

An aerial photograph of San Francisco, California, taken from a high altitude. The city's skyline is visible, including the Transamerica Pyramid and the Golden Gate Bridge. The city is partially obscured by a thick layer of white clouds that fill the lower half of the frame. The sky is a mix of light blue and golden yellow, indicating a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

BEAUTY

Will Save The World



# THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR

Advent: Anticipation

Christmas: Incarnation

Epiphany: Revelation

Lent: Crucifixion

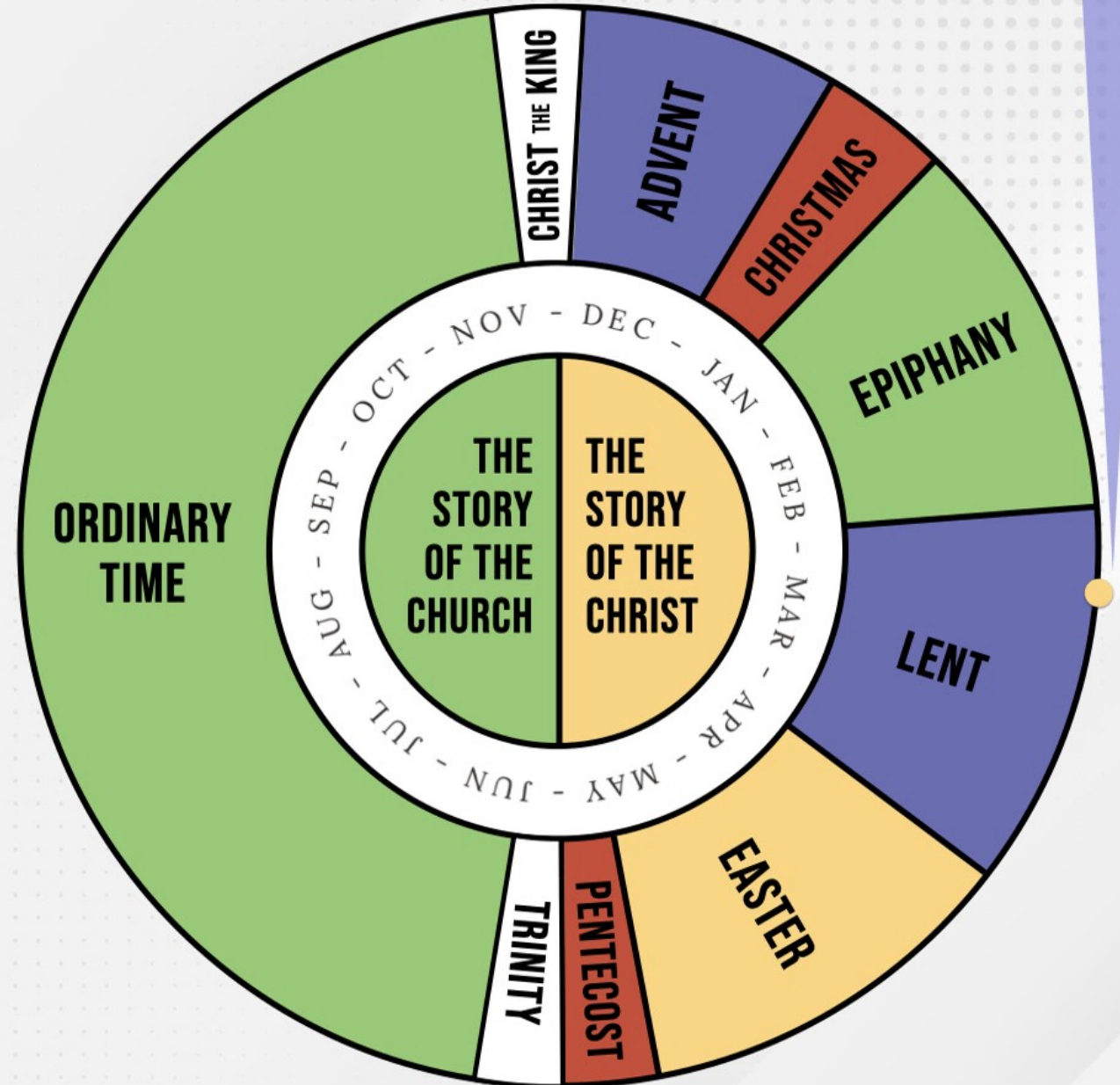
Easter: Resurrection

Pentecost: Ascension

Trinity: Magnification

Ordinary Time: Mission

Christ the King: Conclusion





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# MARK 7:31-37

31 Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.

