

2 Corinthians 8

Generosity, good news?





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It came down to helping the poor or giving the world's richest university \$400 mil it doesn't need. Wise choice John!

nytimes.com/2015/06/04/edu...

1:36 PM - 3 Jun 2015



The New York Times

John Paulson Gives \$400 Million to Harvard for Engineering School

The gift from Mr. Paulson, a billionaire hedge fund manager, is the largest in the university's history.



[View on web](#)



2,480



1,740



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Next up for John Paulson: volunteering at the Hermes store on Madison avenue. Let's make this a truly world class retail outlet!

1:40 PM - 3 Jun 2015



558



643



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Working the coat check at Art Basel. They're short staffed!

1:41 PM - 3 Jun 2015

  134  258



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If billionaires don't step up, Harvard will soon be down to its last \$30 billion.

1:43 PM - 3 Jun 2015

  1,297  1,455



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Apparently \$200 mil is earmarked for a satellite campus on St Barts.

1:49 PM - 3 Jun 2015

  180  313



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It's going to be named the John Paulson School of Financial Engineering

1:52 PM - 3 Jun 2015



 223

 360



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Harvard's pitch to Paulson: not all privileged people are equally privileged!

2:32 PM - 3 Jun 2015



 391

 498



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Paulson to Harvard: is there a way to give back without actually giving anything back?

2:38 PM - 3 Jun 2015



 343

 547

How is generosity good news?

1 We want you to know, brothers and sisters,
about the grace of God that has been granted
to the churches of Macedonia; 2 for during a
severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy
and their extreme poverty have overflowed in
a wealth of generosity on their part. 3 For, as I
can testify, they voluntarily gave according to
their means, and even beyond their means,

2 Corinthians
Chapter 8

4 begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints - 5 and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, 6 so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you.

2 Corinthians
Chapter 8

7 Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

8 I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others.

2 Corinthians
Chapter 8

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2 Corinthians 8

Generosity, good news?



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2 Corinthians
Chapter 8



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2 Corinthians
Chapter 8

You



Poorer than you →

You're in **the top**

0.19%

richest people in the world by income.

That makes **you** the

11,425,788th

richest person on earth by income.

Share your results:



