

**BIBLICAL PATTERNS
FOR
REVITALIZATION AND OUTREACH**

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- **SESSION 1 – PATTERNS IN NEED AND OPPORTUNITY**
 - **SESSION II – PATTERNS IN DEFINITION**
 - **SESSION III – PATTERNS IN PRACTICE**
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SESSION 1 – PATTERNS IN NEED AND OPPORTUNITY

- **MOVE AWAY FROM CHRISTIANITY** – PERCENTAGE OF THOSE IN THE U.S. WHO IDENTIFY AS CHRISTIANS DECLINED SHARPLY BY 8% FROM 2007 TO 2014, WITH MILLENNIALS LEADING THE EXODUS. **1 TIM 4:1-5**
- **MOVE TOWARD NON-AFFILIATION** – 36% OF MILLENNIALS NOW CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO HAVE NO RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION (“NONES”). **2 TIM 1:15-2:3, 3:1-5**
- **MOVE TOWARD TECH** – ACQUIRING THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE FAITH SYSTEM CAN BE CONVENIENTLY SATISFIED OUTSIDE CHURCH SETTING. **2 TIM 4:1-5**



SESSION 1 – PATTERNS IN NEED AND OPPORTUNITY

- **MOVE TOWARD ISOLATION** – PEOPLE ARE BECOMING LESS AND LESS COMFORTABLE WITH TRADITIONAL PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH, PREFERRING MORE OF A PRIVATE FAITH THAT HAS MINIMAL PUBLIC EXPRESSION. **2 PET 1:5-9**

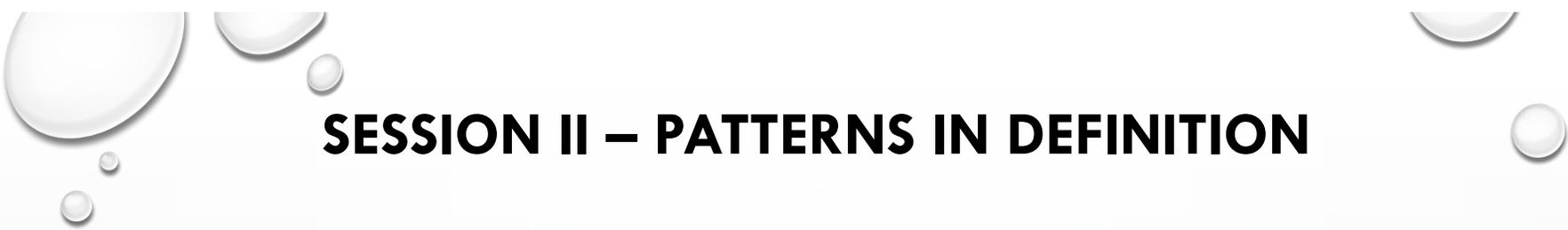
 - **STATS FROM [HTTP://WWW.PEWFORUM.ORG/2015/05/12/AMERICAS-CHANGING-RELIGIOUS-LANDSCAPE/](http://www.pewforum.org/2015/05/12/americas-changing-religious-landscape/)**
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SESSION 1 – PATTERNS IN NEED AND OPPORTUNITY

- **LESS CHRISTIAN**
 - **MORE SECULAR**
 - **MORE INDEPENDENT**
 - **MORE TECH DEPENDENT**
 - **CITIZENS OF TECH COMMUNITIES**
 - **MORE SELECTIVE OF HOW THEY ENGAGE**
 - **???**
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SESSION II – PATTERNS IN DEFINITION

- IN LIGHT OF THE TRENDS, WE MUST DEFINE WHAT IS CHURCH AND GIVE A COMPELLING REASON FOR WHY IT IS RELEVANT
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WHY CHURCH MATTERS

- BELIEVERS ARE TOLD THAT THEY SHOULD NOT FORSAKE ASSEMBLING TOGETHER. INSTEAD THEY SHOULD BE “ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER...AS YOU SEE THE DAY DRAWING NEAR” (HEB 10:24).
 - **ASSEMBLING HAS PURPOSE: ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER**
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WHY CHURCH MATTERS

