

SKETCHNOTES FROM THE 2015 PROGRESSIVE YOUTH MINISTRY CONFERENCE

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MARCH 19-21 @ FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHICAGO

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PROGRESSIVE

YOUTH · MINISTRY

#PYM15

ALISE BARRYMORE

"CHURCH IN THE WILD"
JAY-Z & KANYE

"What's God to a non-believer,
there's no church in the wild!"

The church doesn't have
presence, relevance, real estate
in the **WILD**.

Our student's lives are
lived in the wild.

PSALM 139

WE CAN'T GO ANYWHERE
TO GET AWAY FROM GOD.

GOD AND THE CHURCH
IS IN THE WILD.
CHURCH IN THE WILD
NEEDS TO BE:

- 1 COMFORTABLE WITH GATHERING instead of CONGREGATING.



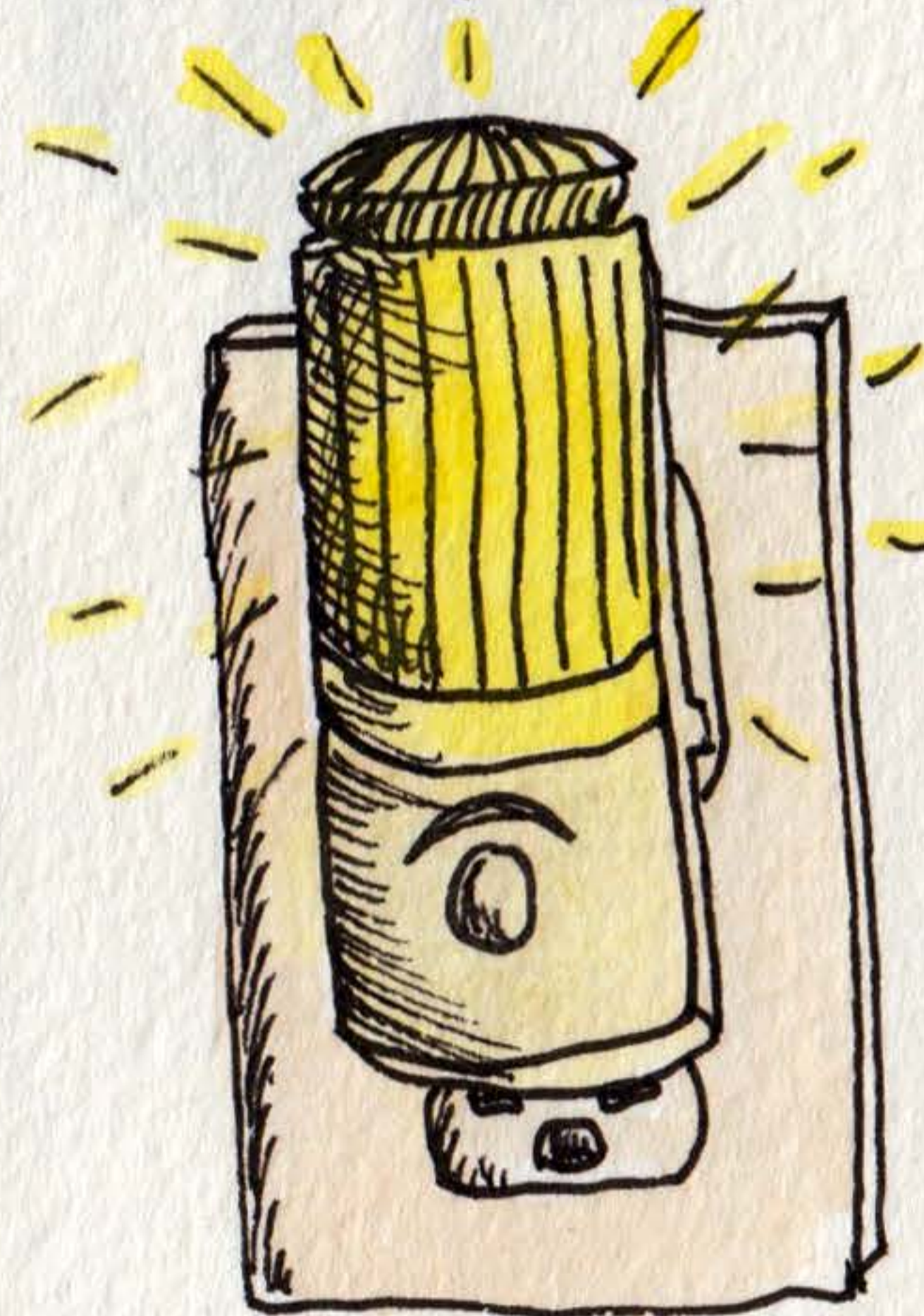
- 2 **SHOW: DON'T TELL**
THE POWER OF
YOUR WITNESS.



- 3 LET YOUR TAT
BE YOUR TESTIMONY



- 4 BE NIGHTLIGHTS,
IN THE MIDST OF
DARKNESS.



DOING MINISTRY in affluent communities

Biggest Problems: Youth are OVER-SCHEDULED. They also live with this CULTURE

of excellence.



Back in the day, churches used to offer things that kids couldn't get other places, that's not true anymore. NOW we are simply pressured to do programming.

So... WHAT IS IT THAT we DO offer?

- ① A safe place to be themselves
- ② Time - to just be in relationships
- ③ Events/programs for discipleship
- ④ Intergenerational experiences

A big piece is THE HOME.



WE NEED TO FIND WAYS TO EMPOWER PARENTS AND THE FAMILY. PARENTS NEED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR KIDS' FAITH DEVELOPMENT.

