

“The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance. You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your "part" mean anything.” 1 Corinthians 12:25-27 (Message)

“we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.” Ephesians 2:9-10 (Message)

they burned with passion

“Oh, my eyes are like a water fountain of overflowing tears, and I would give anything to run away from all of this. I can't stand it. Oh, for a life in the desert!” Jeremiah 9:1-2

*burn with passion
go beneath the surface*

“I will tell you why! It’s because you are fasting to please yourselves. Even while you fast, you keep oppressing your workers. What good is fasting when you keep on fighting and quarreling? This kind of fasting will never get you anywhere with me.” Isaiah 58:3-4

*burn with passion
go beneath the surface
leave us with hope*

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and most important command. And the second command is like the first: ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’ All the law and the writings of the prophets depend on these two commands.” Matthew 22:37-40

Worship
Investment
Simple Living
Displacement
Optimism
Motivated by an eternal view
Worship

“Quit your worship charades. I can't stand your trivial religious games: Monthly conferences, weekly Sabbaths, special meetings— meetings, meetings, meetings—I can't stand one more!...You've worn me

out!... When you put on your next prayer-performance, I'll be looking the other way. No matter how long or loud or often you pray, I'll not be listening... Go home and wash up... Learn to do good. Work for justice. Help the down-and-out. Stand up for the homeless. Go to bat for the defenseless. Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.” Isaiah 1:13-17 (Message)

“I can't stand your religious meetings. I'm fed up with your conferences and conventions. I want nothing to do with your religion projects, your pretentious slogans and goals. I'm sick of your fund-raising schemes, your public relations and image making... Do you know what I want? I want justice—oceans of it. I want fairness—rivers of it. That's what I want. That's all I want.” Amos 5:21 (Message)

Worship
Investment

“Bring the full amount of your tithes to the Temple, so that there will be plenty of food there. Put me to the test and you will see that I will open the windows of heaven and pour out on you in abundance all kinds of good things.” Malachi 3:10 (NLT)

Worship
Investment
Simple Living

“But there is something I'm looking for: a person simple and plain, reverently responsive to what I say.”
Isaiah 66:2 (Message)

“It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously.”
Micah 6:8-9 (Message)

“Keep your lives simple and honest.”
Zechariah 8:14 (Message)

“God made us plain and simple, but we have made ourselves very complicated.” Ecclesiastes 7:29

Worship
Investment
Simple Living
Displacement

“But he was wounded for the wrong we did; he was crushed for the evil we did. The punishment, which made us well, was given to him, and we are healed because of his wounds.” Isaiah 53:5

Worship
Investment
Simple Living
Displacement
Optimism

“Though the cherry trees don't blossom and the strawberries don't ripen, though the apples are worm-eaten and the wheat fields stunted, though the sheep pens are sheepless and the cattle barns empty, I'm singing joyful praise to God. I'm turning cartwheels of joy to my Savior God. Counting on God's Rule to prevail, I take heart and gain strength. I run like a deer. I feel like I'm king of the mountain!” Habakkuk 3:17-19

Worship

Investment

Simple Living

Displacement

Optimism

Motivated by an eternal view

“Come now, my love. My lovely one, come.

For you, the winter has passed, the snows are over and gone, the flowers appear in the land, the season of joyful songs has come. The cooing of the turtledove is heard in our land.

Come now, my love. My lovely one, come.

Let me see your face. And let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet and your face is beautiful.

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Song of Songs 2:10-14 (NJB)

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Song of Songs 2:10-14 (NJB)

“Take this soul stranded in some skin and bones, take this soul and make it sing... Yahweh, Yahweh, always pain before a child is born.”