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

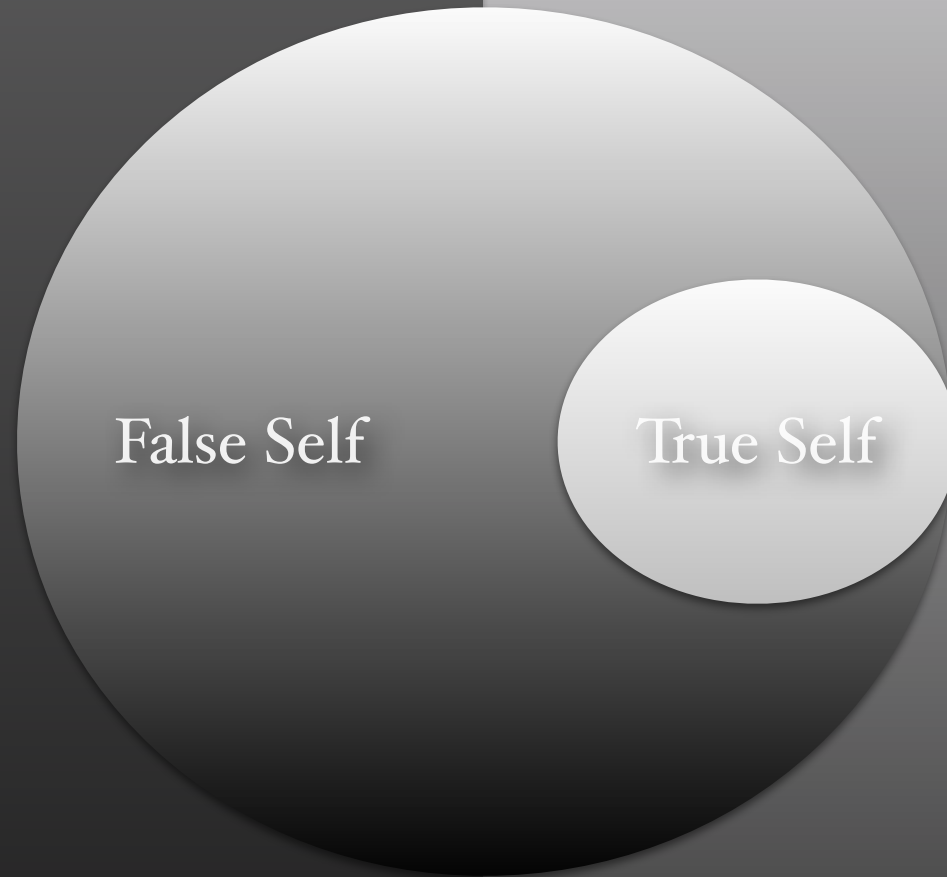


Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

False Self

True Self



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

Religion

Life to the Full

Ego

Image of God

False Self

True Self

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self Control

Debauchery

Immorality



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

Generosity

False Self

True Self

Success
Wealth
Scarcity

Love
Joy
Peace
Patience
Kindness
Goodness
Faithfulness
Gentleness
Self Control

Immorality

Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

False Self

True Self

Generosity

Immorality





Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

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2 Corinthians
Chapter 8

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2 Corinthians
Chapter 8

“Sacrifice” usually leads to a well-hidden sense of entitlement and perpetuates the vicious circle of merit, a mind-set that leads most of us to assume that we are more deserving than others because of what we have given or done. As the old saying goes, all expectations and self-sacrifice are just resentments waiting to happen. Jesus came to end all false sacrificial notions, I believe, and he did it once and for all (Hebrews 7:27, 10:10-15).

But the ego and egoic culture led us right back into it, probably because the False Self rightly feels so unworthy that it must earn a sense of worthiness through some notion of heroism or hard work. Even rich white men who are born into their money will somehow let you know how much they “sacrificed” to get what they have. When you sacrifice, you always “deserve.” Sacrifice, much more than we care to admit, creates entitlement, a “you-owe-me” attitude, and a well-hidden sense of superiority.

Jesus brilliantly said, “Go, learn the meaning of the words, ‘What I want is mercy and not sacrifice.’” It seems to have been one of his favorite lines from Hosea (Matthew 9:13, 12:7), although it was a risky and dangerous idea in a religion still based in temple tithes and the sacrifice of animals and grains.

Jesus knew that most notions of sacrifice largely appeal to our False Self, are not needed by the True Self, and are almost always manipulated and misused by people, most institutions, and warring nations.

- Richard Rohr



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

Sacrifice

Resentment

Entitlement

False Self

True Self



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

Sacrifice

Grace

Resentment

Gratitude

Entitlement

Joy



“Joy is a sign of generosity. When you are full of joy, you move faster and you want to go about doing good to everyone.”

- Mother Teresa

Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

Religion

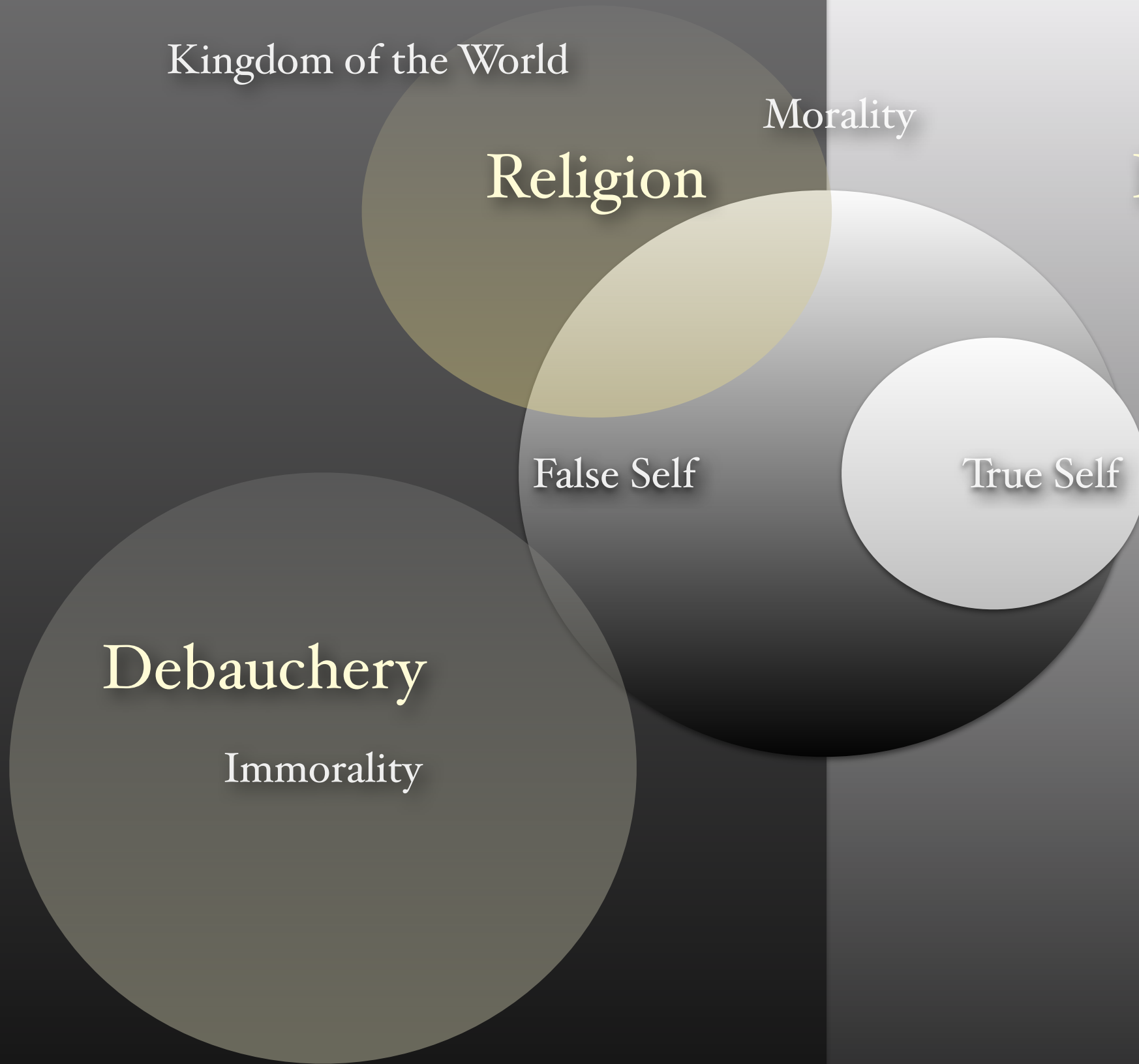
Life to the Full

False Self

True Self

Debauchery

Immorality



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Morality

Grace

False Self

True Self

Why?
Out of Love?
To be loved?
Return?

It is just not the Gospel, but only its most common substitute. You see, there is a love that sincerely seeks the spiritual good of others, and there is a love that is seeking superiority, admiration, and control for itself, even and most especially by doing “good” and heroic things.

