



3 Circles

Life Conversation Guide
from Life on Mission

Three Circles

- We are going to revisit the presentation of the 3 Circles: Life Conversation Guide from Life on Mission.
- The circles and illustrations are an integral tool in this method of evangelism.
- The 3 Circles technique is designed to be simple enough that one could draw it on the back of a napkin.
- In an effort to be better understood and accepted by a lost person, this method avoids using formal theological language.

Three Circles

Circle 1: God's Design

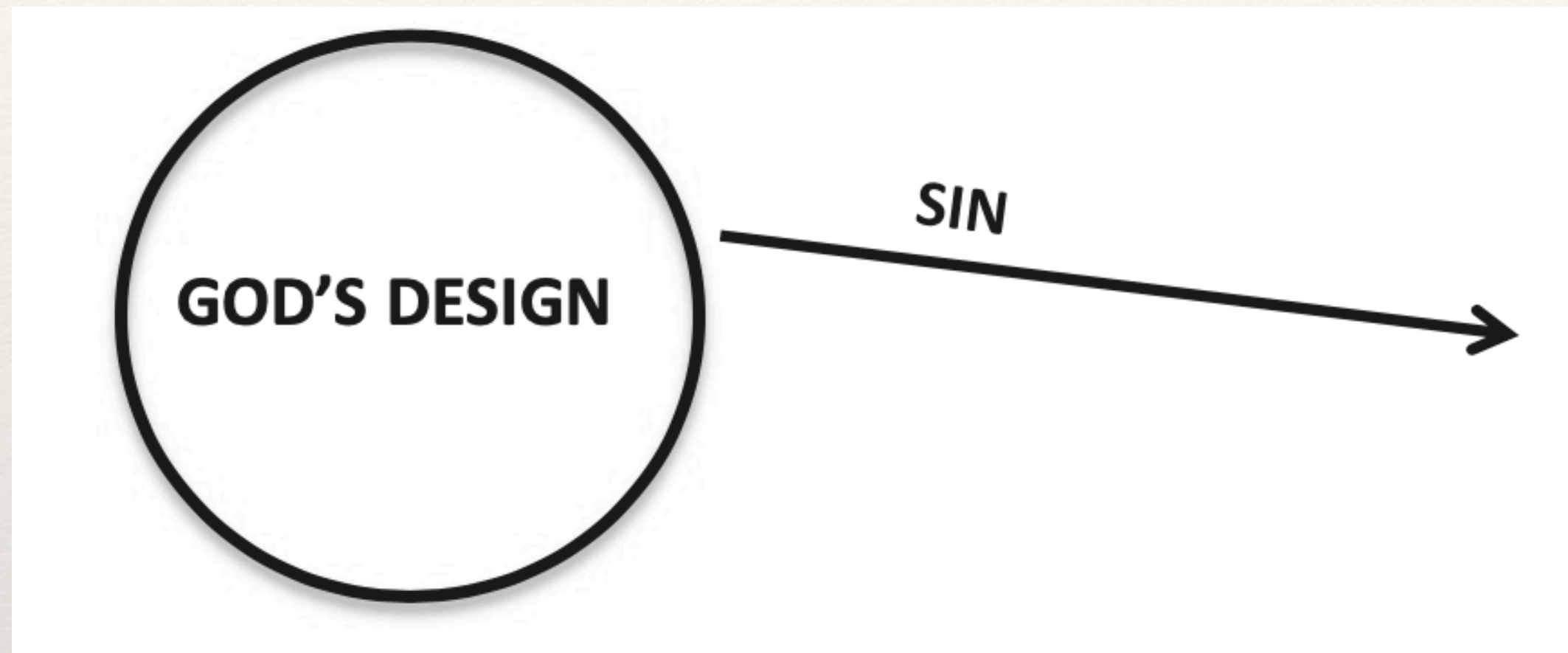


- From the very beginning, God had a plan for humans.
- Not only did God have a plan for humanity at large, He had and has a plan for every human individually.

Three Circles

- God has a design for the way we should treat our families, work our jobs, interact with friends and strangers; the plan is perfect.
- The Creator who knit together every being desires nothing more than for His plans to be implemented in every life.
- The challenge is that there is something within people that pushes us to depart from God's design, to go in our own direction.
- The Bible has labeled that departure from God's design "sin."