FAMILY



PLENARY

PAMELA Lightsey

SOCIAL JUSTICE Activism is
the EMBODIMENT OF OUR
THEOLOGY



IT IS OUR WORK
TO BE IN THE Struggle.
IT IS OUR TASK TO BE
PUBLIC THEOLOGIANs.

OUR Limit should not be just
the people in our pews.
A PUBLIC THEOLOGIAN MUST
BE ABLE TO TAKE THE
PROFOUND Theological concepts
AND COMMUNICATE THEM
WITH THOSE OUTSIDE THE
FAITH and with other FAITHS.

"I Like KARL BARTH, but blbby...
I CAN'T TAKE THAT TO THE
STREETS." - PAMELA LIGHTSEY

Less theological
navel-gazing, more
getting out on the streets.



WE MUST BE THE
EMBODIMENT OF
OUR THEOLOGY.

IF YOU DON'T TAKE
A STAND ON SYSTEMIC
RACISM IF Ferguson,
you're not being True
to the GOSPEL of
JESUS CHRIST!

BRUCE

REYES-CHOW

RACISM & VIOLENCE IS ALIVE & WELL AND PRETENDING THEY DON'T EXIST Does NOT make them go away.

#HIMYM = YELLOW FACE

We all approach this differently: Prophets, Poets, Priests and Pastors. We handle difficult conversations differently.

WE DISMISS.
WE DEMONIZE.
WE Demean.
WE DERAIL.

MANY OF OUR CONVERSATIONS LEAD TO AWKWARD MOMENTS.

IF YOU HAVEN'T HAD to talk about race in your ministry, THAT'S PRIVILEGE.

MICROAGGRESSIONS: THE LITTLE THINGS, SIDE COMMENTS, THAT ADD UP AND REINFORCE STEREOTYPES:

- ① "No, where are you from?"
- ② "But I don't see you as Asian."
- ③ "Don't be so sensitive."
- ④ "Why do you always sit together?"
- ⑤ "He's a different kind of black."
- ⑥ "It's hard being white."



TAKE THE Leap

AND HAVE THE Conversation.

DESIGN THINKING FOR MINISTRY + innovation

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I GAVE CHRIS A MUCH BIGGER BEARD THAN HE HAS IN REAL LIFE.

DISCOVER A
COMPELLING CHALLENGE
TO SOLVE



☞ BECOME YOUR OWN RESEARCH FIRM

🧪 FAIL & FAIL MORE, DON'T "SETTLE" FOR "A" SOLUTION

📈 DEFINE YOUR OWN UNIQUE MEASUREMENTS.

2 TYPES OF CHALLENGES:

PUZZLES - right data, problem solved



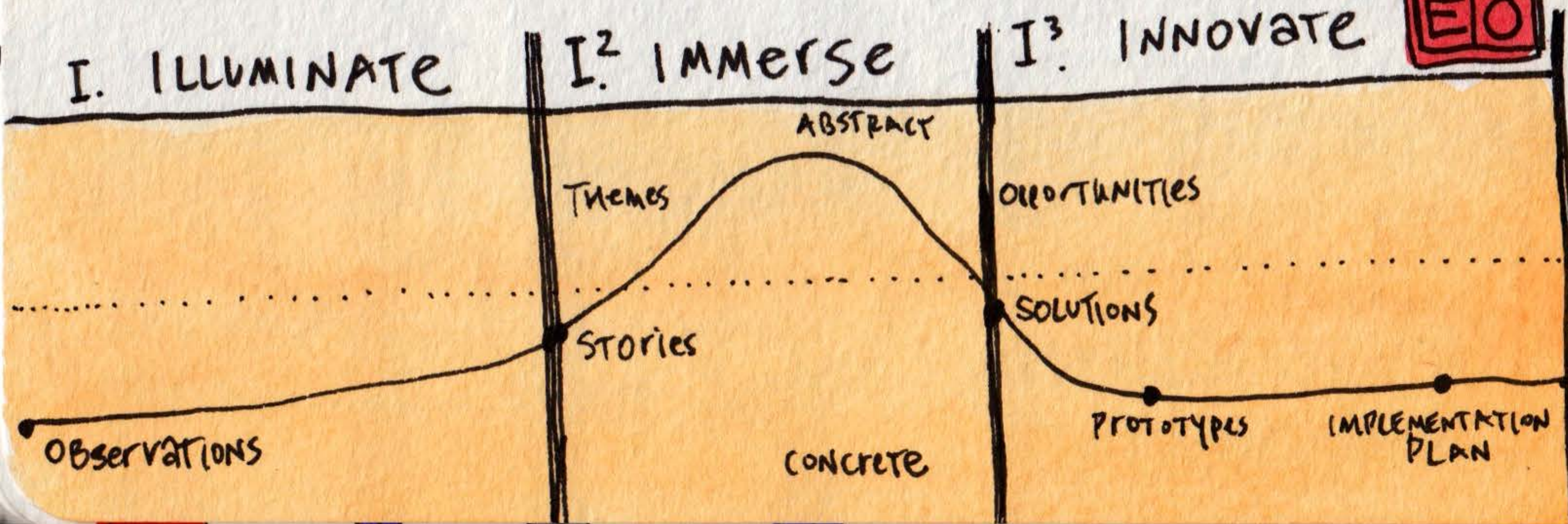
MYSTERIES - no amount of data, more about ideas



I. ILLUMINATE

I². IMMERSE

I³. INNOVATE



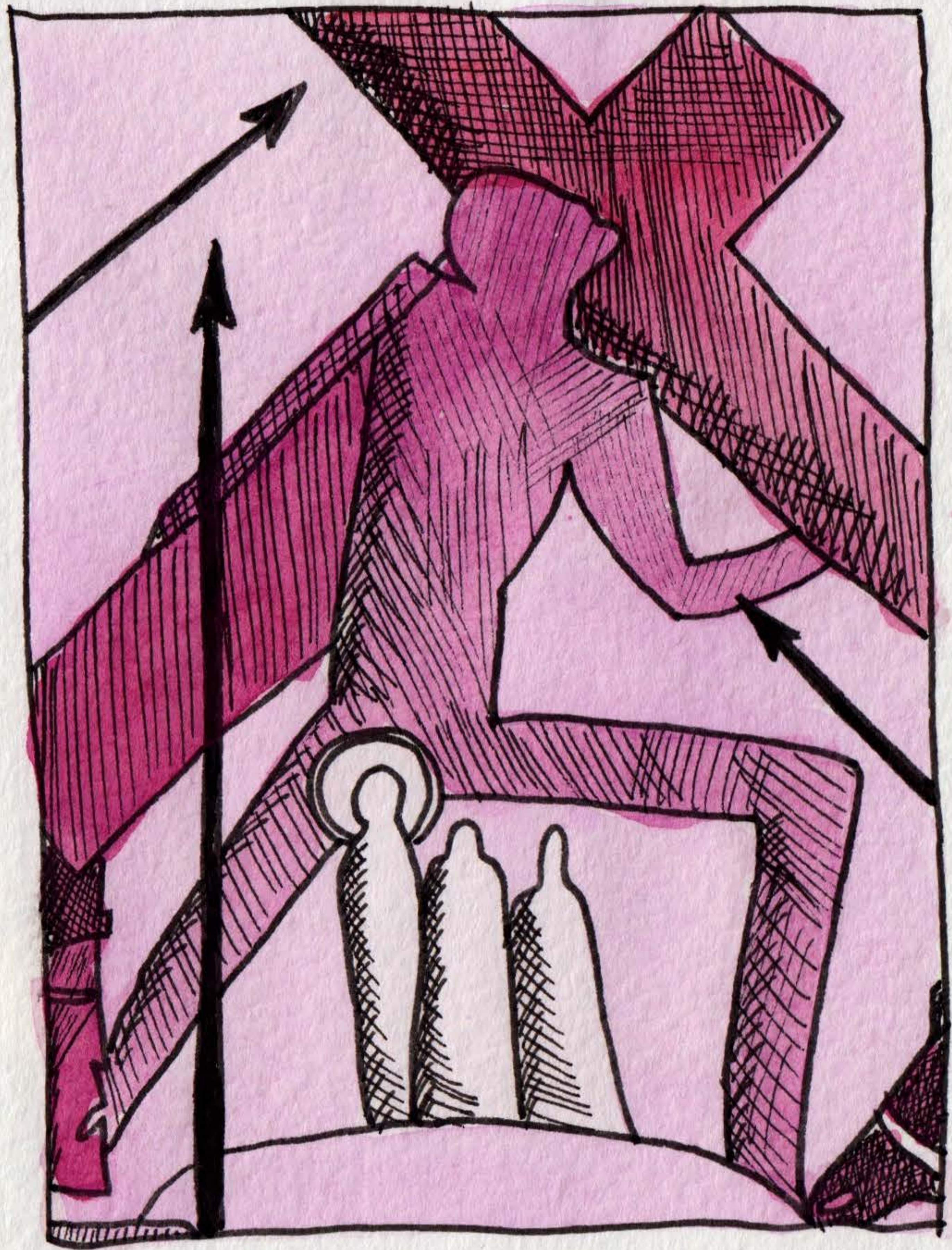
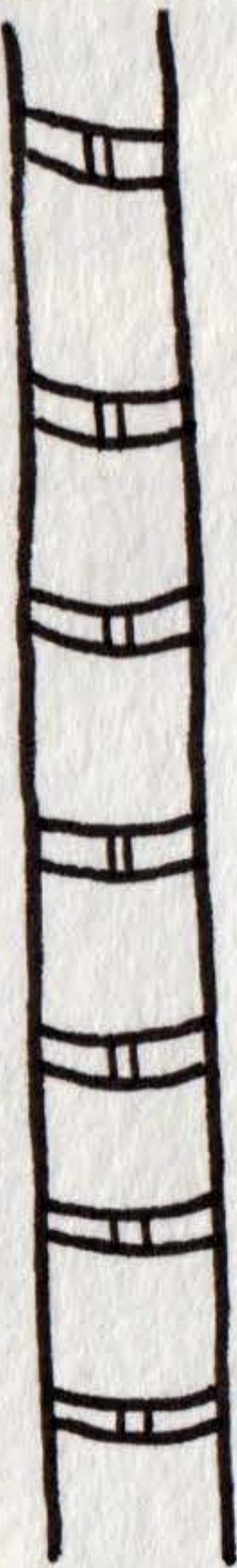
PLENARY

Reggie Williams

"BONHOEFFER'S BLACK
JESUS: HARLEM RENAISSANCE
THEOLOGY AND AN ETHIC
OF RESISTANCE."

HIS TIME IN THE U.S. in
1930-1931 changed Bonhoeffer.

dys·phe·mism: using
derogatory terms to distance
oneself / shield oneself from
humanity of the Other.



PETER
ROLLINS



"YOU SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH,
AND THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU
FREE."

THE UNSPOKEN
MUST BE SURFACED.

FORGOTTEN BUT NOT
GONE.

IT'S IN THE FREUDIAN SLIP
THAT THE TRUTH IS EXPOSED.

IF WE DON'T SPEAK THE
UNSPOKEN TRUTH, THE
UNSPOKEN TRUTH WILL
FIND A WAY TO SPEAK.

THE IDEAL EGO.