- Richard Rohr

7 Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

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2 Corinthians
Chapter 8

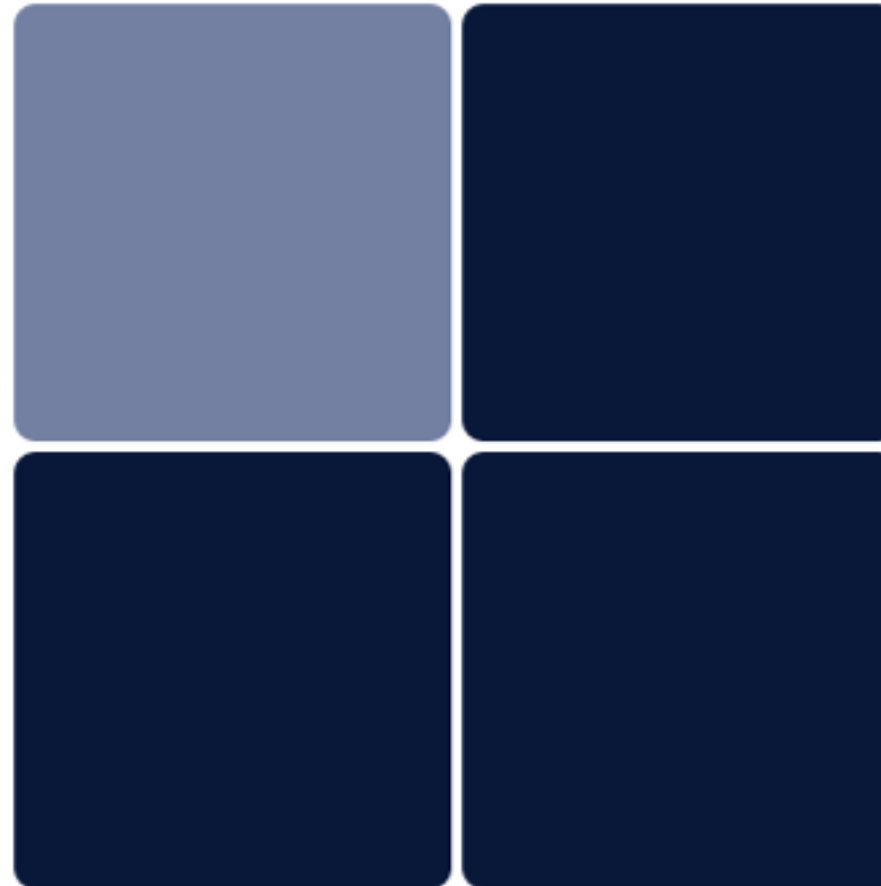


15

Which one of the boxes has an irregular color?



WHICH ONE OF THE BOXES HAS AN IRREGULAR COLOR?



SCORE

0

ERRORS

0



Which
one of the boxes
has an irregular
color?



**WHICH ONE OF THE BOXES
HAS AN IRREGULAR COLOR?**



SCORE

1

ERRORS

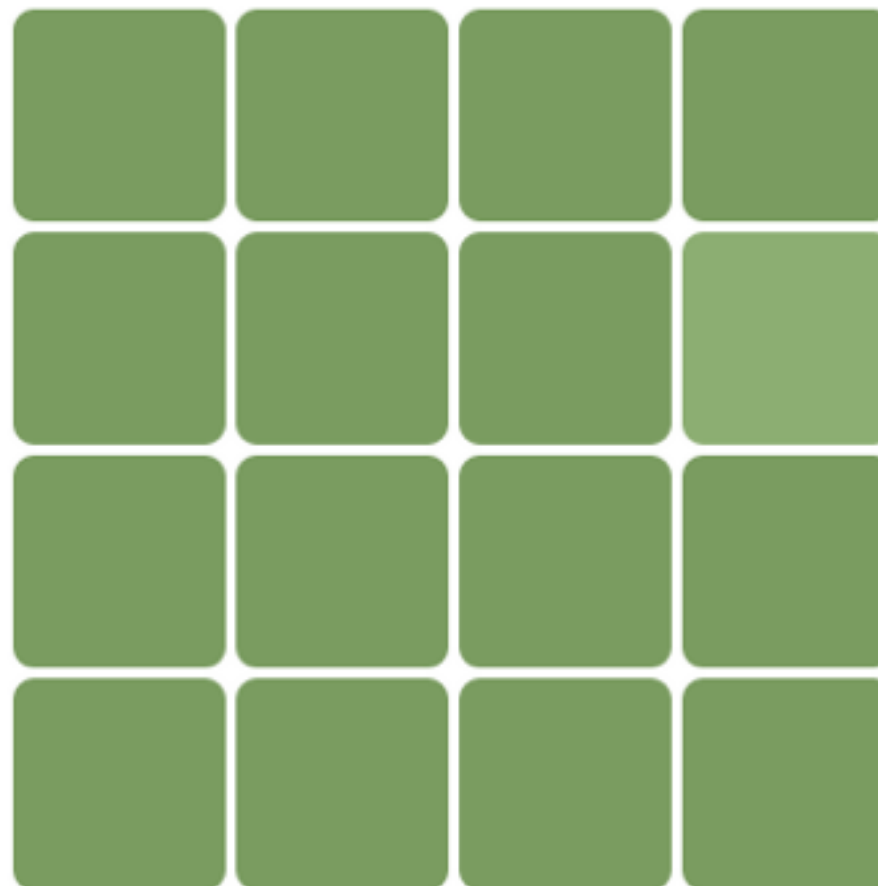
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Which
one of the boxes
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color?



