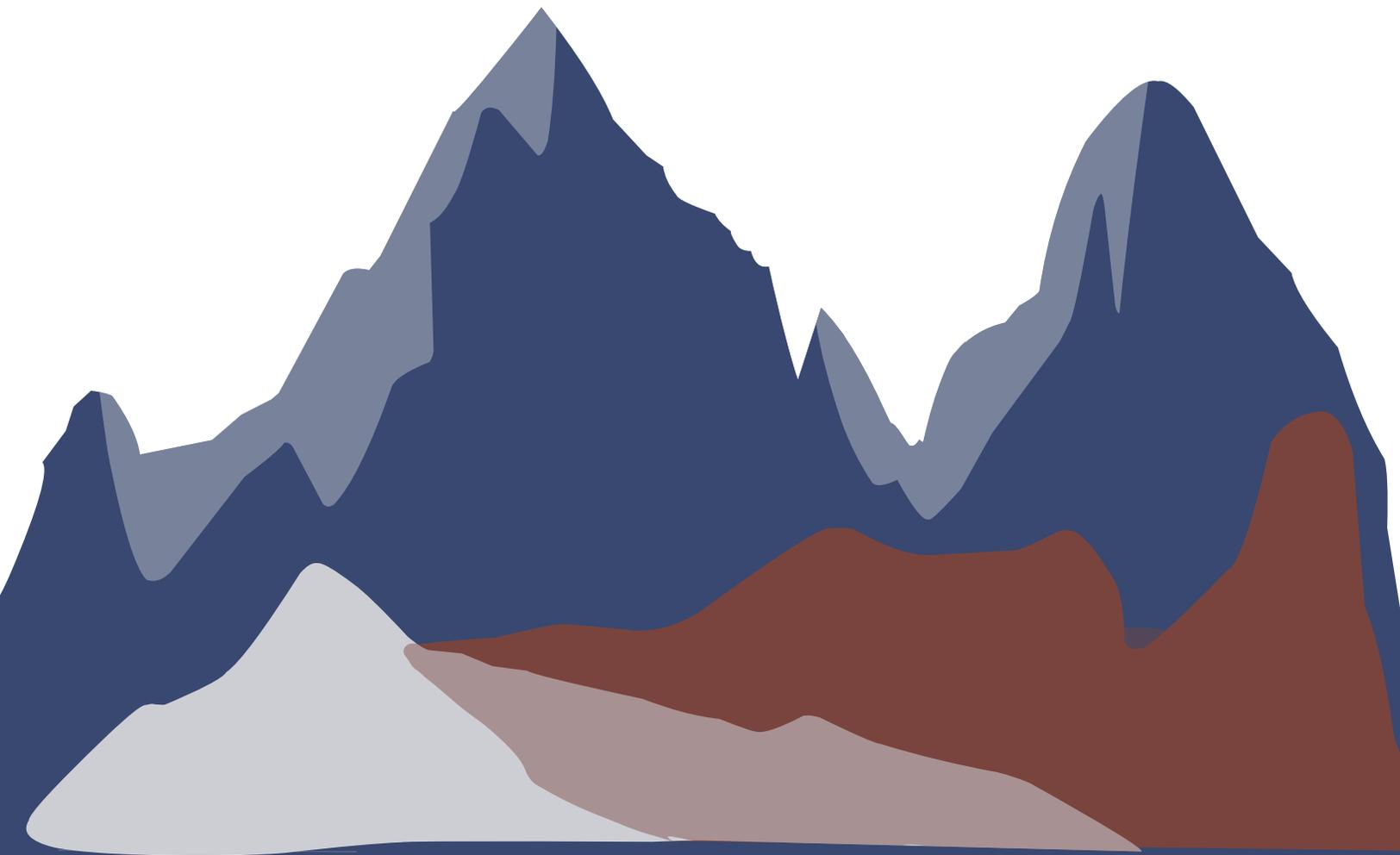


# THE FOUNDATIONS OF SHALOM

*A VISION FOR HUMAN FLOURISHING IN MONTANA*



CHURCH AMBASSADOR NETWORK  
Of Montana



**When Christ returns and redeems all things according to God's plan, there will be no sin, and mankind's affairs will be perfectly, beautifully, and lovingly ordered in a new heaven and a new earth.**

**But until then, we must govern our earthly affairs and order our life together.**

**In the Church Ambassador Network, we hold to the teachings of the Bible that Government is one of three institutions God created, and just like the other two institutions—Church and Family—when Government fulfills its God-given design, it is a blessing for our good.**



## THE SOURCE OF SHALOM



“GOD SHOWS HIS LOVE FOR US IN THAT WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.”

