



A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

HOLINESS IN WORSHIP: HEAD COVERINGS

Part One: 1 Corinthians 11:2-16

1 Corinthians 11:2-6 ^{NIV}

I praise you for remembering me in everything and for holding to the traditions just as I passed them on to you. ³ But I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. ⁴ Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head. ⁵ But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head—it is the same as having her head shaved. ⁶ For if a woman does not cover her head, she might as well have her hair cut off; but if it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, then she should cover her head.



1 Corinthians 11:7-12 ^{NIV}

A man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man. ⁸ For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; ⁹ neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. ¹⁰ It is for this reason that a woman ought to have authority over her own head, because of the angels. ¹¹ Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. ¹² For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God.



1 Corinthians 11:13-16 ^{NIV}

Judge for yourselves: Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? ¹⁴ Does not the very nature of things teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to him, ¹⁵ but that if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For long hair is given to her as a covering. ¹⁶ If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice—nor do the churches of God.



ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD.

ALL SCRIPTURE IS BENEFICIAL TO US.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ^{NET}

Every scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,¹⁷ that the person dedicated to God may be capable and equipped for every good work.



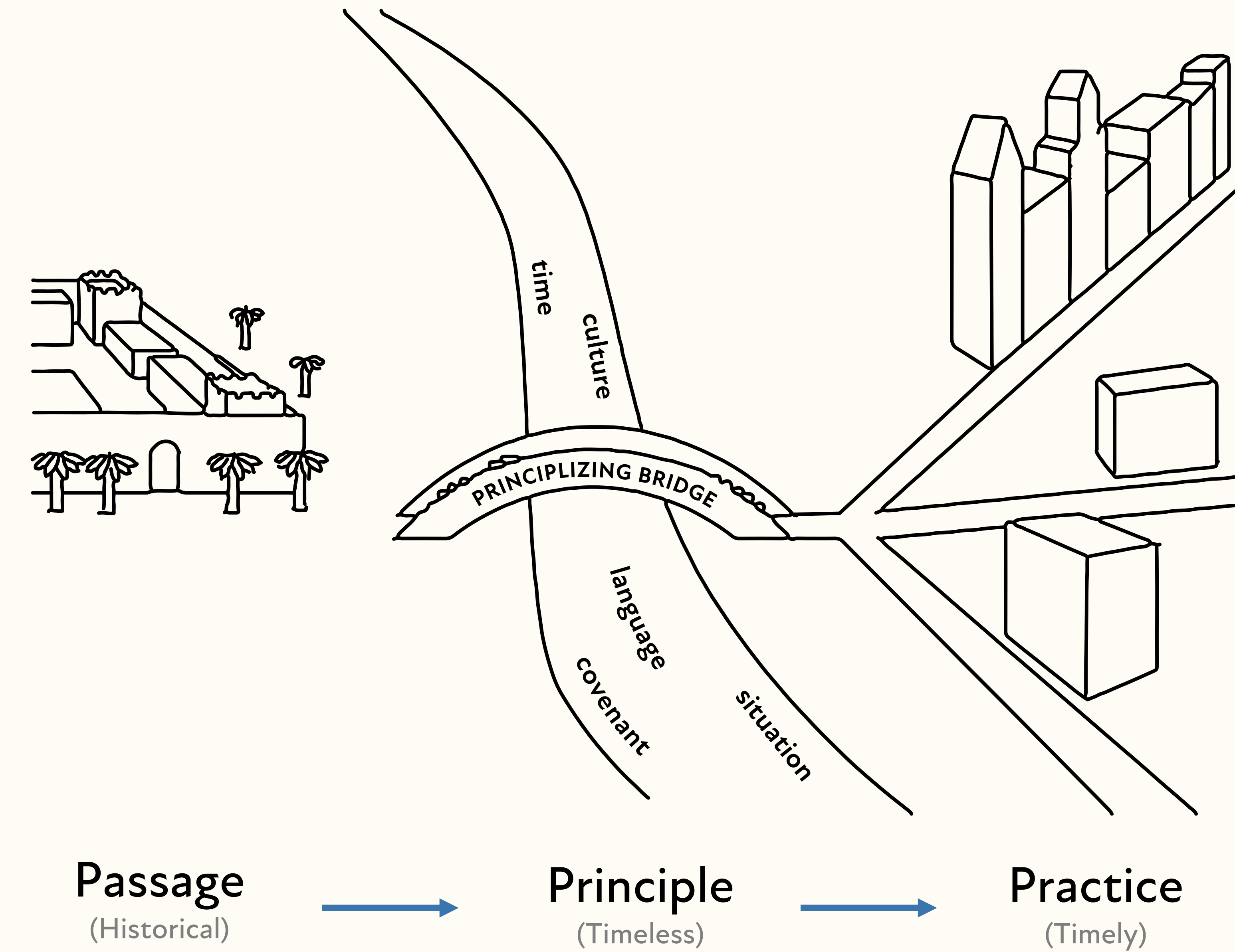
CORINTH
A.D. 53

CULTURAL
GAP

NWA
A.D. 2025



Bridging from the Biblical context to the **present day**.



PRACTICE

(WHAT)

Head Coverings

1 Corinthians 11:4-6 ^{ESV}

Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head,⁵ but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head—it is the same as if her head were shaven.⁶ For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head.



HEAD

(KEPHALE)

Authority (leadership)
Source/Origin (headwaters)
Prominence (chief)

1 Corinthians 11:3 ^{ESV}

But I want you to understand that the **head** of every man is Christ, the **head** of a wife is her husband, and the **head** of Christ is God.



7 AUTHORITY RELATIONSHIPS IN THE BIBLE

- God the Father over God the Son (1 Cor 11:3)
- Christ over the Church (Eph 1:22)
- Church elders over church members (Heb 13:17)
- Government over citizens (Rom 13:1)
- Husbands over wives (Eph 5:22-23, 1 Cor 11:3)
- Parents over children (Eph 6:1)
- Masters over slaves (Eph 6:5)



PRINCIPLE

(WHY)

Divine Order of Authority

1 Corinthians 11:3 ^{ESV}

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the **head of a wife is her husband**, and the head of Christ is God.

1 Corinthians 11:11-12 ^{ESV}

Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman; ¹² for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God.



Galatians 3:28-29^{ESV}

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are **all one in Christ Jesus.** ²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, **heirs according to promise.**

1 Corinthians 11:3^{ESV}

But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the **head of a wife is her husband,** and the head of Christ is God.

1 Corinthians 11:11-12^{ESV}

Nevertheless, in the Lord **woman is not independent of man nor man of woman;** ¹² for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God.



EQUAL, YET **DISTINCT!**



PRINCIPLE

(WHY)

Divine Order of Authority
Gender & Glory

1 Corinthians 11:7-10 ^{ESV}

For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man. ⁸ For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. ⁹ Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. ¹⁰ That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.



PRINCIPLE

(WHY)

Divine Order of Authority
Gender & Glory

Genesis 1:27-28 ^{NET}

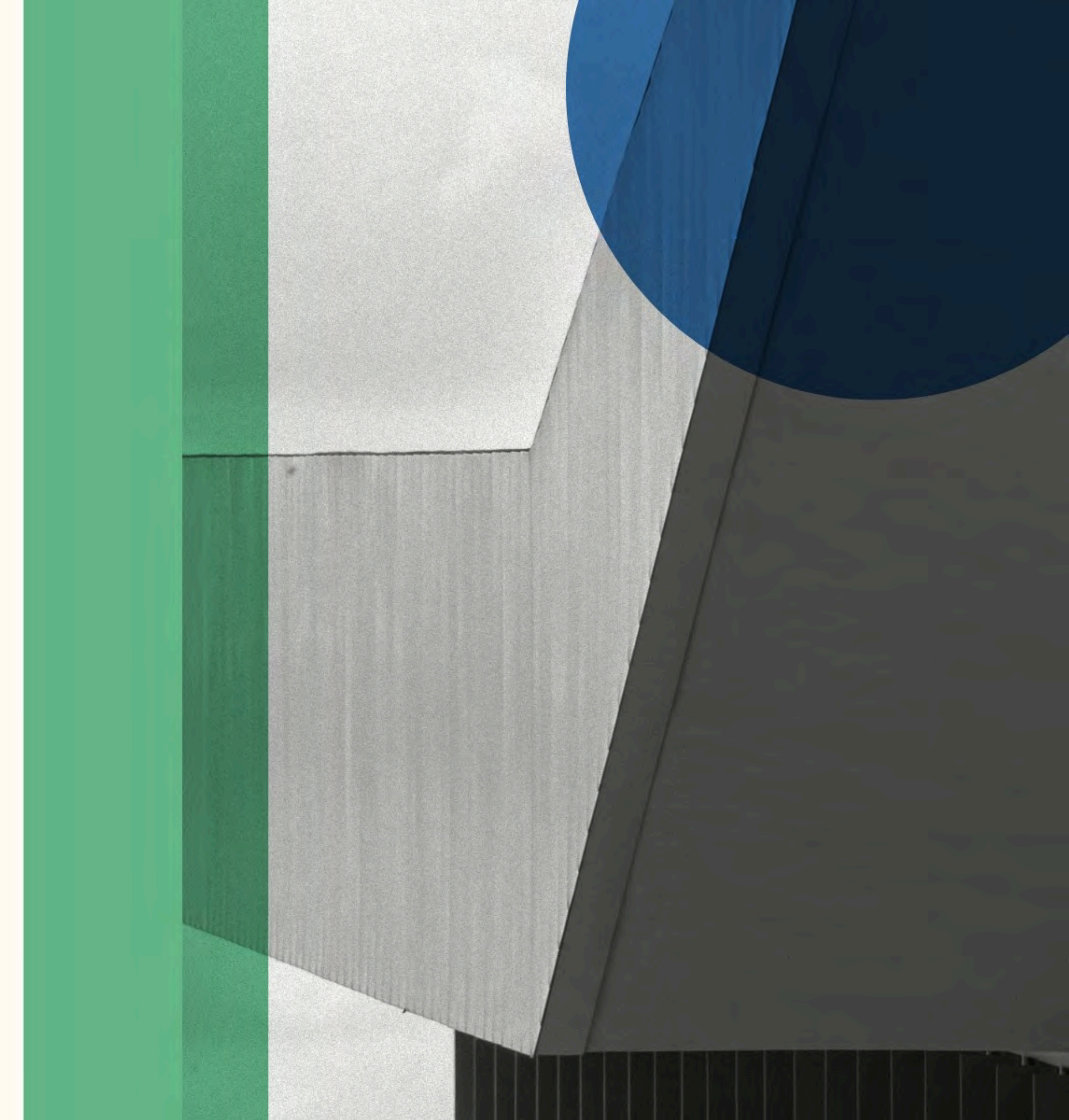
God created humankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them,
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply!
Fill the earth and subdue it! Rule over ... every creature”



“Gender distinctions are not a curse to be covered,
but a blessing to be celebrated.”

- Stephen Um, *1 Corinthians: The Word of the Cross*



PRINCIPLE IN PRACTICE

Glory of God
Good of others

1 Corinthians 11:2 ^{ESV}

Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you.

1 Corinthians 11:16 ^{ESV}

If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God.