**WHICH ONE OF THE BOXES
HAS AN IRREGULAR COLOR?**



SCORE

6

ERRORS

0

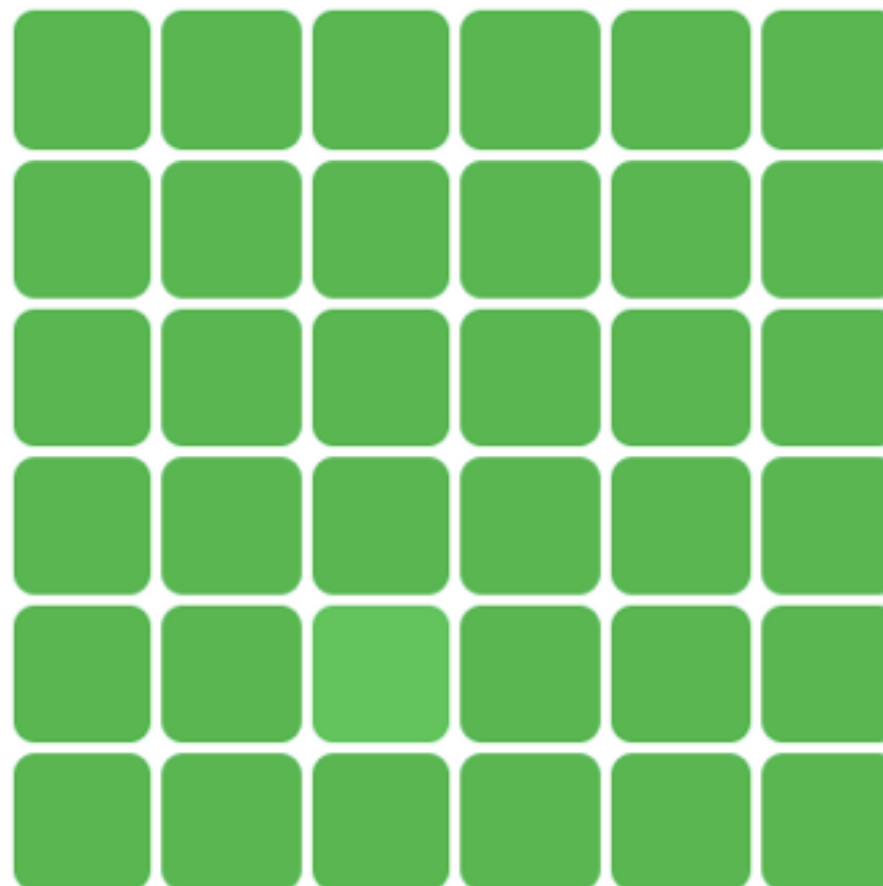


13

Which one of the boxes has an irregular color?



WHICH ONE OF THE BOXES HAS AN IRREGULAR COLOR?



