

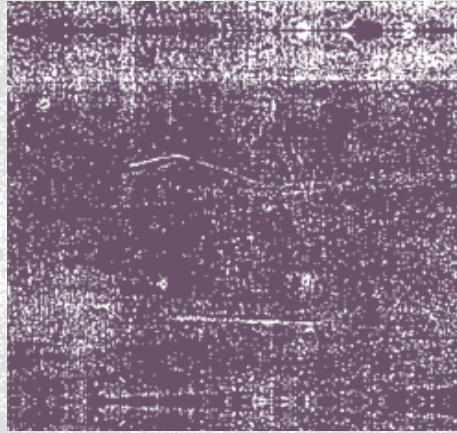
**Blessed are the pure  
in heart**

**Matthew 5:8**



# A Creative Minority

A Creative Minority is a Christian community in a web of stubbornly loyal relationships, knotted together in a living network of persons who are committed to practicing the way of Jesus together for the renewal of the world.



# **Jeremiah**

## **29:7**

**But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.**

# Matthew

## 6:22-23

**22** “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, **23** but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

**Matthew**

**5:8**

Blessed are the  
pure in heart, for  
they shall see  
God.

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# Exodus 34:6-7

<sup>6</sup> The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,  
<sup>7</sup> keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.”



# Genesis 3

...and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.





# Isaiah 59

1 Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,

or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;

2 but your **iniquities have made a separation**

between you and your God,

and **your sins have hidden his face** from you

so that he does not hear.



# Matthew

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# Key Points





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- What we take in shapes our inner world.





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- What we take in shapes our inner world.
- Our inner world shapes how we perceive the outer world.
- If our inner world becomes toxic, so will our future perceptions.





# The Outside of the Window





## **Ta-Nehisi Coates**

I would like  
to believe in  
God, I simply  
can't.







## Mark Clark, *The Problem of God*

**“...the greatest proof that God does not exist is the behavior of Christians themselves.”**



# Isaiah 59:2

but your **iniquities have made a separation** between you and your God,  
and **your sins have hidden his face** from  
you so that he does not hear.





## **E. Stanley Jones**

“The Beatitudes do not leave us gazing at heaven; they end leaving us gazing at a scarred and warring earth”



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