

Am I enough? Am I pleasing?

Am I secure? Am I good? Am I accepted?

Am I okay? Temptations Failures

Disappointments Relationships

School

Am I purposeful?

Am I meaningful?

Tragedies

Work

Jesus died for my sins

toved
Forgiven

Heaven

# "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?"

Romans 6:3

"For we have been united with him.."

Romans 6:5

"I believe that in the New Testament union with Christ in his death and resurrection is the key category, in terms of which, every aspect of salvation is to be understood."

J. I. Packer

## "So you also must consider yourselves..."

Romans 6:11





"I am joined to him, and what is true of him is true of me, therefore I deduce this about myself."

Martyn Lloyd-Jones

"What the heart trusts, the mind justifies, the emotions desire, and the will carries out.

Everything follows the heart."

Timothy Keller

What I am believing in will always be determining what I am doing.

Repentance is the changing of my mind about what I am believing.

### 3 people

Who are three people in your life you'd love to see come to faith in Jesus?



## How can we introduce this to others? Identify two things:

- 1. Their deep longings
- 2. Their current saviours

### "If you could say in one word what you want more of in life, what would that be?"

- Happiness
- Money
- Freedom
- Peace
- Joy
- Balance

- Fulfillment
- Confidence
- Stability
- Passion
- Acceptance
- Belonging

#### 3 people

## What are their deep desires?

#### What makes a satisfying saviour?

Unlimited

Unstoppable

Unending

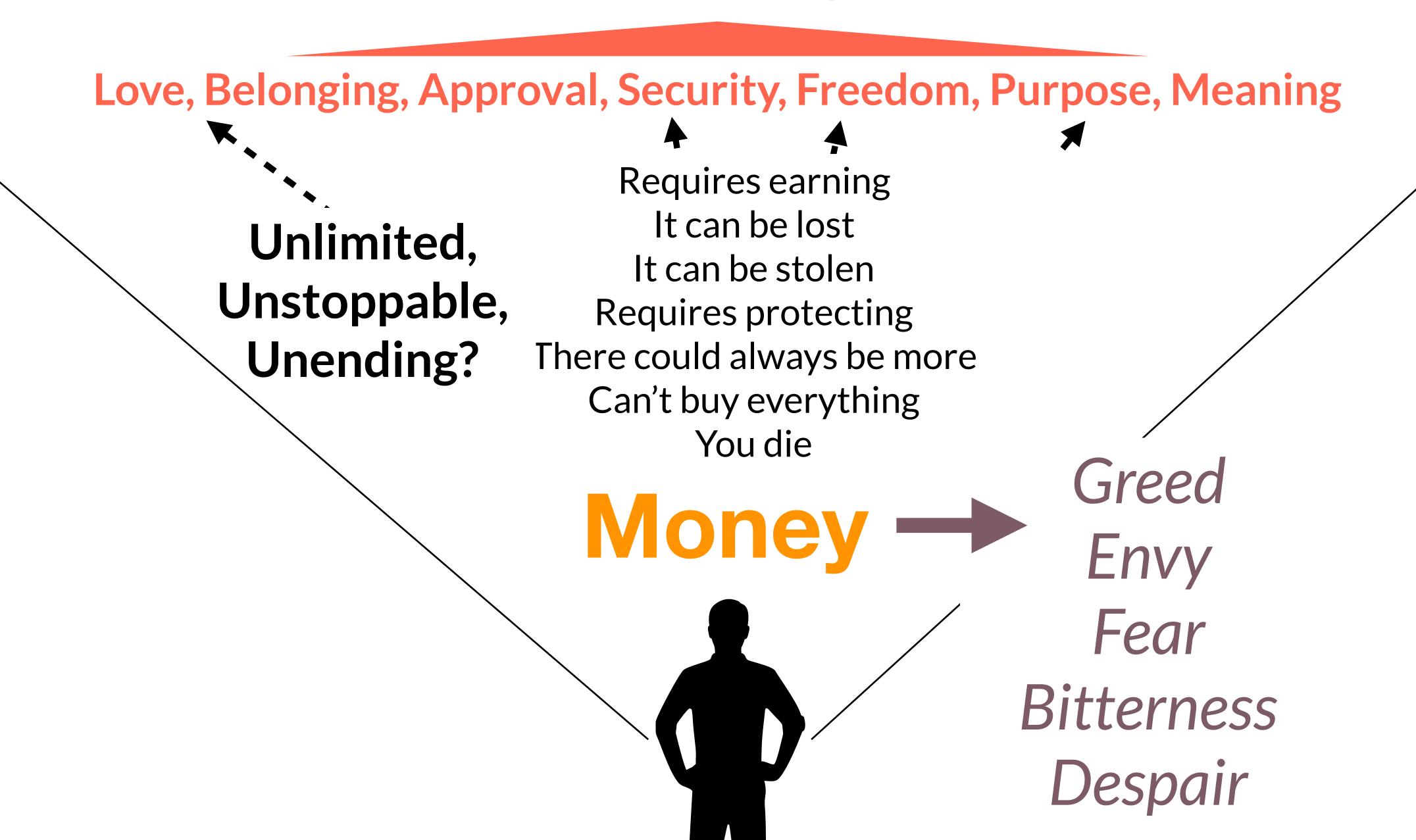
#### How to Satisfy These Desires

#### Some common hopes/saviours

- Romance
- Children
- Money
- ► Fame
- Popularity
- Education
- Positive thinking
- Karma
- Beauty
- Fitness

- Social media
- Friendships
- Parents
- Drugs
- Government
- Career
- Clothes
- ► Food
- Sports
- Nature

- Health
- Entertainment
- Comfort
- Sex
- Travel
- Pets
- Celebrities
- Charity
- Yoga
- Weekends





Unlimited,
Unstoppable,
Unending?

They're flawed.

They change over time.

They're as needy as you are.

They can reject you.

They can leave you.

They will die.

You die.





Frustration



Unlimited,
Unstoppable,
Unending?

It's not secure.

You can lose it.

You can fail to earn success.

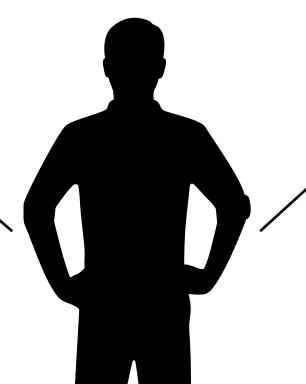
It can become a burden.

You can be forgotten.

You have to retire.

You die.