THE IDEALIZED VERSION OF
OURSELVES.



"SOMETIMES I NEED TO
TAKE THE ADVICE OF OPRAH."

- OPRAH



DOUG
OTTATI



THE NEED FOR A
ROBUST
LIBERAL THEOLOGY.

without a theology,
moral actions don't
witness to God: Jesus.

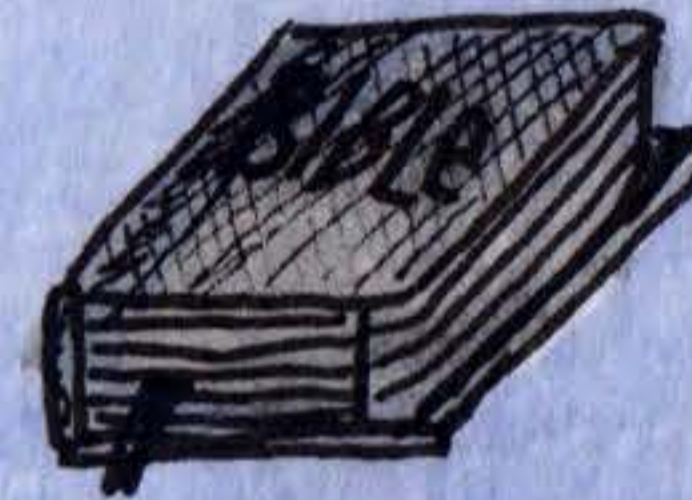
LIBERAL CHRISTIANITY
is a movement within
the church, not a new
type of church.



HUMANS AS
stewards. We
can do stuff
THAT SQUIRRELS
CAN'T.



DEBBIE BLUE ★ HOUSE OF MERCY



= MORAL INSTRUCTIONS [WHAT SHE GREW UP WITH]

BUT: ACTUALLY IN THE BIBLE IS SEX,
BLOOD, MONSTERS, WEIRD STUFF, VIOLENCE.
THE BIBLE RAISES QUESTIONS. AND
THAT'S A GOOD THING: ??????????

HOW DO WE APPROACH THE BIBLE?

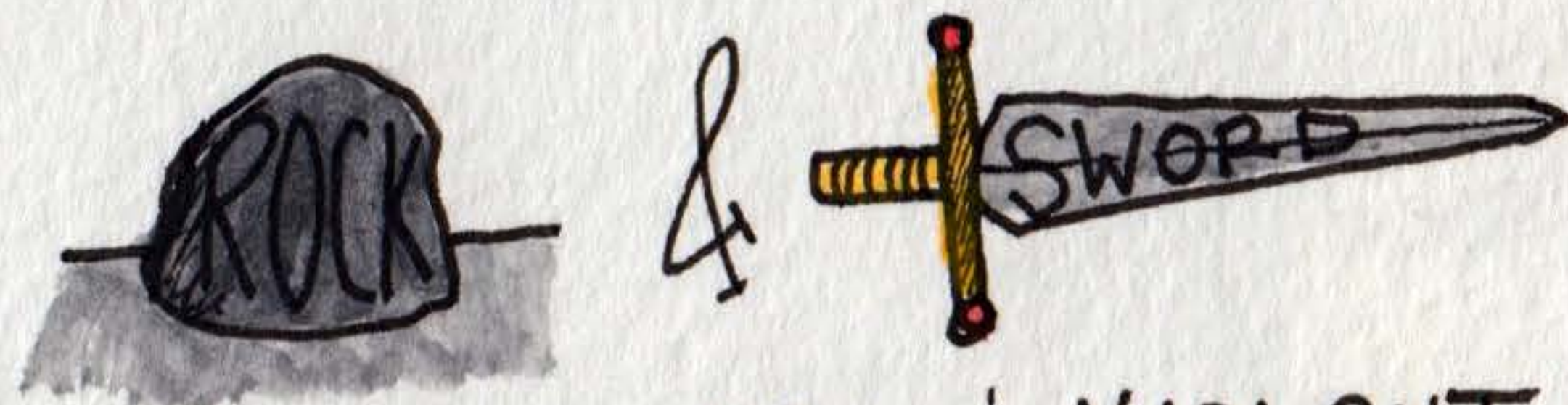
REVERENCE vs LOVE
[DISTANCE] [ENGAGEMENT]

WRESTLING WITH THE BIBLE should
be our default mode of engagement.



WORLDWIDE
BIBLE
WRESTLING
FEDERATION

We live by
the Grace of
God.

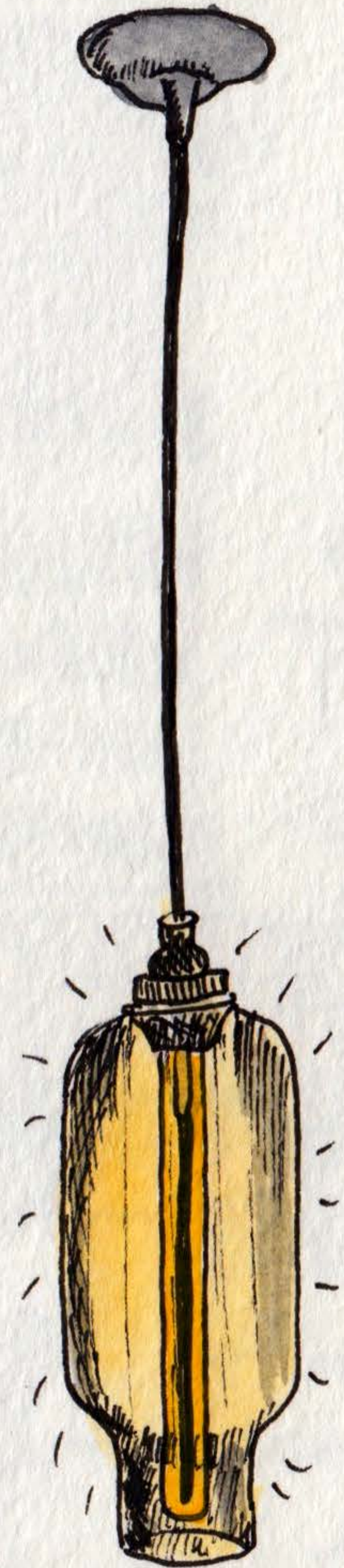


SOMETHING HARD & VIOLENT,
THAT'S HOW WE'VE TALKED
ABOUT THE BIBLE.

