



WELCOME TO  
**THE BIG STORY**  
COURSE: *CREATION*

We will begin shortly but before we do, please mute yourself and make sure you are in Speaker View. Using the chat feature, answer the question, “**What do you have a knack for? What do you do well?**”

# What did I sign up for again?

This course is designed to place our smaller individual stories into the much grander story of God as revealed in the Bible. This allows us to better understand how our lives have far more purpose and significance than we imagine. After participating in the course, you will be able to:

## **Learning Objectives:**

1. Recount the story of God captured in four movements.
2. Articulate how your life participates in God's redemptive purposes in the world.
3. Identify the unique gifts, abilities, skills you steward for the common good.

# TEACHING TEAM



JESSICA  
THOMPSON




MARTIN  
CACHERO



GEOFF  
HSU

# COURSE FORMAT

- 6 Weeks long
- Each class is 75 minutes (7:30-8:45PM)
- Each class will be divided up in 3 parts:
  - Part 1: Teaching
  - Part 2: Group Discussion
  - Part 3: Application



SESSION 2: CREATION  
“What *ought* to be”

# Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over a calm sea. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow. The water is still, reflecting the colors of the sky. The text 'GOOD = TOV' is overlaid in the center in a white, serif font.

GOOD = TOV

# Genesis 1:3, 10, 12, 16

**3** And God said, "Let there be light..." God saw that the light was good **(TOV)**

**10** God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good **(TOV)**

**12** The land produced vegetation... And God saw that it was good **(TOV)**

**16** God made two great lights... to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good **(TOV)**



# Genesis 1:21, 25, 31

**21** So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it... And God saw that it was good (TOV)

**25** God made the wild animals according to their kinds... And God saw that it was good (TOV)

**31** God saw all that he had made, and it was very good (TOV)

A wide-angle photograph of a sunset over a calm sea. The sky is filled with wispy, light-colored clouds, and the sun is setting on the right side, creating a warm orange and yellow glow. The water is still, reflecting the colors of the sky. The text "What else is present in Creation?" is overlaid in the center in a white, serif font.

What else is present in Creation?

