



SCRIPTURE

PHILIPPIANS 2:1 – 11



PHILIPPIANS

Last Week:

Philippians 2:1 – 2

“If you have any **encouragement** from being united with Christ, if any **comfort** from his love, if any **fellowship** with the Spirit, if any **tenderness and compassion**, then make my **joy complete...**”

The **Emotions** of Faith

- Encouragement from Union
- Comfort from Love
- Fellowship in Spirit
- Bowels of Emotion
- Mercies of Concern

in Christ

A diagram consisting of five straight arrows pointing from the list items to the text 'in Christ'. A curved arrow points from 'in Christ' down to the text 'Then enter into the life of JOY...'. The text 'in Christ' is in yellow, while the other text is white.

Then enter into the life of JOY...



**Self/worldly/
man-centered
Religion**



Toxic Religion

True Religion



**What is the
blast radius of
your critique?**

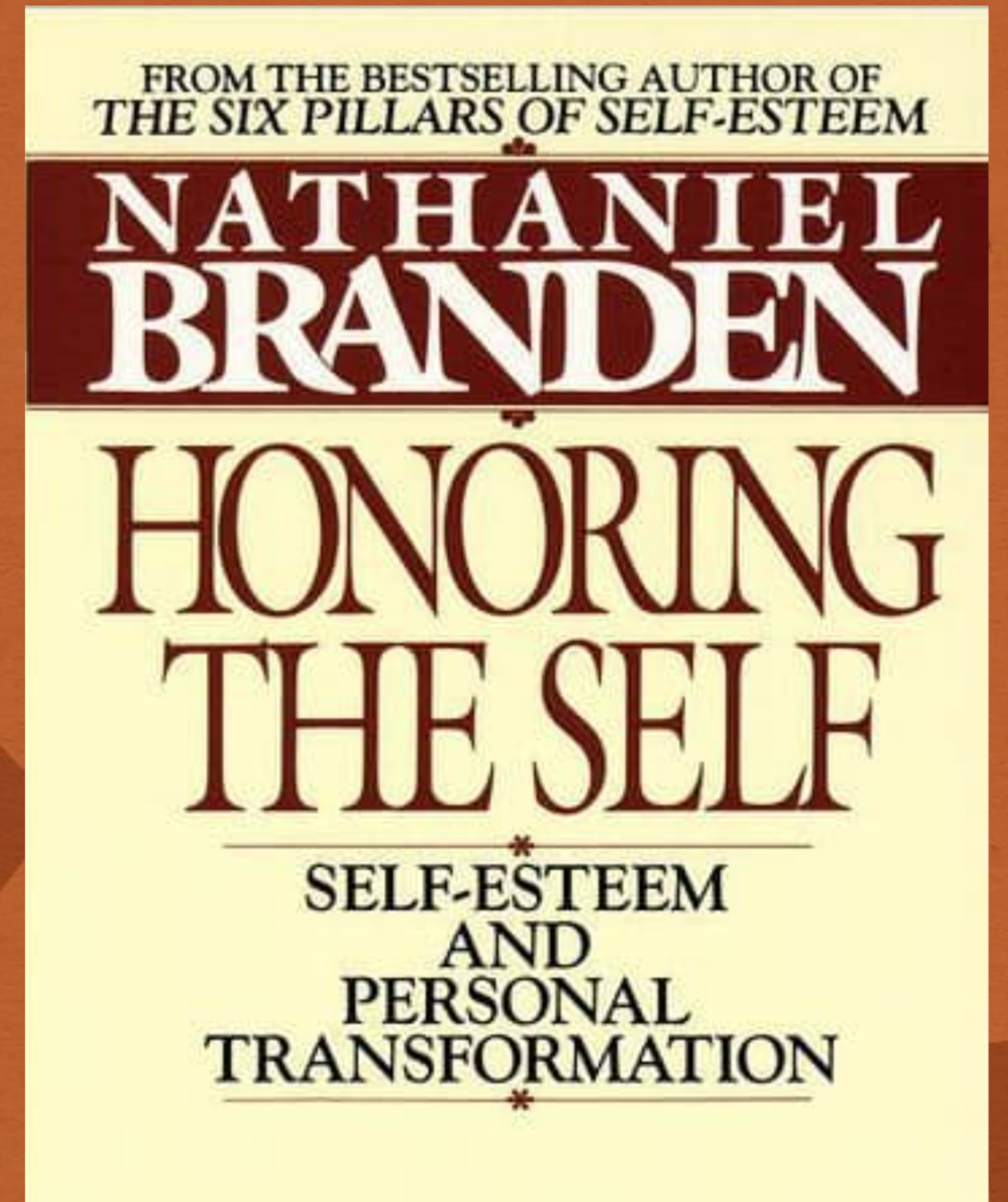
Reconceptualization points:

