SPIRIUALITY DISCIPLING

1 John 4:1-6

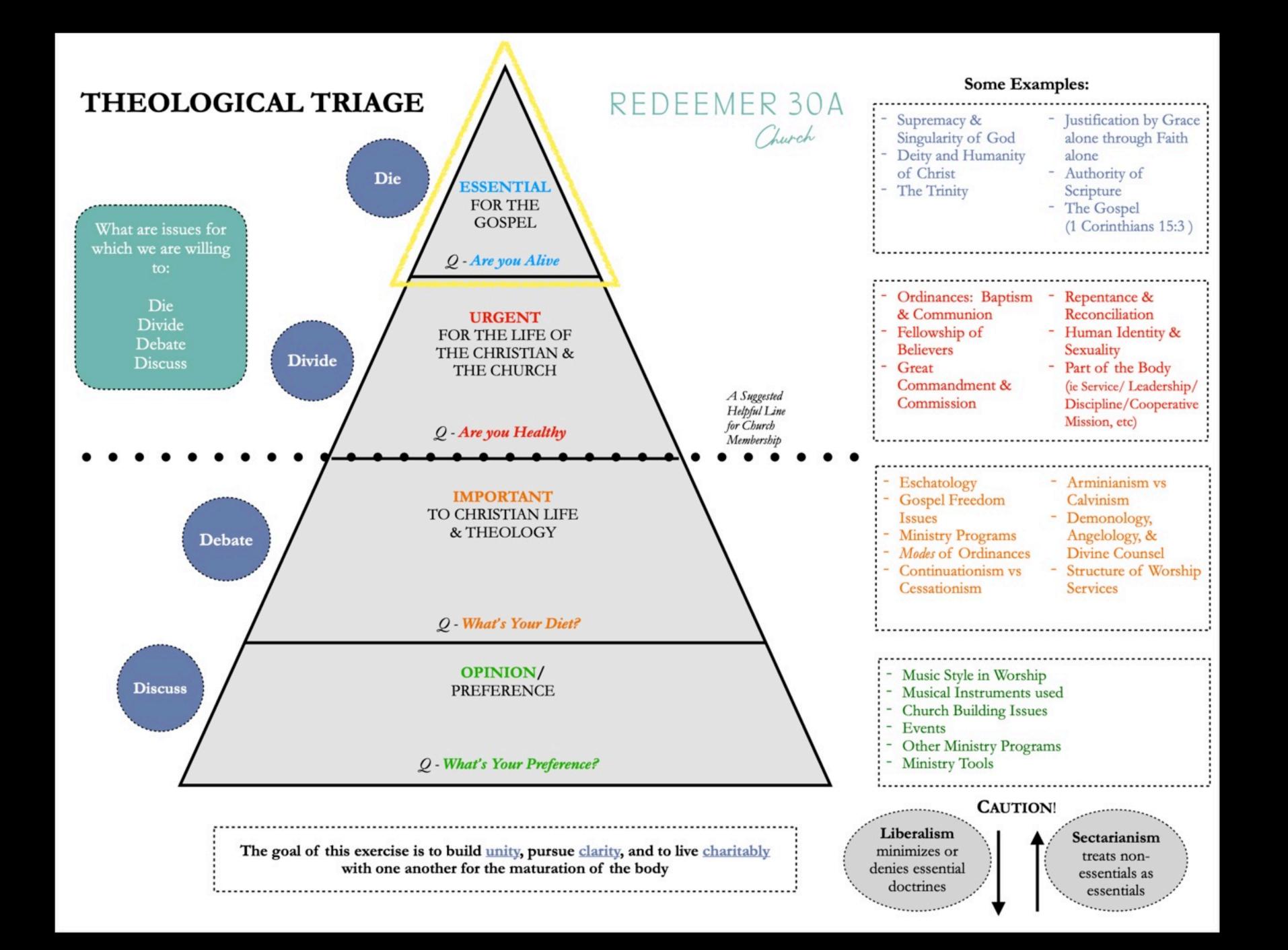
BELIEVERS ARE CALLED TO BE SPIRITUALLY DISCERNING

1. OUR CALL: BE DISCERNING!

- Someone who said or did something wrong

- Someone who said or did something wrong
 - Someone who you don't like

- Someone who said or did something wrong
 - Someone who you don't like
- Someone you disagree with on secondary matters



- Denies God's Existence

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 - Distorts God's Word

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- Dilutes God's Authority
- Disputes God's Character
 - Diminishes God's Son

2. OUR COURSE: TEST EVERYTHING!

"The Spirit prescribes... that the faithful should not receive any doctrine thoughtlessly." John Calvin

Test #1: The Jesus Test (v2)

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Test #2: The Worldliness Test (v5)

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Test #2: The Worldliness Test (v5)

Test #3: The Word Test (v6)

3. OUR CONFIDENCE: YOU BELONG TO GOD!

Rules of Engagement: How to Discern with Grace

Rule 1: Avoid Extremes (Superstition; Hyper-Suspicion)

Rule 2: Believe the Best

Rule 3: Know the Bible

Rule 4: Do your Homework

Rule 5: Examine Your Motives

Rule 6: Proceed Lovingly (Matthew 18; Galatians 6:1)

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