

Functional Christianity



Christianity: Confessional or Functional

There is a significant difference between *confessional* Christianity and *functional* Christianity.

Confessional

- 94% of Americans believe in God.
- 42% of Americans claim to be born again Christians.
- 71% of born again Christians are “absolutely committed” to the Christian faith.

Functional

Four themes emerged from religious surveys conducted in 2006. Two of them were:

- People do not have an accurate view of themselves when it comes to spirituality.
- If people's faith is objectively measured against a biblical standard of how faith is to be practiced, Americans are spiritually lukewarm.



Is true Christianity measured by what I believe or by how I live?

Confessional

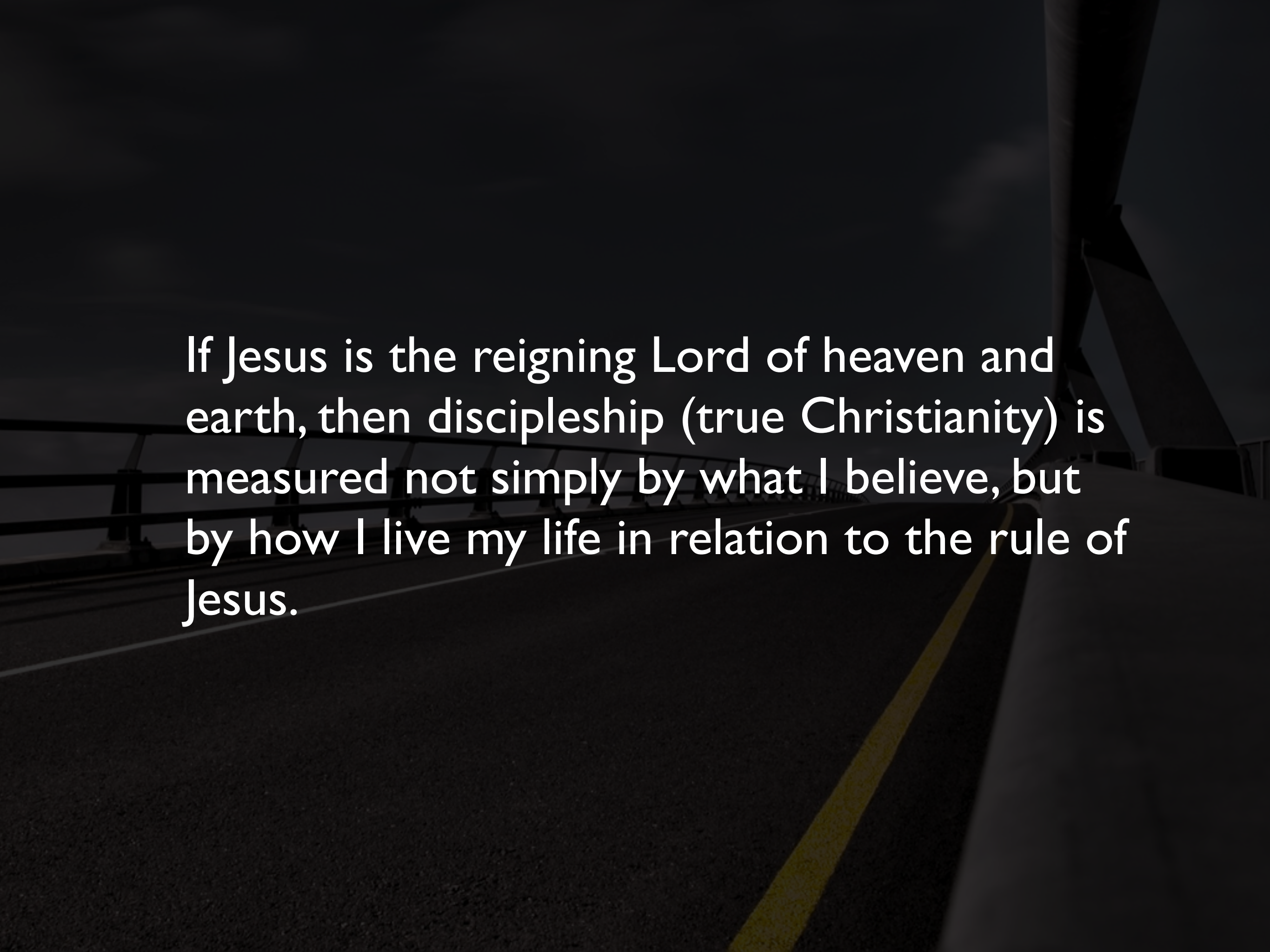
All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make believers of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to believe all that I have taught you.