Anxiety
Compulsiveness
Greed

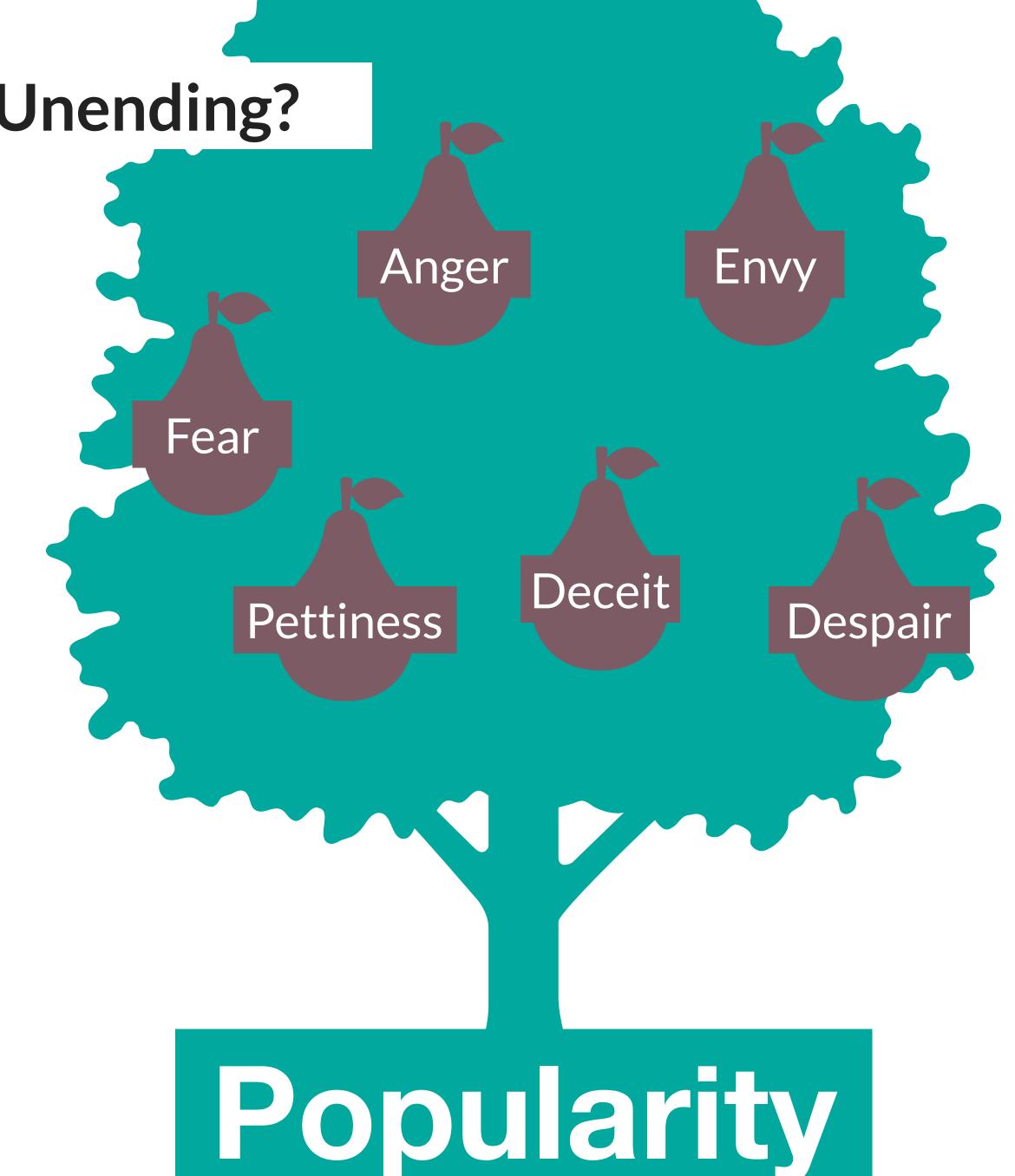
Neglect of others
Depression
Despair

### "So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit"

Matthew 7:17

Belonging,
Approval,
Peace,
Joy,
Security,
Freedom,
Purpose,
Meaning,
Love

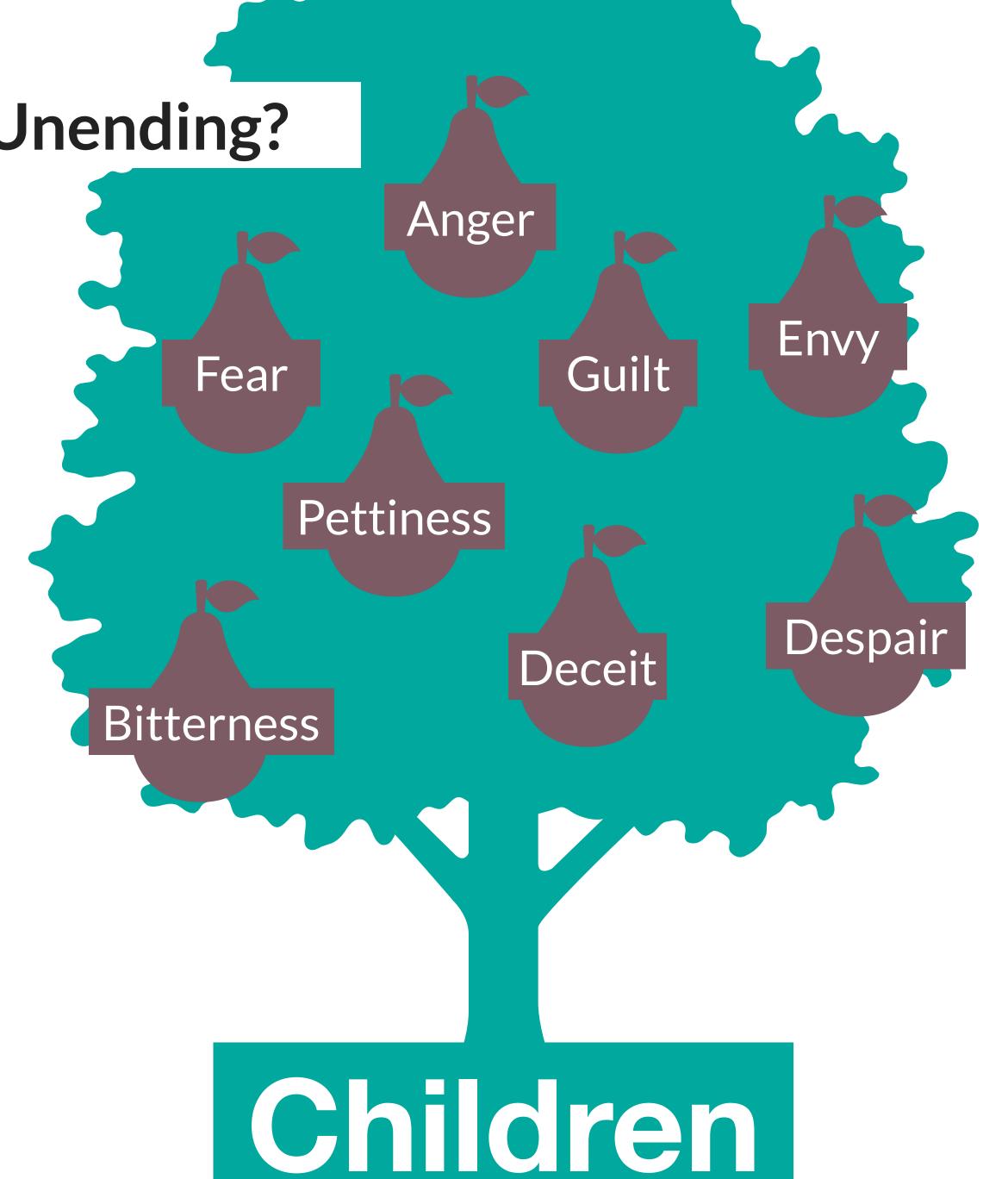
- It's never secure
- People are unpredictable
- People are foolish
- We always have to maintain it
- It's exhausting
- It's relationally shallow
- There's always someone more popular
- Or someone threatening our popularity
- You get forgotten
- We die



Belonging,
Approval,
Peace,
Joy,
Security,
Freedom,
Purpose,
Meaning,
Love

- They are imperfect.
- They are unpredictable.
- They will hurt you.
- They will let you down.
- They may reject you.
- They may leave you.
- They can be hurt.
- They can be stolen.
- They can die.
- You will die.

