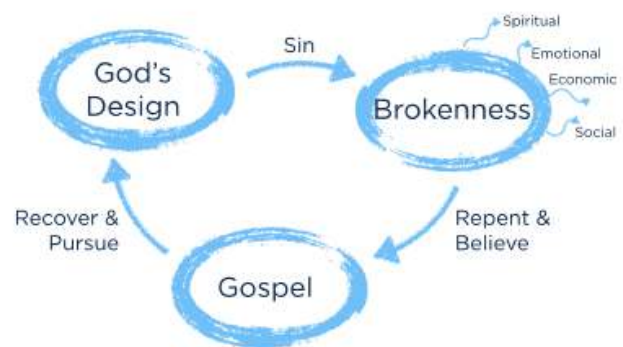




*RESTORATION is the recovery and pursuit of God's design for holistic health.*

God's design for human beings was to live according to His plan in every area of our lives. When humans decided to risk what was good, ordered, and equitable by choosing self-reliance rather than relationship with God, the entire state of humanity was damaged by sin. The four pillars (spiritual, emotional, economic, and social) of the human condition were broken beyond human repair. Our relationship with God was broken (spiritual pillar). Sin changed how we think, act, and feel about our identity (emotional pillar) – from made in the image of God to an ever-shifting identity driven by culture. Sin affected our ability to connect with other humans with love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, humility, self-control, and faith (social pillar including individuals, family systems, educational systems, social systems, and judicial systems). Sin has changed how we worship God and serve others through the dignity of work, thus driving humanity toward work inequity and impaired stewardship (economic pillar). The consequence is *brokenness* in every aspect of humanity and humanity groaned for restoration to its pre-Fall state.



The good news of the gospel covers the creation, fall, redemption, and restoration of God's creation. Too often, we treat the gospel as if the good news stops at redemption, however the good news doesn't stop there! The gospel is not simply a message for the afterlife. It has real time, real life application for our day to day lives as we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to pursue restoration in our own lives, relationships, and the world around us. We see it modeled perfectly in the life of Jesus. We know he met the spiritual needs of people, but he also met emotional needs, economic needs, and social needs. He healed the sick, challenged corruption in leaders and in systems and honored the poor and the outcast. Wherever Jesus went, holistic restoration was taking place. The gospel is not good news without spiritual redemption nor is it good news void of emotional, economic, and social restoration. The good news of the Kingdom is that God is establishing a new order where all things (spiritual, emotional, economic, and social) are restored to their original sinless design.

When churches embody the value of restoration (recovering and pursuing God's design), they engage in ways that reflect God's design for holistic health. Recovering and pursuing God's design for spiritual, emotional, economic, and social health shows people how they can experience restoration in every area of human brokenness. Holistic restoration is the outworking of the identity of every believer to bring God's Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven.