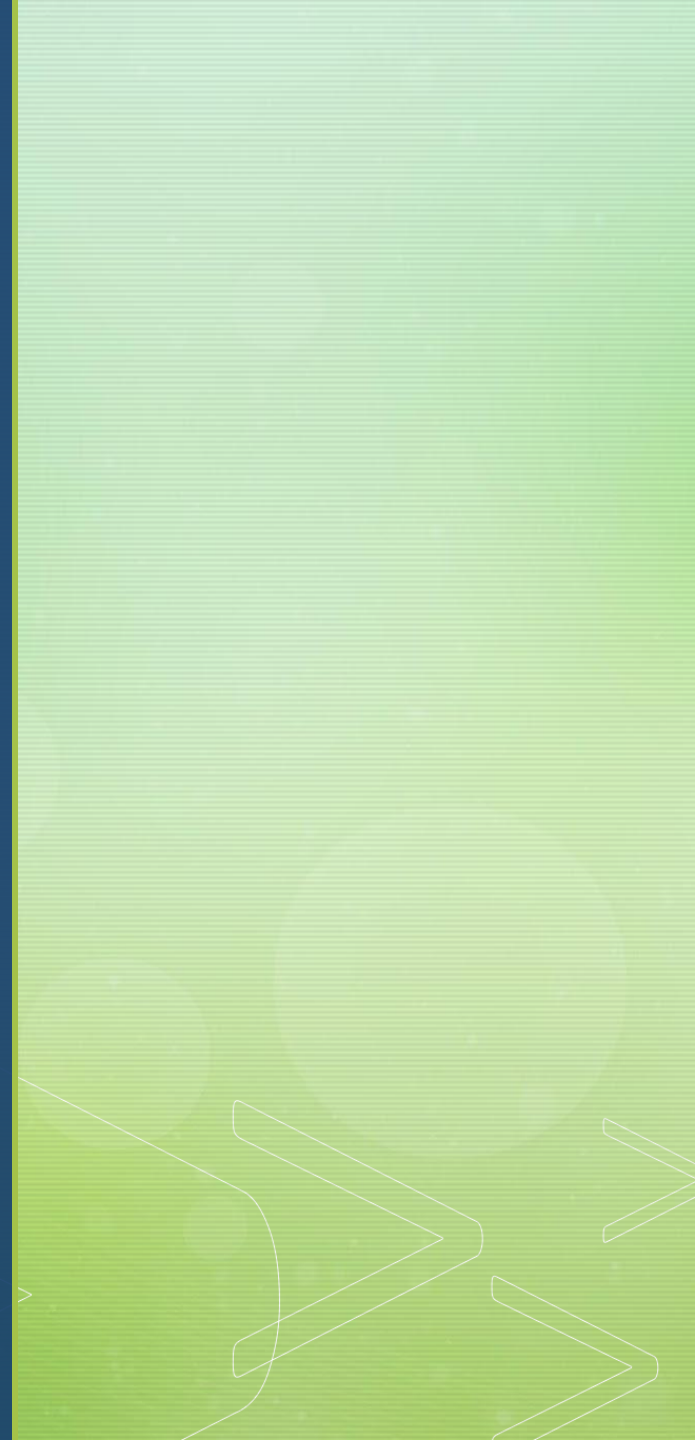


The Strategic Discipleship Workbook

Session One: Foundation Principles



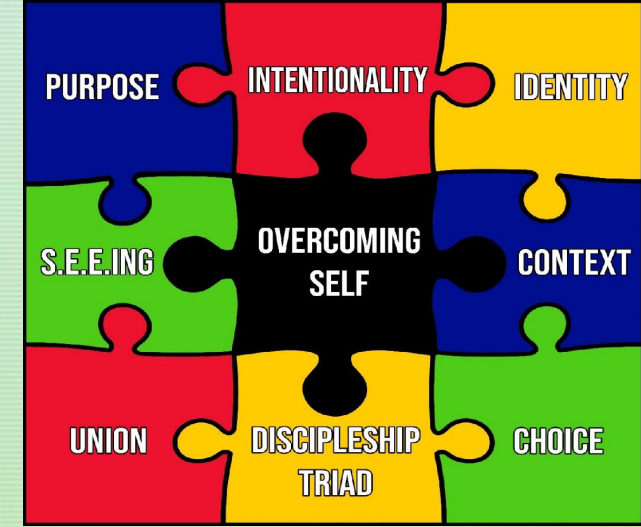
Pre-Course “Test”

