



**Welcome to Spiritual Formation in Community**

***“Through our words  
we give others a piece of our mind.”***

# Check-In

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***Describe your emotional weather...***  
*(stormy, cloudy, calm, sunny)*

***Recite the Kingdom Mantra together  
as a **table group** from **memory** until  
you get it right.***

# I Wake up in the Kingdom

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

- **Breathing Kingdom Air (love)**
- **Burning Kingdom Fuel (grace)**
- **Building Kingdom Character**
  - **Doing Kingdom Work**

# Homework Review



- What did you hear from God this week?
- What did you learn about hearing from God?
- What did you learn about Philippians 2 or Psalm 51?

# Hearing from God



- **VISION** – the picture in my mind of what a conversational relationship with God looks like
- **INTENTION** – the degree to which I plan and arrange my life around having a conversational relationship with God
- **MEANS** – what is required for me to do to have a conversational relationship with God

# Karl's VIM



- **VISION** – being constantly conscious of the probability of God speaking with me about anything at any time, using a well-developed method for listening and identifying His voice, with a high percentage of obedience to what He is suggesting to me
- **INTENTION** – to make the development of this vision a reality in my life by starting now and arranging my life around it, experiencing daily a growing and expanding conversational relationship in my Circle of 4
- **MEANS** – I will make it a habit to invite my Circle of 4 to speak to me about my thoughts, emotions, body, relationships, character, identity and will concerning anything of significance in my life, while allowing myself the time to listen, hear, and do what he says

# What is a Word?

- Through words, soul impacts soul with a spiritual force
- "spirit" is unbodied personal force and a person's words represent their personal power
- Through our words we give others a piece of our mind

# The Word of God is God's Speaking

## The Word of God

### God creates through his words

**(Genesis 1:3)** *And God said, "Let there be light, and there was light."*

**(Psalm 33:6)** *By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.*

### God rules through his words

**(Isaiah 55:10-11)** *As the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth; it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.*

### God redeems through his words

**(John 6:63, 68-69)** *The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and they are life. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."*

**(Luke 7:7)** *But say the word and my servant will be healed. (The faith of the Centurion, the Centurion knew the words of Jesus carried authority, the power of words; 7:1-10)*

# Bible & Jesus - Both the Word of God

The **Bible** is an **expression of God's mind**, his **speaking** through the **inspiration of the Spirit** to and through men, a **finite expression of himself** but also **setting boundaries of the mind of God** in principles

*(2 Timothy 3:16-17) All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work*

