

## WHEN SOCIETY SHAKES

*"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." - John 8:32*

1. Open your Bibles and read John 8:32. How has God's Truth set you free? What do you have freedom from?
2. John showed evidence that a society that seeks God's Truth becomes a society of freedom. If your family or group of friends were a "society," in what ways are you seeking God's Truth?
3. Did you know that the Bible was the foundation for leading universities such as Oxford, Harvard, Princeton, and more? These universities and their graduates produced modern medicine, modern hospitals, the scientific revolution, Western democracy, and even our basic ability to read (literacy and public education). Discuss what our lives would look like today without these advances made by Christians.
4. Just as homeowners prepare for a hurricane, we are preparing spiritually for the cultural storms that will occur in our lifetime. We have summarized our preparation in the "9 Manifestos." Take a moment to read these aloud (see page 3). Which manifestos stand out to you?
5. Let's focus on Manifesto 1. "We will remain rooted to the Christian scriptures." Take a moment to read Psalm 119:30. Is the Word of God your standard for what you do and believe? Where do you struggle to take the Word of God as your standard?
6. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much of your worldview is based on culture versus Scripture (with 1 being fully shaped by culture and 10 being fully shaped by Scripture)? What are some ways you could raise your number?
7. Now let's talk about Manifesto 2. "We will train our young." Have you thought about how your kids and grandkids are being taught to see the world? Do you think our young people's view of the world is more influenced by scripture or culture?

8. Casual or intentional? Which one of these words best describes your weekly effort to see reality according to God's Word. Which word best describes your effort to help your spouse, children, or grandchildren see reality through the lens of God's Word?

**APPLICATION:**

As a tribe, we are working together to raise the next generation for Christ. Identify any items below that you can begin doing:

- Bring your kids or grandkids to KidCity or Students ministry, every week
- Contribute financially to support our Biblical kids and students ministries
- Serve as a small group leader or other volunteer in our kids or students ministries

**HOMEWORK:**

Pray and ask God to reveal ways that you or your family can become more rooted to the Christian scriptures.

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# THE NINE MANIFESTOS WE CAN EMBRACE

## **1: WE WILL REMAIN ROOTED TO THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES.**

In a world where truth is feelings-based, we will remain rooted to the Christian Scriptures and their life-giving direction.

## **2: WE WILL TRAIN OUR YOUNG.**

In a society of educated ignorance and blindness, we will train our young in the freedom, knowledge, and power of Christian truth.

## **3: WE WILL BE KNOWN FOR DOING GOOD.**

In a world where Christians are labeled as bigots or backward, we will be known for doing good, serving the least of these and loving our neighbors.

## **4: WE WILL DIGNIFY ALL PEOPLE AS IMAGE BEARERS OF GOD.**

In a world where people are treated as commodities or as opponents, we will dignify all people as image bearers of God.

## **5: WE WILL BE AMBASSADORS.**

In a post-Christian world, we will be ambassadors to foreign tribes, behaving diplomatically toward neighbors who have been told the worst about Christianity.

## **6: WE WILL LOVE OUR PERSECUTORS.**

In a world where opponents are vilified and crucified, we will love our persecutors.

## **7: WE WILL REMAIN CALM.**

In a world competing for limited resources, driven by fear, unrest, and scarcity, we will remain calm, confident that our Father provides our daily bread.

## **8: WE WILL BE INVINCIBLE.**

In a world where we are discriminated against, prejudged, and even persecuted, we will be invincible as we serve God's purposes for which we are placed here, now.

## **9: WE WILL BE FEARLESS.**

In a world divided by violence, terrorism, and war, we will be fearless.

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