■ Please record your answer the following:

1. What is Discipleship? _____

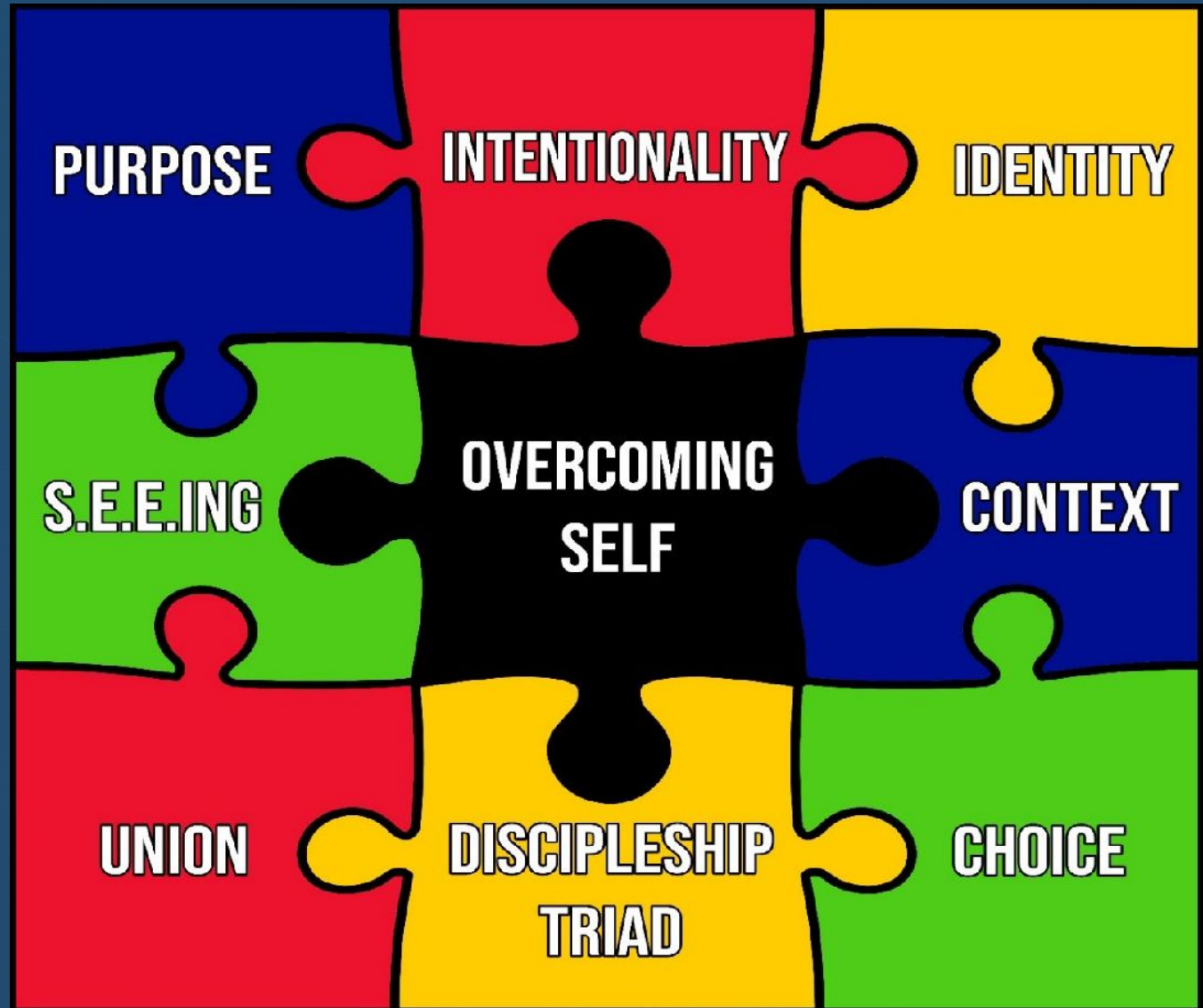
2. What constitutes “Strategic” Discipleship? _____