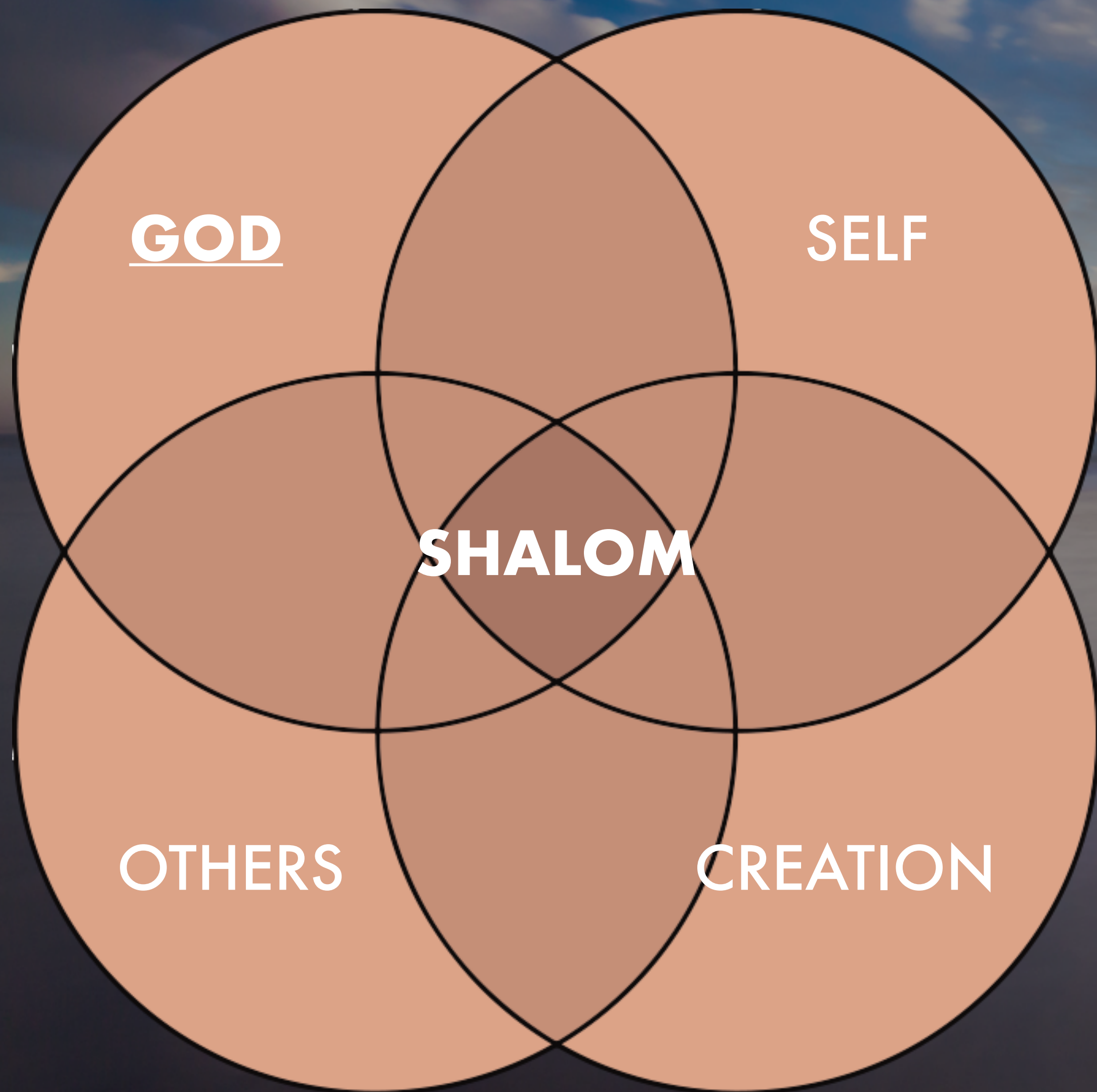
# What else is present in Creation?

Beauty, Peace, Order, Love, Relationships,  
Completeness, Equity, Unity, Diversity  
Welfare, Success, Work, Purpose, Flourishing

SHALOM = The sum of all TOV

Creation is flourishing  
Everything working properly  
The world is set just right

