

# DEFENSIVENESS: THE REFUSAL TO ADMIT TRUTH

















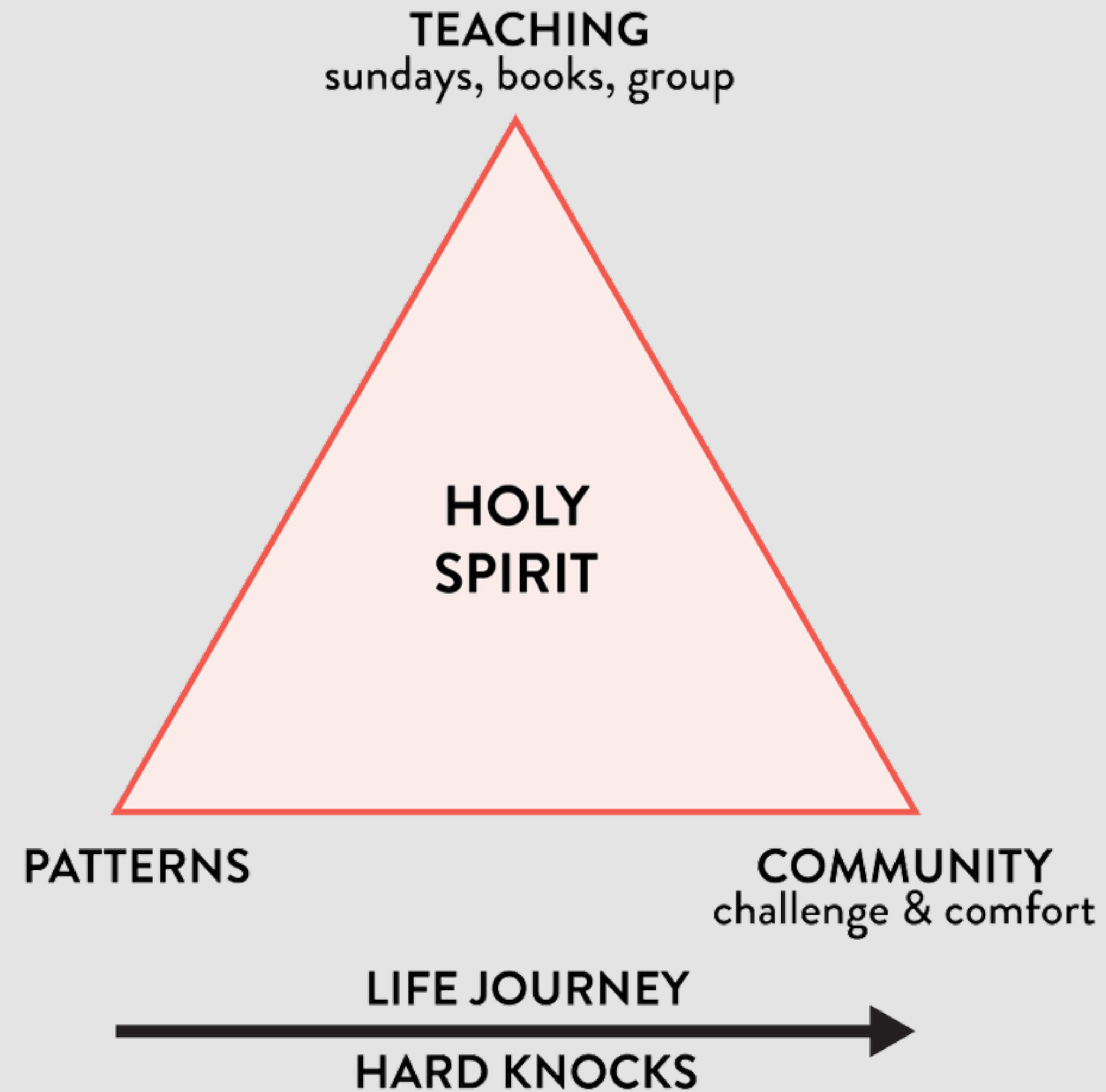




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**Defensiveness:  
The Refusal To  
Admit Truth**

