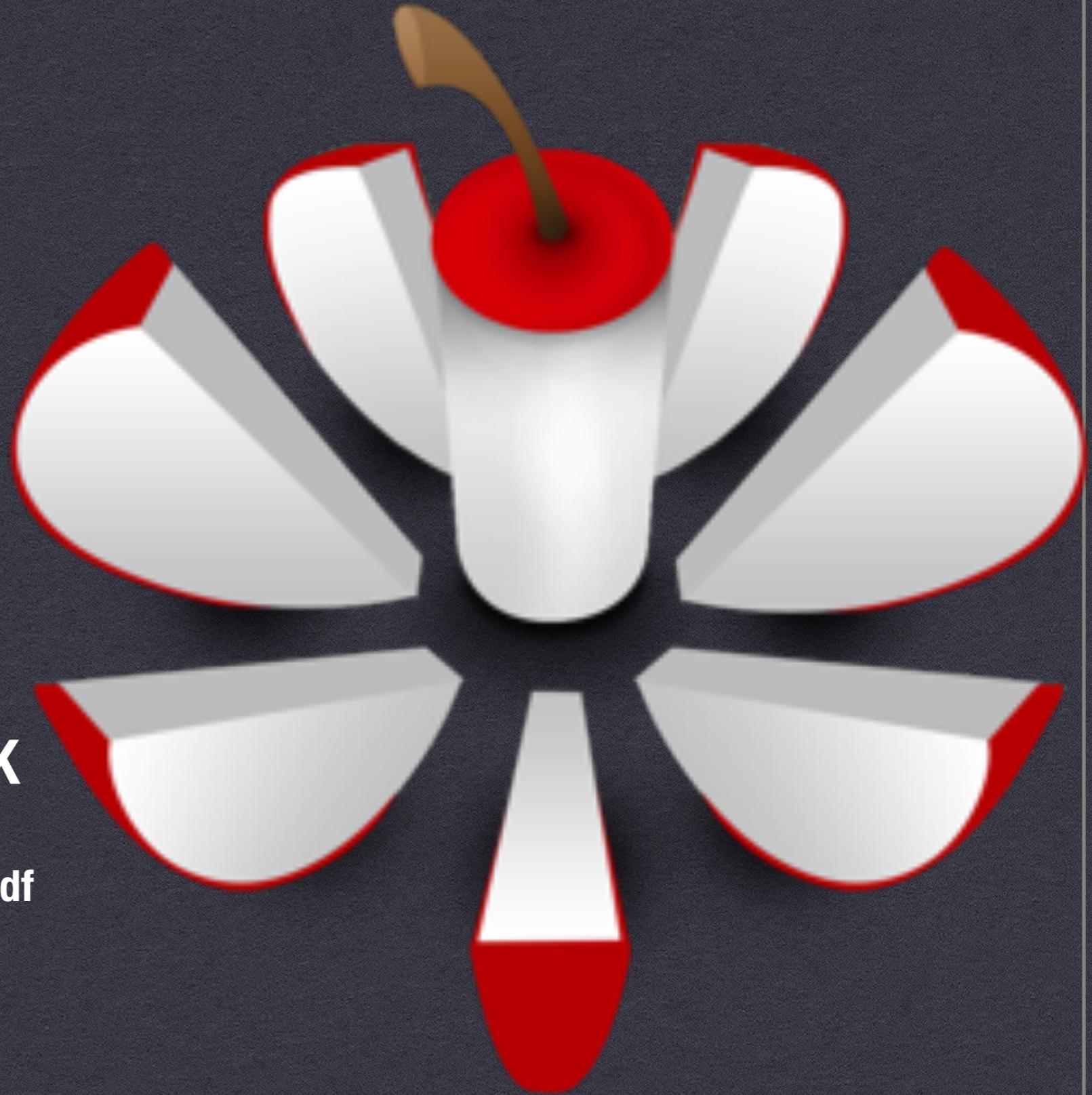


STRENGTHEN YOUR CORE

**PART 1 - SPIRITUALLY
STRONG/NATURALLY WEAK**

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Unbelief

- * The problem with many modern-day believers is that unbelief is embedded within their core. The fact that they have doubt in their hearts makes them easy targets for erroneous doctrine. **Heb. 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.**
- * Many times, unbelief can enter through over-spiritualizing certain circumstances and situations that we face, without having a proper natural balance in life. **1John 2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**
- * We must never overlook natural principles that help us make good decisions and live better lives. **Titus 2:7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned;**



Decisions

- * The power of God gives us salvation, but we can still be victims of bad decisions in the natural realm while being saved. **1Pet. 4:15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.**
- * When we make bad natural decisions, it can cause us to blame God or our relationship with Him as the culprit. This can cause us to believe that the enemy is attacking us when it's actually our bad decisions and consequences that are causing us grief. **1Pet. 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.**
- * When our natural lives suffer because of bad decisions, it can cause us to put on a spiritual facade or show in order to be approved by man. **Matt. 6:5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.**



Application

- * People that center their faith around miracles and supernatural occurrences cannot truly accept Christ for who He is. They believe in Him as long as He performs for them. **John 20:29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.**
- * Applying God's principles and teachings is a real challenge for those who seek glory for themselves. They want signs and wonders to reveal Him instead of having faith in what is written. **Mark 8:12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? verily I say unto you, There shall no sign be given unto this generation.**
- * The core belief of people that seek after signs is not strong enough to sustain them through test and trials. Our faith must be built on the Word of God through daily application, not just miracles and supernatural activity. **Eph. 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.**



summary

Today, many Christians have been weakened by their lack of teaching and hearing the truth of the Word. Emotionally-driven ministries are producing 'believers' that have no real understanding of the Bible so their core beliefs are easily shattered. This was the enemy's plan all along. He desires for Christians to be shallow and emotional to the point where they seek signs and miracles in place of sound doctrine and applying Biblical truths.

When people use church to feel better about themselves, then they corrupt their core belief and make it contingent upon feelings and signs and not what the Bible actually says. This causes people to chase after ministries and preachers that highlight signs and wonders rather than solid Biblical teaching. The result of such behavior is a replication of hollow Christians that are gullible and will accept just about anything supernatural as a 'move of God'. We must take the time to strengthen our core! We must take the Word of God and apply it, so that it changes us and our decision-making. Doing so, will give us proof of the Word without us needing to follow after signs and wonders. When we apply biblical principles to our daily walk then we will see results and keep our core beliefs from being changed by the winds of false doctrines.

Eph. 4:14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Eph. 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: