SIMPLE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX REALITIES

matt mooney
SIMPLE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX REALITIES

CONTEXT

CALLING

COURSE CORRECTIONS
context

calling

course corrections
With the highest rate of...

- ABUSE
- 1 BILLION
- DIVORCE
- SUICIDE
- HOMELESSNESS
- JOBLESSNESS
Due to factors such as stigma, lack of mobility, etc., only 5-10% of individuals with disability globally have ever heard the gospel. 

> 900 MILLION
Study: US Churches Exclude Children with Autism, ADD/ADHD

Children with the greatest need for a supportive community were the most likely to feel unwelcome.

DAVID BRIGGS | JULY 20, 2016

Worldwide. Places of Care Caretakers.
21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor.
For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
11 The LORD said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? 

EXODUS 4:11
9 As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him.
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DOROTHEA DIX
COURSE CORRECTIONS

UNIQUE REALITIES
COURSE CORRECTIONS

CAN'T CHANGE W/OUT CHANGING
COURSE CORRECTIONS

INCLUSION NOT ACCOMODATION
**Stage 1: Ignorance**

Weaknesses and disabilities are a sign that God either does not care or is not able to fix the situation. In fact, they may be a result of sin or a lack of faith. God is not involved in the life of someone with a disability, because He can’t use people who are so broken. I do not know people with disabilities, nor do I know anything about disabilities. I have no interest in getting to know them or to know more about their life.

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**Stage 2: Pity**

I feel sorry for people with disabilities. It’s too bad, really. I am blessed by God and I can help others. I am grateful that my children are not disabled. People with weaknesses and disabilities obviously need someone like me to help them and give them meaning, due to their troubles. I really don’t see any meaning or purpose to their lives.

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**Stage 3: Care**

Like me, people with disabilities were created in God’s image. By that virtue alone they have value. I hope that someone will take the time to show them God’s love, and I will happily support such an effort. In fact, I think we need to find ways to help those people. Maybe we should start a special church education class, or respite care for the sake of the parents.

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**Stage 4: Friendship**

I have come to know and spend time with a friend who has a disability. This person has value in God’s sight, but also in mine, and I know that my life is better for having known this person, and as much as I have helped her, she has also blessed me. In fact, I now like to initiate relationships with people who have disabilities. God brings many different people into my church and community, including people with disabilities, and we all benefit as we grow in friendship with each other.

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**Stage 5: Co-Laborers**

If God has called each of us to serve and praise Him with every fiber of our beings, then He has done the same for our brothers and sisters in Christ with disabilities. I think ministry should not just be to people with disabilities, but with or alongside people who have disabilities. Together, we will encourage and equip each other, with and without disabilities, into every good work to respond to God’s call on our lives. We can all give and we can all receive.
COURSE CORRECTIONS

ON-RAMPS
NOT LANES
COURSE CORRECTIONS

INCLUSION ASSESSMENT
SCENARIOS

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX REALITIES