

The small-scale injustice I selected for this project is the **environmental neglect and economic abandonment of communities of color**, particularly on Chicago’s South and West Sides. This concern is not only ecological or economic—it is a **theological crisis** that challenges how we understand who God created us to be. Genesis 2:15 reminds humanity that we were placed in the garden “to till and to keep” creation—to nurture, protect, and sustain life. Yet the neighborhoods I call home reveal the opposite: polluted air, deteriorating infrastructure, food deserts, and the continued extraction of economic resources that leave Black communities burdened and underserved.

Reclaiming Creation Victory began as my response to this injustice. The project seeks to engage this crisis through the lens of **Justice Design Thinking**, integrating theological reflection, community collaboration, and practical experimentation. This ministry case reflection orients the reader to the context, community, and theological grounding that shaped this project. It also frames how my understanding of leadership, change, and creativity evolved as I listened to stakeholders and began to co-create solutions with them.

Artifacts referenced in this section—including VoiceThread reflections, stakeholder conversations, and early design work—are included in the **Appendices** for further context.