

Addiction and Worries vs. Life and Peace

Presented By Grace Fellowship International
Uncommon Recovery
Cross Focused Identity-Based Recovery

Uncommon Recovery is the recovery ministry of Grace Fellowship International



ADDICTION

LIFE

Addiction Steals, Kills, and Destroys

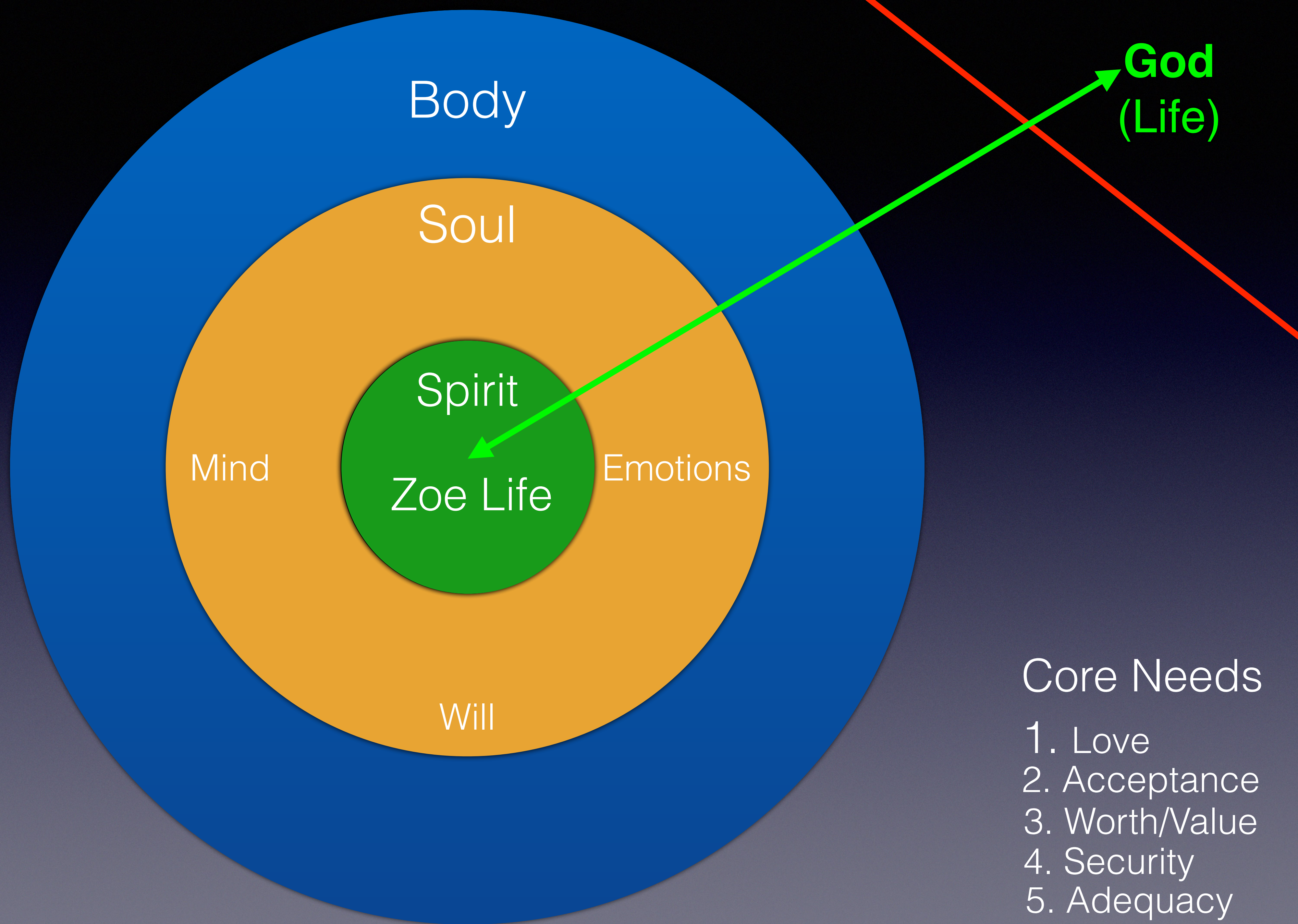
“The thief comes to steal, kill, and
destroy; I came that they might have
life, and might have it **abundantly**”

Jesus

John 10:10



Shame



“(14)Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, (15) and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”

Hebrews 2: 14&15 (NKJV)

Fear of Death

Biblically speaking, death is the absence of God's life. Fear of death is the fear of not having the qualities or characteristics of His life as one's sustenance. It's so much more than fearing the end of the life we live in the mortal body. The fear of anything which falls short of God's life is the fear of death.