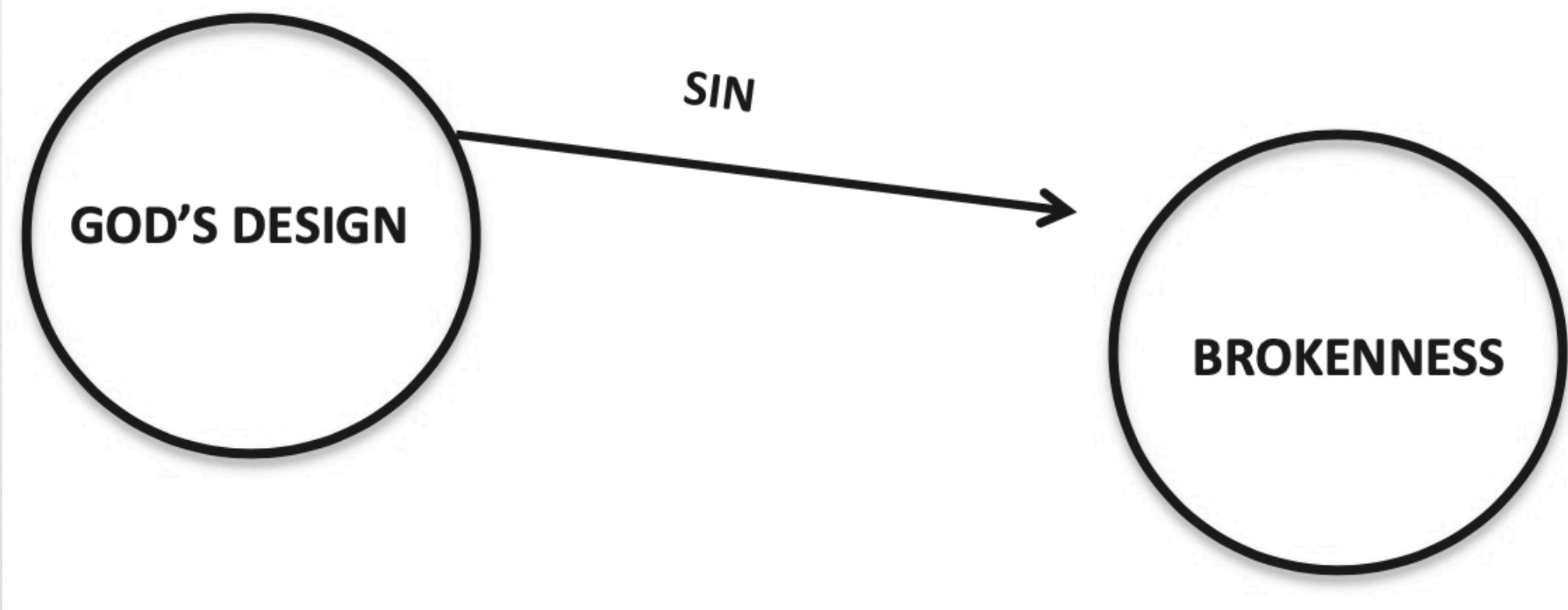
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- Sin leads to a world of consequences.
- When we sin, we find ourselves in a place of “brokenness.”

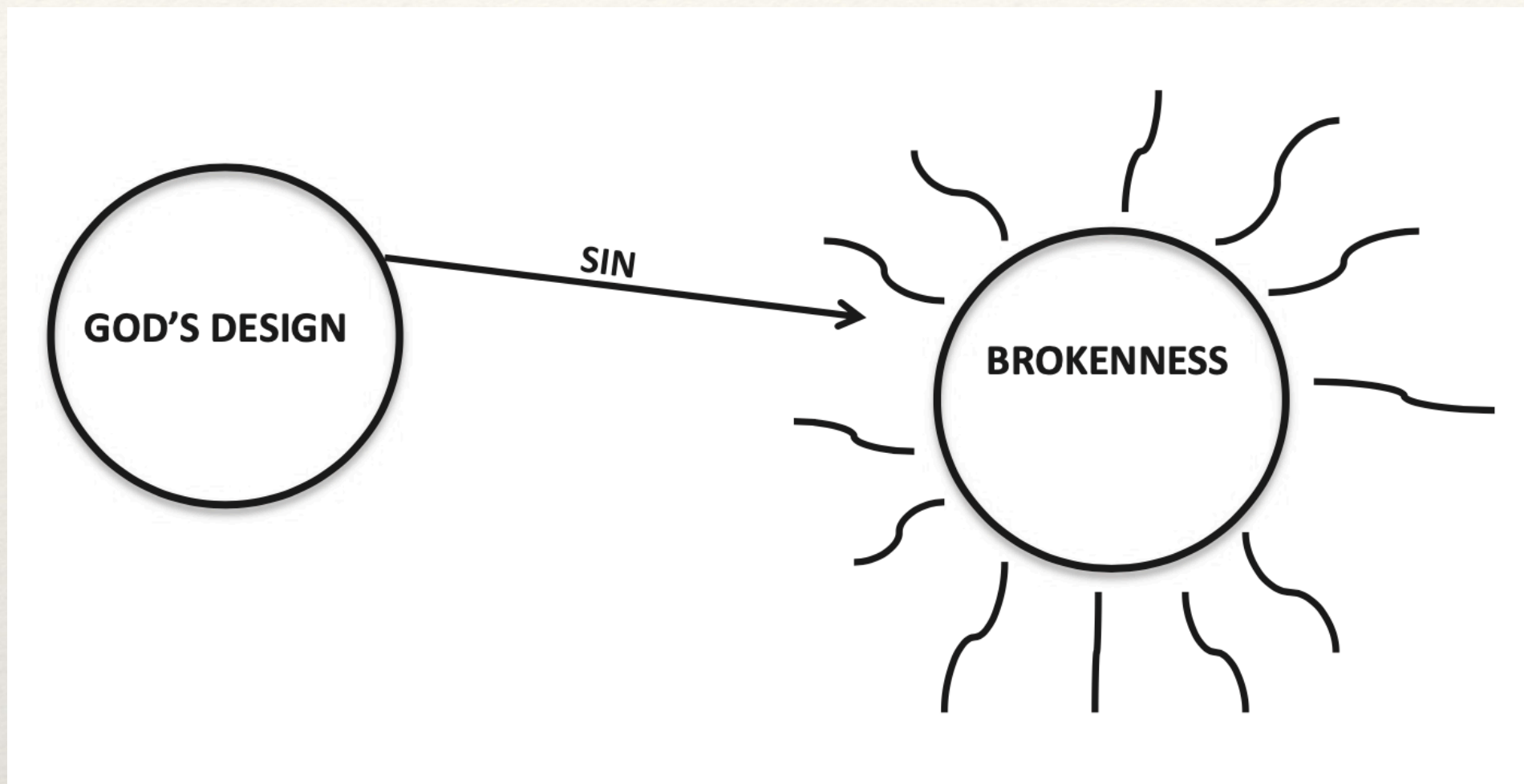
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Circle 2: Brokenness