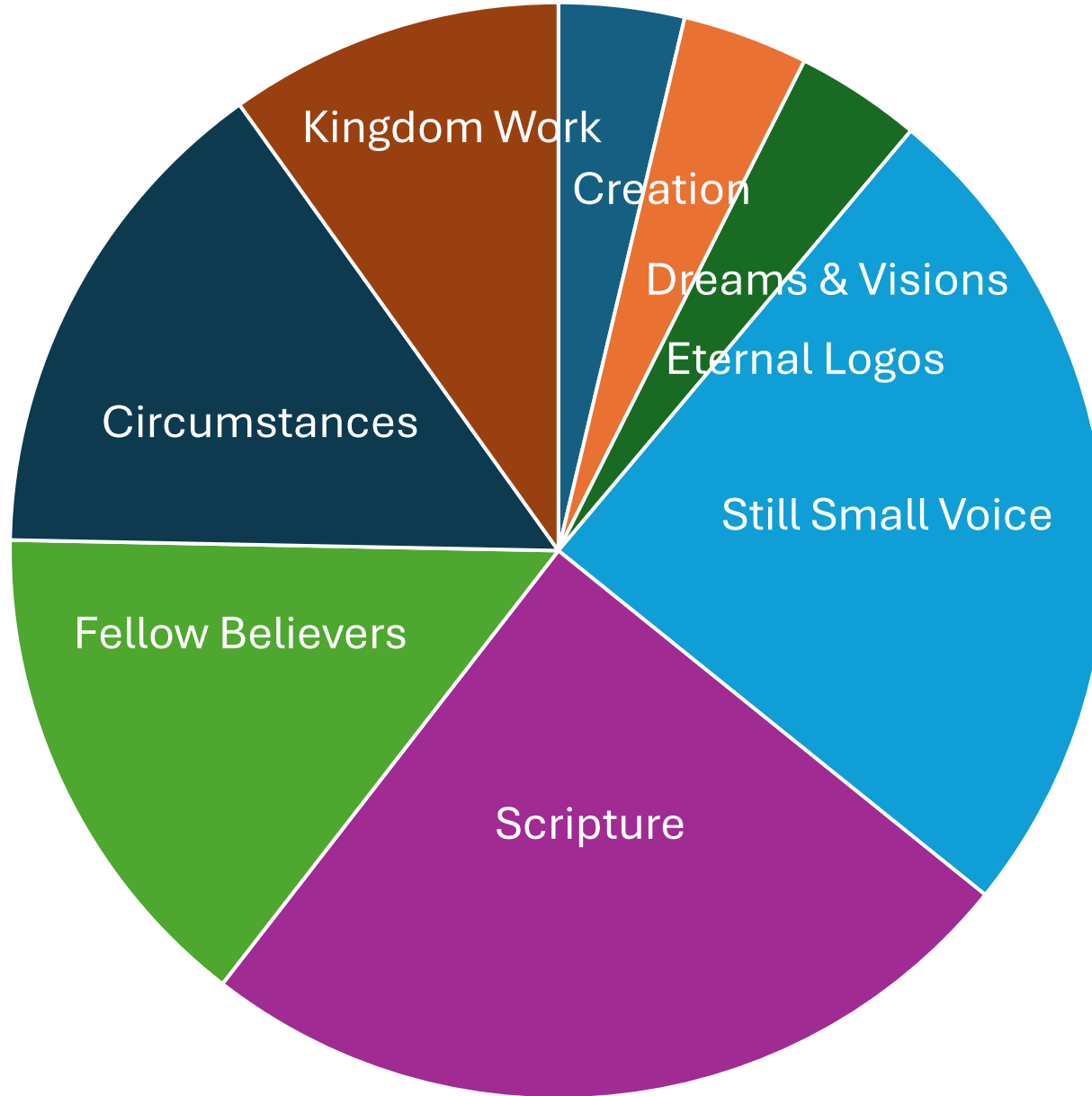
*(2 Peter 1:20-21) Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of God, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit*

**Jesus is the Son**, the **logos**, the **eternal Word of God**; the New Testament describes this **child of Mary** from the tiny town of **Nazareth**, as the **One** from whom the **world came into being**; the **cosmic Christ** as the **One** who **upholds all things by the power of His eternal word**

*(John 1:10-11) He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.*

*(Hebrews 1:1-3) In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.*

# The Many Ways the Word of God Comes to Us



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

# God's Speaking & the Soul



## Galatians 5:16-18

*So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

### Two options are available:

1. Live by the Spirit of God
2. Live by the sinful nature

**They are in constant conflict with each other**

*Keeping in step with the Spirit and desiring God*  
**VS.**

*Love of self and satisfying selfish desires*

# God's Speaking & the Soul



## Galatians 5:19-21

*The acts of the flesh are obvious; sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

The **actions** and **character** of the person whose **sinful nature** is in **control**, and who at the **end of a life** lived this way, **have not** and **will not** experience the **Kingdom of God**.

- Sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery
- Idolatry, witchcraft
- Hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage
- Selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, envy
- Drunkenness, orgies, and similar

