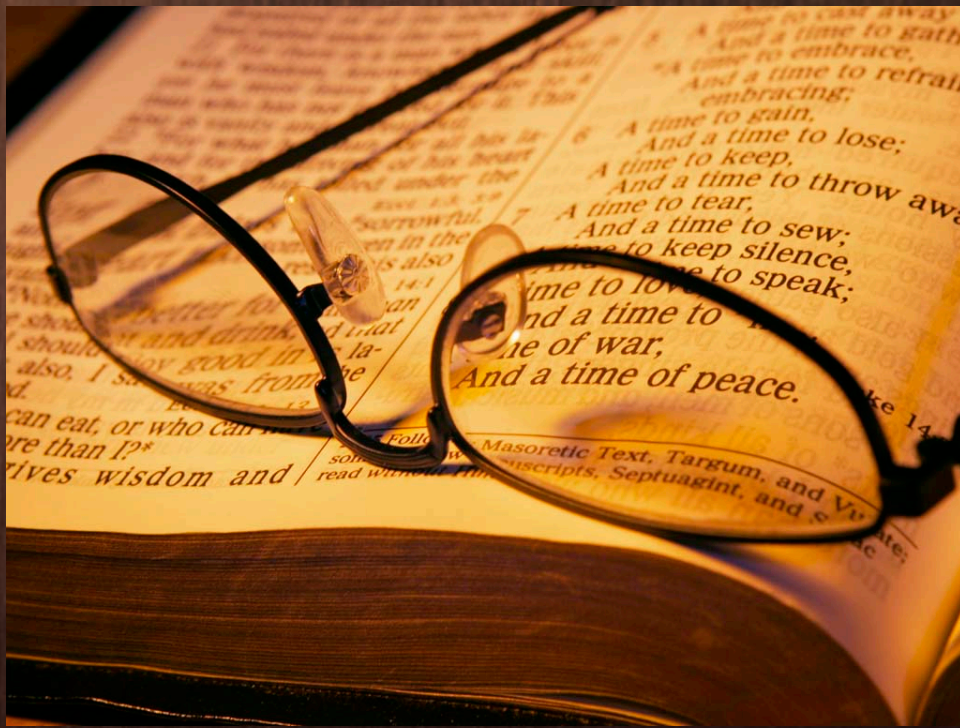


Be Ye Doers of the Word



*Thoughts
on the
Book
of
JAMES*

Radical & Different Faith & Works Rules & Regulations



James 1:1 KJV

- 1) James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.



James 1:2 NIV

- 2) Consider it pure joy, my brothers,
whenever you face trials of many kinds.



James 1:3-4 NIV

- 3) because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.
- 4) Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.



The Development of Your Faith

- Your circumstances are **TEMPORARY**
- Your character will last **FOREVER**
- Problems are **character-building opportunities**



James 1:3-4 CEV

- 3) You know that you learn to endure by having your faith tested.
- 4) But you must learn to endure everything, so that you will be completely mature and not lacking in anything.



The Development of Your Faith

- Character development is all about praying for God to **CONFORM** you, and not just **COMFORT** you
- God is more concerned about **TRANSFORMING** you than **TRANSPORTING** you from your problems
- Character development is **HARD**



The Development of Your Faith

- The key to successful TRANSFORMATION is to start from the INSIDE OUT
- What we experience in this life is NOT what God intends for us



But...

We don't **REALLY**
want to change,
do we?



James 1:22 NIV

22) Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. **Do what it says.**



James 1:13-14 NIV

- 13) When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;
- 14) but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.



Transformation

- If we want to change our **ACTIONS**, we have to change our **HEARTS**
- Instead of taking the effort to face our weaknesses and **CHANGE** them from the inside out, we simple make more **RULES & REGULATIONS**
- It is an **ERROR** to try to make **RULES** in an attempt to change our **ACTIONS**



Colossians 2:20-23 NLT

- 20) ... So why do you keep on following rules, such as,
- 21) “Don’t handle, don’t eat, don’t touch.”
- 22) Such rules are mere human teaching about things that are gone as soon as we use them.
- 23) These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, humility, and severe bodily discipline. But they have NO EFFECT when it comes to conquering a person’s evil thoughts and desires.



Rules & Regulations

- *Rules & Regulations don't have any value in restraining fleshly indulgence!*
- Rules & Regulations have **NO EFFECT** in conquering a person's evil thoughts and desires
- We **CANNOT** regulate sin



Not Black & White

Walking with God

NOT Walking with God

- There are people who have chosen **NOT** to **walk with God**, and yet do **GOOD THINGS**
- There are people who have chosen to **walk with God**, and yet **SIN**

Abraham

- Abraham had moments when his **faith** was **weak**
- Abraham had problems learning a lesson, and confronted the **same mistakes** again
- Abraham **believed** in a **God** of **mercy**

