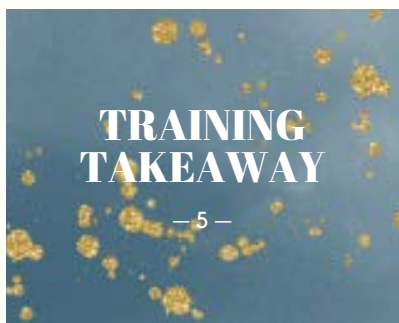
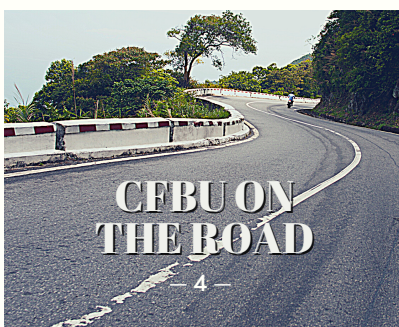




THE CENTER
FOR BIBLICAL
UNITY

IMAGO DEI

Quarterly Newsletter



Dear Family,

During the 1992 LA riots, I sat and watched rioters on television screaming, “no justice, no peace.” All my young mind could understand then was that if blacks could be beaten the way Rodney King was, America must be unjust. I didn’t have a concrete definition of what justice was; I simply equated justice with my understanding of fairness. I didn’t think it was fair for a black man to be beaten. Not so much because he was an image bearer, not even because he was innocent, but because, in my mind, a white person would never be treated in such a way. “No justice, no peace” became my cry, too. Justice is definitely no less than being fair. However, there is much more to justice than that act of being fair. Needless to say, I had some things to learn about justice ... and our country.

To understand justice, we must go to the scriptures. After all, the God we serve is just (Deut. 32:4). Justice and righteousness flow from the very throne of God (Ps. 89:14). And in both the Old and New Testaments, there are passages that inform believers to live justly (Zech. 7:10; Micah 6:8; Col. 3:25; Heb. 6:10). But what does this really mean?

*“He is the rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are **just**. A faithful God who does no wrong, **upright** and **just** is He” (Deut. 32:4, emphasis mine). This passage gives us a glimpse into the character of God—His very nature is just and upright. The Hebrew definition of these words magnificently tells us who God is: honest, impartial, and fair. Regarding the Law, He is always within regulation and is never crooked, twisted, or immoral in His judgments or in His treatment of humanity. It is impossible for God to be immoral or unjust.*

Unfortunately, the culture's definition of justice couldn't be further from the definition of justice we see in the character of God. A quick survey of the current cultural landscape will reveal how perverted the definition of justice has become. To do justice today, you must use a transgender person's preferred pronouns, advocate for abortion, support the redefinition of marriage, denounce the “white male patriarchy,” and affirm the intersectional oppression of anyone who does not identify as a straight, white, Christian man. This is not justice. In many ways, this is the exact opposite of justice, as it initiates discriminatory practices among people groups.

It is an injustice when educators and school boards attempt to indoctrinate children into queer theory. It is an injustice when lawmakers seek to initiate socialist policies. It is an injustice to kill the unborn—not because these things go against my personal

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RECOVERED HOPE

As our CFBU family looks forward to this new year, we rejoice and reflect on what God has done even amid the chaos and resounding division happening in our nation.

One of our faithful supporters recounts her own story, where she witnessed how injustice and prejudice directly impacted a friend in the workplace. Culture offered many mantras and self-justifying avenues to soothe her anger and helplessness. **But this patron shared with us how she recovered hope as she was equipped by CFBU to stand up for true justice.**

I was shocked and furious ... and felt completely helpless to do anything about it. I do not want to feel helpless in the face of injustice. I want to stand up and help my brothers and sisters get the treatment they deserve as image bearers of God. I believe that CFBU is an excellent resource for people who feel helpless. They want to stand up, but, like me, they don't know how. By financially supporting CFBU, you continue to train people and give them the confidence they need to stand up for justice—biblical justice. Thank you Monique and Krista for what you are doing. You have made such a difference in my life.



Miss listening to our All The Things podcast? We're coming off hiatus! Krista and Monique will be back to examining cultural issues from a biblical lens and interviewing more guests in 2023. Keep an eye out for the latest episodes [HERE](#).