ROMANS 5:8

In our sin and wretchedness, we deserve death—the penalty for our sin—but instead, God graciously gave us the free gift of eternal life through his Son, Jesus Christ.

Although we have received the fullness of salvation, we still live in a fallen world. We are still exposed to and suffer from the pain and heartbreak of the sin in us and around us. As believers, we long for the return of Christ to finish His work.

This longing is tied to the Jewish concept of shalom.

Shalom is flourishing in every dimension: physical, psychological, and spiritual. It denotes a right relationship with God, with others, within society, and with God’s good creation. It is the way God intended things to be.

**Christ’s redemptive work invites us to partake in shalom, to embody shalom, and to anticipate its full realization in the coming kingdom of God. Shalom is a way of being in the world. It gives us a purpose for the work we do in the here and now - including in our government - while we await the return of our King.**



“YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.”

MATTHEW 6:10, THE LORD’S PRAYER

This is not only a prayer for, and a reflection of, God’s will, it is also **the** prescription for the good of mankind. Bringing God’s principles and order to every sphere of our lives blesses our society in general, and doing so within Government helps establish the foundations for shalom and human flourishing.



## SHALOM AND THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT



“LET EVERYONE BE SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES, FOR THERE IS NO AUTHORITY EXCEPT THAT WHICH GOD HAS ESTABLISHED. THE AUTHORITIES THAT EXIST HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY GOD.”

ROMANS 13:1

**The government is separate from the Church, yet it is established by God to fulfill His purposes by punishing evil and commending the good. And the one in authority is God’s servant for that purpose.**



“FOR THE ONE IN AUTHORITY IS GOD’S SERVANT FOR YOUR GOOD. BUT IF YOU DO WRONG, BE AFRAID, FOR RULERS DO NOT BEAR THE SWORD FOR NO REASON. THEY ARE GOD’S SERVANTS, AGENTS OF WRATH TO BRING PUNISHMENT ON THE WRONGDOER.”

ROMANS 13:4

Government is not intended to cast a life-giving vision, foster hope, or create community. That is the role of the Church. The Church holds out the redemptive hope of the Gospel and wholistic community through the body of Christ.

And yet, as the institution established to punish evil and commend the good, a righteous government depends on God’s righteous authority. Government and its leaders have a special responsibility to look to God’s moral and ethical principles in order to **justly** punish evil and commend what is good.

This is the role of government to be a blessing, to promote and protect the foundations of shalom, and to support the basic conditions for human flourishing.

To do this, government needs the true north that the Church provides through Her head, Christ, and the Word of God. And those in authority, in their high calling as God’s servants for our good, ultimately stand before God and need His guidance.



## THE FOUNDATIONS OF SHALOM

This booklet provides an overview of God-ordained foundations which the Government of Montana must protect and promote in order to be a blessing for good, and for our state and our people to flourish.



“SURELY THIS GREAT NATION IS A WISE AND UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE. WHAT OTHER NATION IS SO GREAT AS TO HAVE THEIR GODS NEAR THEM THE WAY THE LORD OUR GOD IS NEAR US WHENEVER WE PRAY TO HIM? AND WHAT OTHER NATION IS SO GREAT AS TO HAVE SUCH RIGHTEOUS DECREES AND LAWS AS THIS BODY OF LAWS I AM SETTING BEFORE YOU TODAY?”

DEUTERONOMY 4:6-8

### HUMAN VALUE

Government must value and protect all life as well as the individual person.

### IDENTITY

Our identify comes from God, not ourselves, others, or governmentt.

### FAMILY

God instituted the family and endowed it with its fundamental constitution.

### LABOR

God created work for us to do as His image bearers.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Government should be a dread for the wrong-doer and a source of peace for all.

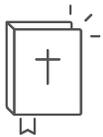
### PRAYER

All human floursihing begins with and is fueled by prayer.



