

APOSTOLIC MISSION

EM720 ©

REV. DR. FLAVIO CHÁVEZ

www.EdisonTheologicalSeminary.org



CONTENT

- I. Yahweh and the Poor
 - The Old Testament
- II. Dimensions of Poverty
 - Views of poverty
 - Poverty as deficit, entanglement, mindset
 - The New Testament
 - Jesus' Praxis
- III. Apostolic Mission
 - Missio Dei
 - The Missional DNA
- IV. Development & Transformation
 - Restoring Relationships
 - People Development
 - Local Resources



YAHWEH AND THE POOR

OT and NT guidelines for Provision for the needy

- Lev 19:9 “When you gather in the harvest of your land, you must not completely harvest the corner of your field, and you must not gather up the gleanings of your harvest.
- Lev 19:10 You must not pick your vineyard bare, and you must not gather up the fallen grapes of your vineyard. **You must leave them for the poor and the resident foreigner.** I am the LORD your God.

THE EARLIEST LAW REGARDING PROVISIONS FOR THE POOR

Ruth 2:2 One day Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go to the fields so I can gather grain behind whoever permits me to do so.”

- Deu 24:19 Whenever you reap your **harvest** in your field and leave some unraked grain there, you must not return to get it; it should go to the resident **foreigner, orphan, and widow** so that the LORD your God may bless all the work you do.
- Deu 24:20 When you beat your **olive** tree you must not repeat the procedure; the remaining olives belong to the resident foreigner, orphan, and widow.
- Deu 24:21 When you gather the **grapes** of your vineyard you must not do so a second time; they should go to the resident foreigner, orphan, and widow.

WIDOWS & ORPHANS

Isa 1:16 Wash!
Cleanse yourselves!
Remove your sinful
deeds from my sight.
Stop sinning!

Isa 1:17 Learn to do
what is right!
Promote justice!
Give the oppressed
reason to celebrate!
Take up the cause of
the orphan! Defend
the rights of the
widow!

- Deu 15:7 If a fellow Israelite from one of your villages in the land that the LORD your God is giving you should be poor, you must not harden your heart or be insensitive to his impoverished condition.
- Deu 15:8 Instead, you must be sure to open your hand to him and generously lend him whatever he needs.

GENEROSITY

Solomon may have been meditating on these words of Moses when he wrote, *“One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty”* (Pro 11:24).

- Amos 2:6 This is what the LORD says:
"For three sins of Israel, even for four, I will not relent. They sell the innocent for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals.
- Amos 2:7 They trample on the heads of the poor as on the dust of the ground and deny justice to the oppressed. Father and son use the same girl and so profane my holy name.
 - Where are the prophetic voices today?

THE PROPHETIC ROLL: AMOS

Israel had violated the Mosaic Covenant in several ways, including social injustice (Amos 2:6), legal perversion (Amos 2:7), sexual sin (Amos 2:7), abuse of collateral (Amos 2:8), and idolatry (Amos 2:8).

- Mic 3:1 Then I said, "Listen, you leaders of Jacob, you rulers of Israel. Should you not embrace justice,
- Mic 3:2 you who hate good and love evil; who tear the skin from my people and the flesh from their bones;
- Mic 3:3 who eat my people's flesh, strip off their skin and break their bones in pieces; who chop them up like meat for the pan, like flesh for the pot?"

THE PROPHETIC ROLE: MICAH

figurative speech to express unfair legal actions, by bribery (cf. Mic 3:11; Mic 7:3), by theft (cf. Mic 2:8), by oppression (cf. Mic 3:9), and even by bloodshed (cf. Mic 3:10; Mic 7:2), they left the people helpless.

- Isa 10:1 Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees,
- Isa 10:2 to deprive the poor of their rights and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people, making widows their prey and robbing the fatherless.
- Isa 10:3 What will you do on the day of reckoning, when disaster comes from afar? To whom will you run for help? Where will you leave your riches?

YAHWEH: A RIGHTEOUS GOD

The fourth strophe opens with a “Woe” on the maladministration of the judges, which was always to Isaiah’s mind the chief symptom of a rotten republic (Isa 9:1-2). This is followed by an allusion to a day of slaughter in which the magnates shall vainly seek safety beneath the slain (3, 4).



DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY

Different Approaches to deal with Poverty

■ Dimensions of Poverty:

1. Material Poverty
2. Physical Weakness
3. Isolation
4. Vulnerability
 - Social: Feast days, weddings, funerals
 - Natural disasters, droughts, selling land, livestock, children
 - Sickness, accidents
 - Drinking, drugs
 - Exploitation
5. Powerlessness
6. Spiritual Poverty

