

Q

What is **the MOST Important Commandment** in the Bible?

A

Jesus answered, 'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' **This is the first and greatest commandment.**

A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.

*...if we don't love people we can see,
how can we love God,
whom we cannot see?*

Jesus' Parable of the Final Judgement Matthew 25: 31-46

Then these **righteous ones**¹ will reply,²

³ 'Lord, **when did we ever see you hungry** and feed you?

Or **thirsty** and give you something to drink?

Or a **stranger** and show you hospitality?

Or **naked** and give you clothing?

When did we ever see you **sick** or **in prison** and visit you?'

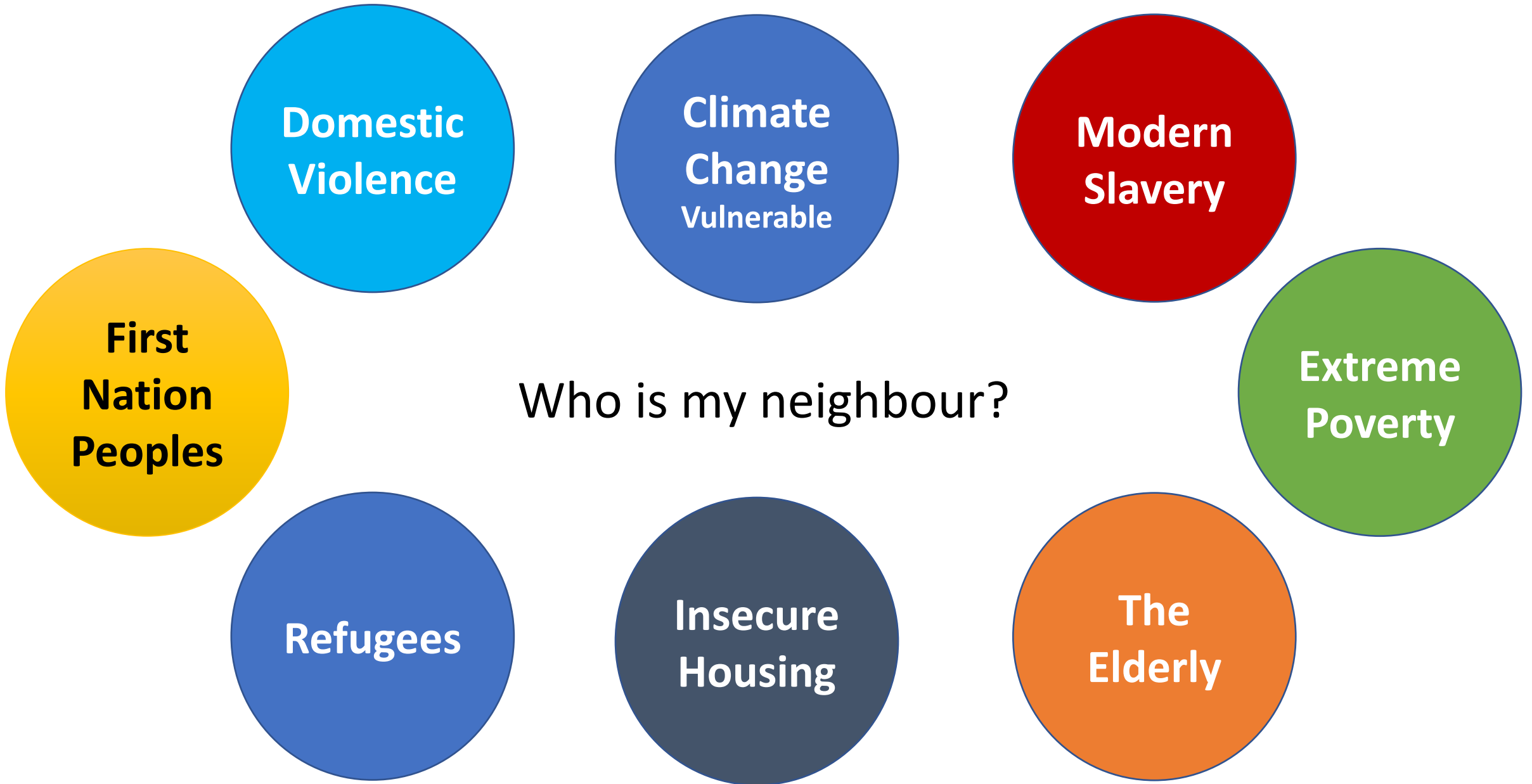
And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, **you were doing it to me!**'⁴

