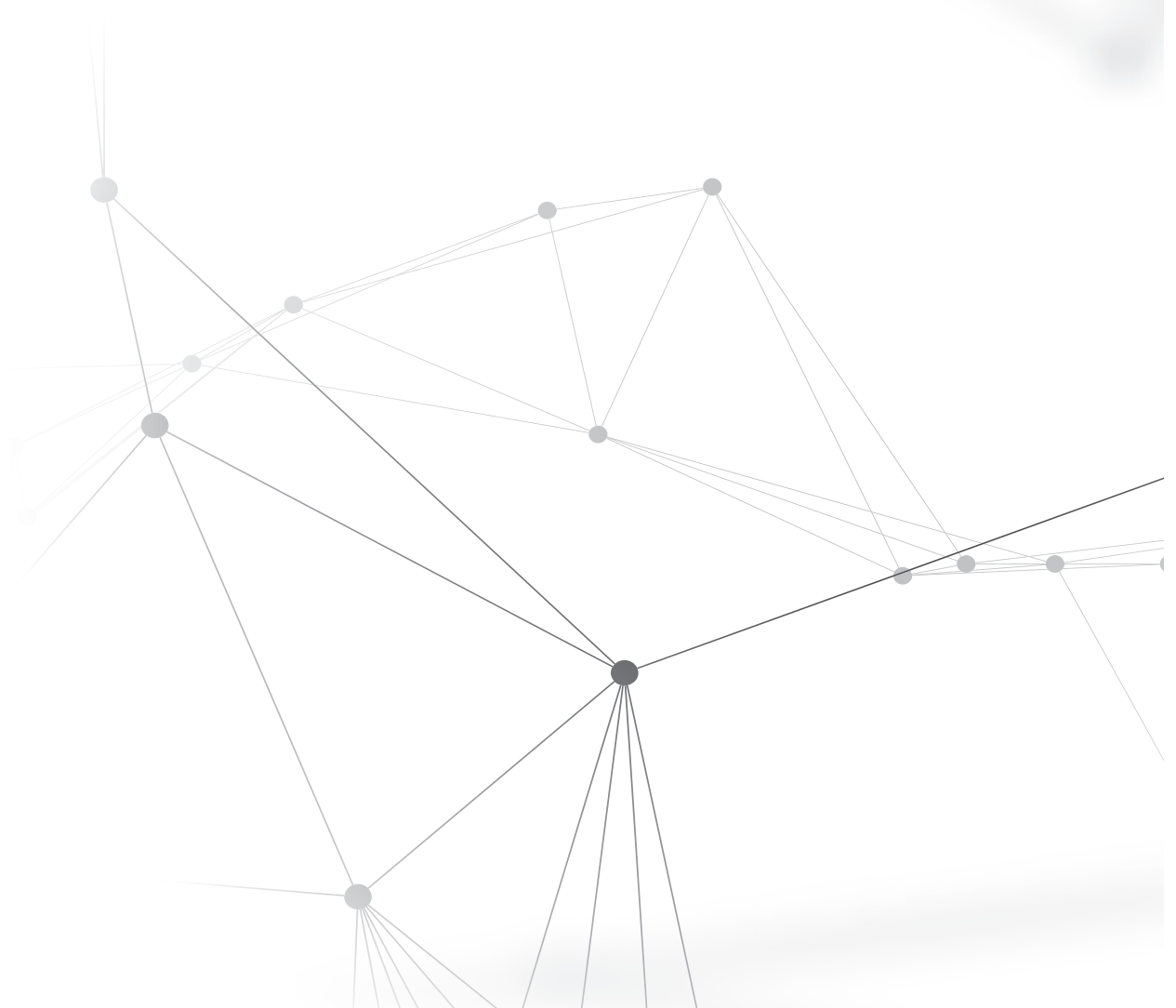


ESSENTIAL FRAMEWORK

FOR

BIBLICAL **COMMUNITY**



Introduction

Ethics and Community:

“What does the whole Bible teach us about which acts, attitudes, and personal character traits receive God’s approval, and which do not **[concerning Biblical Community]**?”

