

# STYLES OF FAITH



## EXPERIENCED FAITH

Faith is experienced affectively through interactions with others who have faith.



## AFFILIATIVE FAITH

Affiliative faith is a belonging and participatory faith that is deeply rooted in feelings.



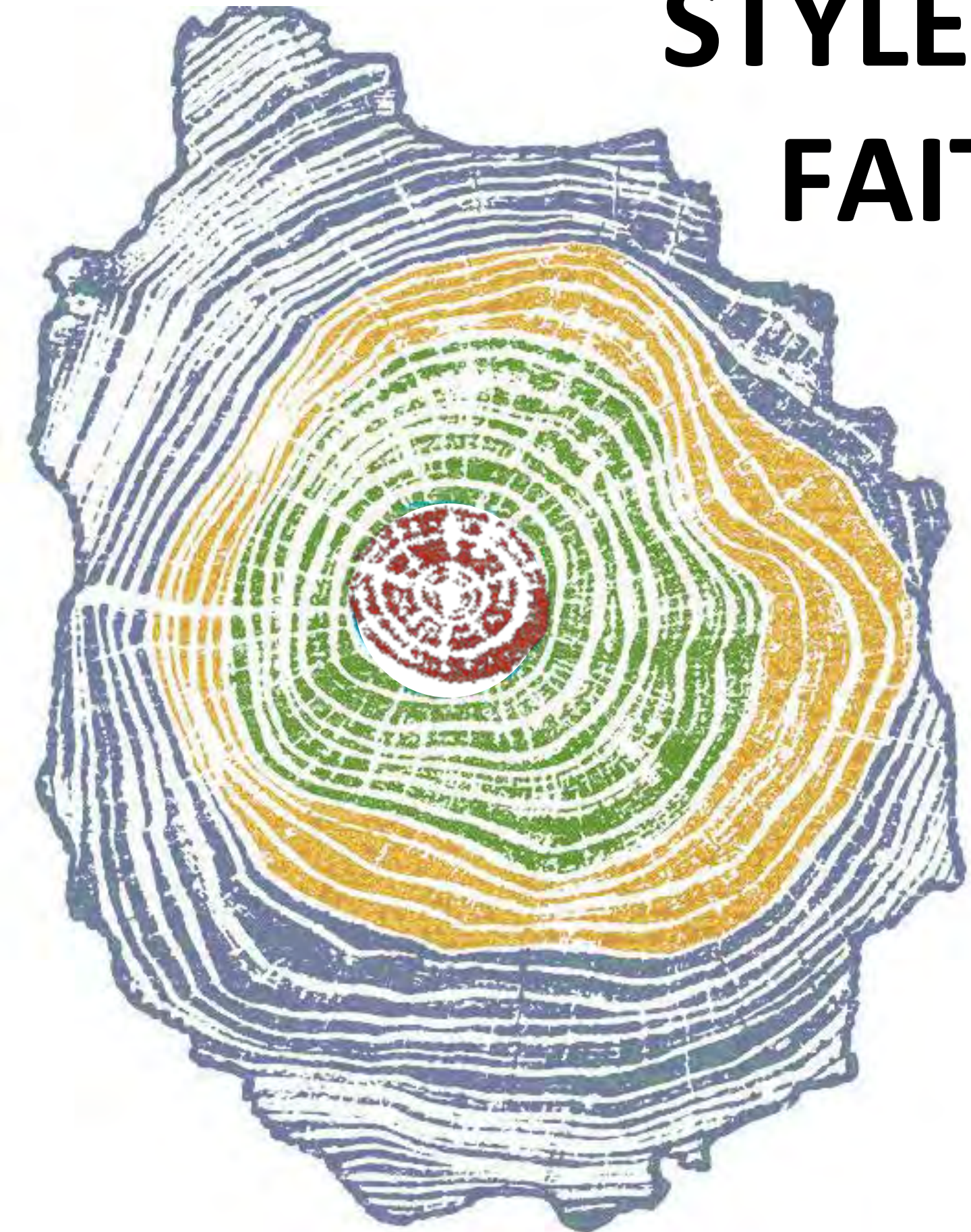
## SEARCHING FAITH

Doubt, questioning, experimentation and ultimately commitment is characteristic of searching faith.



## OWNED FAITH

Persons put their faith into personal and social action and are willing and able to stand up for what they believe.



# EXPERIENCED FAITH

- Experienced through interacting, imitating, and responding to the faith actions of others.
- Primarily an affective experience characterized by feelings of trust, love, and acceptance.
- An environment of shared experiences and interactions in which to experience the values, commitments, and stories of the Christian life nurtures experienced faith.
- Need: To feel trust, love, and acceptance.



# AFFILIATIVE FAITH

- Affiliative faith is belonging faith.
- Affiliative faith, like experienced faith, is deeply rooted in feelings.
- Participating in a faith community that is accepting and has a clear sense of identity and authority nurtures affiliative faith.
- Need: Knowing the community story; to feel wanted, needed, accepted, and missed when absent; experience of awe, wonder, and mystery