# Fourfold Nature of Shalom



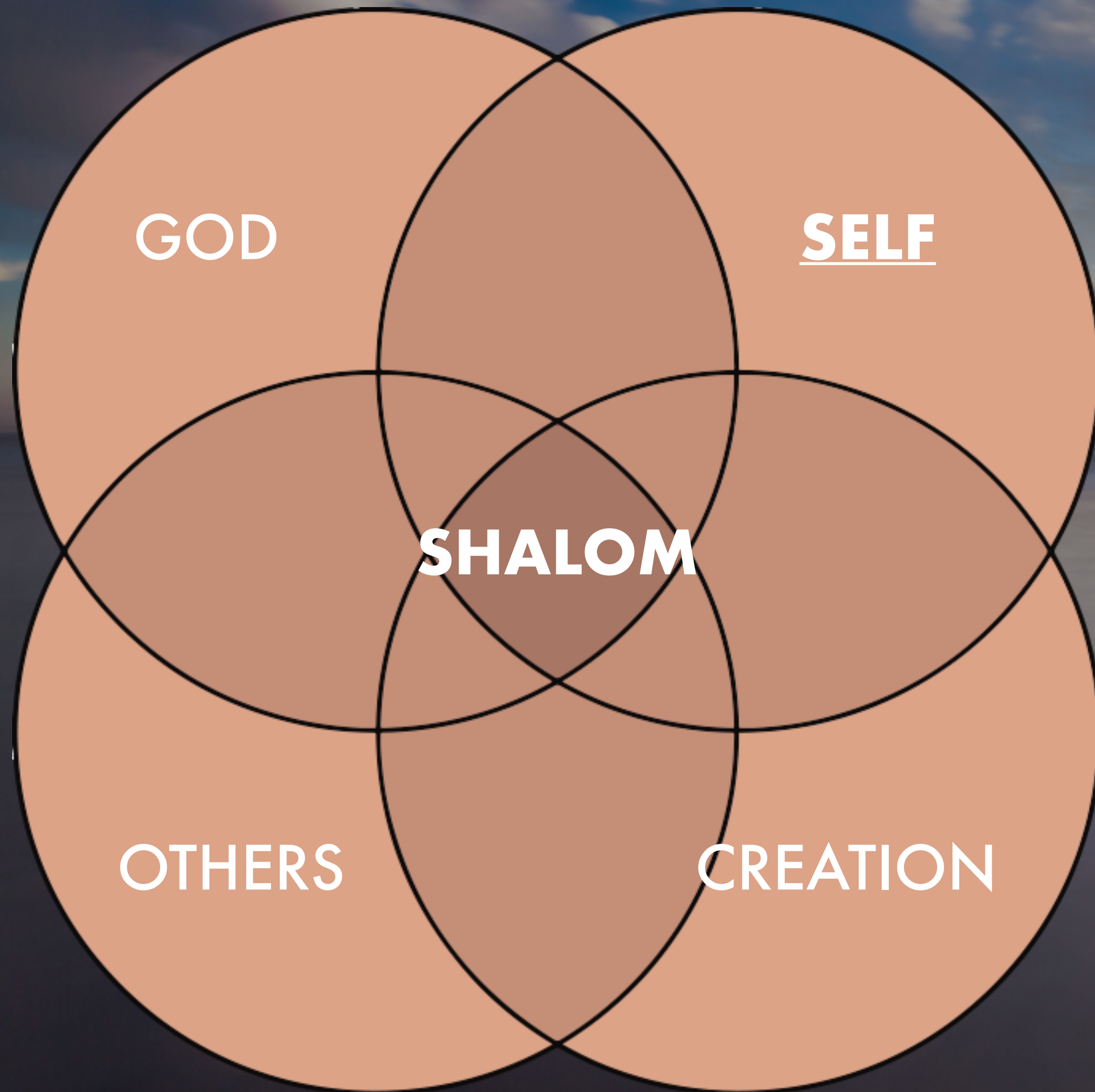
1. Shalom with God
2. Shalom with self
3. Shalom with others
4. Shalom with creation

“

*Answering the call of our Creator is “the ultimate why” for living, and the highest source of purpose in human existence.*