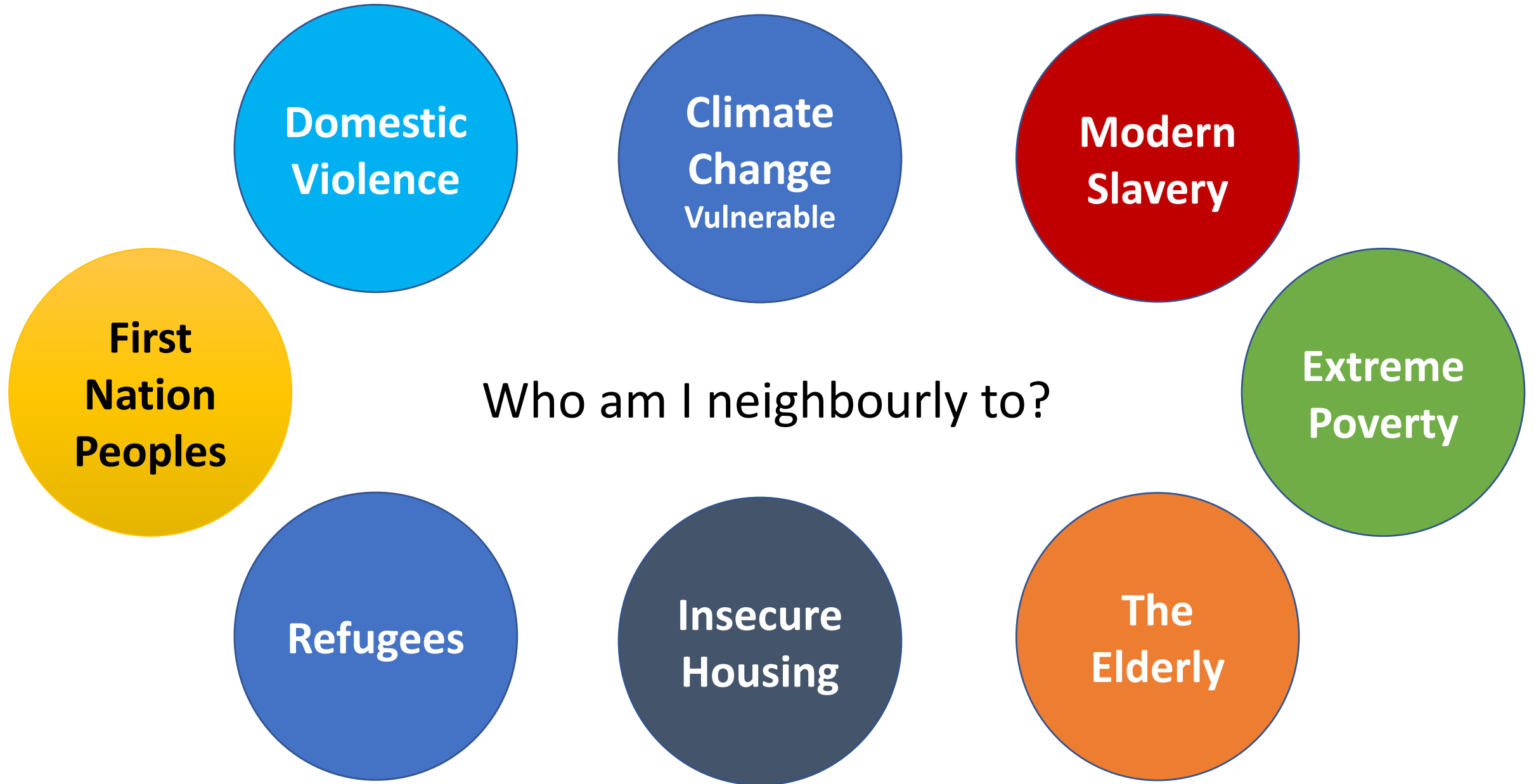
JUSTICE 2021

TOWARD A MORE JUST AUSTRALIA



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**When were
you a stranger
and needed
hospitality?**

Matthew 2: 13-23



WHAT WE'RE ASKING

We believe Australia can and should do more to contribute to durable solutions for people seeking safety which their home country is unable or unwilling to provide. We call on the Commonwealth Government to:

