

Faith Formation for the Digital Age

Presented by Sister Hosea Rupprecht, FSP
October 14, 2023

Prayer to be Trustworthy Companions



Photo by [Adam Winger](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Like the disciples journeying to Emmaus, may we who are engaged in the work of evangelization and catechesis feel the presence of Jesus burning in our hearts. May we be trustworthy companions who lead others to him through our sharing and proclamation of the word.

May the fire of Jesus, enkindled in us by God's Spirit, lead others to become disciples, formed in the image of Christ our Savior.

Amen.



Photo by [Adam Wilson](#) on [Unsplash](#)



The Daughters of St. Paul

- Founded in 1915 by Blessed James Alberione
- Our mission encompasses two types of media formation
 1. Use media for the work of evangelization (production)
 2. Educate audiences to critically evaluate the media (media mindfulness)



Why talk about media?

“Human beings are storytellers. From childhood we hunger for stories just as we hunger for food. Stories influence our lives, whether in the form of fairy tales, novels, films, songs, news, even if we do not always realize it. Often we decide what is right or wrong based on characters and stories we have made our own. Stories leave their mark on us; they shape our convictions and our behavior. They can help us understand and communicate who we are.”

–Pope Francis, 2020 World Communications Day Message

Why talk about media?

STAYING POWER OF
MEDIA MESSAGES



What does the Church say?

“The Media are gifts of God.”

