



IDENTITY CRISIS WK 4
Bill Bush | 05.15.2022

BIG IDEA | When we make **DESIRE** our **DEFINITION**, it leads to a **DEAD END**.

Should I **FOLLOW** my heart?

Jeremiah 17:9 (NLT)

⁹ The human heart is the most deceitful of all things,
and desperately wicked.
Who really knows how bad it is?

Proverbs 14:12 (NLT)

¹² There is a path before each person that seems right,
but it ends in death.

James 1:12-18 (NLT)

¹² God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, "God is tempting me." God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. ¹⁴ Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. ¹⁵ These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

¹⁶ So don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father,

who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. ¹⁸ He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

"Sin once *TOLERATED* seeks to be *ACCEPTED*, and sin once *ACCEPTED* seeks to be *CELEBRATED*." - *Mark Dever*

Romans 1:18-32 (NLT)

¹⁸ But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. ¹⁹ They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. ²⁰ For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

²¹ Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. ²² Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. ²³ And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴ So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. ²⁵ They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. ²⁶ That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. ²⁷ And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each

other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved. ²⁸ Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. ²⁹ Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. ³⁰ They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. ³¹ They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. ³² They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

Romans 2:1 (NLT)

¹ You may think you can condemn such people, but you are just as bad, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are condemning yourself, for you who judge others do these very same things.

John 14:6 (NLT)

⁶ Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Psalms 37:4 (NLT)

⁴ Take delight in the Lord,
and he will give you your heart's desires.

If I want WHAT GOD WANTS, I will always get WHAT I WANT.

Ezekiel 36:25-26 (NLT)

²⁵ There, son of man, you will be tied with ropes so you cannot go out among the people. ²⁶ And I will make your tongue stick to the

roof of your mouth so that you will be speechless and unable to rebuke them, for they are rebels.

FOUR QUESTIONS:

1. Are you willing to compromise biblical truth?
2. Will you or do you become angry if you can't do it / don't get it or are shown that God says this is not the way to go?
3. Do you value it over people?
4. Does it push you closer to God or pull you further away?