ENCOURAGE THE
YOUTH TO PLAY
WITH THE

BIBLE.

THIS IS FUN



MANDY MEISENHEIMER



DEAR MANDY...

Love GOD.

The Bible is NOT A Love Letter.

The BIBLE IS NOT A MANUAL, so
SOMEONE COULD READ A POEM AND
UNDERSTAND IT LIKE A LAW.



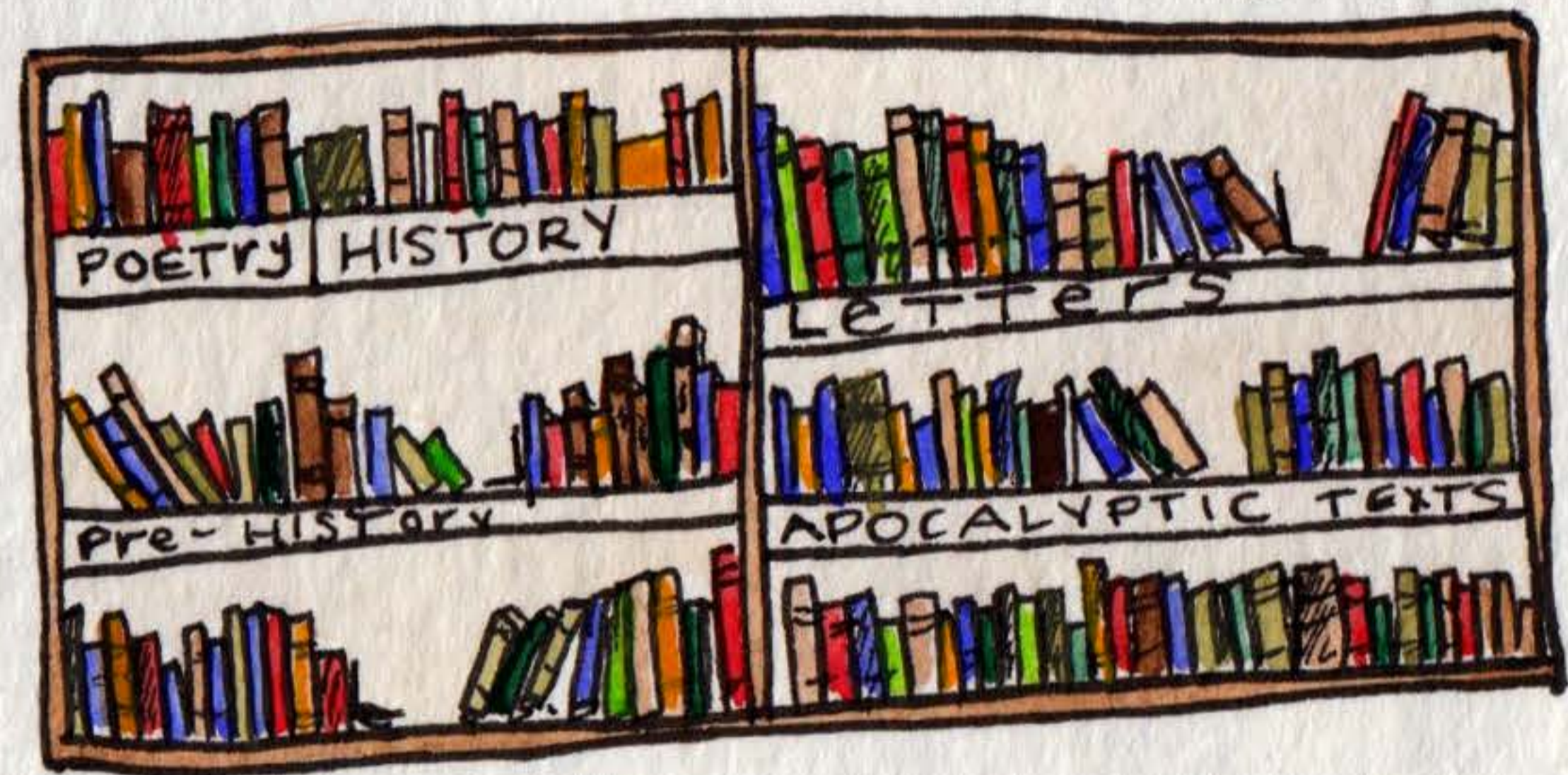
↑
MANUALS



NOT
A MANUAL

The Bible is NOT A SWORD.
The Truth refuses to be weaponized.

The Bible is A LIBRARY



The Bible is A SCRAPBOOK.

Metaphors for the Bible are
D U M B.

DON'T LET YOUR KIDS TAKE THEIR
SENIOR PICTURES WITH A BIBLE.

ERIC
BARRETO



election of OBAMA

=

POST-RACIAL US...?

