

# Garden >>> City

May 8, 2022

## John 1:1-18 (see also Colossians 1:15-17)

*In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He existed in the beginning with God. God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him...*

We see in Genesis 1 and throughout all of scripture a relational (or trinitarian) description of God

Listen to how Jesus talks about the Father (**John 5:16-21, 6:38, 8:38, 14:10**) and the Holy Spirit (**John 14:15-17, 16:5-15**)

## Genesis 1:1-2, 26-27 ... Let us... like us...

Relationship is inherent in the creator and within creation:  
relationship to creation, each other, and our creator  
Relationship is the goal (**Genesis 12:3, Revelation 21:3, 21:22**)

In creating, God sets creation free.

In Genesis 1 God says, "Let..." 11x culminating with:

**Genesis 1:26-28 NLT** *Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground." So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it.*

God sets creation in motion and gives it freedom.

Where there is freedom there is also parameters.

"True freedom is possible only when we lie within God's boundaries" - AJ Swoboda in *After Doubt*

free while conscious of we effect each other,  
our world, and our creator

laws, rules, and standards come later but Jesus sums them all up with relationship.

**Matthew 22:37-40 NLT** ... *The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.*

- what are you doing that is limiting your freedom?
- are you conscious of / informed by your creator?
- do your relationships reflect your creator?

**READ TOGETHER IN 2022** Read with our NTC Family It is not too late to start! Go to our website or Facebook to join our 2022 Reading Plan for 2022. Or pick up a paper copy of the plan in the lobby!

**WELCOME ROOM MEET AND GREET** Stop by for refreshments! Stop by the welcome room after the service to receive a welcome gift and chat with members of one of our house churches.

**WINTER ITEMS COLLECTION FOR NYC** Drop off at the church! We are collecting new and gently used coats, hats, gloves, and socks for the homeless in NYC.

**NYC MISSIONS TRIPS** Serving the needy in NYC Our ladies team is leaving on Friday to bless women in the city. If you are interested in serving the needy and homeless in NY, we will be returning in November for Operation Drumstick. Register for the trip on the ChurchCenter App.

this week...

**CROSS CURRENT** No Service Tonight Celebrate your moms well. 7th-12th graders will gather again next Sunday at 6pm.

**PRAYER FOR THE NATIONS** Monday at 6:30pm We come together here once a month to pray for needs across the globe.

**MOPS & MOMSNEXT** Thursday at 10am or 6pm Gather together with other moms every other Thursday.

**PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY** Friday at 9am We come together every week to pray for our nation.

**MENS BREAKFAST IN MALONE** Friday at 9:00am Living Hope is hosting a mens breakfast for our NTC family. Invite your friends! And let us know who all is coming on our website or the ChurchCenter App!

coming up....

**WORSHIP WORKSHOP** May 20th & 21st Are you interested in growing musically and learning about worship? We will be offering a Friday night and Saturday morning "camp" to engage with members of our worship team. Register on our website or the ChurchCenter App!

**WATER BAPTISM SUNDAY** May 22nd If you would like to take this next step in your faith journey and be water baptized, sign up at the information desk in the lobby or on the ChurchCenter App.

**EVANGELISM SEMINAR IN SARANAC LAKE** May 28th Join us at High Peaks Church from 9am-noon as Marc Estes encourages us and equips us to share our faith with our family, friends, and neighbors.

**CAR WASH FUNDRAISER** June 5th Get your car washed during the service for just \$10 to help fund the youth trip to Uganda this summer!

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