3. What are the components of Strategic Discipleship? _____



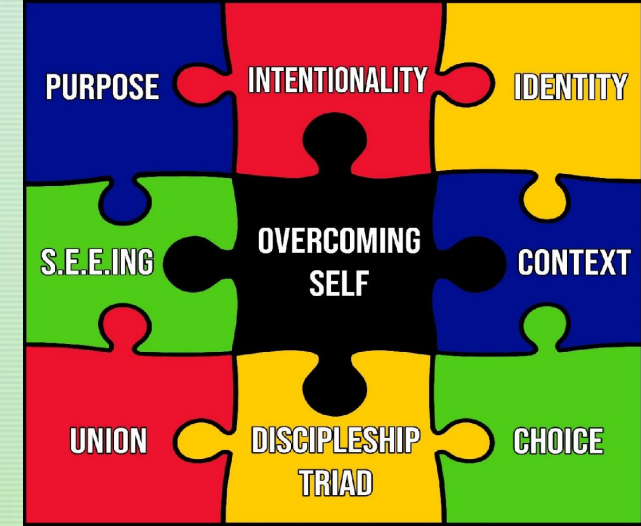
The Strategic Discipleship Puzzle

- Why a Puzzle?
- What does a puzzle imply?
- How do you assemble a puzzle? What steps?
- What qualifies this puzzle as “strategic”?



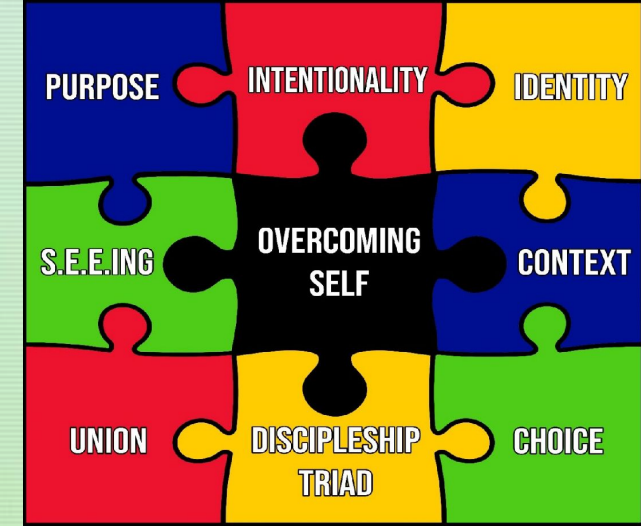
How Do We “Do” Discipleship?

- **Principle:** Discipleship is BOTH *Being* and *Doing* relate to our purpose and God’s Program.
- 1 Corinthians 3:9, “⁹ For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, *you are* God’s building.
- Before you can know “How” (Tactical) you have to know “What” (Strategic).
- In order to endure “What,” you have to know the “Why” (Objective).
- To know the “Why,” you have to ask the right questions to embrace “Why” as a settled fact.
- **Note to Self:** “Why?” questions that originate in self-pity and victim-ness are a waste of time and dissipate spiritual energy.
- Even a blind hog finds an acorn once in a while: “He who has a reason ‘Why’ can bear any ‘What’ or How.” –F. Nietzsche



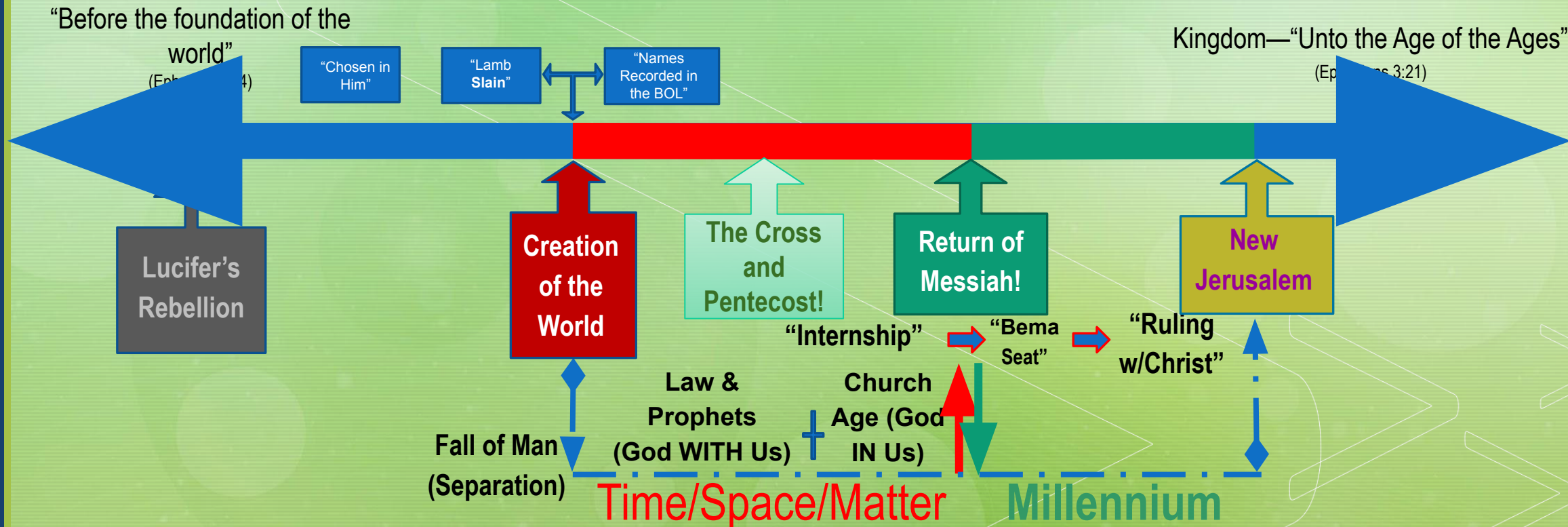
God's Eternal Work (in a nutshell...)

