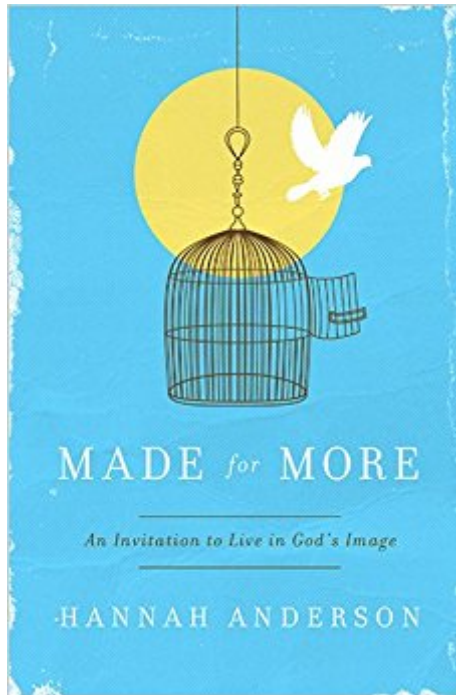




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Made For More: An Invitation To Live In God's Image



Synopsis

Who are you, really? In an uncertain world, we crave the security of knowing exactly who we are and where we belong. But too often as women, we try to find this safety in our roles and relationships, our professional accomplishments, or our picture-perfect homes. And as we do, our souls shrink smaller and smaller. It's because these things aren't made to hold us. In *Made for More*, Hannah Anderson invites you to re-imagine yourself, not simply as a set of roles and categories, but as a person destined to live in the fullness of God Himself. Starting with our first identity as image bearers, Hannah shows how Jesus Christ makes us people who can reflect His nature through our unique callings. She also explores how these deeper truths affect the practical realities that we face as women—how does being an image bearer shape our pursuit of education, our work, and even our desire for holistic lives? Because you are made in God's image, you will only ever know yourself—only ever be yourself—as you find your identity in Him. Find it now.

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Customer Reviews

Virtually everyone is familiar with the idea of man having been created in God's image, but how exactly does this relate to us as we sit in Monday morning traffic or sort through a tower of laundry? Hannah Anderson's ability to connect the dots between the divine and our very recognizable human condition is where *Made for More* really shines. She does an exemplary job of addressing the divine spark that drives all of mankind to understand, "Who am I, and why am I here?" There are an untold number of self-help books that attempt to address these questions, but most fall short as they try to define how identity manifests itself without first answering where identity comes

from. As the author explains, our tendency is to check boxes (gender, race, age) and look to categories (our profession, political party, marital status) in an effort to define ourselves, when in truth, we should be fixed upon a North Star. *Made for More* could have come across as a very abstract book given its lofty topic, but Anderson has an engaging way of using personal stories and scripture to help the reader personally connect with the ideas being expressed. It's also a very well organized book, and the quality of writing is excellent. For example, Anderson uses the image of a diamond to illustrate the myriad ways "or facets, so to speak" that we reflect God's divinity. After all, a diamond in its natural state does very little to reflect light. As Anderson writes, true potential is revealed only when "God has painstakingly planned them and cut them so the light of His nature can bend and refract through you and come bursting forth in brilliant splendor." • The image is immediately recognizable and beautiful, but more importantly, it's one that's not easily forgotten. Through the power of good storytelling, Anderson gives us many other gems to help make our relationship with God appear gloriously relevant. Who we are and why we're here are daunting questions to take on, but Anderson does a fine job of helping us answer them as we strive to find greater meaning in our daily lives.

— Roxana Laing

Made for More explains how each of us is made in God's image, for purposes beyond what we can see. The more often we choose to live in God's image, the closer we come to trusting Him and letting go of our worries. My family is adjusting to some new situations right now, and we will experience more changes in the coming months. This Spring I've been feeling in limbo... not where I'm accustomed, and not yet where I'll soon be. So far it's been emotionally difficult. I vacillate between sitting lazily on the couch ("I give up") and feeling restless... like there must be something more to these months of my life. I'm not meant to just sit around and wait for the next chapter, right?! So I picked up *Made for More*. Reading it gave me an authoritative nudge to live each day in God's image. Helping others, doing mundane chores, loving my family, and working at my job outside the home all need to be done for God's glory and with my eyes on Him. Hannah Anderson explains that looking for ways we can glorify God in our CURRENT lives (yep, even my crazy limbo life) is the way to reflect God's image. And whenever we reflect God's image, we become more like Him. I know I need to get off the couch. God put me here for much more than being a bystander to all his glorious world. Since I've been nudged, I will take more opportunities to serve Him and trust him throughout my day. Everyday.