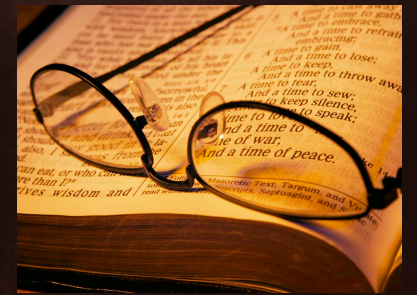
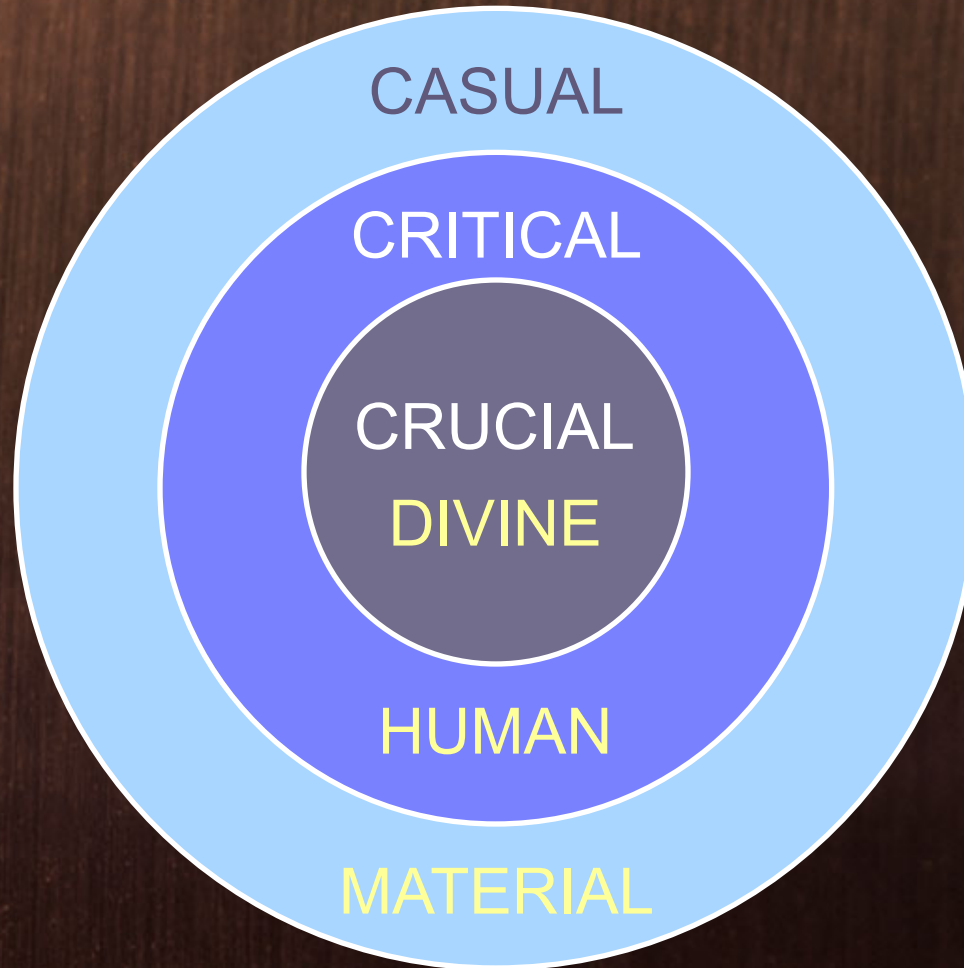


We Live for a Higher Purpose

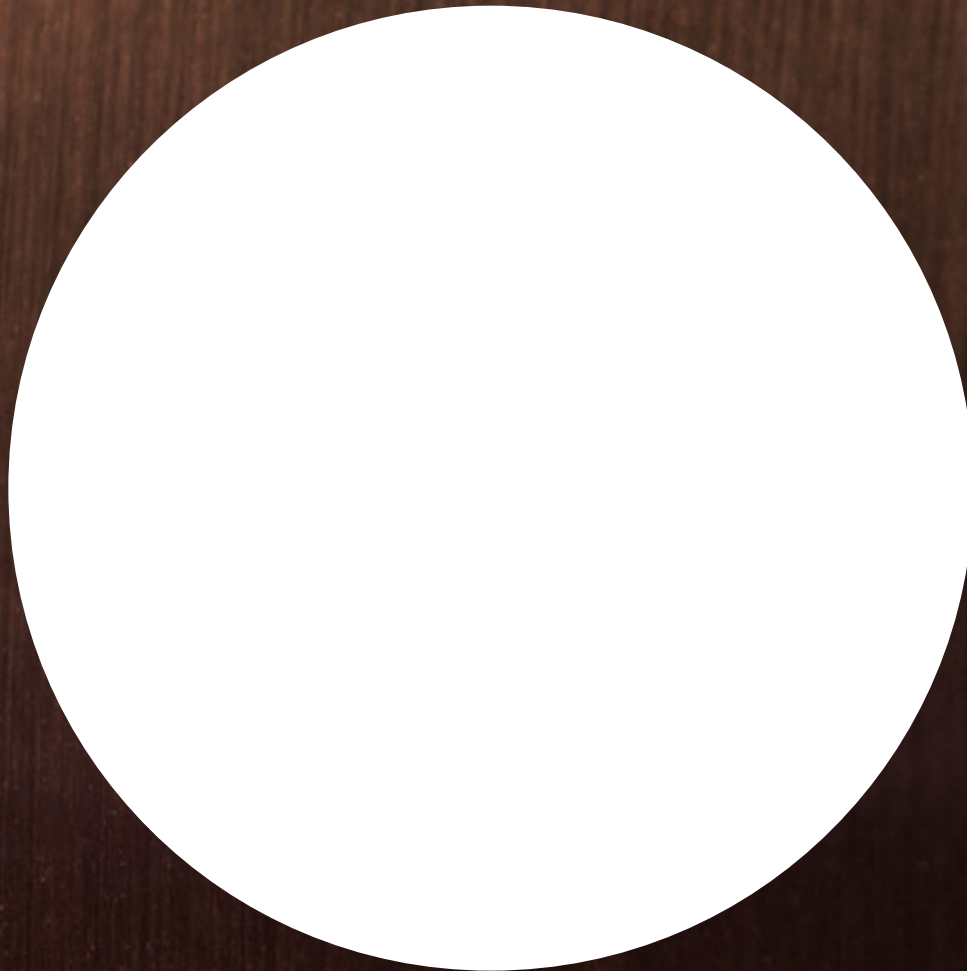
- We serve the living God who has saved us by His grace!
- The things we do in weakness do not define us
- Rules are important, but Rules will never save us