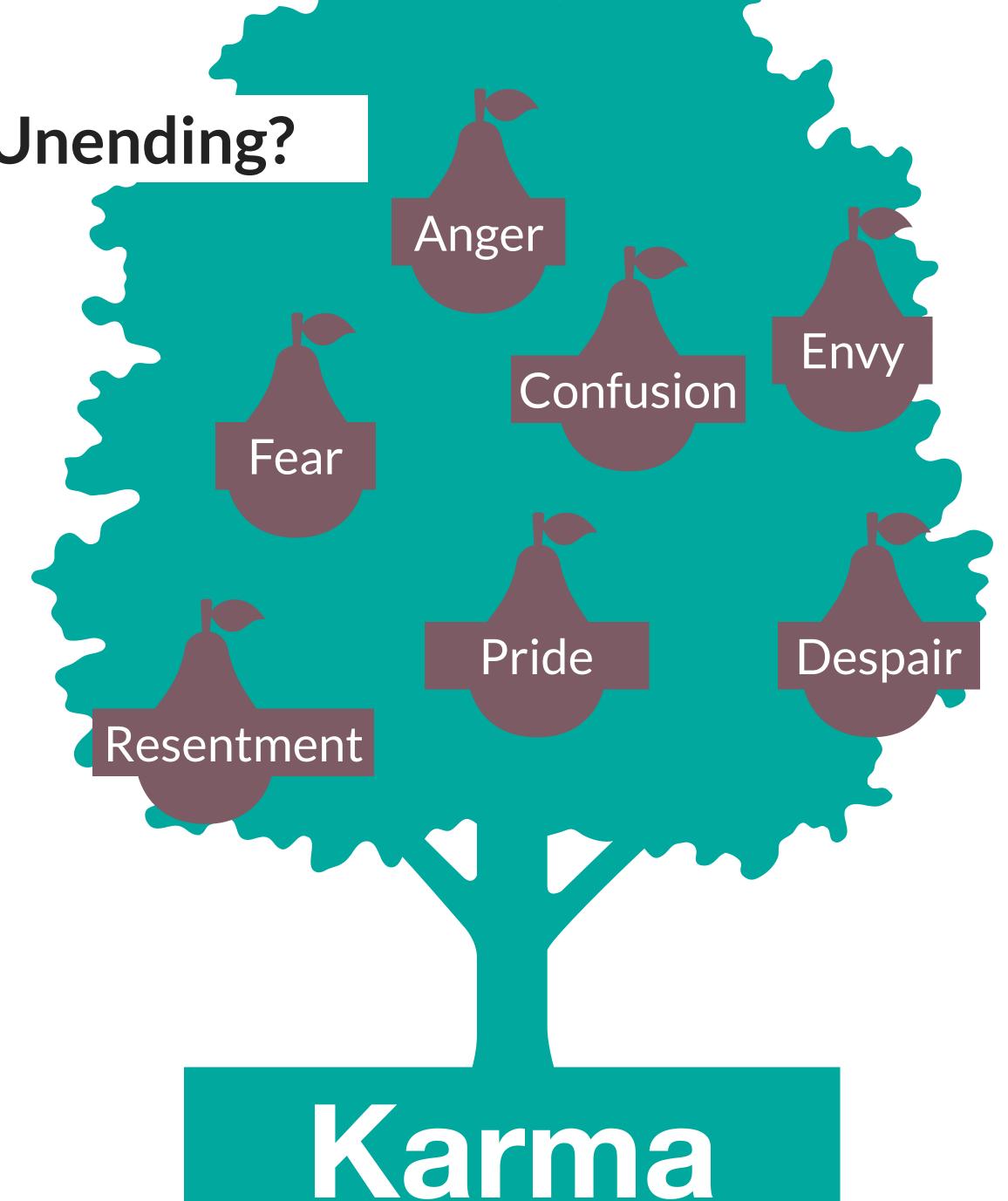
You will die.



Belonging,
Approval,
Peace,
Joy,
Security,
Freedom,
Purpose,
Meaning,
Love

- It's not secure.
- It can turn against us at anytime.
- We earn everything.
- We can fail.
- It's results are random.
- We die.

We die.



## What saviours/gods have they put their hopes in?

#### Some Common Idols/Saviours

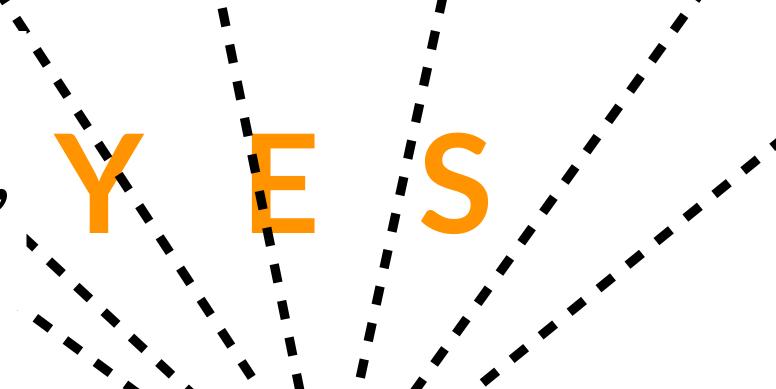
- Romance
- ▶ Children
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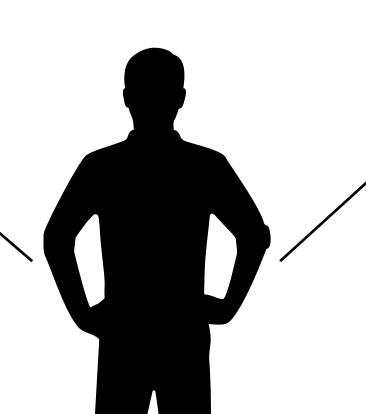
Unlimited,
Unstoppable,
Unending?