SCORE

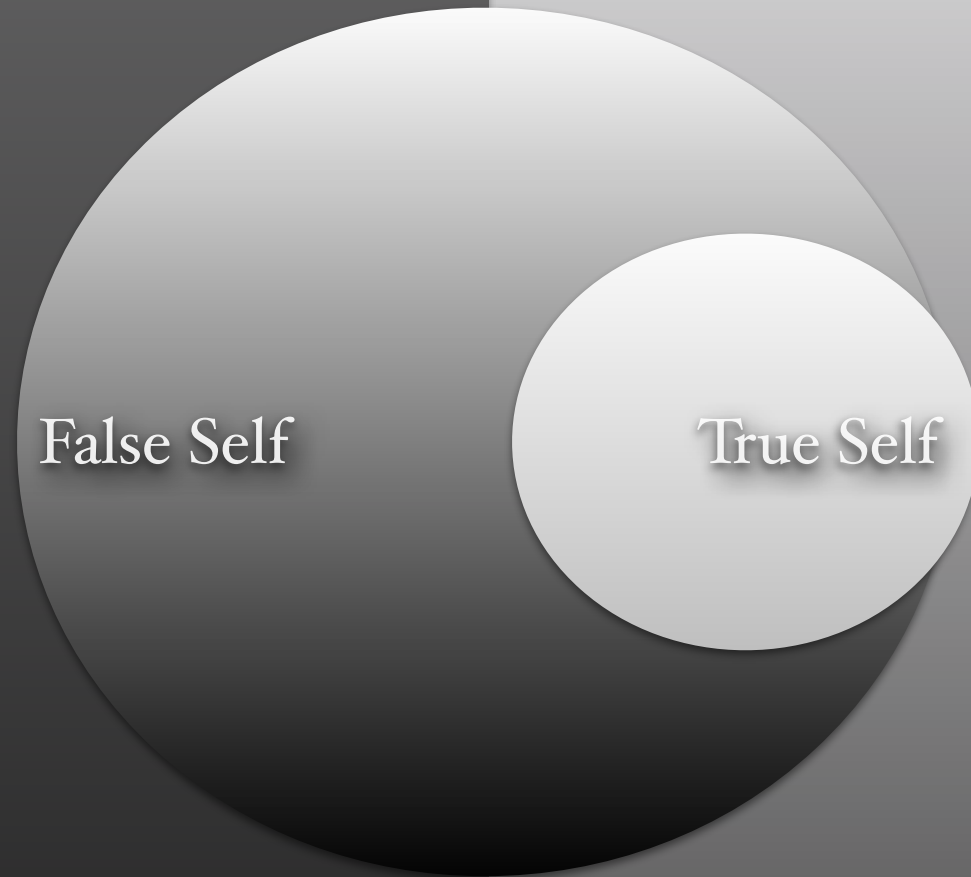
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ERRORS

1

Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



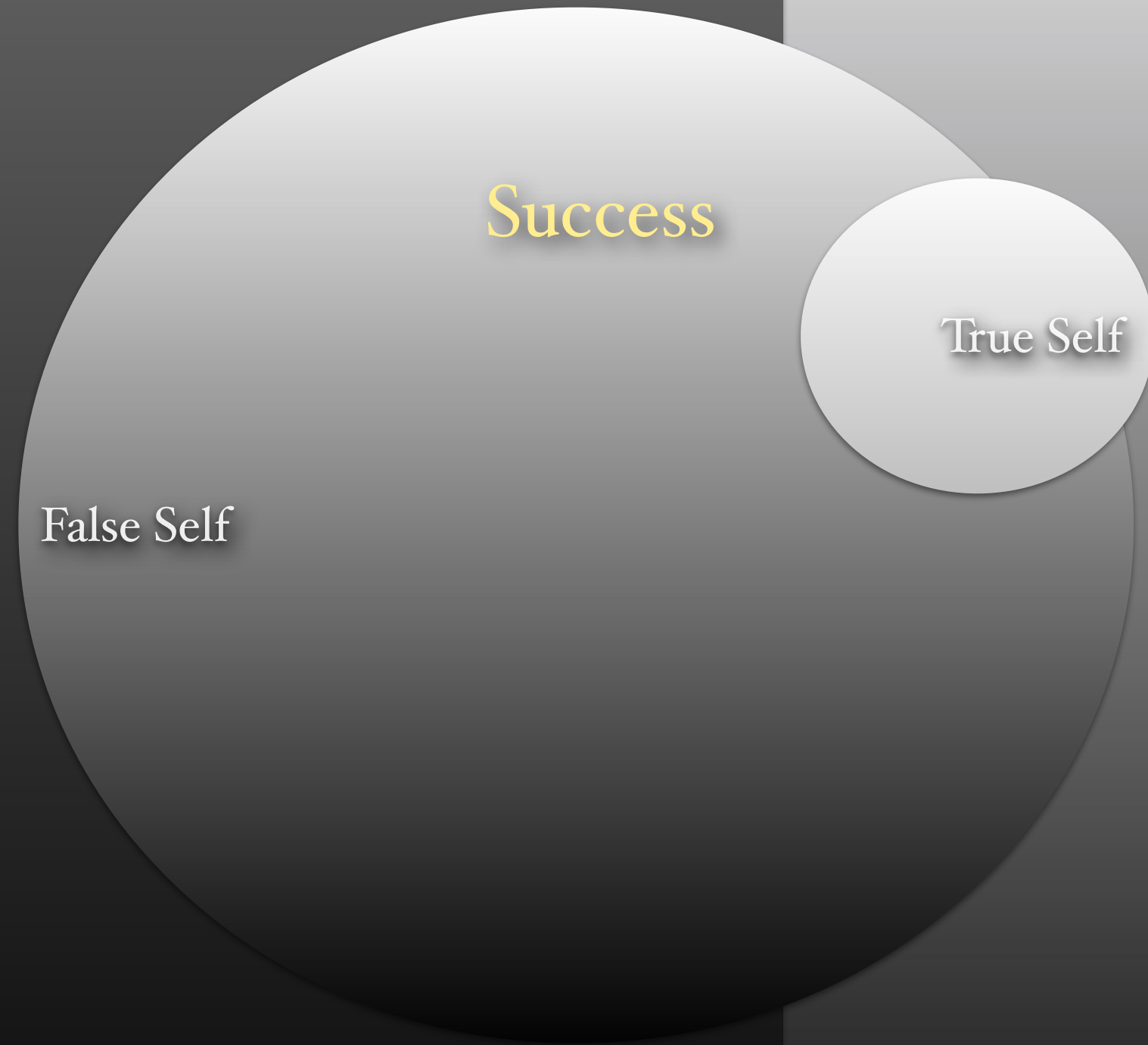
Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Success