Change from the INSIDE OUT



OUTSIDE IN



OUTSIDE IN

CASUAL

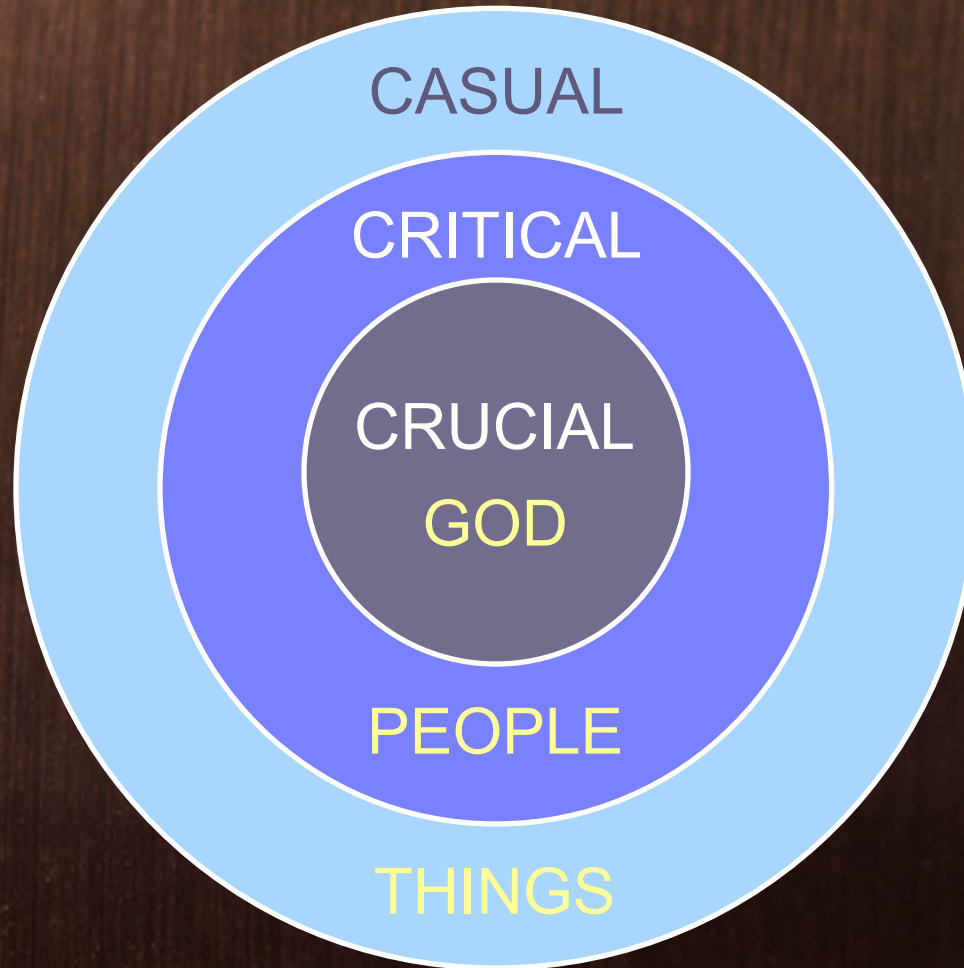
THINGS



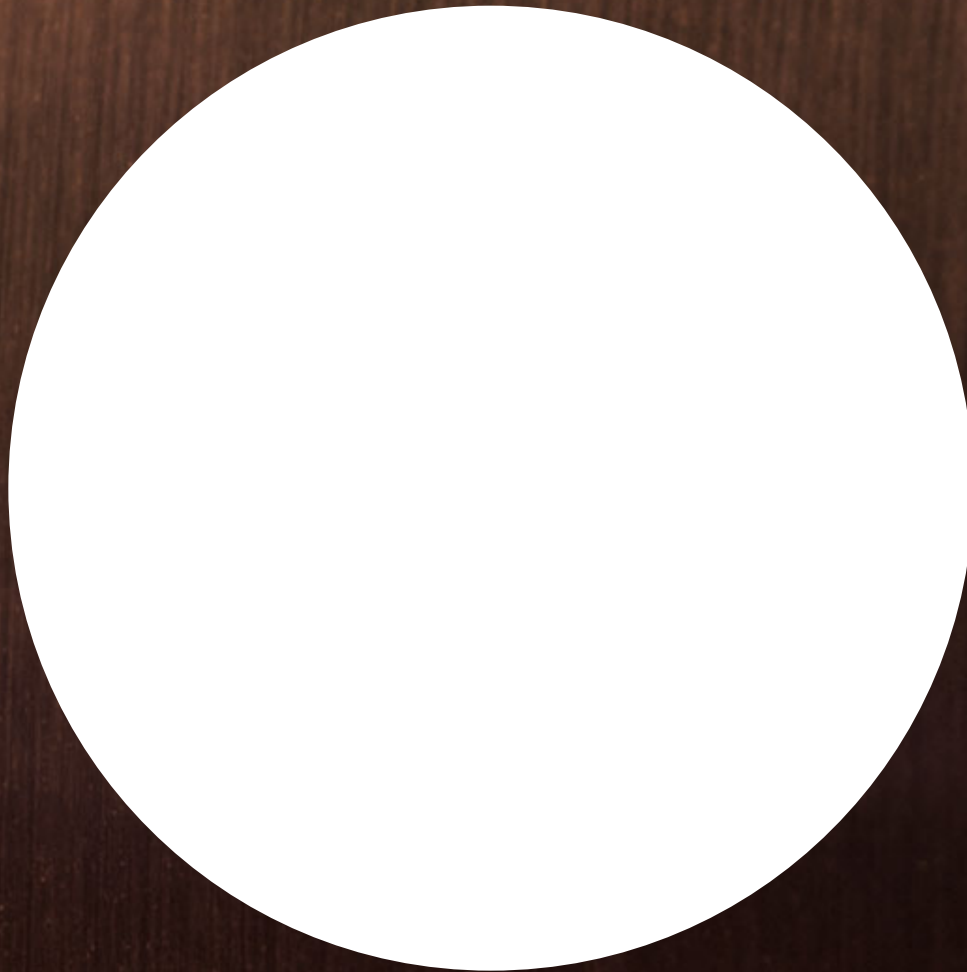
OUTSIDE IN



OUTSIDE IN