Showed his love for us by dying for us, once for all United to him we share in:

God's love for him His sonship and inheritance His righteousness & pleasingness

#### Jesus



His secure place at God's righthand
His eternal, resurrection life
His death to sin & victory over darkness
His purpose as his ambassadors

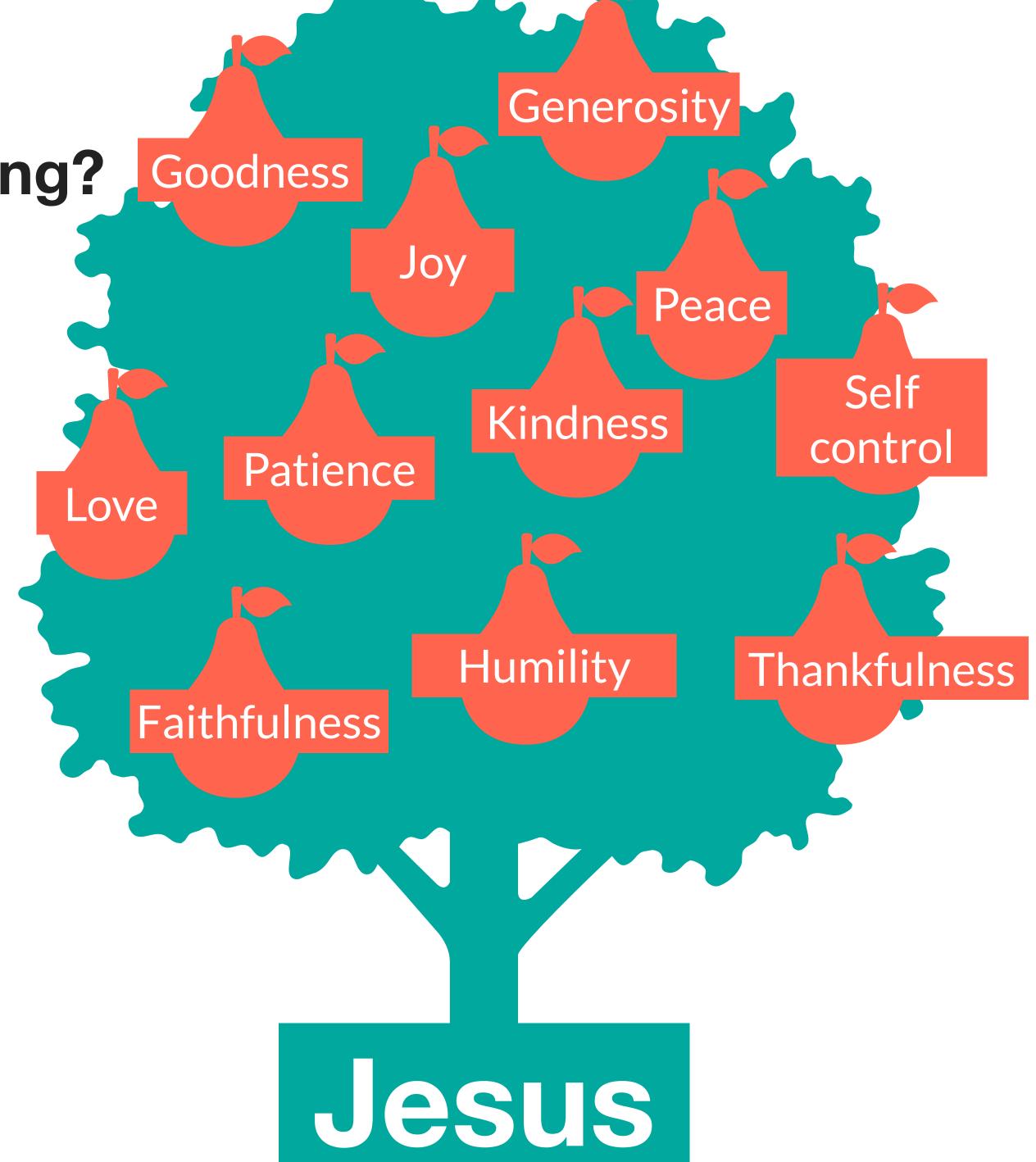
His glory as members of his body
Forever and always.