- BELIEVERS IN JESUS MAKE UP WHAT IS REFERRED TO AS THE BODY OF CHRIST, AND EACH BELIEVER IS CONSIDERED TO BE A MEMBER OF THAT BODY (1 COR 12:27).
 - JUST AS EVERY MEMBER OF A HUMAN BODY IS IMPORTANT TO THE BODY'S OVERALL FUNCTION, SO EVERY BELIEVER IS A VITAL PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST. THE MEMBERS OF THE BODY **MUST FUNCTION TOGETHER** (1 COR 12:14-18).
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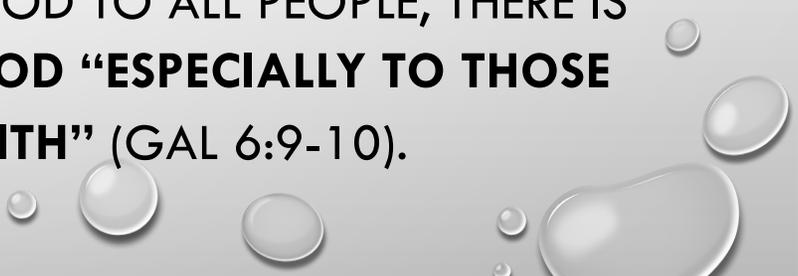


WHY CHURCH MATTERS

- **BELIEVERS MUST CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER (1 COR 12:25-26).**
 - **BECAUSE OF POSITIONAL UNITY THAT ALL BELIEVERS HAVE AS MEMBERS OF ONE BODY, THEY MUST BE ACTIVELY DILIGENT TO PRESERVE THAT BOND OF UNITY, AND THEY DO THAT BY SHOWING TOLERANCE TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE (EPH 4:2-3).**
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WHY CHURCH MATTERS

- GOD HAS PROVIDED GIFTS TO THE CHURCH IN THE FORM OF APOSTLES, PROPHETS, PASTORS AND TEACHERS, AND GOOD-NEWS PROCLAIMERS WHO SERVE “**FOR THE EQUIPPING OF THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF SERVICE**, TO THE BUILDING UP OF THE BODY OF CHRIST” (EPH 4:11-12).
 - WHILE BELIEVERS ARE TOLD TO DO GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE, THERE IS AN ORDER OF PRIORITY IN **DOING GOOD “ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO ARE OF THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH”** (GAL 6:9-10).
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WHY CHURCH MATTERS

- GOD HAS ALSO PROVIDED GIFTS TO THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS (1 PET 4:10-11), **TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS**, FOR HIS GLORY.
 - CHRISTIANS ARE TOLD, BASED ON ENSURING THAT THE WORD OF CHRIST IS DWELLING RICHLY IN THEM, **TO TEACH AND ADMONISH EACH OTHER** (COL 3:16) WITH TOOLS INCLUDING SONG.
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WHY CHURCH MATTERS

- BELIEVERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAVE A **FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER** (1 JN 1:3, 7; 2:9-11) THAT REFLECTS LOVE FOR THEIR BROTHERS, AND THEY ARE **TO PRAY TOGETHER** (ROM 12:12, COL 4:2, 1 TIM 2:8).
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WHY CHURCH MATTERS

- **ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER**
 - **FUNCTIONING TOGETHER**
 - **CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER**
 - **PRESERVING THE BOND OF UNITY**
 - **SHOWING TOLERANCE TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE**
 - **BEING EQUIPPED BY THE WORD OF GOD TOGETHER**
 - **DOING THE WORK OF SERVICE**
 - **DOING GOOD TO ALL, ESPECIALLY TO BELIEVERS**
 - **EMPLOYING GIFTS IN SERVICE OF OTHERS,**
 - **TEACHING AND ADMONISHING EACH OTHER**
 - **FELLOWSHIPING WITH ONE ANOTHER**
 - **PRAYING TOGETHER**
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ENGAGING CULTURE

- ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER
- FUNCTIONING TOGETHER
- CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER
- PRESERVING THE BOND OF UNITY
- SHOWING TOLERANCE TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE
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- PRAYING TOGETHER

LESS CHRISTIAN, MORE SECULAR, MORE INDEPENDENT, MORE TECH DEPENDENT, CITIZENS OF TECH COMMUNITIES, MORE SELECTIVE OF HOW THEY ENGAGE, OTHER???