- Five defining events
- Little is known about EP and EF—a fact that makes the information we have even more singular and extraordinary!
- Rebellion was the initiating cause, and New Jerusalem is the terminating goal.



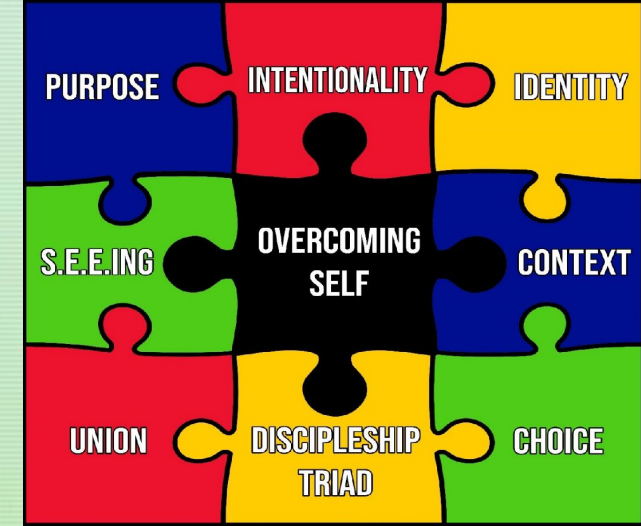
Eternity Past

Eternity Future



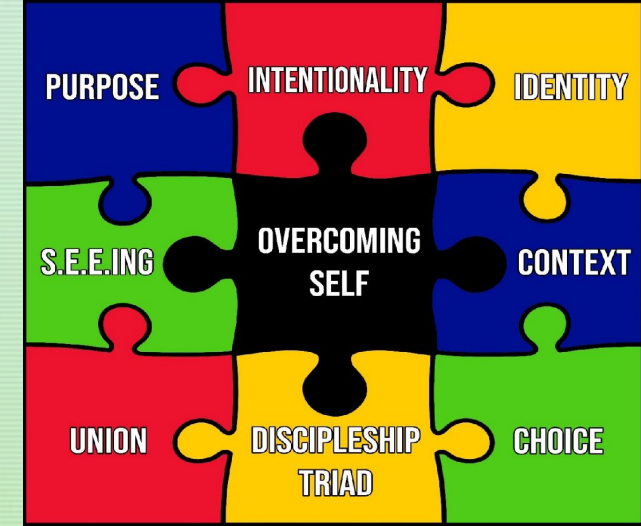
Principle: The Nature of Reality

- How do you know what is real? True?
- Read Hebrews 11:1, and Romans 8:24.
- Eternal Reality Versus Created Reality—The lesser is always absorbed by the greater.
- Definition of Real/Superior Reality (Mine): “The one that lasts.”
- Purpose of T/S/M Reality: Correct the effects of Lucifer’s Rebellion.
- Primary Goal of God’s Program: To Restore a Kingdom to the Son.
- Primary Goal for Individual Believers: Revelation 19:7b, “...and His wife has made herself ready.”
- ALL T/S/M events, activities, lessons, etc. serve these two Grand Purposes!
- T/S/M life is not about you, it is about Him and His Kingdom!



