

The Power of Creative Declaration

I. Opportunities to Order the Chaos

A. Creative Potential

Gen 1:1 In the **beginning**, God **created** the **heavens and the earth**. 2 The earth was **without form and void**, and **darkness** was over the face of the deep. And the **Spirit of God** was **hovering** over the **face** of the waters.

B. The Word Orders the Chaos into Goodness

Gen 1:3 **And God said**, "Let there be light," and there was light. 4 And God **saw** that the light was **good**. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

C. The Word Releases the Divine Intention

truth will set you free

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our **image**, after our **likeness**. And let them have dominion ... over all the earth."

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; **male** and **female** he created them.

28 And God **blessed** them. And God said to them, "Be **fruitful** and **multiply** and **fill** the earth and **subdue** it, and have dominion ... over every living thing that moves on the earth."

fruitful – flourish, release the future

multiply – enlarge, gain, increase

fill – fill up, satisfy the ordained purpose

subdue – order for maximum goodness

dominion – to rule (righteousness, peace and joy)

John 8:31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you **abide** in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will **know the truth**, and the **truth** will **set you free**."

This applies to all of life!

II. The Word Calls Forth Favor out of Chaos

A. Transformation Through the Word

Ps 119:9 NKJ How can a young man **cleans** his way?
By taking heed according to Your word.

Continual awareness and assessment of our WAY

B. Positive Feedback Loop

- 10 With my **whole heart** I have **sought You**;
Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!
- 11 Your **word** I have **hidden in my heart**, <memorize>
That I might not sin against You. <meditate, ponder>
- 18 **Open my eyes**, that I may behold
wondrous things out of your law.
- 24 Your testimonies are my **delight**;
they are my **counselors**.
- 46 I will also **speak** of your testimonies **before kings**
and shall not be put to shame,
- 47 for I find my delight in your commandments,
which I love.

III. Creative Light in the Chaos of Culture

John 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**I am the light** of the world. Whoever **follows** me will not walk in darkness, but will **have the light of life**."

John 1:4 In him was **life**, and the life was the **light of men**. **5 The light shines in the darkness**, and the darkness has not overcome it.

A. Chaos in Culture is painful darkness - *The ways of society that ignore God.*

John 3:19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and **people loved the darkness** rather than the light because their works were evil.

Rom 1:21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

Isa 5:20 NIV Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness,...

B. The Light that re-Creates is the LOVE of God - Love one another, our neighbor, our enemy. Our motive is to make bring joy to the nations.

John 15:11 These things *I have spoken* to you, **that my joy may be in you**, and that your joy may be full. **12** "This is my commandment, that you **love one another** as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

IV. Light in the Chaos Releases the Blessing

even as I have loved you... lay down your life for your friends
It's all relational. We need to know the TRUTH about relationships.
So, we stay calm, and carry on with joyful kindness and hope!
We speak:

7 Creative Declarations: [slides]

1. Between Husband and Wife — **Marriage is a comprehensive, permanent and exclusive union between one man and one woman.**

*Marriage is a comprehensive union — of hearts, minds, and bodies. In marriage, spouses achieve **true organic bodily union**, a union **only possible between man and woman**. <Profound Mystery- Christ and Church Requires a total commitment from the spouses. Beautiful and good in and of itself and it is also fundamental to any society because organic bodily union often produces children.*

*Marriage allows **mothers** and **fathers** to give their children the promise of a stable and lifelong family bond, which children most need to flourish. We acknowledge the real challenges that exist to a strong union! Working through the obstacles together creates mature, confident children, generating a positive ripple effect.*

2. Between Children and Adults — **Every child has a right to a mother and a father; no one has a right to a child.**

Mothers and fathers provide unique gifts to their children. Each sex makes unique contribution towards the healthy psychosocial development of a child. We know the ideal is not always attainable, but we give praise for those who strive to meet it.

Every Child has

- a. The **right to life** from **conception until natural death**, regardless of the circumstances of conception, sex, or family situation.
- b. The **right to be treated as a person**, not as a commodity. Children are a blessing – not something owed to us adults.
- c. The **right to modesty**.
- d. The **right to be raised according to one's biological sex and gender**.
*Boys and girls must be taught to celebrate the unique and fundamental gifts of their biological sex. **Gender is anchored by our biological sex**. It is not infinitely fluid and changeable.*

3. Between Children and the Family — **Bonds between children, parents, grandparents and extended family should be protected and preserved.**

Kinship involves the ties to the ancestral line that led to our existence. This gives an anchor to our identity, helping us to understand where we came from.

We admire adoptive and foster parents who seek to remedy broken bonds and open their homes to children in need with generosity and care.,

4. Between Adults of the Same Sex — **Every person has a profound need to be appreciated, known and loved in the context of authentic friendship.**

Authentic friendship is a relationship of mutual appreciation, in which people desire each other's good and value each other's uniqueness. This is real, valuable and intimate—a union of hearts and minds, resulting in profound happiness. **We affirm that non-marital friendships** have their own distinctive features and types of intimacy, and **we counter the confusing modern meme that all emotional intimacy can or should be sexual.**

5. Between All Persons in a Civil Society — **Every person possesses a unique dignity and is worthy of respect, regardless of sex, age, ethnicity, sexual feelings, race, educational level or religious or political ideas.**

*We are for those who seek to engage in meaningful conversations that preserve the dignity of all involved, and we seek to add our own **positive voice**. We value **the dignity of the vulnerable** among us: the unborn, children, the elderly, religious and sexual minorities, and the poor.*

6. Between Government, parents and children — **Parents have a right and a responsibility to direct the education of their children.**

*Government, and social institutions should **assist** parents in their educational task and **never usurp** parents' primary role, especially in sensitive areas pertaining to sexuality, marriage and family.*

Parents today face governments, caregivers and providers that may seek — especially through sex-ed programs—to normalize and promote forms of sexual behavior that violate the consciences of many around the world.

7. Between Government and People of Faith – **Every person has a right to freedom of conscience, thought, and religion, which includes the freedom to manifest one's religion or beliefs in a**

public or private way so long as these beliefs and practices do not harm others.

We celebrate the people who understand the positive role of religion in ordinary life and the importance of faith to the common good, whatever their professed creed.

V. Commission to Declare the Goodness of God!

You are the LIGHT OF THE WORLD that RELEASE FREEDOM!

John 8:31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you **abide** in my word, you are truly my disciples, **32** and you will **know the truth**, and the **truth** will **set you free.**”

There are NO HOPELESS SITUATIONS!

Ezek 37:3 And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” **4** Then he said to me, “**Prophecy** over these bones, and **say** to them, O dry bones, **hear the word of the Lord...**”

Prov 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue...

The GREAT COMMISSION:

“**Peace** to you! As the Father has sent me, I am **sending you**. Go disciple the nations. I am with you always!”

The GREAT HELP!

Heb 13:5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has **said**, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” **6** So we can confidently **say**,
“The Lord is my **helper**; I will not fear; what can man do to me?”

There are NO LIMITS on the effects of even a SMALL CHANGE in our thinking and behavior. What we contribute to life today can fill eternity.