- Brokenness is the result of our poor choices that negatively affect us.
- This state exemplifies itself in ruined relationships, addictions, unease, fear and a mountain of other negative circumstances and states of being.

Three Circles

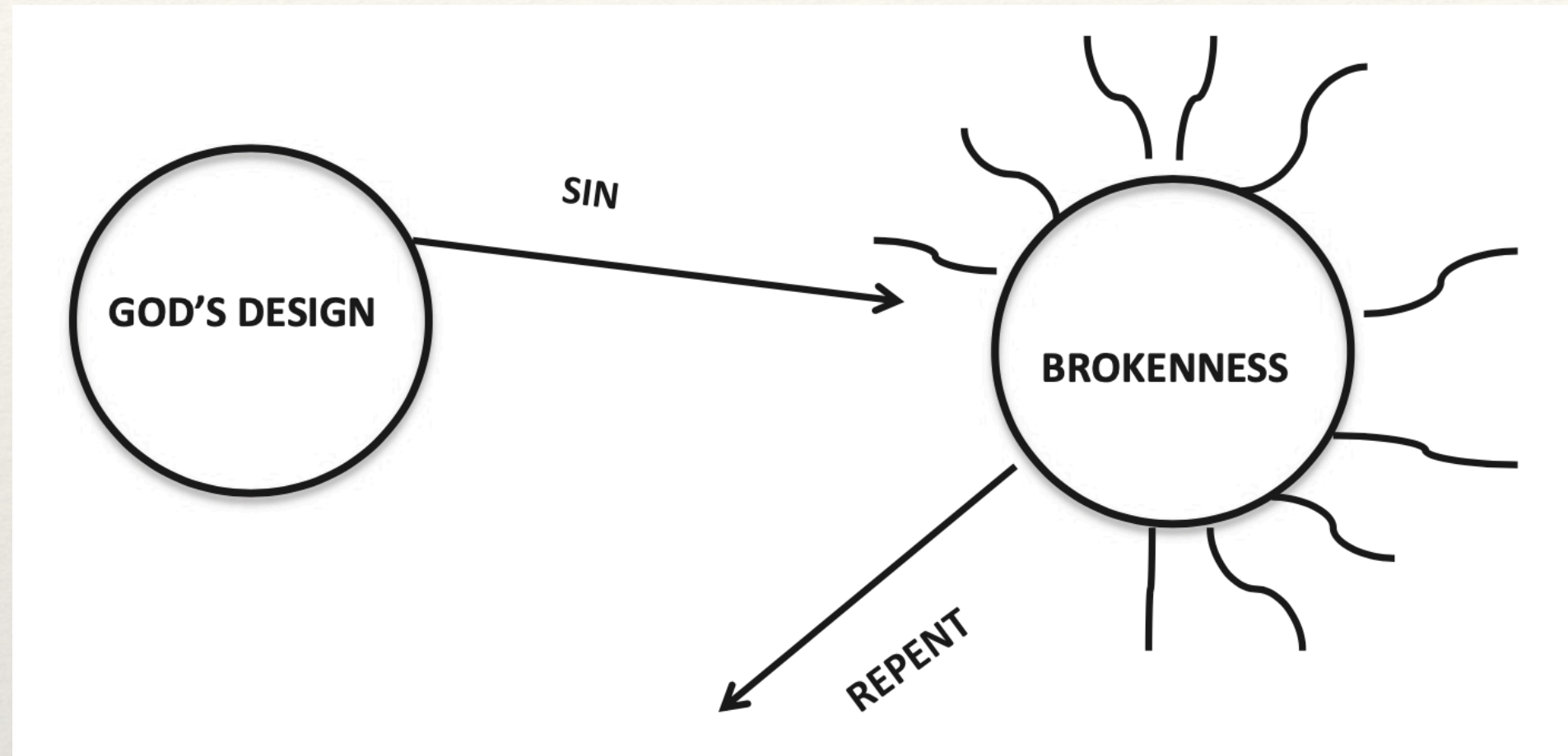


- We turn to religion, success, beauty, substances, anger and a litany of other seemingly filling solutions to fix the brokenness in our lives.
- The challenge is that none of the solutions we carve out for ourselves will work; the brokenness remains.