# HUMAN VALUE

**We hold to the teachings of the Bible that life is an incredible gift from God that must be protected. We desire a government that values and protects all life as well as the individual person. That value must extend to everyone, regardless of their developmental and physical status or any societal classification.**



“FOR IT WAS YOU WHO CREATED MY INWARD PARTS; YOU KNIT ME TOGETHER IN MY MOTHER’S WOMB. I WILL PRAISE YOU BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN REMARKABLY AND WONDROUSLY MADE.”

PSALM 139:13-14

“BEFORE I FORMED YOU IN THE WOMB I KNEW YOU, BEFORE YOU WERE BORN I SET YOU APART.”

JEREMIAH 1:5

**GOD IS THE AUTHOR AND GIVER OF LIFE. HE DETERMINES WHEN LIFE BEGINS AND ENDS.**

God is the author of life. Each of us existed in His mind first. He knew us before we were conceived, gave us our own unique DNA, and chose the time and place we were born. As the author of life, only God can determine when life begins, and only God can take an innocent life, whether that be from age, sickness, or accident. Murder at any stage of human life is not only morally wrong, it is a sin against God, Himself.

**EVERY PERSON IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD, AND HAS VALUE.**

God chose to make people in His Image, giving each person their inherent and inviolable value. He proved it on the cross. There is no person too far fallen for God. There is no person too different for God. In His eyes, He created all, and all have fallen short, and all are in need of the Gospel. Christ died on the Cross, desiring that people from every tongue and tribe and nation come to the knowledge of Him. We can value life by following the example of our Savior and Creator in valuing all people.



“SPEAK OUT ON BEHALF OF THE VOICELESS, AND FOR THE RIGHTS OF ALL WHO ARE VULNERABLE.”

PROVERBS 31:8

## **GOD COMMANDS US TO DEFEND THE CAUSE OF THE VOICELESS.**

There is no one more without a voice than an unborn child. As Christians, we are called to defend those who do not have the ability or opportunity to speak for themselves. We must speak for the unborn in the womb. This includes exposing Satan’s lies about abortion that have taken many in our nation captive. However, defending the cause of the voiceless does not stop there, it is also defending the cause of the orphan, foreigner, widow, and poor.



“A THIEF COMES ONLY TO STEAL AND KILL AND DESTROY. I HAVE COME SO THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE AND HAVE IT IN ABUNDANCE.”

JOHN 10:10

## **EVERY ASPECT OF OUR LIFE MATTERS.**

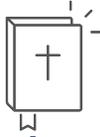
God cares about every stage of our life. Whether we are in the womb, a young child, an adult, or a senior, God cares. He even cares about every detail of our lives both big and small. Every aspect and stage of our lives has value, even our times of trials and difficulties. As a nation, we must begin to look at our trials differently. God does not only desire us to experience life in comfort, but He wants us to see the beauty in the hard times as well. We must strive to care about and protect people in every stage and detail of their life, from conception to natural death, both in good times and hard times.

## **GOD WANTS US TO EXPERIENCE LIFE IN ABUNDANCE.**

God did not give us life for vice or to mechanically go through the motions. He gave us the gift of life to actually live! He wants us to live life abundantly. In God’s image we have creative potential, and we are also morally relevant and accountable for our actions. He wants us to pursue righteousness and live a fulfilled life. Though life will come with challenges and trials, and failures, these too have incredible value and can be lived in abundance, as we walk in Christ.



# IDENTITY



“SO GOD CREATED MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE, IN THE IMAGE OF GOD HE CREATED HIM; MALE AND FEMALE HE CREATED THEM.”

GENESIS 1:27

THEY PROMISE THEM FREEDOM, BUT THEY THEMSELVES ARE SLAVES OF CORRUPTION. FOR WHATEVER OVERCOMES A PERSON, TO THAT HE IS ENSLAVED.”