32 There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

# MARK 7:31-37

33 After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. 34 He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!").



# MARK 7:31-37

35 At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. 36 Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it.

# MARK 7:31-37

37 People were overwhelmed with amazement. “He has done everything well,” they said. “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”



# MARK 8:22-26

22 They came to Bethsaida, and some people brought a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him. 23 He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. When he had spit on the man's eyes and put his hands on him, Jesus asked, "Do you see anything?"



# MARK 8:22-26

24 He looked up and said, “I see people; they look like trees walking around.”<sup>25</sup> Once more Jesus put his hands on the man’s eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. <sup>26</sup> Jesus sent him home, saying, “Don’t even go into the village.”

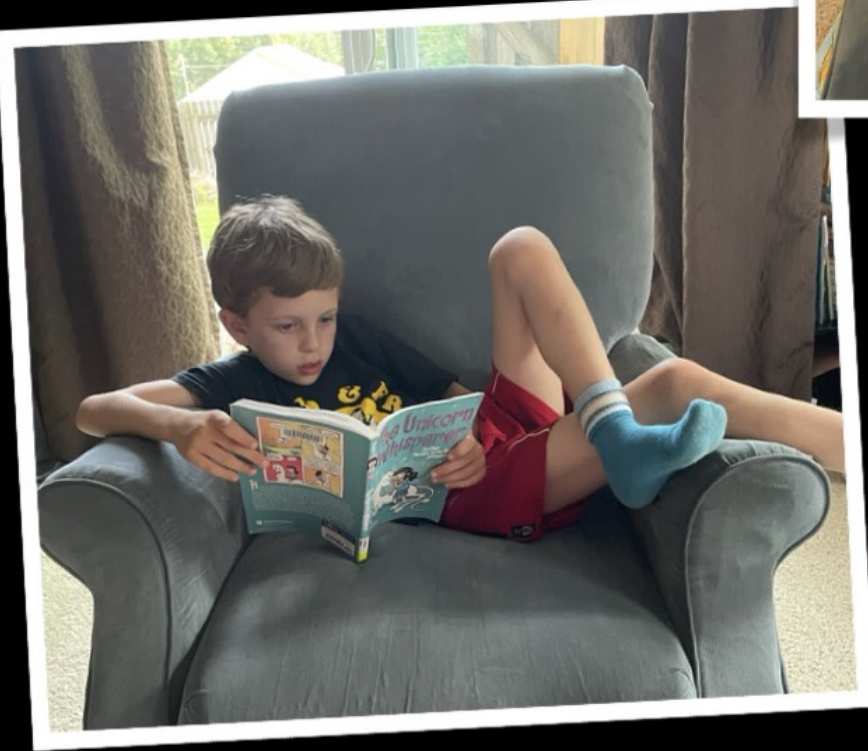
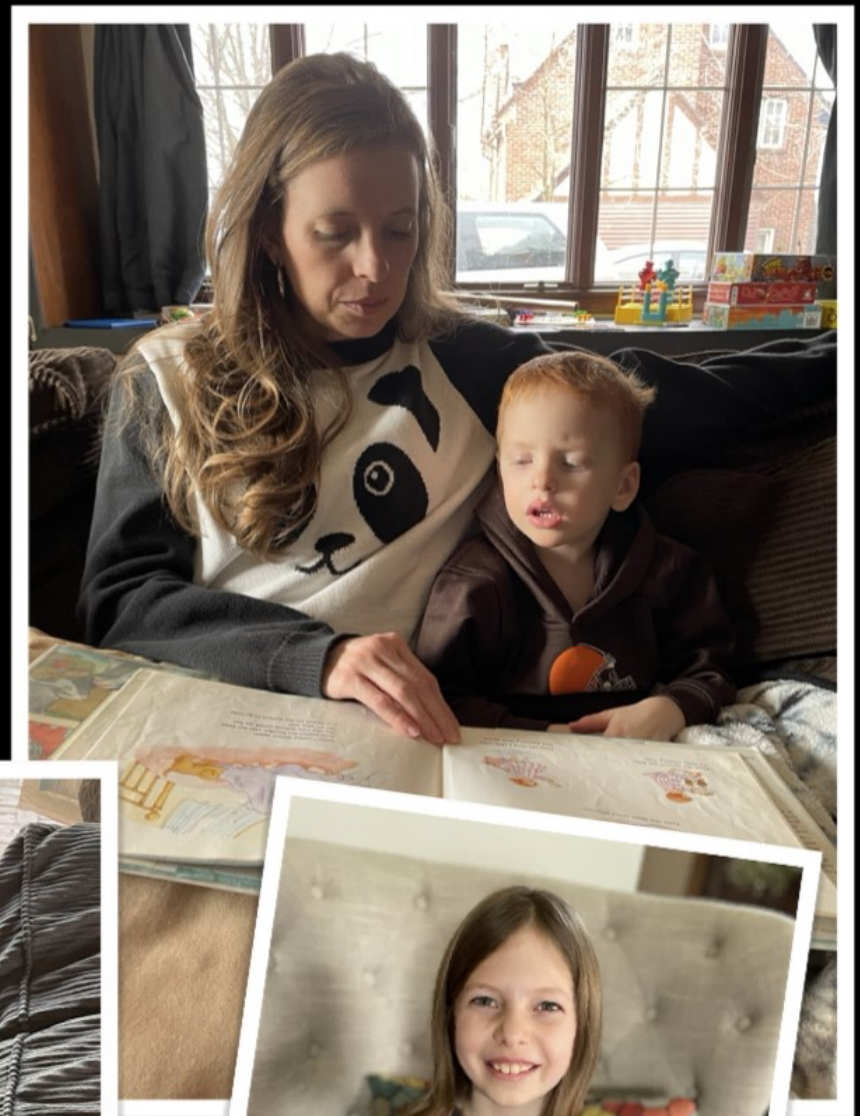