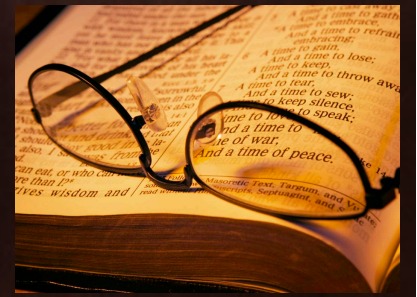


INSIDE OUT

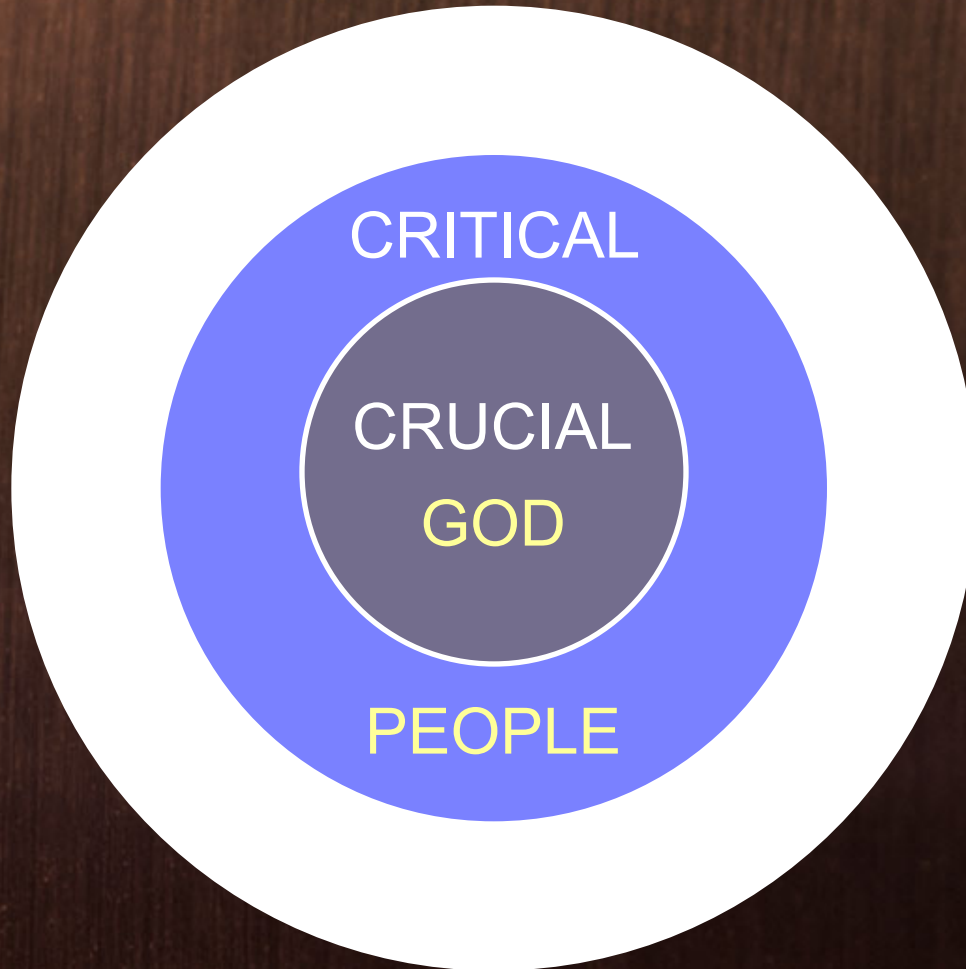


INSIDE OUT

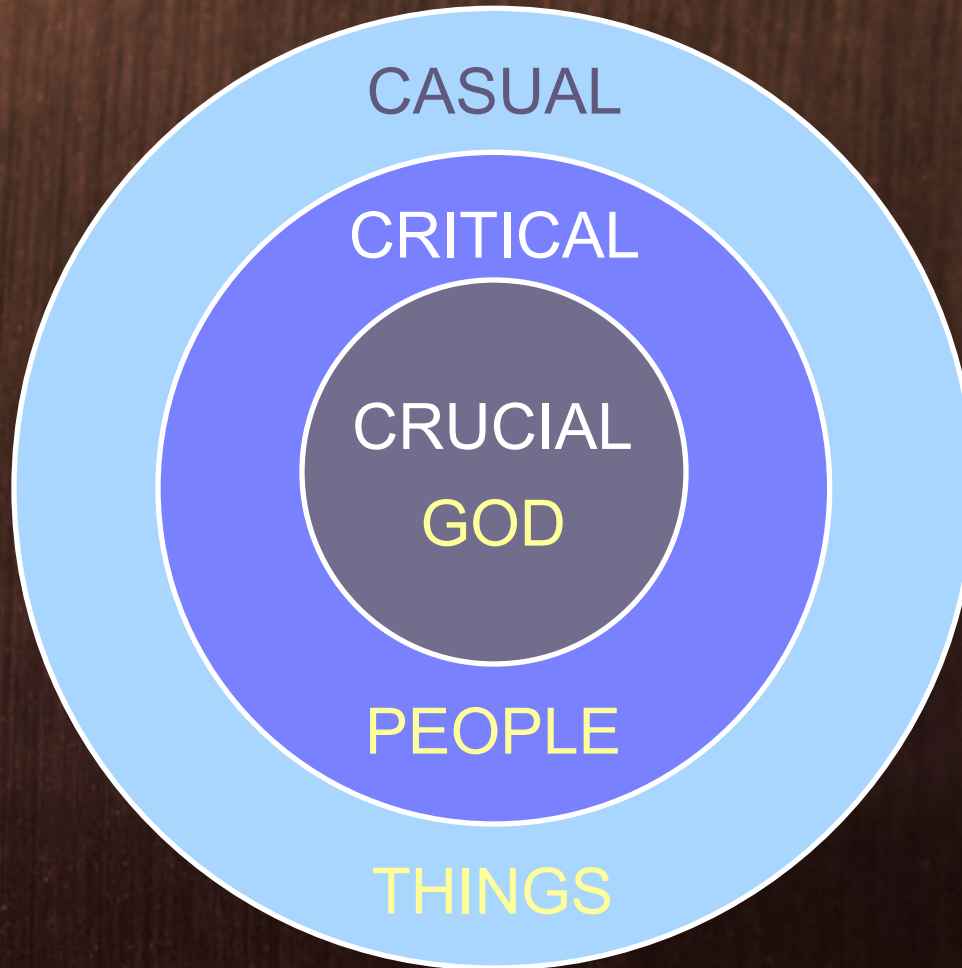
CRUCIAL
GOD



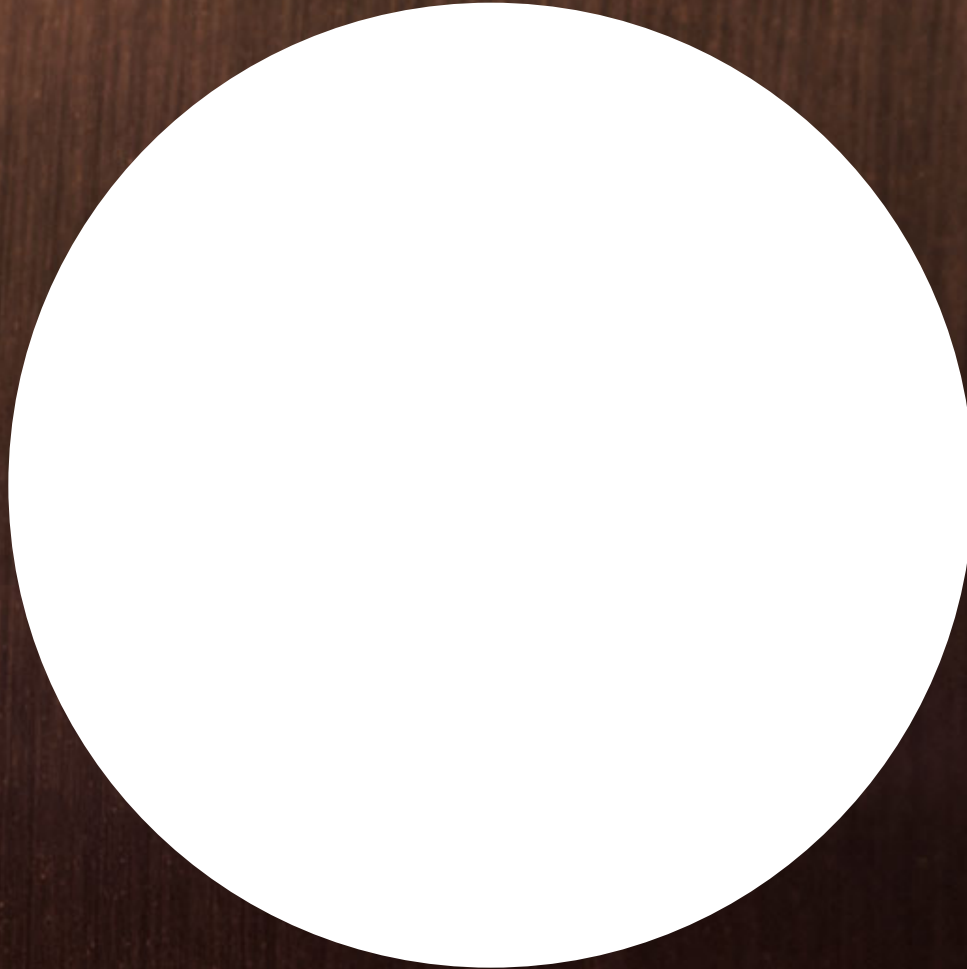