1 Increase the number of visas under the Special Humanitarian Program back to 18,750 as soon as Covid-19 quarantine and travel restrictions allow, and in the course of the next Parliament establish a timetabled plan to raise the number to between 27,000–30,000 annually;

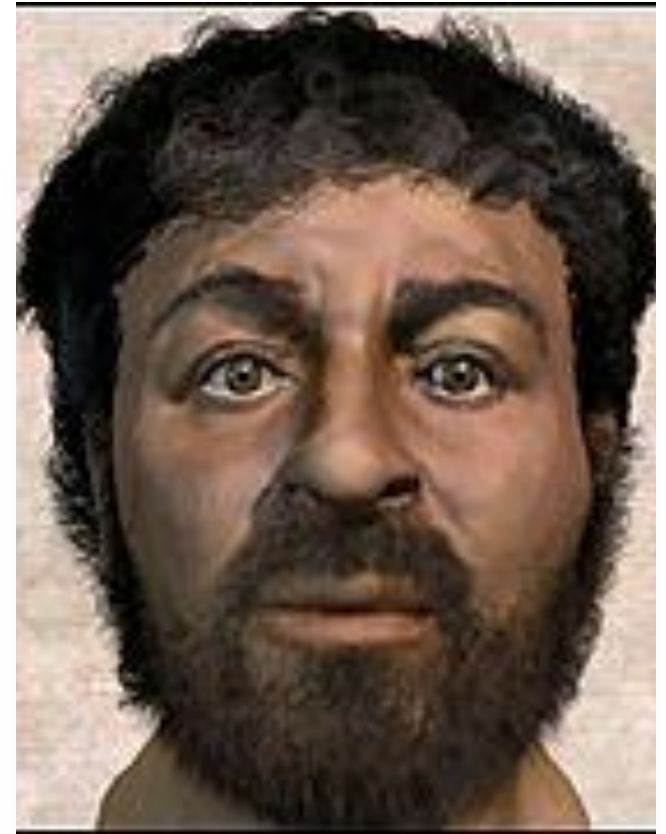
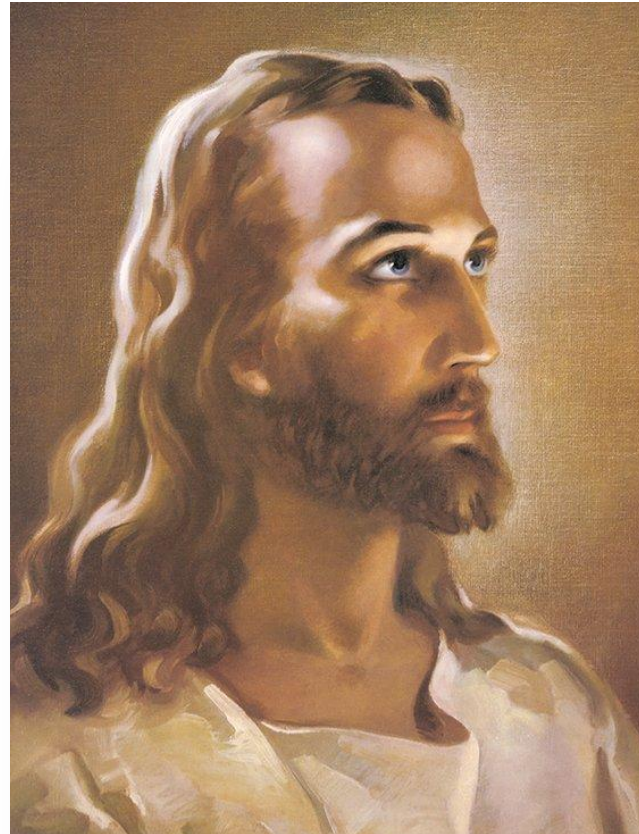
2 Conduct fair and timely assessment of all claims for refugee status.

3 Support people seeking asylum to live in the community with adequate income and access to health care during assessment of their claims.

4 Proceed with the introduction of a community sponsorship program that is accessible by community groups, affordable and in which the number of people entering through the community refugee program are additional to the number entering through other programs. Provision should be made for this in the 2021–22 Federal budget.

