

# Identity Matters

## CONFERENCE

## WELCOME



**Download The IOM America App>>>**



# Identity Matters

**CONFERENCE**

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL

Workbook: Page 59

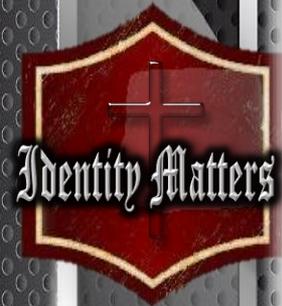


*Advancing Life Within*



# EXTERNAL / INTERNAL

External/Internal is an individual attempting to gain love, acceptance, and significance from external resources, which is idolatry. Since Godship sets up “self-rule,” the individual works to turn negative externals into positive ones, by making use of self-effort.



## Purpose of This Teaching

### Key Truth: External/Internal

Indwelt Christians need to be delivered from the deception that life is found externally in things or people or in Christian service. If believers do not know what external things or people that motivate them to change by self-effort – they cannot yield these idols to Christ for absolute deliverance & identity exchange.

### Key Verse

2 Corinthians 4:17-18, *For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

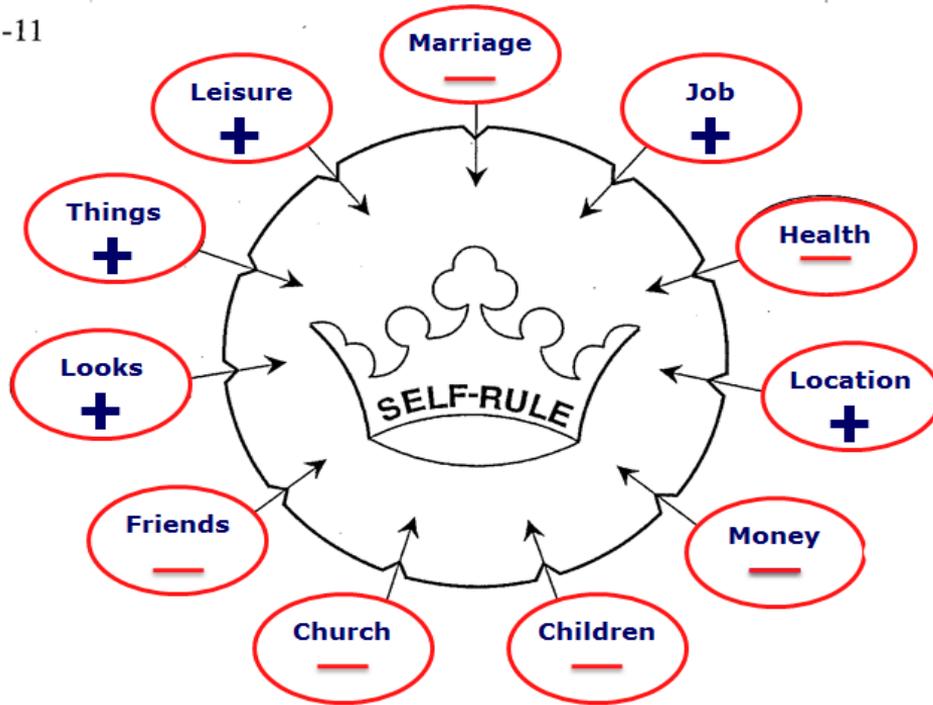
### Goals in Discipleship

To identify the idols in his/her life that need to be confessed. Christ is inviting us to admit to God that our focus has been in the wrong direction and that He wants to rule our lives through the great exchange of "Not I, but Christ."



## External/Internal Fulfillment

Eccl. 2:1-11



E/I-100

Workbook: Page 61

People attempt to find life and confess what they believe to be true about themselves from the source.