INSIDE OUT



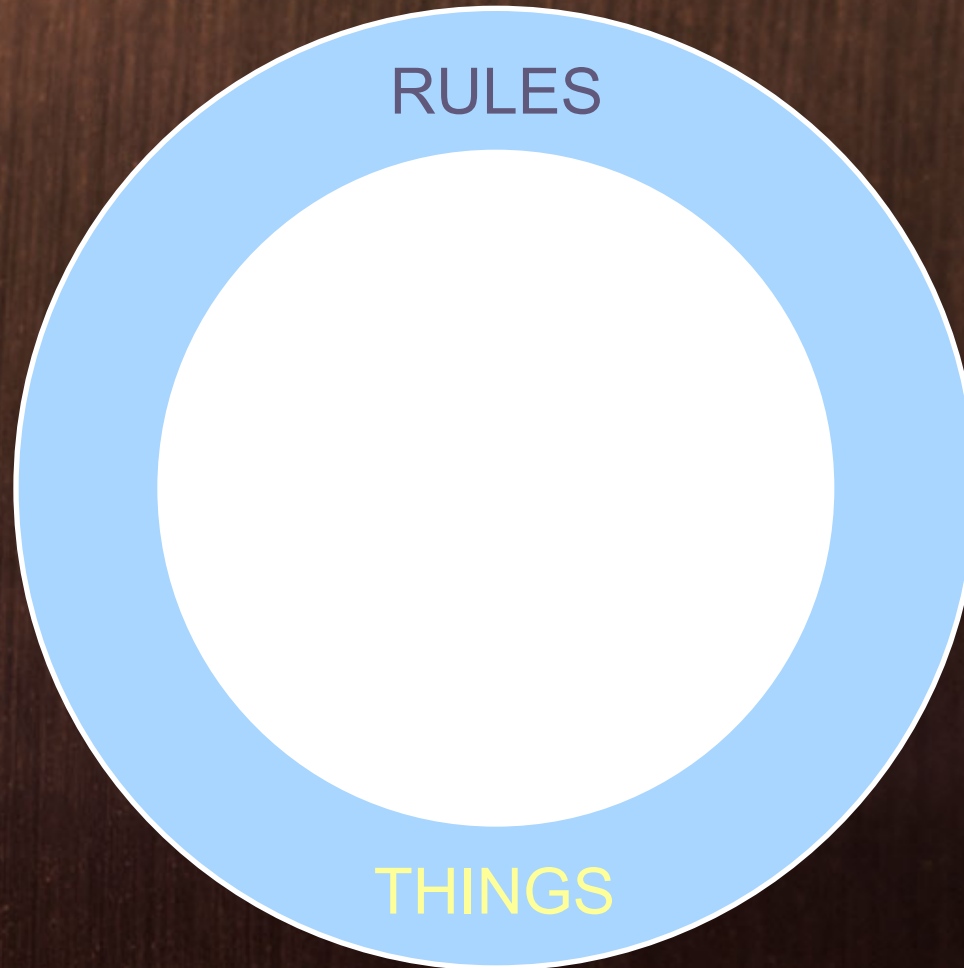
INSIDE OUT



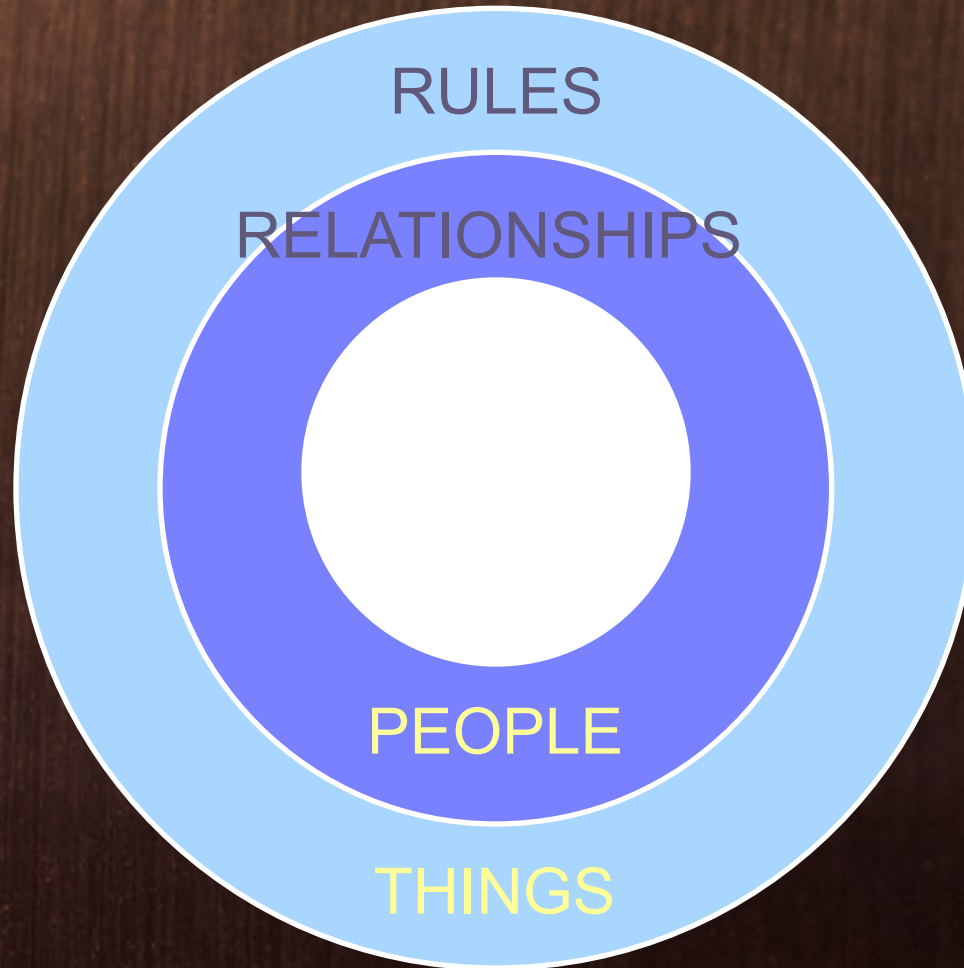
Change from the OUTSIDE IN



Change from the OUTSIDE IN

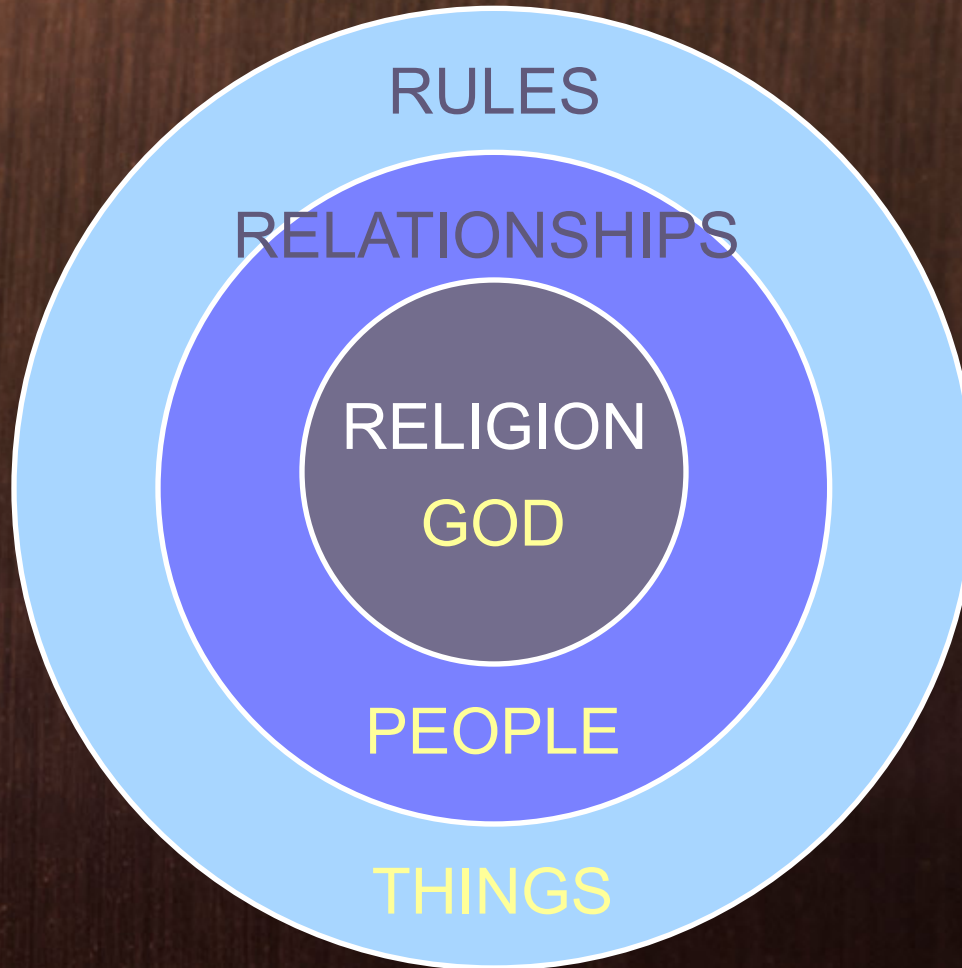