(Grudem, *Christian Ethics*, p. 37, emphases added)

Essential Elements:

Common:

Love, Service, Care, Honor, “One Another”

Uncommon:



Roadmap

Uncommon Element #1: Retelling Our Story

Uncommon Element #2: Rethinking The Human Heart: Prone To Wander

Uncommon Element #3: Reexamining The Problem: The Root of Sin

Uncommon Element #4: Recalling The Way Of The Father: Biblical Change

Uncommon Element #5: Reevaluating Living Out Our Identity In Christ: The Gospel

Uncommon Element #1

Retelling Our Story

More than a testimony. A life story!

Family Background:

- **Important Events**

5 Year Chunks

- **Preschool (0-5)**
- **Grade school (6-11)**
- **Middle school (11-15)**
- **High School (16-20)**
- **College (21-25)**
- **Young Adult - Present**

Highlights

Crisis

Major Events

Salvation

How do they lens life, God, sin, and hope?

Uncommon Element #2

Rethinking The Human Heart: Prone To Wander

Biblical Text: **Lk 12:13-21**

Background:

- **11:37**

- **12:1**

Notes on Lk 12:13-21:

- **v. 13**

- **v. 14**

- **v. 15**

- **vv. 16-21**

Summary Points, Takeaways, Challenges:

- **Are there any areas of my life where my heart is longing for things other than Christ? What about in the lives of those in my community?**
- **Am I inviting input from others to help me see myself/heart better?**
- **Is there a culture in my community that fosters input?**

Uncommon Element #3

Reexamining The Problem: The Root of Sin

“If I only had...” — What other ways can this statement be phrased?

What we do about understanding the lies of Gen 3.

1. _____
2. _____

Five reasons we don't talk about what is really going on:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | |

Biblical Text: **Gen 3:1-13:**

Background:

Notes on Gen 3:1-13:

- vv. 1-3

- v. 4

- v. 6

- v. 7

- vv. 8-11

- vv. 12-13

Summary Points, Takeaways, Challenges:

- **Which lies are easier for you to believe?**

- **Can I trace sin in my life to one or a few of the above lies? Can I help others understand the root of their sin?**

Uncommon Element #4

Recalling The Way Of The Father: Biblical Change

People going through _____ is a major theme in the Scriptures.

God, in His GOODNESS can use _____ to bring about change in our lives.

- **Two common responses to difficult circumstances:**

1. _____
2. _____

- **I need to:**

1. _____
2. _____

Biblical Text: **Ex 15:22-26:**

Background:

Notes on Ex 15:22-26:

- **v. 22**

- **vv. 22-24**

- **v. 25**

- **v. 26**

Summary Points, Takeaways, Challenges:

- **What has God already revealed through difficult circumstances in my life?**
- **What areas of my life do I fear God using to teach me something?**
- **Difficulty can enter our lives at any moment. How am I preparing my community to respond well?**

Uncommon Element #5

Reevaluating Living Out Our Identity In Christ: The Gospel

- **People are often aware of:**

1. _____
2. _____

- **People actually want** _____.
- **People actually want their** _____ **to be a place of change.**
- **A believer should seek to** _____.

Biblical Text: **Col 3:12-17:**

Background:

Notes on Col 3:12-17:

- **v. 12**
- **v. 13**
- **v. 14**
- **v. 15**
- **v. 16**
- **v. 17**

Summary Points, Takeaways, Challenges:

- **Is the Gospel ruling and dwelling in my life and our community in the way it should? What areas need changed?**
- **As a community are we clothing ourselves with the attributes of Christ? Which ones might be lacking?**
- **Are we bearing with and forgiving well?**
- **Are we seeking horizontally what we already have vertically?**