Three Circles

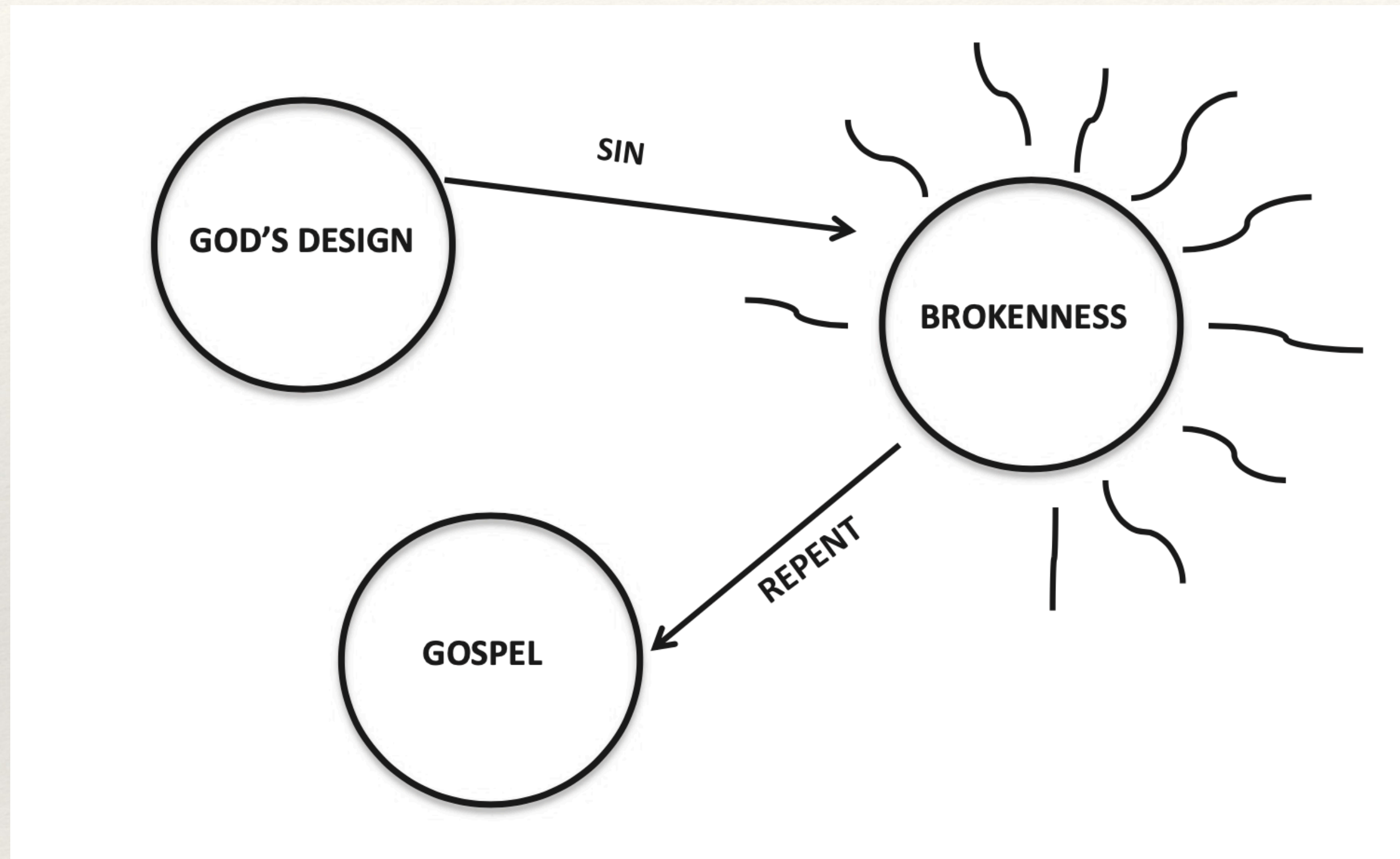
- Although brokenness is bleak, God uses it for good.
- God uses brokenness to help people understand that there is a problem that needs a solution.
- When someone surveys his life and recognizes the destruction around him and acknowledges that his solutions have failed, he often becomes open to the idea of a different path.
- He becomes open to a genuine change.
- The Bible's word for change is "repent."

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- We want to change and repent but we realize that we can't do much on our own (as evidenced by our own solutions to our brokenness).
- The good news is that God has a plan to fix the problem of brokenness; it's called the "Gospel."

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- The Gospel is the story of what Jesus did for us.