Fear of Death

- A fear absence of love, acceptance, worth (or value), security, and (or) adequacy is the fear of death.
- Shame is a manifestation of the fear of death.
- Anxiety and worries are symptoms of a perception of the absence of God's life.
- God is love, acceptance, worth (or value), security, and adequacy.
- Because of the finished work of Christ, including the cross, resurrection, and our participation with Him, children of God now possess all that He is!
- To believe that addiction has a greater power over you than the life of God is a manifestation of the fear of death!

“For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority”

Colossians 2: 9&10

“In order to understand why we do what we do, we need to see that most of us operate from deficit motivation trying to obtain something we believe will meet our personal needs.”

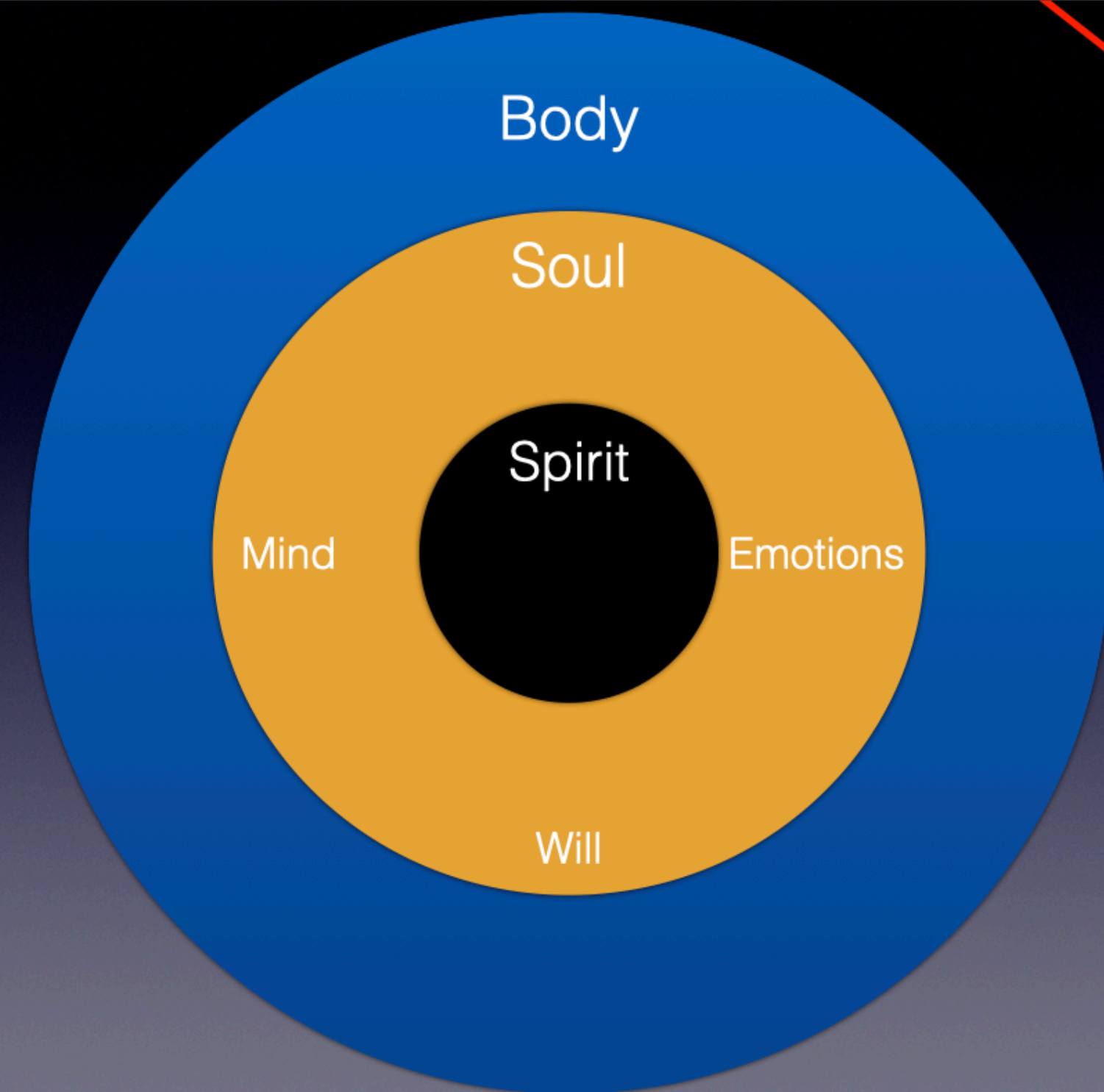
Dr. Larry Crabb

Dr. Crabb, a Christian counselor, author, and university professor, correctly understands deficit motivation. Biblically speaking, fear of death is the foundation deficit motivation. All bondage rests upon deficit motivation (Heb. 2:15).

Fear of Death the result of the fallen condition of those in Adam.

Colossians 2:13

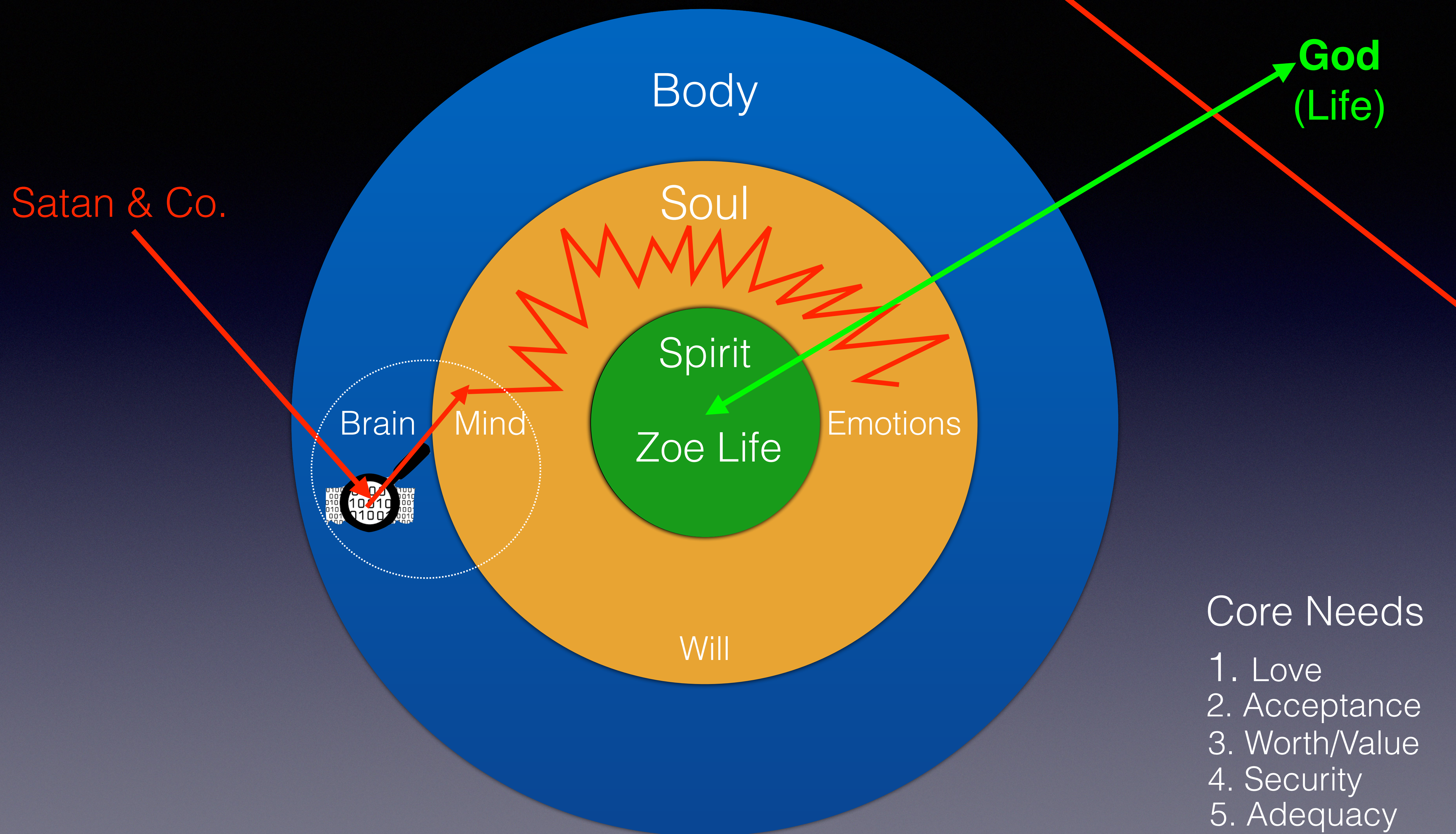
“And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions.”



