



## Theology of Development

***"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Cor.10:31***

### Preamble

We are committed to doing "all things" for the glory of God. This includes how we engage our development efforts. By providing a Biblical basis and framework for giving and development, it is our aim to encourage, inspire, and lead the community we serve to participate in God's amazing plan and ever-expanding kingdom. The culmination of all our giving assists God's people to be transformed and blessed so that God may be seen, honored and worshiped. (Matthew 5:16)

Globe's Theology of Development has four foundational commitments and five implications that flow from them.

### Four Foundational Commitments

#### 1. God owns all things and needs nothing

##### a. Key Scriptures

- i. Colossians 1:16-17: *"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist"*
- ii. Revelation 4:11: *"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will [and for your pleasure] they were created and have their being."*
- iii. Romans 11:36: *"For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen."*
- iv. Psalm 24:1: *"The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."*
- v. Acts 17:24-25: *"God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is the Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands, nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things."*
- vi. 1 Timothy 6:17b: *"The living God . . . gives us richly all things to enjoy."*

##### b. Based on these Scriptures we believe:

- i. Everything in all of creation belongs to God, our Creator.
  - ii. God is not dependent on our service or our resources.
  - iii. This belief includes our ministry and everyone who serves and supports it.
- c. *As a result, we commit to working and ministering in ways consistent with this understanding, giving God the glory in all things and trusting him completely for our every need.*

## **2. God is rich in love and is extravagantly generous**

### **a. Key Scriptures**

- i. Ephesians 2:4-7: *"But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown [evidenced] in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus."*
- ii. Philippians 4:19: *"And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."*
- iii. 1 Peter 1:15-16: *"but--in imitation of the holy One who has called you--you also must be holy in all your habits of life. Because it stands written, "You are to be holy, because I am holy."*
- iv. 2 Corinthians 9:8: *"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work."*

### **b. Based on these Scriptures we believe:**

- i. God is our sole Provider – everything we need for life and ministry comes from His hands.
  - ii. No one can out-give God.
  - iii. We are recipients of His gracious giving, especially the gift of salvation unto eternal life through Christ Jesus.
  - iv. As bearers of God's image, we follow His lead by faithful and consistent giving of our time, talents, and resources as directed by Him.
- c. *As a result, we commit to working and ministering in ways consistent with His nature and example of generous giving, and in all things, giving God the glory and trusting him completely for our every need.*

**3. Everything we have is a gift from God that He has entrusted to us as stewards, not owners.**

a. Key Scriptures

- i. 2 Peter 1:3: *"As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness."*
- ii. 2 Corinthians 9:8: *"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work."*
- iii. 1 Corinthians 4:7: *"For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? No if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?"*
- iv. 1 Corinthians 4:2: *"It is required in stewards that one be found faithful."*
- v. Genesis 2:15: *"Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it."*

b. Based on these Scriptures we believe:

- i. God has endowed and equipped us for the very special work of the faithful stewardship of all his creation.
- ii. We must fight the sinful nature and its desire to claim ownership over the things God calls us to steward.
- iii. We are all on a journey of faith to become a more deeply committed steward of everything in our life and work.
- iv. This stewardship includes our career missionaries, our leaders, our staff, our interns, our ministry partners and our board.
- v. We are called to love, encourage, support and challenge one another as we move together on this journey.

c. *As a result, we commit to be used by God to help one another on their journey as we seek, together, to be more faithful and obedient stewards of the good things of God.*

**4. Our work in all of our development programs and practices is to help connect people to God's calling to be faithful stewards**

a. Key Scriptures

- i. 2 Corinthians 12:14: *"Now I am ready to visit you for the third time, and I will not be a burden to you, because what I want is not your possessions but you."*
- ii. 2 Corinthians 9:11 *"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."*
- iii. 2 Corinthians 9:7 *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your*

*heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*

iv. Acts 20:35 *“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”*

b. Based on these Scriptures we believe:

- i. We are called by God to minister to our partners throughout our ministry, and specifically those who are led to support us financially.
- ii. We are called to trust God that if we are faithful in this calling, he will supply all of our needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

c. *As a result, we commit to always put ministry over money, seeking to be faithful in our work of being used by God to help his people live out their stewarding responsibilities by generously funding our work.*

### **Implications for Our Life and Work**

**1. God alone is the ‘fundraiser’ at our ministry.**

- *For us this means that we rely upon God for all our fundraising initiatives and resources according to His will.*

**2. We believe our work is to be used by God to bring transformation into the lives of our ministry partners, not merely transactions for our financial benefit.**

- *For us this means that fundraising God’s way is ministry.*

**3. We desire that our partners financially support us out of an alignment of our work with their passion and not out of our own attempt to persuade them to do so.**

- *For us this means each member of our community will have the opportunity to pray how he or she can be led to participate in God’s work here.*

**4. Because we know the Owner and are called to serve the Owner, our desire is to be a blessing to our ministry partners and carry out our work with the highest level of skill and excellence of which we are capable.**

- *For us this means that fundraising God’s way should be conducted with excellence, authenticity, and great care and concern for those we serve.*

**5. Prayer is our greatest development tool and we will exercise it faithfully.**

- *For us this means that wholeheartedly seeking God’s wisdom and discernment through prayer will result in His will being accomplished through all our fundraising efforts with faithfulness and diligence.*

### **Conclusion**

We will seek to build everything we do in the Globe Development Department and across the ministry and work according to these foundational commitments and in line with these implications.

We believe God has called us to this ministry as stewards, and as we trust in him and seek to be obedient to that call, we are confident that he will bless us, and all who serve and support it, with his joy and abundance.

To God Be The Glory!

If you have questions or comments, we would love to hear from you!

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