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Re-Humanizing Practices
for Christians in a
Synthetic & Secular Age

An illustration of an iceberg floating in dark blue water. The tip of the iceberg is above the water line, and the much larger base is submerged. The text is overlaid on the iceberg.

ethical beliefs

***are the visible
culmination of a
bunch of deeply
held assumptions***

An iceberg floating in dark blue water. The tip of the iceberg is above the water line, and the much larger base is submerged. The text labels are placed on the iceberg, with the most visible label on the tip and others descending into the water.

ethical beliefs

anthropological beliefs

teleological beliefs

ontological beliefs

epistemological beliefs

An iceberg floating in dark blue water. The tip of the iceberg is above the water line and is labeled 'ethical beliefs'. The much larger part of the iceberg is submerged below the water line and is divided into four horizontal layers, labeled from top to bottom: 'anthropological beliefs', 'teleological beliefs', 'ontological beliefs', and 'epistemological beliefs'. Two white arrows point from text boxes on the right towards the iceberg. The top arrow points to the 'ethical beliefs' layer, and the bottom arrow points to the submerged layers.

ethical beliefs

Where all the
debate happens

anthropological beliefs

teleological beliefs

ontological beliefs

epistemological beliefs

Where all the
assumptions happen

ethical beliefs



While we rage
about the visible

There is a steady
erosion of what is
supporting all of
our convictions

ethical beliefs



Who is left trying to uphold
the weight of justice, morality,
and goodness for the whole world?



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Proverbs 4:1-27

Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching. For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and cherished by my mother. Then he taught me, and he said to me, "Take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands, and you will live. Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them.

Proverbs 4:1-27

Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you.

The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom.

Though it cost all you have, get understanding.

Cherish her, and she will exalt you; embrace

her, and she will honor you. She will give you

a garland to grace your head and present you

with a glorious crown.”

Proverbs 4:1-27

Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many. I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble. Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life. Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evildoers.

Proverbs 4:1-27

Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn from it and go on your way. For they cannot rest until they do evil; they are robbed of sleep till they make someone stumble. They eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.

Proverbs 4:1-27

But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble. My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body.

Proverbs 4:1-27

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways.

Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.



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Exploring the Wisdom Tradition in Scripture to Answer Life's **Four Essential Questions**

- 1. Who are you? (Identity)**
- 2. Where do you belong? (Community)**
- 3. Why are you here? (Purpose)**
- 4. How should you live? (Priorities)**

What are the *Technological Threats* we face?