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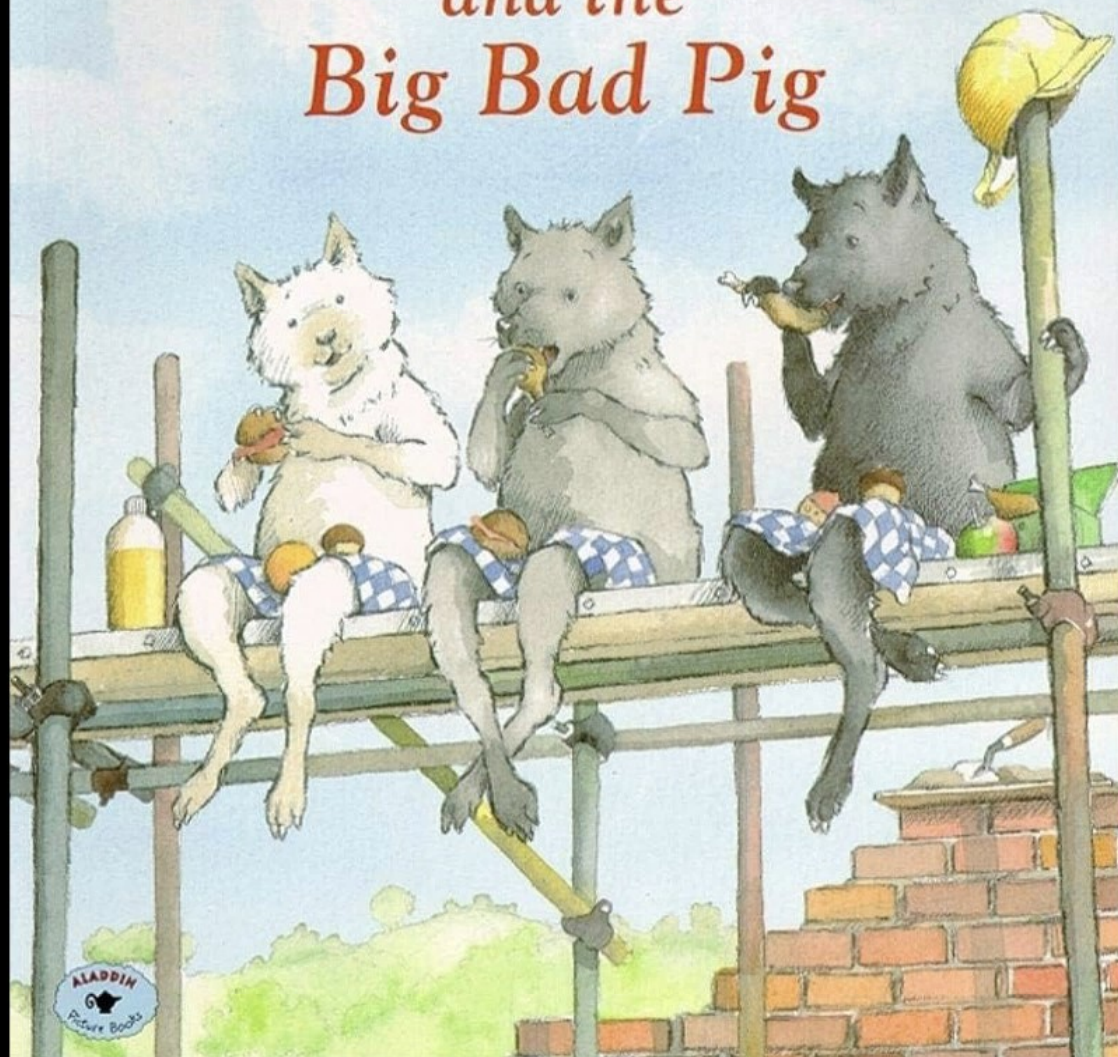






