

“Who Are You? A New Way of Thinking about Following Jesus”

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Room For Doubt is a grant-funded program that provides learning experiences and resources to strengthen the faith of committed Christians, address the questions of those who have doubts about their Christian heritage, and represent the Christian message to those who are skeptical about its claims.

WorldViewEyes is a grant-funded program that helps youth and adults **Expand** their minds, **Engage** their culture, **Evaluate** beliefs, and **Embrace** a Christian worldview.

Introduction

A. Write down TWO WORDS that you think describe WHO YOU ARE.

B. Write down TWO WORDS that describe a close friend of yours.

C. List FOUR THINGS that someone needs to believe or do to be a FOLLOWER OF JESUS.

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

I. Typical Ideas about Self Identity and Christian Identity

A. Self Identity: Who are you?

B. Christian (“follower-of-Jesus”) Identity: How can you recognize a follower of Jesus?

II. Disturbing Stats on Discipleship (following Jesus)¹

A. Church experiences of high school youth.

1. _____% Learned Bible stories
2. _____% Learned about Bible characters
3. _____% Had a fun or positive experience

B. Percent of church youth with a “BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW”:² _____%

C. Percent of church youth who become “DISENGAGED” by age 30: _____%

¹ Informative studies can be found at The Barna Research Group (www.barna.org) and Lifeway Research (www.lifewayresearch.com).

² For the Barna Research Group, having a “biblical worldview” includes the following: Making a personal commitment to Jesus Christ and trusting in Him for salvation as well as accepting absolute moral truths, biblical moral standards, Satan’s existence, and Jesus’ sinless life.

III. Your Personal Identity and Your Discipleship: Who Are YOU—Really?

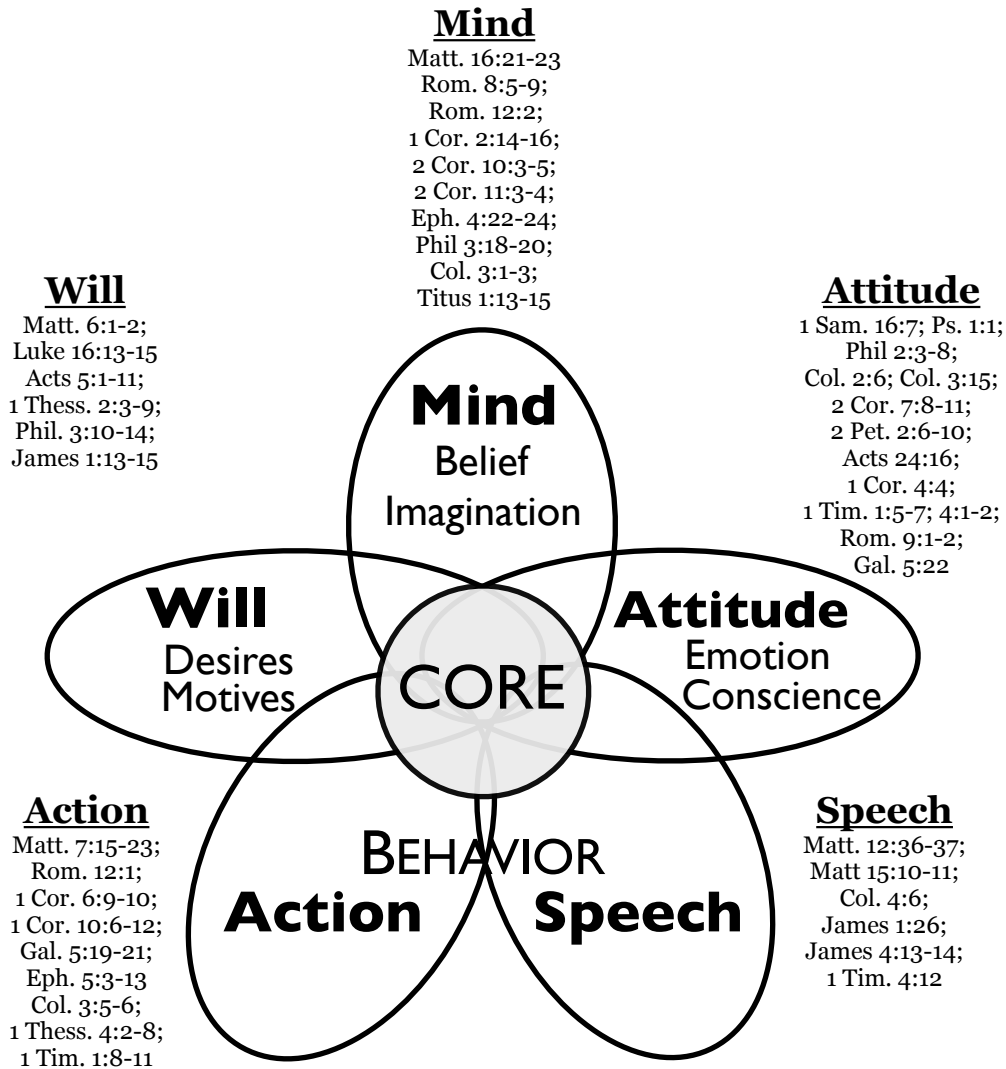
- A. WHO are you?
- B. Individual capacities
 - 1. **Think** (> Mind)
 - 2. **Feel** (> Attitude/Emotions/Conscience)
 - 3. **Act** (> Body)
 - 4. **Communicate** (> Speech)
 - 5. **Choose** (> Will — your desires and motives)
- C. Who are you at your **CORE**?
- D. The most important element at the CORE of following Jesus: _____
(see Mark 12:30; cf. Deuteronomy 6:5)
- E. Following Jesus in your **Personal** _____.
- F. Following Jesus in your **Individual Activities**.
- G. Following Jesus in your **Social Relationships**.
- H. Following Jesus in your **Cultural Impact**.
- I. Following Jesus in your **Apologetic Convictions**.

