## Identity

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Proverbs 4:23

18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18

The thing that you are most <u>insecure</u> about is the identity that you are trying to sell the world.

<u>Inviting</u> people to church is great but <u>investing</u> in people is even better.

The only way that we can be a church whose heart, center, and <u>identity</u> is Jesus is to be filled with people whose hearts, centers, and <u>identities</u> are Jesus.

Every church has a personality and identity and like every individual we have <u>insecurities</u> and flaws.

7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 2 Corinthians 4:7

We have to be counter cultural and create a worship space that <u>grates</u> against the misdirected ideals that our culture holds.

We all spend too much time <u>decorating</u> the clay pot when when should be more <u>empowered</u> by what is inside.

2 "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:2-4

When God puts a <u>burden</u> on our hearts, he does not expect us to <u>outsource</u> the solution, he expects us to be the solution.