## "Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit"

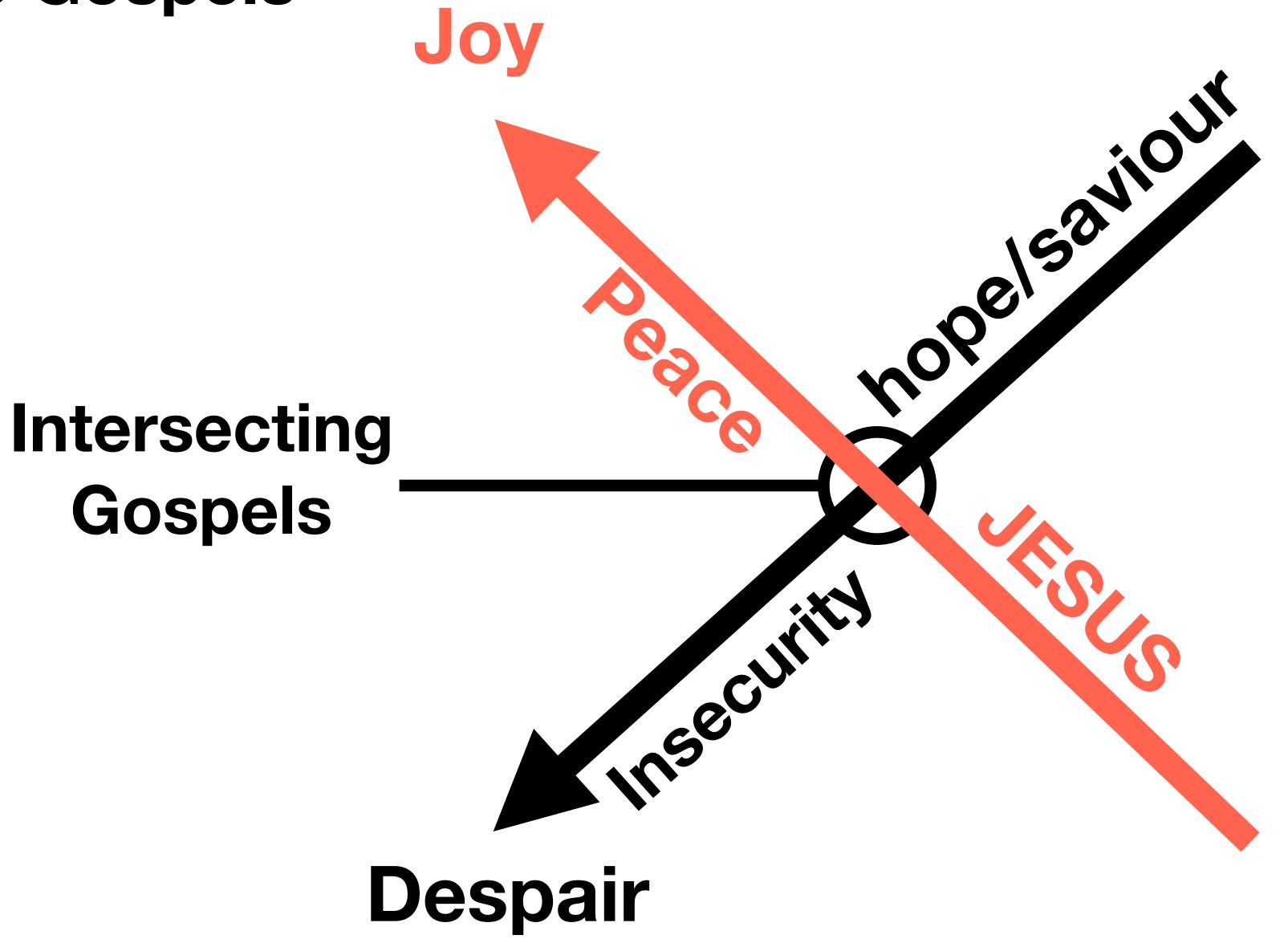
John 15:5

Belonging,
Approval,
Peace,
Joy,
Security,
Freedom,
Purpose,
Meaning,
Love

- Total forgiveness
- Complete justification
- Perfect righteousness
- Unescapable love
- Unmerited mercy & grace
- Guaranteed completion
- Eternal life
- Constant presence
- Never ending kindness
- Children & heirs forever
- Ambassadors for him
- Citizens of heaven
- Will rule & reign with him in the New Heaven & the New Earth



