

FEBRUARY 2022

Living in the power of Imago Dei

First, listen to episode 1 of The True Girl MomCast featuring Dannah Gresh, Janet Mylin, and Shani McKenzie. This will equip you to teach your daughter what Imago Dei is and how to live in its power.

Once you've listened to the True Girl MomCast episode, read this note from Shani.



Hi Mom!

Has your child ever said something to someone that makes you wish you could instantly disappear? That's how I felt when my then 4-year-old, brown-skinned daughter asked if she could have a playdate with her newly found friend – “the PEACH one,” to use her words exactly. (Did I mention we were standing right in front of the friend's mother?)

I was mortified, but why?

In her innocence, my daughter knew there was something different about her new friend but that didn't change her desire to get to know her. At the time, I thought the right thing to do was profusely apologize for my daughter's seemingly inappropriate language. But in hindsight, I see that her approach was the right one.

In Genesis 1:27, we learn that God created human beings in His own image. (The theological term we

use for this is *Imago Dei*.) The concept has its own language because it matters! God wanted to make the image-bearing quality of each human clear to us from the VERY BEGINNING. We are each a reflection of Who God is.

God doesn't want us to walk through this world colorblind. On the contrary, He wants us to SEE each other's differences—color or otherwise—and glorify His image through our diversity.

We cannot, as many in our world do, use our mouths to bless God AND to curse those who are different (James 3:9). The way we talk to and about others, must reflect our belief that we are each made in God's image.



BLESSINGS,
SHANI MCKENZIE

SPOILER ALERT!!

Help your daughter become a young woman of courage!

Last year, we kicked off our True Girl Bible Study series learning how to be a girl of loyalty like Ruth. Now, we want to help you teach your daughter how to be courageous with our newest True Girl Bible study, *Miriam: Becoming a Girl of Courage*. And guess what?? If you're a current True Girl box subscriber, you'll get the book in next month's box! (So don't buy it when you start to see our promotion beginning next week.)

Don't worry, if you're a digital subscriber, we've got a special treat for you as well! Use code "Courage20" when you order Miriam online and get 20% off. (Or you can just become a subscriber and get it for free *wink*!).



Preparing for Your February Mom + Daughter Date

SEEING THE IMAGO DEI IN ALL OF US



SUBJECT:

Imago Dei

SETTING:

Your home

MATERIALS YOU'LL NEED:

February Coloring Page
(print two)

Your Bibles

This month's mom+daughter connection experience is all about your daughter surrounding herself with God's truth concerning the image-bearing quality of each human being. As promised, we've done most of the planning and thinking for you to have a formative connecting conversation with your girl.

We want to set the stage for you to discuss Imago Dei. A big word that reminds us of the innate value of each human being. At the same time, we're offering you the gift of discovering if your girl is experiencing or inflicting the pain of discrimination. We hope this very simple mom+daughter date is a game-changer for those who are.

1 Watch Staci's coaching video.

This will help you introduce the term *imago dei* to your daughter. Start the conversation with your daughter about God's plan for diversity.

2 Read Genesis 1:27 with your daughter and discuss these questions.

- ♥ What was the term Staci introduced that reminds us we are all created in God's image?
- ♥ How can we all be made in God's image, but look different?
- ♥ Do you find it hard to talk to other people sometimes because they are different?
- ♥ Have there been times when you do not honor another person as an image bearer of God by the way you treat them because they are different?
- ♥ How can you honor God when you interact with someone who is different?

It's so important for your daughter to know that she plays a huge part in God's plan to honor each individual as an image bearer. He doesn't want her to shy away from someone who's different. His desire is for her to remind them that they are His, no matter what they look like. He created us to be different colors, heights, weights, and to be a reflection of how phenomenal God's design is for humanity.

3 Color in Truth together.

Print out two copies of the February coloring page, one for you and one for your daughter. As you choose different shades and hues for people, ask your daughter why she went with certain colors. If the ethnic garb is different from what she's used to seeing, go online and find out about the culture of people who wear those specific clothes. Use this time to drill down into any potential pain or confusion related to discrimination.

- ♥ Have you ever been afraid to talk to someone because of what they looked like or because of their skin color?
- ♥ Have you ever seen someone being teased because he or she was different? What did you do?
- ♥ Have you ever teased or made fun of someone because they are different?
- ♥ What do you think God wants you to do now that you understand Imago Dei?

We can't wait to see photos of your coloring pages! Be sure to post them to Instagram or Facebook and tag True Girl or Dannah Gresh.

TrueGirl

mytruegirl.com