



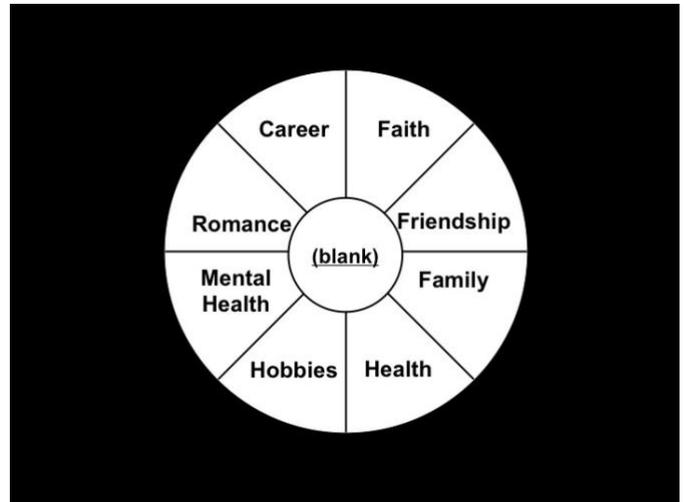
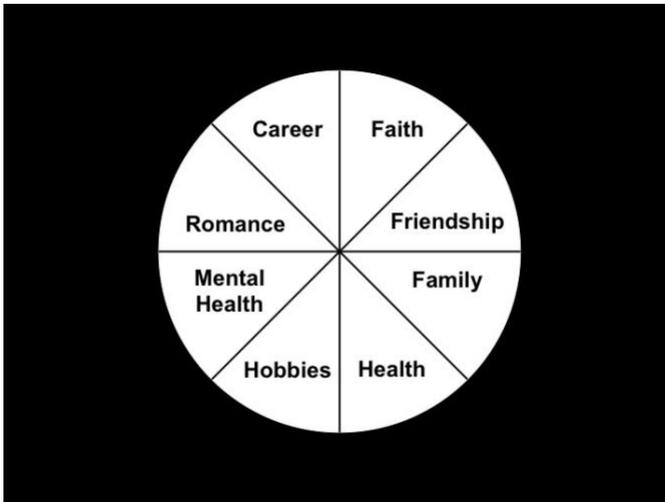
## Life from the Center | Philippians 3:7-15

### Philippians 3:7-15

<sup>7</sup> But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— <sup>10</sup> that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Balance Mode

Center Model



“...Here's something else that's weird but true: in the day-to day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.” –David Foster Wallace

## The Danger of Living from a Replacement Center

### Philippians 3:7-8

<sup>7</sup> But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

“The term [*skybala*] conveys both revulsion and worthlessness in this context. In Hellenistic Greek it seems to stand somewhere between “crap” and “s\*\*t.” –Daniel Wallace, Ph.D  
“...Pretty much anything else you worship will eat you alive. If you worship money and things, if they are where you tap real meaning in life, then you will never have enough, never feel you have enough...Worship your body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly. And when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before they finally grieve you...Worship power, you will end up feeling weak and afraid, and you will need ever more power over others to numb you to your own fear. Worship your intellect, being seen as smart, you will end up feeling stupid, a fraud, always on the verge of being found out.” –David Foster Wallace

When there's some other big accomplishment that you're chasing or stage of life that you're looking forward to, it's easy to convince yourself that once you get it, then you'll feel content, then you'll feel settled.

**Tom Brady:** “...Why do I have three Super Bowl rings, and still think there's something greater out there for me? I mean, maybe a lot of people would say, “Hey man, this is what is.” I reached my goal, my dream, my life. Me, I think: God, it's gotta be more than this. I mean this can't be what it's all cracked up to be. I mean I've done it. I'm 27. And what else is there for me?”

**Steve Kroft:** What's the answer?

**Tom Brady:** “I wish I knew. I wish I knew...”

"I wish everyone could get rich and famous and have everything they ever dreamed of so that they would know that's not the answer." –Jim Carrey

## The Freedom of Living from the True Center

### Philippians 3:9-10

<sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— <sup>10</sup> that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

The true center is a relationship, not a concept.

The true center is received, not earned.

## **The Shift to the True Center**

### **Philippians 3:12**

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.