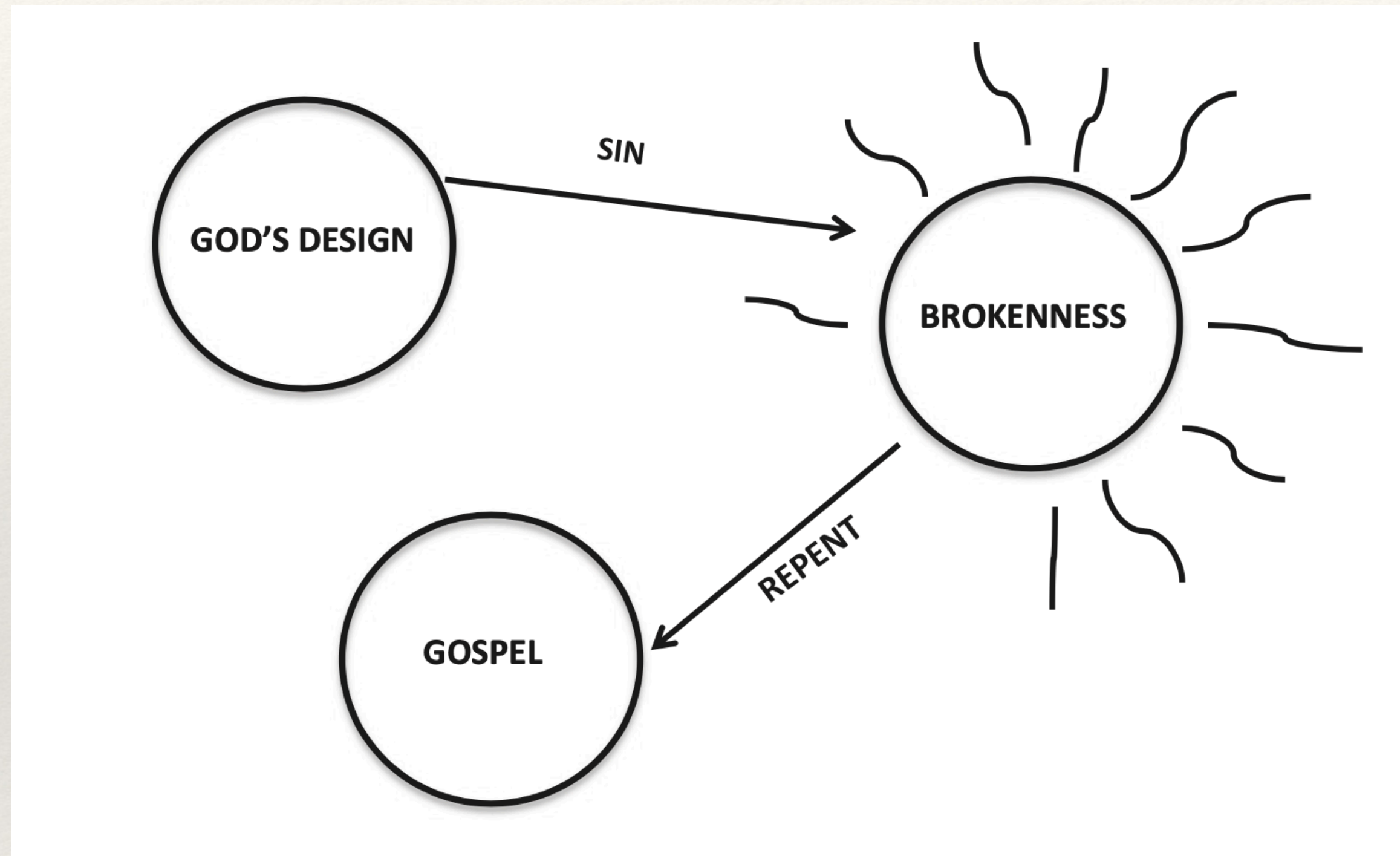
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- Jesus, who is God in flesh, came and lived a perfect life. He never departed from God's design; He lived a life completely without sin.
- He taught people about God's love for them and His design for their lives.
- When He was around 33 years old, people that He loved nailed Him to a cross and murdered Him.
- While Jesus was on the cross, God took the sins of the world and placed them on Jesus.
- In His death, Jesus paid the penalty for all of our sin.

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- After He had accomplished His mission on the Cross (bearing the consequences of the world's sins), Jesus died and was buried in a tomb.
- Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead.
- In His conquering of death, Jesus proved that He was who He said He was, the Son of God.
- Jesus proved that He could do what He said He could do, forgive sin.
- And this is the Good News.

