



THE CENTER
FOR BIBLICAL
UNITY

IMAGO DEI

Quarterly Newsletter



FAMILY FEATURE

— 2 —



IMPACT STORY

— 3 —



CFBU ON THE ROAD

— 4 —



TRAINING TAKEAWAY

— 5 —

Dear Family,

Conversations about race and justice, COVID mandates, who you vote for—there are many things creating division among Christians. Additionally, what are the implications of pastors and elders embracing the Critical Social Theories? Are church splits what's on the horizon?

*As controversial and devastating as all of these things can be, what does this mean for the Church? For those holding to historic Christianity and those upholding the faith once for all given to the saints? **How do we stay connected and engage deeply as the body of Christ, instead of merely passing each other on Sundays?***

The New Testament gives a clear example of how Christians are to participate with one another. In Acts 2:44 and 4:32 the first century Christians had all things in common. When we read John 13:34–35, Ephesians 4, and Titus 2:2–12 we see the Christian's interpersonal relationship and how we are to regard one another.

*These passages demonstrate how the early Church lived together and engaged deeply, both in shared physical space, as well as emotionally and spiritually. **They had relationships of mentoring, confession, and sharing necessary resources so that none would be in need.** The early Church should serve as our example of how to engage deeply with brothers and sisters.*

Now some may ask, "what about COVID?" Or, "what's my personal preference?" To that I respond, "what about it?" From inception, the Church has lived as an exclusive group, not fitting in or being welcomed by the broader culture—even with looming dangers threatening to take her out. From persecution to martyrdom, many have also fled their homes and live in obscurity. And yet, babies were rescued from dumps, the sick were visited, schools were started, and the Church grew—all in the presence of adversity. Did they fear? Probably. Did they stop? Never!

*In "A Treatise Concerning the Correction of the Donatists," St. Augustine writes: **"What then is the function of brotherly love? Does it, because it fears the short-lived fires of the furnace for a few, therefore abandon all to the eternal fires of hell?"** [Page 22.]*

*So, how can we engage deeply in the midst of confusing and controversial moments like those we are currently in? **Let's take a lesson from the early Church: be in relationship, confess, mentor, share resources with those in need. Love one another, deeply and boldly.** As believers, this is our responsibility, because we are family.*

Grateful to engage alongside you,

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

Family

ENCOURAGED, EQUIPPED & EMPOWERED

Feature

The Center for Biblical Unity is committed to continue engaging in difficult conversations and in relationships as we bring biblical truths to our culture today. We couldn't continue doing so without your support. We hope that you feel encouraged, equipped, and empowered by CFBU's resources to engage in compassionate yet bold ways in your own community as well.

Here are some notes of encouragement from some of your fellow CFBU family members, all around the US, who are right alongside you fighting the good fight.

"I appreciate the message and the biblical integrity of CFBU. This information is so important right now and there are so few people speaking truth. CFBU is speaking into important topics in a clear, concise and biblical way." –Cara in Nebraska

"With all of the racial tension, we need to come together! As a Christian, I believe a biblical worldview is the answer to true racial unity. I'm encouraged by the work Monique and Krista are doing to help the church be unified so we can lead the way for our nation." –Ryan in Arizona

"I think the work that Monique and Krista are doing is SO IMPORTANT. They are going against the (very loud) grain of popular opinion to ensure that biblical truth is available to Christians. **I so appreciate that they are not only speaking truth, but they are giving the rest of us tools to do the same.**" –Nina in Georgia

"My husband and I were truly heartbroken as we saw the BLM narrative of division begin to spread. As critical race theory became more of a household word, and we could see how far it was from biblical truth, we felt a rising desire to do something to make a difference. There was also an urgency to educate ourselves so we could better understand the message and motivation behind CRT. **At first, we really didn't understand it and couldn't articulate our response honestly and in an informed way. CFBU came into our view at just the right time.** Sadly, this deception has infiltrated our own family, even influencing our adult children. Thanks to this ministry we are better prepared to face the challenges. That's why we are blessed to support you." –Ginger in Arizona

"I have not seen anyone else so clearly addressing the ramifications of CRT and current events and their impact on the daily "working out" of salvation and the church. **I'm very grateful for the content as well because it has equipped me to have incredible conversations with people in my own church, as well as church leadership.**" –Carol in West Virginia



Why be silent or a victim to culture?

You have the unique opportunity to speak with many of our designs.

