

## Board of Directors

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Dear Partner,

Like many ideas, Soulation began on a napkin and grew to reach every corner of the USA and countries around the world. We still believe the Church needs renewal in the Good News: that the gospel is more than doctrine or social programs, but for making good people who are friends with God. This making-good-people has been the “appropriately human” vision of ours since the beginning. It is the narrow and difficult road Jesus spoke about that is easily abused by imposters, from Pharisees to politicians.

Few find this good life because it requires the brutal honesty of conforming to reality at all costs. As you grow, you'll find most are uncomfortable with your growth. They betray their discomfort by how they change the subject, give nervous laughs, avert their eyes, grow defensive, live in denial about their past, and overall refuse to take responsibility for the things that matter most. Regular church attendance or political activism are the moralistic shields most Christians hide behind instead of coming clean. Only honest, wide-open hearts to Jesus' way of life opens the narrow way to us. Another beautiful paradox: open hearts find the narrow way.

Becoming appropriately human has always required community of some kind. You made this community happen. You are woven into the Soulation story and vision, too. Our successes are yours.

I treasure the friendships, memories and conversations, encouragement and support Jonalyn and I have received from you over these many years. Soulation could have lasted but one year or five. Approaching 14 years is as much as I had hoped, but more than I expected. My heart is full. From those early years of melding apologetics and the arts, to expanding into gender and sexuality, to the practical touch of writing about coffee shop conversations, to

focusing on the largest hurdle of the Evil One: spiritual abuse. Regardless of the topic, the needs were always the same: to find ourselves in God.

That's how we found you and you found us.

While Jonalyn and I are stepping away for a while for needed rest and re-focus, the vision and love remains. You have the tools to grow, find meaningful friendships, and help those who have open hearts.

## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Twelve of our studies will continue to be available, including our core study, “Spiritual Health: A Foundation.” When you talk to people who want to go deeper, please tell them to begin here. This will give them a vocabulary of

spiritual growth and untangle many of the false beliefs we all carry about how to grow in friendship with God and each other.

You can find our trademark studies on gender, sexuality, relationships, how to share your faith, and our newest update to our study “Kindness in Politics” at **Thinkific**. We’ve also added a suggested order to take our studies. Even as a seasoned Soulation follower, you may find a study you’ve missed or would like to repeat again. Now you will be able to invite a friend to join you.

## GIVING

While we are downsizing Soulation to our core 12 studies, we are not closing our doors permanently. We are leaving them open for a possible relaunch in the future. For those of you who wish to continue to donate to Soulation, you may do so as a tax deduction (the Partnership program will no longer apply). In the event that Soulation does permanently close, we will donate all proceeds to an organization that shares Soulation’s values.

## STAYING IN TOUCH

We realize that it will not be easy to cut off contact, cold turkey, so we have sought counsel on how to transition out of being pastors and mentors in a healthy way. We invite you to seek others to mentor and pastor you. We have been praying for God to bring you to those he has in store for you next. And to make that easier, we recommend that we only re-connect around Christmas through writing each year with a little update.

So, in the future, as each year winds down, we would enjoy reading where God has taken you. As we receive your news, we will send our update and life news to you. Send your letters to Dale and Jonalyn Fincher c/o Soulation PO Box 772574, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487 or [mail@soulation.org](mailto:mail@soulation.org). We will look forward to hearing from you at Christmas.



While this is goodbye for now, we look back with satisfaction. Millions have been touched and thousands have been changed, including ourselves, because of Soulation and this community leaving an indelible mark on the 21st century.

Jonalyn and I continue to be committed to the appropriately human life. Even if the vehicle of Soulation is coming to an end, your work and our work go on in a different form but with the same Jesus leading the way.

Yours,

Dale Fincher