1. Identity Theft

The meticulous creation and curation of the false-self

2. Counterfeit Community

A group of people zealously committed to your unreality

3. Perpetual Phishing

Getting hooked in the endless ocean of the engagement algorithm

4. Untrustworthy Syncing

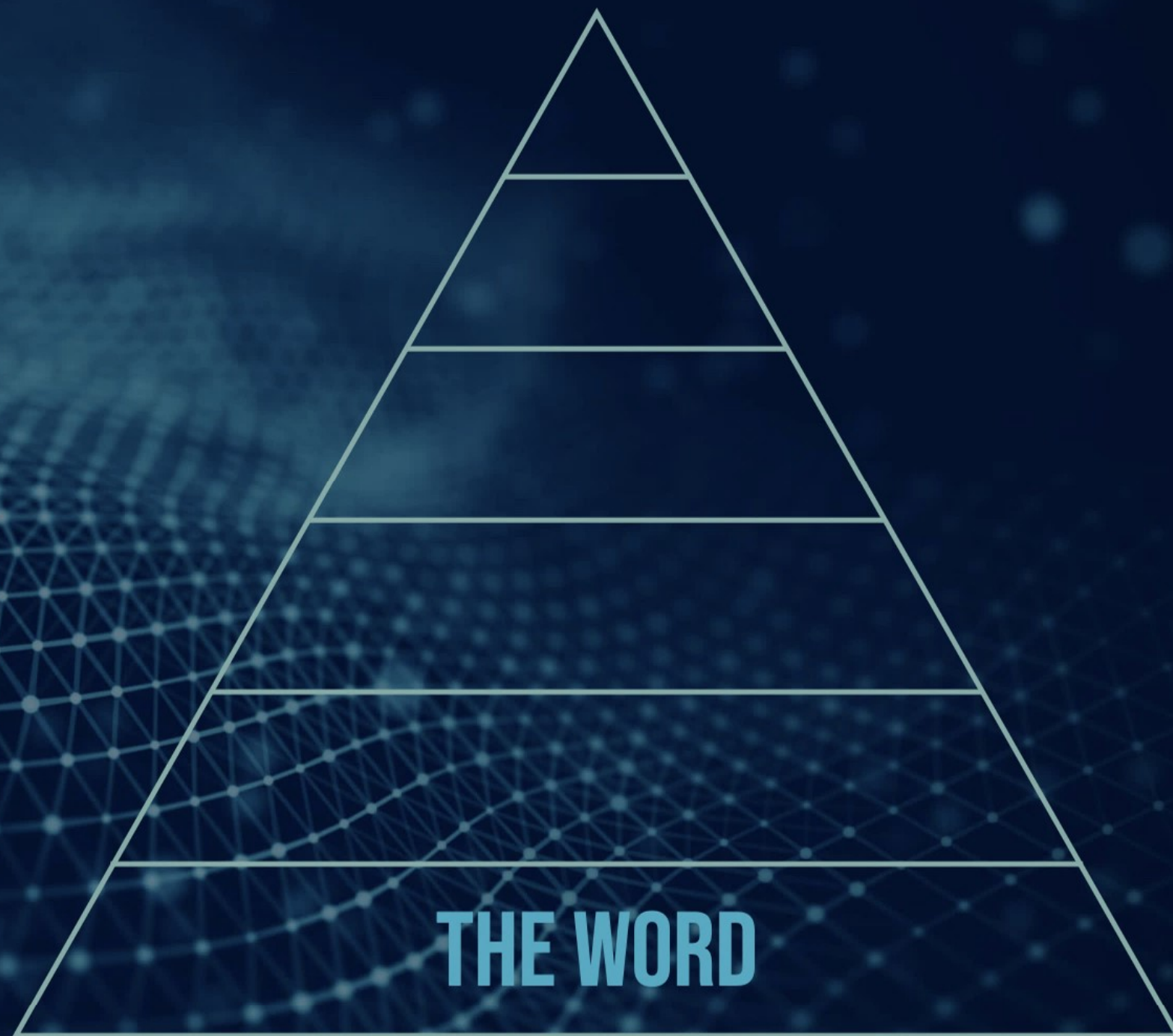
Granting the world permission to reprogram your life