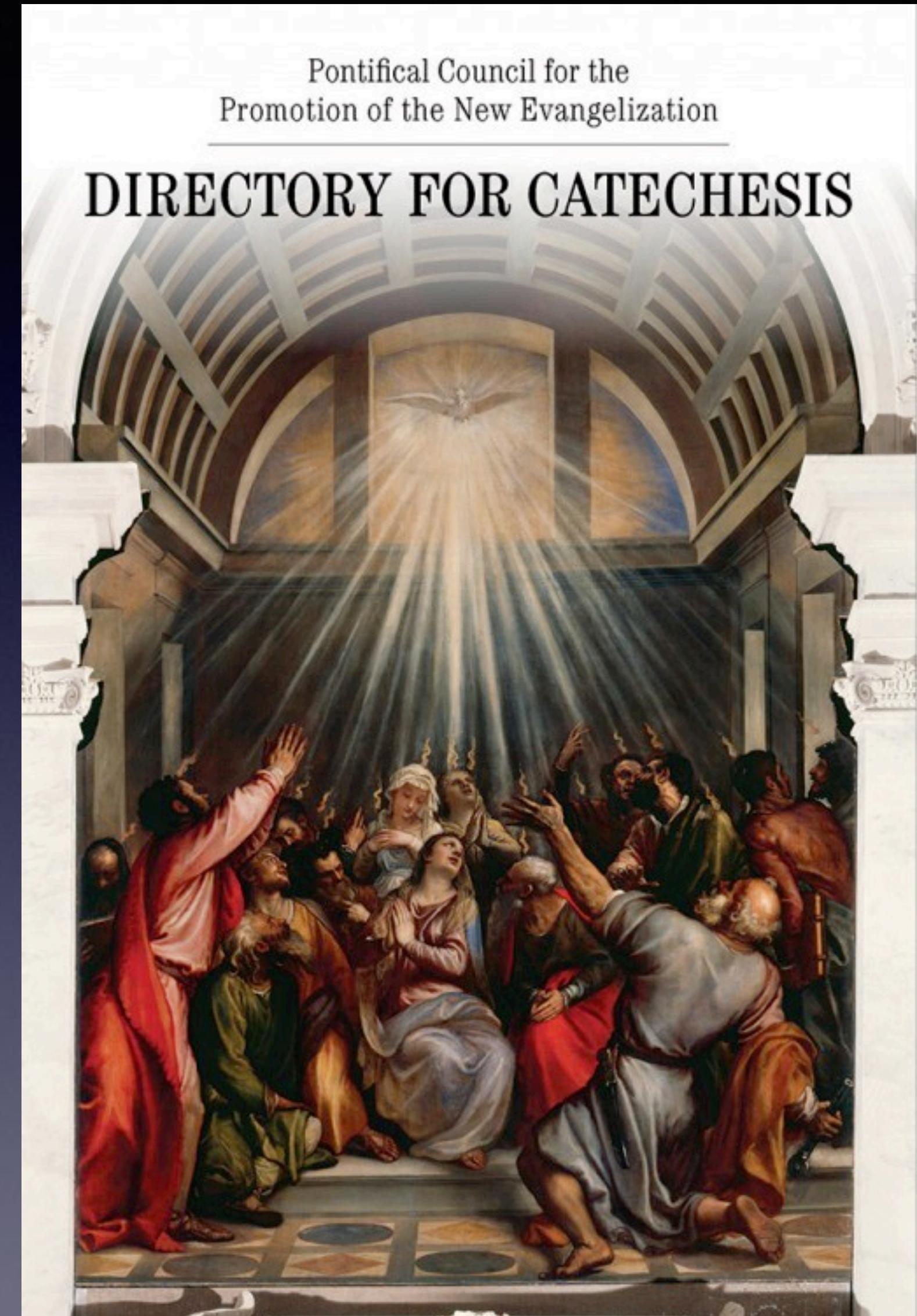


We are living in an information-driven society which bombards us indiscriminately with data —all treated as being of equal importance— and which leads to remarkable superficiality in the area of moral discernment. In response, we need to provide an education which *teaches critical thinking* and encourages the development of *mature moral values*.

It is becoming ever clearer how social media, especially those of a digital nature, are in fact the principle agents of socialization, almost coming to the point of replacing traditional ones like family, Church, school....

Many personal forms of interaction have become virtual, entirely replacing the need, especially in the younger generations, for traditional forms of relationship, blocking them from direct contact with the pain, the fears and the joys of others and the complexity of their personal experiences.

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DICASTERY FOR COMMUNICATION

“...how we, as individuals and as an ecclesial community, live in the digital world as “loving neighbors” who are genuinely present and attentive to each other on our common journey along the “digital highways”” (no. 1).

“What kind of humanity is reflected in our presence in digital environments? How much of our digital relationships is the fruit of deep and truthful communication, and how much is merely shaped by unquestioned opinions and passionate reactions? How much of our faith finds living and refreshing digital expressions? And who is my “neighbor” on social media?” (no. 5). TOWARD FULL PRESENCE

Media Mindfulness

- Entering into meaningful conversation with children and others about the media they consume by asking them questions.
- Media mindfulness takes media literacy and adds the faith component into the process of asking questions of media messages.



Media Mindfulness vs. Instrumentalization

Media Mindfulness

- Become aware of media messages
- Establish true communication: true encounters with one another
- Talk about what really matters: values



