

The Strategic Discipleship Workbook

Session Five: Identity

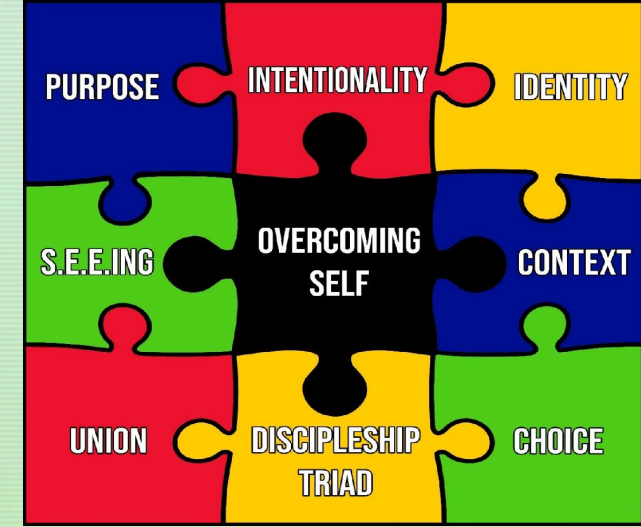
Pre-Course “Test”

■ Please record your answer the following:

1. What is Discipleship? _____

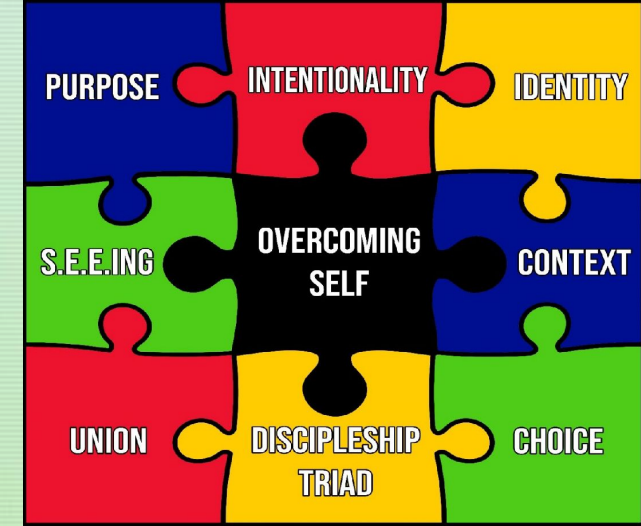
2. What constitutes “Strategic” Discipleship? _____

3. What are the components of Strategic Discipleship? _____



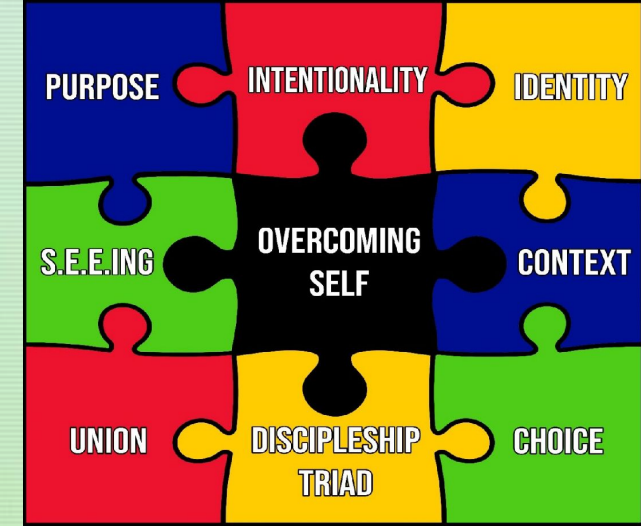
Identity: The *Real* You

- The goal of S.E.E.ing your true Identity is to know how Papa sees you, then live that Identity “...on earth as it is in Heaven.”
- Our identity and new name (**Revelation 2:17**) are two coordinates that locate us within the multi-dimensional universe.
- Read **Colossians 3:3** and **Ephesians 6:6**. Hidden Identity Principle: Your true self/Identity already exists, safely hidden “with Christ in God.”
- There is NO remnant of sin or separation in your true identity, so neither belongs or is worthy of our focus in T/S/M!
- **Psalm 115:8** Principle: “You become *most like* what you *most look at*.”
- Knowing and being know are HUGE priorities! (**Matthew 7:23**)
- Discuss: “Soul ties and habits are formed over time and chain us to the flesh, and they give birth to the carnal mind. The ties of soul-to-flesh must be broken for us to see clearly the truth that God has pronounced concerning who we are. That is why the emotional healing process can be so helpful in our quest.”