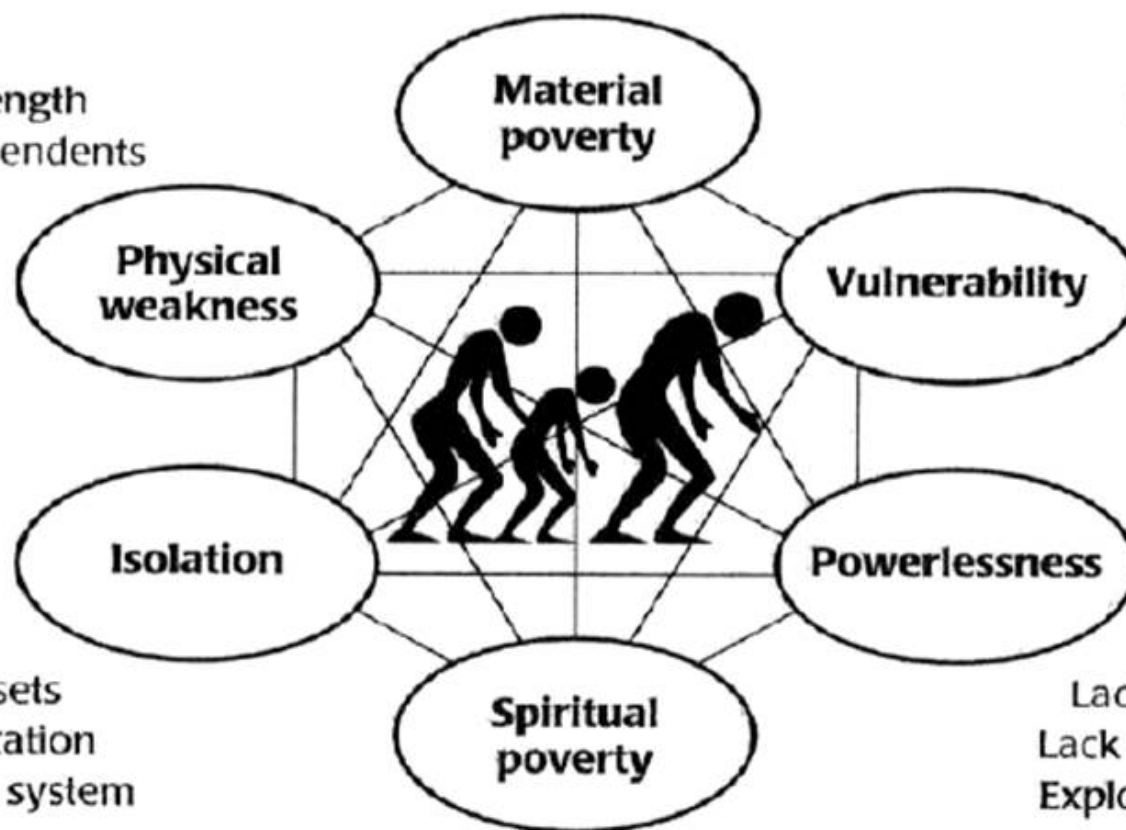
POVERTY AS ENTANGLEMENT

Robert
Chambers,
development
practitioner with
extensive rural
experience in
Africa and India

Lack of assets

Lack of strength
Too many dependents

Lack of reserves
Lack of choices
Easy to coerce



Broken relationships
with neighbor and God

Figure 3-2 : The poverty system of the household.
(Adapted from Chambers 1983, 110)

- Social, Political, Economic, Religious
 1. Identity: *nothing to contribute*
 2. Worldview: *Our poverty is ordained. God gives what we deserve*
 3. Deception: *Nobody wants you, likes you, care for you.....*
 4. Mind: *I'm not smart, I have no education, I have nothing*

