647

**The Bible For Grown Ups!**

**In The Beginning**

# Genesis 1 New International Version (NIV)

### 1:1 The Beginning

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

**Genesis 1 : 26-27**

***26****Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*

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

**Read Attached Sermon.**

**Questions to help you reflect**

1. Read Genesis 1:1. What do you think about when you read this sentence? Have you or someone you know tried to explore faith by using “In the beginning” as a starting point? What obstacles come with that approach?
2. In Genesis, Moses is not trying to explain how God created the heavens and the earth. Moses is making the case that God (not the gods) created the universe. How does this distinction change the way someone can approach reading Genesis?
3. How would you define the word “dignity”?
4. *In the beginning*, God decided every man, woman, and child would be born with dignity because they were made in his image. If you took this perspective on the purpose of Genesis, what would change about:

o How you view the Bible.
o Your faith or your willingness to explore faith.

o How you view yourself.
o How you see and treat others.

**Prayer**

Heavenly Father,

I believe in you, and I believe in one God, Son and Holy Spirit.

Thank you for the creation story as written by Moses and inspired by you.

Thank you that I am made with purpose to live with purpose in a world of purpose.

Help me to discover that and to look for the good in others as I see them as people of dignity and purpose, created by you.

In Jesus name. Amen.