True Self

False Self



“If I had a message to my contemporaries it is surely this: Be anything you like, be madmen, drunks, and bastards of every shape and form, but at all costs avoid one thing: success . . . If you are too obsessed with success, you will forget to live. If you have learned only how to be a success, your life has probably been wasted.”

- Thomas Merton

Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Beatitudes

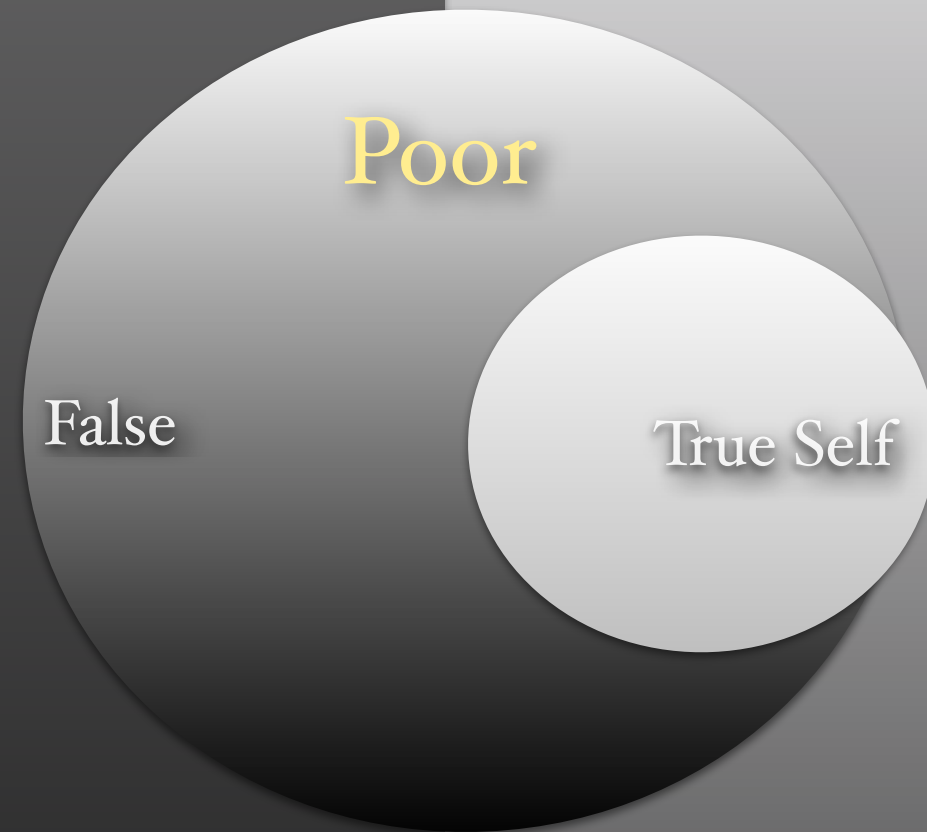
False Self

True Self