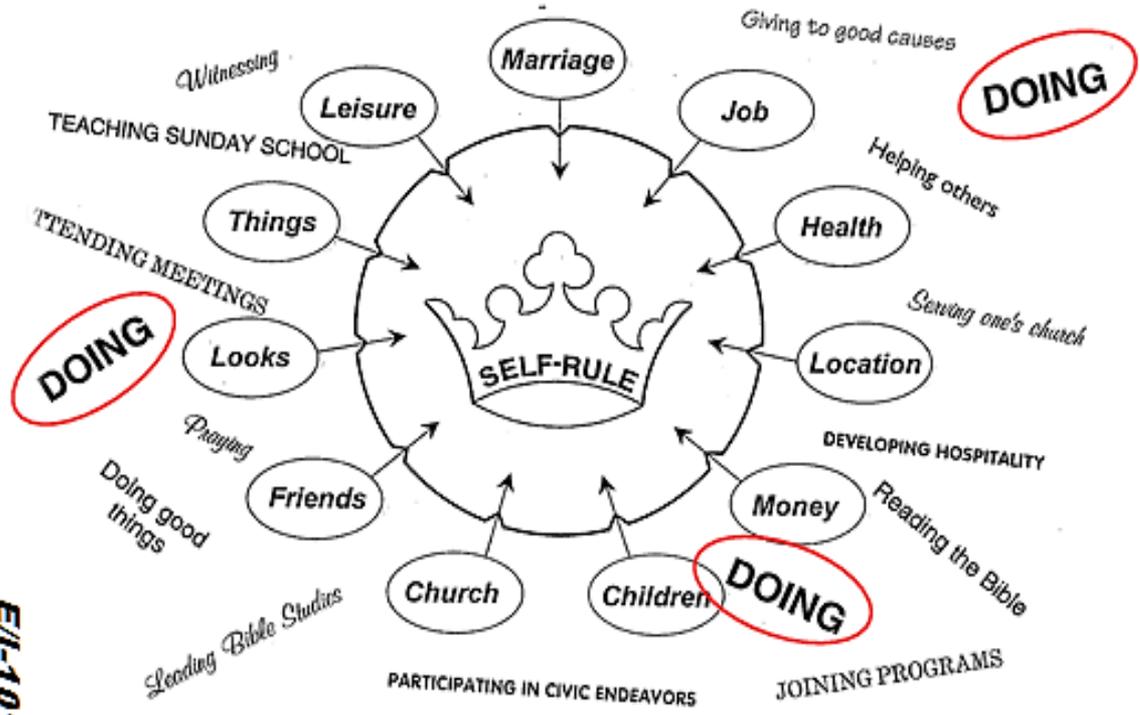
**The diagram is a picture of** a person's life. Central to this life is a crown showing self-rule and a person attempting to find life in external people, places, and things.

- **The arrows pointing inward** show the **attempt** to draw life from the outside – one of the biggest lies in which believers suffer.
- **For example:** Men often try finding fulfillment in a job; women often try seeking fulfillment in their marriage or children.
- **Self-rule**, or self-life, is an attempt to make the external things positive (+), to overcome what in reality is a big negative (-).
- **Since failure** to turn negatives into positives is certain, the believer becomes disappointed and thus, blames and condemns others for their "unhappiness."

**Discipler:** it is imperative that you find out which of these circled items are negative and positive in the disciple's life.

## Christians Doing To Get

Ecc. 1:14



Many times, an indwelt believer **does good things** when feeling life is unmanageable and out of control.

- **All these activities can be worthwhile** and are NOT necessarily wrong things.
- **But the focus is on external fulfillment**, resulting in more self-rule and fleshly deeds.
- **Notice how busy** this diagram looks. It reveals how being busy can overtake a person's life.
- **Many Christians are encouraged** to "get busy serving the Lord" and can experience burnout.
- **Satan wants us to focus on the externals** – for he is the god of the external things. God wants us to focus on the internal mind and Life of Christ.
- **External focus is legalism** – DOING.
- **Looking internally** is being focused on BEING who you are in Christ Jesus.

**Discipler:** Make sure your disciple makes a solid connection with external DOING vs. internal Life in Christ.



# Identity Matters

## Everything BUT God

- ✓ Call a friend for advice before going to Christ.
- ✓ Turn to food, drugs, and other externals to fill the vacuum.
- ✓ Try to figure it out with your own mind.
- ✓ Turn to external "self-help" resources to "figure it out."
- ✓ Buy something to distract you from the pain.
- ✓ Get more education to solve the problem.
- ✓ Get angry or become a "control freak" to get results.
- ✓ Work harder to overcome.
- ✓ Get overly busy to try to forget the real problem.
- ✓ Give money, time, and effort to soothe your conscience.
- ✓ Get divorced or get a new spouse.
- ✓ Move from church to church until you find an "ear tickler."
- ✓ Sleeping to escape the overwhelming circumstances.

*Lastly, they call on God!*

E/I-102

Workbook: Page 63

**Turning to everything but God** is most likely the biggest challenge for any indwelt believer.

- **One way man plays god** (Godship) is trying to solve problems without God.
- **People want to be "god"** of their own lives and live independently of God – fixing things before God has a chance to fix it.
- **Satan will provide** fascinating diversions to keep a person from coming to God, saved or not.
- **Even indwelt Christians do not** often think of coming to God first to seek His direction and comfort.
- **Key:** Jesus looked to His Father for *everything*. Wouldn't it behoove us to do the same?
- **Read John 5:30** to your disciple.