Three Circles



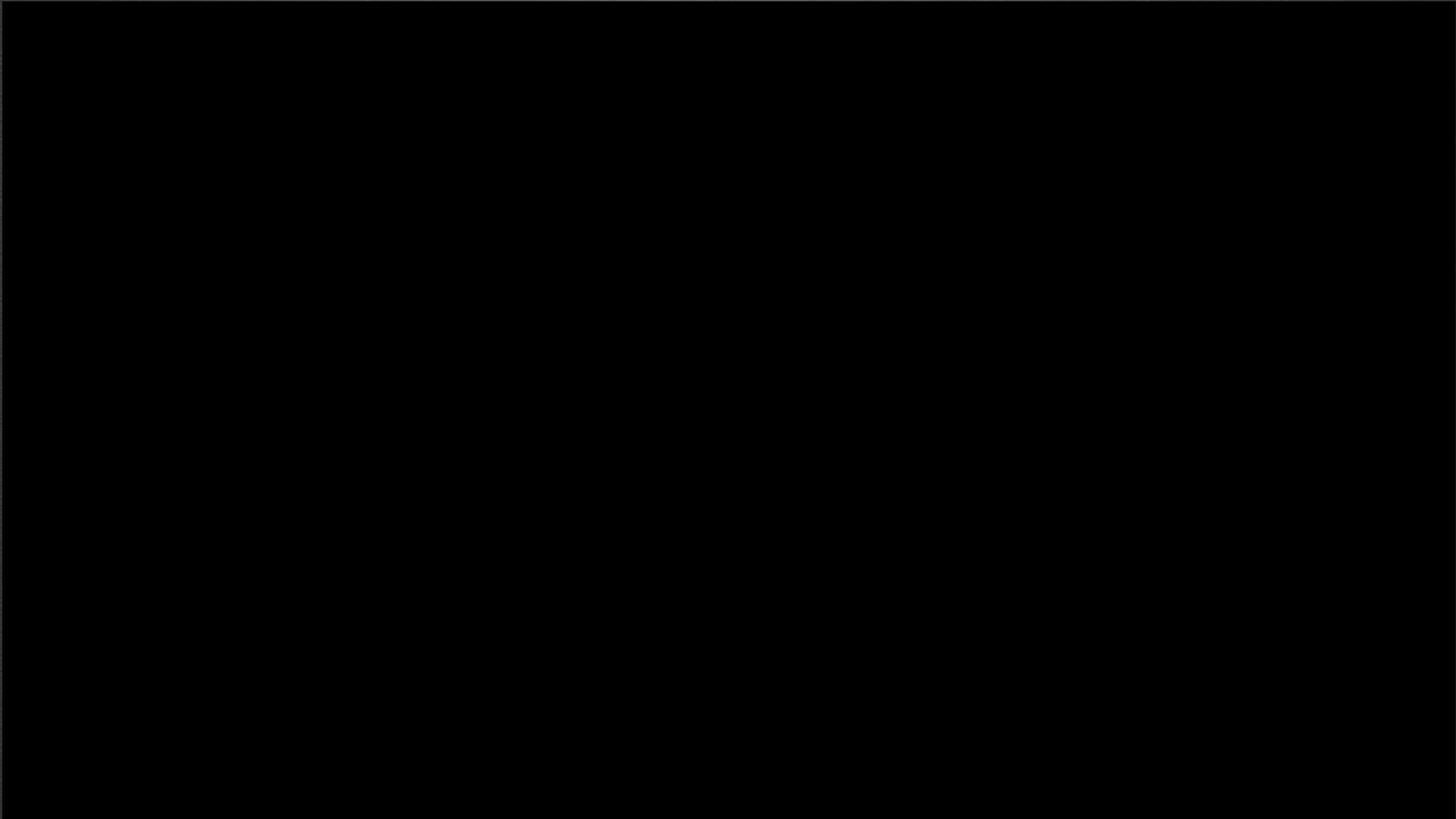
- The death and Resurrection of Jesus opens up the path by which we might return to the design of God.

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- God's provision means that we can do no good of our own to fix brokenness, nor can we lose that provision by making mistakes.
- The path to restoration and redemption is this: Repent and believe.
- When we make the step of turning from our sins (repentance) and turning toward Jesus (belief), God restores us. He does a work in our hearts that helps us to pursue and recover God's design.
- No matter what our brokenness looks like or how deep we are in it, God restores us to a right relationship with Him through Jesus.

Three Circles

Stage	Supporting Verses
God's Design	Genesis 1:31; Psalm 19:1
Sin	Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23a
Brokenness	Romans 1:25; Proverbs 14:12
Gospel	John 3:16; Colossians 2:14
Repent & Believe	Mark 1:15; Ephesians 2:8–9; Romans 10:9
Recover & Pursue	Philippians 2:13; Ephesians 2:10



Challenges and Problems



"How are you?"