IV. Discipleship Diagnosis Questions

- A. **Personal Integrity** (in mind, attitude, body, speech, will):
 - Am I really motivated by my love for God in my mind, attitudes, behavior, and will (Mark 12:30)?
 - How and where am I *inconsistent* in these areas? How can I be more consistent?
- B. **Individual Activities**
 - How much do I *consciously* “take every thought captive” to Christ (2 Cor 10:5) in what I do with e.g. media, my sexuality, free time, work, music, the Internet, education, sports, money?
 - How well do I conduct myself “in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ” (Phil 1:27)?
- C. **Social Relationships**
 - How much do I *consciously* engage others as a loving act of following Jesus?
 - For example: parents, siblings, grandparents, friends, boy/girl friend, boss, co-workers?
- D. **Cultural Impact**
 - To what extent am I concerned about, and involved with, serving my world *in Jesus’ name*?
 - For example: the poor, hungry, homeless, elderly, mission work, the “bullied,” disaster victims, etc.?
- E. **Apologetic Convictions**
 - Am I *personally convicted* of the truth of the Christian faith?
 - How able and willing am I to speak up for my Christian faith (1 Peter 3:15)?
 - How well can I detect the presence and influence of other worldviews and avoid being taken captive by deceptive philosophies (Col 2:8; 2 Cor 10:5)?

1 Timothy 4:12 “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” (NIV)

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength” (Mark 12:30).



Discipleship Diagnosis: How's Your INTEGRITY?