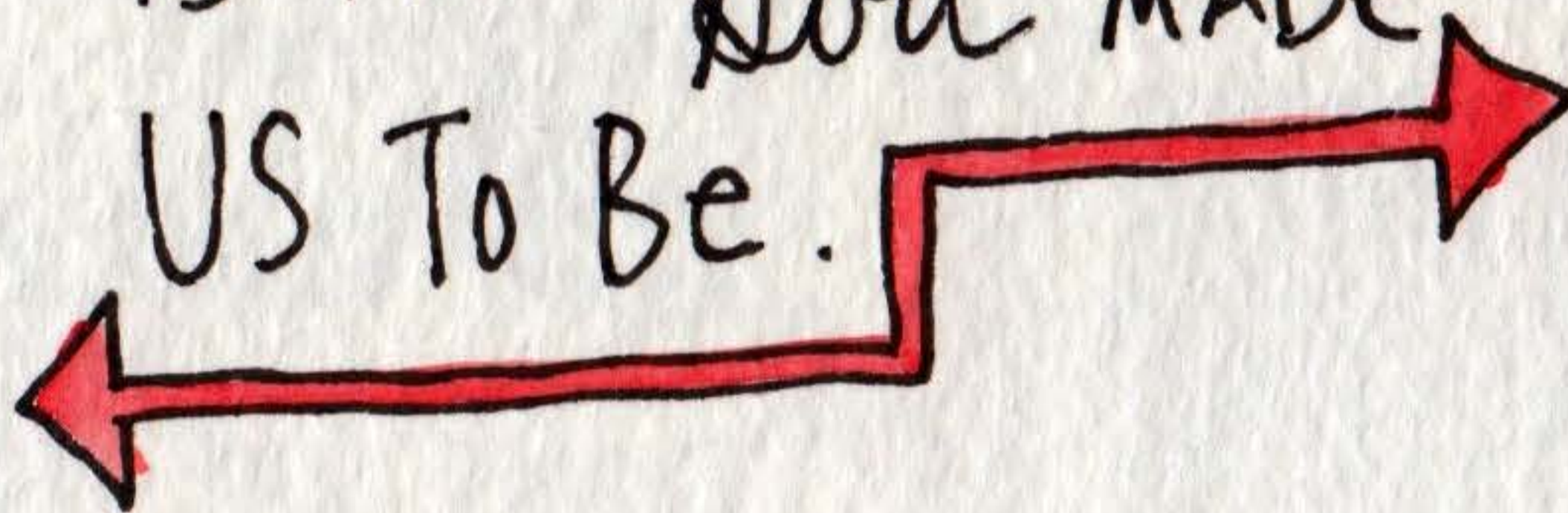
pentecost



Pentecost lives into the
reality that Babel created,
b/c it's what GOD wanted

IN HUMAN DIVERSITY
LIES THE CREATIVITY
OF GOD.

GOD REVELS IN
OUR DIFFERENCES
BECAUSE THIS
IS HOW GOD MADE
US TO BE.



THE TALENTED, THE BLUE-HAIRED...

SHAWNA BOWMAN



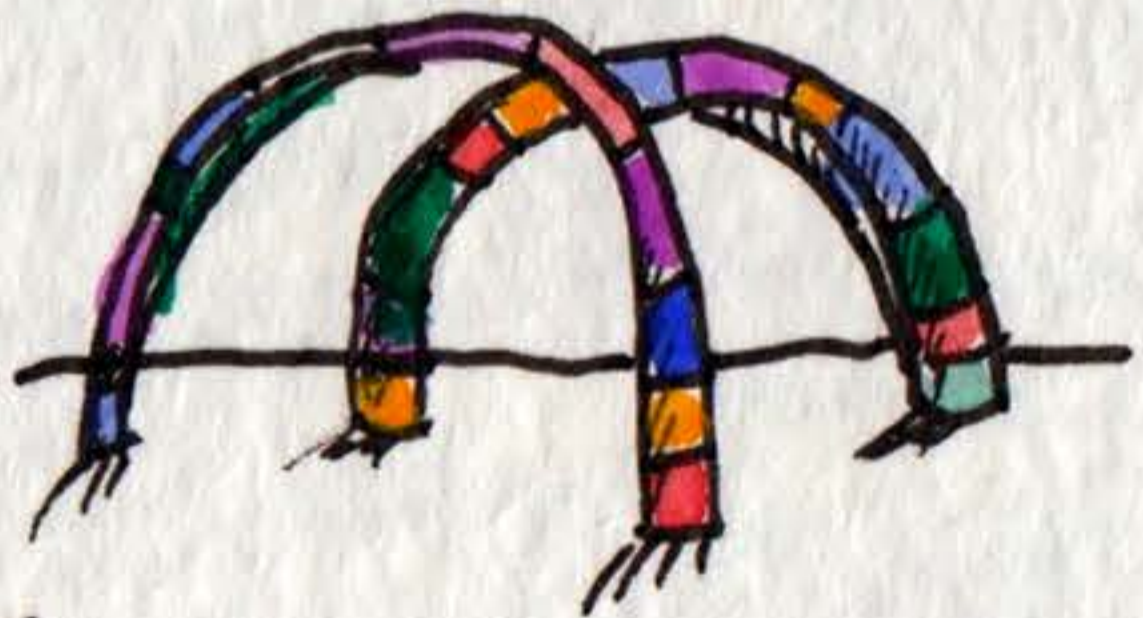
SORRY SHAWNA...
I THINK I ADDED A FEW YEARS TO THIS SKETCH.

Culture Jamming

UPSETTING THE STATUS QUO
AGITATING THE RELIGIOUS ELITE.

GUERRILLA ART is a form of Street Art.

