

Worldliness in a Changing World and Saying Goodbye SUBSTANCE

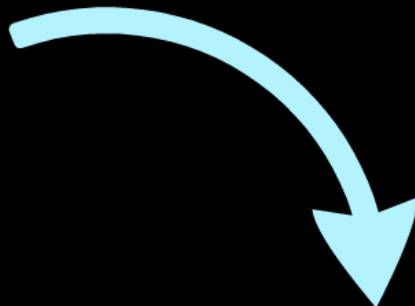
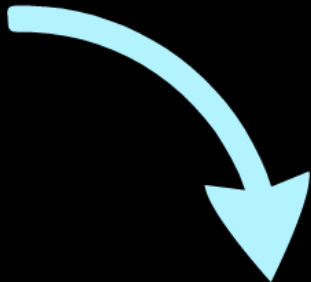
Anxiety life is overwhelming people—when there is so much less to be anxious about.

Weariness that doesn't heal with rest.

Resentment even of God, spouse and children.

Restlessness
wanting something other than what's happening to be happening

Compulsiveness
Phone fixating, flipping through apps, eating, ogling









Our Feeling:

Jesus left us out to dry on this.
(So he probably isn't really there)

Actual Fact:

Jesus warned us about this numerous times and said it would be our greatest challenge.

Matthew 6:1-20: "Don't do your righteous acts before men."

(Religious hypocrisy version of worldliness)



Matthew 6:22-24 "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Mammon.



Matthew 6:25-34 "Don't be so worried about your needs."

(distracted, desire driven version of worldliness)

Matthew 6:22-24 "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!



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Why doesn't Jesus just say "worldliness"?

"Mammon" is worldliness
personified



Mark 4:18-19

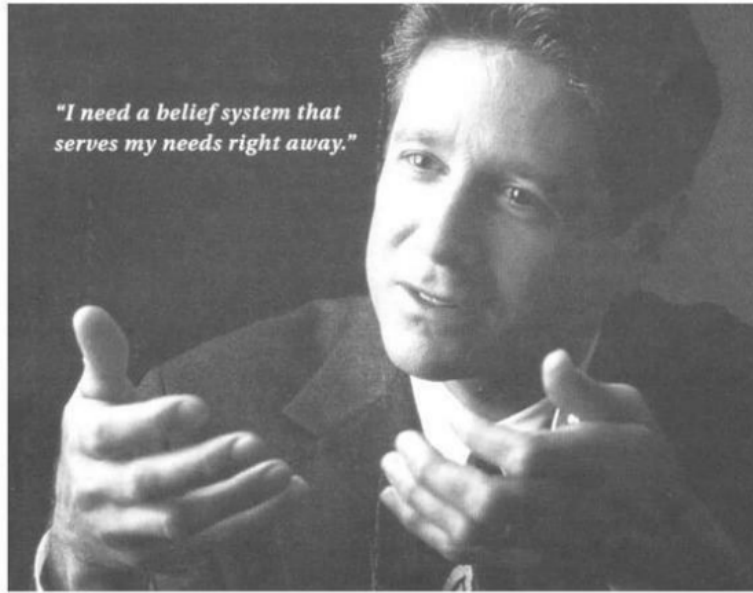
Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.

The problem is not our religion.

The problem is our second unacknowledged religion.

Our second, competing God.

We don't
want to
admit...



...how much
we feel like
this guy.

Dean Sachs has a mortgage, a family, and an extremely demanding job. What he doesn't need is a religion that complicates his life with unreasonable ethical demands.

Spiritual providers in the past have required a huge amount of commitment – single-deity clauses, compulsory goodness, and a litany of mystifying mumbo-jumbo. It's no wonder people are switching to Mammon.

Mammon isn't the biggest player in the spiritual race. But our ability to deliver on our promises is unique. And our moral flexibility *unmatchable*.

MAMMON.

Because you deserve to enjoy life – guilt-free.

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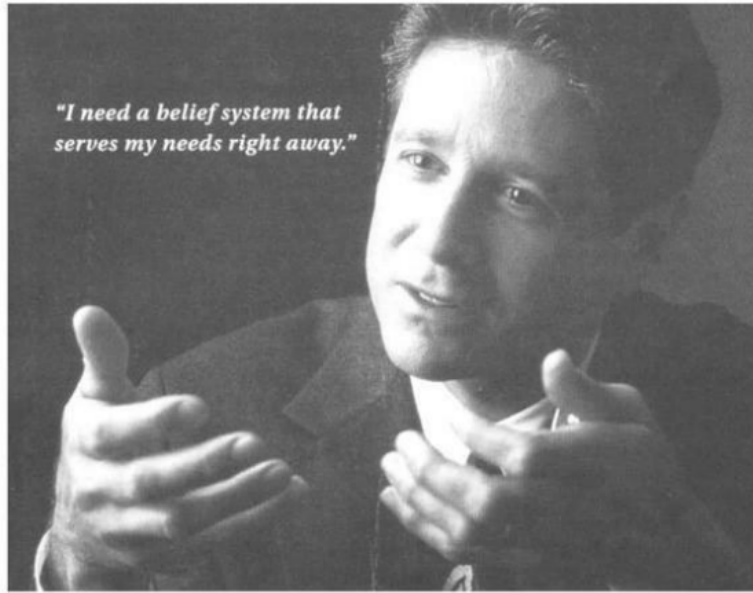
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Worldliness is the hidden problem
we won't see.

We have to
see it and leave it.

Substance glossary: "...all of creation that does not stand consciously under God's rule...what is opposed to the Kingdom of God..."

It flavors everything in our world:

like a spiritual ethnicity

What is worldliness? (exactly)

"Worldliness"

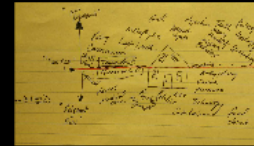
Someone marked by a likeness to the world

The world and its concerns control heart, mind and will

"Godliness"

Someone marked by their likeness to God

God's kingdom and righteousness control heart, mind and will



Worldliness results from separating:
sacred and secular, creation and creator, world and the kingdom, matter and meaning, terrestrial from the transcendent, and the City of Man from the City of God.

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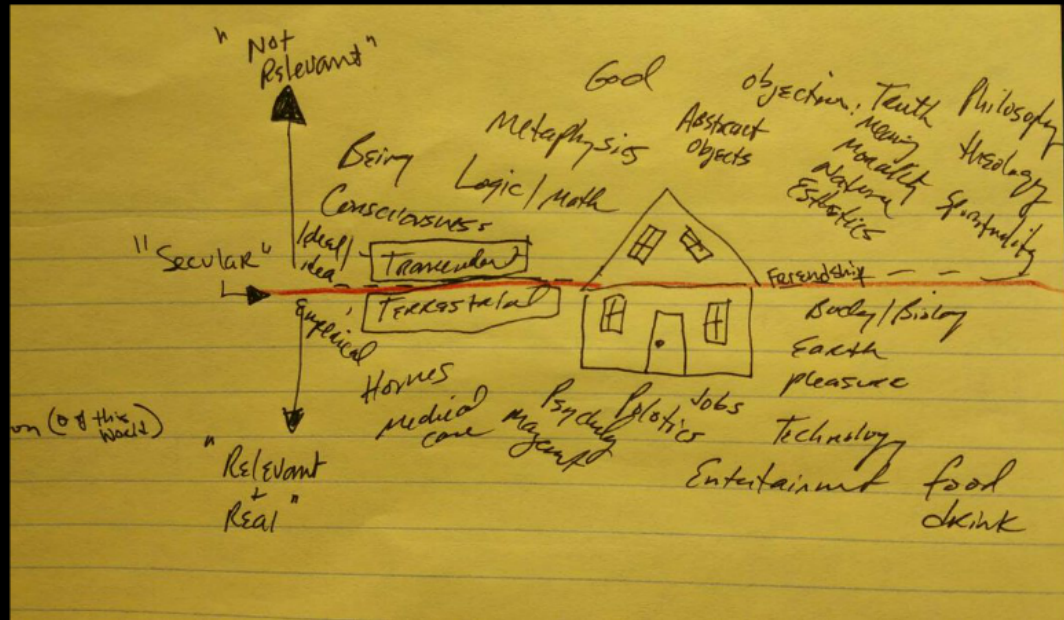
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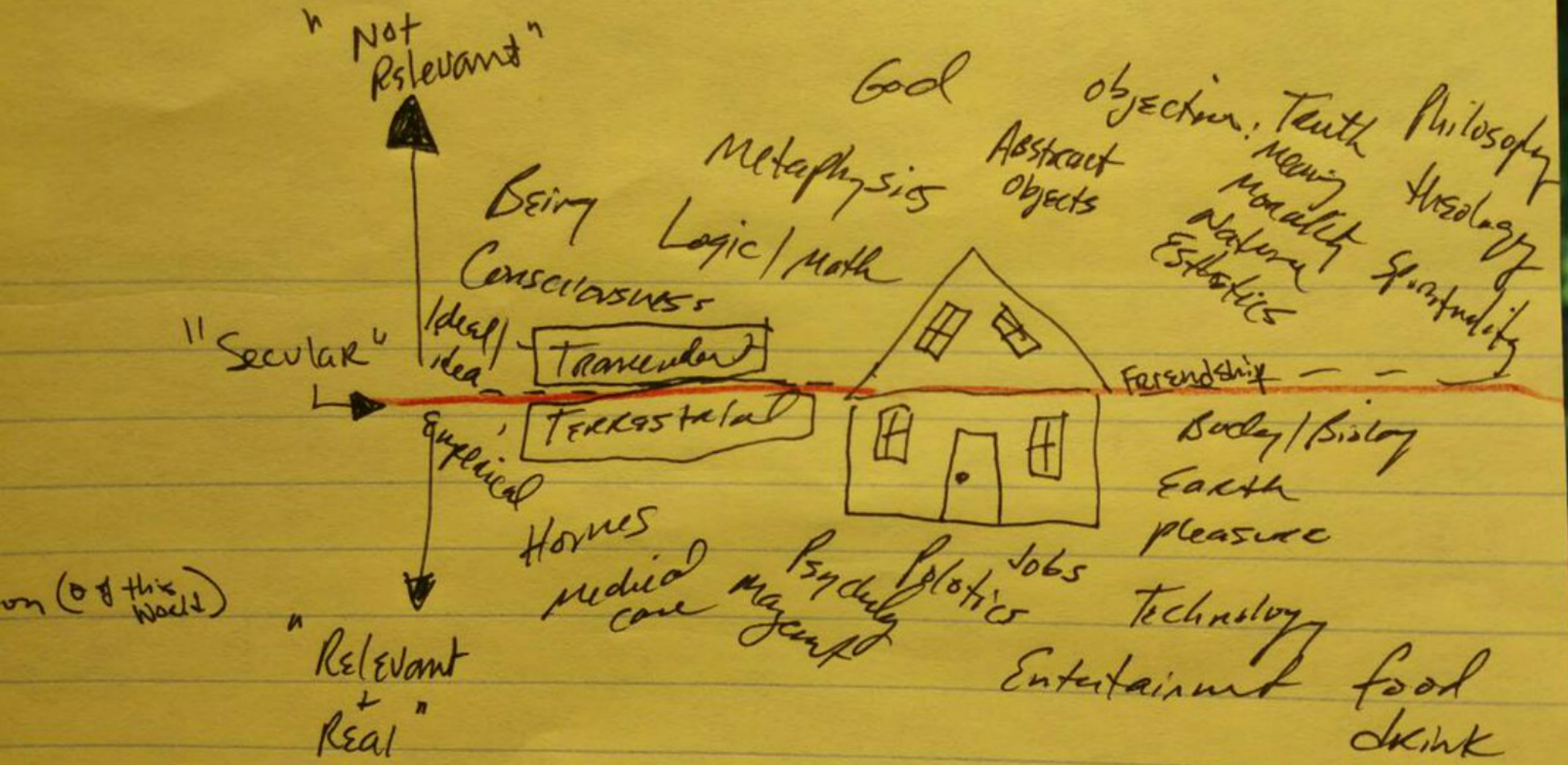
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Worldliness: We have to SEE IT, and LEAVE IT

(leave it *for* Spiritual Substance)

SEE IT Finding the gift of *Discernment*

The Power of Worldliness
is in it's hiddenness

It's hidden because
it's absorbed

Because it's
absorbed, we
think it's US

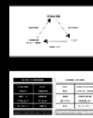
Mark 6:23
...if your eyes are hurt, your whole body will
be full of darkness. If then the light within
you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

It's deforming us—
weakening us.

It starts losing its
power when we see it
for what it is.

LEAVE IT The Gift of Sanctification

Set apart for Mammon



Set apart for God

Matthew 6:19-21
Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Do not store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:22-23

For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

SEE IT

Finding the gift of *Discernment*

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It's hidden because
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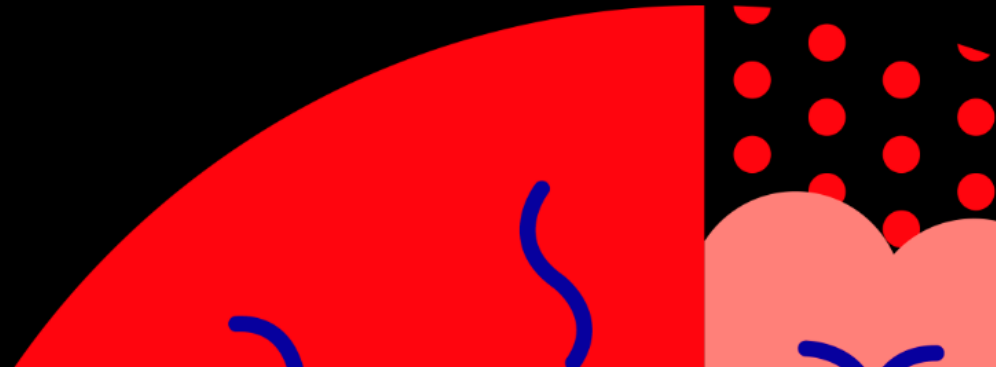
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CELIA

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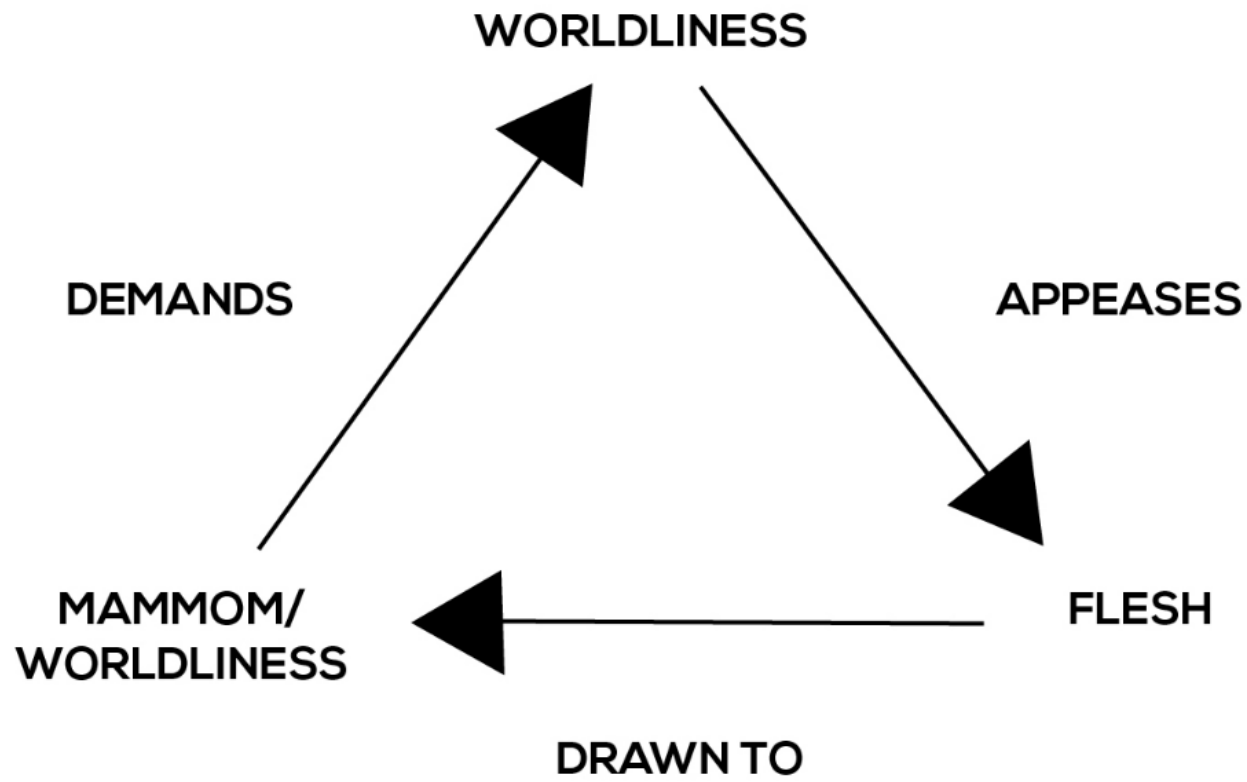
SET APART FOR MAMMON		SET APART FOR GOD	
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WORLDLY DESIRES	WORLD	WORLDLY DESIRES	WORLD
WORLDLY DESIRES	WORLD	WORLDLY DESIRES	WORLD
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John 17:13-19

"I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth, your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Matthew 6:32-33

For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.



SET APART FOR MAMMOM

I'M GETTING	FLESH
MY TRUTH	ATTENTION
MY GOOD	PRACTICAL
MY DELIGHT	PLEASURE
MY JUSTICE	POWER

MAMMOM WILL GIVE ME THESE IF I SERVE HIM

SET APART FOR CHRIST

SPIRIT	WHAT I'M SERVING
TRUE	WHAT GOD AFFIRMS
GOOD	GOD'S PRACTICE
BEAUTIFUL	GOD'S DELIGHT
RIGHT	GOD'S JUSTICE

GOD WILL INCLUDE ME IN THESE IF I TRUST HIM

LEAVE IT The Gift of Sanctification

Set apart for Mammon

Set apart for God



THE WORLD		THE FLESH	
WORLD	WORLD	FLESH	FLESH
WORLD	WORLD	FLESH	FLESH
WORLD	WORLD	FLESH	FLESH
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LEAVE IT

The Gift of Sanctification

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GET EMPLOYER'S TAX INFORMATION		GET EMPLOYER'S PAYER ID	
EMPLOYER	10000000000000000000	EMPLOYER	10000000000000000000
TAXPAYER	10000000000000000000	TAXPAYER	10000000000000000000
EMPLOYER	10000000000000000000	EMPLOYER	10000000000000000000
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What we fear...

2 Negative effects:

1. We will become terrible people—judgmental hypocrites
2. We will become dull people—people unable to have any fun or enjoy any pleasures.

Collect from the Book of Common Prayer...

"...God, the one without whom
nothing is strong, nothing is holy..."

C.S. Lewis, "...without whom Nothing is strong..."

Worldliness is the hidden problem.



Freedom begins with...

SEEING IT

Finding Discernment

LEAVING IT

Embracing Sanctification