

GOD'S GRAND STORY

- find yourself here -



Movement I-Set up for ordered flourishing

Understanding the distinctives of Genesis chapters 1 & 2

- >Between CREATOR and his creation (Creator as generous & absolute sovereign, in intimate relationship with creation)
- >Between IMAGE BEARERS and beasts (Image Bearers superior to and stewards of beasts and totality of creation)
- >Between IMAGE BEARERS and their purpose (To fill the earth with offspring as foundational, “one flesh” unit of civilization)

Movement II-SIN **dis-orders everything**

Distinctives now corrupted

- >Between CREATOR and his creation (creature claims autonomy and is now an enemy of the CREATOR)
- >Between IMAGE BEARERS and the beasts (Image-Bearers devalued and disposable, beasts and creation elevated)
- >The IMAGE BEARERS and their specific assignments (Image-Bearers now 'given over' to the natural consequences of self-rule and 'appetite indulgence'.

Movement III: A new identity
Your calling to promote ordered flourishing
(From 'In Adam' to 'In Christ')



‘In Christ’ - Clarifying your identity and purpose

Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ, the new creation has come (identity)**: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and **gave us the ministry of reconciliation (purpose)**: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. **We are therefore Christ's ambassadors (identity)**, as though God were **making his appeal through us (purpose)**.

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

**For you were once darkness, but now you are light
(identity) in the Lord. Live as children of light (purpose).**

Ephesians 5:8-9

For we are God's handiwork (identity), created in Christ Jesus to do good works (purpose), which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10



Clarity of identity promotes the **courage** and **confidence**
required to fulfill your **calling**

Understood, but



Let's examine that for a sec...

Now, here are 4 questions of flourishing that you can apply to:

The street where you live;

The schools for your kids;

The screens where they peer, shaping what they hold dear;

Your place of vocation;

The corner gas station;

The halls of power and the ivory tower

The background of the image shows an open book with text on its pages, resting on a dark, textured wooden surface. A large, semi-transparent grey rectangle is centered over the image, containing the text. The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**What is praise worthy and must be celebrated,
supported and resourced?**



What is evil that we must resist?



What is broken that we can help to heal?

An open book with white pages and black text is lying on a dark, textured wooden surface. A semi-transparent grey rectangular box is centered over the book, containing the text "What is missing that we can contribute?".

What is missing that we can contribute?