DEALING WITH DISEMPOWERING BELIEFS

Replace the lies
with the Truth

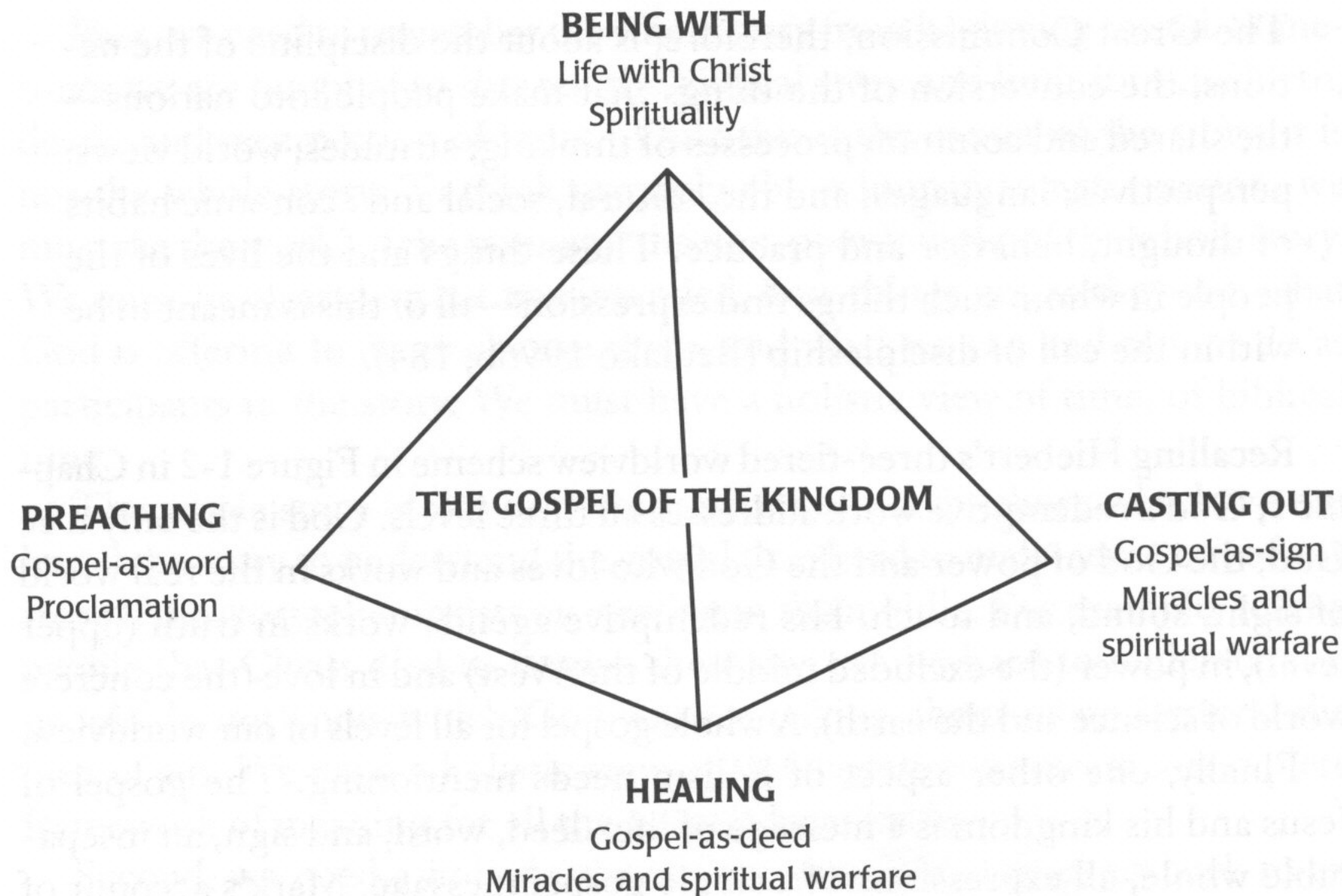


Figure 2-6: The gospel of the kingdom: Being, preaching, healing, and casting out.

PROPOSED RESPONSES TO POVERTY

Cause	Response
Sinners	Evangelism
Sinned against	Justice
Lack of knowledge	Education
Lack of things	Relief/Welfare
Flawed Culture	Become like us
System	Change the System

- Jhn 8:32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

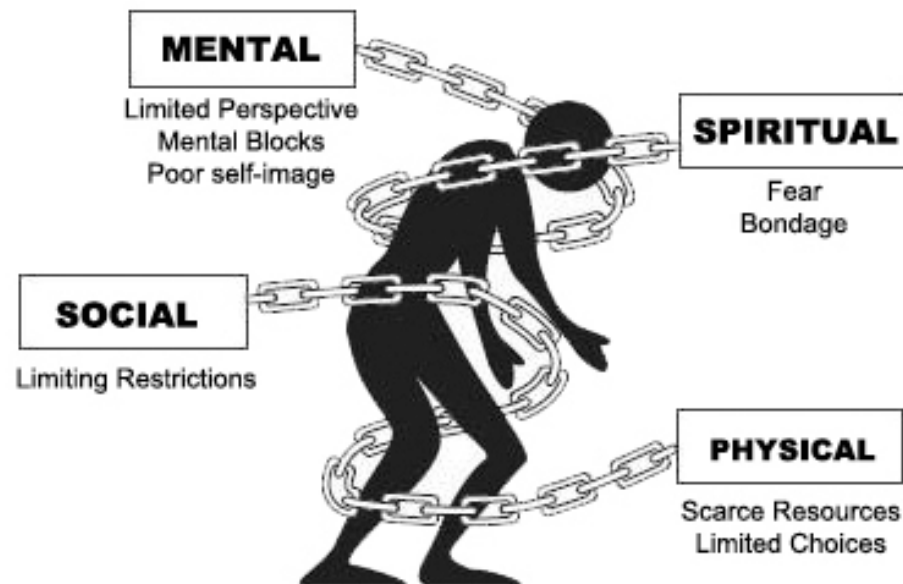


Figure 4-10: Poverty as a lack of freedom to grow.
(After Jayakaran 1996, 14) Bryant L. Myers (2011-11-09).
Walking With The Poor: Principles and Practices of Transformational Development
(Revised and Expanded Edition) (Kindle Location 3182).

RECOVERING THE ABUNDANT LIFE

Spiritual Freedom
Emotional Healing
Physical wellbeing
Quality of Life

- Jas 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.
- Acts 6:1 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

THE SOCIAL ROLE OF THE CHURCH

It is obvious that God's emphasis is not on religious ritual but on right living.

A believer with God-pleasing "religion" helps others in need

- 1Ti 5:3 Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need.
- 1Ti 5:16 If any woman who is a believer has widows in her care, she should continue to help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need.
- Luk 14:13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,
- Luk 14:14 and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

THE WIDOW & THE POOR

Throughout the Old and New Testaments widows, along with aliens and orphans, are viewed as special objects of God's mercy

The poor are mentioned 26x in the NT.

- Luk 19:5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."
- Luk 19:6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.
- Luk 19:7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, "**He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.**"

JESUS & THE SINNERS

Luk 5:31 Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick."

Luk 5:32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

JESUS & THE SINNERS

The Law (Lev 13:1-59) commanded strict segregation of a person who had leprosy, for it was a graphic picture of uncleanness.

A leprous person could not worship at the central sanctuary; he was ceremonially unclean and therefore cut off completely from the community.

- Luk 5:12 While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."
- Luk 5:13 Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.
 - When someone clean touched something unclean, the clean became unclean.
 - Luke, in describing Jesus' actions, showed that Jesus was the Source of ceremonial cleansing

- Jesus fed the multitudes (4000, Mt. 15:32-39; Mk 8:1-10; 5000, Mt. 14:13-21, Jn. 6:10)
- Jesus heal the sick (14 healings)
- Jesus set the demon possessed free (5)
- Jesus incorporated women into his ministerial team (Lk. 8:2-3)
- Jesus crossed cultural boundaries in his interaction with the Samaritan woman (Jn. 4:7,9)
- Jesus confronted the oppressors (Lk. 6:24-26)
- Jesus confronted religious corruption (12)

JESUS' PRAXIS

The Apostolic mission *"is oriented to the satisfaction of the basic needs of human beings, including their need for God, but also their need for love, food, shelter, shelter, physical and mental health and sense of human dignity"* Rev. Rene Padilla



APOSTOLIC MISSION

ORGANIC, MISSIONAL, INCARNATED

- Missio Dei
 - The Father sends the Son
 - The Son sends the Spirit
 - The Spirit sends the Church
- Jhn 20:21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."
- Mt. 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
- Therefore **go and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- **and teaching them to obey** everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

MISSIO DEI

*The Missional
Impulse
involves
bringing the
church to the
people and not
the people to
church*

MISSIO DEI



Missional

- When we Contextualize *the message*, our proclamation of the gospel is understood in the culture



Incarnated

- When we Contextualize *our Lives* we are living out the gospel with proximity in our community

- Eph 4:11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.
- Eph 4:12 Their responsibility is **to equip God's people** to do his work and **build up the church**, the body of Christ.
- Eph 4:13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

KINGDOM DNA

The noun rendered ***equipping*** occurs only here in N.T

The Divine gift of a Christian Ministry is to have its effect above all things in the fitting of "the saints" for active "service".