YARN BOMBING



BANKSY & GUERRILLA GIRLS

RELIGIOUS JAMMING



CROSS
WOB-
B-
Z-
O-
W

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
LOGO



INSTEAD OF BEING FILLED,
SOMETIMES THE CHURCH
IS THE PLACE THAT
DRAINS / EMPTIES US.



FRANK

YAMADA



READING FOR 2040

1. What is your culture?
2. How do you reflect & resist your culture?
3. How does your CULTURE influence your reading of the biblical text?

OF COURSE OUR CULTURE AND RACE WILL AFFECT OUR BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION.

By THE YEAR
2040

WE WILL NO LONGER HAVE A RACIAL / ETHNIC MAJORITY.

IN THE 21ST CENTURY:

- WE WILL HAVE UNPRECEDENTED DIVERSITY
- INNOVATION IN TECH: FREE KNOWLEDGE
- GEN NEXT / MILLENNIALS

WE CAN RETRIEVE THE

REFORMATION

FORCES INNOVATING BIBLICAL
INTERPRETATION

- POST-ENLIGHTENMENT THOUGHT
- THE DISCIPLINE OF BIBLICAL SCHOLARSHIP
- MODERNISM → POSTMODERNISM
- WHERE IS CHRISTIANITY GROWING?

HOW DO WE RECLAIM THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS?

- READ, READ, READ
- TEACH OTHERS TO READ
- PRACTICE THE BIBLICAL IDIOM.
- READ WITH OTHERS WHO ARE DIFFERENT.
- BE OPEN TO THE SPIRIT
- LIVE WHAT YOU READ.

THE MOST REV.

JOHN
VEST

a beloved child of
G O O D

SHOUTOUT TO BORG

TAKING ^{THE} BIBLE
SERIOUSLY, ^N LITERALLY.

"BEYOND THE DESERT OF
CRITICISM, WE WISH
TO BE CALLED AGAIN."

-PAUL RICŒUR



MOST OF US NEVER
MAKE THE SHIFT TO
A SECOND NAÏVETÉ.

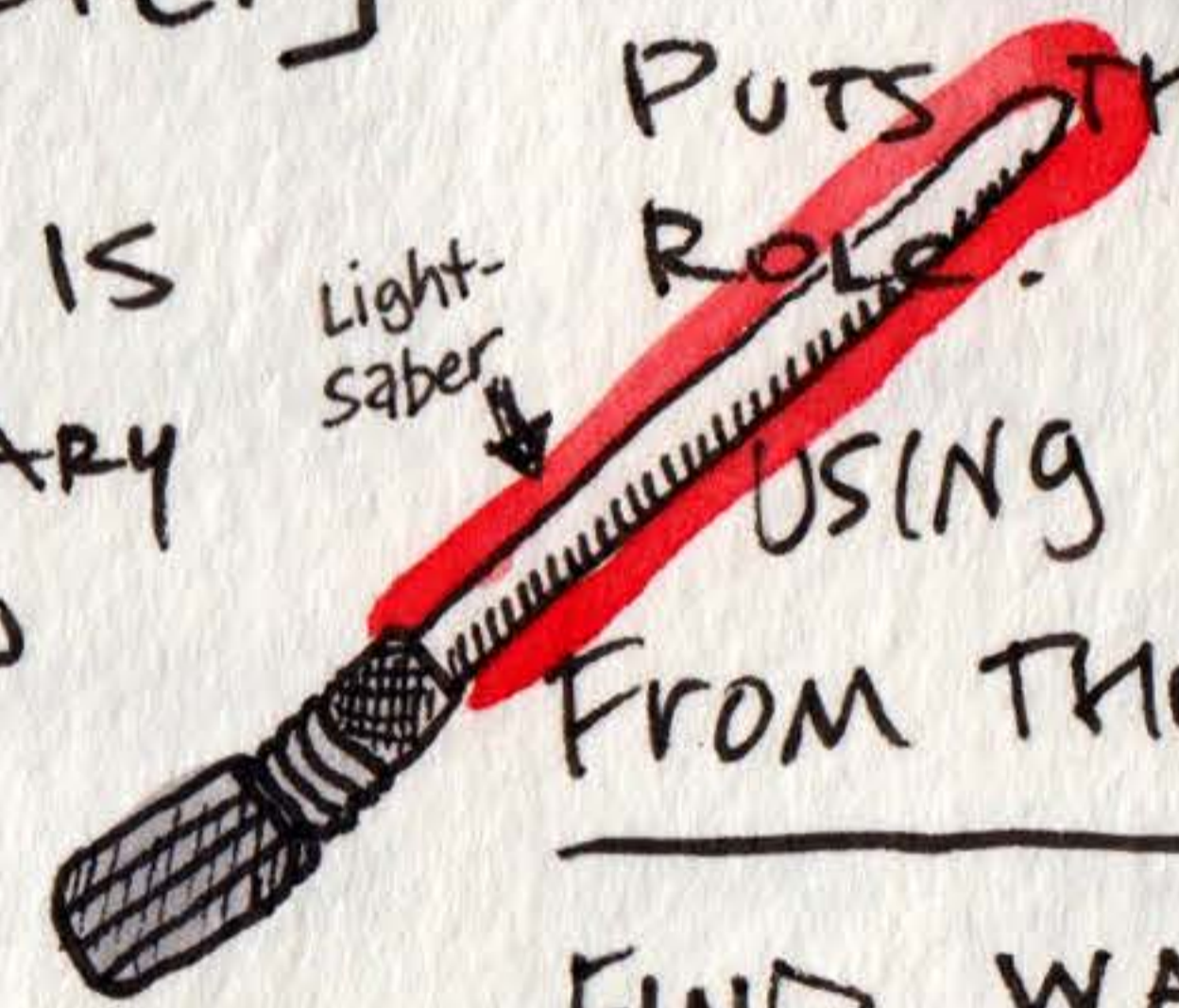
PREACHING IS
OFTEN SECONDARY
REFLECTIONS ON
SECONDARY
REFLECTIONS.