*- Os Guinness*

# Fourfold Nature of Shalom



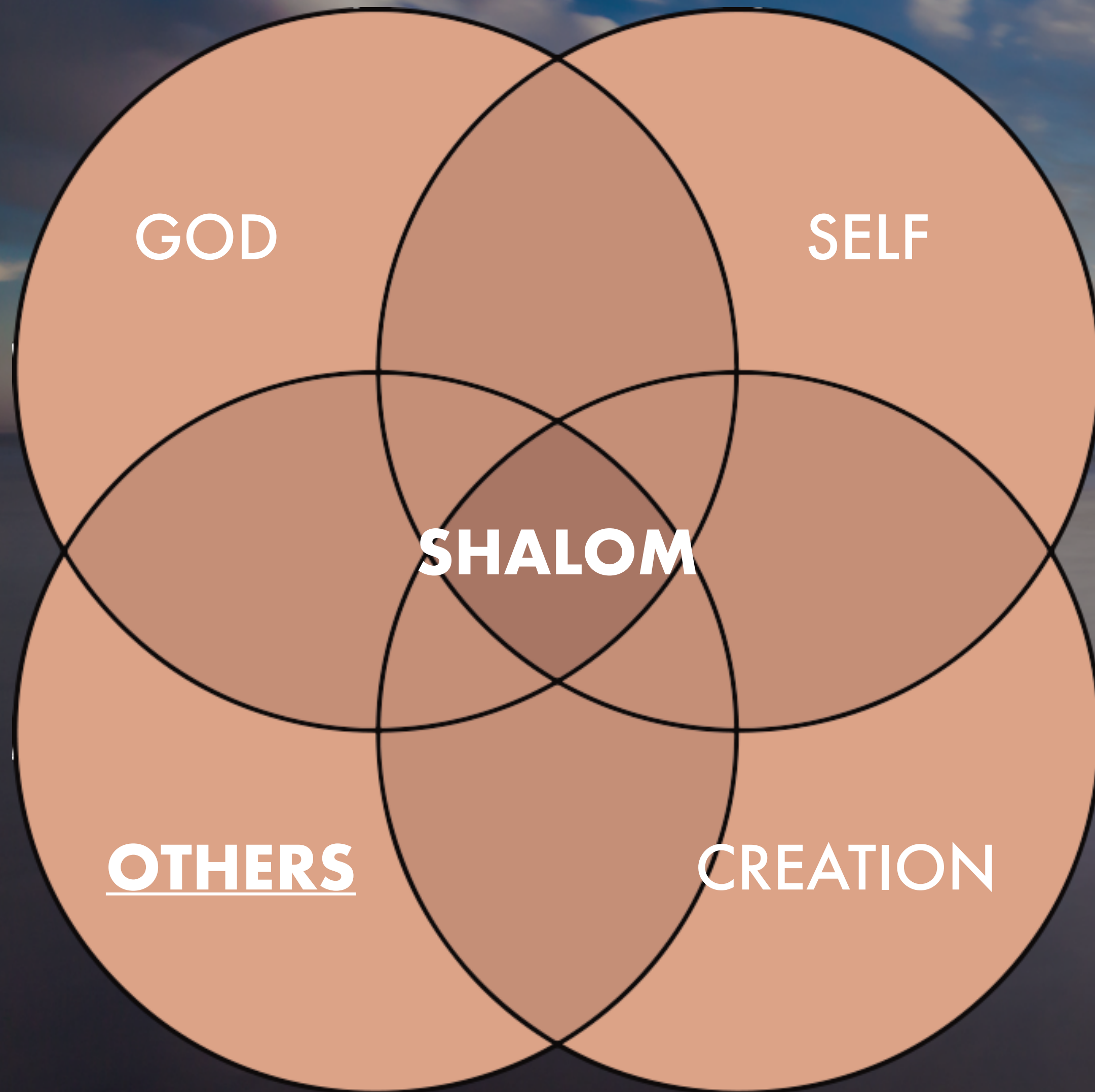
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*Shalom is the webbing together of God and all humans in equity”  
- Cornelius Plantinga*



# Fourfold Nature of Shalom



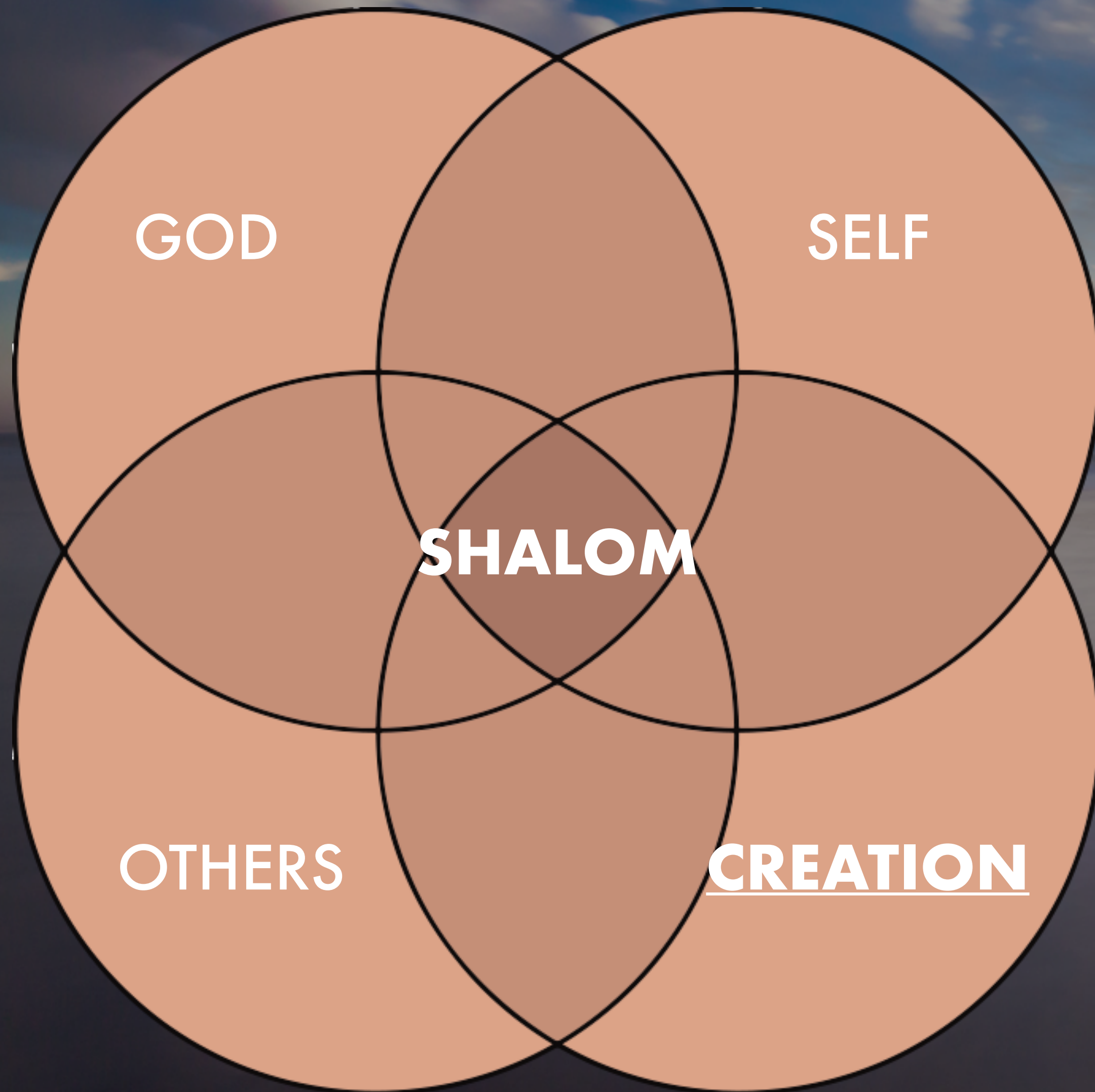
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“

*Work is any purposeful expenditure of energy-whether manual, mental, or both, whether paid or not.*  
- Dr. Paul Stevens

# Fourfold Nature of Shalom



1. Shalom with God
2. Shalom with self
3. Shalom with others
4. Shalom with creation

# Genesis 1:26

Then God said, “let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

“

*To culture is to take raw materials and arrange it in such a way to bring out all the enormous potentialities of it for the flourishing of human community.*

*- Tim Keller, Culture Making*

“

*Work is any purposeful expenditure of energy-whether manual, mental, or both, whether paid or not.*

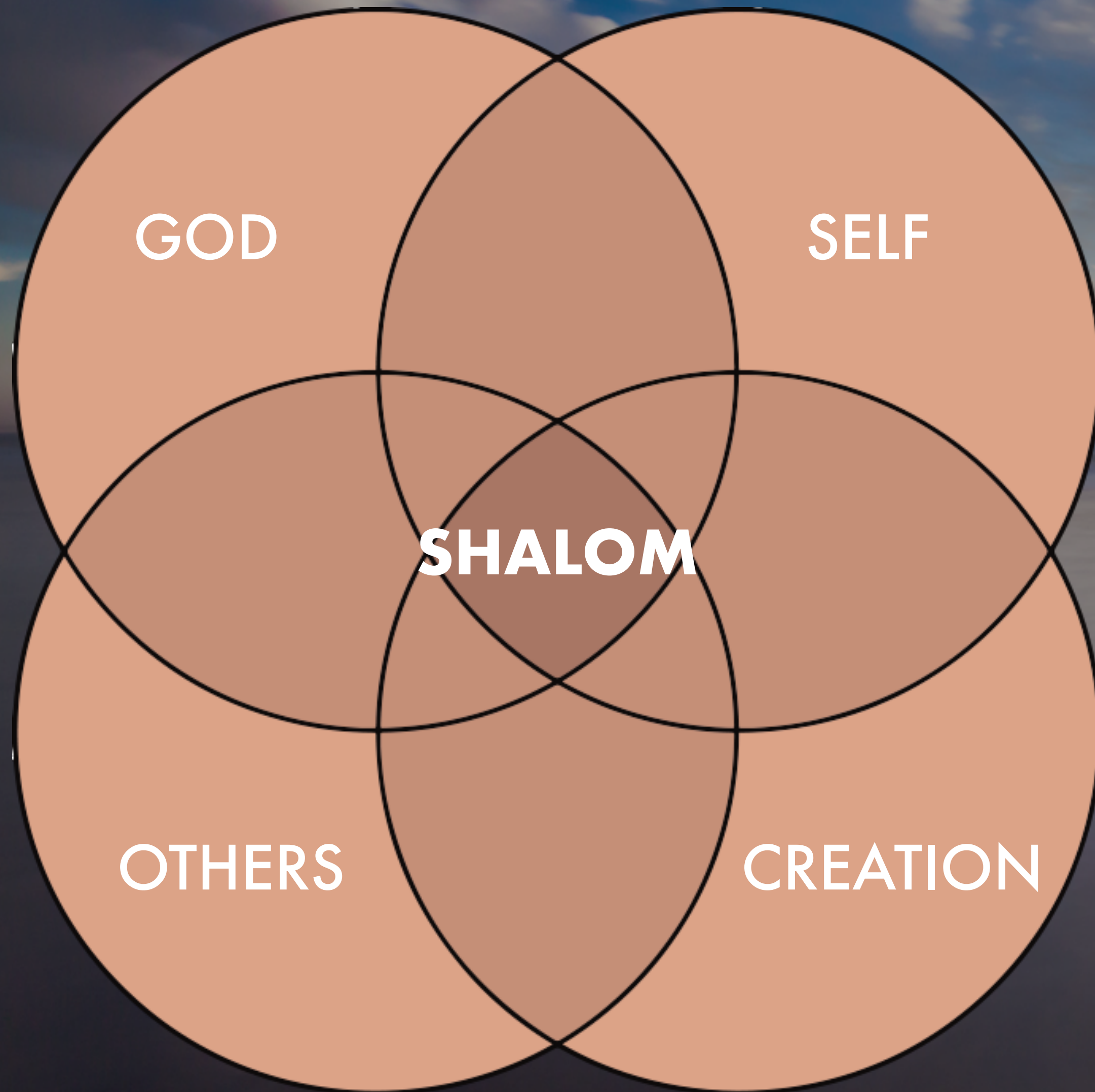
*- Dr. Paul Stevens*

# CBS Survey

- 84% of workers are not in their dream job.
- 80% of employees do not think their job is fun.
- Only 50% of employees are satisfied with their job.
- Every year, 2.5 million people will quit their job.
- 32% of workers call in sick when they were not.



# Fourfold Nature of Shalom



1. Shalom with God
2. Shalom with self
3. Shalom with others
4. Shalom with creation



# GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What do you have a knack for?
2. Do you feel like your work matters? Why or why not?
3. Cultivation is an action that fills the earth in ways that honor God and helps people to thrive. How might your work fill the earth with good things and allow others to flourish?
4. As an image-bearer of God, how do you resemble God in the work that you do?