Apostolic Mission

- Church Planter
- Outreach
- Discipleship



Culture Prophets

- Engages culture with Truth: Apologetics
- Abortion, Racism, Gender Dysphoria,
- Nuclear family.....



Evangelist

- Engages culture with the Word
- Recruiter of souls
- Christian Witness



Pastor

- Pastoral Care
- Equipping the Saints (Faith, Hope & Love)
- Proclamation of the Word, Sacraments



Teacher

- Teaches the Bible
- Transmits Doctrine
- Transmits Missional DNA

- The ability to generate authentic followers of Jesus is a crucial factor that determines the quality of everything else.
 - If we fail in this process, we will fail in everything else.
- The Wesleyan Phenomenon in the Eighteenth Century, The phenomenon of Church growth in China and India **essentially stems from intense, involved, and engaged discipleship.**
- For the follower of Christ, discipleship is not the first step in a promising career, it is in itself the fulfillment of his destiny

DISCIPLESHIP

"The recovery of the truth, life and power of early Christianity and the expansion of this type of Christianity"

George Hunter III,
To Spread the Power: church growth in the Wesleyan Spirit

1. **A Burning Faith:**

- Paul, Wesley, Luther, Mother Theresa

2. **Commitment:**

- People *touched by God* have a very high level of commitment

3. **Contagious Relationships:**

- The Gospel Has Always Spread Through Relationships

4. **Rapid Mobilization:**

- Coordination

5. **Dynamic Methods:**

- Innovation

ELEMENTS OF DISCIPLESHIP

To become Christ like.

'We must become saints not because we want to feel that way, but because Christ must be able to live fully in us'

Mother Theresa

Greek Method	Hebrew Method
The Academia	Action & Reflection
Information	Incarnation
Conferences	Mentoring
Books	Apprenticeship

✓ Renewed Mind
X Old Behavior

✓ Renewed Mind
✓ New Behavior

"Discipleship is determined by a relationship with Christ Himself, not by mere conformity to impersonal commandments.

Its context is not a classroom, or even the church, but the world."

David Bosch, Transforming Mission

- Rom 8:29 (NET)
because those whom he foreknew
he also predestined **to be conformed (συμμορφός) to the image of his Son**, that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV)
And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are **being transformed into his image** with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
- Ephesians 4:24 (NIV)
and to **put on the new self**, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness

CHARACTER GROWTH

summorphos

From G4862 and G3444; jointly formed, that is, (figuratively) similar: - conformed to, fashioned like unto.



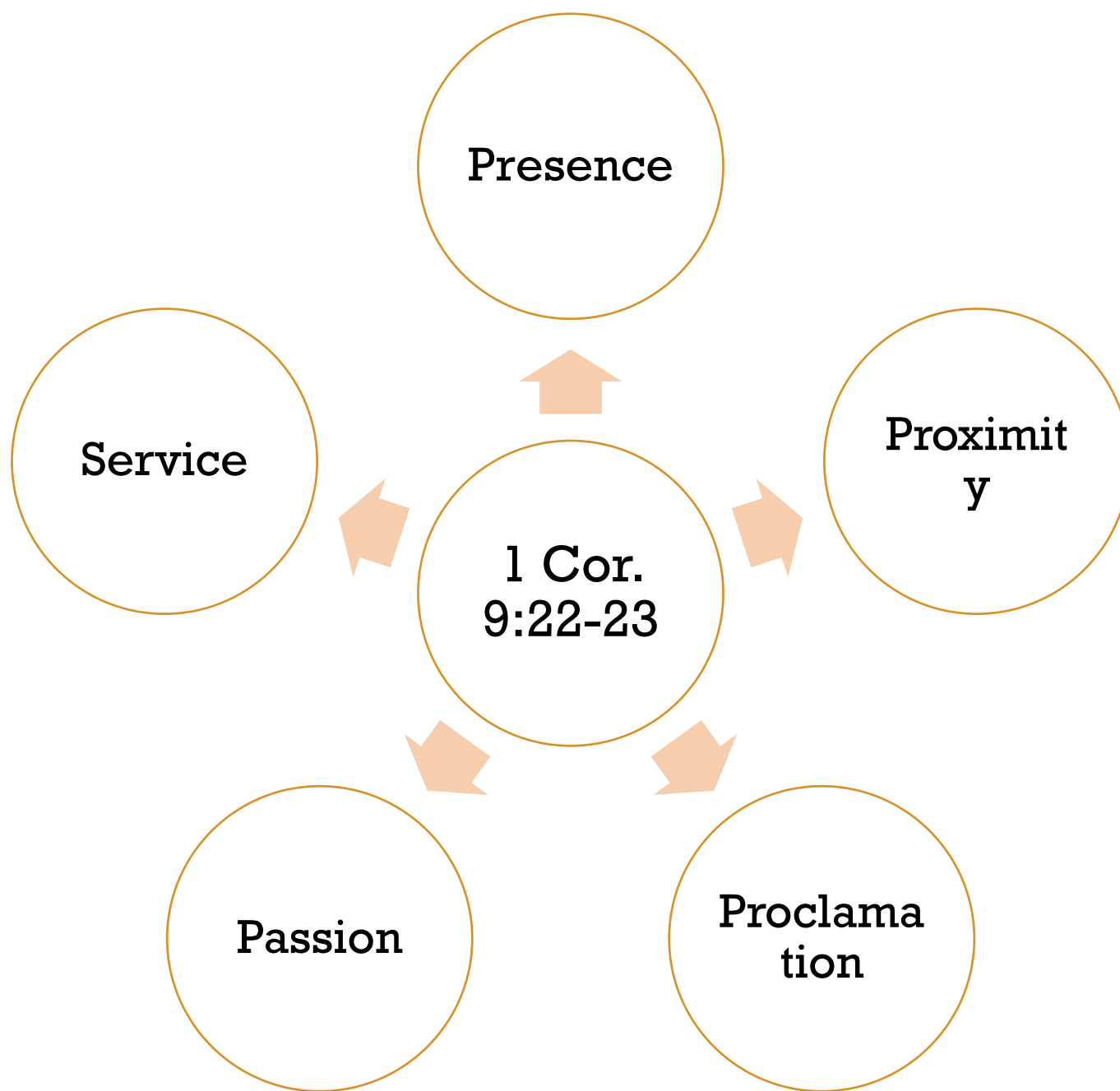
**‘The only
way to
spread a
message is
to live it.’**