## INTENTIONAL SPIRITUAL FORMATION

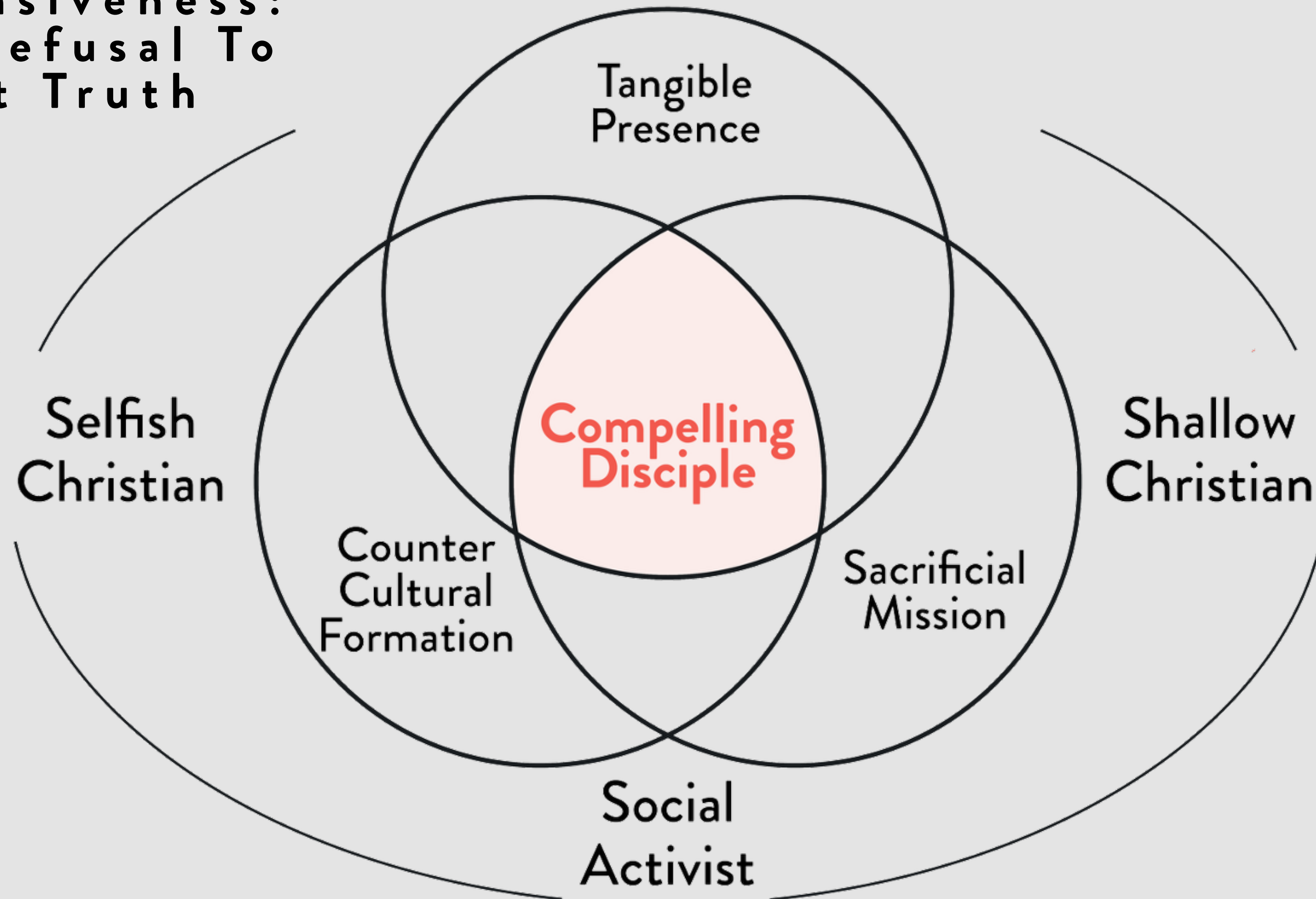




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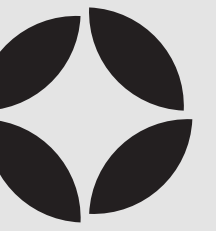
## Defensiveness: The Refusal To Admit Truth

Awaken 365



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### The Steps Toward Transformation

God often begins His transforming work by confronting three obstacles:

1. Defensiveness – the refusal to admit truth.
2. Blame – the tendency to hold others responsible for our condition.
3. Bargaining – resisting full surrender by negotiating with God.





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“In the place of your deepest failure and shame, you are loved most tenderly.”

“Your deepest fears were already borne by your Saviour.”

“Your sins were exposed and dealt with at the cross. The battle is already over”





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## Overview of the Bible

### The Inspiration of the Bible:

*All Scripture is God-breathed (inspired) and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

**— 2 Timothy 3:16-17**





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**Romans 14:12:** “So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.”

**James 5:16:** “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”

**1 Peter 2:24:** “He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.”





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John Ortberg beautifully captures this reality:

*“The reason we are defensive is that we are afraid of being exposed. The gospel teaches us that in Christ, we are fully known and fully loved at the same time”*





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*“We are in need of a new way of seeing ourselves... Only in Christ can we find this transformation.”*

— *Dallas Willard*



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*“To surrender to God is not to give up our will, but to give up our right to our will. It is not about submitting to God’s rule reluctantly, but willingly and without reservation.”*

— A. W. Tozer





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*“The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried.”*

— **G.K. Chesterton**





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*“All of God’s demands are His enablements.  
Whatever God asks, He provides the grace to  
accomplish.”*

— *Chambers*