Confused; Betrayed
Useless
Broken

Never good Enough

Fragile; Anxious
I'm falling apart and
you don't notice it

Pathetic; Annoying
Lonely
Rejected
Defeated



Social Upheaval



POLITICS & POLICY

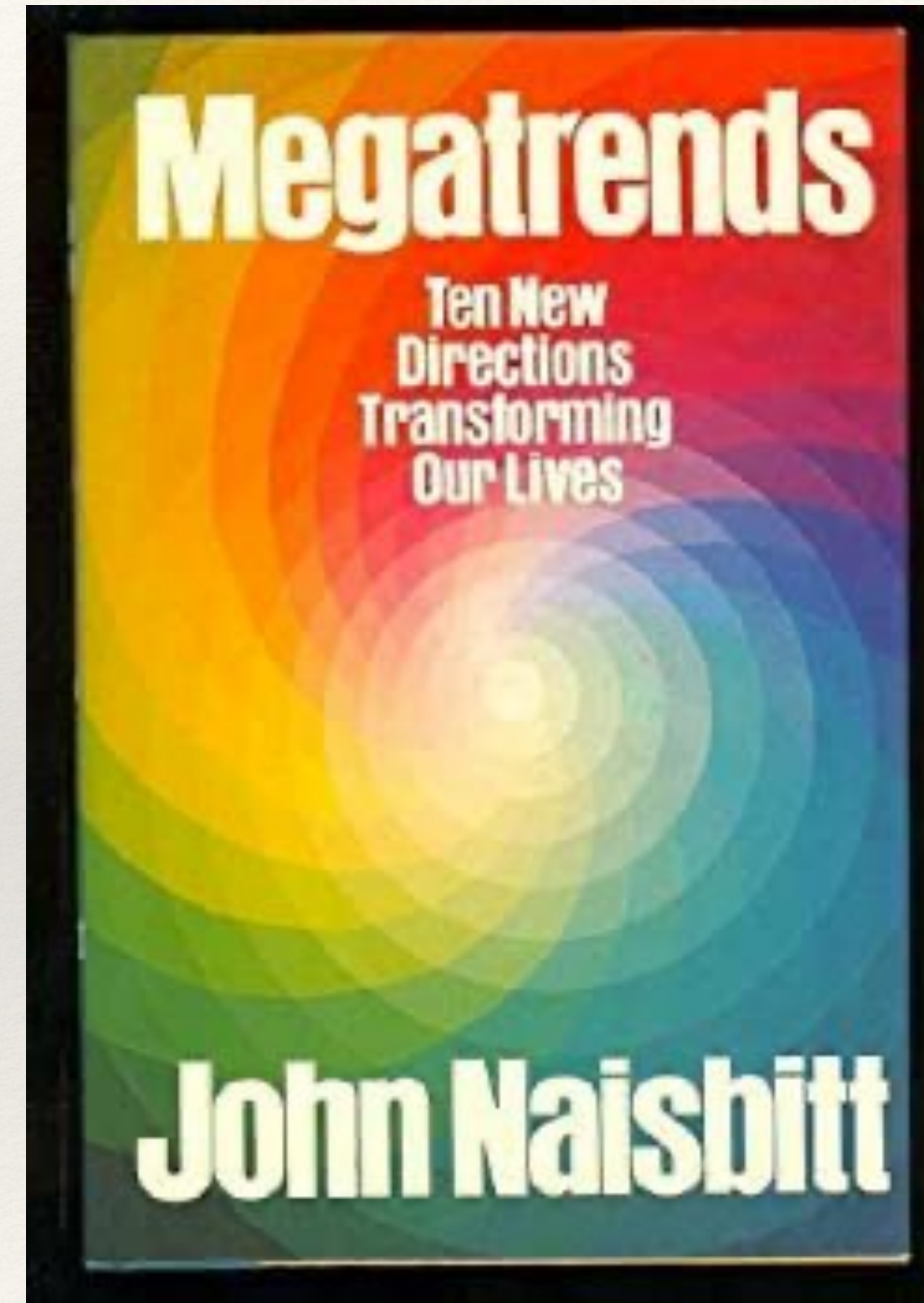
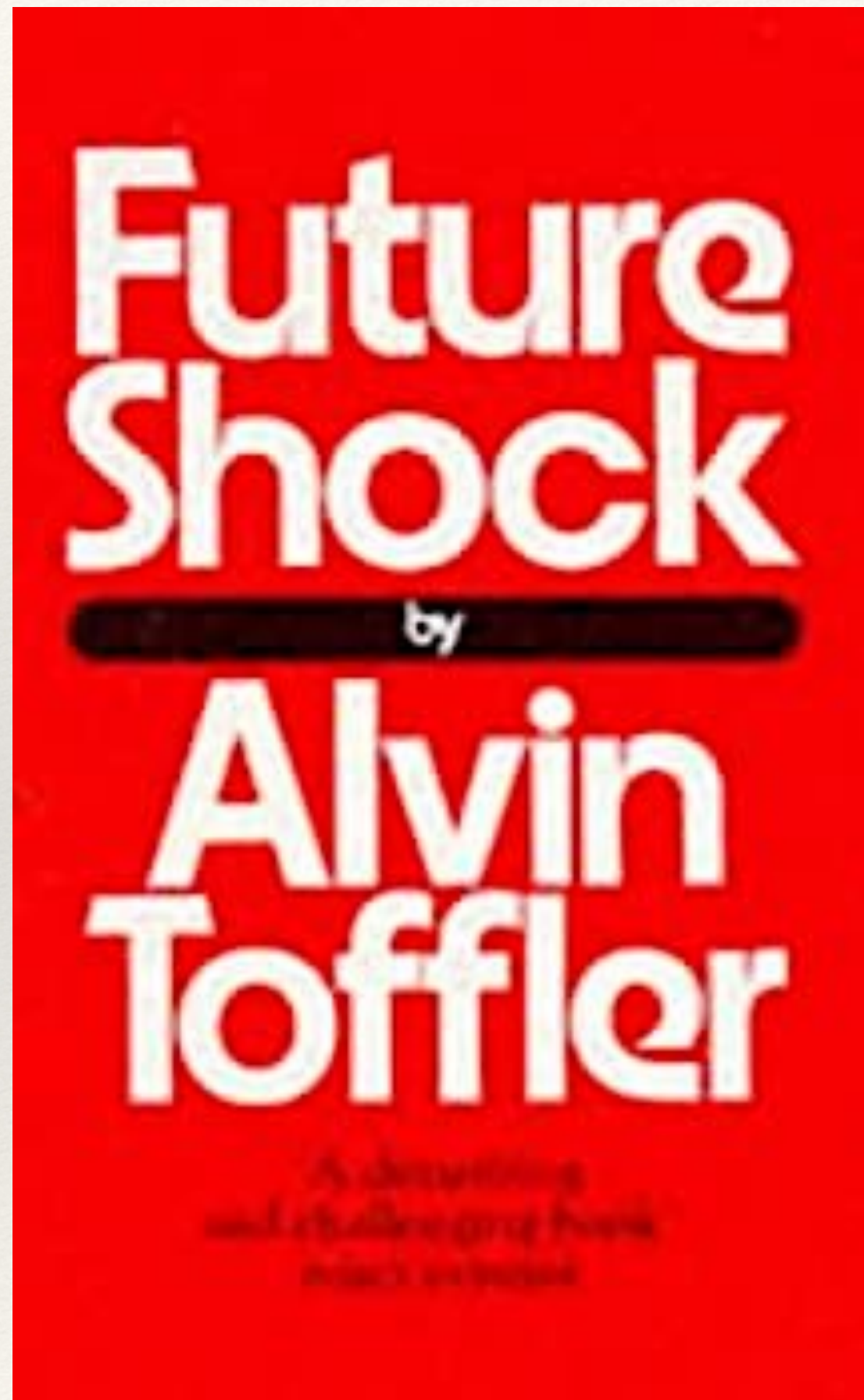
How Much Ruin Do We Have Left?