EUGENE TRIVIZAS HELEN OXENBURY

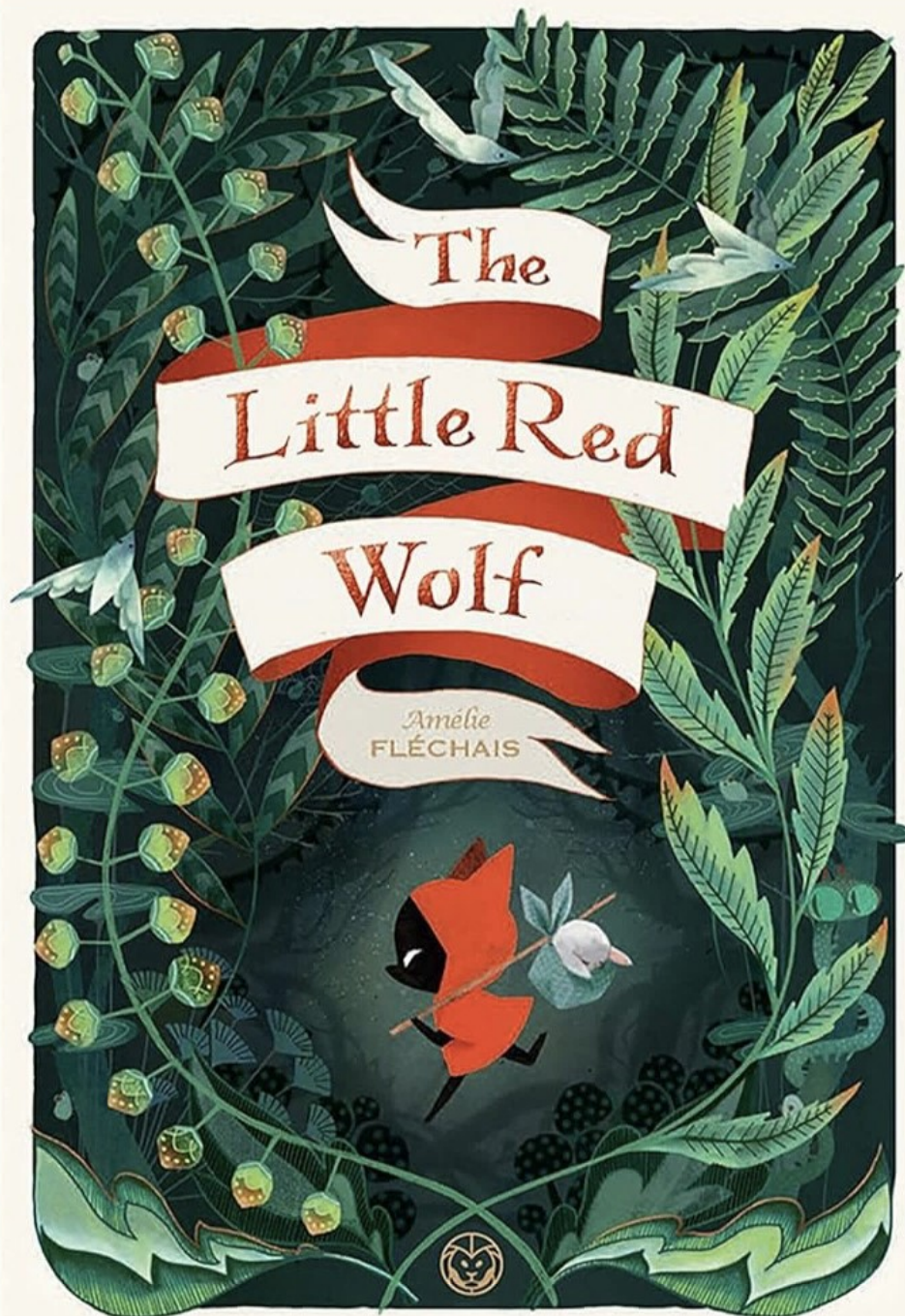