CONSIDERING BIBLICAL PATTERNS

- EXAMPLE OF REVITALIZATION: GALATIANS
 - AREA OF FAILURE – PERVERTING THE GOSPEL 1:6-7
 - REMEDY
 - 3-5 – SOUND DOCTRINE ON LAW, FLESH, SPIRIT
 - 6 – PRACTICAL APPLICATION IN CHURCH LIFE
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CONSIDERING BIBLICAL PATTERNS

- EXAMPLE OF REVITALIZATION: 1 CORINTHIANS
 - AREA OF FAILURE – DIVISION 1:11-12
 - REMEDY
 - 1-2 – SOUND DOCTRINE ON SOURCE OF TRUTH, PATTERNS FOR GROWTH
 - 3-6 – PRACTICAL CORRECTION ON ARROGANCE AND IMMORALITY, CAUSE FOR HUMILITY AND PROPER USE OF THE BODY
 - 7-16 APPLICATION IN VARIOUS LIFE SETTINGS
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CONSIDERING BIBLICAL PATTERNS

- GALATIANS AND 1 CORINTHIANS REVITALIZATION EFFORTS INCLUDE FOUR BASIC ASPECTS:
 - CLARITY IN DIAGNOSING THE PROBLEM
 - PRECISION IN ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM WITH GOD'S TRUTH
 - DESCRIPTION OF EXPECTED PRACTICE
 - APPLICATION EXTENDED TO VARIOUS ASPECTS OF LIFE
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CONSIDERING BIBLICAL PATTERNS

- EXAMPLES OF OUTREACH: ACTS 17
 - METHOD AND CONTENT AT THESSALONICA
 - 17:2-3 REASONING, EXPLAINING, GIVING EVIDENCE OF CHRIST
 - METHOD AND CONTENT AT ATHENS
 - 17:17 FOLLOWING PATTERN (REASONING IN SYNAGOGUE)
 - 17:19 OPPORTUNITY GIVEN, TAKEN
 - 17:23 ENGAGING CULTURE
 - 17:24-29 A “CONNECTING” ENTRY POINT FOR BIBLICAL TRUTH
 - 17:30 A CALL TO ACTION
 - 17:31 A COMPELLING REASON
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CONSIDERING BIBLICAL PATTERNS