— Angela Tollis

Anderson freely admits this book, while beneficial for men, is written primarily for women. The book targets women to discover their identity and how women live as a creation made in the image of God. Anderson challenges current thinking about identity and roles, not just current but throughout modern history. It enables women to come to terms with the purposes God has appointed, while

encouraging women to live in God's image, trusting him, and setting aside the worries of the world. Written in an easy to read style, this book gives examples and wisdom for the modern life. Highly Recommended for women wanting to discover their identity and purpose in life." Reviewed by Heath Henwood, Net Galley April 17, 2014 "Anderson strives in her book to tell us how important we are as images of God. We are made for more than we settle for. When we find identity as an image bearer means that we are made to live in dependent communion with God, learning to live in relationship with others, and stewarding creation. Anderson gives examples of our modern life and the wisdom we must seek. Recommended for public libraries and academic libraries with Christianity collections." Rated 5 of 5 stars, Reviewed by Joan Brichacek Wilson, Net Galley April 6, 2014

Hannah Anderson's book *Made for More* is refreshing. It locates the real discussion of what a "woman's role" is or isn't in both men and women being made in the image of God and tasked with the care of creation. This challenges the self-absorbed literature regarding women that has become the norm, as well as self-satisfied women who are content to do little for the kingdom. Kathy Keller, New York City One of the biggest questions dividing the church today is "What counts as biblical femininity?" In *Made For More*, Hannah Anderson reminds us of the more fundamental question: "What counts as biblical humanity?" This personal, lyrical, and deeply theological meditation invites us to the common ground so often forgotten in our disputes and offers a gospel vision of imago dei regained through union with Christ. While directed to women, it is not simply a "women's book" focused on the "pink" passages but a rich portrait of the "more" that God has for all of us as he conforms us to the Image of His Son. Derek Rishmawy, director of college and young adult ministries, Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, CA I have sometimes thought that the emphasis on gender roles was an understandable response to their erosion within the broader culture. Hannah Anderson has a message with the same goal, but a different strategy: "Here is a book for women that has something to teach men beyond what women want or talk about when we are not around." By pointing our attention toward the massive backdrop of the image of God, Anderson isn't trying to downplay or ignore differences between the sexes but rather to let them emerge naturally as both sexes ground their lives in the love of God. "This is a wise, clear, and well-written book that I heartily commend to everyone made in the image of God, male and female alike." Matthew L. Anderson, lead writer at mereorthodoxy.com and author of *The End of Our Exploring* Here at last is a book about Christian womanhood that I can read and recommend, a book that builds a biblical view of womanhood not with proof texts but with

foundational doctrines, a book that draws not upon trendy bestsellers but upon the greatest thinkers and writers in history. *Made for More* transcends narrow, contemporary gender debates with a clear and compelling call for all of us to flourish as human beings made in the image of God.

Karen Swallow Prior, author of *Booked: Literature in the Soul of Me* and *Fierce Convictions: The Extraordinary Life of Hannah More Poet, Reformer, Abolitionist*

Can women have it all?

In *Made for More*, Hannah Anderson reminds us that debating whether women can have fulfilling families and careers isn't the right place to begin in answering that question. Instead, she argues that women do have it all: we are full image-bearers of a great and glorious God. As Anderson unpacks the truth of what it means to be fully human and created in God's likeness, she skirts the trendy controversies of the day, instead offering women a strong scriptural foundation for understanding our identity. While the mommy wars rage, Anderson's still, small, and eloquent voice calls women to a deeper, freeing vision of all that God intended womanhood to be.

Amy Lepine Peterson, mother, TESOL instructor, and freelance writer

This is a book about human flourishing, directed at humans who also happen to be women. Hannah Anderson wants us to understand that, from the cradle to the grave, women are image-bearers of God. Grasping the significance of being made in the *Imago Dei* changes the way we relate to God, to others, and to creation. It changes the way that we think about relationships, education, work and success. And it makes developing and employing our gifts imperative instead of optional. Hannah asks women to broaden their gaze, to look beyond the pink passages of Scripture to the full counsel of God's Word, to understand that our ultimate purpose is not to be like Esther or Ruth but like Christ himself. Any discussion of identity must start with this recognition. This book is a needful reminder that all of us, men and women alike, are created to uniquely bear the image of our Maker from life's first cry to final breath.