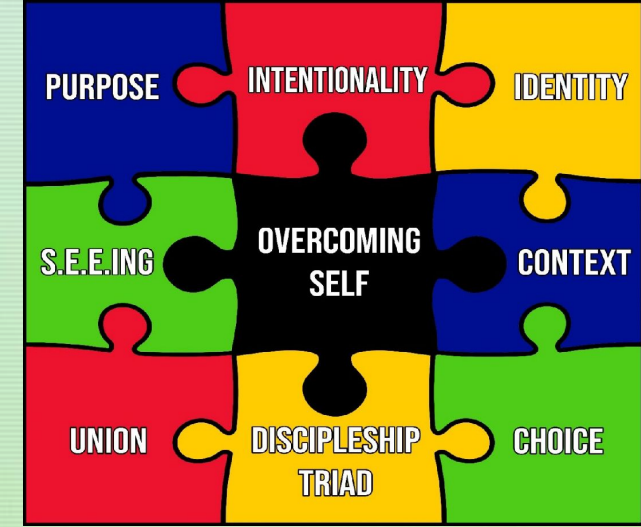
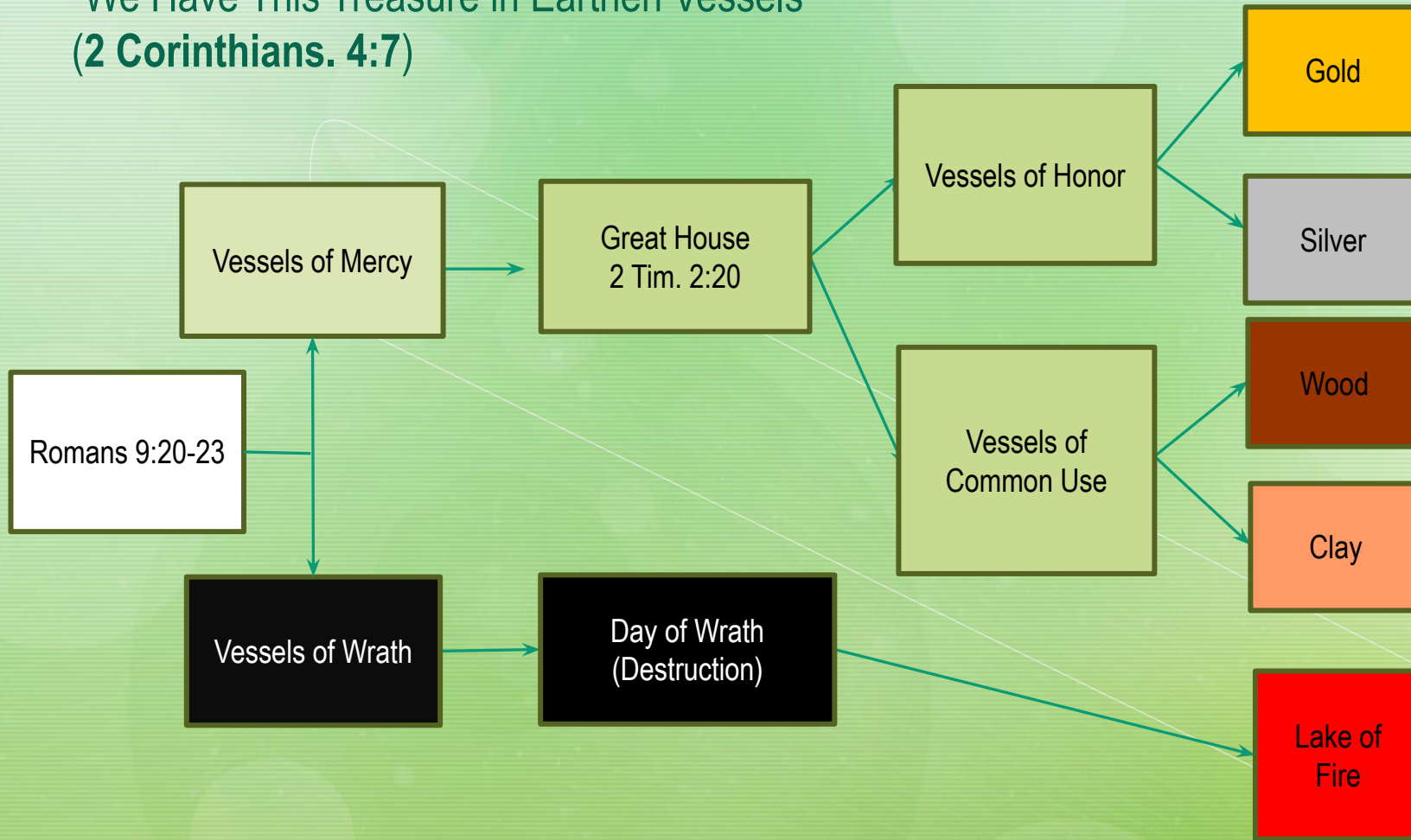
D1: The Container Reality

