

A STRONG IDENTITY

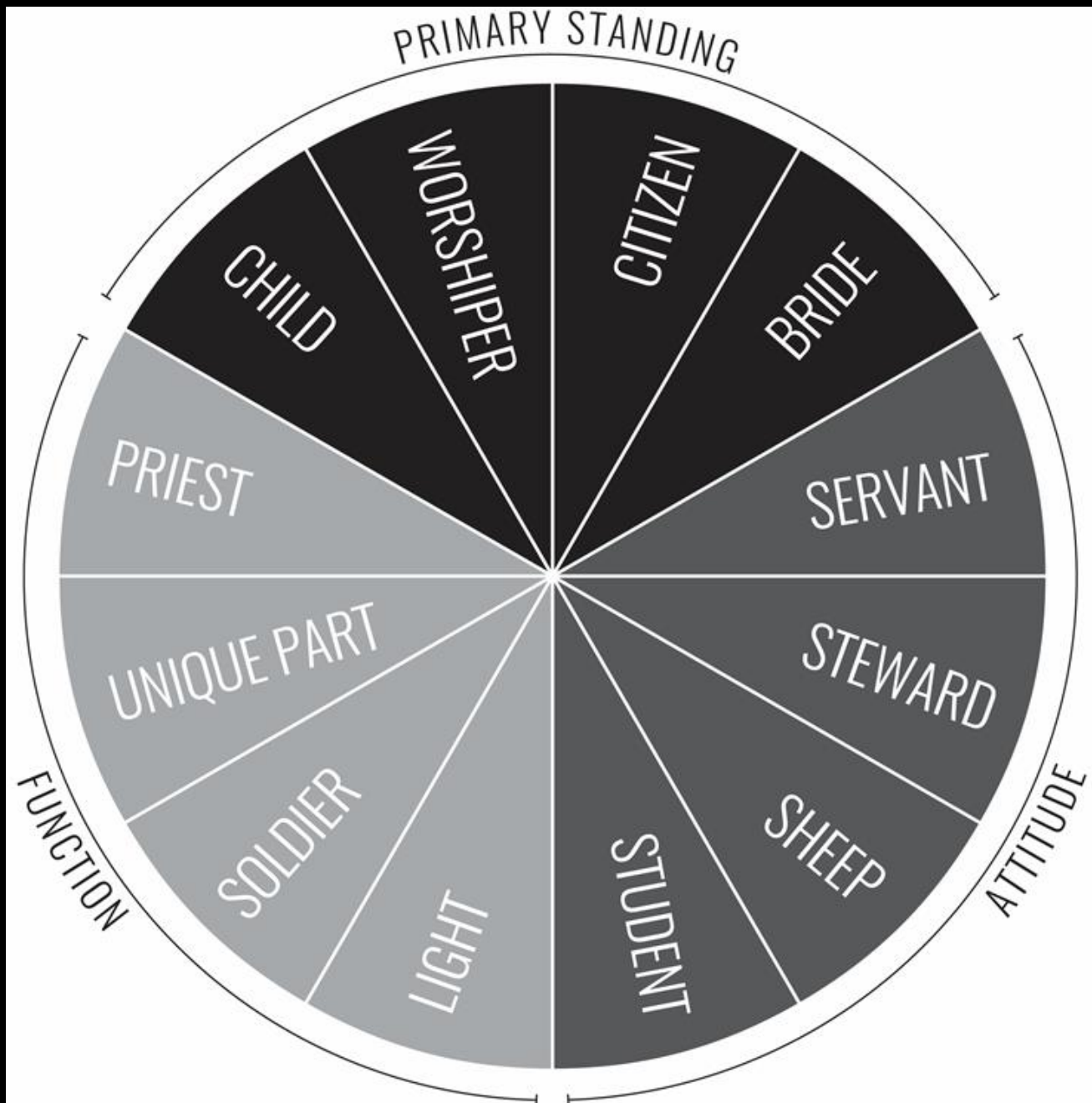
FOUR BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT YOUR PRIMARY STANDING