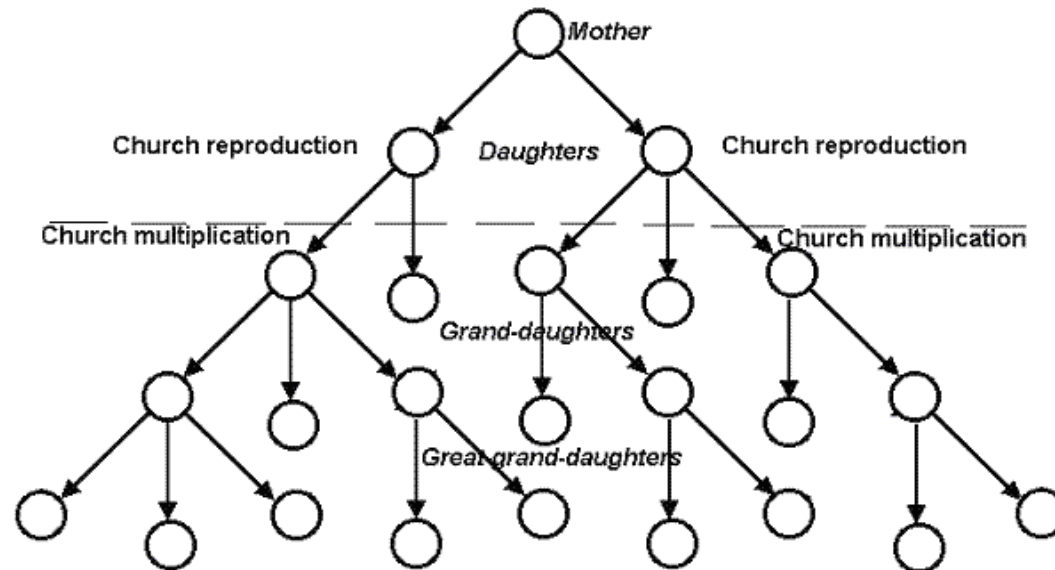
Jim Wallis, *Call to
Conversion*

- 1Co 9:21 To those free from the law I became like one free from the law (though I am not free from God's law but under the law of Christ) *to gain those free from the law.*
- 1Co 9:22 To the weak I became weak in order to gain the weak. *I have become all things to all people, so that by all means I may save some.*
- 1Co 9:23 I do all these things because of the gospel, so that I can be a participant in it.

PRESENCE & PROXIMITY

Love, Faith Hope,
Compassion,
Prayer

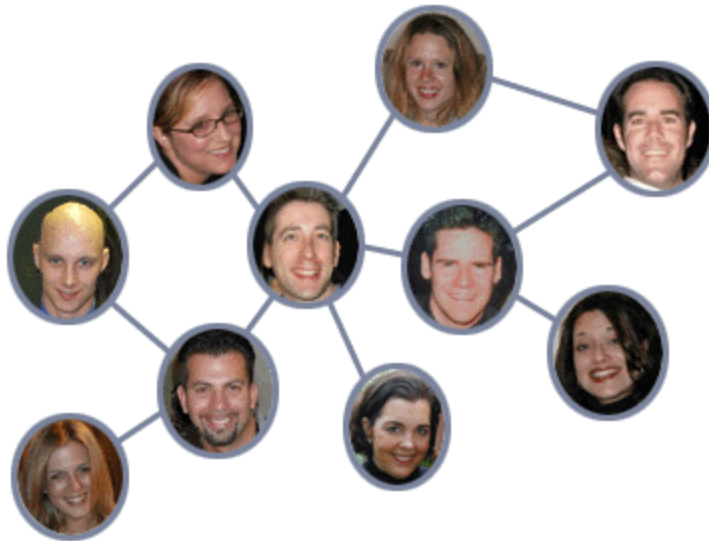




ORGANIC REPRODUCTION

Church
Reproduction

Church
Multiplication



SERVICE

Identify the needs
in the community

Narrow the list to 3

Choose Two

Church Oriented

Kingdom Oriented

Growth	Multiplication
Church in mind	Kingdom Mindset
Discerns needs	Discern Receptivity
Individual Conversions	Group Conversions
Emphasis in Christian culture	Emphasis in Culture
Individual Growth	The person of Peace
Emphasis in temple related activities	Homes Cells
Emphasis in Masses	Emphasis in small groups
Emphasis in knowledge	Obedience oriented
Emphasis in Programs	Discipleship oriented





