

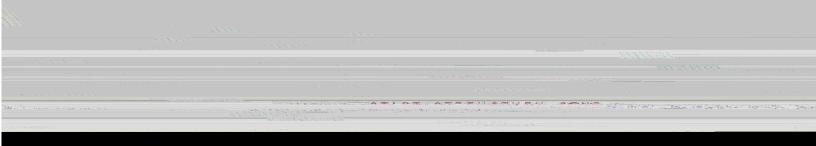
Romans 5:12;

## Explanation:

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We feel it is important to affirm a statement on the theology of humankind. This is a very common topic in the Affirmation of Faith for most churches and denominations. In a way, it is surprising that such a statement does not already exist in the Converge Affirmation. Our contemporary culture is wrestling with issues related to gender identity and racial conflict. Converge in its history has adopted resolutions on gender, abortion, child protection, and human worth, yet at this time, it also seems wise to express this conviction as a sincerely held doctrinal distinctive in our movement.

We believe that God created humankind in his own image as it clearly states in the Genesis account. Only people are described this way in the Bible.



Finally, the image of God in humankind has become corrupted by sin. Adam and Eve were the first people to disobey God by their own free choice. Since then, all people have exhibited the tendency to sin. Disobedience and sin have become part of human nature, and it concretes people relationally with Cod and cosh other. Our sinful condition requires