



**Welcome to Spiritual Formation in Community**

*“Learning to live my life the way  
Jesus would live my life if he were me.”*

Your daily mantra...

# I woke up in the Kingdom this morning

an unceasing spiritual being with an eternal destiny in God's great universe



I breathe Kingdom air (LOVE)  
I burn Kingdom fuel (GRACE)  
I build Kingdom character  
I do Kingdom work



*Jesus came to show by example and to teach by principle how to have the best possible life in this physical world and preparation for the life to come at the same time*



# Check-In

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***“Over the Thanksgiving week, where did you see God at work in you, around you, or through you?”***

# HEARING GOD

- Why would you want to go there?
- Is that a wise choice?
- What Kingdom purpose would that serve?
- What dimension of your human self is encouraging you to make this choice?



What is God doing with us?

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**I wake up in the Kingdom of  
God an unceasing spiritual  
being with an eternal destiny  
in God's great universe!**



The kind of relationship in which we would expect to hear from God...

- **PERSONAL**
  - **DYNAMIC**
  - **INTERACTIVE**
  - **CONVERSATIONAL**
- 

The kind of person we would expect to hear from God...

# John 15



The kind of relationship in which we would expect to hear from God...

- **PERSONAL**
  - **DYNAMIC**
  - **INTERACTIVE**
  - **CONVERSATIONAL**
- 

The kind of person we would expect to hear from God...

- **IN CHRIST**
- **PARTNERSHIP**
- **AGAPE LOVE**
- **HUMILITY**

# Paul's Journey from Old to New Covenant

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**Paul was persecuting Christians because he believed he was protecting the law**

- Then Paul met Jesus on the road to Damascus - Acts 9
  - Taken to the disciples to be trained & discipled
  - Lived in Arabia (desert) for 3 years
  - Back to Damascus to preach
  - To Jerusalem to become acquainted with Peter and James
  - To Tarsus to begin his missionary work
    - Arrived in Corinth - 50 AD
    - Wrote 1 Corinthians - 55 AD
- Paul's revelation of Paradise - 40-42 AD

**God's communication with Paul should be a standard for how he communicates with us; not because of our common purpose but because of God's desire to work in us, around us, and through us - just like Paul**

**2 Corinthians 11-12**



# Paul's Journey from Old to New Covenant

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## Summary:

- God had a plan for Paul for which he had been preparing Paul for years
- God's work in Paul included a variety of ways He would communicate with Paul – face to face, the Spirit, and visions
- In spite of Paul's difficulties, he remained "IN CHRIST" staying in step with the Spirit
- God chose to help Paul trust Him by allowing a "thorn" to be a reminder of Paul's need for dependence on God's grace
- Every dimension of Paul's self was focused on the power of Christ, and not his own power