# How does Jesus meet/fulfill/eclipse their desires?



Something divine will save us Despair

Joy You get what you earn Despair

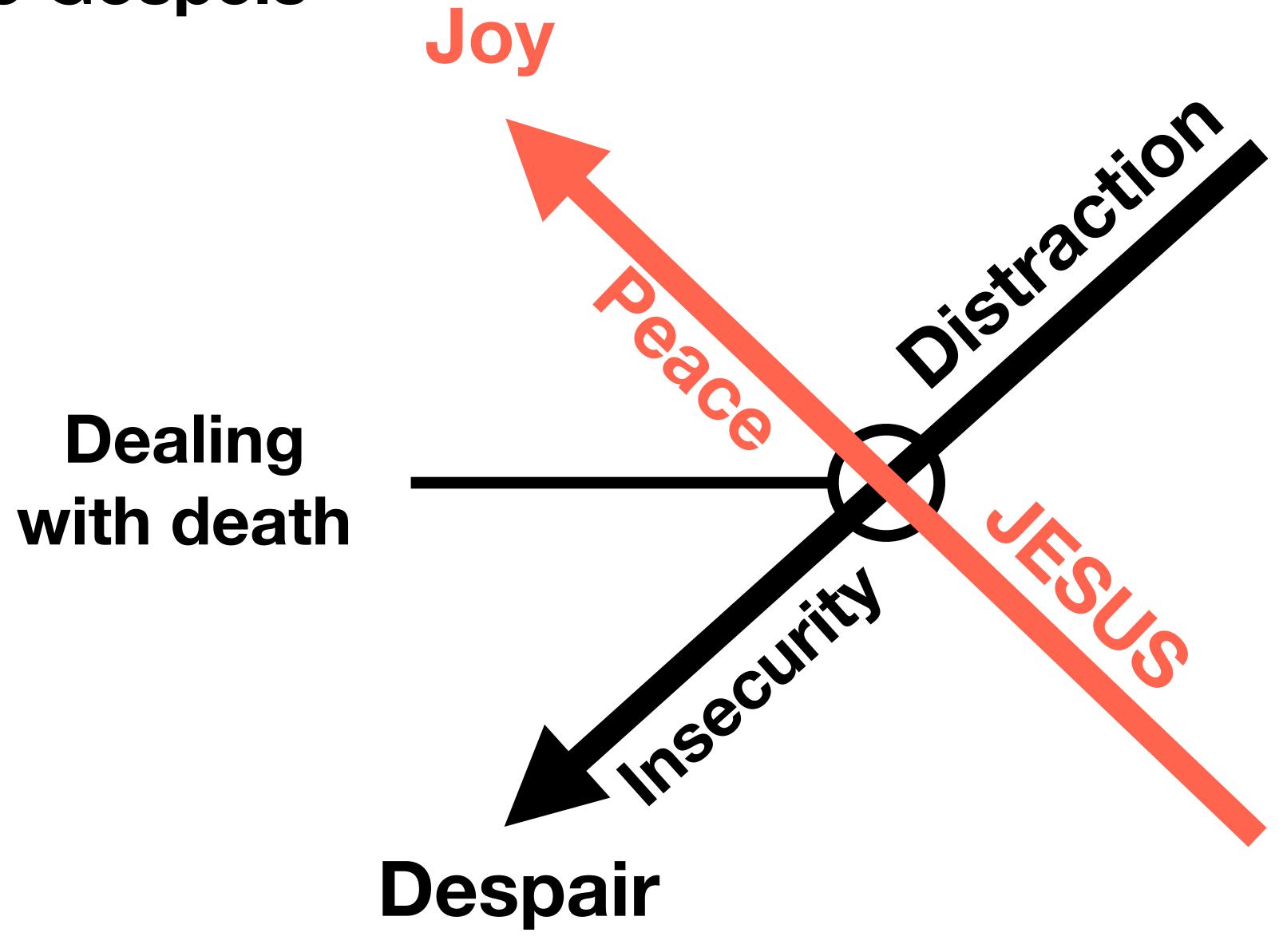
Deeds

define me

Joy Despair

Someone determines our identity Despair

Breakup



Miscarriage



#### 3 people

## How could you begin a gospel-conversation with them?

- Affirm their God-given desires
- Consider their idols and gospels
- See where the good news of Jesus intersects with them

