

An aerial photograph of a city at sunset. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, with a bright glow of light breaking through near the horizon. The city below is densely packed with buildings, and a major highway is visible in the foreground. The overall color palette is dominated by the warm tones of the sunset, transitioning from deep blues and purples in the shadows to bright yellows and oranges near the horizon.

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

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, **“In a post- apocalyptic world, how would you help humanity survive and thrive?”**

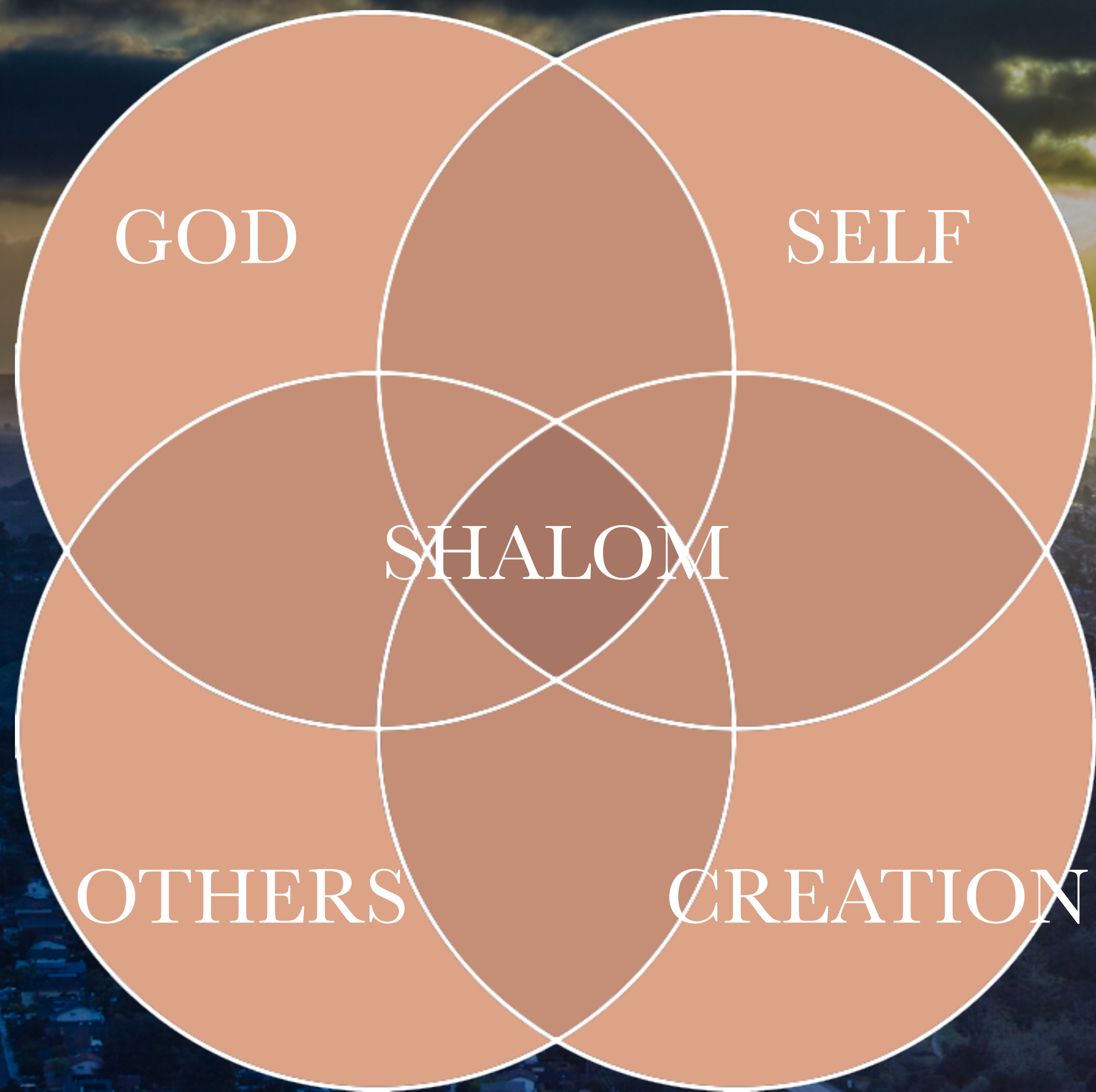












# Shalom:

*a Hebrew word meaning peace, harmony, wholeness, completeness, prosperity, welfare and tranquility.*



An aerial photograph of a city at sunset. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, with a bright sunburst breaking through in the center. The city below is bathed in a golden light, with a prominent multi-lane highway winding through the lower part of the frame. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

# Romans 5:6 (CSB)

“For while we were still helpless, at the right time, Christ died for the ungodly.”



# Jesus Redeems

1. Shalom with God - Jesus lived in complete shalom with God (John 8:29)
2. Shalom with Self - Jesus knew who He was and lived into the identity of the Beloved (Matthew 3:17)
3. Shalom with Others - Jesus lived to make peace for others (Matthew 9:36)
4. Shalom with Creation - Jesus introduces a new way of living (Dominion v Domination / Colossians 1:19-20)



# Lisa Sharon Harper, *The Very Good Gospel*

“Jesus exercised dominion over creation to serve humanity. He multiplied bread and fish to feed thousands, and he smeared mud on the eyes of a blind man to give him sight (see John 9:1–12). Later Jesus was crucified on a tree. God—the Creator of the tree—was nailed to it. The original sin of humanity was committed in relation to a tree, the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Now the redemption of humanity and the reversal of the Fall happens in relation to a tree. Then Jesus conquered death, opening his own grave. And in the end there is only one tree, the Tree of Life. The tree’s leaves are for the healing of the nations (see Revelation 22:1–2).”





We can partake in redemption – The Holy Spirit enables us to do this through our work/vocation

1. **Shalom with God** - We are redeemed children (Ephesians 5:1)
2. **Shalom with Self** - We are the beloved (1 John 4:19)
3. **Shalom with Others** - We are a family (John 13:35)
4. **Shalom with Creation** - We are cultivators (Romans 8:22)















# Group Questions:

1. In a post- apocalyptic world, how would you help humanity survive and thrive?
2. As you think about Jesus' work on the cross restoring all four dimensions of shalom (with God, self, others, creation), which restored dimension offers you the most hope in this moment?
3. God's plan to renew, redeem, and restore creation begins with a renewed, transformed disciple of Jesus. How does the Gospel compel you to love and serve others?











