

### Introduction: How do we bring about social restoration?

#### Phase 1:

##### Social Distinction

Social restoration begins when followers of Jesus embrace there are no social distinctions.

#### Phase 2:

Social \_\_\_\_\_

*<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? <sup>15</sup> Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup> If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? <sup>17</sup> In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

James 2:14-17

**The calling:** A faith that \_\_\_\_\_

#### Definition:

Faith – "A strong confidence in, and reliance upon someone or something; to believe to the extent of complete trust and reliance." Check consistency from #1

### What happened to salvation by faith alone?

<sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:8-10

You are not saved \_\_\_\_\_ good works; you are saved \_\_\_\_\_ good works.

“Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning. Earning is an attitude. Effort is an action.”

Dallas Willard

### Why is a faith that works so important?

- Your \_\_\_\_\_ reveals what you truly \_\_\_\_\_. James 1:18-19
- Action is the \_\_\_\_\_ not the \_\_\_\_\_ of faith. James 1:20-24
- Faith without \_\_\_\_\_ is like a body without \_\_\_\_\_. James 1:25-26

**Social restoration demands that followers of Jesus put their faith into social action.**

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

Matthew 5:16

*<sup>34</sup> “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”*

John 13:34-35

### Discussion Questions:

1. Do your actions reflect the faith that you claim to have? Why or why not?
2. Describe the relationship between faith and good works. See Ephesians 2:8-10 and James 2:14-17.
3. Take a moment to reflect on how you spend your time, energy, and money. What does that reveal about your core convictions?
4. How has the Lord been prompting you to put your faith into action? What steps will you take to accomplish this calling?