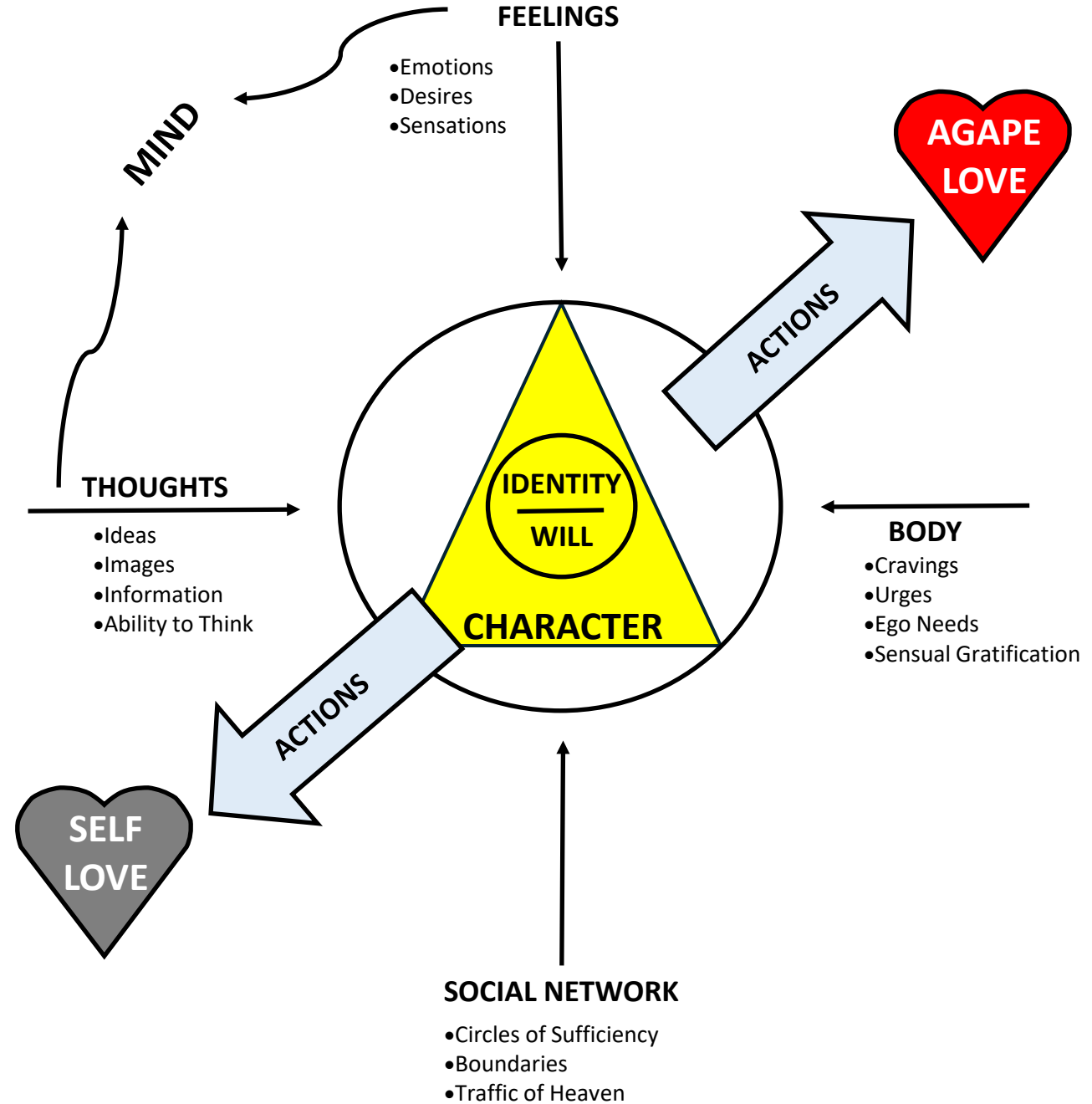
# Circle of 4

Father,  
Son,  
Spirit,  
& You

Being “IN CHRIST”



# Spiritual Formation *in the Kingdom of God*



## Homework

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Practice  
talking  
and  
listening  
in your  
Circle of 4.

Write down  
what you hear  
from God.

An underwater photograph showing several divers in a blue, slightly hazy environment. The divers are silhouetted against the light, and their fins are visible. The word "Homework" is overlaid in a large, white, serif font across the center of the image.

# Homework

# Kingdom Life on the Rock

Holy Spirit



Tasks, Tests &  
Temptations

Spiritual  
Disciplines



## HEAR & DO

# The Many Ways the Word of God Comes to Us



■ Creation ■ Dreams & Visions ■ Eternal Logos ■ Still Small Voice ■ Scripture ■ Fellow Believers ■ Circumstances ■ Kingdom Work



# Kingdom Life on the Rock

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**Matthew 7:24-27**

**A home where you can live without anxiety or worry**

**A beautiful garden of plants and shrubs with an orchard of trees  
all producing amazing flowers and fruit**

**Identity**

**Friendships**

**Grief/Loss**

**Conflict**

**Thought Life**

**Generosity**

**Worth & Value**

**Marriage**

**Health**

**Injustice**

**Recreation**

**Wounds**

**Neighbors**

**Work**

**Joy**

**Success**

**Pleasure**

**Money**

# Circle of Four

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In the Kingdom of God, relationships are designed to be circles of sufficiency.