Jen Wilkin, bible teacher and author of *Women of the Word: How to Study the Bible with Both Our Hearts and Our Minds*

To find and understand yourself, you must find and understand God first. That is the simple yet vastly profound message of this book. In other words: If you have ever been restless, if you have ever been disappointed or confused about your life, if you have ever wondered how to discover the "more" that something in you longs for, this is a book for you to savor. Don't be surprised if you pause often to let the sentences sink in deeply. That is where sentences like these belong.

Lisa Velthouse, author and collaborator on five books, founding editor of *PickYourPortion.com*

In an age where women are looking for "more," Hannah Anderson gives us the only addition that will not be taken away: life as an eternal soul in the image of God. Her writing is clear and her perspective hopeful. Today's women, especially the younger generation, are burdened with doubt and cynicism about who they are and why they are here. Anderson writes with

assurance and grounded optimism. We need her fresh voice in this generation. I highly recommend it!

Luma Simms, author of *Gospel Amnesia: Forgetting the Goodness of the News* and *Counterfeit Me* We have all played a role shifting, justifying and sidestepping in pace with our culture. Hunting for a deeper peace, a stronger anchor, and a steadier foot, Hannah's words bring truth back to center "where God is the North Star of our souls. Hannah uses her gift of contemplation to be the gentle hand lifting the faces of her sisters to gaze upon the strength and beauty of that Star."

Christi Ziebarth, artist and educator *Made for More* is a warm conversation about humanity, life, and value, and the journey that each of us must take in coming to grips with God and ourselves. From the first pages, Hannah offers hope, safety, and even joy by reminding us of who we are as people made in God's image. No matter where you are in your journey, *Made for More* invites you to a life of health and wholeness for today, tomorrow, and into eternity. We will use this book often as we disciple women in homes, churches, chapels, and Bible studies.

Chris and Kelly Wallace, chaplain, US Army As a counselor, mentor, and parent, I am compelled to assist others to understand why we were made and what we are made to do. "Salvation is the beginning of a lifelong pursuit of our place in God's creation." *Made for More* challenges each Christian to passionately endeavor to reflect God within their unique sphere of influence.

Del Dee McCaleb Hindman, wife, mother, mentor/counselor I've read many books on womanhood and am pleased Hannah Anderson has written a book that finally gets underneath the issue and addresses the necessity of understanding personhood. Hannah graciously rises above the gender debates and will challenge you out of every "category" you think you are in and place you in the only one that matters . . . in the image of Christ. This is a beautifully written book useful for women looking to deepen their understanding of their Creator as well as how they are to live and love like Jesus.

Suzie B. Lind, pastor of women's ministry, King's Harbor Church. Torrance, California Drawing our eyes back to our Maker, again and again, Hannah Anderson teases out the beauty of being "made, a created being, for creative purposes, in the image of God. Using rich images and deep theology, she pliantly molds the "gender" issue into a human issue "one that should concern every one of us in profound ways."

Lore Ferguson, blogger, speaker

When we think of ourselves, what comes to mind? Is it age, gender, or ethnicity? What about profession/vocation or education? These are all good things, but are we just the sum of our parts? In "Made for More", author Hannah Anderson writes that we were made in God's image (imago dei) and created to live out of that truth. Everything about us, which includes gender, personality, and our God-given gifts, flows "from Him and through Him and to Him." The book lays a theological

foundation, first taking us to the fall and sin's far-reaching effect on creation, including us. But the story doesn't end there. In Christ's incarnation, He is the perfect man where all else have failed. And because of the gospel, we find our lost identity in Him. Living in God's image is also very practical. Our affections, service, thinking, and vocation are transformed as well. We can be whole, many-faceted people, where each aspect reflects our Creator. I loved "Made for More" because it spoke to many of the concerns on my heart. We've spent so many years honing our categories that they've grown out of proportion to the whole, and we've lost sight of what it means to be human. It addresses this long overdue subject in a clear, engaging, and biblical way. I would say that it answers Dorothy L. Sayers question, "Are women human?" with a sound theological answer. Even though the primary audience is women, this is a book for human beings because we are all made in God's image. I highly recommend "Made for More".

To know who you are is to know the One in whose image you are made and to be transformed by Him so that you reflect His image with increasing clarity. There are no shortcuts in this journey, Hannah warns, but when you know why you were made, you will be able to live purposefully - whoever you are, wherever you are. It is not often that I can recommend a book with NO reservations. But "Made for More" is so in tune with the big message of Scripture that it makes the heady and hearty doctrine of imago dei accessible to the ordinary Christian reader. If you are like me, you'll want to read it through once, then again with a highlighter and bible in hand while you absorb the deep truths it contains. You won't leave this book with another "to do" list to be a "better Christian woman." Instead, you will be freed to be wholly who you were created to be. You'll be envisioned by the big biblical themes Hannah draws on and encouraged by the truth that Christ - the image of the invisible God and the perfect image-bearer - is being formed in you.