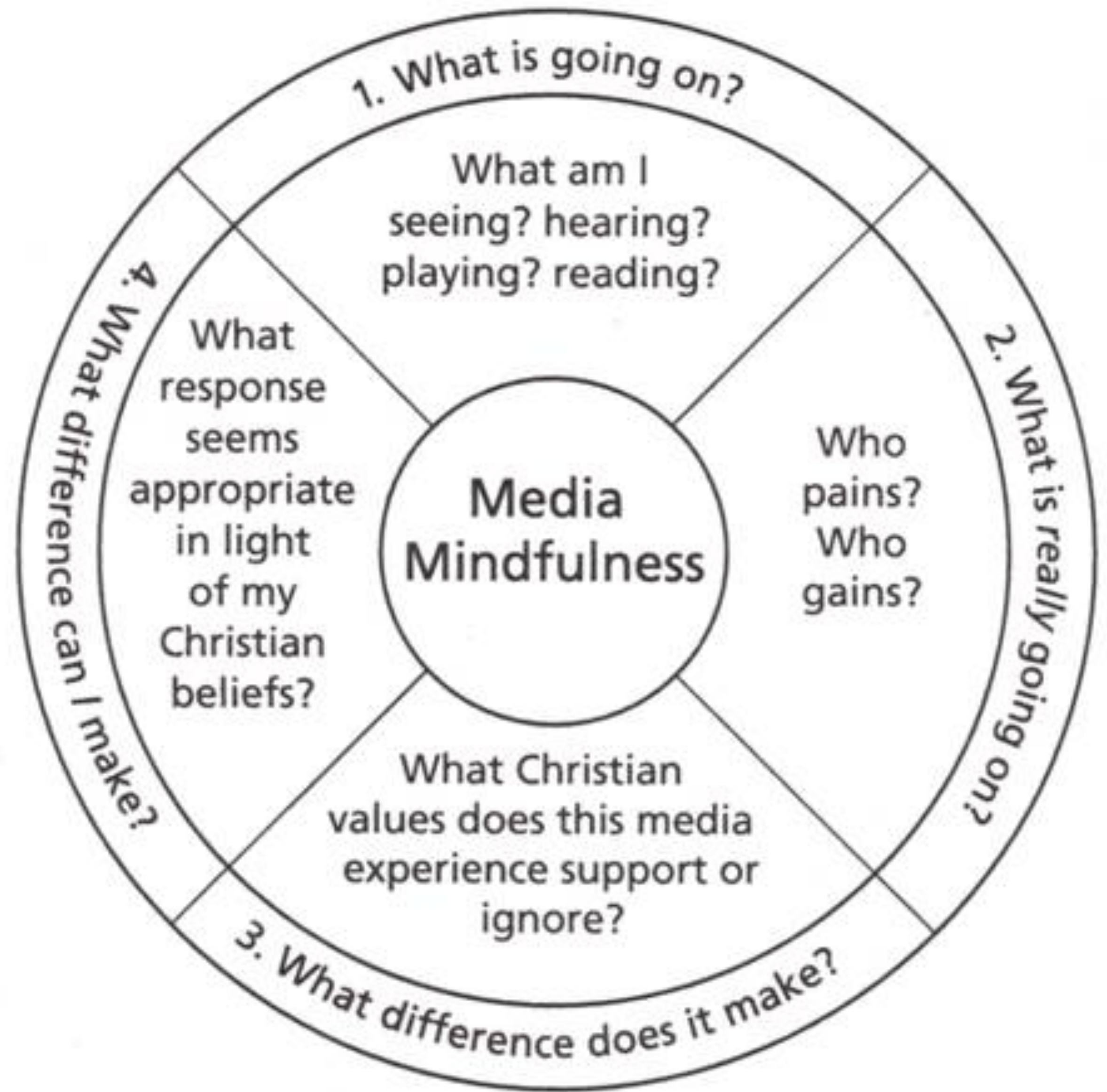
Articulation of Values

- Guiding Lights
- Empathy
- Christian Discipleship
- Safe place to talk about difficult issues