DEVELOPMENT & TRANSFORMATION: RESTORATION OF RELATIONSHIPS

Intentional Outreach

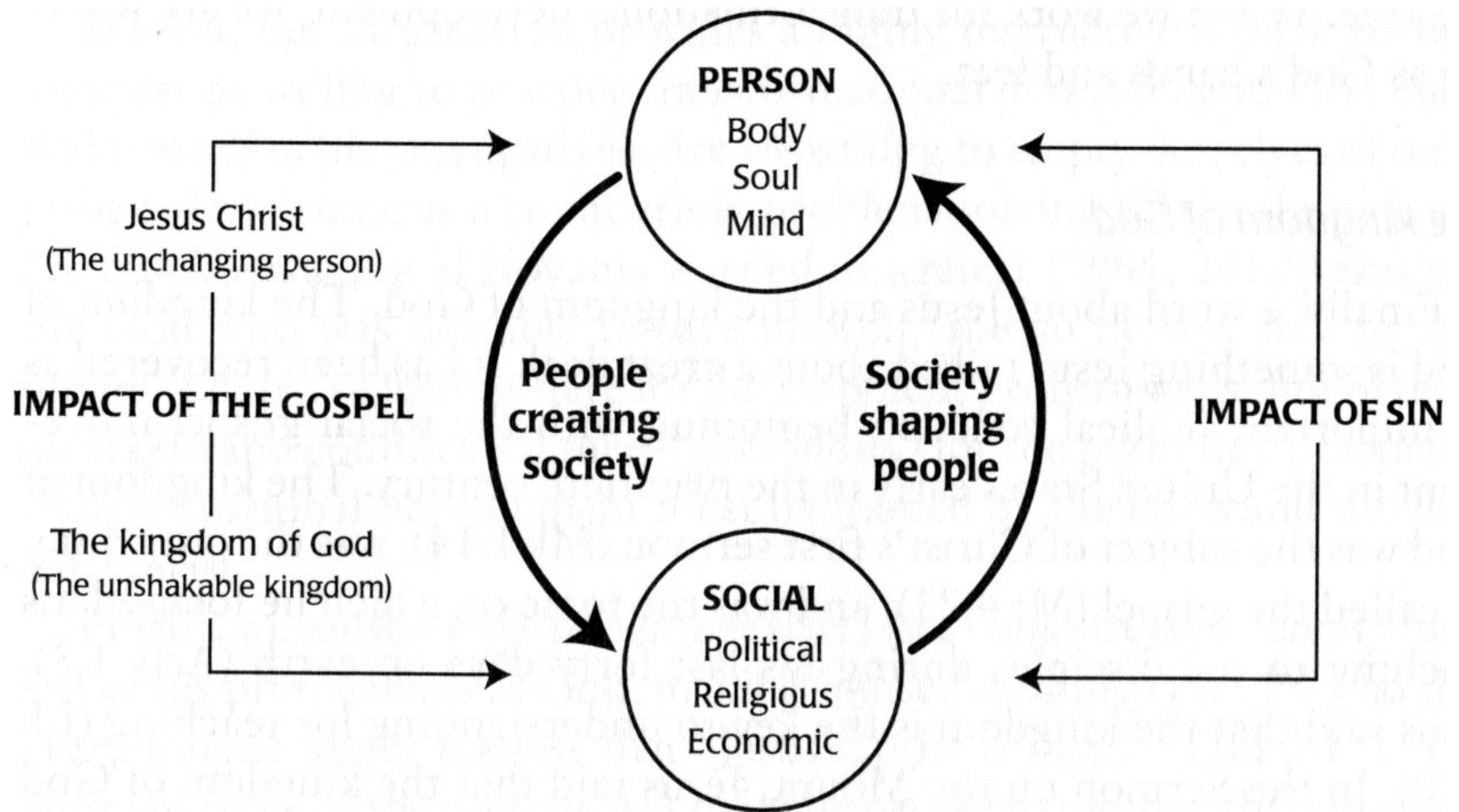


Figure 2-5: The inseparability of the person and the social order.
(After Jones 1972, 32-35)

- The charitable and transforming acts of Christians will never mediate salvation.
- Salvation rests alone in the finished work of Christ
 - *Εἶπεν (legō) τετελεσται (teleō)* (“It is completed!”) Jn. 19:30
- Salvation is for the whole “being”: Body, Soul, Spirit
- It involves:
 - Regeneration
 - Sanctification
 - Renewal of the Mind
 - Body: Temple of the spirit, Quality of Life, resurrection

IMPACT OF THE GOSPEL

Rom 8:20 For the creation was subjected to futility – not willingly but because of God who subjected it – in hope

Rom 8:21 that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of God's children.