Incarnation is Identification

The Son of God gave up his divine privileges; he took **the humble position of a slave** and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, **he humbled himself** in obedience to God and died **a criminal's death** on a cross. (Philippians 2:7-8)



The Real Face Of Jesus - What Did Jesus Look Like? (popularmechanics.com)

Will I Be Judged? Matthew 25: 31-46

Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons...

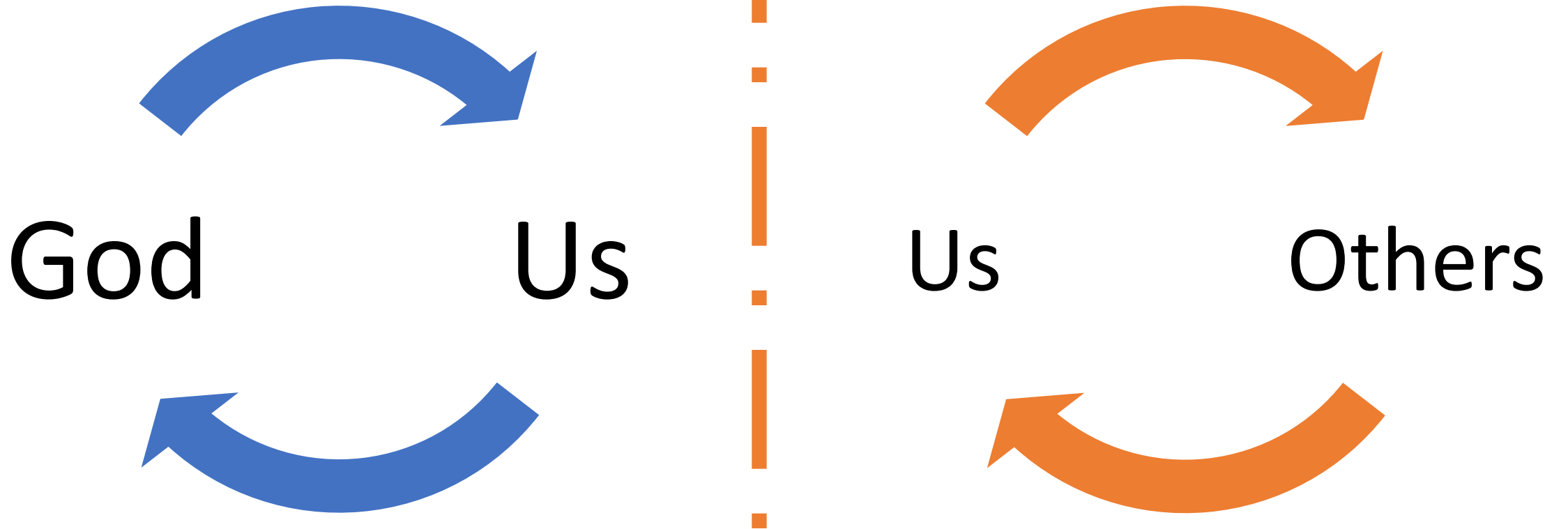
Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'