# God's Speaking & the Soul



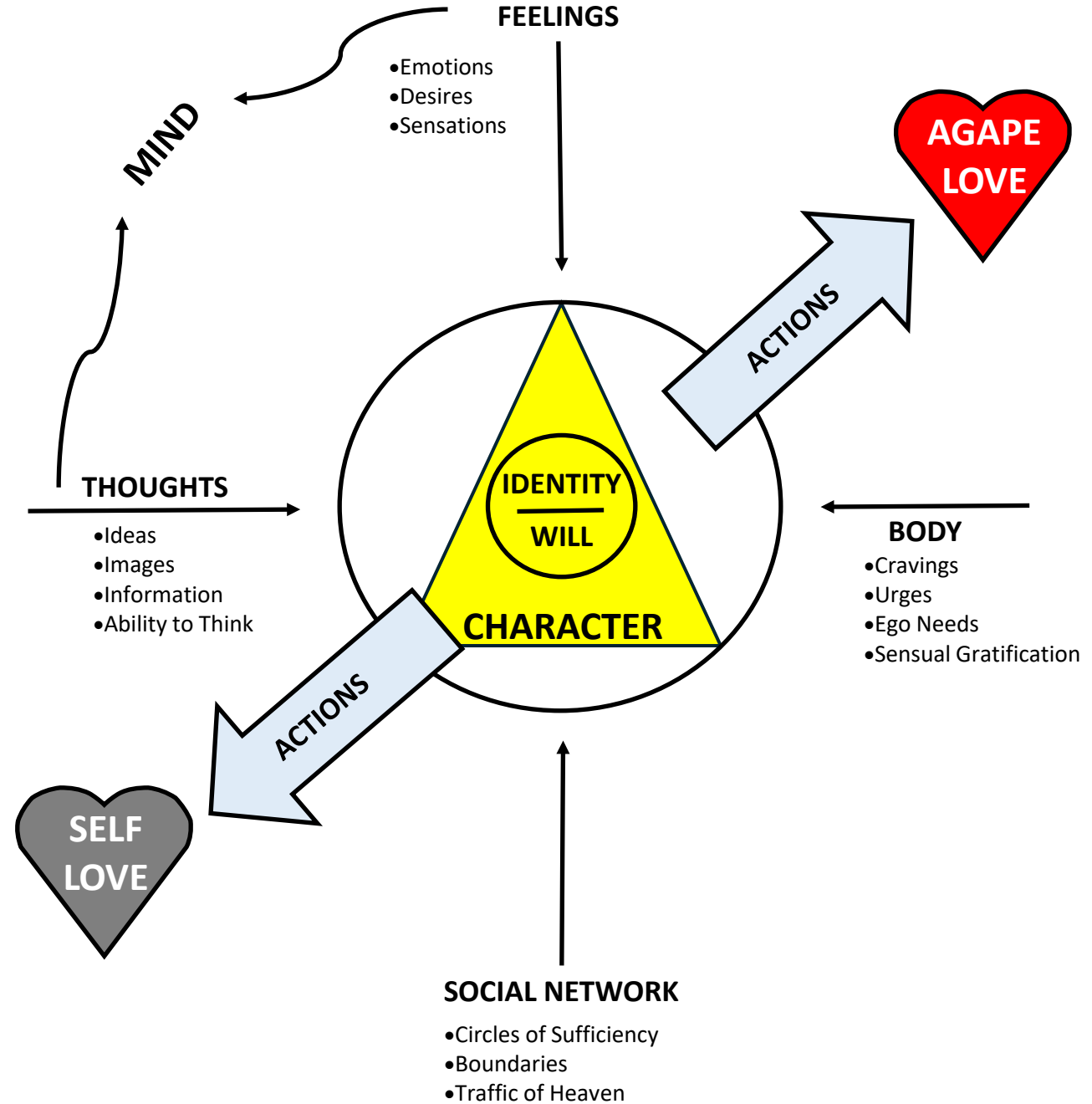
## Galatians 5:22-25

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

The **actions** and **character** of the person who through **trusting grace** acquired by **faith** in **Christ**, having **put to death** the **sinful nature**, now **experience** in their **inner person** the **fruit of the Spirit of God**, as they **keep in step** with the **Spirit**

- Love, joy, peace
- Patience, kindness, goodness
- Faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