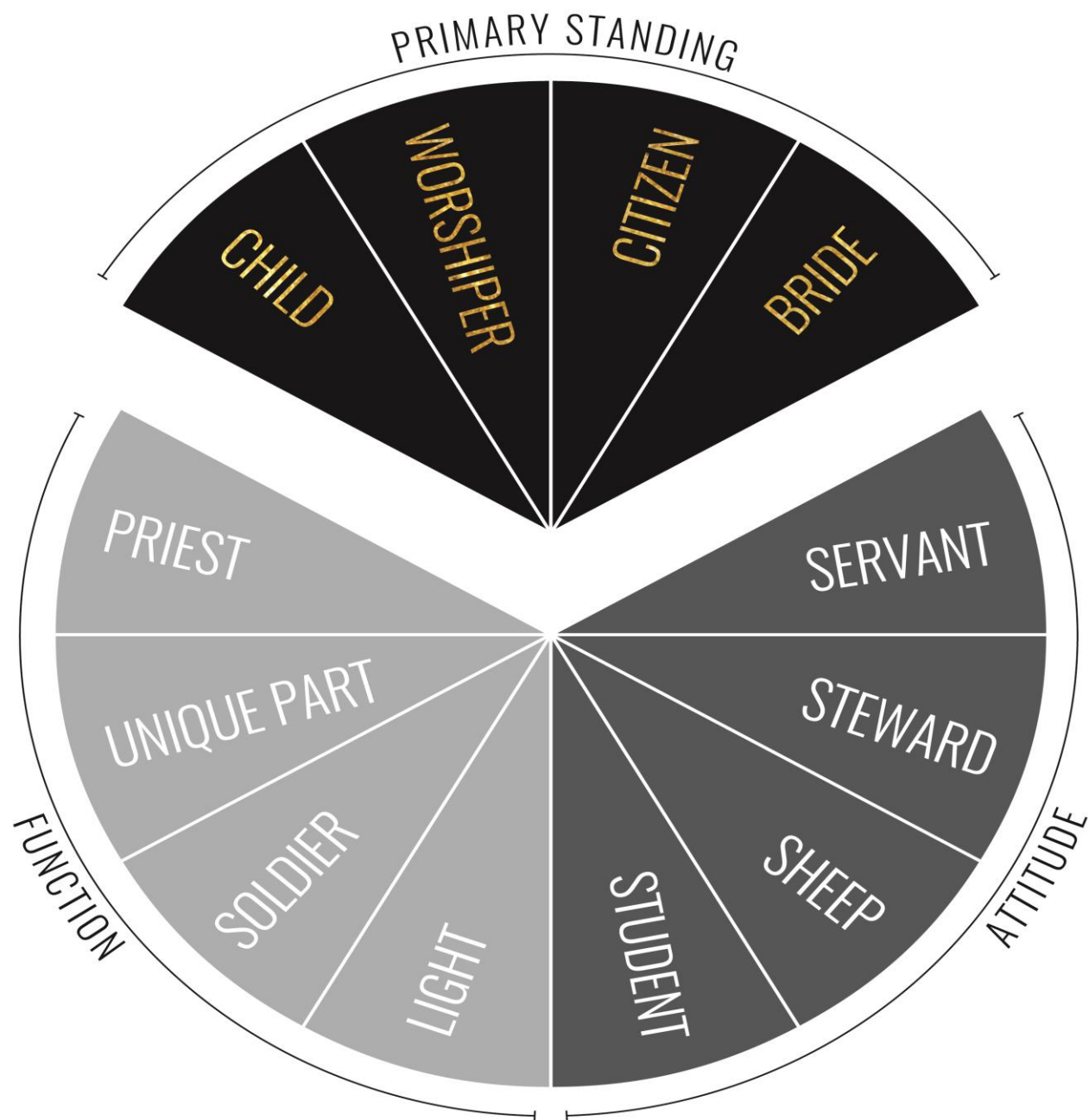
2 Corinthians 5:17

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!



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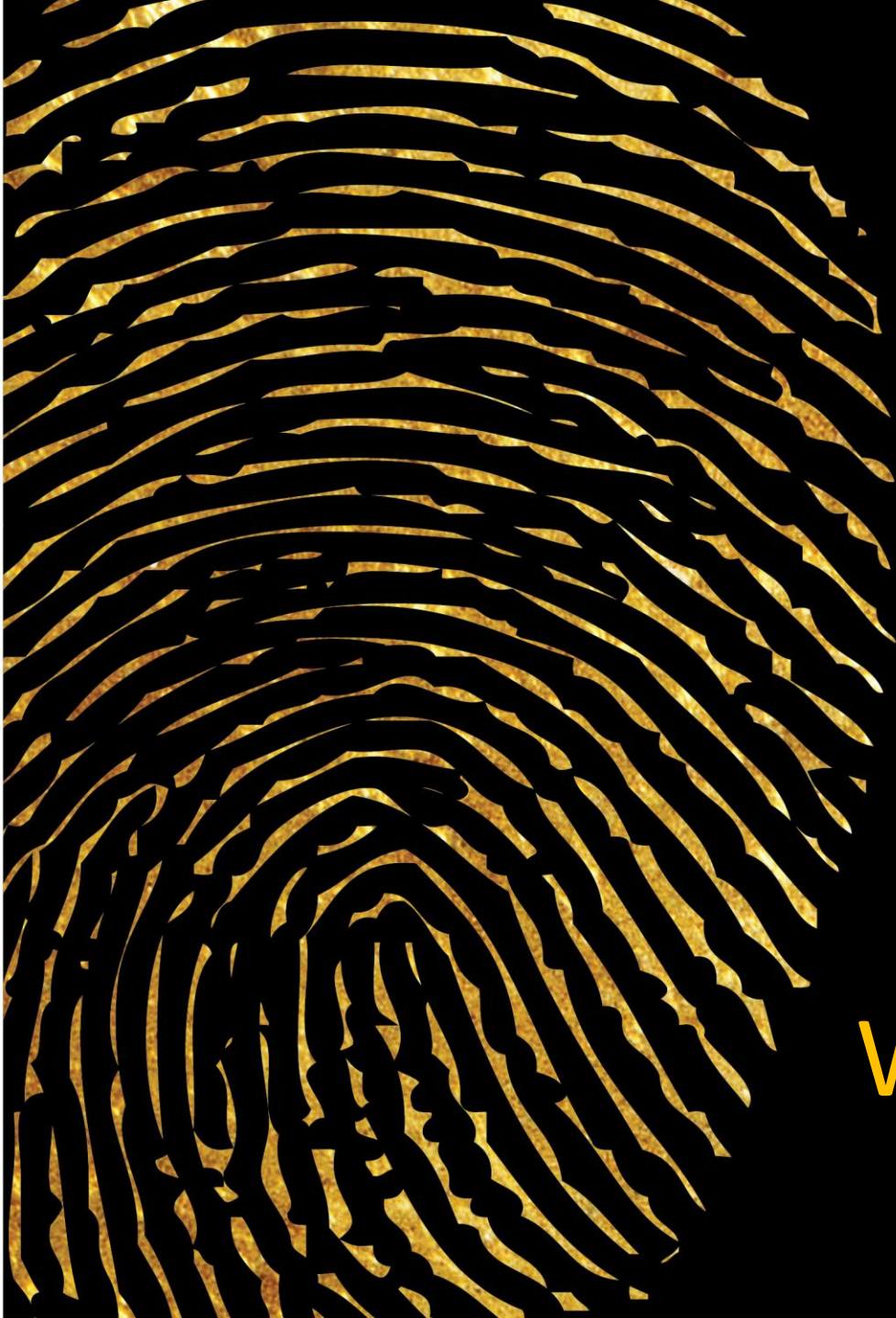