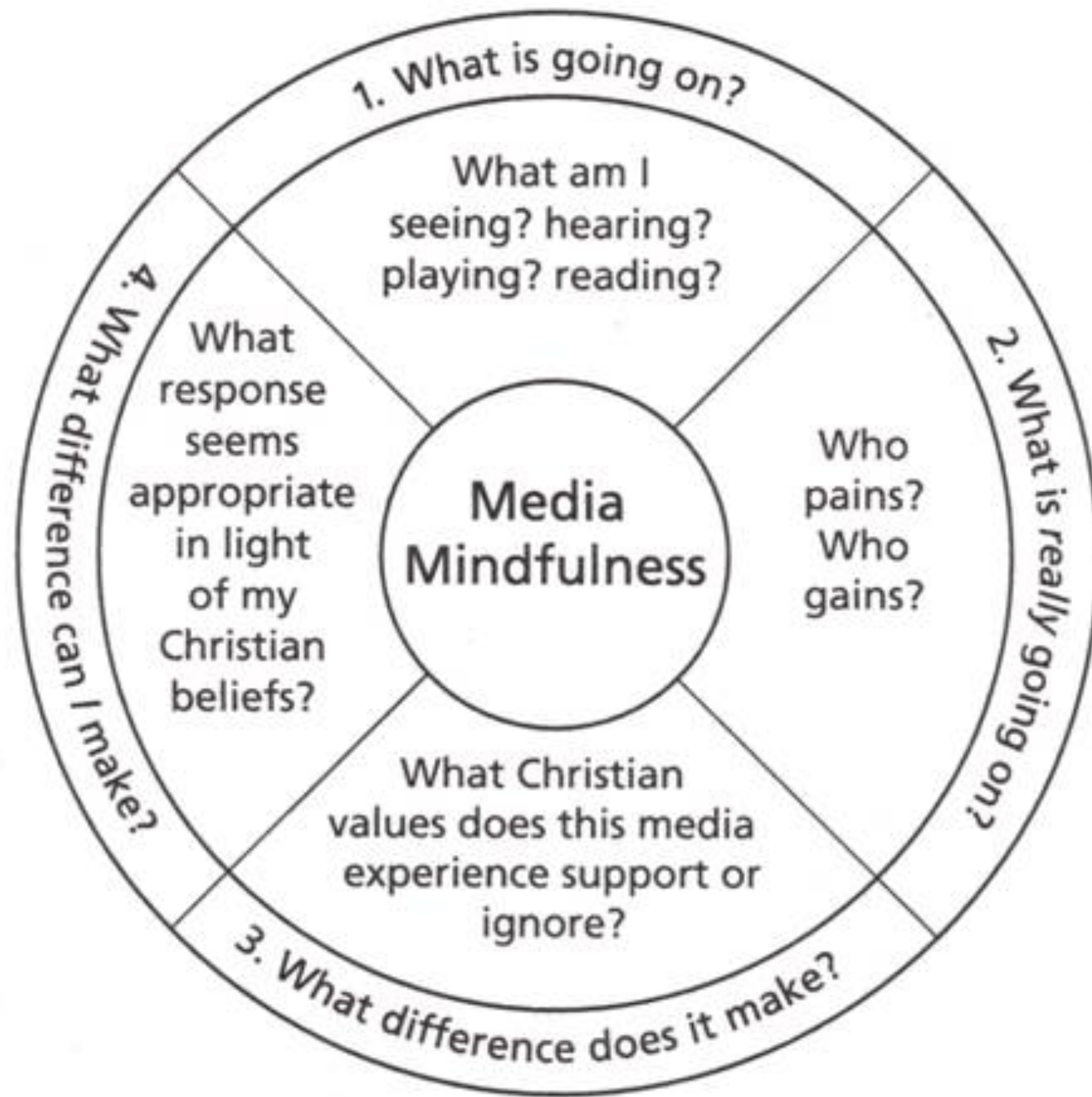


Our Values

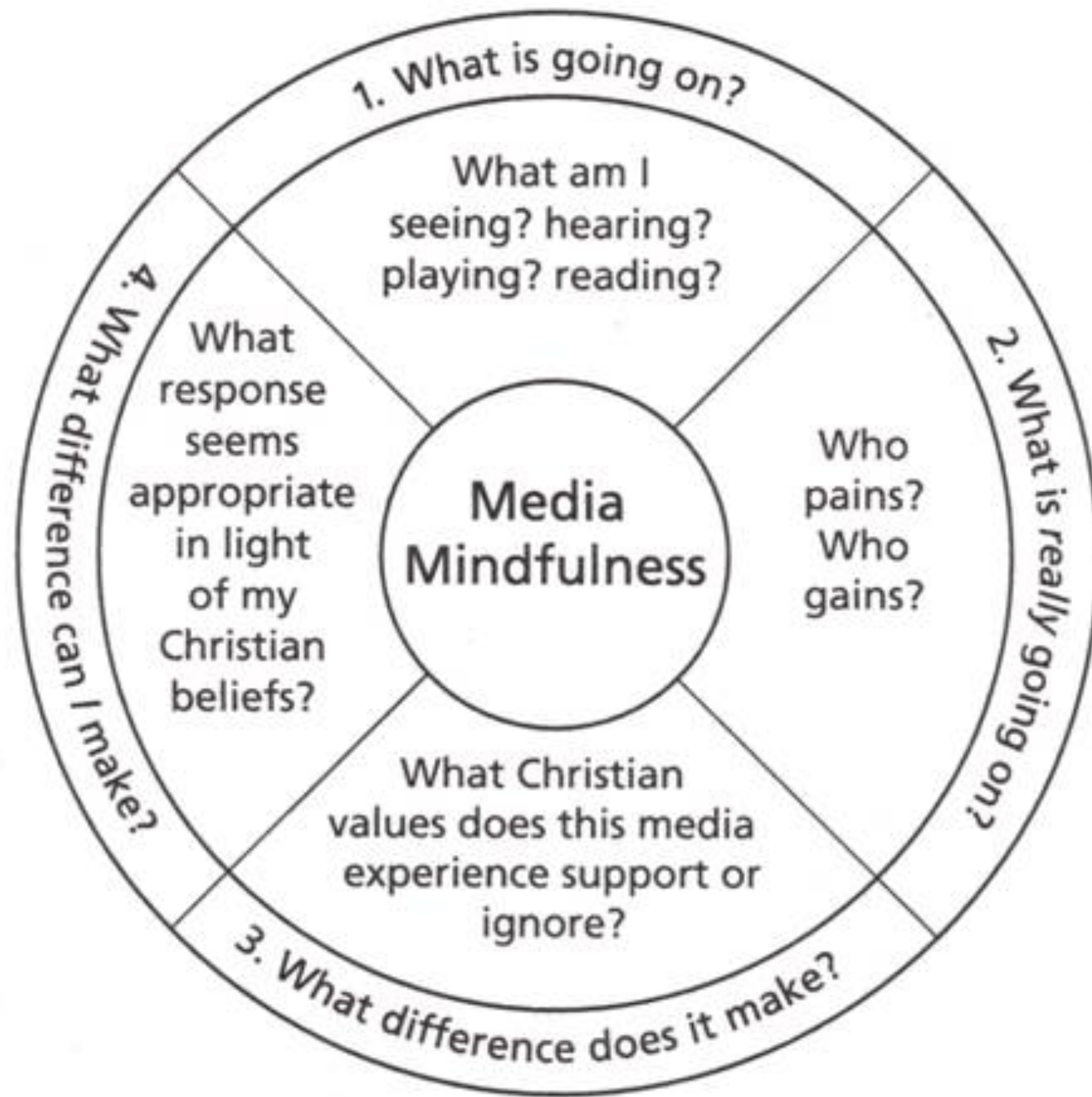
Media Mindfulness Wheel