1. Faith should not be an everything identity
2. Faith inhibits the development of the self

This week:

3. Humility inhibits the self's development

**Does
humility and
sacrifice free
the heart or
invite abuse?**



**"Were you told
to 'be humble'?"**

Does rejection solve corruption?

Do you reject the corrupted virtue?

(deconstruction)

Or do you reform the corrupted virtue?

(differentiation)



**Christ establishes the distinction
between the virtue and
corruption of:**

**Concord
Humility
Sacrifice**

1. Concord

Real likeness of heart and mind that makes for productive unity, shared course, and productive cooperation. It is the spiritual sharing of hearts.

"Like-mindedness"

Philippians 2:2

"Then make my joy complete by being **like-minded**, having the **same** love, being **one** in spirit and **mind**."

"Like-mindedness" corruptions:

- Mirror-mindedness
- Closed-mindedness
- Open-mindedness



Gospel Mindedness

Philippians 2:2

“So that **it** should be what you **mind**;
it is the **love** you hold, **harmoniousness**,
your one **mindfulness**...”

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2. Humility

The self-forgetfulness that discovers,
sees, and considers others.

Philippians 2:3

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility reckon others above yourselves...”



Humility Corruptions vs. Rejections:

Regarding power:

Rejection of humility: **selfish ambition**

Corruption of humility: **servility**





Humility Corruptions vs. Rejections:

Regarding honesty:

Rejection of humility: **vain-glory**

Corruption of honesty: **false humility**





Humility and Power:



Servility isn't humility



Acts 4:19, 26; Exodus 1:15-22;
Daniel 1, 3, 6; Jesus on trial, etc.

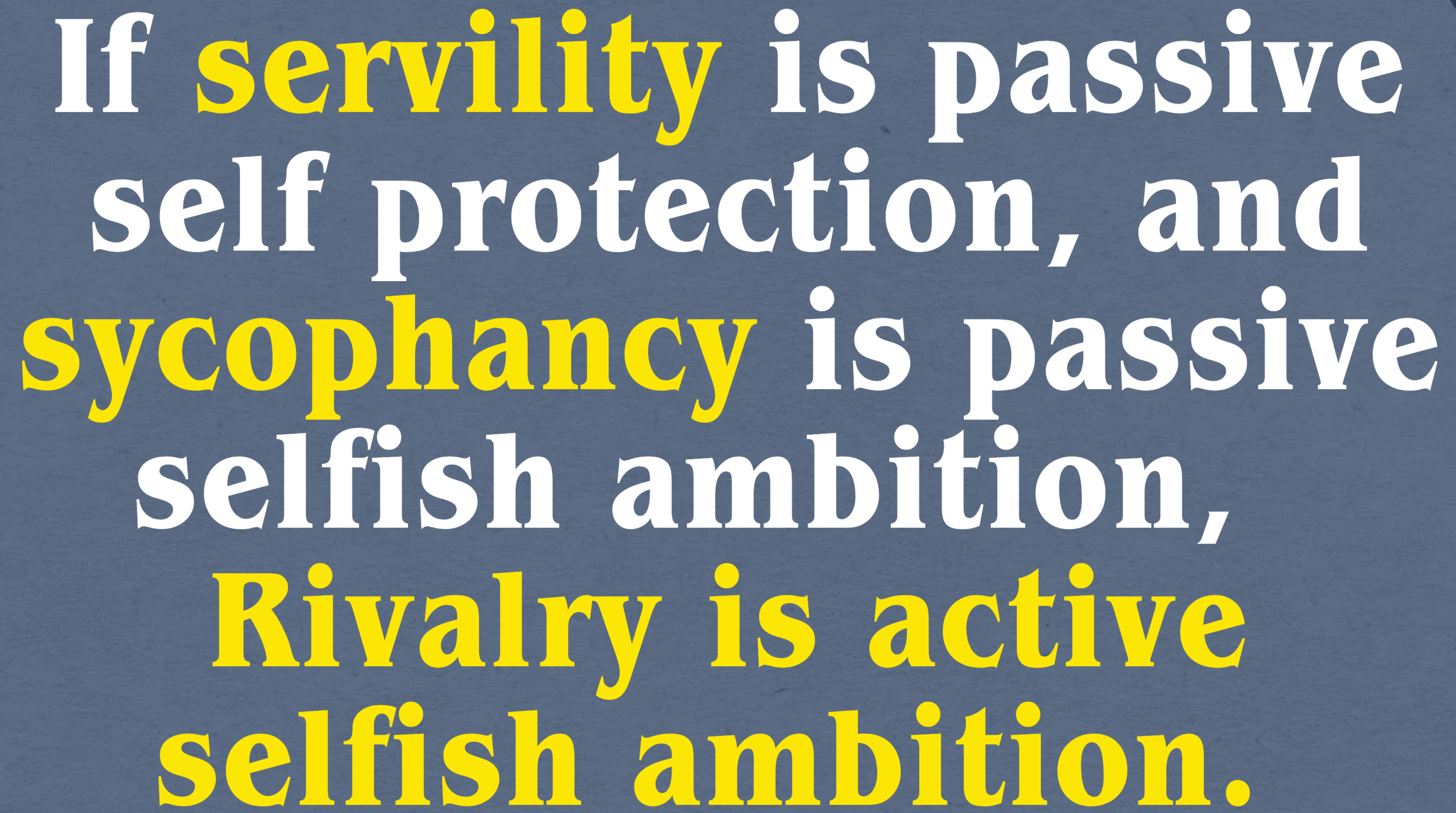
Corruption of Power



Rivalry isn't humility



"Do nothing out of selfish ambition."

The image features a dark blue background with four decorative floral motifs in the corners, each consisting of several dark blue leaves and small circles. The text is centered and reads:

If **servility** is passive
self protection, and
sycophancy is passive
selfish ambition,
Rivalry is active
selfish ambition.

Selfish Ambition

Rivalry, emotional disputes of status and position, selfishness in the context of open discord. (Philippians 1:17)

Gal 5:20: "Rivalries" next to: dissention, division; 2 Cor 12:20: "disputes"

James 3:13 – 4:1

Who is wise and understanding among you?

By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have

bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your

hearts, do not **boast** and be false to the **truth**.

This is not the **wisdom** that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic..

James 3:13 – 4:1

...For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Power and ambition are good

(They are part of creation.)

Therefore, they are prone to
corruption and require the
reform and vigilancy of virtue.

Humble Ambition is productive, cooperative, even competitive. It is the opposite of rivalry. **Humble ambition** acts justly in its ambitions. It takes neither unearned advantage, not undeserved disadvantage.

The Question:

What are you ambitious for?

How should power be used?

**What is really worth the passion of
our pursuits?**

Jesus' answer: **GLORY**

John 17:4 – 5

I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.

And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

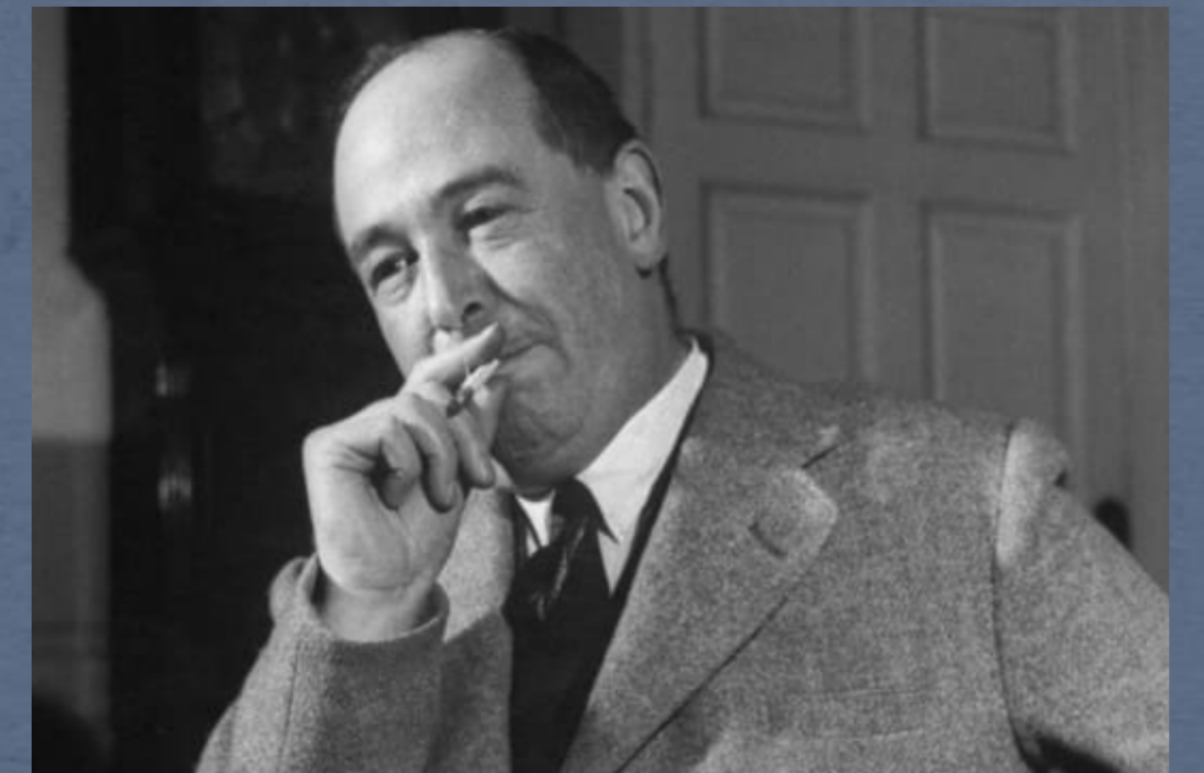


Honesty and Humility:



Humility Corruption: **False modesty**

When humility means handsome people thinking themselves ugly and clever people thinking they are dumb, the opposite of humility is achieved: dishonesty and self-focus.



Screwtape, Letter 14



Humility rejection:

**vain-glory
conceit**



Definition: Glory

That which enobles and pleases the heart having the limelight of attention. That which rightly attracts **concentration**, animates **devotion**, quickens **admiration**, and induces **imitation**.

Glory is the object of worship
(and the purpose).

Vain Conceit

Inflated self-regard, Empty attentiveness,
inordinate, misappropriated devotion.

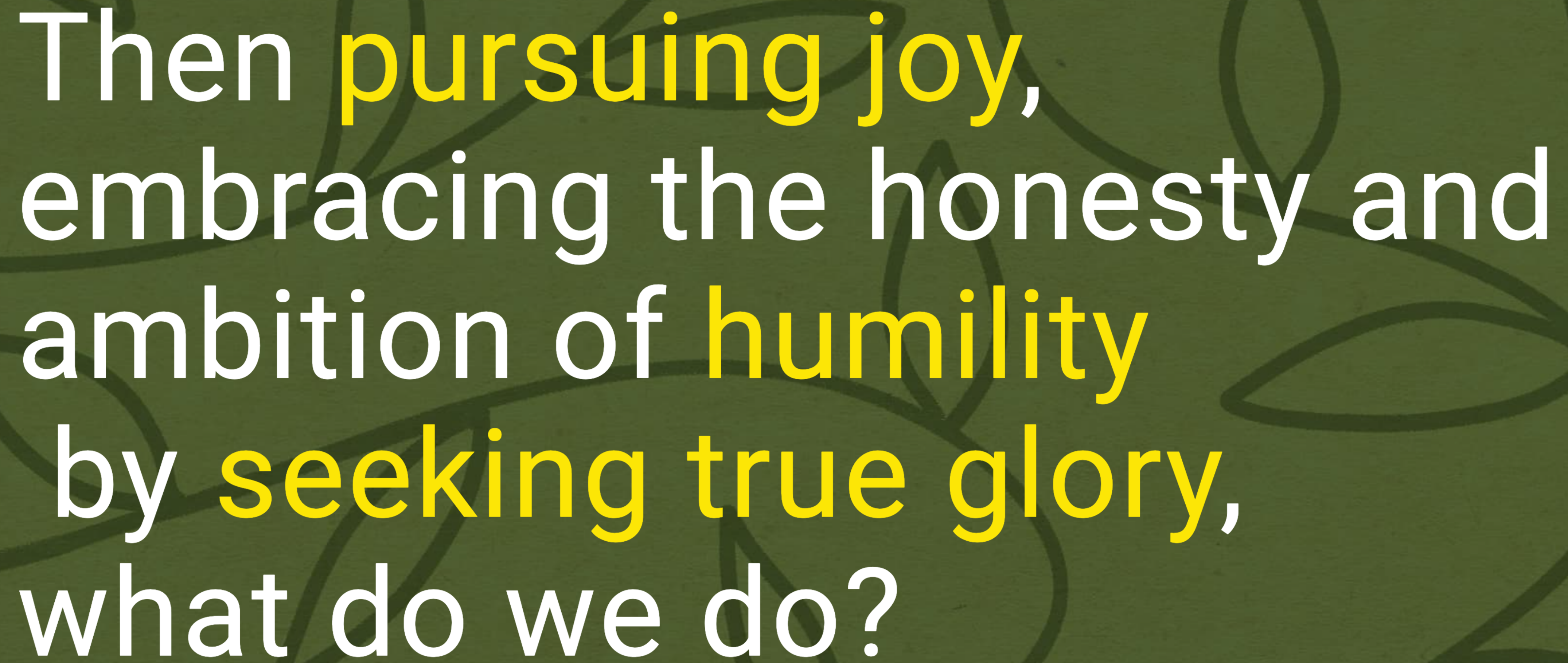
"keno-doxa"- "empty glory"

KJV: "Vain-glory"

Vain-glory

Giving the limelight of our attention to lesser objects. Allowing such things to focus our concentration, excite our affection, animate our devotion, quicken our admiration, and induce our imitation.





Then pursuing joy,
embracing the honesty and
ambition of humility
by seeking true glory,
what do we do?

3. Sacrifice

Philippians 2:4

Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.



Service

Corruption: denial of our humanity
(anti-sabbath)



Rejection: inordinate self-concern

How much do I serve?

Service involves self denial,
but is not the denial of the self.

Negative context:

"should not look only to his own interests..."

We tend to naturally get wrapped up in our own interests.

How much do I serve?

In joy and concord, mindful
of humility, what is seeking
true glory?

How much should I serve?

Cultivate joy and union with Christ, pursue concord of mind and harmoniousness in humility. See Christ and his good glory. And grow in love in depth of knowledge and insight...then do what love wants and joy demands.

Augustine



"Love God, then do as you will; for the soul trained in love to God will do nothing to offend the one who is beloved"

Jesus: Emptied Unto Glory

Instead of leaving us to worship the empty, he emptied himself to show us the substance of what must be worshipped.

Jesus: Emptied Unto Glory

...who being in his very nature God...

emptied himself...therefore God
exalted him to the highest place...to the
glory of God the father...

Love and sacrifice

Humility is the precondition of love,
but only the the **bowels of felt concern**
can motivate sacrifice- the highest
human glory.



PHILIPPIANS