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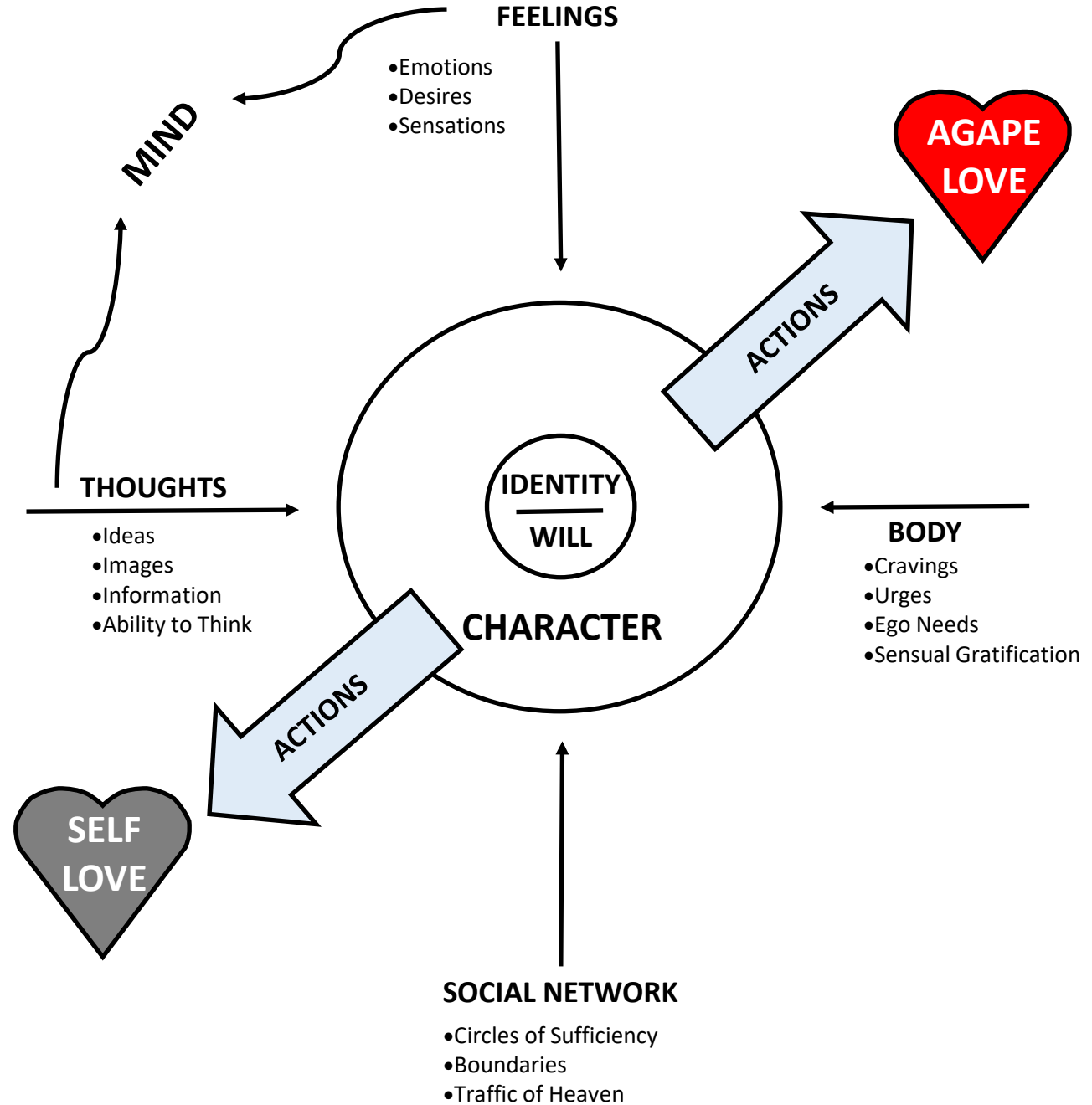
Evil enters the circle through attack & withdrawal.

The smallest circle a person can have is a Circle of Four.