God
(Life)

Core Needs

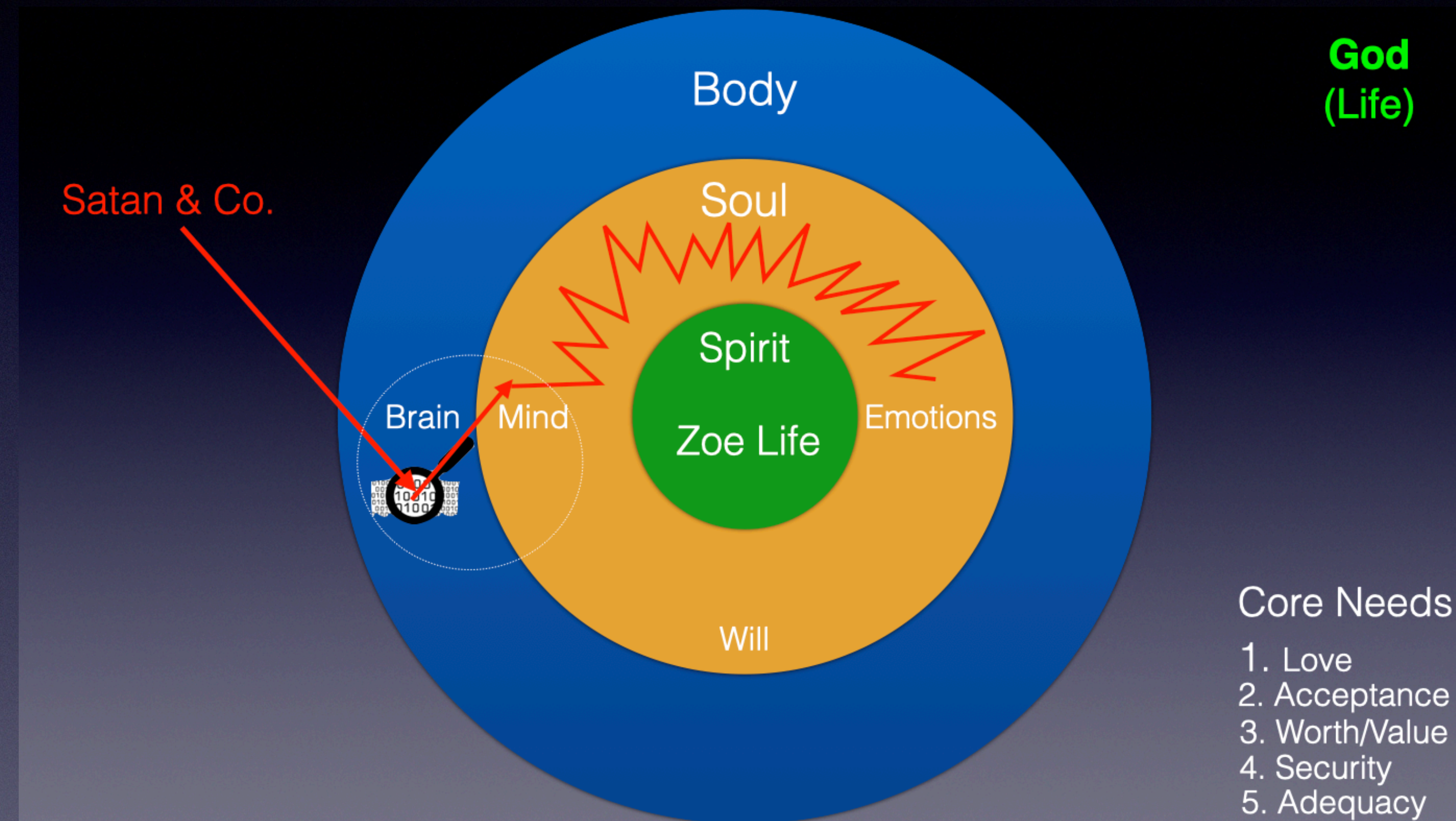
1. Love
2. Acceptance
3. Worth/Value
4. Security
5. Adequacy