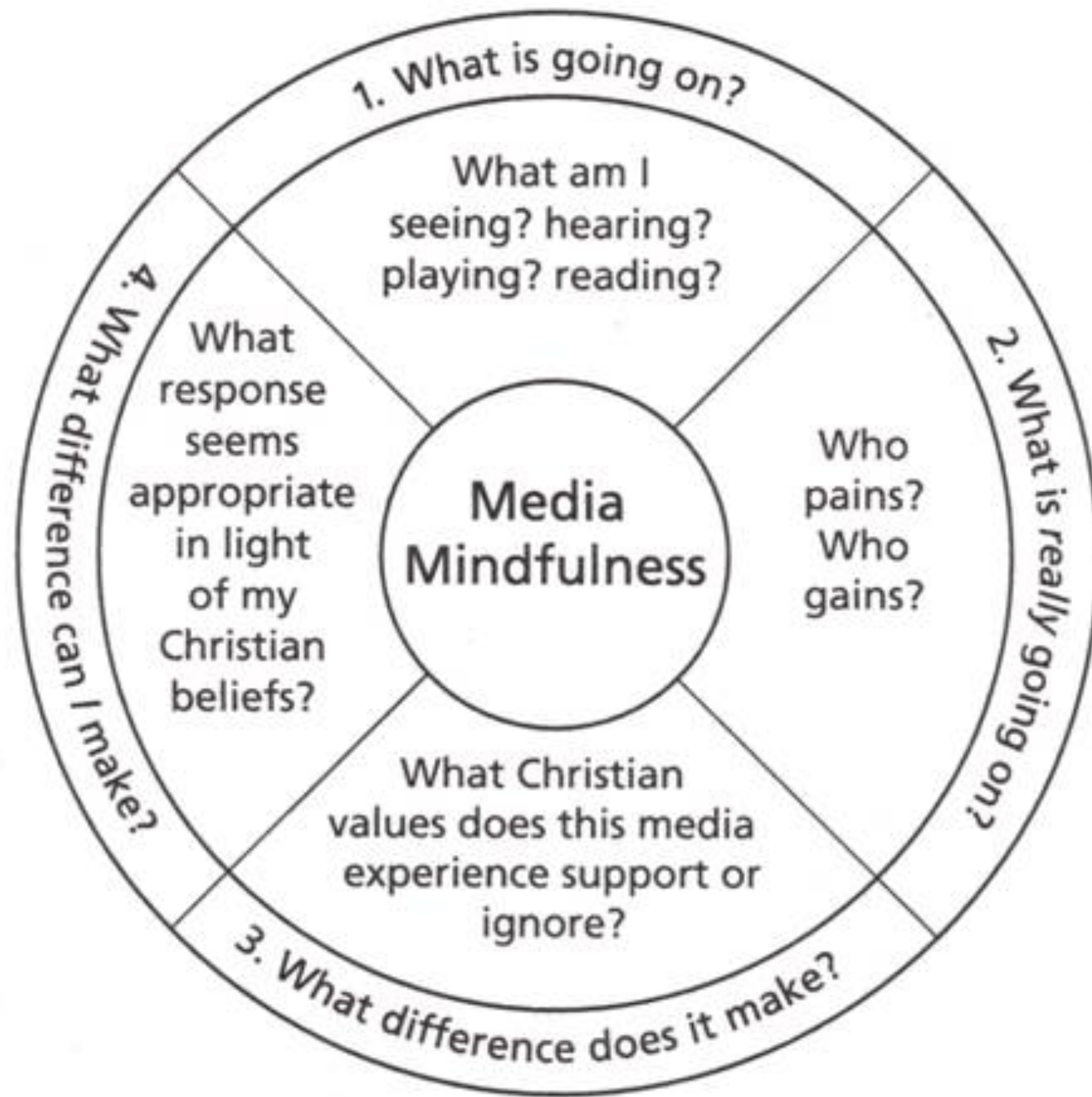












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