*Feeding Your
Soul in a Post-
Truth World*



THE WISDOM PYRAMID

BRETT McCracken

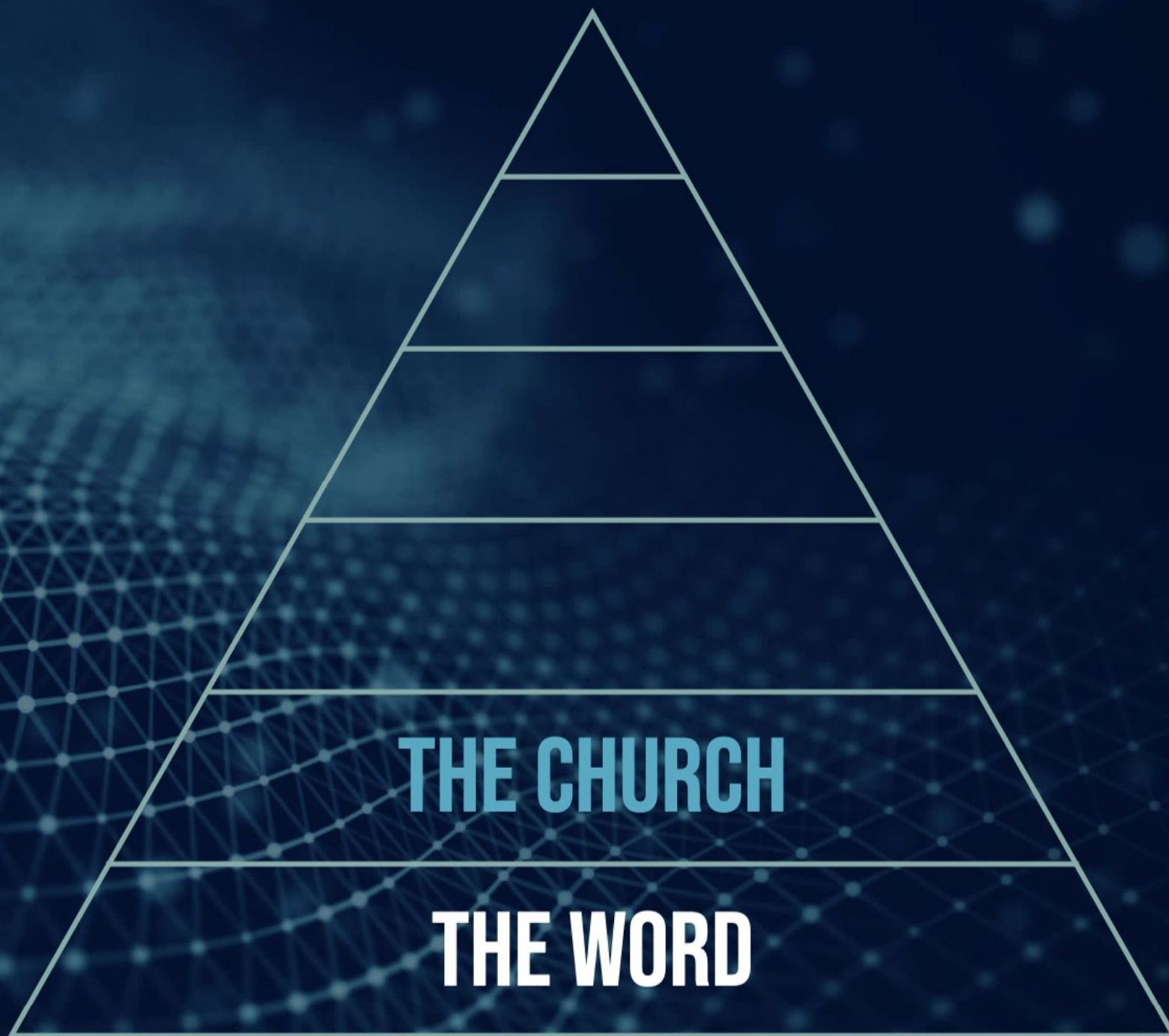


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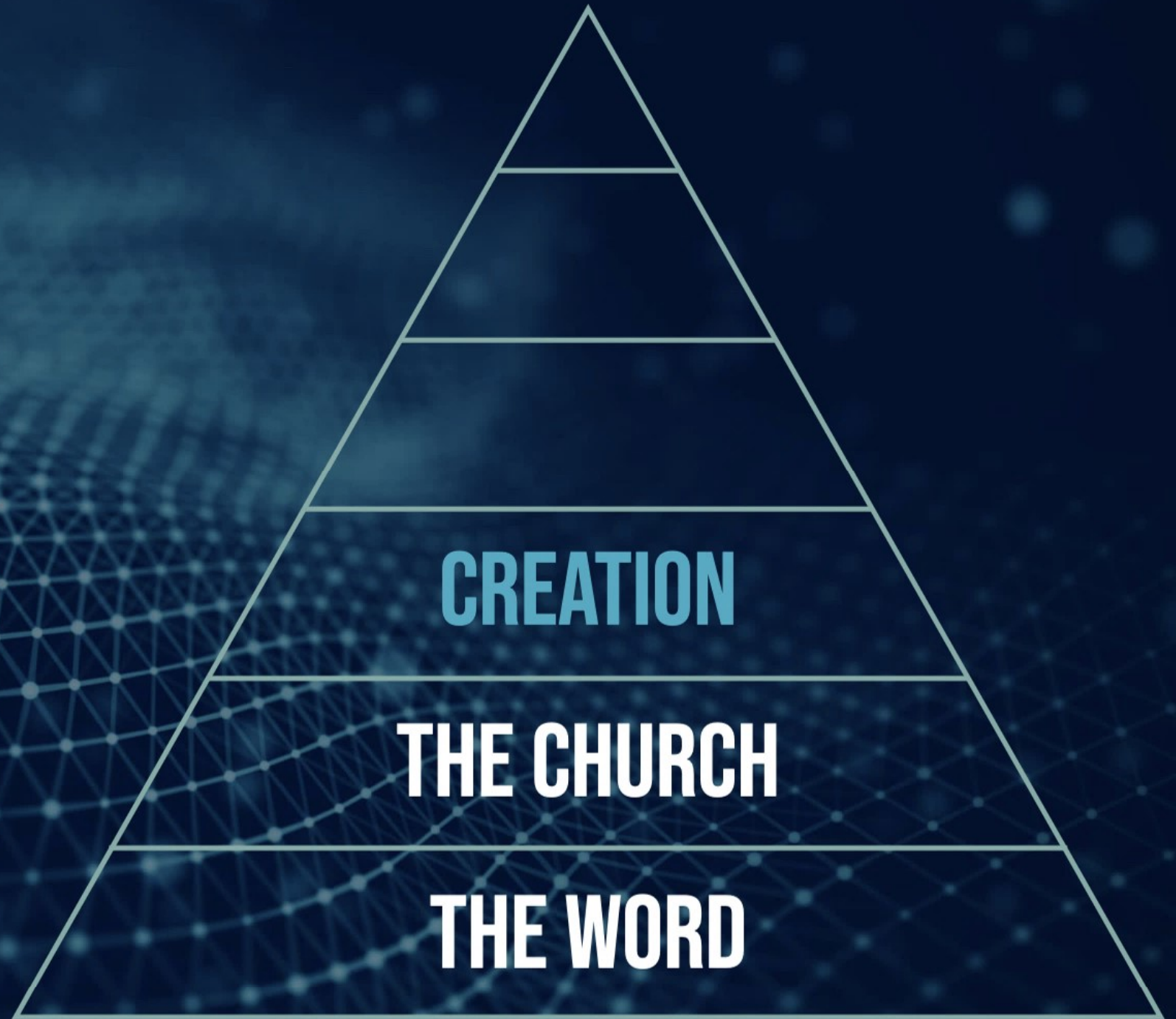


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COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE

CREATION

THE CHURCH

THE WORD

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CURATED BEAUTY

COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE

CREATION

THE CHURCH

THE WORD

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THE WISDOM PYRAMID

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COMPUTATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

CURATED BEAUTY

COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE

CREATION

THE CHURCH

THE WORD

What *Scriptural Shifts* should we adopt?

- 1. A shift from individuality to interdependence**
- 2. A shift from inclusivity & comfort to an invitation to sanctification**
- 3. A shift from incessant engagement to seasonal participation**
- 4. A shift from informed & updated to innocent & wise**

Matthew 10:16

I am sending you out like sheep
among wolves. Therefore be as
shrewd as snakes and as
innocent as doves.

Romans 16:19

Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I rejoice because of you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.

Philippians 2:14-15

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.

What *Re-humanizing Practices* can reset us?

- 1. Silence. Solitude. Creation**
- 2. Submission. Direction. Confession.**
- 3. Sabbath. Worship. Service.**
- 4. Scripture. Prayer. Keep your death before you.**



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