

Soul Care¹

“Having conversations that matter” – Larry Crabb

What emotions or desires are in you?

(Think PASSION)

What passions are driving you and how you respond to the other person?

The core battle common to all of us is the battle between Self-Obsession and God-Obsession.

• Self-Obsession vs. God-Obsession:

- Self-Obsession: the conviction that I must protect myself from personal pain at all costs. My highest value becomes comfort, security, and a personal sense of well-being. I become increasingly dependent on second-things for my source of joy.
- God-Obsession: the conviction that God is infinitely good and loving, and that seeking to know Him and to advance His purposes is the only source of lasting and genuine joy. Drawing near to God as the first thing in my life is my source of joy.

How are your desires and passions related to the core battle within you?

What emotions or desires are in the other person?

(Think BENEATH)

How might the words and actions and attitude of the other person relate to the core battle inside of him or her?

What might God be doing in the person?

(Think VISION)

How might this person’s life be different as self-obsession is recognized and God-obsession grows?

What has shaped this person?

(Think STORY)

How has the particular expression of the core battle in this person been shaped by circumstances, family, etc.?

What would draw this person toward God?

(Think MOVEMENT)

What would help this person recognize the subtlety of self-obsession and the beauty of God-obsession?

¹ Adapted from *Guide to Soul Care*, NewWay Ministries, 2006.

<http://newwayministries.org/>