SOCIAL IMPACT OF SIN

*The
asymmetries of
power and its
misuse by
individuals
results in
poverty*

- The created order does not appear to be equal everywhere
 - an outcome of the fall
 - Powers & Principalities
 - Geographical inequalities
 - Wealth Inequalities
- “Human relations are inherently power relations” James Davidson Hunter
- How should we respond to oppression?
 - The Pacifist stand
 - Yoder, Wink, Hauerwas:
 - Critique and resistance as a Christian Witness

From What?	To What?	Relationship
Lost Soul	Saved soul	With God
Dying body	Nourished body	With self
Sick body	Healed body	With self
Broken Mind	Restored mind	With self
Unjust social system	Just social relationships	With community & others
Violence	Reconciled relationships	With community & others
Decaying creation	Sustaining world	With environment

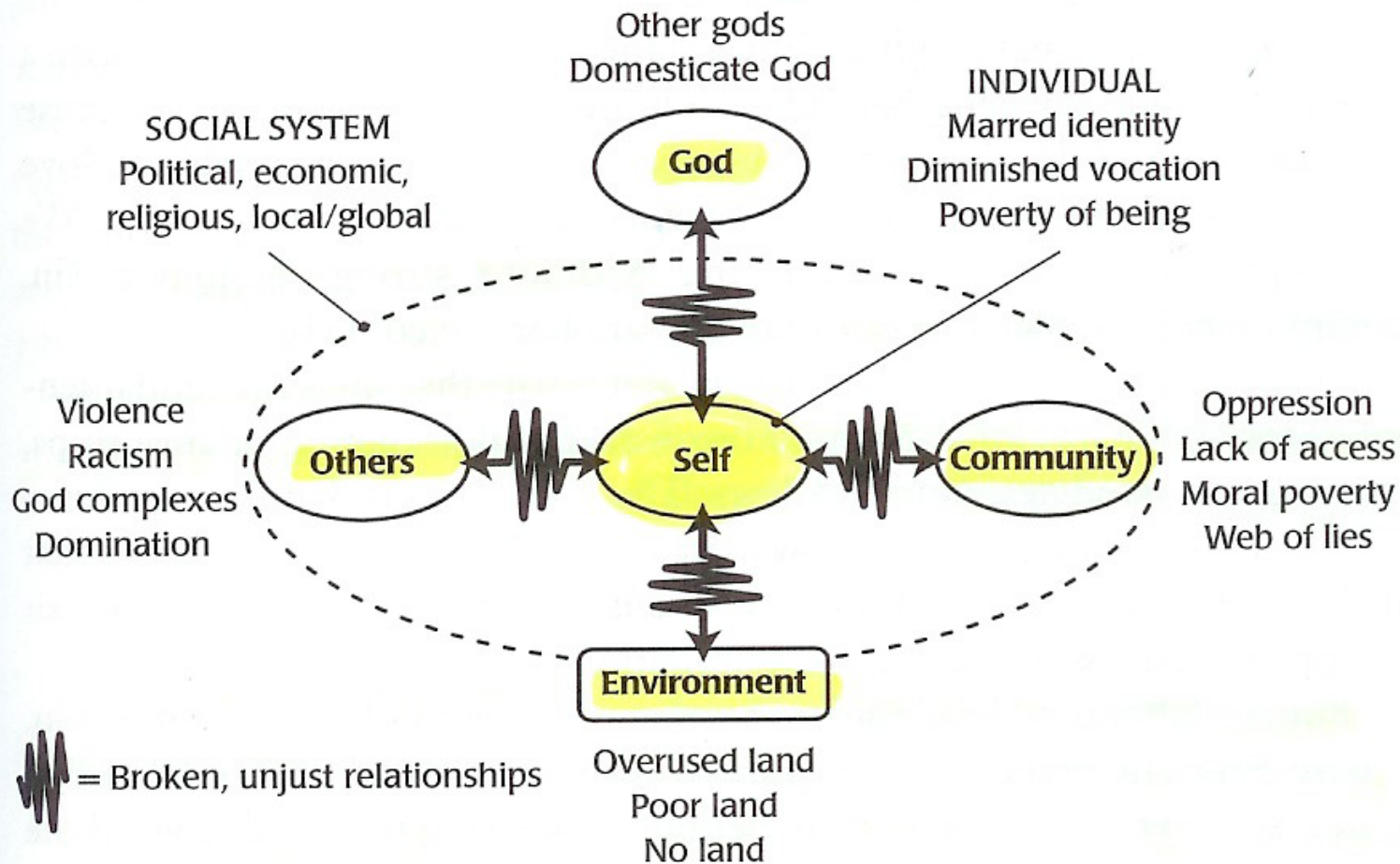


Figure 3-13: A relational understanding of poverty.

Restoring Relationships

■ Elements of Transformation

1. **Life Sustenance**: Human basic needs
2. **Equity**: distribution of opportunities & material goods
3. **Justice**: with all social relationships
4. **Dignity**: made in God's image
5. **Freedom**: oppression
6. **Participation**: in our own transformation
7. **Reciprocity**: between poor and non poor
8. **Cultural Fit**: respect local culture
9. **Ecological Soundness**

DEVELOPMENT AS TRANSFORMATION

Wayne Bragg,
former director
of the Hunger
Center at
Wheaton
College

Growth Centered	People Centered
Material Consumption	Human well being
Wants of the non por	Needs of the poor
Corporation	Household
Competition	Community
Export Markets	Local markets
Borrowing & debt	Conserving & sharing
Specialization	Diversification
Free flow of capital & services	Free flow of information

PEOPLE CENTERED DEVELOPMENT

David Korten developed his Typology of Development Response in his book *Getting to the twenty first Century*.

