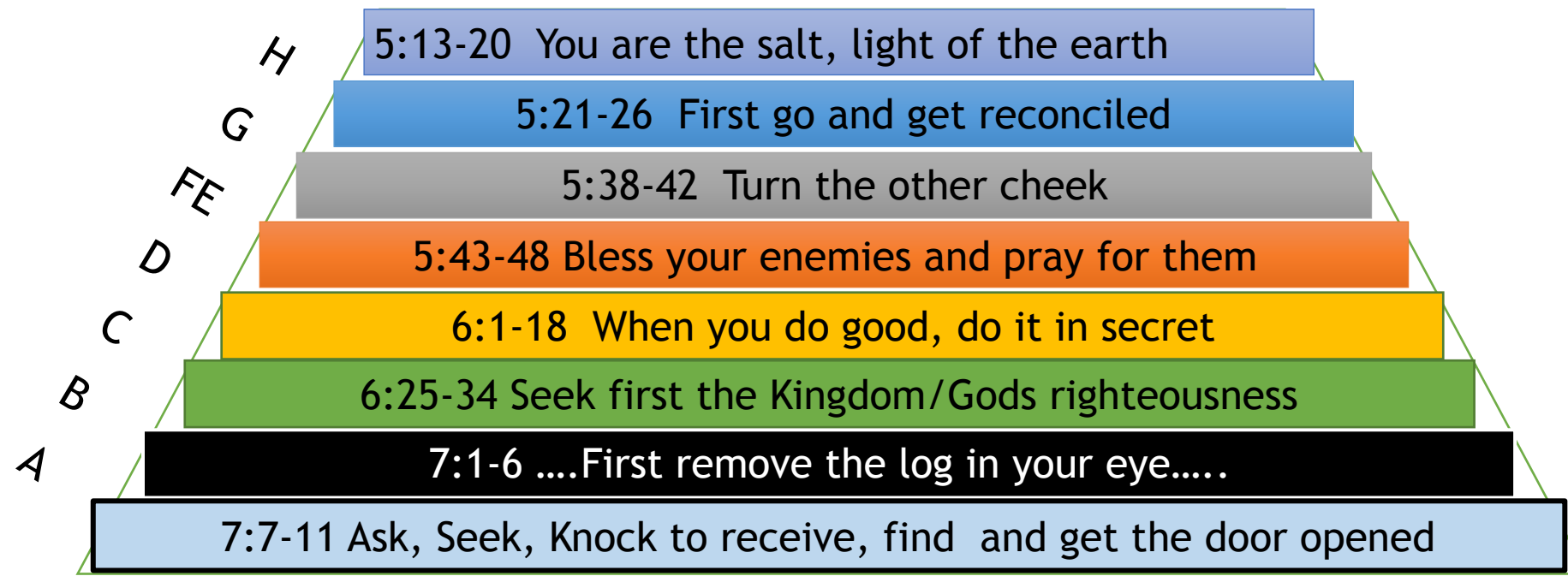
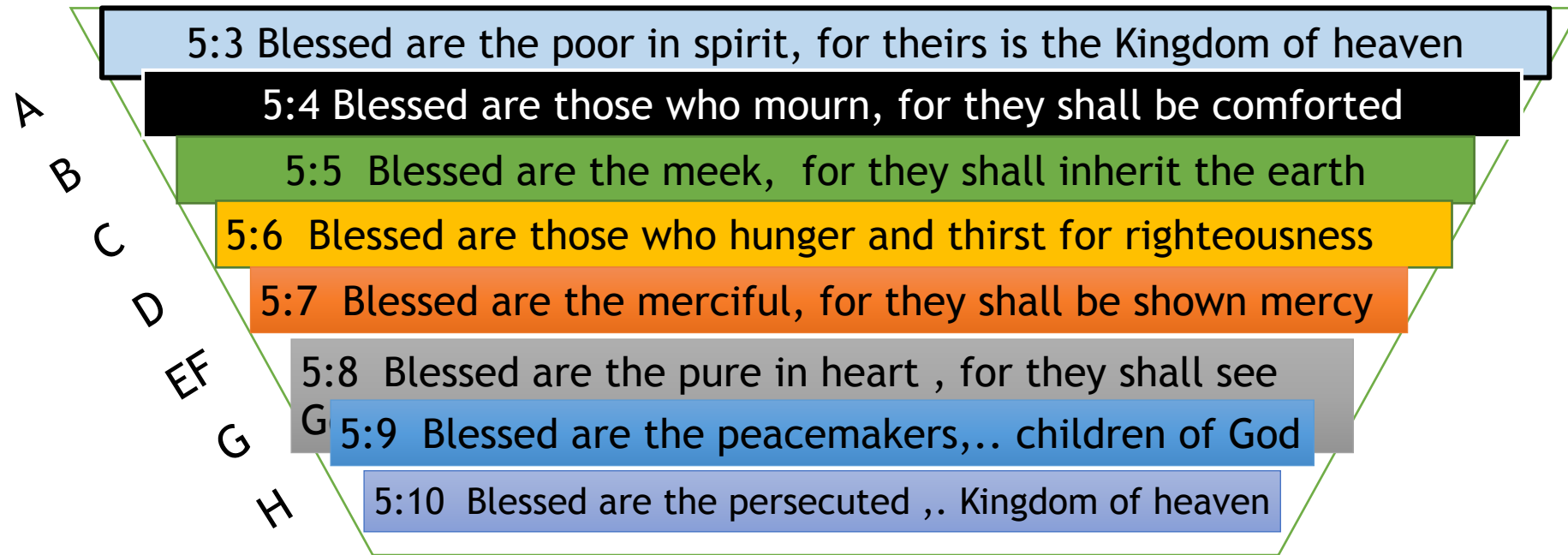


Be-ATTITUDES

8 STATEMENTS OF FAITH FOR A CHRISTIAN





PEACE (Hebrew- "shalom", Greek-"Eirene")

- *“Being free from disturbance. Tranquillity. True peace includes personal wholeness, righteousness, harmony God’s paradise”.*
- God is its source and the giver of peace to others (Ps 29:11- The Lord blesses His people with peace).
- Its not the absence of war that makes peace, but the Presence of God
- The one who keeps God's law has great peace (Ps 119:165).
- Frequently peace and righteousness are linked together (Isaiah 48:18).

#7: Blessed are peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God

- People who have become sons of God have the character of their heavenly Father. Jesus= Prince of Peace
- We know from Scripture that their heavenly Father is a "God of peace" ([Romans 16:20](#))
- We know that God is a peacemaker!
 - "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them" ([2 Corinthians 5:19](#)).
 - He made peace by the blood of the cross ([Colossians 1:20](#)).

Beatitudes have to do with the way we see ourselves before God, and therefore the way we relate with fellow (wo)man



"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Reconciliation takes precedence over worship

Mat 5:22-24 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Mat 18:15 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.

Matthew 5:43–45

You have heard that it was said, "*You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust*".

Merciful, pure and the peacemakers in God's family

- If we don't obtain mercy----judgment.
- If we don't see God----misery now and after.
- If we aren't called the sons of God----outside the family.
- Jesus is describing the pathway to heaven, urging us to get on that pathway and stay on that pathway so that we can be called sons of God at the last judgment.

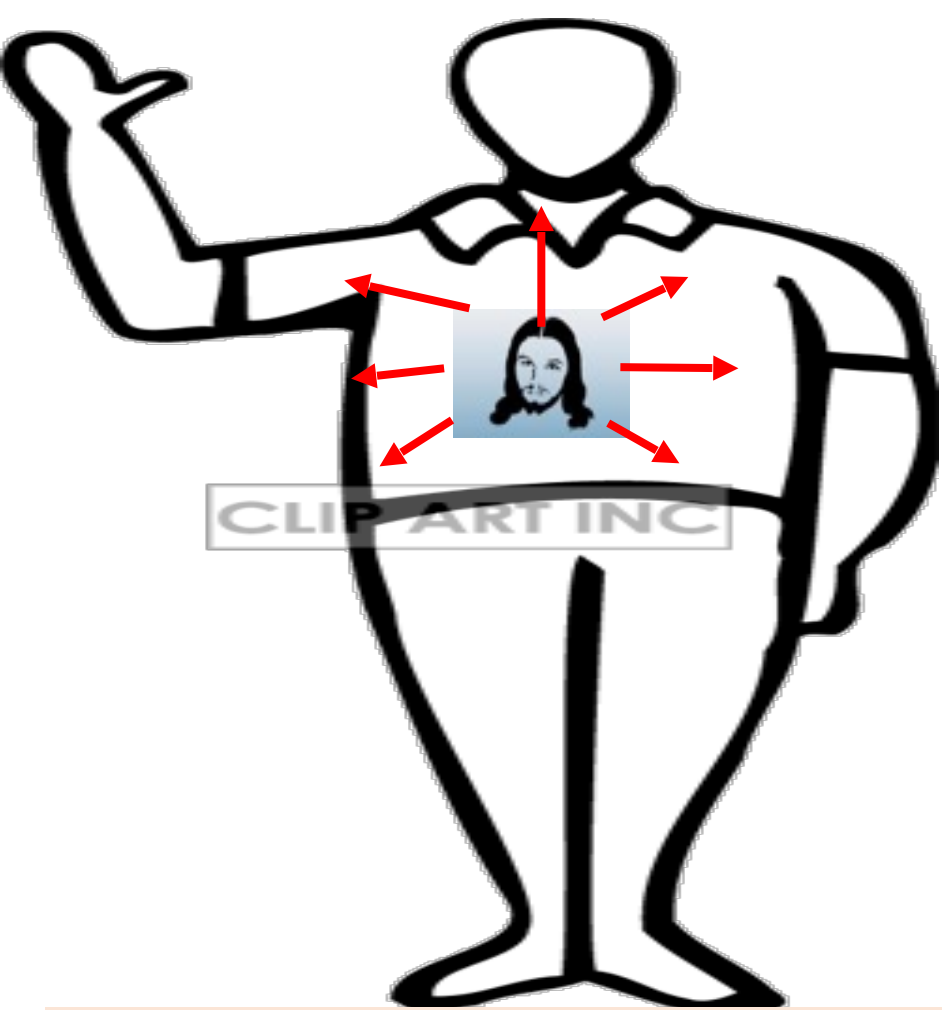
Qualities of a disciple?

Peace breaker, Peace keeper, Peace maker?



The Peacemaker is the peace preacher.

Rom 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.



Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

The goal of the Peacemaker:

If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all ([Romans 12:18](#))

Don't let the rupture in the relationship be your fault.

The nature of God's peace

God's peace never evades issues. It does not gloss or hide, rationalize or excuse. It confronts problems and tries to solve them. And after the problems are solved it builds a bridge between those who were separated by the problems. It often brings its own struggle, pain, hardship and anguish, because such are often the price of healing. It is not the peace that can be brought by kings, presidents, prime ministers or diplomats. It is the inner personal peace that only He can give to the soul of man and only His children can exemplify

John

MacArthur

Pure in Heart are the Peacemakers

- Because you cannot give what you don't have

Joh 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

2Pe 1:2 May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

The peacemaker looks the enemy right in the eye and says, "Good morning, John." And he says it with a longing for peace in his heart, not with a phony aspect of politeness to cover his anger.

Peace busters

1. Contentiousness

Pro 26:21 As charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife—The Q is “what is wrong?”

2. Gossip and Slander

Pro 16:28 A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends.

Before you repeat something:

- Is it true?
- Is it needed?
- Is it complete?

3. Seeking vengeance

Rom 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

“God, I pray that I will never let any man to pull me so low as to make me hate him.”

“Forgiveness is not an occasional act, it is a constant attitude.”



“I have decided to stick to love...Hate is too great a burden to bear.”

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.”

“Those who are not looking for happiness are the most likely to find it, because those who are searching forget that the surest way to be happy is to seek happiness for others.”

Pursue peace

1Pe 3:10-12

For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit; let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it.

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

Wisdom=peace making

James 3:17

"The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable."

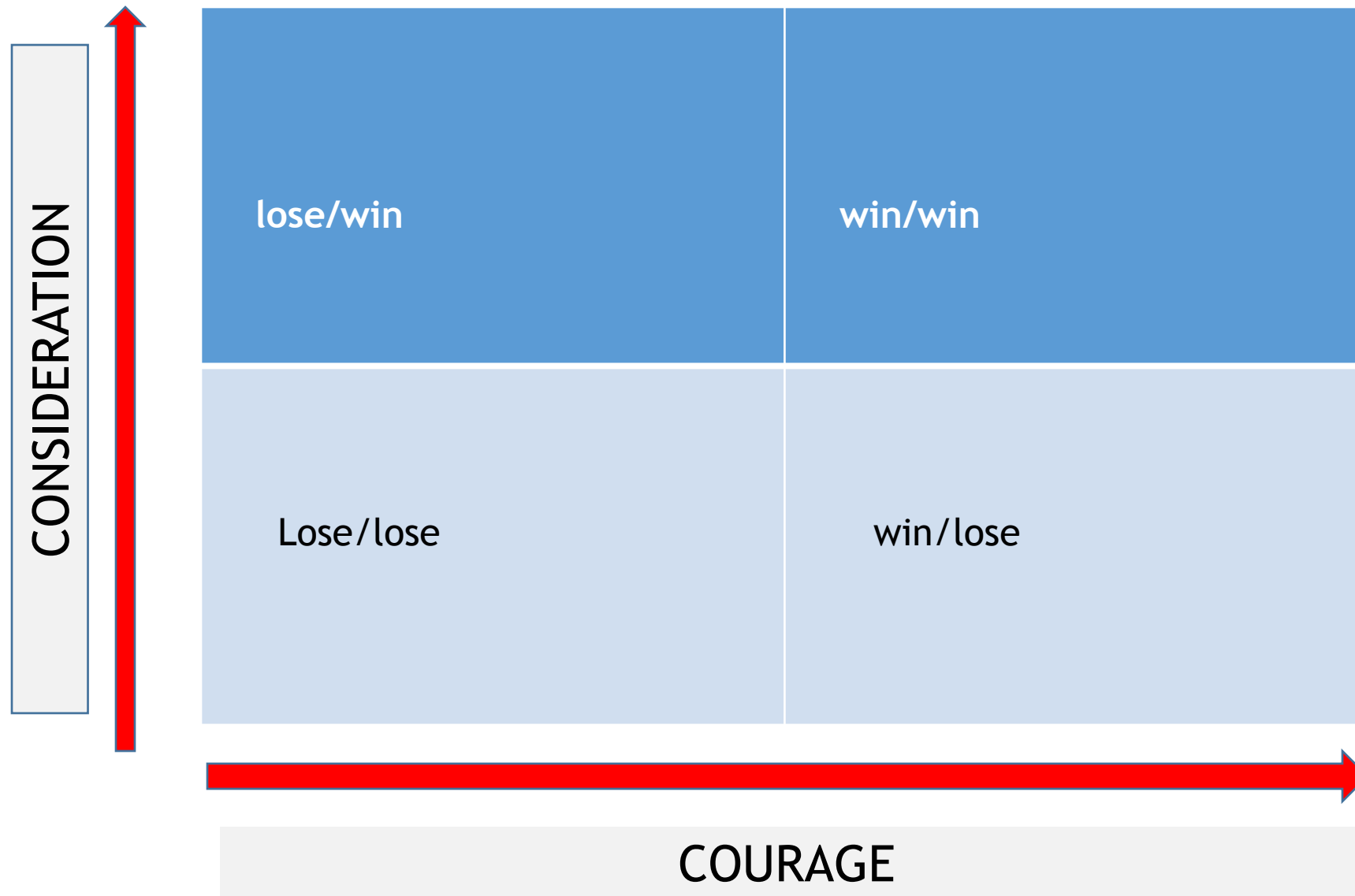
The happiness of the peacemaker is its own reward

And that is the order we have in the beatitudes also

Purity is the basis of biblical peace.

Purity may not be compromised in order to make peace.

A peacemaker-Courage and consideration



Divine limitation to peace

Act 5:29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

#8 Blessedness of Persecution

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matt 5: 10-12

Is this teaching outdated?

According to the World Christian Encyclopedia, 16% (224 million) of all Christians live in countries where there is severe state interference and harassment.

[2 Timothy 3:12](#), "Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

- 1st beatitude: condition of becoming a citizen of the Kingdom
- 8th beatitude: Character of one who has become a citizen-exposed to scorn, opposition, persecution as a result of righteousness
- In this beatitude, the disciple is triumphing by the sheer spiritual power of the Kingdom over forces of opposition.
- Living according to the first seven beatitudes guarantees one to experience the eighth at some point
- Those who live righteously will inevitably be persecuted for it.
- Godliness generated hostility and antagonism from the world
- The crowing feature of the happy person is persecution

2Ti 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,

Joh 15:18-20 "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

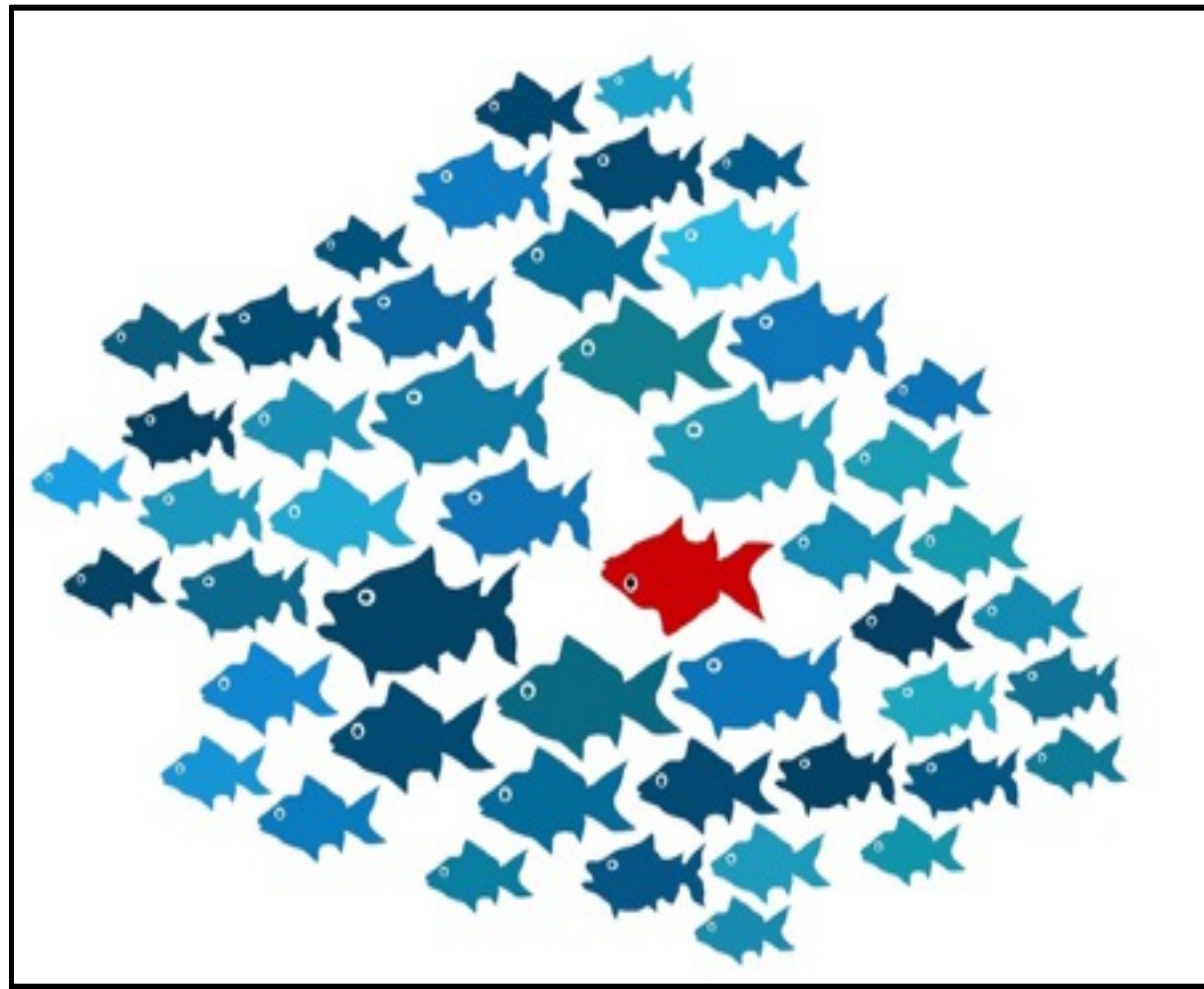
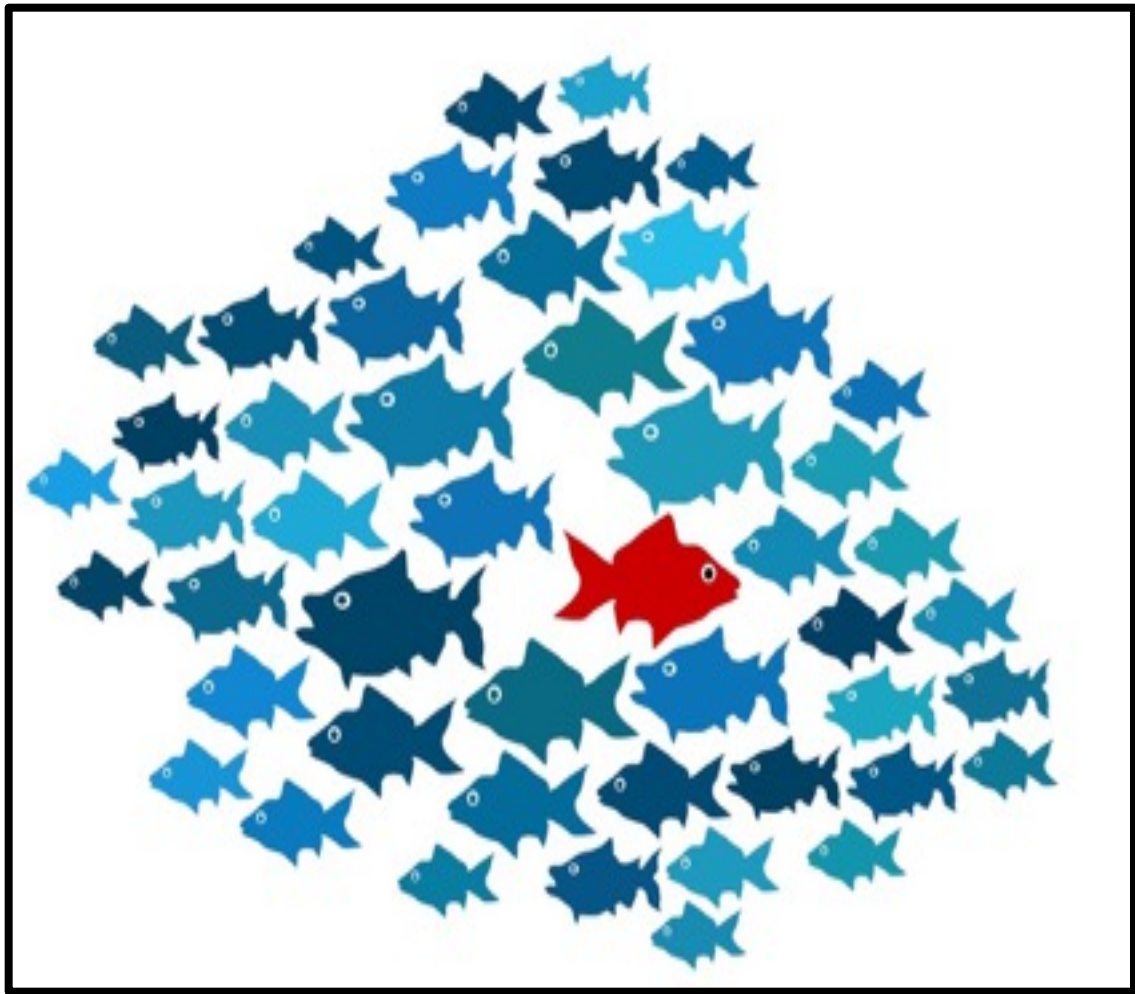
- If you cherish chastity, your life will be an attack on people's love for sex outside marriage.
- If you embrace temperance, your life will be a statement against the love of alcohol.
- If you pursue self-control, your life will indict excess eating.
- If you live simply and happily, you will show the folly of luxury.
- If you walk humbly with your God, you will expose the evil of pride.
- If you are punctual and thorough in your dealings, you will lay open the inferiority of laziness and negligence.

John Piper

Let your Christian light shine...

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

Mat 5:13-15



Lifestyle





Polycarp (burned 156 AD)

*“Then the Proconsul said to Polycarp again, 'I will cause You to be consumed by fire, if thou despisest the wild beasts, unless thou repent.'
But Polycarp said; 'You threatenest that fire which burneth for a season and after a little while is quenched: for thou art ignorant of the fire of the future judgment and eternal punishment, which is reserved for the ungodly’”*





Story of Dirk Willems -

- In 1500's in Netherlands, captured in Asperen, waiting trial
- Escaped - rope from strips of cloth in his cell
- Chased by a guard
- Crosses a frozen pond, free and clear - pursuer falls through
- Dirk heard the man's cries for help, remembered the teaching of Jesus

- Turned around, helped the man out of the hole
- Magistrate (shore) orders, guard arrests him and back to prison
- Sentenced to death for the crime of being re-baptized
- His property confiscated
- burned at the stake in 1569.



Searing the
tongue of an
Anabaptist to
keep him from
evangelizing

For great is your reward

Jesus sweat blood in Gethsemane in the face of his own pain, but for the joy set before him endured the cross.

2Co 4:17 For our light affliction, which is for the moment, worketh for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory;

2Co 4:18 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.