If you give a girl a Bible, she's going to ask her Father what it means. When he begins to explain it to her in the quiet of her soul, she's going to know she has a gift and know she's made for more. When the gift becomes his glory, she's going to use it all the time. So she will sing or plan or teach or write. When she's done she'll share those gifts with you and she'll want to read some more. She might do something unrefined or something strange indeed, but she is more than mommy, sister, wife, and matcher of the socks. She is the very image of a God who lives outside the box. If you give a girl a label, though, and strip away her clothes, Her Almighty Father will run right back to her and tell you where to keep your nose. The girl was made to be like Him and not what you expect. She will be what God designed and ask him

what is next. Never tell that girl to stop. She is not yours to guide. She does not need to fit a mold; She has Jesus by her side. If you give a girl a Bible, do not be surprised, if God does not make out of her a fellow image bearer who asks, with you, o man, to be coequally wise. Ok, so I stole that idea from Hannah Anderson who stole it from Laura Numeroff. If You Give a Mouse a Cookie. The truth is, if you write a book, people are going to adopt your thinking. Eureka! You've accomplished your goal. When you write about the Bible whether it is a book, a blog, a column, or an article, you've got to expect to questions, too. When you're a guy those questions are often, "What do you mean by?" or "How does that apply?" or "Are there any cross references?" When you're a girl they go more like this, "Who do you think you are?" "How do you know?" or "Where did you copy and paste that from?" Hannah Anderson, a native of our very own Fayette County, Pennsylvania, wrote a book entitled "Made for More" wherein she explains the place women hold in God's design, and, more importantly, in his heart. It is not a book about roles or rules or relegation. It is a book about who we are, our value, our place, and the mistaken security we draw from our long-held good girl proving positions. The book, which was published by Moody in April 2014, has already topped many prestigious must-read charts (bloggingtheologically.com, monergism.com) and been recommended by many influential voices including the Gospel Coalition. Hannah writes about Imago Dei (the image of God) and how Imago Dei knowledge means searching for him (God) with childlike curiosity, wide-eyed and eager to discover who He is and the world he has made. For some of us, that means offering musical talent or mothering or CEOing or teaching or debating or preaching or writing. It can mean a million things because when we live in his image, everything we do is in him not just the church resume filling, important sounding, women's work kind of things. Still, when your gender is female, sometimes God given gifts are viewed sorely especially when the cookie cutters have stopped being made by the we-always-did-it-this-wayers. When I was a little girl, my mom used to wear a t-shirt which read, "General know it all." Maybe it was because she acted like she knew it all and didn't think it was a bad thing. Or, maybe it was because she was educated, intelligent, opinionated, and female in a time and place where the first three were not allowed to coincide with the last. Often, we learn to adopt the labels people place upon us when we cannot crawl out from underneath of them. Redemptively, Hannah writes, "When you commit yourself to Christ, he will make you the purest, most authentic version of yourself. And he does. He puts desires, gifts, talents, and motivations into our hearts in order to draw us and others

into his very presence. The more we explore Him, the more we find ourselves. Therefore, when I write about theology, I do not want people to ask who I think I am. I want them to ask who God is. I don't want them to say I'm that Mrs. know it all girl who's fighting for a man's place in the world. I want them to say God knows all and because he says I have a place in the world "the place he called me to as a co-equal person in the grand scheme" what I have to say about Him is just as important and valuable as what my male counterparts have to say. Hannah does an excellent job of bringing out the issues facing women pertaining to biblical equality, stereotypes, works mentality, and gender superiority/inferiority misconceptions. This is an as-soon-as-you-possibly-can must read for Christians "brothers and sisters alike. Bravo!

I've started reading this book for a women's group I'm in. I typically am not a big fan of instructional/education type books but I love the way she writes and so many points have really hit home. I'm so glad I get to go through this boom with others.

I'm a dude going through this book in a small group setting and truth be known a recovering misogynist. To confine this book to just a female audience would be to do it a great disservice. Biblical truth is just as applicable to men as it is to women. Being male just means being an image bearer manifests itself differently, my idols are different etc. Highly recommend this book to every one. It can be read from a gender neutral position.

The premise that our gender is not the primary means to determine our service is a welcome relief to evangelical women. There is that phrase "created in God's image" that precedes gender. Ms. Anderson does a wonderful job of initiating the conversation of what it means to live reflecting that image for women AND men, however she doesn't pretend to end that conversation with one book.

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