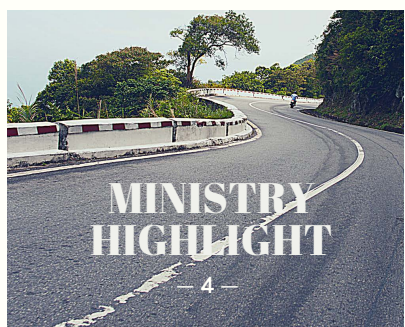




THE CENTER
FOR BIBLICAL
UNITY

IMAGO DEI

Quarterly Newsletter



Dear Family,

Can I be honest for a moment? The theme for this issue of Imago Dei is “hope” and truthfully I don’t feel like writing about hope. It doesn’t feel fitting for the “season” many of us are in.

When I discussed writing about hope with a friend, her response was: “These days hope is hard to come by.” I knew it! Writing about hope during a national crisis and a global pandemic is ridiculous! Then it hit me: hope is NOT hard to come by. Hope is in Jesus. Romans 12:12 says, “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”

Here’s the thing, family: as believers, we already have hope that we can take joy in—something this hurting and confused world cannot fathom. Our hope is in Christ, our great High Priest. Our hope is in Scripture. Our hope is in His resurrection and the promise of His return. Despite social and political unrest, “woke” children, and the uncertain future of our nation, we can be certain of these three things:

- 1. We have been given the Holy Spirit and the Scriptures as our wisdom and our guide.*
- 2. The problems we see today, as real and difficult as they maybe, are fleeting and temporal.*
- 3. Our hope is in what is eternal.*

Peter reminds us, “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” (1 Peter 3:15a). Dig into your faith and God’s Word. Be prepared to offer reasons for the hope that you have in Christ. We have a unique opportunity to reveal the truth and love of Jesus and to bring true hope to a hopeless world. I pray that you are encouraged by this today—and that your hope radiates out to those in your family and community—a lost world is watching.

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

OUT OF DARKNESS, THERE IS LIGHT!

Family

Story

By Jenna Shotwell

As our CFBU family looks forward in this new year, we rejoice and reflect on what God is doing and has done. **Yet, we can't ignore the often overwhelming and increasingly loud chaos happening in our nation.** The recent political unrest and resounding division we've seen is burdensome.

One of our faithful family members recounts her own story, where she witnessed injustice and prejudice directly impact a friend in the workplace. Culture offered many mantras and self-justifying avenues to soothe her anger and helplessness. **And yet this patron shares how, desperate to stand up for true justice, she recovered hope as she was equipped by CFBU to fight the good fight.**

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.

We rejoiced with this family member as she walked out of the darkness of confusion and frustration into light of hope and truth. Equipping and encouraging people towards Christ-centered unity is the passion of CFBU and only possible because of you, our generous givers.

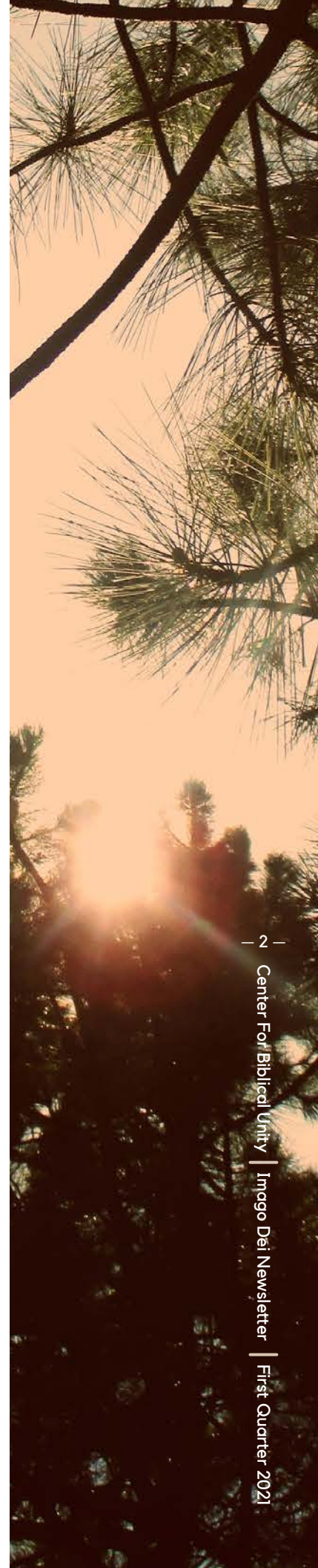
As I reflect on this story, these worship lyrics resonate deeply: **"Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness..."** The beautiful reality of a biblical worldview emphasized here at CFBU is that the hope we have in Christ enters into the darkness and illuminates what is true, good, and beautiful. The more we seek Him, the more we engage with true hope Himself. Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever—and so is His call on our lives: to stand united in Him and bring others to Him, diligently and faithfully.

