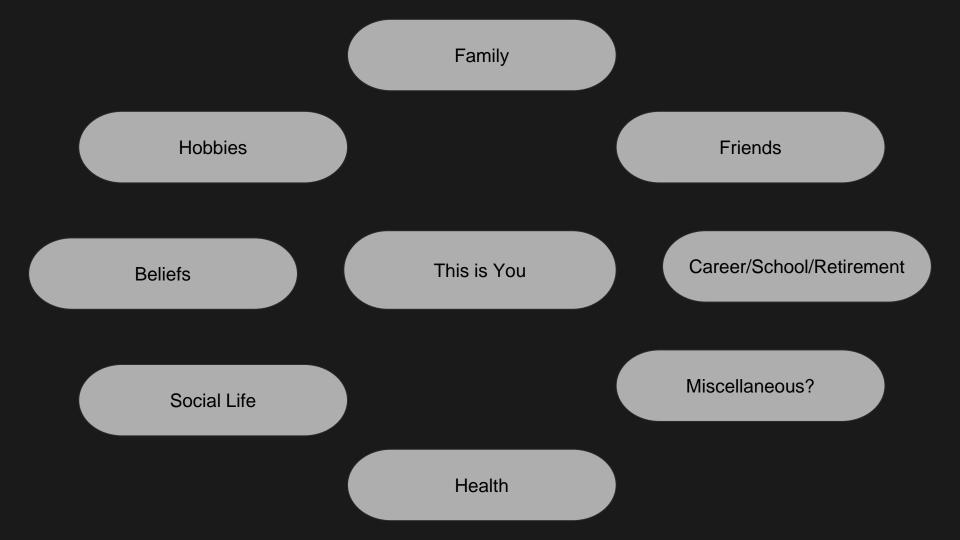
Connection

Have you ever had a friend who gave bad advice?



Jesus Calls Us to Connect...

"But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." ~Hebrews 3:13 ESV

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." ~Matthew 18:20 ESV

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works..." ~Hebrews 10:24 ESV

Let's Talk About Bruce Alexander...

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Canadian psychologist who experimented with rats and drug use...

Rat Park Experiment?

Original studies held individual rats, completely isolated, and would starve them for 24 hours before giving them a choice of pure, clean water or heroin-laced water.

Almost every time the isolated rat preferred the drug-laced water and would prefer it over clean, pure water.

Let's Talk About Bruce Alexander...

Dr. Alexander built a city for rats!

Rats were placed in large living areas with both males and females

They had cans, toys, tunnels, plenty of food, and entertainment!

BUT...the rats had a choice of clean, pure water or heroin-laced water!

This time the rats that tried the drugged water NEVER preferred it and NEVER went back for seconds when they lived in a connected environment!

What is God's Will for Your Life?

Jesus sought out his friends when in need...

And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled.

~ Mark 14:33 ESV

"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you..."

~ John 15:15

"The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control; against such things there is no law.

~ Galatians 5:22-23

So...What is God's Will for Your Life?

"Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God..."

~Hebrews 6:1 ESV

So...What is God's Will for Your Life?

"For while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

~1 Timothy 4:8 ESV

Challenge: Are You Willing to Change

Anything About Your Life?