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thoughts and opinions, but because when we consider them in the light of scripture, we see that they go against the word and laws of a just God. Without God, there is no foundation for justice.

What does this mean for Christians? How must Christians think about justice? To be a follower of God means that we must do justice according to His righteous standards, not our own.

Justice is not something we scream about while actively participating in the injustices of burning buildings or murdering the innocent. As Christians, we do justice according to God's eternal moral principles. We cannot go against the standards of God to appease a lost culture. We cannot advocate for what God hates. Advocating for biblical justice will take boldness. It will take faith. It will take Christians coming together to stand, unwavering, on the truth of God's word. And, family, it will be worth it.

As we enter this new year, my prayer for you is that you will confidently stand for biblical justice even amid a culture that is screaming for the opposite.

C. Monique Duson
Founder and President
The Center for Biblical Unity

DIGGING DEEPER INTO GOD'S WORD

Since the launch of CFBU's first two classes, How to (Really) Interpret the Bible and Theology of Race and Ethnicity, our impact has continued to expand. We've added more classes, helping students to grow in biblical literacy and apply the Christian worldview. Here are comments from some of our students:

“Hi, Krista. I took your self-paced How to Really Study the Bible and am sort of teaching that method in-person to a bunch of ladies at my church, teaching them that they can read the Bible on their own and see the main point based on the author, historical context and audience. It's been great seeing His Word come alive without bias of a commentary or extra helps just His Word!”

About our God's Big Story course:

“I LOVED IT! I can't wait to take more of Krista's courses.”

“I really enjoyed the teaching and conversations with the whole group. It's always hard when

the class ends and you don't see people again.”

About our Theology of Race course:

“I felt it was helpful to think through what the Bible says and agree, and then be able to ask questions about other parts [of the assigned book] that didn't seem to line up with scripture as much—but to strive to be united where we can.”

“I thought it was useful because it helped me to start thinking critically again about things (yes... in some ways I let it slip). And when it came to theology/religion, I had VERY little teaching on critical thinking. It was all, whatever the priest says is true. So I had let that part of my brain kind of atrophy and this class really helped me to begin working that important part of my brain again (in regards to theology).”

Thank you for partnering with us to equip the church and encourage our students to dive deeper into God's Word!

Looking for a short synopsis of a particular issue or an accessible resource to send to a friend? CFBU's Quick Takes condense big ideas into small videos for easy sharing. You can check out the Quick Takes section on our website [HERE](#).

THEOLOGY NERD COMIC-CON & GIVING TUESDAY

Thanks to you, our generous supporters, CFBU was able to send Monique and Krista to the annual Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) conference this November. ETS is like a comic-con convention, but for theology nerds.

Monique and Krista got to peek behind the curtain of the evangelical theology world and see what academics are writing and thinking about. These are the people who write books and disciple future pastors on how to teach you.

They also met a few new and familiar faces at ETS, such as Dr. Douglas Groothuis, a philosophy professor at Denver Seminary. Dr. Groothuis authored CFBU's first white paper, which was on standpoint epistemology and the Christian worldview. ([CLICK HERE](#) to give it a read.)



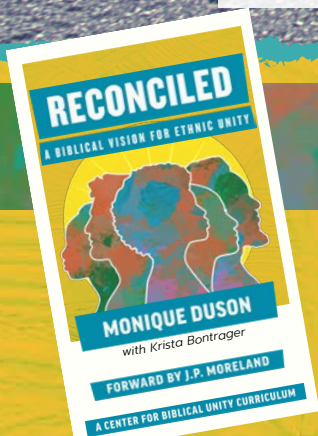
Dr. Douglas Groothuis & Monique



Joe Miller, Monique, & Krista

Our Reconciled curriculum is available in print!

Reconciled is ideal for churches, small groups, book groups, homeschool co-ops, or individuals desiring to get equipped with a biblical understanding of racial unity. You can find an overview of the content and purchase Reconciled [HERE](#).



Training

LET LOVE COMPEL YOU

Takeaway

Our God is just, and the truth will always win at the end of all things. So let love compel you to always speak the truth to everyone around you, particularly to your brothers and sisters in Christ.