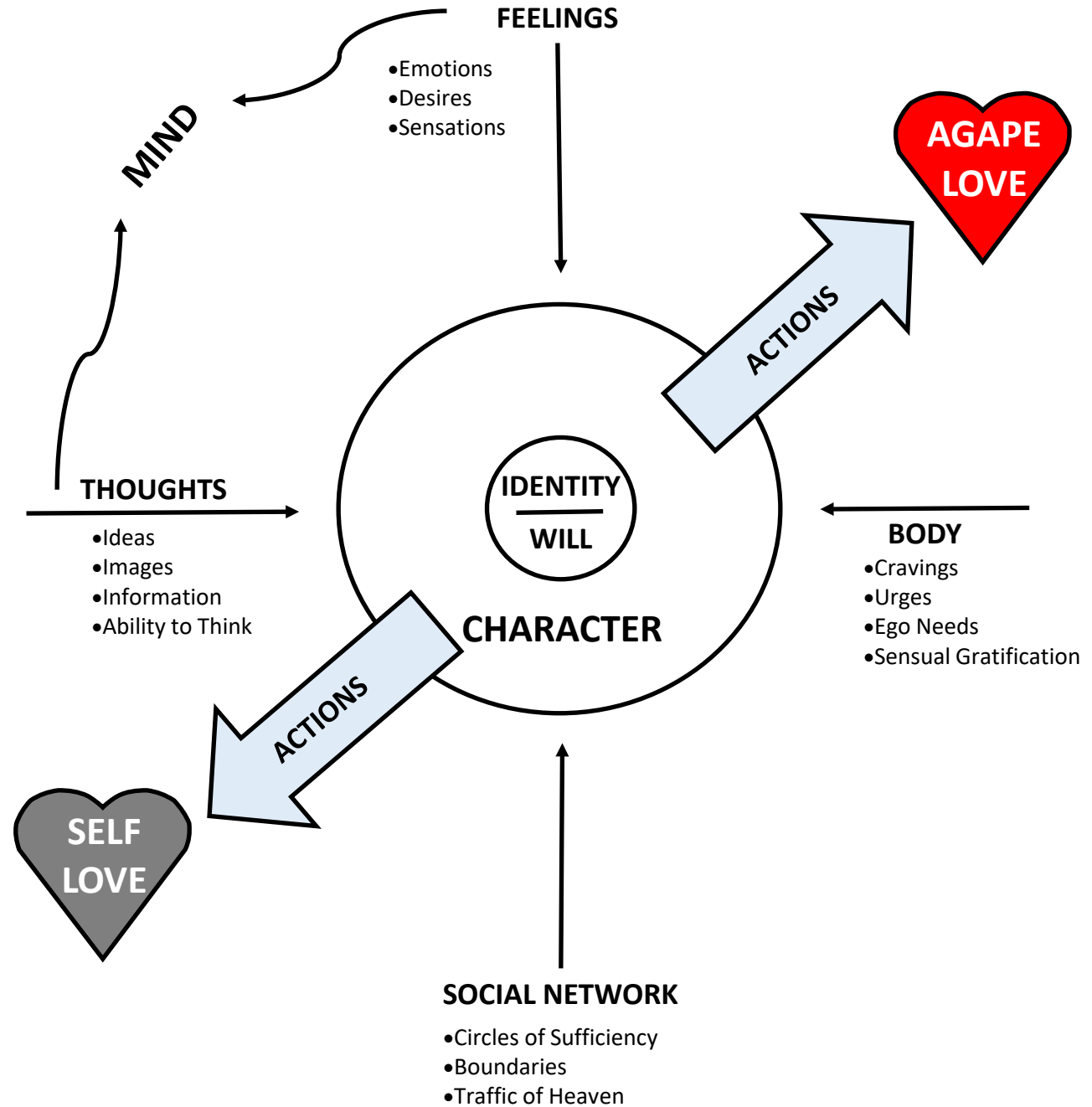
Identity, purpose, worth & value come from your Circle of Four.

You are never alone and always outnumbered.

# Spiritual Formation *in the Kingdom of God*



# Spiritual Formation *in the Kingdom of God*



# The Entire Human Self

*The Whole Picture*

Spiritual  
Formation  
*in the  
Kingdom  
of God*