LOCAL RESOURCES REFERRALS

- Jacksonville Housing Authority: HUD
 - section 8 vouchers Call 904.630.3810
- The Inn Ministry Shelter for Women and Children
 - 1729 Hamilton St, Jacksonville. Call 904.388.773
- Women's Help Center
 - Provides diapers, pregnancy testing, baby food and formula, maternity clothing and more. 4116 Blanding Blvd, Jacksonville Call. 904.885.8864
- Catholic Charities
 - Emergency Financial Assistance, workforce development, food assistance, immigration legal services, refugee resettlement.
 - 40 E Adams St #320, Jacksonville FL 32202. Call 904.354.4846
- Salvation Army
 - Shelter, assistance with utility bills, Furniture. 2795 Country Road, Middleburg. Call 904.276.6677

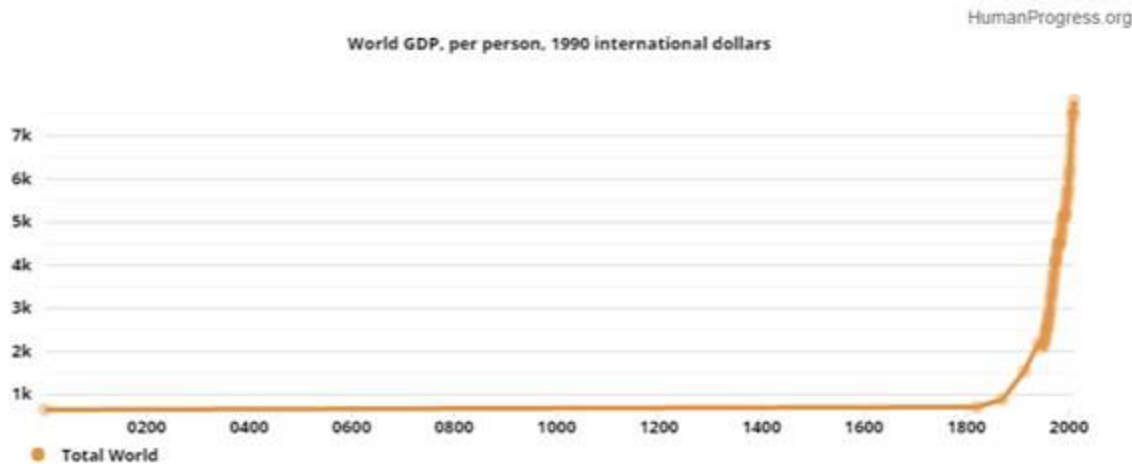
- Thorminc The House of Refuge Ministries
Ex-Offender Re-Entry Program
 - 34 E Church St, Jacksonville, Florida 32218.
Call 904.354-2233
- GED Preparation
 - Adult Community Education
 - 2306 Kingsley Ave, Bldg. 17. Orange Park.
904.336.4450
- AA Orange Park Group
 - Strip Mall on Kingsley. 866.504.6974
- The Inn Ministry
 - Shelter for Women and Children
 - 1729 Hamilton St, Jacksonville. Call
904.388.773

LOCAL RESOURCES REFERRALS

	Relief & Welfare	Small Scale local development	Sustainable systems development	People's movements
Problem	Shortage of things	Shortage of skills	Failure of social and cultural systems	Inadequate mobilizing vision
Time Frame	Immediate	3-5 years	10-20 years	Indefinite
Scope	Individual/Family	Neighborhood /Village	Region & Nation	National & Global
Actors	Development Agency	DA & Community	Public and Private institutions	Networks of people
Role	Doer	Mobilizer & Teacher	Catalyst	Activist & Educator
Management	Logistics	Community Self Help	Strategic Development	Energizing local networks

	Relief & Welfare	Small Scale local development
Shortage of things	GSM Closet Cloth Shelters	GED AA HUD Spiritual Counseling
Time Frame	Immediate	3-5 years
Scope	Individual/Family	Neighborhood
Actors	Development Agency	Community
Role	Doer	Mobilizer & Teacher
Management	Logistics	Community Self Help

- What happened in the 1800's that improved the world's GDP?
- Over the last 250 years the world's wealth has increased over 50 times



Source: The Maddison Project

CONTEXTUALIZING ECONOMICS

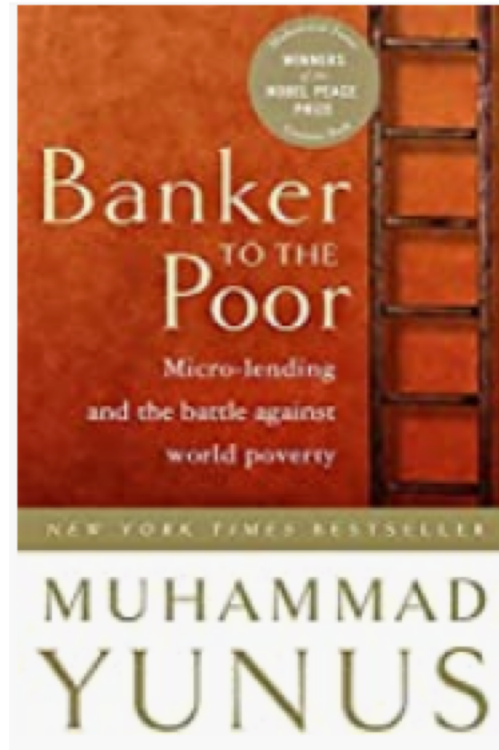
The entire world lived on the equivalent of \$1.25 a day for a thousand years after Christ.

- There has never been a major famine in a functioning democracy
- Amartya derived that the source of poverty is the result of deprivation of human freedom
- People Centered Approach
 - Life Expectancy
 - Literacy
 - Standard of Living
- For Amartya human well-being is best understood not by what people consume, but by what people *are* and *do*.
- Echoes the biblical worldview but still incomplete

DEVELOPMENT AS FREEDOM

Amartya Sen,
Indian
economist from
the 90's

- Social Businesses
 - The poor want to work
 - They need access to working capital
 - Small loans with interest
 - Creating social good replaces profit maximization
 - Investors recover their investment but do not receive dividends
 - He calls it the missing element of capitalism



CREDIT

Muhammad Yunus is a Bangladesh professor of economics & founder of the Grameen Bank.