"We will speak truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ." Ephesians 4:15

All profits from this design and others in the [Family 210 clothing store](#) go to support the Center for Biblical Unity. Shop the full collection of CFBU merchandise at [Family210.com](#).



[More designs and options at Family210.com](#)

MISSING THE BIG PICTURE

Can you relate to our member Christina? She writes, **"How have I spent my whole life [growing up in the Bible belt] not knowing the whole story of God?"**

When Christina developed a desire to engage more deeply in her understanding of God, He faithfully provided through a new class offered by CFBU. **The class "God's Big Story" is taught by our very own Krista Bontrager, a fourth generation Bible teacher, theologian, and Christian apologist.**

Krista feels burdened to help those of us (typically American Christians) who have pastors who interpret and teach Scripture through a "moral application" lens. This often looks like the pulling together of various passages to form a morality-focused sermon.

While this has been a method for creating a seeker-friendly church environment, it leaves the new or seasoned Christian with little biblical context and likely more questions than answers. **"God's Big Story" provides a macro look and an examination of the entirety of God's Word and story of the**

human race from Genesis to Revelation. The class gives a fuller picture of our triune God—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Christina also shared with us, "I am amazed that most of my church experience...seemed built around children's Bible stories...." This is an unfortunate truth for many of us raised in church. From our youth into our adult years, we are often fed an incomplete view of God, which doesn't allow us to walk in the fullness and confidence of our role and identity in the body of Christ. After completing the class, Christina expressed, **"Praise God for continuing to provide answers as I seek."**

If you are struggling to know and understand the truths God's Word offers you, or feel like you've been missing the bigger picture of Christianity, visit centerforbiblicalunity.com/classes.

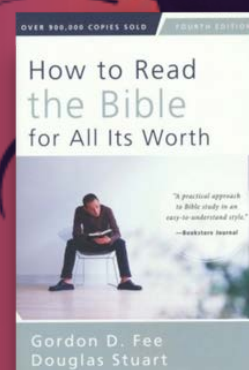
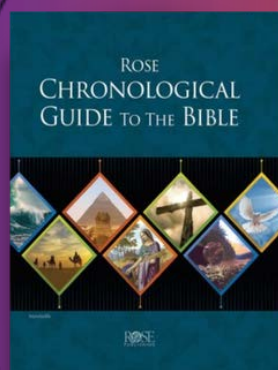
Thank you to our generous family of donors, who allow CFBU to develop biblically-focused classes like these and so much more!

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Matthew 22:37

As you desire to engage deeply in the Word of God, we suggest these study resources utilized in some of our CFBU classes.

Our CFBU classes and resources are made possible by you, our beloved donors! Go [HERE](#) to donate and become one of our monthly supporters today.



ATX TRIP

Austin, TX



On September 18th, Monique joined the Colson Center in Austin, TX for their event “Sex, Race & Identity: How does the Gospel answer the critical questions of our day?” Monique brought God’s vision for racial unity and identity in Christ to the live stream and in-person audience. Monique included these powerful words about befriending and engaging across ethnic and cultural lines:

“There’s been so much fear... The first thing I would say is drop your assumptions. Drop the assumption that ‘I can’t do this’, ‘she’s gonna think this’, ‘he’s gonna think that’ and just begin to have conversation... If you’re looking to spark up a friendship or have a conversation with someone, drop assumptions. Start there. Drop assumptions on both sides and then move forward in Scripture.

If you are talking with someone and you know that they uphold critical race theory and social justice ideology and things like that, I would approach them with Scripture. I would ask a lot of questions. I would seek to understand: why is this the framework that you’re using? How does that align with Scripture?”

Your support for CFBU makes it possible to bring transformative, biblically-based truth to our culture. Thank you for continuing with us as CFBU continues to bring hope to hard conversations.

To watch Monique’s full session along with the entire lineup of Colson Center speakers, you can view the livestream content on YouTube [HERE](#).

REMAIN PRESENT IN HARD CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACE

By Monique Duson

Conversations about race, justice, and biblical unity can be hard. Krista and I have had MANY “difficult conversations” (sometimes, even full-blown arguments) on these topics, and they’re rarely easy. Sometimes we find ourselves dragging old conversations into the current one. Sometimes we think we already know what the other is going to say and forget to listen!

Be Aware

Be Curious

Be Patient

Be Clear

**For Monique’s full
blog on this topic**

[Click Here](#)