

Personal/Group Training Guide
Week of 10/7/18

“Who Are You?”
“The Solution”

- (1) In last week’s sermon and training guide, we looked at some of the characteristics of the false self - fear, being possessive, protective, and manipulative. Have you tried to overcome these tendencies on your own efforts? Discuss what you tried. How effective were your efforts?
- (2) The first point in this week’s sermon was that the “solution” to overcoming our false self and living as our true self is found in the cruciform love of God. What is the meaning of the term cruciform love? How does knowing that God has provided the solution impact your perspective of God?
- (3) Read 2 Corinthians 4:6-7. Discuss the concepts in these verses. How do they relate to our false self and true self?
- (4) How does the reference that we are like “jars of clay” impact your view of yourself? Discuss this analogy in regard to suffering/sacrifice. Share what you know about Paul’s willingness to suffer for Christ. How do you think his “jars of clay” reference relates to his willingness to suffer?
- (5) Read Romans 5:6-8. Discuss these verses (particularly vs. 8) in relation to our false self and true self. What does this say regarding God and His love for us?
- (6) Discuss this quote from *The Deeper Journey*. “The cross is not something God did on a hillside outside Jerusalem. The cross is a revelation of who God is in the very core of God’s being.”
- (7) Read Matthew 16:24. The false self (our self-referenced being) is what Paul is saying to deny. Is there something that you find most difficult to deny in regard to your false self? What characteristics of the false self do you currently see as being most prevalent in our culture?
- (8) Read Revelation 3:14-22. What do you see as the greatest challenge for the church of Laodicea? What characteristics are being challenged/called out in the letter to them?
- (9) Verse 20 is significant in relation to the “solution” of finding our true self. How so? There is a participatory component on our part. Explain what this is?
- (10) Read 2 Corinthians 4:10-11. Explain in your own words what Paul is saying in these verses. What must happen in order for our true self to be revealed?