- First Principle of Identity: “You are NOT your body!”
- The jar is not the peanut butter!
- This is brilliant: The body we inhabit as a spirit being *constantly* pushes us in the direction of the selfish interests we are being taught to overcome!
- The Isometric Principle: Resistance against the pull of the flesh builds spiritual strength.
- Discuss: “Our flesh container always *clamors* out of its greatest desire/need; our spirit *flows* out of our deepest security. Our soul, then, gets to choose which of the two we follow.”
- Comment: “We are all amnesia victims rediscovering who we are; or rather, who we both *were* and *will be*.”
- **Romans 9:20-23**: Two categories of vessels, Mercy and Wrath.
- What does this mean? “The discipleship process has, as its goal, an alchemical outcome: To turn clay pots into golden and silver bowls fit for display and service in the Great House of the King of Kings.”



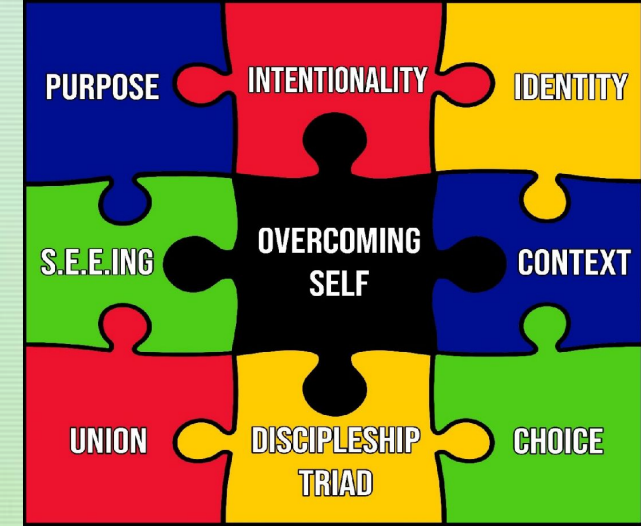
Treasure in Earthen Vessels

“We Have This Treasure in Earthen Vessels”
(2 Corinthians. 4:7)



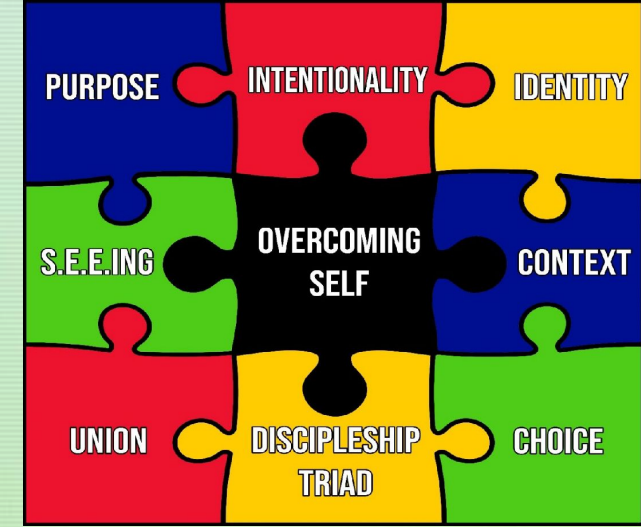
Day 2: IS—Navigating the World?

- You began your T/S/M existence in union with mother.
- First life lesson: Me/Other-Than-Me
- There is only Independent Self (IS) & Union—no other possibilities!
- What does, “...the way things are done in this life” mean? How does the world influence that? How is separated thinking reinforced?
- Why is IS such a strong compulsion in us? Norman Grubb: “What the Bible calls *sin* is, in one phrase, *Independent Self*.”
- As the dominant Identity force, IS stands defiant in direct opposition to Oneness.
- “Rebellion *always* has selfish roots. IS celebrates and preserves separation. IS seeks and acts in its own interests, its own gratification, and its own existence apart from the Creator. It stands at the center of its world, and that whole world revolves around it.”
- Read John 15:5. Is it possible to “abide in [Him]” and remain an IS? How is our “abiding” status facilitated or hindered by our separated thinking?



