

IT IS NOT ALL ABOUT ME

Or ... Modern Day Bereans

Or ... Christian Re-Orientation

Based on *You Who* by Rachel Jankovic

CAVEATS

Rachel is not an inspired writer

We are not supplementing the Bible, but examining the culture

PURPOSE

**Examine the worldly
philosophical foundations
that plague or culture.**

Put into words what you already know.
Encourage you to see the struggle in others
And to think of new ways to offer a lifeline

The Setup

Draw the class in

- We are not here for *self-love* because we want something better, something *true*
- Soft teaching makes hard hearts and hard teaching makes soft hearts
- If you do not face the fact that we sin, there will be no joy in looking to a Savior
- Truth telling doesn't always go down easy, but when it finally does, the dying patient gets better

“That lost-self cry of “Who am I?” Is the cry of a person who suddenly realizes that the philosophy he has been following around in the grocery store isn’t his mother after all”

You Who?

Philosophy on Clearance

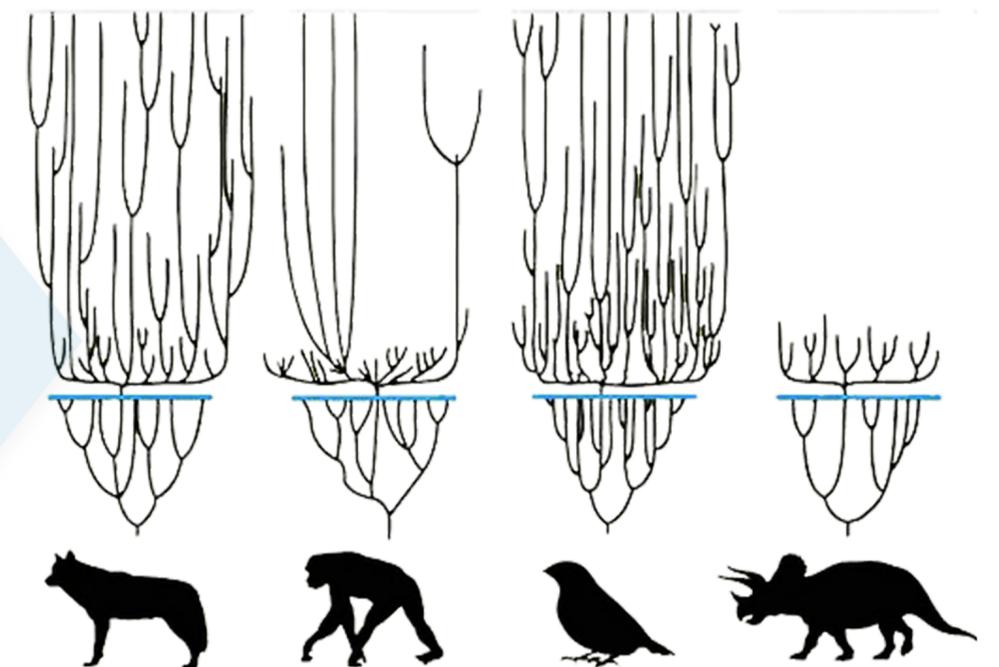
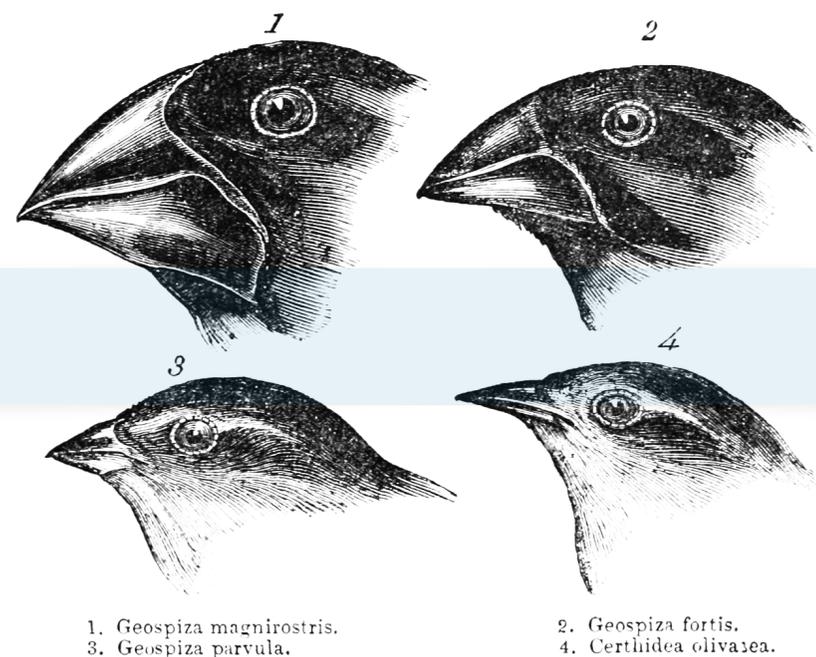
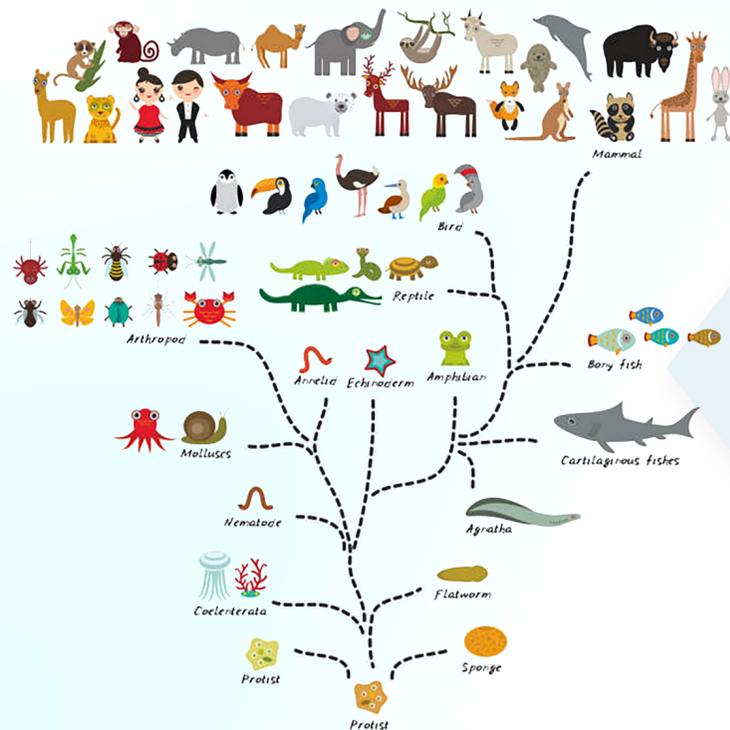
What are you wearing?