By VICTOR DAVIS HANSON | April 22, 2021 6:30 AM

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A group of people, including men and women of various ages, are gathered around a large, ornate, golden-colored structure, possibly a piece of art or a monument, in a museum or gallery setting. They appear to be looking at something on the structure with interest.

Unprecedented Change





SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 BY SHANE PRUITT

7 Common Traits of Gen Z : In Their Own Words

 Search

1. People, Not Projects

- Gen Z want to be seen as people, not projects.
- The number one reason churches say they want to reach the next generation is because, “if we don’t then our church isn’t going to exist in ten years.”
- The main purpose for reaching Generation Z cannot be to prolong our local church’s name or logo.
- Instead, it must be a desire to reach students because they are made in the image of God, have souls, and matter to the kingdom of God.

2. More Out of Church

- Gen Z want more out of church than potluck dinners.
- This generation wants to be a part of “doing” something.
- They want more out of their church than sitting on a pew, listening to sermons, going to pot-luck dinners.
- They are not typically impressed by a church’s size or budget.
- They’re more interested in being noticed relationally and in what the church is doing outside the walls of the building. Let’s mobilize a generation.

3. Older Generation

- Gen Z are not ageist.
- People tend to think that students don't want to have anything to do with the older generation.
- Generation Z is in desperate need for older generations to invest in them.
- They often seek out or are more open to discipleship or mentorship than we tend to believe.
- But, they won't know how to ask for it, so they may ask you to "hangout."

4. Why versus What

- Gen Z largely value the “why” over the “what”
- Students do not typically want to do something just because it’s the way it’s always been done or because it’s what their family has always known.
- They are not driven by heritage.
- If we can’t answer their “why” questions or we get defensive over their questions, we’ll lose them.
- Be ready to answer their honest questions with love, patience and kindness.

5. Future of the Church?

- Gen Z don't want to be seen as the future of the church.
- Let them have some ownership of the ministry, and be patient with them when they mess up.
- A great way to keep students engaged in the ministry is by constantly communicating, illustrating and empowering participation in the vision and mission of the church.
- Want them to show up? Want them to invite their friends? Then, let them have a voice in planning it.

6. Authenticity

- Gen Z want authenticity and transparency.
- Nearly all students grow weary of gimmicks and 'sleek presentations' very quickly.
- The more transparent and vulnerable a communicator is, the more students connect.
- As adults, if we act as those who have it all figured out and not in desperate need of God's grace daily ourselves, we'll lose their attention because they won't believe that we're "being real."

7. Brokenness

- Gen Z know brokenness at an earlier age.
- They are exposed to more violence, graphic images, and evil at an earlier age.
- Internet exposure, media coverage, and broken homes are unfortunately the norm for far too many. They don't know a world without the fear of mass shootings, and terrorism.
- This is also pornography-saturated generation—the average age of first exposure is 11.
- They know they're broken.

Probe
| for answers

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Cultural Research by Steve Cable