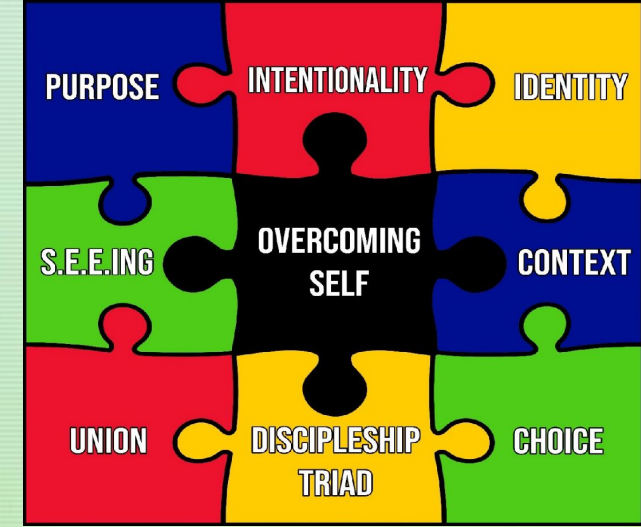
D3: Identity & Personal Security

- Working definition of Personal Security (PS): “Collective interaction of 1) Sense of worth, 2) Maturity, 3) Emotional anchorage, 4) Self-esteem, 5) Courage, 6) Personal strength.
- Source of Security Principle: *All true Security derives from outside of yourself.*
- The problem of developing our Identity from the world environment.
- Comment: “The *only* accurate information concerning our eternal Identity is *revelation* from the Holy Spirit.” How does that dynamic work? What forces oppose us?
- Read together and discuss pg. 54, last paragraph.
- Sharing from Discipleship Focus: What PS factors did you choose as significant for you?



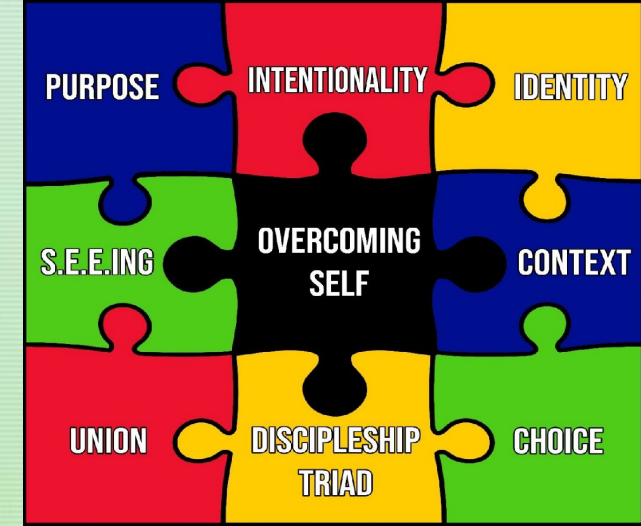
D4: Identity & Emotional Healing

- Restoring our Eternal Identity requires dealing with T/S/M emotional pain (EP). EP is an Identity-killer!
- What is the connection between PS and EP? How are they antagonistic or synergetic?
- What does this mean? “We begin life with a tender-if-self-centered heart that quickly calcifies into a stony mass of dysfunction.”
- *EP keeps us bound*—bound to flesh and its works, self-pity, anger, past behaviors and transgressions, carnal mind, frustration, discontent, and anxiety.
- Four ways to deal with EP: 1) Ignore it; 2) Make a friend of your pain—that is, nurture, coddle, think about, dwell/fixate on, identify with, and carefully guard it; 3) Medicate it—to medicate is to numb the pain using one of the substances that serve to temporarily cause us not to feel; and, 4) *Be healed at the source*.
- Five universal symptoms of letting EP accumulate: 1) Anger, 2) “Guarding,” 3) Fear, 4) Excuse-making, 5) Addictive Behavior.
- Discuss DF exercise.



D5: Building An Identity Statement

- An Identity Statement is a declaration of characteristics that are “*true about me.*”
- Describes the person you want to be in your “Last 15-Minutes,” the “you” you aspire to be.
- If true/Eternal Identity are only revealed to us by revelation, what does that mean for our Identity Statement process?
- What are the components of your spiritual DNA? How do you find out? How do you prevent your Identity Statement from becoming performance expectation pushed on you by others?
- Read James 1:23-25. Connect this passage with the “on earth as it is in Heaven” Principle.
- Why go to the trouble of making an Identity Statement? At least 4 reasons:
 1. End in Mind Principle
 2. Forgetful Man Principle
 3. Anchorage Vs. Tossed To and Fro Principle (Ephesians 14)
 4. Attitudes Follow Words Principle
 5. Words are Warfare Principle



Next Week: Context