2 PETER 2:19

**Every person has been created by God in His image, and only in Him can we truly find our identity. If we try to establish our identity from God-substitutes, our true identity will be lost, and we become captive to any number of deceptions. When our identity remains grounded in the eternal unchanging Creator-God, it is on the firm foundation of His good design and can never be lost.**

## **THE CORE OF OUR IDENTITY COMES FROM GOD, NOT OURSELVES, OTHERS, OR GOVERNMENT.**

Corrupted identities have a lasting negative impact, while understanding who we truly are, created in God's image and redeemed in Christ, grounds us in reality. The devil understands this and attempts to deceive us into thinking we can define our own identity or allowing others, even technology, to do so. We must understand the importance and power of identity and its distortions, and ensure we are building true identity into people's lives.

## **SIN CLOUDS OUR TRUE IDENTITY, LEAVING US ENDLESSLY SEARCHING.**

Because of sin, mankind has been separated from God, corrupting our identity. This is why our identity cannot be found simply through soul searching. It is only found when we turn to the Bible, the true Word of the living God who promises that He is near and that those who search for Him will find Him. Left alone, we are on an endless mission, an emotional roller coaster of highs and lows, vulnerable to vices and immorality, leaving us in despair and delusion.



“PEOPLE LOOK AT THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART.”

1 SAMUEL 16:7

## **IDENTITY IS NOT WHAT YOU DO, THINK, OR FEEL, OR HOW YOU APPEAR.**

We often mistake our identity with our job, our passions, how we look, our sexual desires, physical health, race or ethnicity, reputation, politics, science and technology, material goods, influence, socio-economic status, and on and on. But defining our identity this way is a deception. These are not truly who we are nor where our value and life are found.

## **OUR IDENTITY IS REDEEMED IN CHRIST.**

What was lost has been found. Christ came to redeem and restore everything, including our identity in Him. Through Christ, we find belonging by being adopted into the family of God. Through Christ, we find acceptance because of His work to reconcile us to the Father. Through Christ's work on the cross, we find real freedom. Through Christ's resurrection, we find real life. Through Christ, we find our identity in being redeemed children of God in His image.



“THEREFORE, IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATION; THE OLD HAS PASSED AWAY, AND SEE, THE NEW HAS COME!”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

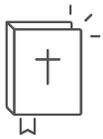
## **UNDERSTANDING IDENTITY IS KEY TO SEEING PEOPLE BREAK FREE FROM BONDAGE AND LIVE THEIR LIVES IN FREEDOM.**

If someone is labeled with a false identity for long enough, they will begin living out that identity. Caught in this counterfeit sense of identity, they are in bondage. False identities - like addict, felon, poor, unlovable, unemployable, unintelligent - enslave people. We must step away from labeling people and accepting these pseudo identities. Instead, let's begin building their true identity which can lead to true freedom.



# FAMILY

**We hold to the teachings of the Bible that marriage and the family were instituted by God. Creating man and woman as co-creators, God designed the human family and endowed it with its fundamental constitution. A man and a woman, united in marriage, together with their children, form a family. The family is ordered to the good of the spouses and to the procreation and education of children.**



“AND GOD SAID ”BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY...” “THAT IS WHY A MAN LEAVES HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND IS UNITED TO HIS WIFE, AND THEY BECOME ONE FLESH.”

GENESIS 1:28, 2:24

“ANYONE WHO DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR THEIR RELATIVES, AND ESPECIALLY FOR THEIR OWN HOUSEHOLD, HAS DENIED THE FAITH AND IS WORSE THAN AN UNBELIEVER.”

1 TIMOTHY 5:8

**FAMILY IS THE BEDROCK OF SOCIETY.**

Family is the original cell of social life. It is the foundation for freedom, security, and fraternity within society. It is the first place where one learns moral values, begins to honor God, and makes good use of freedom, thus initiating one into societal life. Basic care and responsibility for the young, the old, the sick, the handicapped, and the poor is the way of the family. Parents must provide for the physical and spiritual needs of their children.

**GOVERNMENT MUST RESPECT, COMMEND, AND PROTECT THE FAMILY.**

Government and larger communities should take care not to usurp the family's prerogatives or interfere in its life. It is the responsibility of civil authority to protect, honor and assist marriage and the family. It does so by respecting the family's own moral and religious convictions and protecting the stability of the marriage bond and the institution of the family. Government is responsible to ensure the family's freedom to profess one's faith and to raise one's children in it. Government commends families through basic rights including private property, free enterprise, and relocation, and protects them through public safety and inhibiting dangerous vices.



