CONNECTION…

Romans 7:19-25; II Cor. 12:7-9; I Peter 1:3-9; Matthew 14: 22-33

“When you care more about Getting Well than what others think of you, that’s when Help and Recovery arrives for you.”

Love
BELONGING
DO I BELONG?

If anyone knows _____ about me,
I am no longer **WORTHY** of connection.

WORTHY

Shame…

(Fear of Disconnection)

The people who have a strong sense of love and belonging, believe they are **worthy** of love and belonging.

…WORTHINESS

WHAT DID PEOPLE WITH A LONGING FOR CONNECTION ALL HAVE IN COMMON?

COURAGE
to be imperfect

VULNERABILITY is at the core of shame, fear and struggle for worthiness. BUT also the Birthplace of Joy, Creativity, Belonging and Love

WAYS WE DEAL WITH VULNERABILITY…

WE NUMB VULNERABILITY

WAYS WE DEAL WITH VULNERABILITY…

- When we selectively numb, we also numb joy, love, laughter, gratitude and happiness.

19 For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do--this I keep on doing.

20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, ***but it is sin living in me*** *that does it. (Rom 7:19-20 NIV)*

I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.

9 But he said to me, ***"My grace is sufficient for you,*** *for my* ***power is made perfect in weakness."*** *(2Co 12:7-9 NIV)*

HOW DO WE BREAK THE CYCLE OF BEING DISCONNECTED ?

24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

25 Thanks be to God, who ***delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!*** *(Rom 7:24-25 NIV)*

JESUS

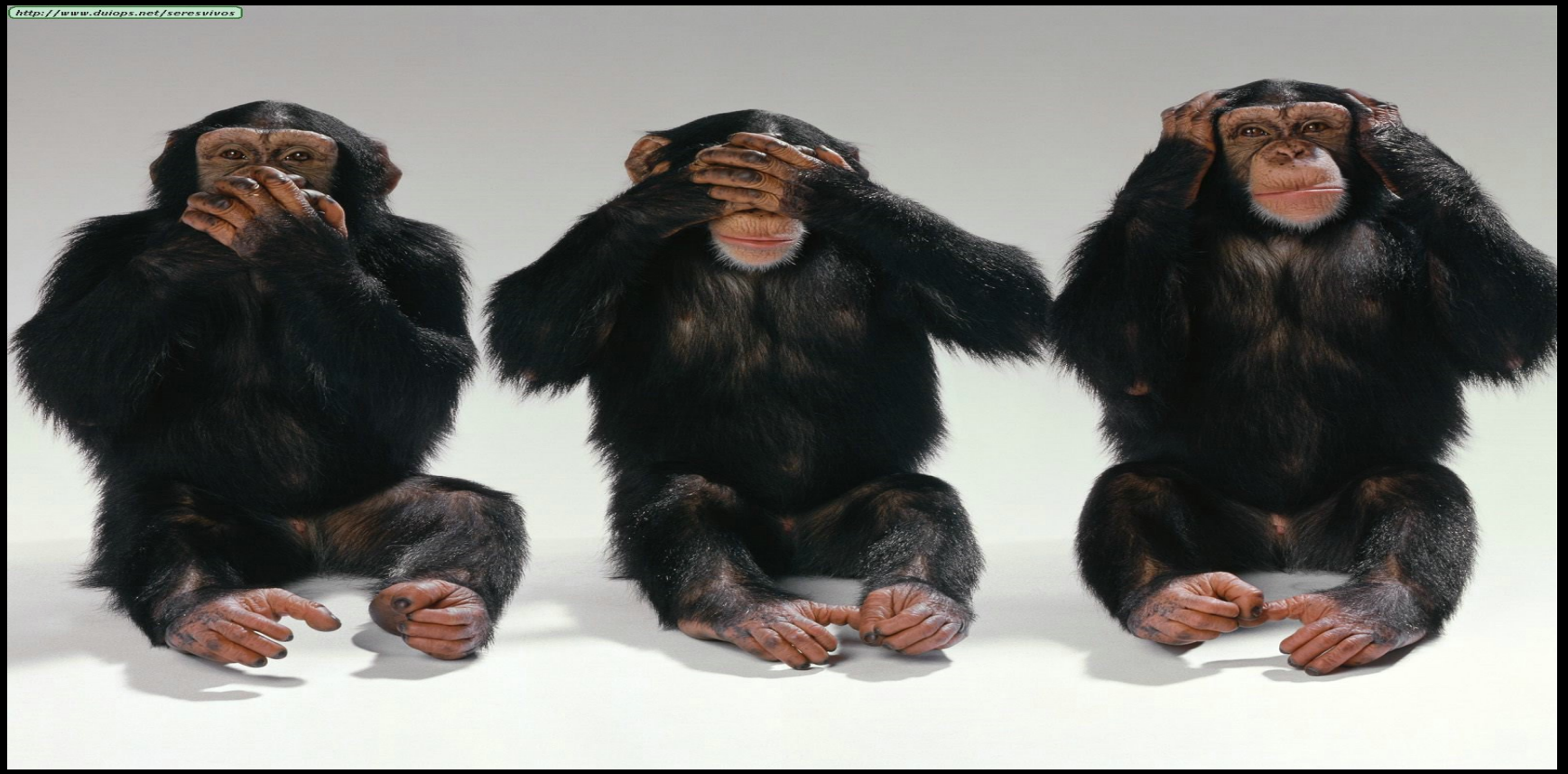
He is the connecting power to truth, to love, to forgiveness, to grace, to you.

WHY & HOW WE NUMB…

WE PERFECT…

WHY & HOW WE NUMB…

WHY & HOW WE NUMB…



WE PRETEND…

HE **KNOWS** YOU ARE SOMEONE EXTRA SPECIAL WITH WORTH AND VALUE, FLAWS AND ALL.

*3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his **great mercy** he has given us **new birth** into a **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an **inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.** This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are **shielded by God's power** until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In all this you greatly **rejoice**, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that the **proven genuineness** of your FAITH--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may result in **praise, glory and honor** when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you **love** him; and even though you do not see him now, you **believe in him** and are **filled** with an **inexpressible and glorious joy**, 9 for you are **receiving** the end result of your faith, the **salvation of your souls.** (1Pe 1:3-9 NIV)*

GOD'S WAY TO
CONNECT…

Let ourselves be vulnerably seen.

CHURCH
IS THE
HOSPITAL
FOR
SINNERS
IT'S A HOSPITAL
FOR
THE BROKEN
REFUGE for the
REDEEMED

“I’m **STRUGGLING** and **I NEED HELP**.”

I AM **ENOUGH…**

"Will you help me not just survive but thrive in your Kingdom?"

22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go
on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd.

23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside **by himself to pray.** Later that night, he was there alone,

24 and the boat was already a considerable distance from land,
buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

25 Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were
terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

YOU **DON'T HAVE TO WAIT** 'TIL YOU'RE Drowning TO Reach Out FOR Help.

27 But Jesus **immediately** said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

28 "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

29 **"Come,"** he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"

31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

32 And when they climbed into the boat, the **wind died down.**

33 Then those who were in the boat **worshiped** him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." (Mat 14:22-33 NIV)