

PRAYING THE PSALMS

Bridging Intimacy With God

STUDY 13
PRAYING HIS BEAUTY
PSALM 27



CONFIDENCE IN LORDS PROTECTION

Psalms 27:1-3 (ESV) 1 The Lord is **my light and my salvation**; whom shall I fear?

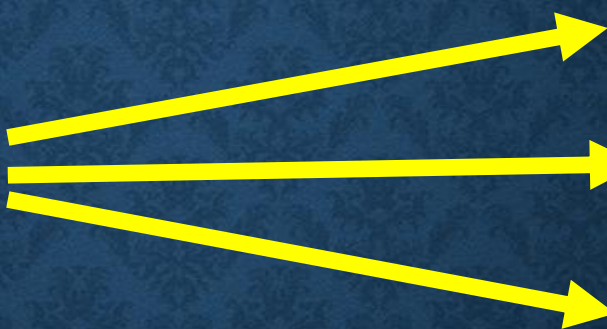
The Lord is **the stronghold of my life**; of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

WHAT IS THE LORD TO YOU?

Light



Joy of life

Holiness-perfection

Truth

Salvation



Deliverance from enemies

Stronghold



Safety-fortress

THEORETICAL EXPERIENTIALLY?



CONTEXT OF DAVID'S CONTEMPLATION

Exterior devastation

Psalms 27:1-3 (ESV) 1 The Lord is **my light and my salvation**; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is **the stronghold of my life**; of whom shall I be afraid?

Qualitative-desire to harm

2 When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it

Quantitative-overwhelming odds

3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

CONTEXT OF DAVID'S CONTEMPLATION

Interior devastation-foundational relationships

Psalms 27:10 (ESV) For my father and my
mother have forsaken me,
but the Lord will take me in.

THE POWER BEHIND DAVID'S LIFE

DAVID'S DESIRE

Already a given God is his stronghold ..He did not ask for protection.
If I really live for Jesus the life will be good..false premise
Asking for God himself beauty of God Himself

Psa This is the language of a man who has determined to find r He has had intermittent fellowship with God
of the Lord, God in prayer. but now Yearning for the same kind of
unbroken contact with the presence of God

that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the
house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his temple.

SAMUEL'S DESCRIPTION OF DAVID'S MOTIVES

1 Samuel 13:14 (ESV) But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you.”

HIS DESIRE AND OUR RESPONSE

Panin –

Relationship

Experience of Presence

Psalms 27:7-8 (ESV)

aloud; be gracious to me and answer me:

8 You have said, **“Seek my face.”**

My heart says to you,

“Your face, Lord, do I seek.”

A DIVINE INITIATIVE



Seek my face

Ps 27:8 You have said, “**Seek my face.**”



Your face do I seek

My heart says to you, “**Your face, Lord, do I seek.**”



Father draws

John 6:44 (ESV) 44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.



Seeks Jesus

WHAT GODS BEAUTY WILL DO TO US

Security , Refuge, Safety

Psalms 27:5 For he will **hide me in his shelter** in the day of trouble;

he will **conceal me under the cover of his tent;**

he will **lift me high upon a rock.**

Victory , Confidence, Bouyant

6 And now my **head shall be lifted up** above my enemies all around me,

Joy Gratitude and Love

and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with **shouts of joy;**

I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

DAVID'S DESIRE

Not a glance but much more than
awareness. Gazing is like staring. We can't
help ourselves. We can't get enough of the
sight. To be mesmerized , enraptured ,
have our breath taken away

have I asked of

may dwell in the

house of the Lord all the days of my life,

to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord

and to inquire in his temple.

PERCEPTION OF GOD AS

Ps 27:4

to gaze upon the **beauty of the Lord** and to inquire in his temple.

Pleasurable Perception

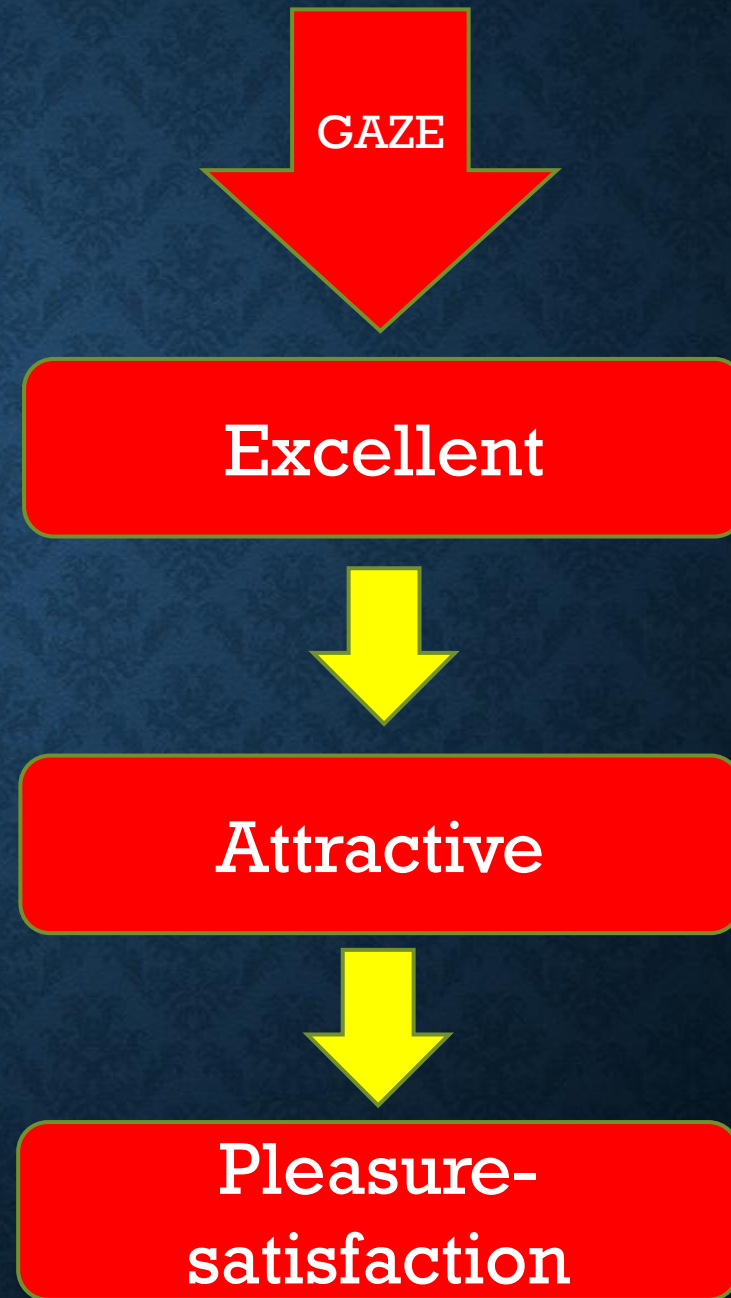
Isaiah 33:17 (ESV) Your eyes will behold the king in his **beauty**; they will see a land that stretches afar

Excellent-Perfect

Psalms 50:2 (ESV) Out of Zion, the perfection of **beauty**, God shines forth

Attractiveness or desirability

THE RESPONSE TO BEAUTY





side dish

salad



rice

tsukemono (pickle)

main dish

***We feel pleasure when
we see something
beautiful, making
attractive things feel like
they work better.***

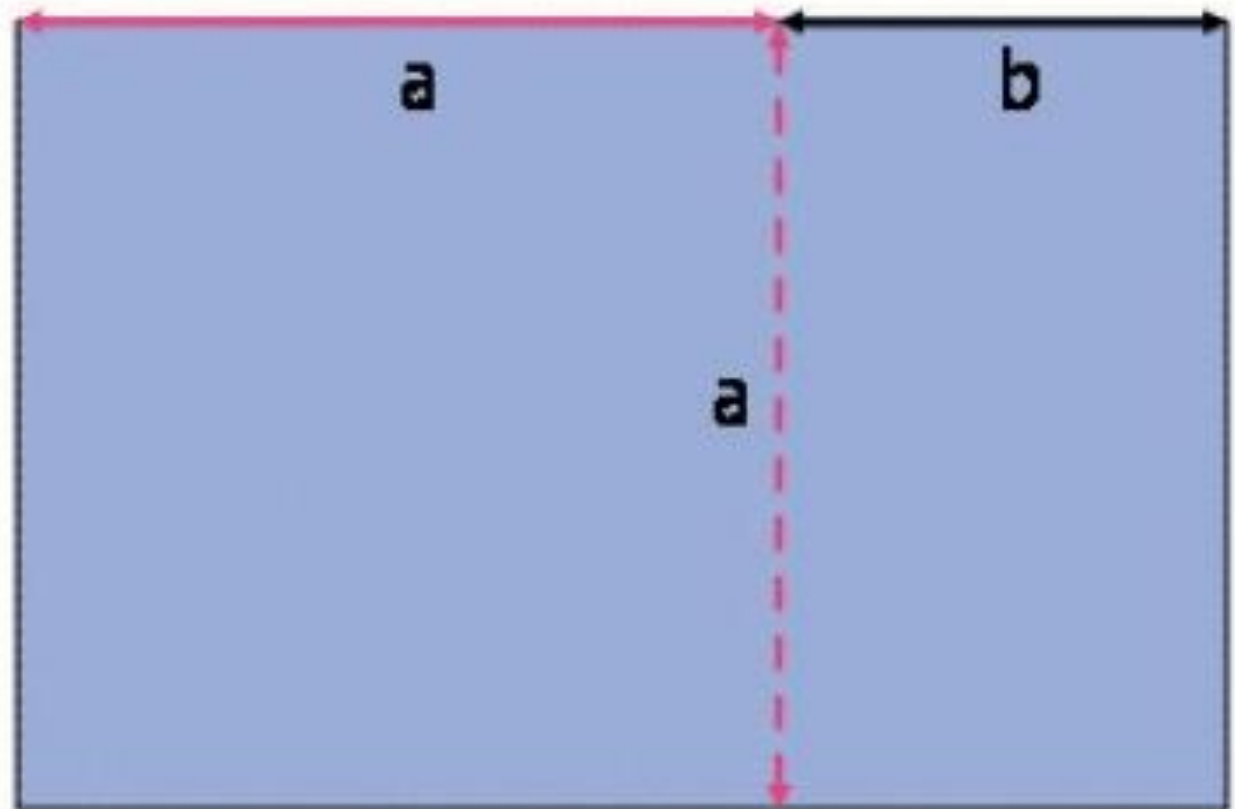
GOLDEN RATIO

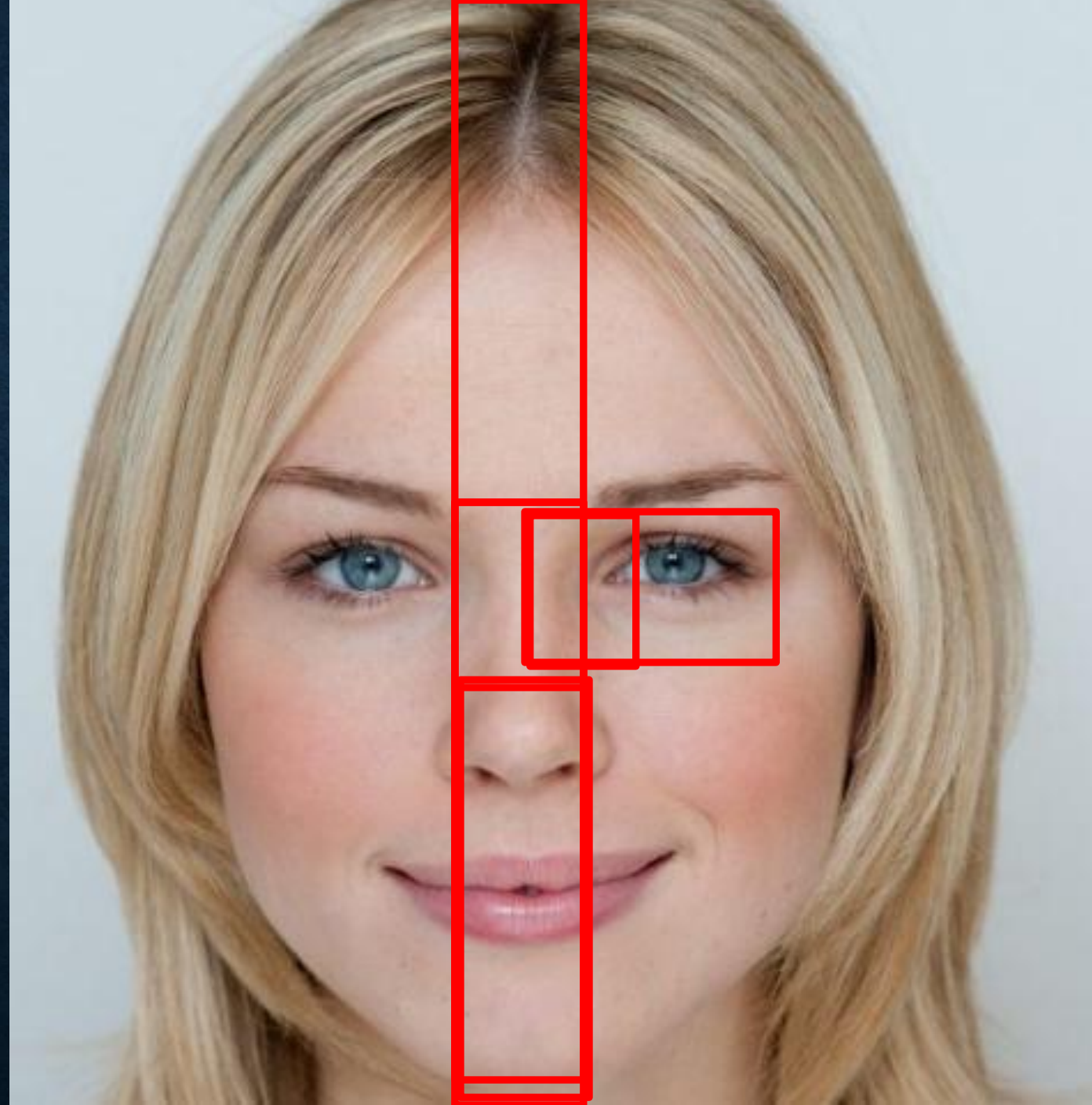
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Golden Ratio



$(a + b)$ is to a as a is to b

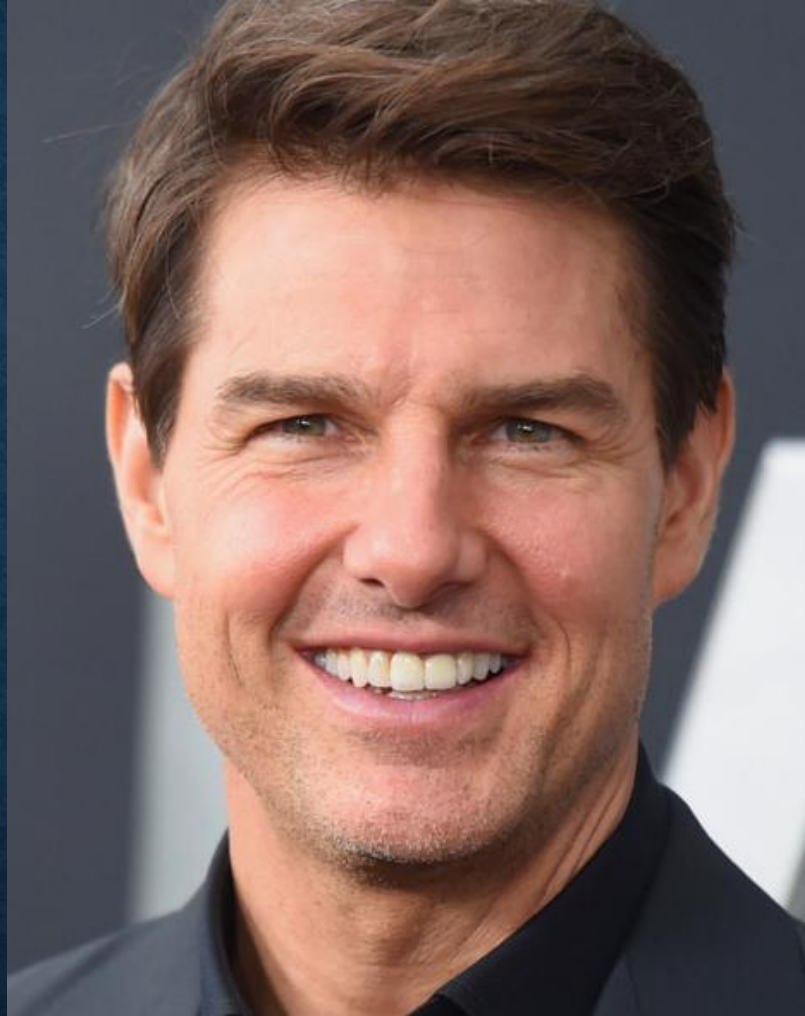




WHAT KIND OF MOVIES?



**HERO OR
VILLAIN?**



WHICH TASTES BETTER



Fan clubs





**BEAUTY CREATES AND INFUSES HOPE
THROUGH THE CONVICTION OF MEANING**

“Beauty itself is but the sensible
image of the infinite,”

George Bancroft

BEAUTY UNDERMINES SELFISHNESS



**GOD RESERVED THE HIGHEST CAPACITY FOR
BEAUTY TO THE HUMAN RACE**



A black and white photograph of C.S. Lewis. He is an older man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie, sitting in a patterned armchair. The text "CS LEWIS" is overlaid in the top left corner.

CS LEWIS

“We do not want merely to see beauty, though, God knows, even that is bounty enough. We want something else which can hardly be put into words—to be united with the beauty we see, to pass into it, to receive it into ourselves, to bathe in it, to become part of it.”

DRAWN INTO ITS BEAUTY

‘Picture self there



‘I got caught up in the story’





We want to be drawn into the
beauty depicted

No body wants to watch a movie
on suffering and pain





CHURCH IS BORING

HOW DO WE GAZE?--

Tim Keller

1. Seek it Existentially
2. Seek it Deliberately
3. Seek it in the Word
4. Seek it in Jesus
5. Seek it Patiently

1. EXISTENTIALLY

Psalms 27:4 I know God is great and glorious
I want a sense on the heart of His holiness and glory

that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of
the Lord all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his temple.



Patient with CRF on supplements

A DIVINE INITIATIVE AND OUR REQUEST



Seek my face

Ps 27:8 You have
said, “**Seek my
face.**”



Your face do I seek

My heart says to you,
“**Your face, Lord, do
I seek.**”

2. SEEK IT DELIBERATELY— SET ASIDE TIME

- Praise ----expression of delight of what you admire of Him
- Discipline of finding Him satisfying
- Wordless contemplation



DELIBERATE DESIRE

3. SEEK IT IN THE WORD

Psalms 27:4 (ESV) One thing have I asked of the Lord,

that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,

to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord

and to inquire in his temple.

3. SEEK IT IN THE WORD

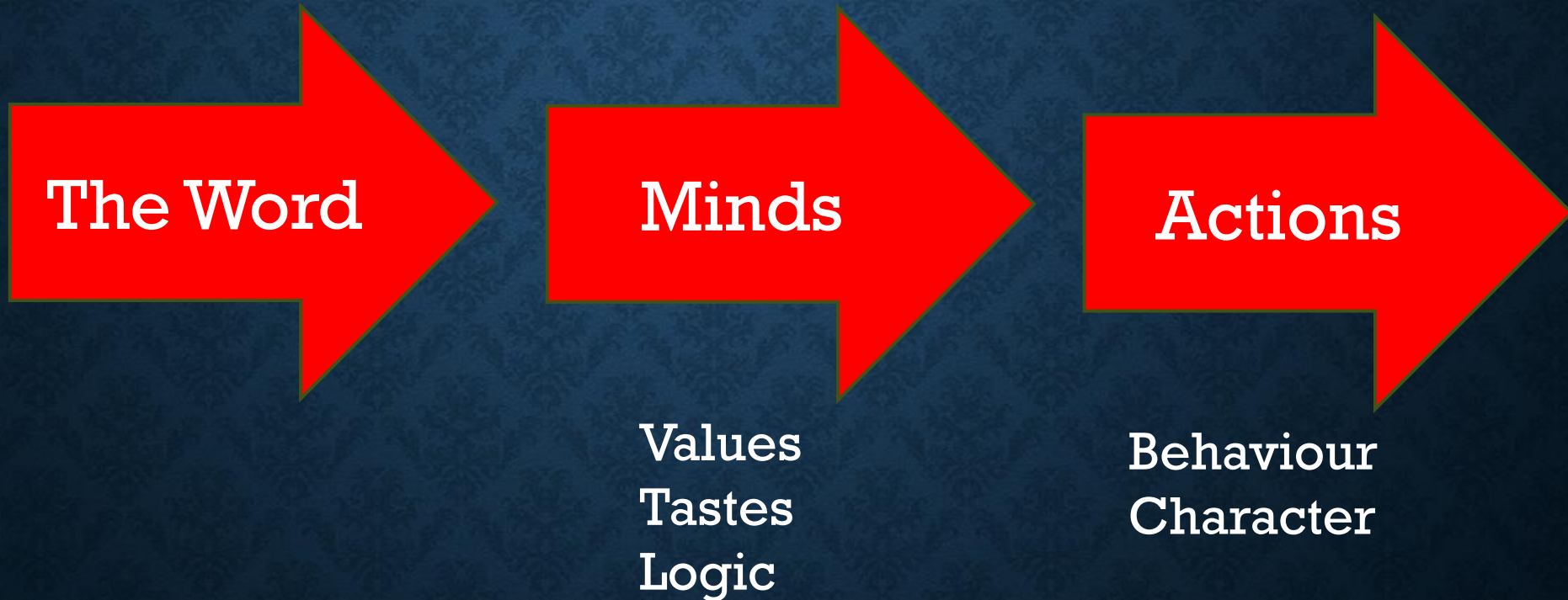
Psalms 27:11-12 (ESV) Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path because of my
enemies.

12 Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.

RENEWAL OF OUR MINDS

Romans 12:1-2 (ESV) 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

OUR MIND ENABLES THE LIVING SACRIFICE



THE MOTIVATING FACTOR

Matthew 13:44 (ESV) 44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up.

Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

HIDDEN TREASURE



4. SEEK IT IN JESUS

Exodus 33:18-20 (ESV) Moses said, “**Please show me your glory.**” 19 And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And **The tension** gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 20 But,” he said, “**you cannot see my face for man shall not see me and live.**”



**Beauty in Seeing the things He
has done**

Tabernacled

John 1:14 (ESV) And the Word became
flesh and dwelt among us, and we have
seen his **glory, glory** as of the only Son
from the Father, full of grace and truth.



HIS GLORY—RENEWAL OF OUR HEARTS

Grace

Undeserved gift of God

Truth

The reality of our sin

LOVE OF GOD

Galatians 2:20 (ESV) 20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me

4. SEEK IT IN JESUS

This is where we gaze at the beauty of the Lord

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV) And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed** into the same image from **one degree of glory to another**. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit

5. SEEK IT PATIENTLY

Psalms 27:13-14 (ESV) I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

14 Wait for the Lord;

be strong, and let your heart take courage;

wait for the Lord!



ALLEN GARDINER SOUTH AMERICAN MISSION SOCIETY (SAMS)

1851 went to South America

Tierra del Fuego.

Journal entry on last day.

Psalms 34:10 (ESV) The young lions suffer
want and hunger; but those who seek the
Lord lack no good thing.

I am overwhelmed by the sense of the
goodness of God



ALLEN GARDINER

- "Grant O Lord, that we may be instrumental in commencing this great and blessed work; but should Thou see fit in Thy providence to hedge up our way, and that we should even languish and die here, I beseech Thee to raise up others and to send forth labourers into this harvest. Let it be seen, for the manifestation of Thy Glory and Grace that nothing is too hard for Thee..."