**Discipler:** Have your disciple read down the list aloud and note which "fixes" he/she has attempted to use in solving their "problems."

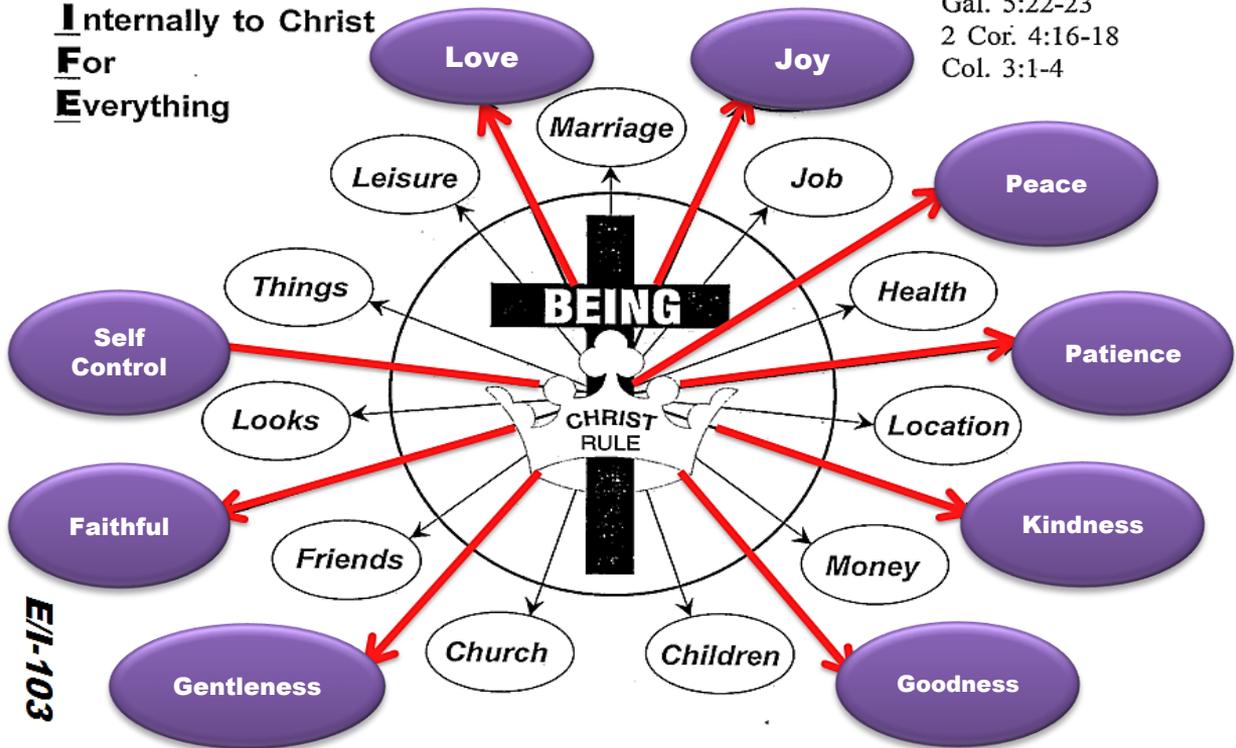


# Identity Matters

## Christ In You Doing

**Looking**  
**I**nternally to Christ  
**F**or  
**E**verything

Gal. 5:22-23  
2 Cor. 4:16-18  
Col. 3:1-4



E/I-103

**Christ doing the living** inside the believer is the starting point of the victorious life.

- **The Life of Christ** is expressed in the believer by way of the manifestation of the fruit of the Spirit, which is Christ's Spirit.
- **Doing has been replaced with BEING.** Now the believer is a human being, NOT a human doing. This person "looks internally to Christ for everything."
- **"Being" is resting in Christ** for the purpose of releasing Christ's doing through the believer. He gives the believer the practical doing from His Life and resources.
- **Now the focus is giving** instead of getting. The objective is to meet the needs of others at church, job, and home instead of looking to those people to meet our needs.
- **If Christ rules on the inside** of the believer, then victory for the person is experienced even when the externals remain negative.

**Discipler:** Have your disciple note that the arrows are pointed outward from the Life of Christ.

# BOTTOM LINE



**External/Internal is an individual attempting to gain love, acceptance, and significance from external resources, which is idolatry. Since Godship sets up “self-rule,” the individual works to turn negative externals into positive ones, by making use of self-effort.**

# IDENTITY MATTERS CONFERENCE

Up Next



# Identity Matters

**CONFERENCE**

## PROBLEMS PROBLEMS

Workbook: Page 67



*Advancing Life Within*