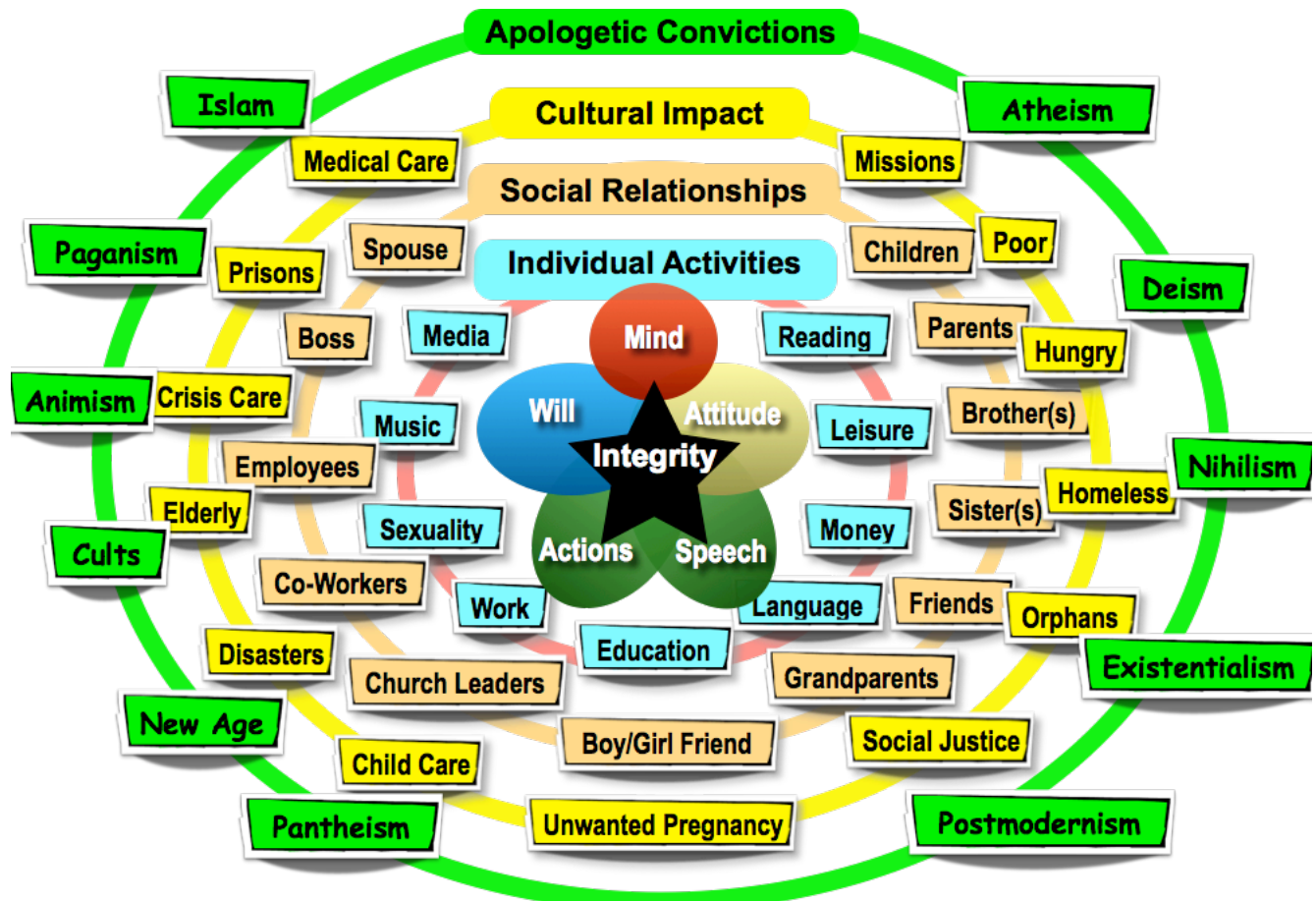
1. Read the scriptures and note what is especially significant or relevant for you in each area.
2. Do an honest spiritual appraisal in each of these areas.
3. In what ways are you *inconsistent* in these areas? How can you improve?

❖ Do I <i>say</i> but don't <i>do</i> ?	❖ What do I do that I <i>should</i> do but don't really <i>want</i> to do?
❖ What <i>beliefs</i> do I express but don't <i>act out</i> ?	❖ What do I not <i>want</i> to do but often do anyway?
❖ Does my <i>speech</i> match my expressed beliefs?	❖ Is my <i>conscience</i> genuinely hurt after doing what my faith says is wrong?

4. To what extent are you *consciously* motivated by your *love for God* in each area?

Following Jesus with WHO I Am and HOW I Live

“... I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received” (Ephesians 4:1 NIV);
 “... we instructed you how to live in order to please God ...” (1 Thessalonians 4:1 NIV);
 “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walking in the truth” (3 John 1:4 NIV)



How Consciously am I Following Jesus in ALL of My Life?

Use this for personal devotions or small group interaction: How would I grade myself in these areas? Where do I need the most growth? What steps can I take to grow in Christ? What resources can I use?

1. Personal Integrity?
2. Individual Activities?
3. Social Relationships?
4. Cultural Impact?
5. Apologetic Convictions? (E.g. Do I know WHY I believe what I do? Have I gone beyond mere intellectual assent to personal conviction? Do I know why I *don't* believe something else? How “ready” am I to give reason for my Christian hope? How often do I?)