# Spiritual Formation *in the Kingdom of God*



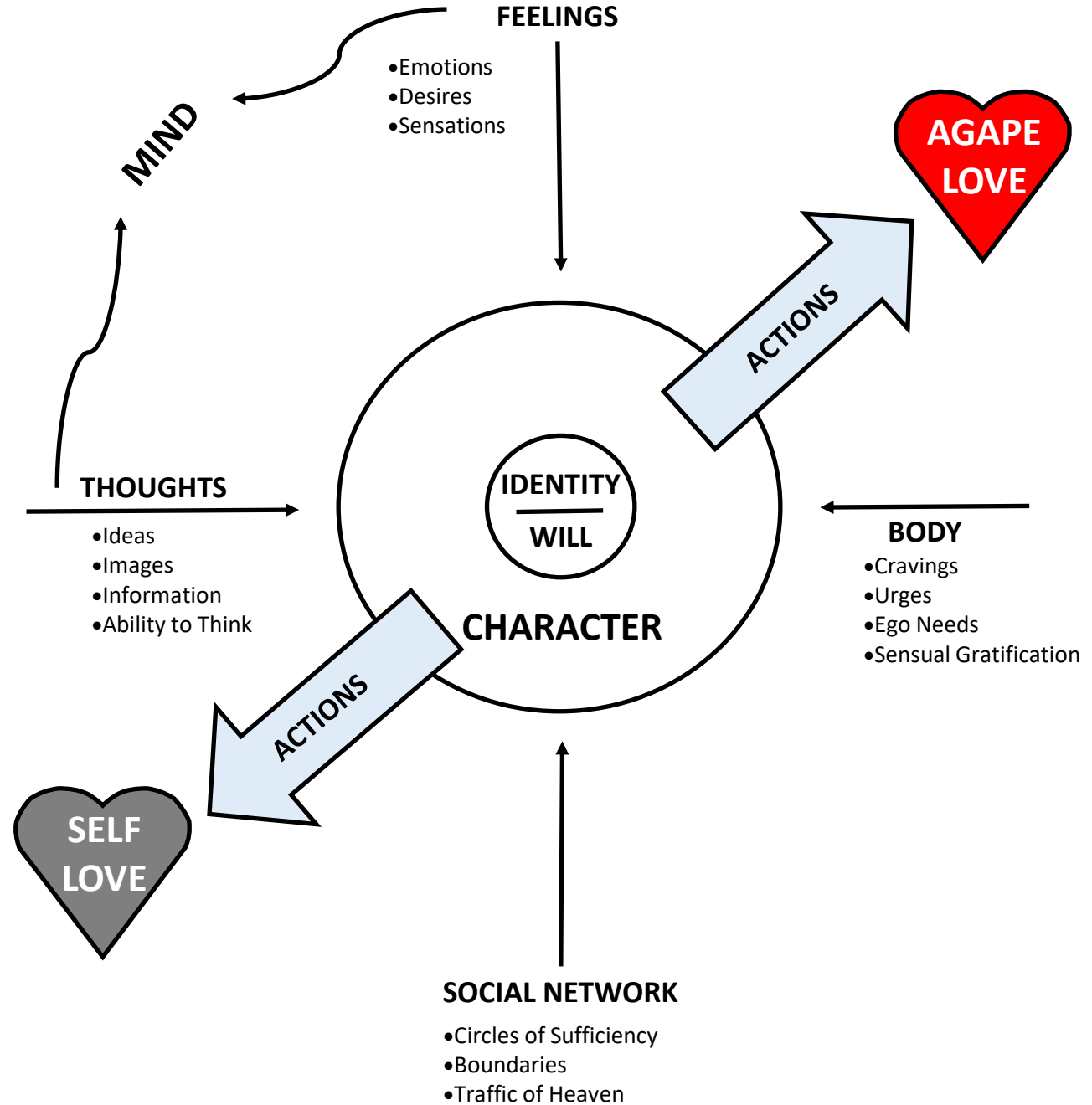
## Finish your Guided Circle of 4 Study

- Galatians 5:16-25
- Answer Questions
- **Practice asking, listening, hearing, and doing**

