

Converting and Recovery I

We cannot influence people we do not have access to.

Access is critical for connecting.

We cannot connect with people we do not reach.

We cannot convert people we have not connected with.

Reaching, connecting, and converting are critical to changing lives, homes, and communities.

We must be converted from disconnectedness.

- Adam and Cain: Genesis 3:8 and 4:16 flee from the presence of God.

We need recovery from disconnectedness.

- The last Adam lives in the presence of God.

1 Corinthians 15:47-49 The first man is of the **earth, earthy**: the second man is the Lord from **heaven**.⁴⁸ As is the **earthy**, such are they also that are **earthy**: and as is the **heavenly**, such are they also that are **heavenly**.⁴⁹ And as we have borne the image of the **earthy**, we shall also bear the image of the **heavenly**.

Earthy is the rule of the Earth, things terrestrial and temporal.

Heavenly is the rule of God and things from above, eternal and everlasting.

The last Adam never left the rule of God, heaven.

^{KJV} **John 3:13** *And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.*

I

To convert means to bring over from one belief, view, or party to another.

To convert means to change from one form or function to another.

KJV Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to **preach** the gospel to the poor; he hath **sent** me to heal the brokenhearted, to **preach** deliverance to the captives, and **recovering of sight to the blind**, *to set at liberty* them that are bruised, ¹⁹ To **preach** the acceptable year of the Lord.

Repeated and unrepented sin can cause us to lose a vision for the future.

God uses people and circumstances to get our attention and persuade us to turn and be converted.

The story of lost sons is a great example of a son lost outside the house and a lost son inside the house.

The son, who lives outside the house, has a conversion experience through the countrymen and events that hit his life.

KJV Luke 15:17-18 And when he **came to himself**, he said, How many hired **servants** of my father's have **bread** enough and to **spare**, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ **I will arise and go to my father**, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

☐ When you lose a vision for your future, you will return to your past.

☐ *Be sure to have the father's house in your past, so you know where to return to!*

II

Recover means to save from loss and restore to usefulness.

2 Samuel 11-12 describes the sin of David and Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah

☐ David's recovery came through confrontation, conviction, confession, and conversion!

KJV Psalm 51:10-13 Create in me a **clean heart**, O God; and renew a **right spirit** within me. ¹¹ Cast me not away from thy **presence**; and take not thy **holy spirit** from me. ¹² **Restore unto me the joy** of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy **free spirit**. ¹³ **Then will I teach** transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

¶We cannot **convince** people what we are not convinced of nor **convert** people to what we have not been converted to!

III

Recover means to get back and return to a **normal position** or condition.

Once we are converted, we are to help others by relating and connecting to them.

¶Once we have recovered, let's help other people to recover!

¶Once we are converted, let's help others to be converted!

¶Once we are restored, let's help others to pursue and recover all!

David came to a city that had been raided, robbed, and routed.

The women and children were taken captive.

All the goods of the town and its values have been taken!

KJV **1 Samuel 30:8** And David enquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, **Pursue**: for thou shalt surely **overtake** them, and without fail **recover all**.

David knew something about recovery.

David knew something about restoration.

¶David knew something about fighting for others so they could experience recovery and restoration!

¶The broken are masters at mending!

¶Converted thinking, embraces a world bigger than our own.