CREATED MATTER CREATED ORGANIZATION CREATED LIFE CREATED CONSCIOLISNESS CREATED MORALITY CREATED MARRIAGE CREATED LANGLIAGE

Each of these created things is NECESSARY and must be RESPECTED

- And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. (Gen 1:4)
- And God made the expanse **and separated the waters** that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. (Gen 1:7)
- Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, **each according to its kind**, on the earth. (Gen 1:1)
- So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (Gen 1:21)
- And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (Gen 1:25)
- So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created Him; **male and female** He created them. (Gen 1:27)

#### GOD CREATED LANGUAGE

#### Non-alithoritative

Authoritative

### GOD CREATED LANGUAGE

#### Authoritative

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt 28:18–20)

#### GOD CREATED LANGUAGE

Authoritative

TEACHING DISCIPLESHIP COMMANDS

COMMANDS are direct (both + and -)

DISCIPLESHIP involves EXAMPLES

## THE LANGUAGE OF DISCIPLESHIP

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. (Luke 6:40)

It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. (Matt 10:25a)

What you have learned and received and heard **and seen** in me-practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. (Php 4:9)

### THE BIBLE IS A BOOK OF EXAMPLES

Therefore, since we are surrounded by **so great a cloud of witnesses**, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb 12:1–2)

# TYPES OF EXAMPLES

THERE ARE EXAMPLES GOD DISAPPROVES OF: Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. (1 Cor 10:6)

THERE ARE EXAMPLES GOD **APPROVES** OF: Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. (1 Cor 11:1)

THEN THERE ARE NEUTRAL EXAMPLES: We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. (Jhn 9:31) [said by the healed blind man]

## EXAMPLES OF EXAMPLES!!!

#### THE EXAMPLE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER:

On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight. (Acts 20:7)

#### THE EXAMPLE OF ELDERS

And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (Ac 14:23)

Add to this: The collection (1 Cor 16:1-2), Congregational Teaching (1 Cor 4:17), Prayer (Acts 12:5), and dozens of other practices!!!

### QUESTIONS ABOUT EXAMPLES

When is an example approved or disapproved in the Bible?

How can you tell whether an example is incidental (such as meeting in the upper room) or binding (such as taking the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week)?

How far do we take examples? Whose examples should we follow?