-- Matthew 28:18b-20a

Functional

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

-- Matthew 28:18b-20a

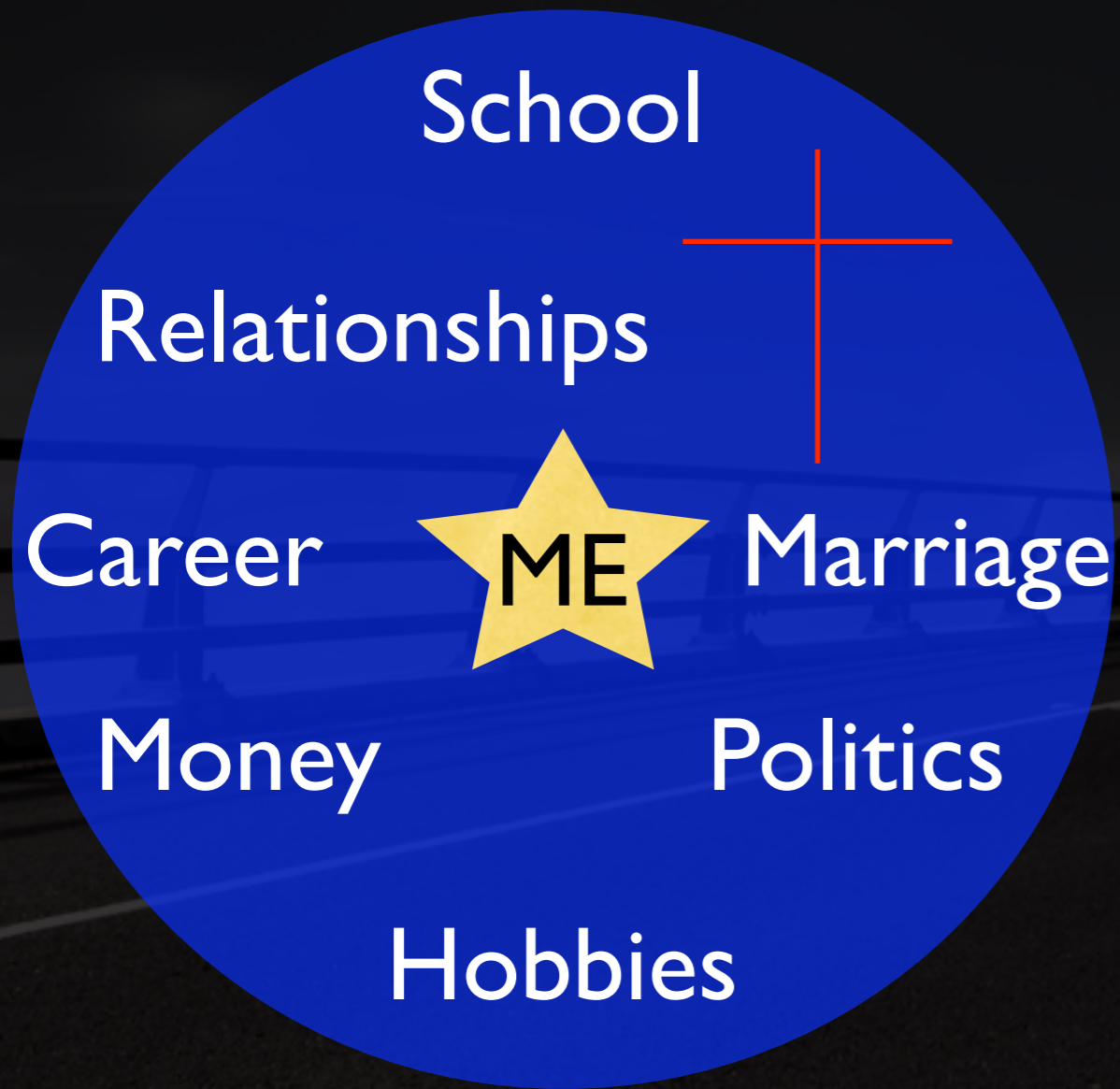


If Jesus is the reigning Lord of heaven and earth, then discipleship (true Christianity) is measured not simply by what I believe, but by how I live my life in relation to the rule of Jesus.



In other words, the gospel should impact every area of my life.

Confessional



Functional





What difference does the gospel make in...

- ...your singleness...
- ...your marriage...
- ...your being a husband...
- ...your being a wife...
- ...your parenting...
- ...your sex life?

New Series

The Gospel-Centered Home

- Gospel-Centered Singleness
- Gospel-Centered Marriage
- Gospel-Centered Husbands
- Gospel-Centered Wives
- Gospel-Centered Parents
- Gospel-Centered Sexuality