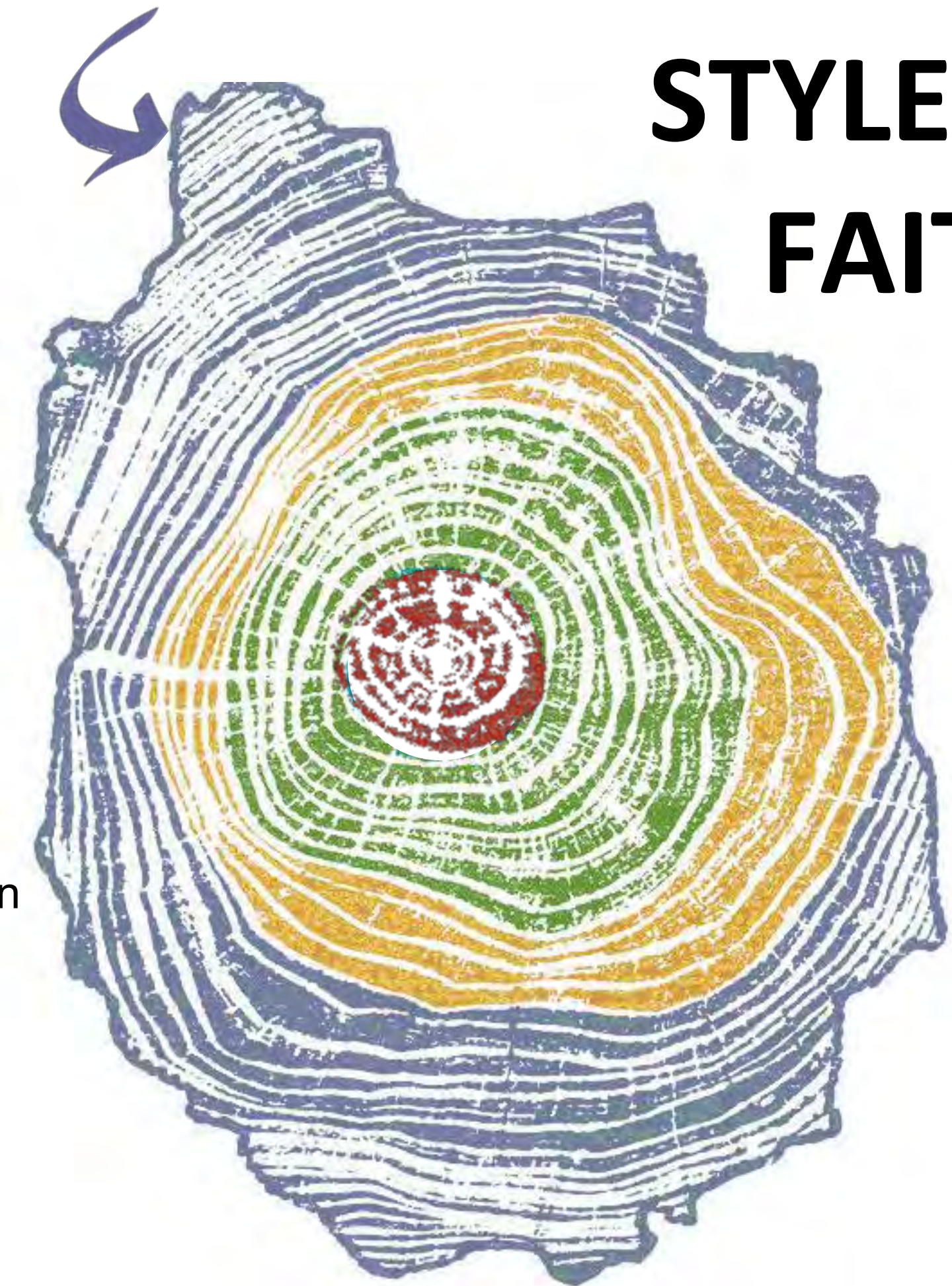
# SEARCHING FAITH

- Doubt, questioning, and experimentation is characteristic of searching faith.
- Often signals a movement from noncritical acceptance of the community's understanding and expression of faith to a personal faith.
- Affirmation and support to question with opportunities for serious study and reflection about the meaning and relevance of faith stories nurture searching faith.
- Need: To test the community's faith story and practices to reach one's own convictions.



# STYLES OF FAITH

## OWNED FAITH



- The person owns and is owned by their faith.
- Persons witness their faith through words and action by committing to a way of life that they believe.
- Wholeness of life, spiritual health and identity characterize this style of faith.
- Companions of faith who help and support the commitment to putting faith to work nurture and sustain this style.
- Need: To witness to one's faith in word and deed.

# STYLES OF FAITH

## EXPERIENCED FAITH

- Experienced through interacting, imitating, and responding to the faith actions of others.
- Primarily an affective experience characterized by feelings of trust, love, and acceptance.
- An environment of shared experiences and interactions in which to experience the values, commitments, and stories of the Christian life nurtures experienced faith.
- Need: To feel trust, love, and acceptance.

## AFFILIATIVE FAITH

- Affiliative faith is belonging faith.
- Affiliative faith, like experienced faith, is deeply rooted in feelings.
- Participating in a faith community that is accepting and has a clear sense of identity and authority nurtures affiliative faith.
- Need: Knowing the community story; to feel wanted, needed, accepted, and missed when absent experience of awe, wonder, and mystery

## SEARCHING FAITH

- Doubt, questioning, and experimentation is characteristic of searching faith.
- Often signals a movement from noncritical acceptance of the community's understanding and expression of faith to a personal faith.
- Affirmation and support to question with opportunities for serious study and reflection about the meaning and relevance of faith stories nurture searching faith.
- To test the community's faith story and practices to reach one's own convictions.

## OWNED FAITH

- The person owns and is owned by their faith.
- Persons witness their faith through words and action by committing to a way of life that they believe.
- Wholeness of life, spiritual health, and identity characterize this style of faith.
- Companions of faith who help and support the commitment to putting faith to work nurture and sustain this style.
- Need: To witness to one's faith in word and deed.