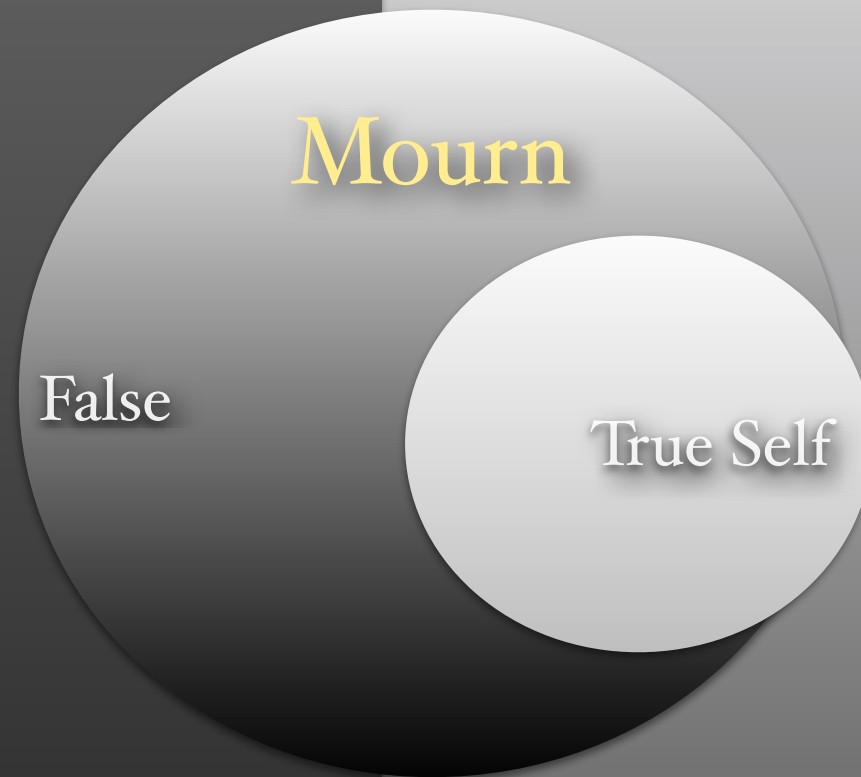
Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



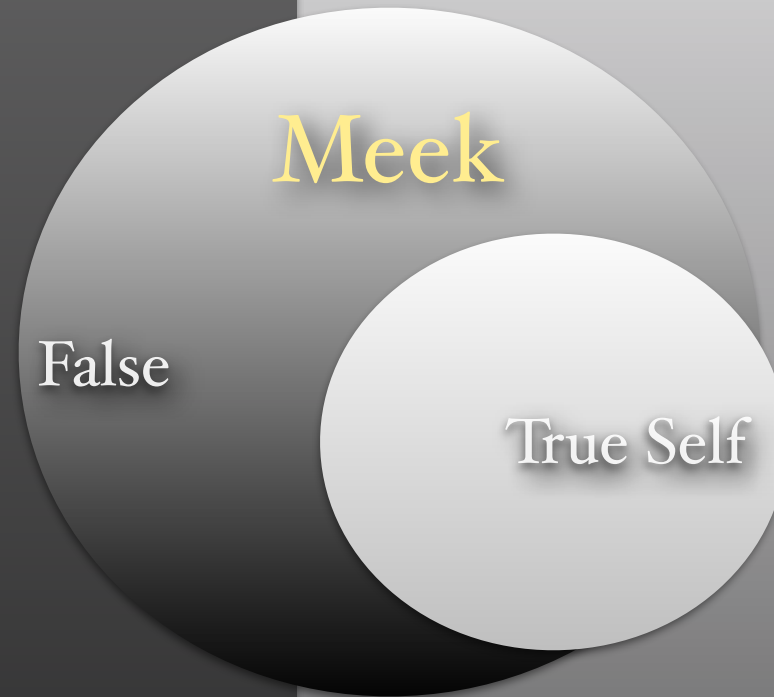
Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Persecuted

False

True Self

For theirs is
the Kingdom
of Heaven

How is generosity a path to good news?

Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God



Kingdom of the World

Kingdom of God

Kingdom of God is within you

Luke 17:21



False Self

True Self

2 Corinthians 8

Generosity, good news?