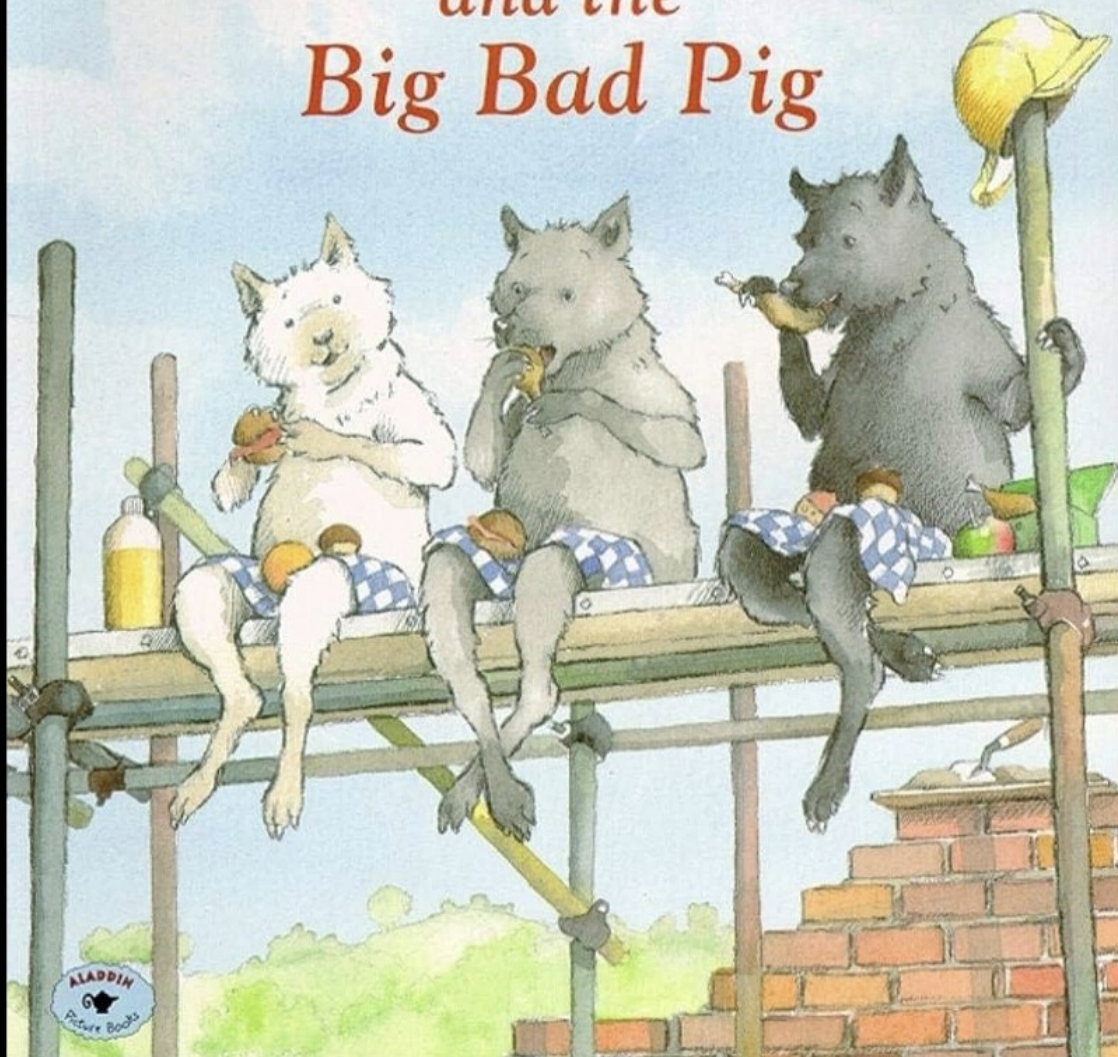
The  
*Three Little Wolves*  
and the  
*Big Bad Pig*