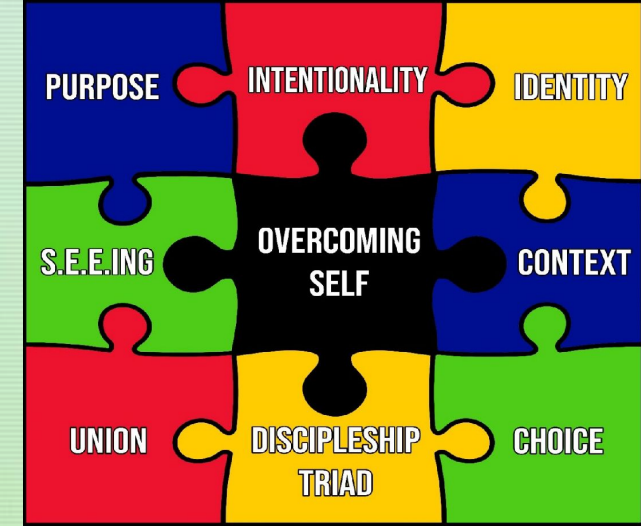
The Nature of the Flesh

- References to “the flesh” it includes the “kosmos”—world system *and* our body as the vessel of our spirit.
- As a created reality, the flesh reflects Papa’s intent and purpose for creation. He **INTENTIONALLY** designed this world system and our vessel to serve His purposes: our growth/learning/overcoming ability.
- Flesh’s natural/compelling tendency—to view life from enthroned perspective. Why?
- Created reality is a **TRAINING SYSTEM**, a **CONSTRUCT** for learning, a **CLASSROOM** for preparing the Bride of Christ for ruling beside her Bridegroom.
- Papa’s Program is, in part, to staff the Son’s Kingdom with mature sons based their transformation and success in their quest to overcome self in this reality.
- God **WILL NOT** give Kingdom responsibility to a “joint heir” bridezilla that has not done the hard work of overcoming self.



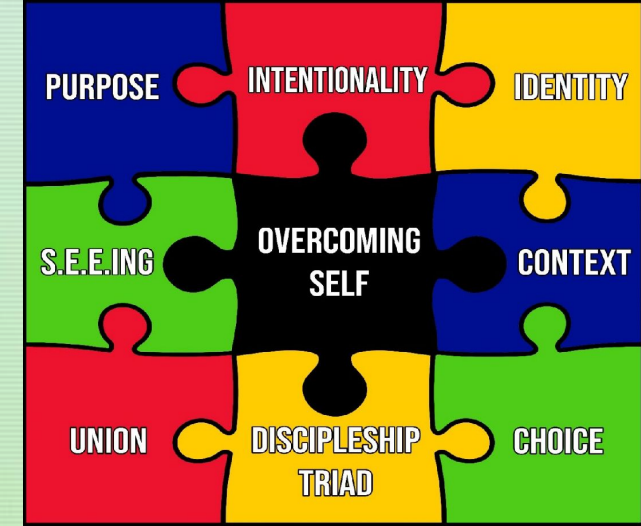
Principles for Our Study

- **Principle:** God has a Plan—His “Program”—over which He is sovereign, and that has a targeted goal.
- **Principle:** Papa has assigned us limited sovereignty serving to put our discipleship—our training—into our own hands. Like Matt. 25:14-30, He invites us to “be all you can be!”
- **Principle:** Man was tainted by Lucifer’s rebellion resulting in separation from God. Separation is the fundamental core issue, root cause of all sin and sin nature, and the point of origination for Independent Self (*IS*).
- **Principle:** All rebellion is self-based and ego-centric; all separation is overcome by return to Union; return to Union is the primary goal of redemption.
- **Principle:** EVERYTHING in this T/S/M dimension—every event, decision, action, choice—has its effect and objective in Eternal dimension effect. NOTHING is incidental, accidental, undirected, or serendipitous.



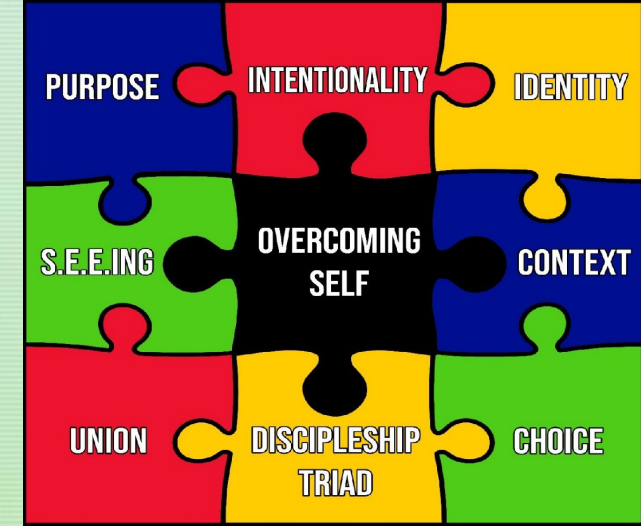
Principles for Our Study (Cont'd)