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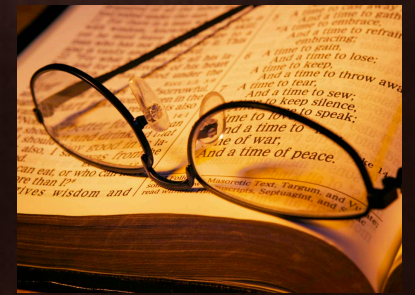


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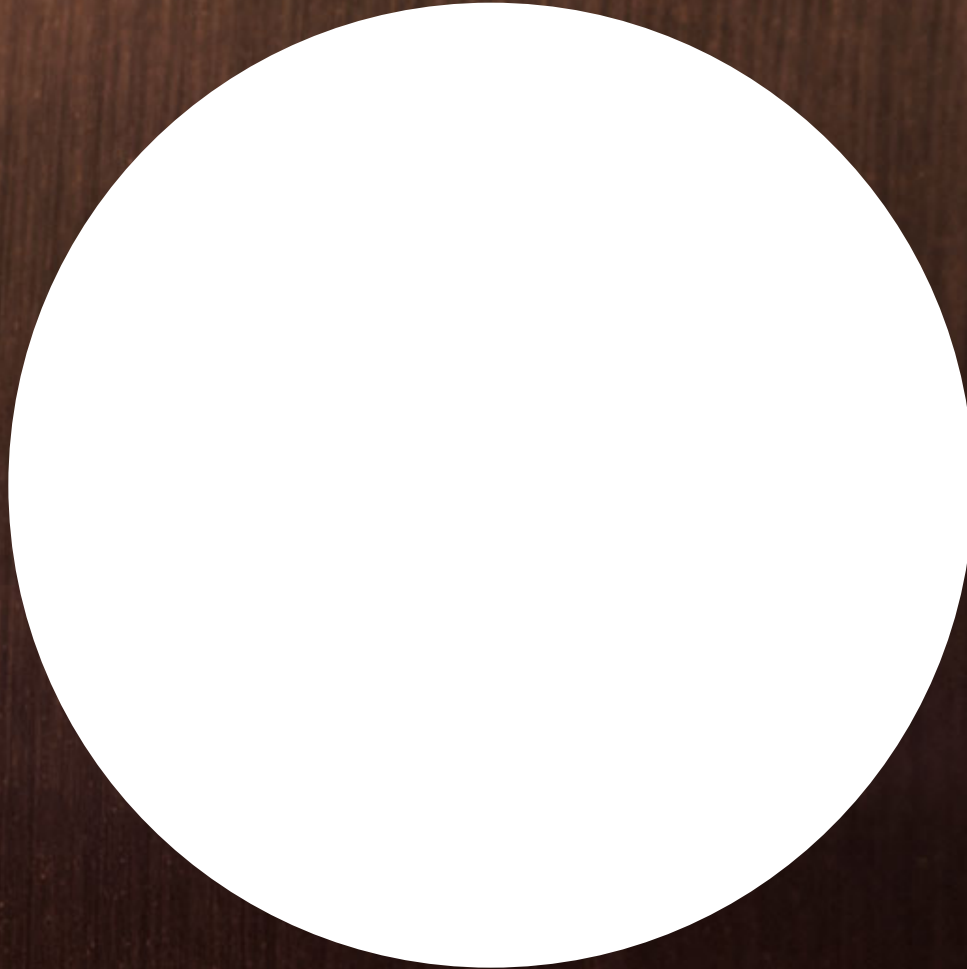
There is no happiness in **THINGS**, and setting **RULES** doesn't make problems go away



While **PEOPLE** are nice to have around, **RELATIONSHIPS** eventually disappoint