THE GOSPEL ACC-
ORDING TO GLEE.

THE LORAX ^{AS} JESUS.



PAUL TILlich AND THE
CORRELATION METHOD. IT'S
BEEN EFFECTIVE BUT IT ALWAYS
PUTS THE BIBLE IN A SECONDARY
ROLE.



USING THE FORCE TO PROTECT FAMILY
FROM THE DRAGON @ DISNEY.

FIND WAYS TO ALLOW
THE STORIES OF OUR
TRADITION TO SHARE,
INSPIRE & TRANSFORM
OUR CHILDREN &
YOUTH.



AMY
BUTLER



"Desperate times,
desperate measures."

ADJUSTING TO A NEW CALL
AT RIVERSIDE CHURCH.

IN DESPERATE MOMENTS, DOES
THE CHURCH HAVE A FUTURE?
FLEW TO ST. LOUIS. WENT
TO FERGUSON. LISTENED TO
ORGANIZERS - AND HEARD THAT
THE CHURCH WAS NOT
SHOWING UP.

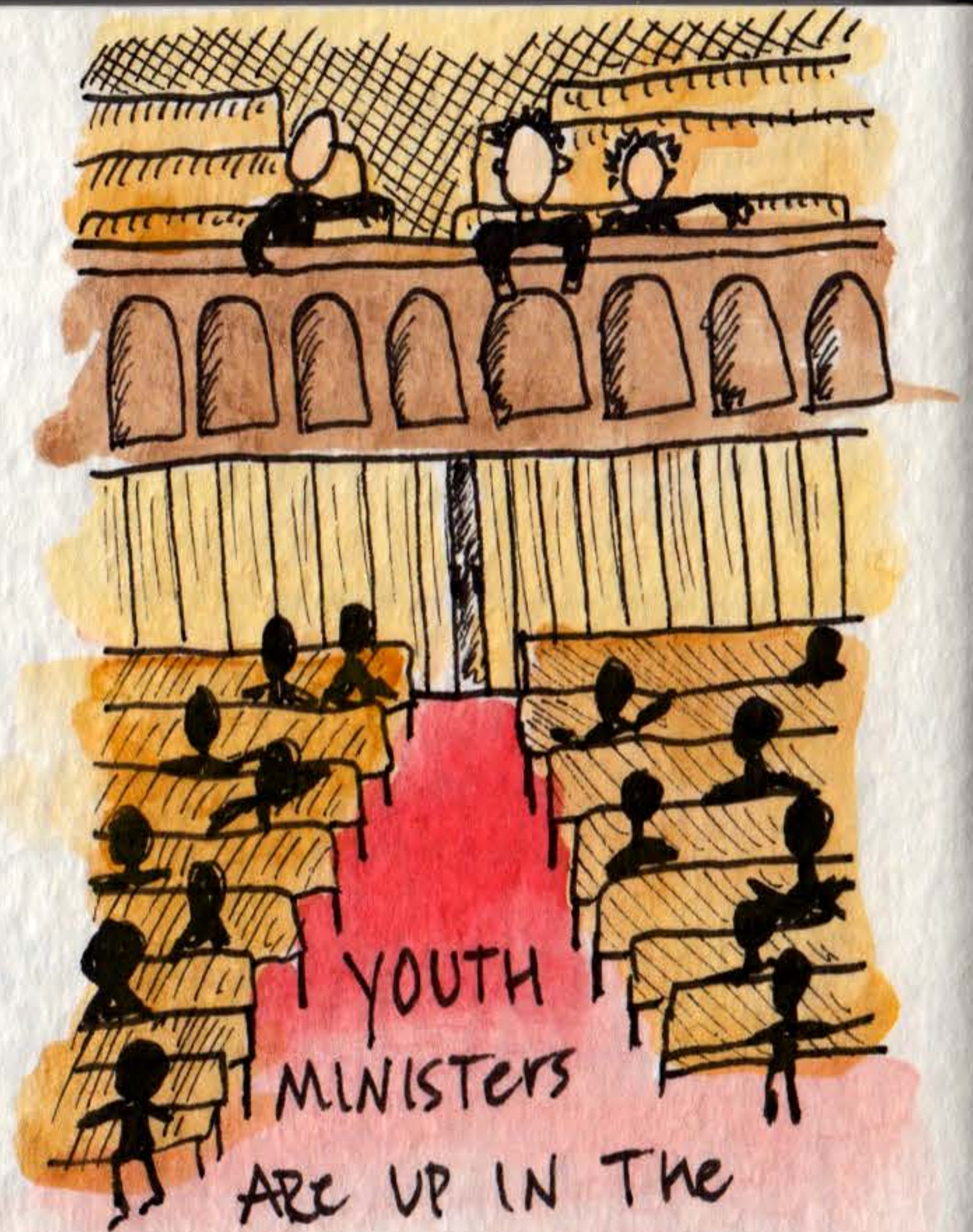
YOUTH MINISTERS WALK
INTO THE DARK PLACES,
PLACES OF EMERGENCY.

"YOU YOUTH MINISTERS,
YOU SCARE ME."

"THE CHURCH
MATTERS BECAUSE IT'S
WHERE LOVE IS BORN."



AND IT'S WHERE
LOVE IS LIVED
OUT.



YOUTH
MINISTERS
ARE UP IN THE
BALCONY HOLDING A
SAFE SPACE FOR THOSE
WHO ARE COMING AND

DESPERATELY NEED A
PLACE FOR HOPE.