In a Child of God fear of death is a lie-based illusion that is presented in the realm of the soul.

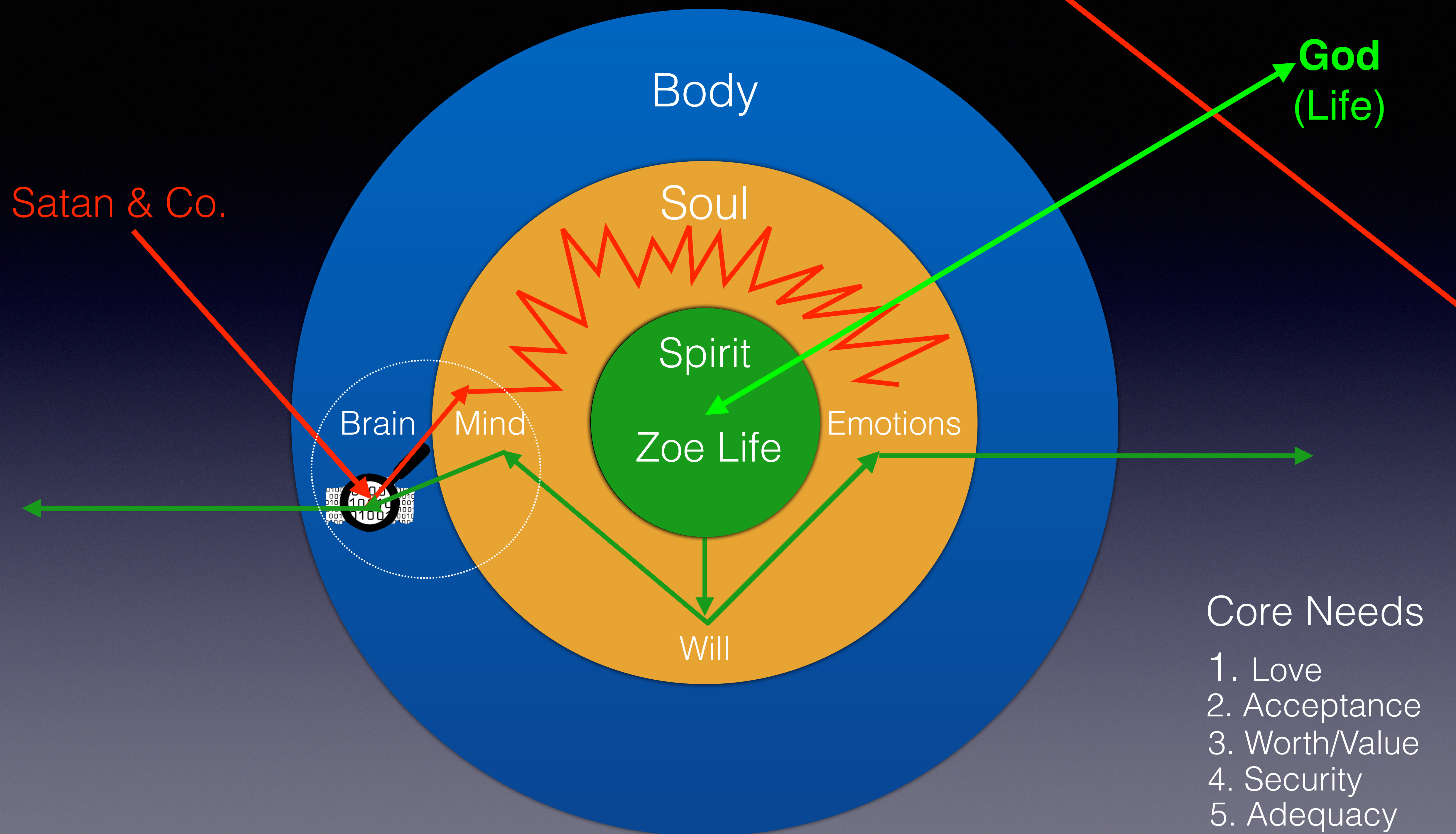
“But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).”