Change from the INSIDE OUT



Change from the INSIDE OUT

Meditation

Listening
to God

Prayer

RELIGION
GOD

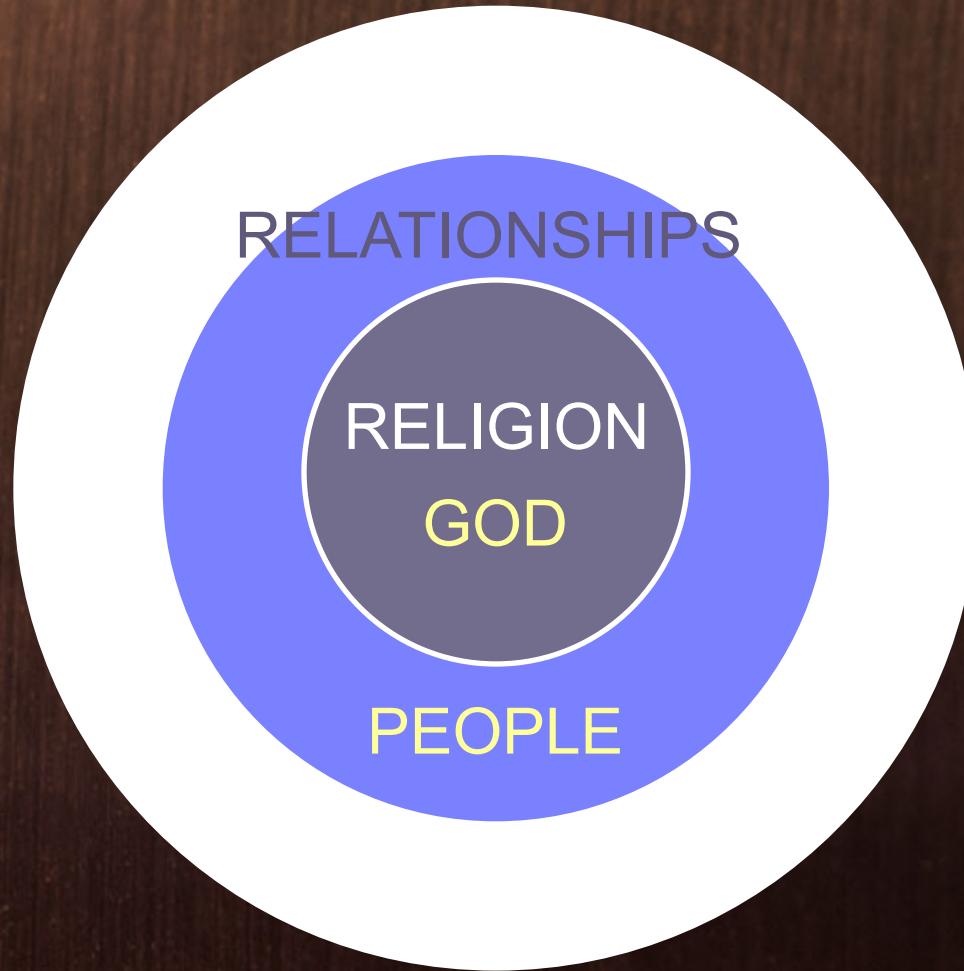


Change from the INSIDE OUT

Meditation

Listening
to God

Prayer

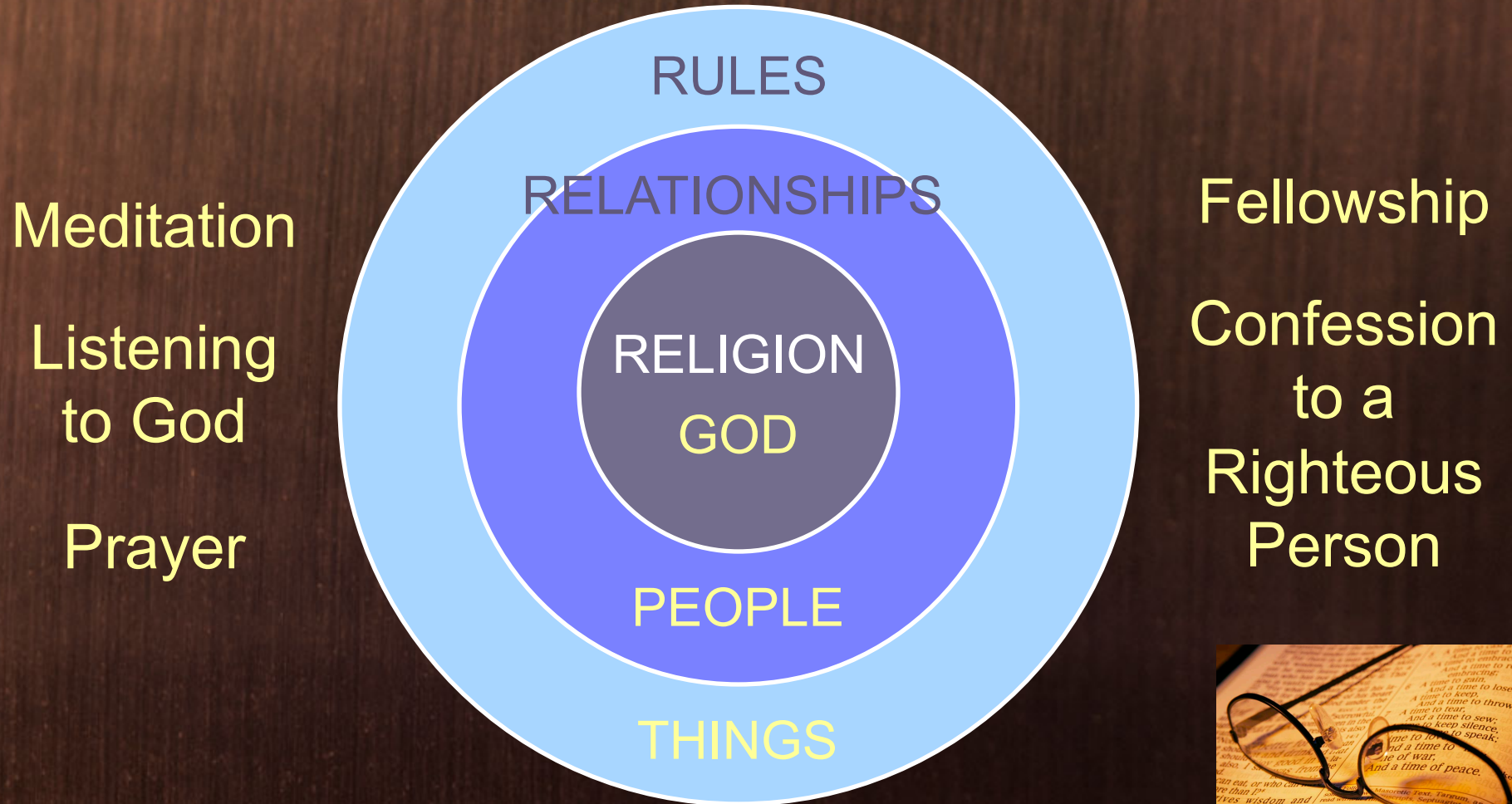


Fellowship

Confession
to a
Righteous
Person



Change from the INSIDE OUT



Rules & Regulations

