

THE OCEAN WE SWIM IN

We live in an environment, an atmosphere, composed of ideas and beliefs & values we often don't _____

I. _____ YOURSELF

A. What Does It Mean?

- 1) The Elevation of the _____ : in the 60s & 70s many dropped out to find what would fulfill them
- 2) The Need for _____ : I can find myself only by rejecting what the authorities say I should be
- 3) It affects us: we don't look to authorities to shape us; rather we are in the place of _____ them

B. How Do We Resist This Pressure?

Rather than Find Myself, Find _____ *Matthew 13:44*

- 1) Finding Jesus is the greatest _____ we can find: the priceless riches of life are found in Him
- 2) It is a paradox: we cannot earn what Jesus offers, yet to trust & follow Jesus will cost us _____

II. FOLLOW YOUR _____

A. What Does It Mean?

- 1) This Slogan Makes an Implicit _____ : we will find the life we want only if we follow our hearts
- 2) This Slogan Implies a _____ : it pits the head against the heart (e.g Hallmark movies)
- 3) This Slogan Leverages _____ : If we don't follow our hearts, we will end up regretting it
- 4) This Slogan Often Gives Permission to _____ : doing what's right is equated w/ following your head

B. How Do We Resist This Pressure?

- 1) We must believe & teach our children a Biblical truth: our _____ are sinful—not trustworthy guides
 - a) Our hearts are desperately wicked (Jer.17:9)—filled w/ _____ thoughts, desires, words & actions
 - b) Our hearts are deceitful, which means that our own hearts seek to _____ us in these ways
- 2) We must walk in step with the Holy _____ (Galatians 5:25)
 - a) Not by following our _____
 - b) Because the Holy Spirit is the _____ of the Bible, He will always lead us in line with this Book

III. YOU BE _____

A. What Does It Mean?

- 1) This slogan focuses on _____ : it implies that only you can determine who you really are
 - a) Even pre-adolescents can determine their _____ identity
 - b) “ Homosexuals are _____ that way”
- 2) This slogan powerfully argues that no entity has the _____ to doubt what you say your identity is
- 3) Therefore, this slogan argues the right to express your self-defined identity is a matter of _____
Examples: a) The Obergefell decision by the Supreme Court that legalized _____ marriage
b) The state laws enshrining rights to _____ healthcare & Biden's recent Title IX regulation

B. How Do We Resist This Pressure?

- 1) We must affirm the biological _____ that the Creator gave us and reject the LGBTQ+ agenda
- 2) We must clearly & publicly identify as Bible-believing _____ —teaching our children by example
- 3) We must find our “true selves” by our identity in _____ as emphasized by the Apostle Paul