- Colossians 2:4 The Bible warns not of philosophy in general, but philosophical deception
- Read Fashion Analogy Excerpt *
- Abercrombie and Fitch example
 - What are some examples of people unknowingly promoting things we shouldn't

Philosophical Roots

Which star guides you?

- Unbelieving philosophies of the self begin with the assumption that there is no God.
- We have been living in a society that has been assuming there is no God for a long time. (Ask a fish “How’s the water? And he will reply “what is water”?)



After studying philosophy “I have not stopped seeing the problem of the self out on the streets in all of its shiny confusion”

Rachel Jankovic

Who am I?

What am I for?

What makes me who I am in essence?

Am I able to change that?

Can another person change that?

Am I the same person I have always been?

What is the essential me?

Where is the essential me?

How do I find out?

How do I come into being?

How do we know we have one essence, one self through time, per person?

Are you the same person (in essence) as you were as a child?

What if you go through some major change?

Can your identity be taken away from you?

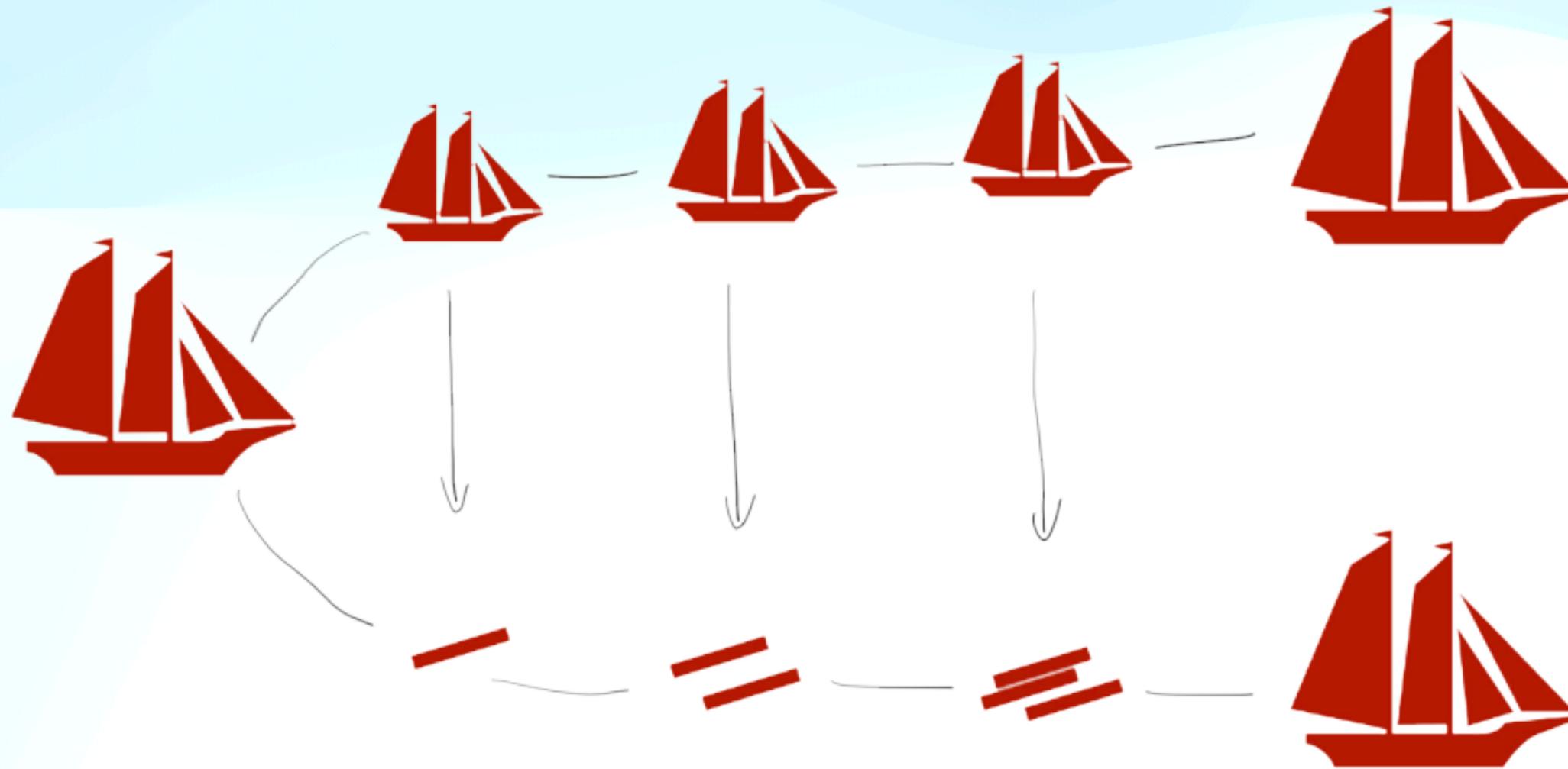
Can your self be lost?

What is the nature of the continuity of the self?

Am I who I have always been?

SHIP OF THESEUS

Which ship is the real ship of Theseus?



What is the Essence of You?

- Is it your body?
 - Your cells are replaced over time is the young you or old you the real you?
 - What about massive weight loss? You feel, look and behave different
- Is it Memories? Continuity
 - You remember youth and being large
 - But what if memory is lost?

What gives humans higher value?

- Is it our brains and rational thought?
 - What about elderly and babies that do not have rational thought
 - What about a brain injury

“Our society is like a home needing a remodel. The floorboards are rotten. We need to evaluate the damage and what needs to be torn out. Later we will deal with what to put in instead.”

NIHILISM

A softball to Christianity

EXISTENTIALISM

You are the pen, the ink, and the poem



Jean-Paul Sartre & Simone de Beauvoir

The blind leading the blind

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**Self Help:
Social Media**

**Maslow:
Pyramid**

**Sarte:
Existentialism**

**Neiche:
Nihilism**

**Darwin:
Evolution**

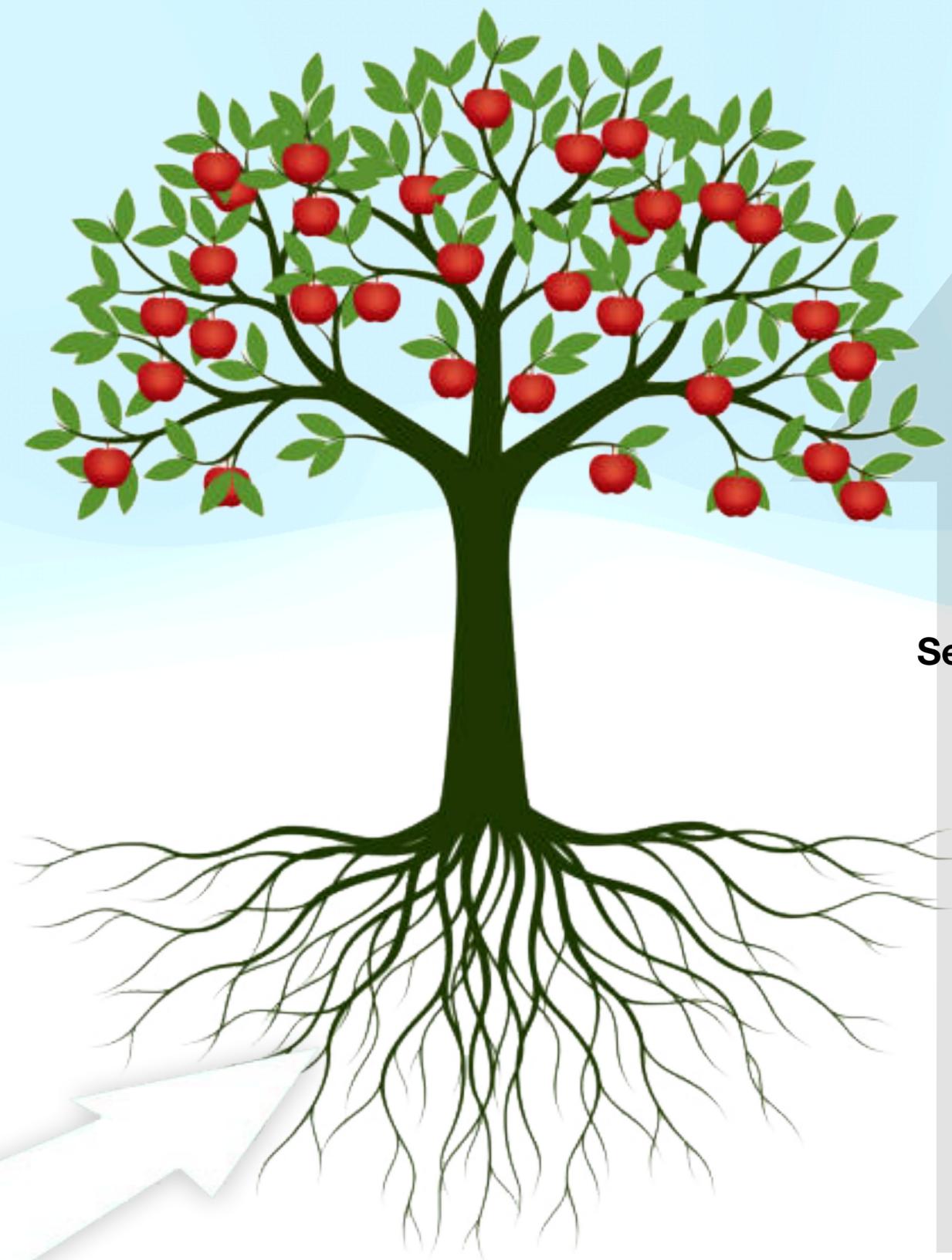
NO GOD

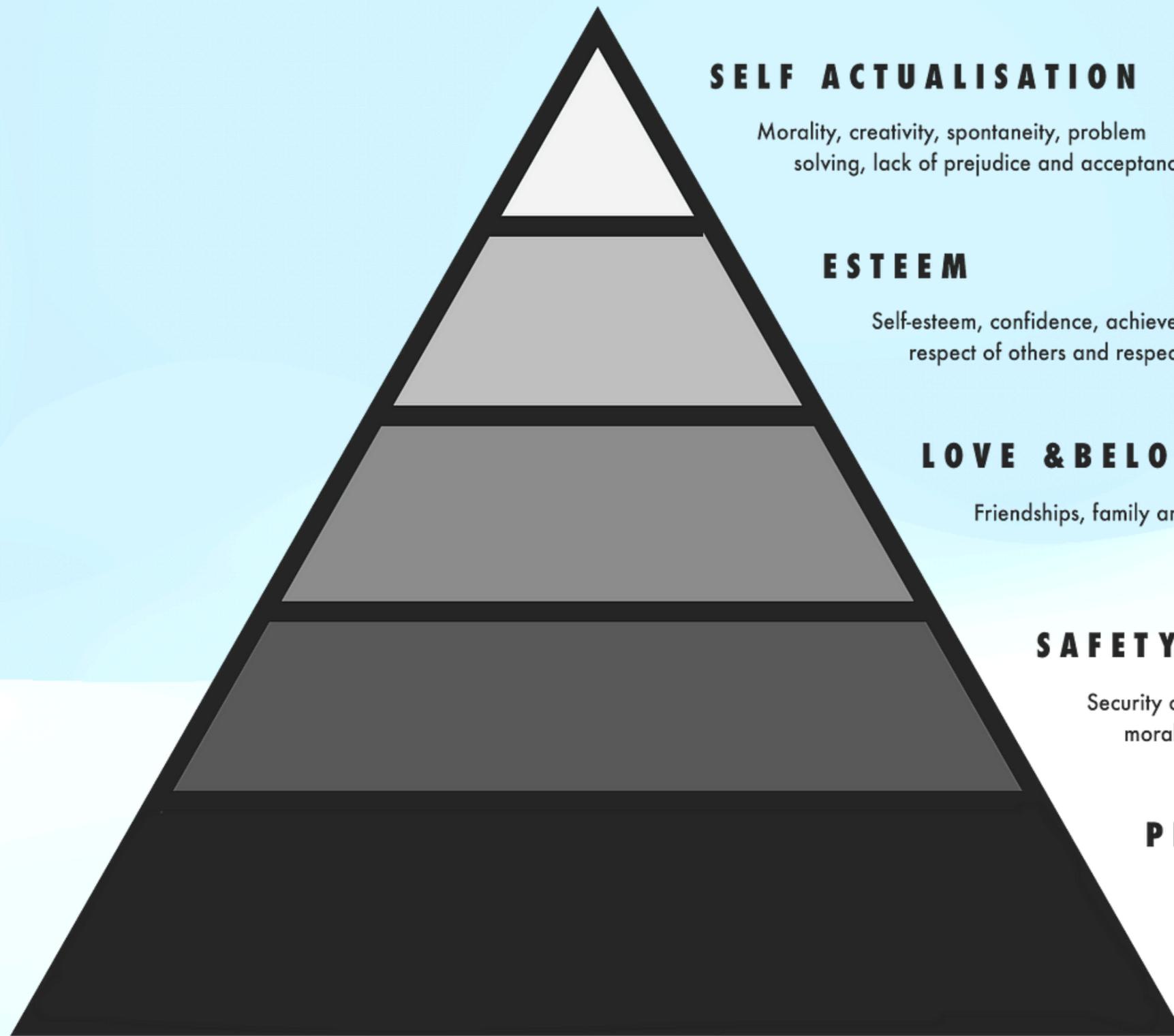
**Fruits
of the
Spirit**

Seek First

Bible

GOD





SELF ACTUALISATION

Morality, creativity, spontaneity, problem solving, lack of prejudice and acceptance of facts.

ESTEEM

Self-esteem, confidence, achievement, respect of others and respect by others.

LOVE & BELONGING

Friendships, family and sexual intimacy.

SAFETY

Security of: body, employment, recourses, morality, the family, health and property.

PHYSIOLOGICAL

Breathing, food, water, sex, sleep, homeostasis and excretion.

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



MASLOW

Atheistic father of Humanistic Psychology

#1 basis of counseling, life coaching and self help

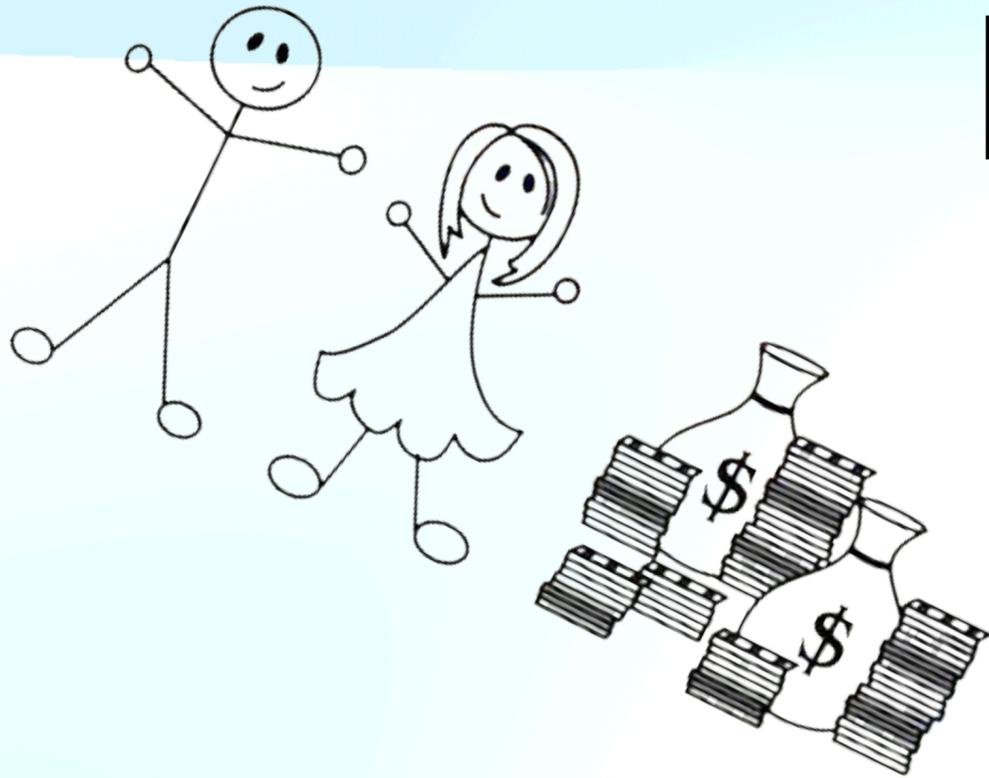
The Story of You

You have a beginning, a middle, and an end

**ICED
COFFEE
QUEEN**



BUMPER STICKER LIFE STORY



*Jesus
is my
BFF*

What are some results of this philosophy?

Starting with the wrong premise

- What about the mother who decides to stay home with the kids instead of pursuing a career?
- What about people who never have the means to get beyond the basic needs? People in history?
- Final goal is to feel right in the world... What is wrong with that?
- Are relationships just part of your personal journey to a best self?
- How does it deal with pain and depression?
- Is crime because of needs not met or because man is sinful?
- Do some people have an unfair head start on the pyramid?
- Should you not get married before both of you reach the third rung?
- How does abortion relate to the story of self? Does this give a new perspective of the worldly struggle?

Seek Ye First

Mathew 6
2 Peter 1:5

In Christianity, the self is always a tool and never a destination.

We lay down our own interests and see others as more important. We work to give to others rather than consume others on our way to our new, completed selves.

“Edit your life frequently and ruthlessly. It’s your masterpiece after all.”

Nathan W. Morris



**You cannot as a character, out
write the Author of you.**

Self Created

Human Value begins with Self Expression

**Fundamental Right to Life is the
Right to Person Making**

Right to Personal Expression

**Pro Choice is simply the right
To be the author of your story**

**Allowing children to transition
Is honoring the beginnings of
self expression**

God Created

Human Value begins at Conception

Value is from what God did

Fundamental Right to Life is from God

**Pro Life is honoring the value
Of life from God**

**We honor our body as a
Gift from God, a temple**

Which Creator do we honor?

Thought Questions

Effects of self narrative

- How do people use “counter-cultural” symbols to pretend that they are not blindly following the culture? Why would this be important to people?
- Describe how the “narrative of the self” incentivizes and even encourages gay marriage, transgender surgery, and all sorts of contemporary weirdness
- Why do you think these things are more common now than 100 years ago?

The more important “self-creation” is to people, the more they will need to make specifically counter-cultural decisions just to prove themselves to themselves.

“At the heart of liberty is the right to define one’s own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life.” - Justice Anthony Kennedy (for gay marriage)

(green hair, body mod, trans)

Given all the imaginary set up, do you see why it would feel like HATE if Christians did not “*affirm*” your story?

John 15: 18-25

The *self-created you* and the *God-created you* do not go together like ham and eggs.... They go together more like a living body with a dead limb.

**ICED
COFFEE
QUEEN**



**If He truly bought you with His blood, he
did not do so in order to get a
sponsorship position in *your* life**



Either your Savior is becoming tiny and insignificant
Or
Your hobbies are rising to idolatrous levels

**Jesus
IS MY
BFF**

“I’m really trying to get my focus back on God”

“Jesus, take the wheel. Take it from my hands.”

“Let go and let God”

What might be wrong about these kinds of phrases?

Many try to keep their self identity and Jesus too.

Keep our worldliness and let Jesus drive occasionally.

Mark 10: 17-31

None of self and all of Thee

How can Jesus both Love us and Hate the identities we are fashioning?

“In God’s eyes, you can do no wrong”

**Jesus Christ came to this earth,
suffered, and died so that you might die.**

Baptism is a symbol of death for a reason

The Phil you are looking for is dead.