- ACTS 17 OUTREACH INCLUDES EIGHT BASIC ASPECTS:
 - MOVING FORWARD WITH A METHOD
 - SEIZING COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY
 - ENGAGING CULTURE TO INTRODUCE CHRIST, NOT TO DESTROY CULTUR
 - FINDING THE RIGHT ENTRY POINT
 - KEEPING IT BIBLICAL
 - FOCUSED ON THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST
 - CALLING TO ACTION
 - GIVING THE COMPELLING REASONS
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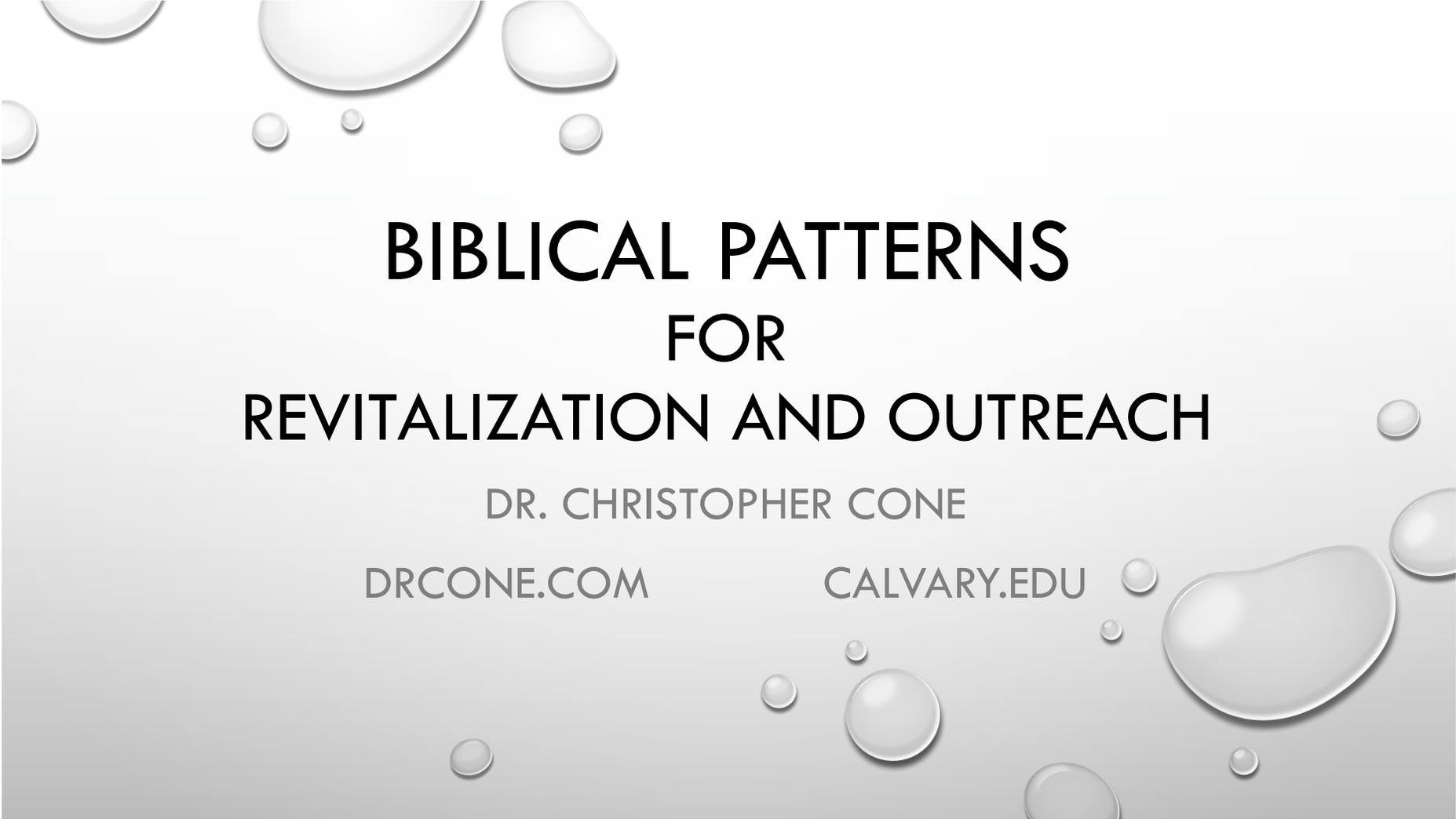
CONCLUSION

- REVITALIZATION – FOR BELIEVERS (AND STRUGGLING CHURCHES)
 - BIBLICAL DIAGNOSIS
 - UNDERSTAND BIBLICAL STANDARD FOR HEALTH AND FUNCTION
 - BE FAMILIAR WITH CURRENT BODY HEALTH AND FUNCTION
 - BIBLICAL TRUTH AS THE REMEDY
 - BIBLICAL TRUTH APPLIED AS EXAMPLES FOR PRACTICE
 - APPLY IN VARIOUS AREAS TO SHOW PATTERN, PRINCIPLES



CONCLUSION

- OUTREACH – FOR UNBELIEVERS
 - ENGAGING CULTURE
 - UNDERSTAND BIBLICAL STANDARDS
 - BE FAMILIAR WITH CULTURAL TRENDS
 - RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT ENTRY POINT
 - COMMUNICATING CHRIST
 - DON'T BE DISTRACTED FROM THE PURPOSE
 - CALLING FOR CHANGE OF MIND
 - BE PRECISE ON WHAT IS EXPECTED
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