- **Principle:** Jesus' Kingdom is not of this world; however, the training objective is to rebuild in us an "...as it is in heaven" reality to prepare us for ruling.
- An other-worldly Kingdom challenges and stretches us, our T/S/M focus and orientation—*that is by design!* Papa's mysteries have targeted goals and objectives as well. *He does not adapt to us, we adapt to Him!*
- T/S/M is like virtual reality. On the plane of "feeling" and five-senses, it is absolute, but it is illusion-based and not real.
- Learning to S.E.E. is an essential skill to success. We are only able to overcome to the degree that we can see, embrace, and live in terms of our home.
- Our transformation, adaptation, & faithfulness to transact with the resources allotted will be evaluated, tested, integrated or destroyed at the Bema Seat judgment.



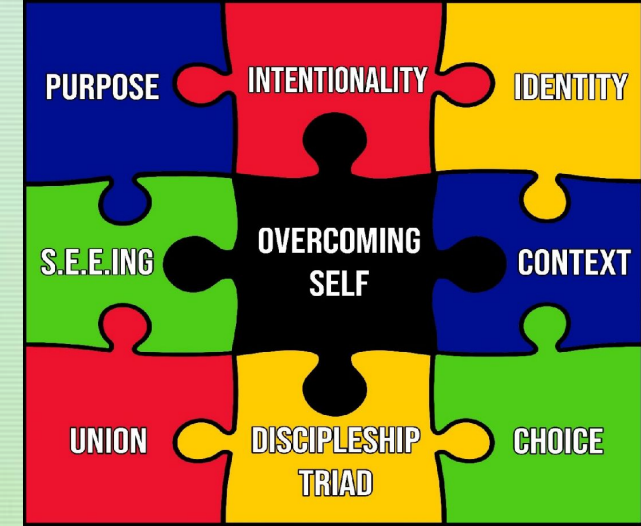
Principles for Study (Cont'd)

- **Principle:** God is not anthropomorphic, that is, “ascribing human form or attributes to a being or thing not human, especially to a deity.” If He were, there would be no need for us to transform. We do it unconsciously.
- We are made in His image and likeness, not vice versa. He is not like us, nor is He limited as we are.
- We are only capable of thinking about Him in human terms, and they are woefully inadequate. BUT, we must make the effort to S.E.E. behind the veil of the flesh.
- One of the functions of Proverbs 25:2 is a “test” of sorts that indicates who will and who won’t make the effort.
- A total commitment to make the effort to see, embrace, and understand Eternal Dimension principles appears to this world system as foolishness at best, or delusion, or even mental illness.



Study Methodology

- Each week we will read one Chapter Introduction and one page of text for each day.
- Each daily session has 1-5 question pertaining to the reading.
- Please come each week having read the daily passages and worked through as many of the questions as you are able.
- My experience has been that this workbook is likely more challenging than can be completed in one 10- or 11-week session. Please do not be frustrated by that fact. My hope is that you will experience transformational thinking that will be “paying dividends” for many years to come.



Practice Question

Below is the kind of thought questions you may expect in each day's Discipleship Focus.

They are not softball questions. They are designed to challenge traditional or "path of least resistance" thinking!

1. Consider the Scriptures below, and the use of the phrase "above." Rather than a particular location, what is indicated by the use of that term? What may we conclude about the nature of Eternal reality from its use?
2. How does "other-worldly thinking" relate to the concept of "above"? Considering Jesus' declaration that His Kingdom is "not of this world," what else could it mean besides "above the earth's atmosphere," some geographical (!?) location, or position of exaltation?
3. How can we reconcile the traditional thought of heaven being "out there somewhere" and Scripture's declaration of "no separation" and "no distance between us"?

- **John 3:31**, ³¹ He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is **above** all.
- John 8:33, And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from **above**. You are of this world; I am not of this world.
- [John 19:11](#), Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from **above**. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."
- [Galatians 4:26](#), but the Jerusalem **above** is free, which is the mother of us all.
- [Colossians 3:1-2](#), "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are **above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things **above**, not on things on the earth."