Brother and sister, if in this season you find yourselves struggling with confusion or are burdened by this world, remember that the living God restores hope as the true source of justice.

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CenterForBiblicalUnity.com/donate

Establish your monthly gift now and take part in more changed lives by the transforming power of the gospel, the true hope of the world.



A WELL SEASONED FAN

By Jenna Shotwell

We all need hope. This is a simple truth, yes, but oh so powerful! One of the beautiful things we've watched God do through CFBU is reach a diverse range of people. We hear so many stories of how God meets people where they are at through this ministry! **In other words, whether you are a college student, parent of three and counting, a retired teacher, or curious intellect—CFBU calls you family.**

That said, let me introduce you to Nonna whose life and heart has been encouraged because of the generous support and contribution of our donors! **Navigating the shifting culture around her, Nonna stumbled upon CFBU where her eyes were opened to truth.**

“I'm a 67 year old woman that hears these newer 'woke' terms and doesn't quite understand their meaning. This morning I listened to a YouTube video from Monique recorded almost a year ago explaining critical race theory and the fact that she does still love her blackness second only to her love of Jesus and His teachings.”

Nonna's story points to the sustainable impact of CFBU's teachings as they ground people in biblical fact that their identity is in Christ alone. **One of our aims is to spark a desire for continual learning and maturity in Christ.** Nonna won't stop here, but as a “well seasoned” fan (as she calls herself) will persist towards truth.

“I'll be listening to many of your past recordings to understand more. It's refreshing to hear from people like yourself that operate and have their life come from a place that Jesus and His gospel are enough and getting into the meat of what that really means.”

Family, that is exactly the hope of CFBU as we persevere together—knowing we serve a sovereign King and actively live this out in a world that constantly puts other “things” on pedestals. **Nonna ends with this request: to continue relying on the strength of Christ and His wisdom as our guideposts.** May this be our prayer as well as we seek Him and share this hope for His glory.

Share your CFBU story with us!

donors@centerforbiblicalunity.com

CFBU ON THE ROAD

Last November, Monique and Krista had the privilege of joining MAVEN, founded by Brett Kunkle, for a one night event on the topic of: race, critical theory, and Christianity. MAVEN exists to help the next generation know truth, pursue goodness and create beauty, all for the cause of Christ, and to equip those who teach and train them—parents, grandparents, youth workers, pastors and educators—to do the same.

Do you have a loved one who's a part of the next generation and needs to hear this side of the conversation? CFBU is glad to be partners in ministry with Maven, supporting them in their mission to walk alongside and guide the next generation with compassion and biblical teaching.



View the Full Event

MAVEN
TRUTH + GOODNESS + BEAUTY

MAVEN exists to help the next generation know truth, pursue goodness and create beauty, all for the cause of Christ.

[START HERE](#)

TRAINING TAKEAWAY

Before we jump on board with a cultural movement, we as Christians must adequately understand what we're supporting. Under scrutiny, we see three critical contradictions between the historic Christian worldview and movements like Black Lives Matter.

3 REASONS
WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD NOT SUPPORT BLACK LIVES MATTER

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DEFINITION OF JUSTICE

Is everything currently being decried as 'injustice' actually an issue of justice from a biblical perspective? We must define such terms carefully and understand the biblical precedent for justice.

1

2

ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER

The public goal of BLM is to work for the benefit of Black people. Unfortunately, that doesn't include ALL Black people. Scripture calls us to protect the dignity of all humans, regardless of skin color.

THE DECONSTRUCTION OF THE NUCLEAR FAMILY

BLM stands against the formation of a nuclear family as defined by Scripture. When we attempt to redesign God's plan, we create idols and undermine the foundation of our societies.

3

Monique's full blog on this topic

