'Jesus and his disciples arrived on the other side of Lake Galilee, in the territory of Gerasa. ²As soon as Jesus got out of the boat, he was met by a man who came out of the burial caves there. This man had an evil spirit in him and lived among the tombs. Nobody could keep him tied with chains any more; 4many times his feet and his hands had been tied, but every time he broke the chains and smashed the irons on his feet. He was too strong for anyone to control him. ⁵Day and night he wandered among the tombs and through the hills, screaming and cutting himself with stones.

⁶He was some distance away when he saw Jesus; so he ran, fell on his knees before him, ⁷and screamed in a loud voice, "Jesus, Son of the Most High God! What do you want with me? For God's sake, I beg you, don't punish me!" ⁸(He said this because Jesus was saying, "Evil spirit, come out of this man!") ⁹So Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" The man answered, "My name is 'Mob'-there are so many of us!" ¹⁰And he kept begging Jesus not to send the evil spirits out of that region.

¹¹There was a large herd of pigs near by, feeding on a hillside. ¹²So the spirits begged Jesus, "Send us to the pigs, and let us go into them." ¹³He let them go, and the evil spirits went out of the man and entered the pigs. The whole herd-about two thousand pigs in all-rushed down the side of the cliff into the lake and was drowned. ¹⁴The men who had been taking care of the pigs ran away and spread the news in the town and among the farms. People went out to see what had happened, ¹⁵ and when they came to Jesus, they saw the man who used to have the mob of demons in him.

He was sitting there, clothed and in his right mind; and they were all afraid. 16 Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the man with the demons, and about the pigs. 17So they asked Jesus to leave their territory. 18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had had the demons begged him, "Let me go with you!" 19 But Jesus would not let him. Instead, he told him, "Go back home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and how kind he has been to you." ²⁰So the man left and went all through the Ten Towns, telling what Jesus had done for him. And all who heard it were amazed.

PIGSOVER PEOPLE

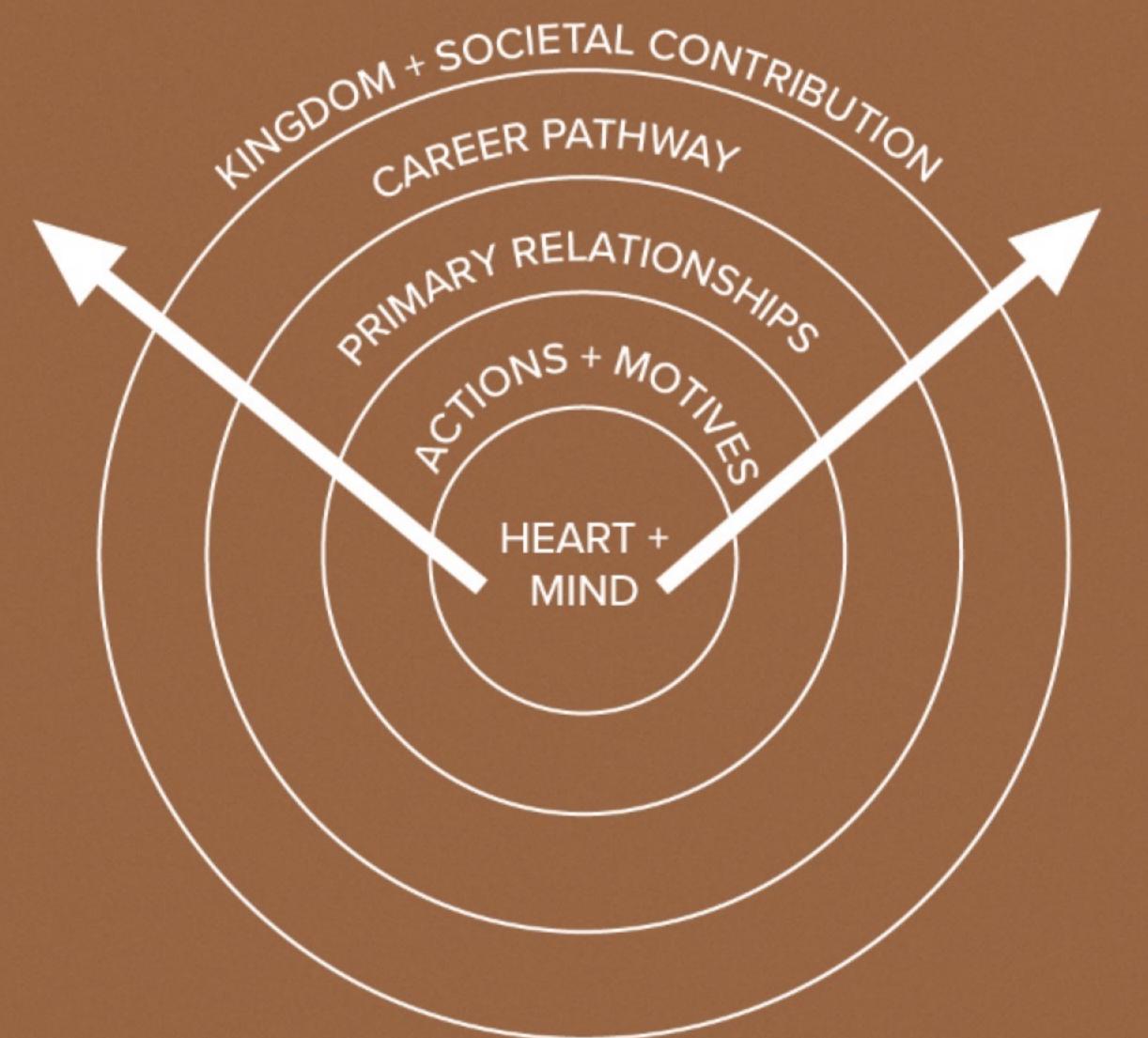
Choosing the Pigs over the People Was Choosing:

- 1. Profit
- 2. Power
- 3. Pleasure

A "Me" Focused Life Results In:

- 1. Missing Out on God Working Around Us
- 2. Missing Out on God Working In Us
- 3. Missing Out on God Working Through Us

SELF-APPEASING VALUES



CHRIST-HONORING VALUES



We Walk in Power When We Value What Jesus Values

Jesus Gave the Possessed Man:

- 1. Personal Freedom
- 2. Relational Connection
- 3. A Higher Purpose

We Walk in Power When We Sacrifice the Way Jesus Sacrificed

Sacrifice:

Etymologically comes from "to make sacred."

Something given up for the sake of another.

"Sacrifice is the surrender of something of value for the sake of something else." - Augustine

"I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing: I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven."

John Wesley

David Webster

Member of U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division during World War 2; Author of *Parachute Infantry: An American Paratrooper's Memoir of D-Day and the Fall of the Third Reich*, used as background for "Band of Brothers."



To his mother: "Stop worrying about me. I joined the parachutists to fight. I intend to fight. If necessary, I shall die fighting, but don't worry about this because no war can be won without young men dying. Those things which are precious are saved only by sacrifice."



The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had: ⁶He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God. ⁷Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness. ⁸He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death- his death on the cross.

Philippians 2:5-8 (GNT)