Ephesians 2:4&5 (NASB)



“I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Romans 12:1&2



All Flesh Choices are Addictive

According to a study published in the international journal of Environmental Research and Public Health there are five primary elements of addiction.

- An engagement in a behavior for appetitive motives.
- Preoccupation with the behavior.
- Temporary satiation.
- Loss of control.
- Negative consequences.

Walking according to the flesh is a vain choice to produce life that leads to all five characteristics of addiction!

- Engagement to appease desire (Appetitive desire). *Eph. 2:3, “Among whom we too all formerly lived in the lust of our flesh, indulging in the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.”*
- Preoccupation with the behavior. Rom. 8:5, “For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.”
- Temporary satiation. 1 Peter 1:24 (NKJV) “Because, ‘All flesh is as grass, And the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away.’”
- Loss of control. Rom. 6:16a, “Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are a slave of the one whom you obey —.”
- Negative Consequences: Rom. 8:6, “For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.”

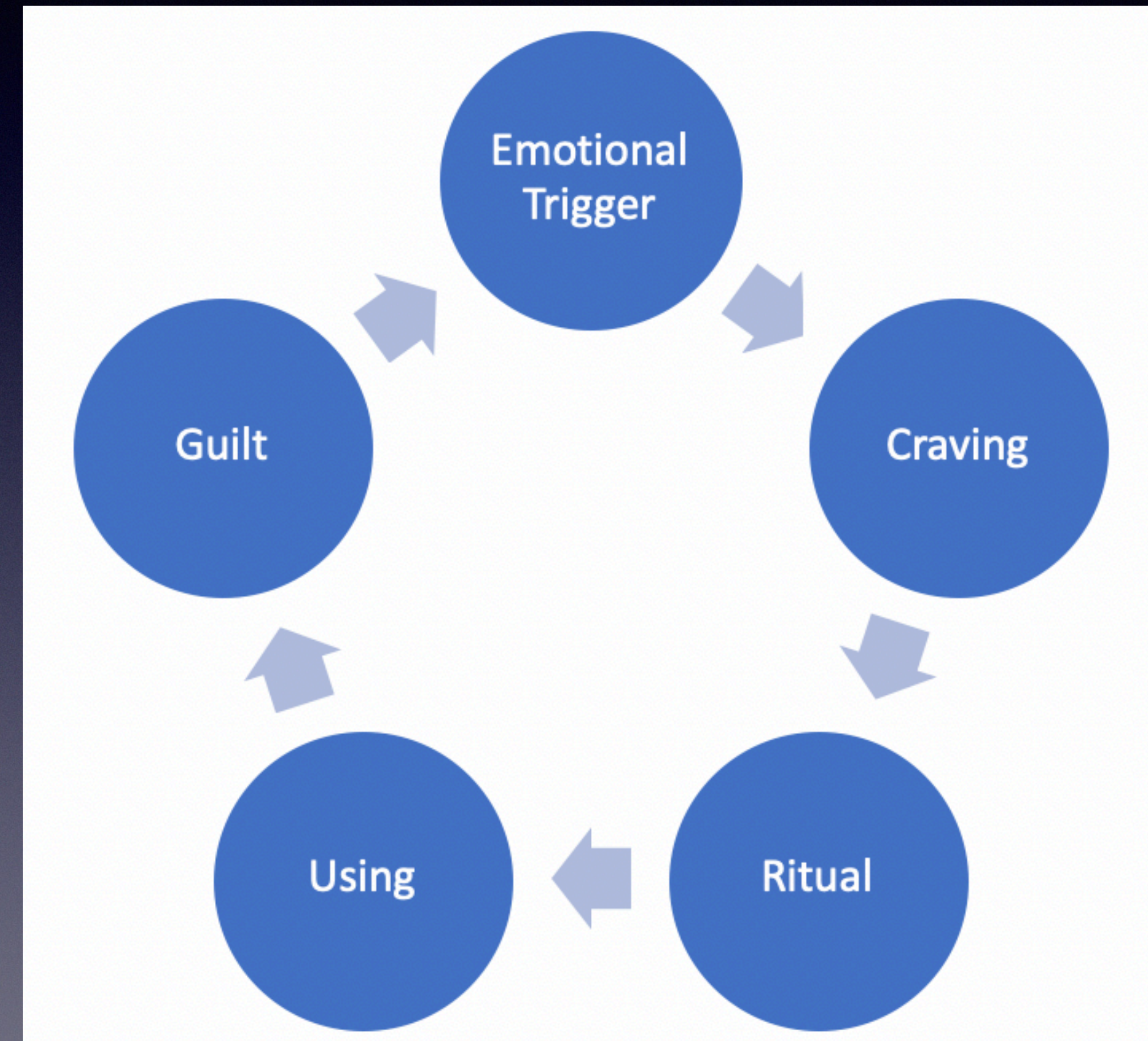
Everyone either is, or has been addicted to something or someone!

Addiction is a vain attempt to meet one's needs through gaining a heightened sensation of life in some manner.

Walking, by grace through faith, in the Life that Jesus is and His children possess is the only answer. In order to break the cycle of addiction, one must choose to break their confidence in the flesh.