“START CHILDREN OFF ON THE WAY THEY SHOULD GO, AND EVEN WHEN THEY ARE OLD THEY WILL NOT TURN FROM IT.”

PROVERBS 22:6

“CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS IN THE LORD, FOR THIS IS RIGHT. “HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER” (THIS IS THE FIRST COMMANDMENT WITH A PROMISE), “THAT IT MAY GO WELL WITH YOU AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG IN THE LAND.” FATHERS, DO NOT PROVOKE YOUR CHILDREN TO ANGER, BUT BRING THEM UP IN THE DISCIPLINE AND INSTRUCTION OF THE LORD.”

EPHESIANS 6:1-4

## **PARENTS HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES.**

Parents must regard their children as children of God and respect them as persons. Parents must instruct their children in virtue, teaching them to subordinate their worldly inclinations to spiritual ones. Parents initiate their children into solidarity and communal responsibilities. The right and duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable.

## **CHILDREN HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES.**

Children owe their parents honor and respect. They owe true docility and obedience to their parents. However, they do not owe obedience if they are convinced in conscience that it would be morally wrong to obey a particular order. With emancipation obedience ceases, but not respect. They owe their parents material and moral support in old age and in times of illness, loneliness, or distress. They owe filial respect to brothers and sisters.

## **A FAITHFUL CHRISTIAN FAMILY IS UNIQUELY EQUIPPED.**

The Christian family should be called a domestic church, a community of faith, hope, and charity. It is strengthened in charity through daily prayer and the reading of the Word of God. It is a privileged community called to achieve a sharing of thought and common deliberation in the cooperative task of raising children. Parents have the responsibility of evangelizing their children and grounding their identity in God, and the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God.

\*Adapted from Articles 2201-2229, “A Study Guide, The Catechism of the Catholic Church,” by Clifford Bajema



## LABOR

The Bible begins with God working, and in His work He created people in His Image. As image bearers of God, He created work for us to do. Work was created before the fall and it is good. In Genesis 3, we learn of the beginning of people's rebellion against God. Since then the consequences of sin impact everything, even work. Work is not as it was originally created to be. That is why it can be hard, grinding, and monotonous. Work is still substantially good, but it is fallen.



“FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS FOR GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED BEFOREHAND, THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM.”

EPHESIANS 2:10

WHATEVER YOU DO, WORK HEARTILY, AS FOR THE LORD AND NOT FOR MEN.”

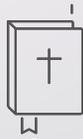
COLOSSIANS 3:23

### **WORK IS A BLESSING. IT IS TO BE CREATIVE AND NOT A PUNISHMENT. IT ALLOWS US TO DISPLAY OUR GOD-GIVEN TALENTS.**

People are more than a cog in a machine. As God's image bearers, people need to be treated with dignity. In God's design, work brings out people's potential as co-creators in dominion over the earth. It shows our individual uniqueness, as well as our collective bond. Too often work does not give workers opportunities to use their talents. It is important that employment provides opportunities for people to display their God-given wisdom, talents, and creativity.

### **WORK IS NOT OUR IDENTITY. WORK IS SOMETHING THAT WE DO. IT IS NOT WHO WE ARE.**

Too often our work becomes our identity. We must value work, but not overvalue it so that it becomes an idol or our very identity. This leads to a devalued life. What happens if you become disabled or lose your job? Do you have any less value? You are more than what you do and where you work. You were created by God Most High, so value work as He does. Work is good, but our identity must be found in Christ alone.



“YOU SHALL NOT OPPRESS A HIRED SERVANT WHO IS POOR AND NEEDY, WHETHER HE IS ONE OF YOUR COUNTRYMEN OR ONE OF YOUR ALIENS WHO IS IN YOUR LAND.”

DEUTERONOMY 24:4

“IF ANYONE IS NOT WILLING TO WORK, LET HIM NOT EAT.”

