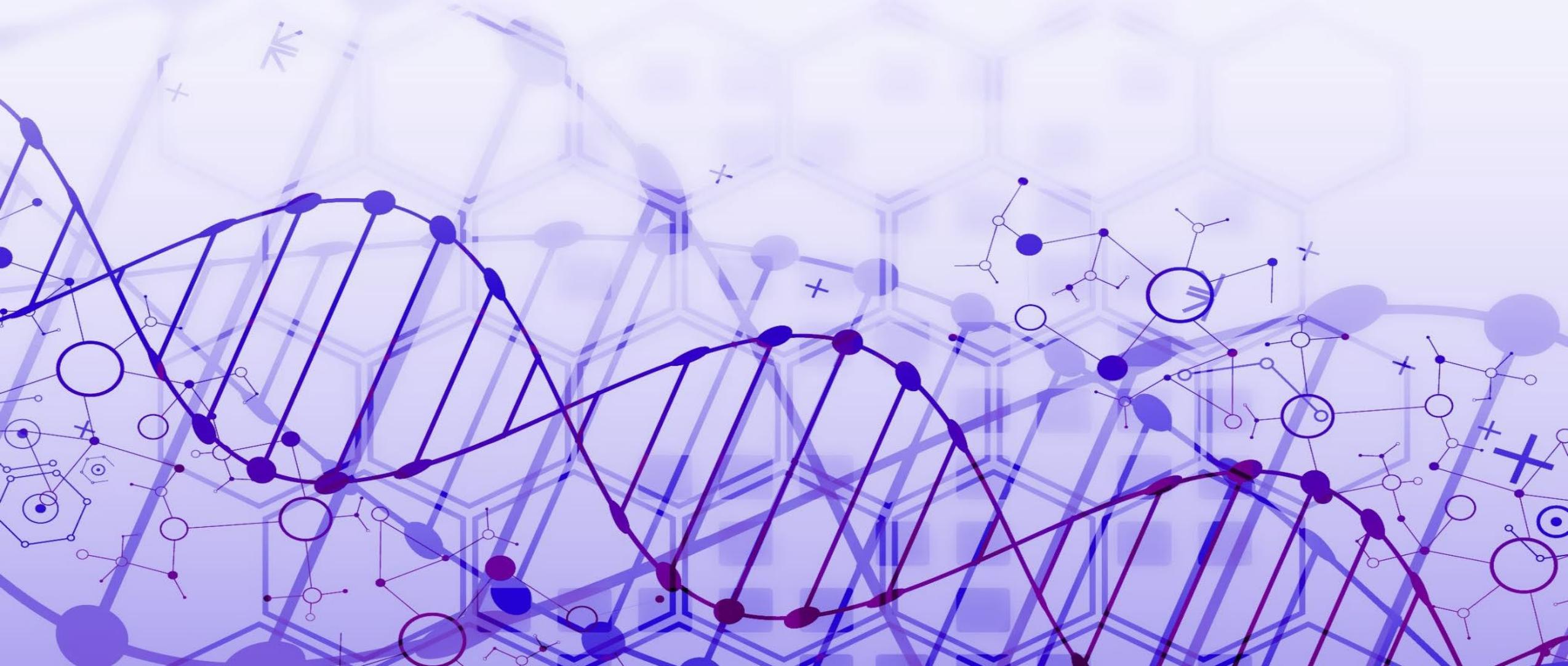


# WE ARE THE CHURCH



**This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!**

**<sup>18</sup> And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to Himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to Him. <sup>19</sup> For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And He gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.**

**2 Corinthians 5:17-19 (NLT)**



***“Reconciliation between God and human beings is based on #1 Atonement: a sacrificial act that covers a person’s sins and brings that person into reconciliation with God and #2 Jesus Christ, who became the sacrifice for our sins.”***

June Hunt, *Reconciliation-Restoring Broken Relationships* (Peabody, Massachusetts: Henderson Publishing Group, 2013), 11-12.



For Christ Himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in His own body on the cross, He broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. **15** He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in Himself one new people from the two groups. **16** Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of His death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

**Ephesians 2:14-16**



# LOVE EACH OTHER

- Really love others.
- Love with genuine affection.
- Take delight in honoring each other.
- When God's people in need be ready to help.
- Eagerly practice hospitality.
- Bless those who persecute you. Pray for them.
- Live in harmony with each other.
- Don't be too proud to mix with ordinary people.
- Don't think you know it all.
- Don't pay back evil with evil.
- Do things honorably.
- Live in peace with everyone.
- Don't use foul/abusive language.
- Let what you say be good and helpful.
- Get rid of bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, slander, evil behavior.
- Be kind to each other, tenderhearted.
- Be ready to forgive each other.
- Be of one mind.
- Sympathize with each other.
- Love as brothers and sisters.
- Help a believer caught in sin.
- Share each other's burdens.
- Be helpful



**So now I am giving you a new commandment:  
Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you  
should love each other. 35 Your love for one  
another will prove to the world that you are My  
disciples.”**

**John 13:34-35**



# WHERE DID WE GO WRONG?

1. Failure to connect-walk in relationship.
2. Unrealistic expectations.
3. Selfish ambitions.
4. Inability or refusal to give and receive love.
5. Inattentiveness.
6. Assumptions: assigning motives.



**Reconciliation with others is...**  
**“the act of settling or harmonizing differences,  
especially resolving differences between one  
another. While a relationship will not always be  
salvaged, the spirit of reconciliation always  
reflects the heart of God.”**

*June Hunt, Reconciliation-Restoring Broken Relationships (Peabody, Massachusetts: Henderson Publishing Group, 2013), 11.*



**Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:13-14**



# ASK GOD

- 1. Is there anyone I need to make an effort to reconcile with?***
- 2. God, what is the first step You want me to take?***