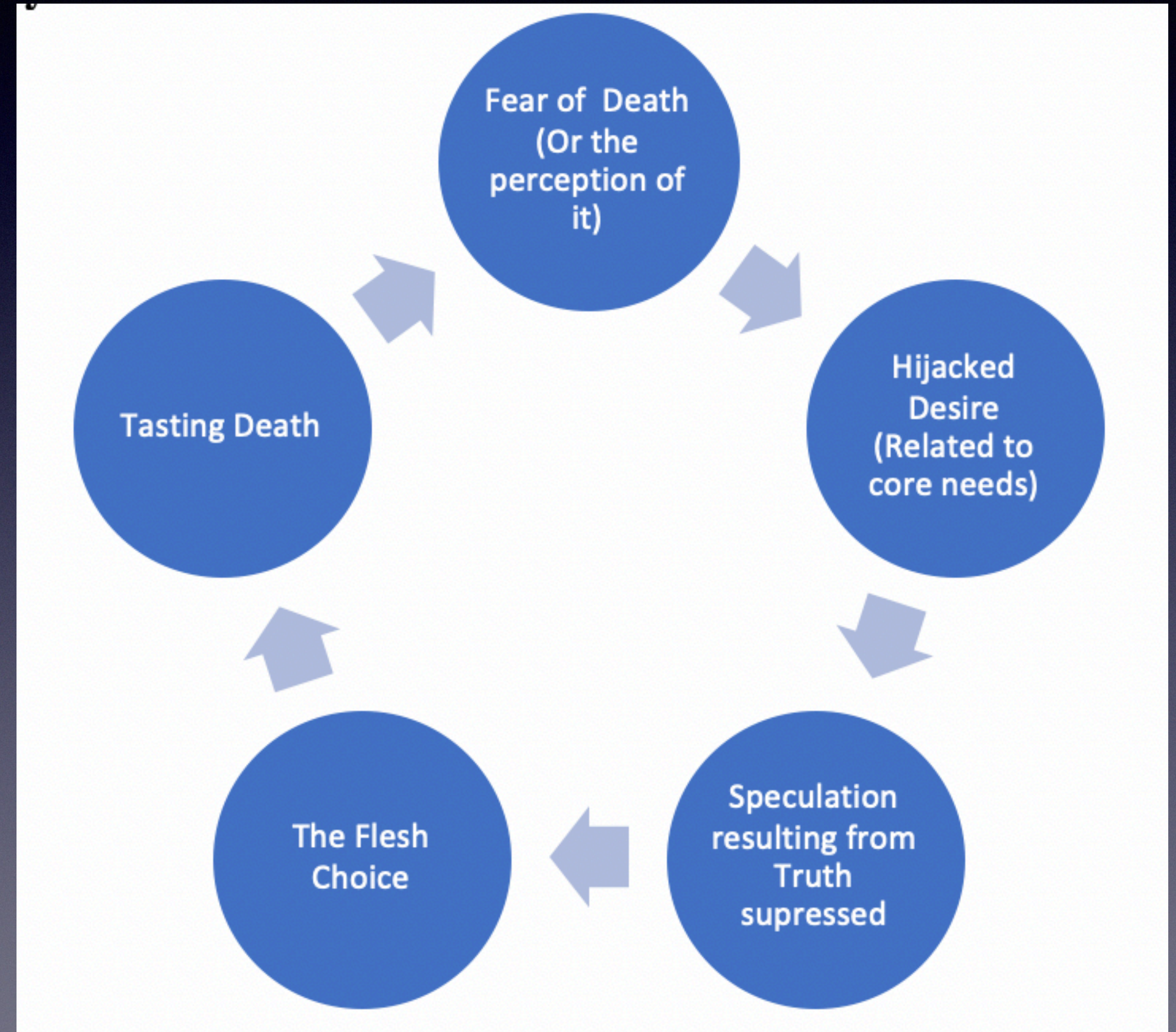
The Addiction Cycle As Defined by Psychology

- Emotional Trigger: The emotional trigger is thought to be anything from unresolved internal conflict, co-occurring disorders (such as anxiety or depression), social pressure, or the allure of usage.
- Craving: The mental and emotional desire to use.
- Ritual: This involves specific behaviors occurring prior to the choice to use that are a part of the process leading towards usage. They can include attempts not to use such as attempting to engage in a non-using behavior, calling a non-using friend, or even asking for prayer.
- Using: This phase consist of both the choice and the act to use.
- Guilt: During the guilt phase the user may resolve to change or embrace the addiction as a “victim” of the substance. During the guilt phase, unresolved shame will restart the cycle.



The Biblical Cycle of Addiction

- Fear of Death: All bondage, including addiction, rest on the fear of death (Heb. 2:15).
- Hijacked Desire: Core need desires, which are a result of the image of God in man, get misdirected to fleshly pursuits through the perception of lack or deficit (the absence of God's life). (Prov. 23:7)
- Speculation: Speculative strategies of using are formed in an attempt to gain life (Rom. 1:21).
- The Flesh Choice: The act of using which is in essence using the resources of my mind, will, and emotions in an attempt to meet my needs and gain a sensation of life.
- Tasting death: The choice to attempt to gain a sensation of life ends up reinforcing the lies and sense of deficit that drive the addiction process. Romans 8:6, "For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace." In the case of a believer, the whole cycle reinforces both a sense of deficit and the lies perpetrating the perception that God's life is absent. Thus, lie-based momentum is gained with each cycle.



The Uncommon Recovery Conference is available via Zoom

- The Uncommon Recovery Conference includes:
- A detailed presentation of the dynamics of addiction.
- The nature and structure of the flesh.
- The believer's identity and righteousness.
- Dealing with forgiveness issues.
- How the enemy attempts to use the rejection syndrome and historical wounds.
- Maintaining victory including handling emotions and the renewing of the mind.