1 Corinthians 13:12

Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.



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FOUR BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT YOUR PRIMARY STANDING

We are the Bride
of Christ

Ephesians 5:25-32 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— 30 for we are members of his body. 31 “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” 32 This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.



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We live in anticipation and expectation of the wedding

Revelation 19:6-9 “I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, ‘Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure’—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb’



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Ezekiel 16:8-14 And when I passed by again, I saw that you were old enough for love. So I wrapped my cloak around you to cover your nakedness and declared my marriage vows. I made a covenant with you, says the Sovereign Lord, and you became mine. 9 “Then I bathed you and washed off your blood, and I rubbed fragrant oils into your skin. 10 I gave you expensive clothing of fine linen and silk, beautifully embroidered, and sandals made of fine goatskin leather. 11 I gave you lovely jewelry, bracelets, beautiful necklaces, 12 a ring for your nose, earrings for your ears, and a lovely crown for your head. 13 And so you were adorned with gold and silver. Your clothes were made of fine linen and costly fabric and were beautifully embroidered. You ate the finest foods—choice flour, honey, and olive oil—and became more beautiful than ever. You looked like a queen, and so you were! 14 Your fame soon spread throughout the world because of your beauty. I dressed you in my splendor and perfected your beauty, says the Sovereign Lord.



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Jesus pursues us



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Jesus pursues us

Jesus protects and honors us



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Jesus pursues us

Jesus protects and honors us

Jesus commits Himself to us



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Jesus protects and honors us

Jesus commits Himself to us

Jesus restores us and transforms us



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Jesus pursues us

Jesus protects and honors us

Jesus commits Himself to us

Jesus restores us and transforms us

Jesus cherishes and delights in us



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Isaiah 62 And you will be given a new name by the Lord's own mouth. 3 The Lord will hold you in his hand for all to see— a splendid crown in the hand of God. 4 Never again will you be called "The Forsaken City" or "The Desolate Land." Your new name will be "The City of God's Delight" and "The Bride of God," for the Lord delights in you and will claim you as his bride. 5 Your children will commit themselves to you, O Jerusalem, just as a young man commits himself to his bride. Then God will rejoice over you as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride.



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Our response to Jesus

Receive God's love

Live in expectation of what is coming

Trust your whole self to Him

Trust in what He says

Be fully devoted and faithful to God

Delight and rejoice in God



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Isaiah 61:10 I will rejoice greatly in the LORD,
My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed
me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped
me with a robe of righteousness, As a
bridegroom decks himself with a garland, And as
a bride adorns herself with her jewels.



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Our response to Jesus

Receive God's love

Live in expectation of what is coming

Trust your whole self to Him

Trust in what He says

Be fully devoted and faithful to God

Delight and rejoice in God

Love the bride that God cherishes
and delights in



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Challenge:

Set aside an hour and relate to Jesus as this bride.

Receive God's love, express your love

Talk about your future

Open up what is really going, hide nothing

Listen and trust in what He says

Be fully devoted and faithful to God

Delight and rejoice in Him

Talk about your love for the family (the Bride)



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