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Three Little Wolves  
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ALADDIN  
Picture Books

THE  
WOLF  
WHO  
CRIED  
BOY



Story by Bob Hartman ■ Pictures by Tim Raglin



The  
Little Red  
Wolf

Amélie  
FLÉCHAIS





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# THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL STORY

Humans create idols depicting regional deities that are at war with opposing deities. Humanity's job is to fight culture wars to expand their god's influence. **The whole system runs on grievance.** The pattern of this world is grievance justifies violence.



# THE BIBLICAL STORY

God creates image-bearers that are at peace with creation, their Creator, and one another. Humanity's job is to cultivate flourishing and display their Creator's goodness, glory, and grace. **The whole system runs on forgiveness.** Forgiveness facilitates restoration.

# JOHN 20:19-23

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.



# JOHN 20:19-23

21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

“One of the great lies in almost every generation is that God’s people will reach their unbelieving neighbors better if they look, sound, act, and live as much like them as possible. The New Testament doesn’t support that, nor does church history. Instead, history bears out what the Bible teaches—namely, that God’s people are always most effective in an alien culture when, both by their life and lifestyle, they are clearly counter-cultural.”

***Alistair Begg***



# 1 PETER 2:11-12

11 Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

“For Jesus, there are no countries to be conquered, no ideologies to be imposed, no people to be dominated. There are only children, women and men to be loved.”

***Henri Nouwen***



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“There is always a cost to wrongdoing and it must fall on someone. Either the wrongdoer bears it or someone else must. This is true even if the wrong is not something that can be measured financially. The cost may be in reputation or relationship or health or something else. To forgive is to deny oneself revenge (Romans 12:17–21), to absorb the cost, to not exact repayment by inflicting on them the things they did to you in order to ‘even the score.’ Therefore forgiveness is always expensive to the forgiver, but the benefits—at the very least within your heart, and at best in the restoration of relationship and a witness to the power of the gospel—outweigh the cost.”

***Tim Keller, Forgive: Why Should I and How Can I?***