FOUNDATIONS

Section One
Loving God: My True Identity

LESSON 1: Created In God's Image

Lesson 1 is designed to be everyone's first look at the material.
All the typical introductory material precedes this lesson.

Hints for the first meeting:

- Begin registration at least thirty minutes prior to the scheduled meeting time.
- It's nice to provide water and refreshments to welcome new participants.
- Nametags are highly recommended.

Key Points:

- The good qualities you and I see in others are also positive qualities you and I possess in ourselves ("positive confession").
- You and I are all created in God's image. What a concept!

Hints for the material:

(Note: page numbers listed here correspond to those in the Workbook)

- You will set the tone of the group by your vulnerability and openness.
- Start off by having each group member share their name and a few things about themselves. Be the first to share.
- Share why you have decided to participate in this group and encourage your group members to do the same. You may also want to tell them what you experienced the last time you went through a group. Remind them that you are a participant, not a teacher or counselor.
- Read "A Rock Solid Foundation," (page 6), as it provides the theme for the Soul Renovation program. You may wish to discuss the importance of building a strong foundation. Also, remind your group that just knowing how to build the foundation alone doesn't get the job done. You must do the work.
- Read aloud the Introduction to Foundations (page 7).
- Go around the circle taking turns reading the material and sharing answers to each question. Encourage your group members to fill in the blanks as they answer.
- Note that the Group Guidelines are fundamental to working the material.
- Be sure to read each scripture in this lesson and in "Created in God's Image" (page 12) out loud.

Extra insight:

- The "I am" exercises can be hard for some people. It is important to emphasize we are not claiming to be equal with God. We are created in his image; therefore we reflect his qualities.

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Homework:

- Encourage the group to read the introductory material for the Workbook and complete Lesson 2 for the next meeting. It can be helpful to complete a small portion at a time over several days rather than the whole lesson at one sitting. This gives the group member time to consider and reflect on the major points of the lesson.

- Consider sending an encouraging note/review via email to your group members midway between meetings.