

“Your True Worth Through God’s Eyes”
Session 1: The Honest Search
Rev. Rick Dietzman
September 16, 2012

INTRODUCTION

“Search me Oh God and know my heart, test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.” Psalm 139:23-24
NIV

“As a person thinks within his soul, so he is” Proverbs 23:7 (literal)

- I. Who am I and how do I typically identify it?
- Who I know
 - What I do
 - What I’ve done
 - What has been done to me

If we base our identity on our attainments, circumstances, and outward life we are missing a huge part of what God intends. This is called “the flesh” (Greek: sarx) – usually translated “sinful nature”. It is relying on our natural selves.

This series will cover the four primary traps we tend to fall into. It’s based on the book “*The Search for Significance*” by Robert s McGee

- **The Performance Trap – Sept 23rd** I must meet certain standards.
- **The Approval Trap – Sept 30th** I must be approved by certain people.
- **The Blame Trap – October 7th** If I fail I am unworthy and perhaps unloved.
- **The Shame Trap – October 14th** I cannot change.
- **The Road to Truth – October 21st** Living out our God given identity.

- II. What happens when we become followers of Jesus?

Jesus said: *The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing.*

John 6:63 (NIV)

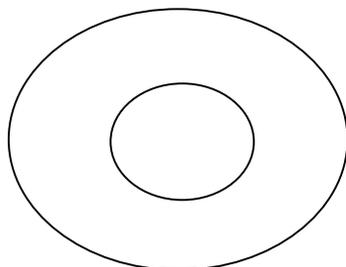
“We have stopped evaluating others from a human (flesh) point of view... This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 (NLT)

Old Self vs. New Self

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.
Ephesians 4:22-24 (NIV)

The Big question: How can Jesus live in me when I'm so messed up?

spirit, soul, body



*“May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your **whole spirit, soul and body** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it* 1Thessalonians 5:23-24 (NIV)

“The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.” Romans 8:16 (NIV)

III. The Honest Search

Psalm 145:18

“The Lord is near to all who call on him in truth.”

John 8:44

The devil was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

The essence of all temptation is the invitation to live independent to God and fulfill legitimate needs in the world, the flesh and the devil instead of in Christ.

- Desire to acquire possessions
- Desire for personal pleasure
- Desire for power or prestige

What fools us?

- a. We are fooled by the clock
- b. What we worship isn't God at all
- c. We miss God's good intentions

Lies and false beliefs are our greatest Nemesis

"Nemesis" is often used as a term to describe one's worst enemy, normally someone or something that is the exact opposite of oneself but is also somehow similar.

Psalm 120:1-2 (NKJ)

In my distress I cried to the LORD, and He heard me. Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips (deceptive speech) and from a deceitful tongue (false language).

Proverbs 15:4 (NIV)

The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

The lie: is the false interpretation a person carries from a historical event. It is an emotional belief statement. A misbelief

Much of our daily lives is being dictated by what happened earlier in our lives.

1. I'm a nobody
2. I'm useless - of no use to anyone
3. I can't do anything. I'm a failure.
4. I'm ugly.
5. My birth was a big mistake. (or a girl inwardly saying "I should have been a boy")
6. Nobody loves me.
7. I'm not smart or clever. I'm not successful.
8. Nobody accepts me.
9. I hate myself.
10. My parents didn't love me; OR didn't respect me; OR didn't trust me; OR didn't have time for me, etc. I feel unloved, uncared for, of not much value.
11. I can never forgive OR I can never forgive myself