2 THESSALONIANS 3:10

## **EMPLOYERS MUST TREAT EMPLOYEES WELL, AND EMPLOYEES MUST BE FRUITFUL, AS IF THEY ARE WORKING FOR THE LORD.**

God requires employers to treat their people as they themselves want to be treated. Likewise, employees are called to serve their employers as if they were working for God, Himself. We want to create an economic environment where both employer and employee serve one another, and where cooperation and fraternity are built up in society. Fruitfulness in work is to bless the employer, employees, family, and community. Owners and employees should desire profit for a company that leads to the blessing of all. Fruitful labor provides the worker with a fair wage, humane conditions, and a proper reward without favoritism.

## **SLOTHFULNESS AND IDLENESS ROB YOU AND OTHERS, AND CAN DESTROY COMMUNITIES.**

Slothfulness and idleness are not only wrong because they harm a person, but because they harm others as well. They rob the person of the agency God created in them and their creative potential and their ability to meaningfully contribute to the good of their community. They also rob the family of the benefits of fruitful labor. And if broadly accepted, slothfulness and idleness will create decay in society. Slothfulness and idleness are not victimless sins.

## **WE ARE TO REST.**

Though not given equal time, God created rest to go with work. There is a season for work and there is a season for rest. We find satisfaction in life when these are in a proper balance. If we work too little, we miss out on life. However, if we do not receive proper rest, we too also miss out on life. It is important that a life full of work also includes a life of rest. Simply paying workers more for long hours only goes so far, it is very important that workers are given opportunities to rest adequately.



## CRIMINAL JUSTICE



“FOR RULERS ARE NOT A TERROR TO GOOD CONDUCT, BUT TO BAD. DO YOU WANT TO BE UNAFRAID OF THE AUTHORITY? DO WHAT IS GOOD, AND YOU WILL HAVE ITS APPROVAL. FOR GOVERNMENT IS GOD’S SERVANT FOR YOUR GOOD. BUT IF YOU DO WRONG, BE AFRAID, BECAUSE IT DOES NOT CARRY THE SWORD FOR NO REASON.”

ROMANS 13:3-4

**Government administers the criminal justice system. Reflecting God’s holy justice and mercy, it should be a blessing to all people and society overall. As we consider criminal justice, an excellent place to begin is at the Cross of Jesus, the most consequential verdict of justice in all human history. You cannot fully understand justice without understanding the Cross.**

### **GOD IS FULLY MERCIFUL.**

If God was not merciful, Jesus did not have to die. God could have simply let us suffer the consequences of our sins, but because He is merciful we have the cross.

### **GOD IS FULLY JUST.**

If God was not just, Jesus did not have to die. God could have simply forgiven our sins, but because He is just we have the cross.

### **GOD IS HOLY, ALWAYS JUST AND ALWAYS MERCIFUL.**

The most common adjective for God in the Bible is “holy.” In His holiness He is perfectly just and perfectly merciful at all times and in all things.

### **GOD WILL ULTIMATELY BRING PERFECT JUSTICE.**

Though our governing authorities will work to bring justice today, our holy God is the true source of justice and mercy. He will bring about justice and mercy perfectly. Ultimately the burden does not rest on the shoulders of governing authorities, it rests on Him.



"I URGE, THEN, FIRST OF ALL, THAT PETITIONS, PRAYERS, INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING BE MADE FOR ALL PEOPLE— FOR KINGS AND ALL THOSE IN AUTHORITY, THAT WE MAY LIVE PEACEFUL AND QUIET LIVES IN ALL GODLINESS AND HOLINESS."

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-3

## **GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE A DREAD FOR THE WRONG-DOER AND A SENSE OF PEACE FOR THE INNOCENT.**

In our criminal justice system, it is important that those who break the law should be concerned when they see a peace officer or other governing authority. It is also important to recognize that government is a public servant designed to protect people. Those who are innocent should feel a sense of peace, not fear, when they see a peace officer or governing authority.

## **JUSTICE IS TO BE FAIR AND BALANCED. IT IS NOT TO BE PARTIAL.**

The criminal justice system corrects behavior through punishments that fit the crime with the goal to bring us back to the path of life. If the criminal justice system shows any bias and does not seek what is just and true, it no longer accomplishes what God designed it to do. It not only loses the trust of people, it becomes a harm to the very people God designed it to serve. A righteous criminal justice system depends on truth and fair and balanced justice for all people.

## **CRIMINAL PUNISHMENT SHOULD BE RELEGATED TO A SPECIFIC SENTENCE, NOT BECOME A LIFE-LONG IDENTIFIER.**

When justice is served and the proper sentence is fulfilled that meets the crime, a person should not be identified by their crime. Having fulfilled their sentence, they should be able to return to society and rebuild their lives. The Gospel is a story of "second chances." We are identified by our new life after accepting Christ's payment of our sin. Our criminal justice system must reflect just sentencing and the opportunity of a life beyond the prison system for those who are able to fulfill their sentence in their lifetime.

## **WE ARE TO HONOR AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE IN AUTHORITY, INCLUDING THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.**

Honoring, thanking, and praying for those working in the criminal justice system not only blesses those individuals and strengthens our communities, but it also pleases our Lord. We are honoring the position, institution, and ideals of God's justice they represent. And we are seeking God's shalom in our community.



# PRAYER



***We believe that the very God-ordained purposes for your community can be fulfilled by the unified prayers of leaders as they rise to ask for blessing and revival. Intercessory prayer is vital as all human flourishing begins and is fueled by prayer.***



**LOVE**

Think and pray about why you love the community God has placed you in and the blessing and flourishing you desire.

**LAMENT**

Lament the brokenness that you see and the different ways the Adversary and sin wound and oppress your neighbor.

**REPENT**

Think, pray about and confess the community's sins and the idolatry that must be overcome for healing to take place.

**RESPOND**

Think, pray, and act. Write down the actions God is calling you to take for your community.

***We encourage you to use these practical ways to pray daily for your community.***

\*Adapted from Prayer Revolution by John Smed

**DAY 1**

On behalf of your community, worship and pray to God as the

# DELIVERER

*"It will be a sign and a witness to the Lord of hosts in the land of Egypt. When they cry to the Lord because of oppressors, he will send them a savior and defender, and deliver them."*



*Isaiah 19:20*

**Pray** that God will break every form of bondage, heal the minds and bodies of those who abuse substances, turn them from darkness to light, and from self-centered living to a lifestyle of following Christ.



**DAY 2**

On behalf of your community,  
worship and pray to God as the

# MIRACLE WORKER

*"When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. 'Where did this man get these things?' they said. 'What is this wisdom that has been given to him, and how are these miracles performed by his hands?'"*

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Mark 6:2

**Pray** that God will meet the physical and spiritual needs of those facing desperate circumstances and deliver them from cycles of despair, pointing people to the Miracle-Worker, and bringing a transforming belief in God who can meet all their needs.

**DAY 3**

On behalf of your community,  
worship and pray to God as

# OMNIPOTENT

*"Oh, Lord God! You yourself made the heavens and earth by your great power and with your outstretched arm. Nothing is too difficult for you!"*

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Jeremiah 32:17

**Pray** for children who have lost their parents or who are now in foster care without their birth parents, for safe, loving, godly permanent homes and families and for healing from any past abuse.



**DAY 4**

On behalf of your community,  
worship and pray to God as the

# PROVIDER

*"The earth is full of your creatures... All of them wait for you to give them their food at the right time. When you give it to them, they gather it; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things."*

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*Psalm 104:24, 27-28*

**Pray** that God will prosper employers and employees and meet the needs of those without work in a way that they can clearly thank God for His provision.

**DAY 5**

On behalf of your community,  
worship and pray to God as the

# REVEALER

*"May the name of God be praised forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to him...He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals the deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with him."*

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*Daniel 2:19-22*

**Pray** that God's healing presence will reach those suffering from mental illness and that the light of truth will dispel lies and the oppressive power of Satan, bringing the comfort and joy of the Holy Spirit and the renewing of their minds in Christ Jesus.



**DAY 6**

On behalf of your community,  
worship and pray to God as

# TRUSTWORTHY

*"The works of his hands are truth and justice; all his instructions are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, enacted in truth and in uprightness."*

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*Psalm 111:7-8*

**Pray** for strong marriages that reflect His faithfulness and beauty, and that fathers will look to God as the ultimate spiritual leader of their household and nurture and support their families, that God would refresh mothers in the honor and glory of motherhood and strengthen them to serve their families, and that single parent families would strengthen and thrive.

