



# His Way or My Way: The Addict's Big Dilemma

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## Visualize the Love Triad: GOD, OTHERS & ME

### Matthew 22: 37-40

Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

- I need to learn to LOVE GOD
- I need to learn to LOVE OTHERS
- I need to learn to LOVE MYSELF

REAL JOY in life is spelled J - O - Y = Jesus, Others & You

Our Selfish Society becomes Our Certain Pattern

## 3 Transformational Concepts that We Need to Embrace and Engage

### Self-Acceptance VS. Self-Delusion

At the core, we are given to the tendency to lie to ourself. We overstate our growth and our grasp and we underestimate our inner fight and our failures.

### Galatians 6:34

If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else

### Romans 12:3

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

### Psalm 139:13-18

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

<sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts,<sup>[a]</sup> God! How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup> Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, I am still with you.

### **Jeremiah 29:11**

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

### **Self-Acceptance VS. Self-Delusion: GROWTH POINTS**

- Believe that God has you here for a reason – He has a plan for you
- Don't work to appear to be something that you are not
- Don't work to deny the things that you are – how God has wired you.
- God loves me – I should Love ME
- Healthy self-acceptance – self-destructive life pattern

### **Self-Denial VS. Self-Centredness**

At the core, we are selfish – clearly putting OUR needs before the needs of others.

#### **Philippians 2: 3, 4**

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

#### **II Corinthians 5: 14, 15**

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

#### **Luke 22: 24-27**

Also a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

#### **Ephesians 5: 28, 29, 33**

In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself

### **Self-Denial VS. Self-Centredness**

- Fighting Selfish Ambition
- Fighting Vain Conceit
- Finding Humility
- Focusing on Serving Others
- Favour Your Spouse

### **Self-Surrender VS. Self-Reliance**

#### **I Peter 5: 5,6**

Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble". Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time."

#### **Mark 8: 34**

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

#### **Proverbs 3: 5, 6**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make your paths straight.

### **Self-Surrender VS. Self-Reliance**

- Recognize Your Independent Spirit
- Really Humble Yourself Before God
- Replace His Will with Yours
- Rearrange Your Life Priorities

***How Are You Doing at the Core of Your Life?***