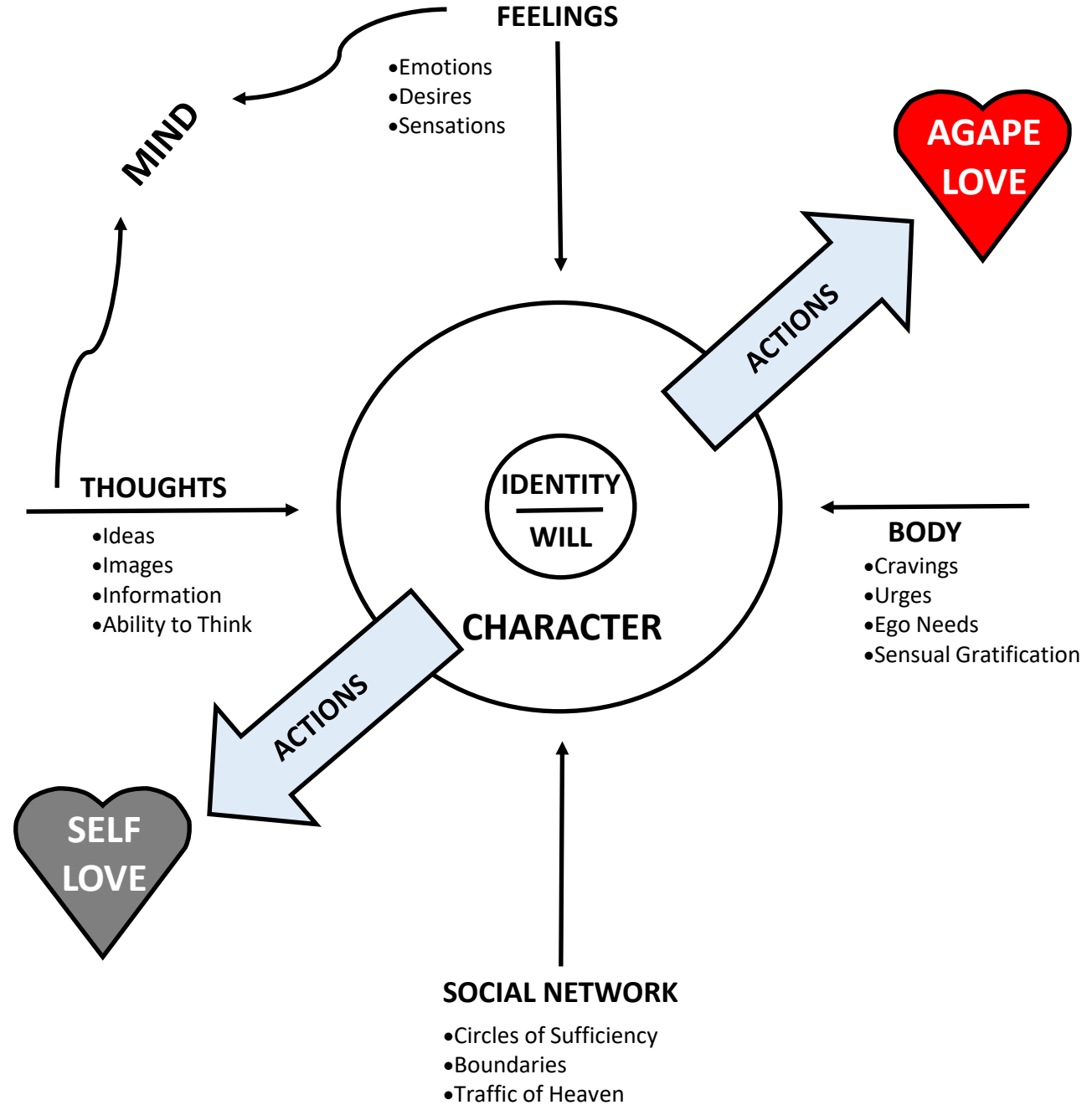
An underwater photograph showing several divers in a blue, slightly hazy environment. The divers are silhouetted against the light, and their fins are visible. The word "Homework" is overlaid in large, white, serif font across the center of the image.

# Homework

# Spiritual Formation *in the Kingdom of God*



# Spiritual Formation *in the Kingdom of God*



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*