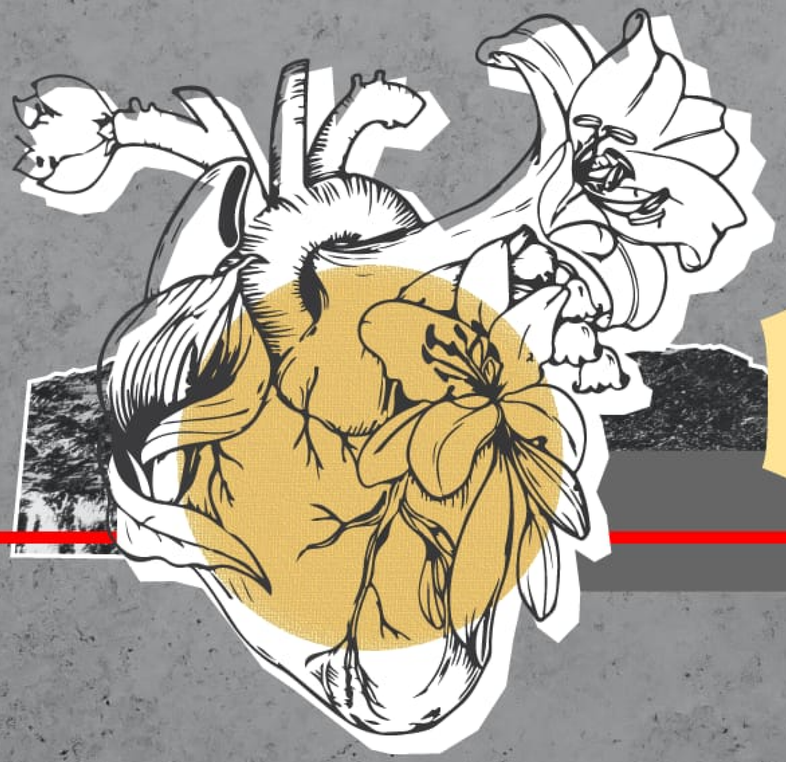
scripture

EZEKIEL 8:17–9:6



Ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY IN THE GLORY OF GOD

What does felt love require?

At least:

1. We see the good and the bad with someone
2. We see the weightiness or lightness of those things
3. We respond with mind, heart, soul and strength

Therefore:

When this is positive and weighty,
we admire and celebrate.

When it is negative and weighty,
we lament and grieve.

The *glorious God* who <u>loves</u> *is jealous, grieves, and detests.* (in the midst of evil)

Sharing God's *heart* means sharing in his *grief*

How do we offer love?

1. Discernment
2. Proportion
3. Full "hearted" response

Passage outline:

1. Distinguishing the detestable from the trivial
2. Grieving and lamenting over detestable things

1. Distinguishing the *detestable* from the *trivial*

Ezekiel 8:17

He said to me, "Have you seen this, son of man? Is it a trivial matter for the house of Judah to do the detestable things they are doing here? Must they also fill the land with violence and continually provoke me to anger?

Weighty

Leviticus 10:9–10

"You must distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and the clean..."

Detestable

Trivial

Admirable

Weighty

Idolatry

Violence

Injustice

Detestable

Trivial

Admirable

Weighty

Violence

Idolatry

Injustice

Detestable

Trivial

Admirable

You

Weighty

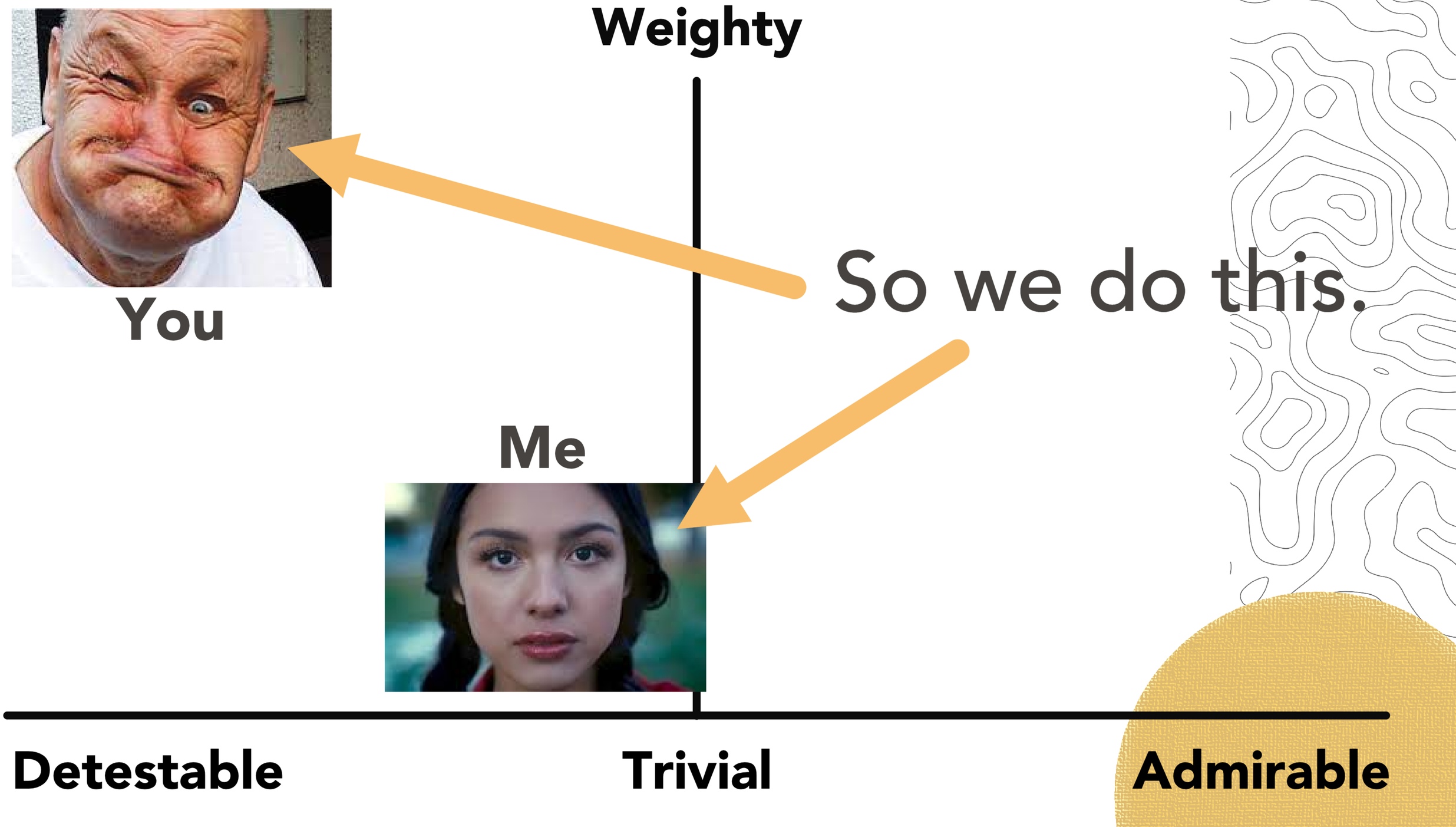
Me

You usually know you can't get away with this.

Detestable

Trivial

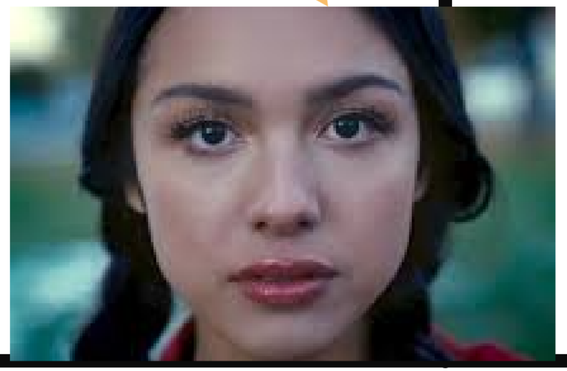
Admirable


Weighty
You
So we do this.
Me
Detestable
Trivial
Admirable

From this

Weighty

or with a sin.



to this.

Detestable

Trivial

Admirable

"It's not that big a deal."

I know it's wrong,
But I'm OK with it.

2. *Grieving* and *lamenting* over detestable things

Ezekiel 9:3–6

...the LORD called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing kit at his side and said to him, "Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done in it."

Ezekiel 9:3–6

...As I listened, he said to the others, "Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity or compassion. Slaughter old men, young men and maidens, women and children, but do not touch anyone who has the mark. Begin at my sanctuary." So they began with the elders who were in front of the temple.

A full response

Matthew 22:37 – 38

Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment.

Ezekiel 8:17b

Roadkill

Disgusting mess or free organic food?

God's distinction

Not:

old age vitality
weakness tenderness
religiosity position

Is:

Authentic faith:
it discerns,
weighs, and
responds

Weighty

Idolatry

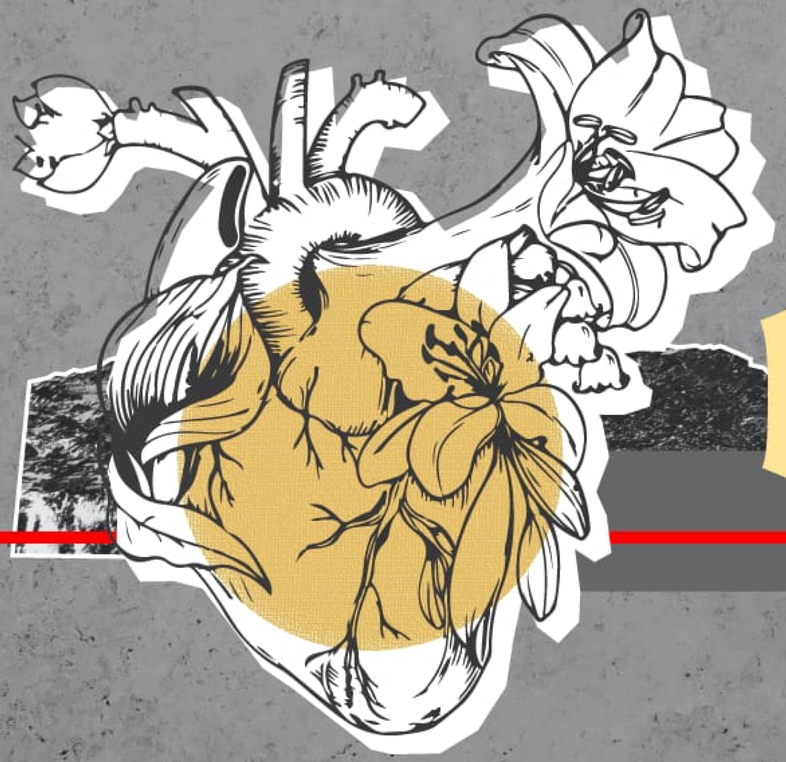
Violence

Injustice

Detestable

Trivial

Admirable



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