**DAY 7**

On behalf of your community,  
worship and pray to God as the

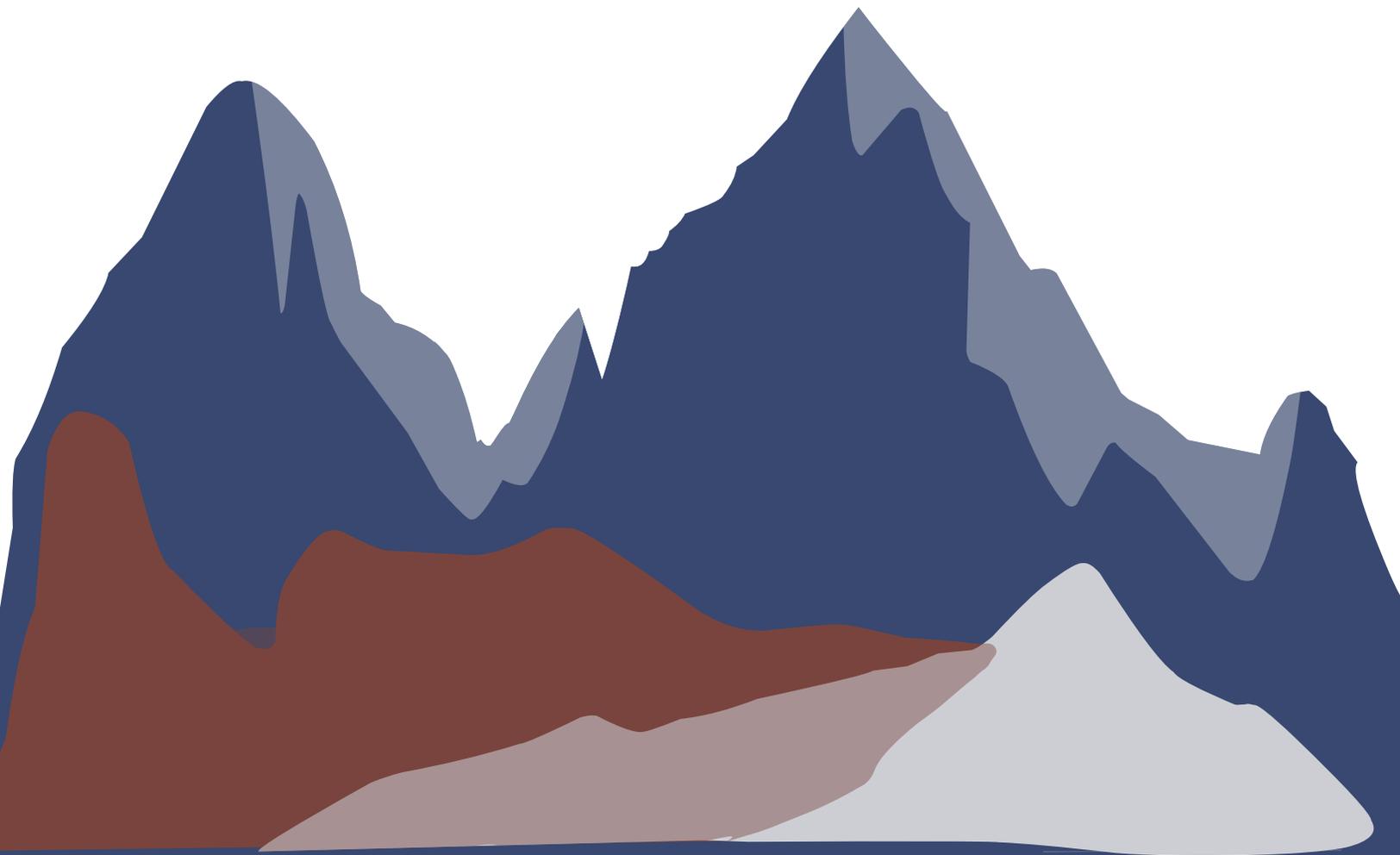
# RESURRECTION

*"Because of his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you."*

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*1 Peter 1:3-4*

**Pray** that the families of prisoners would be sustained, that those released from prison would find help, community, wisdom and strength to live godly, abundant lives, and that people in jails and prisons will follow Christ and be freed from the powers of the evil one who holds them in darkness and walk in the light of God's Shalom.



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Of Montana