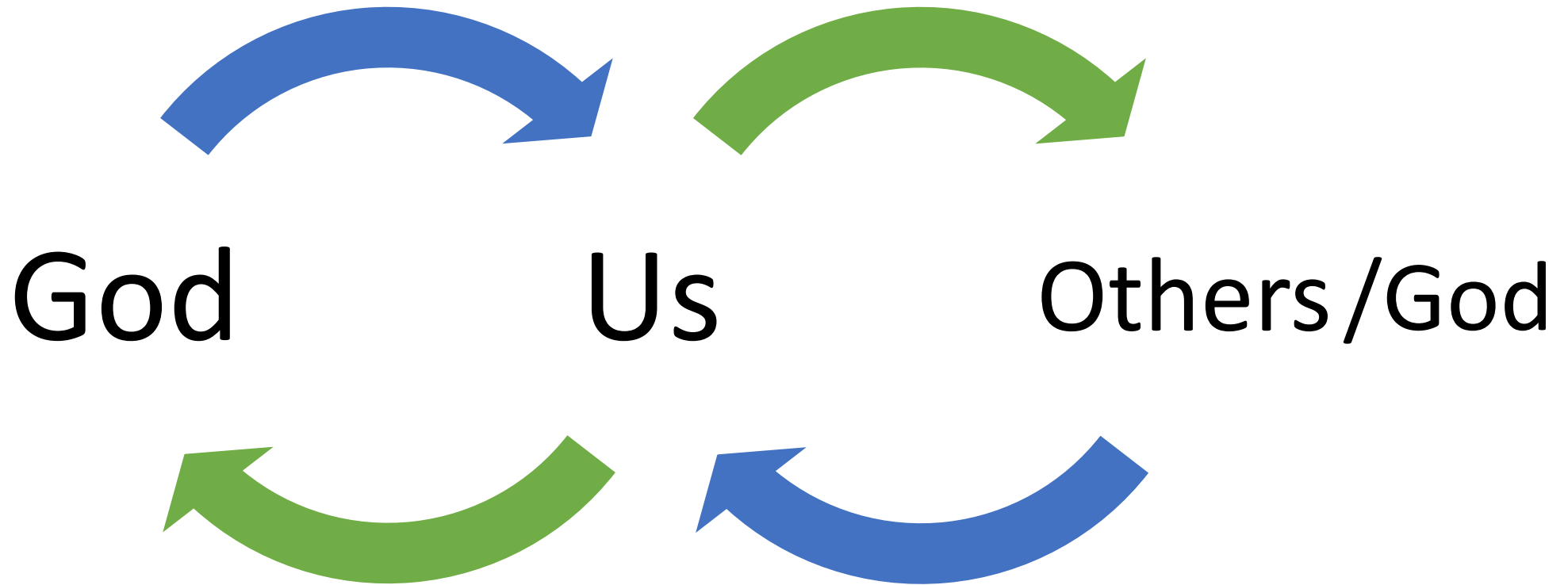
And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life.

The better question is, Who am I?

Salvation as a Status: **Grace** and **Works**



Salvation as Relationship: **Grace** and **Grace-Response**



Grace-Response: We are energized by God's compassion to care for others, only to discover God is present with others

Loving our Neighbours is generated by our Response to God

1. Loving God cannot be separated from loving our neighbour
2. Our neighbour is any person who is in need
3. We are NOT motivated by seeking God's love, rather we are energised by God's love
4. Individually and collectively, our response to our neighbour is evidence of our already being a part of God's people
5. Jesus is present among the vulnerable and marginalised, he will meet us there

...if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see?

Loving our Neighbours is generated by our Response to God

When did Loving my Neighbour, become

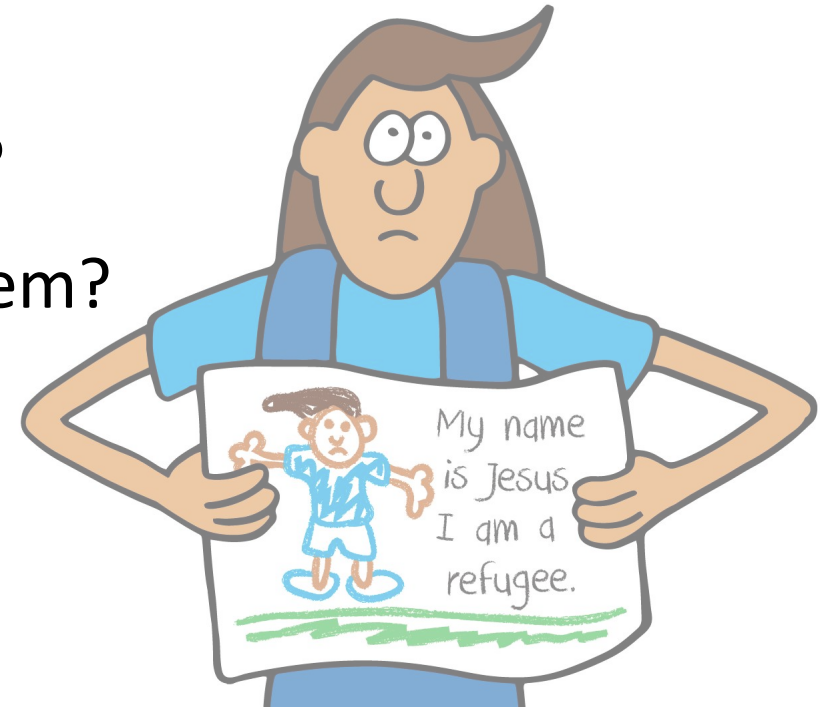
a political problem?

or an economic problem?

or even a social justice problem?

Rather than

a religious problem?



...if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see?

1 John 4:20