


Digital Culture and the New Evangelization

Jonathan F. Sullivan

Gigs, Geeks and God
January 15, 2015

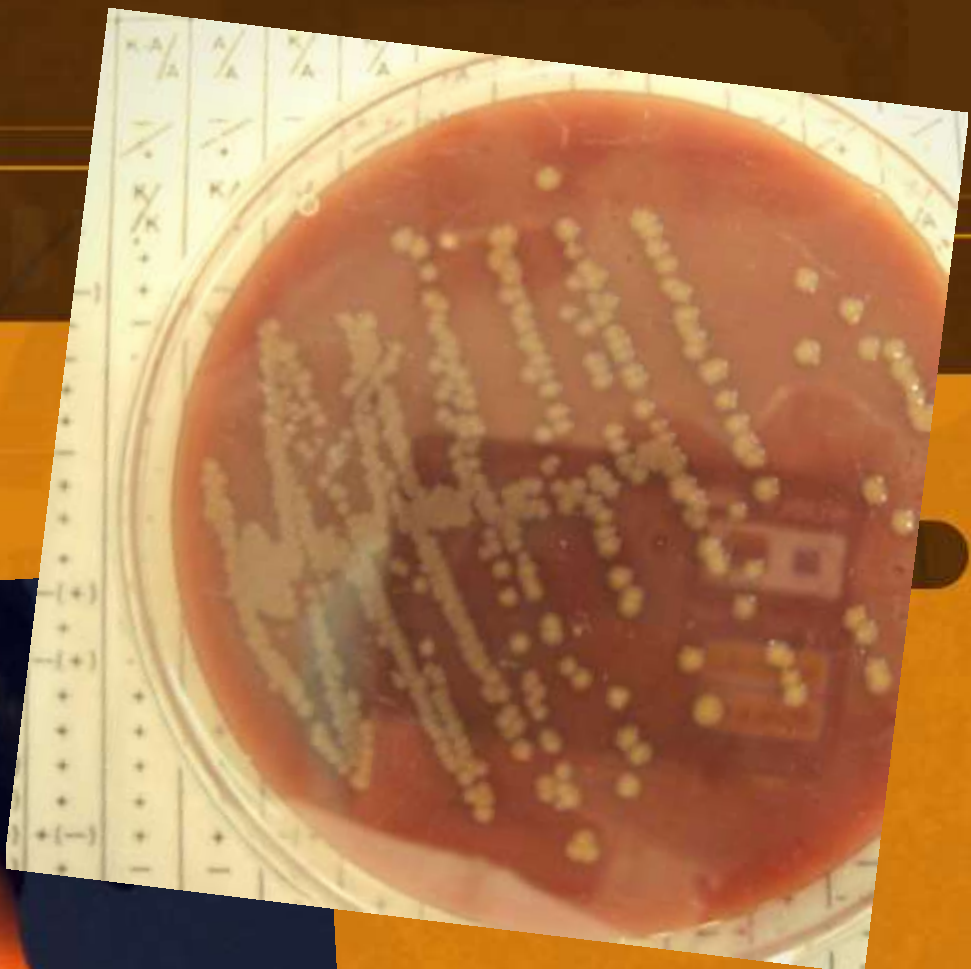
#DigitalEvangelization



Hi, I'm 
Jonathan.



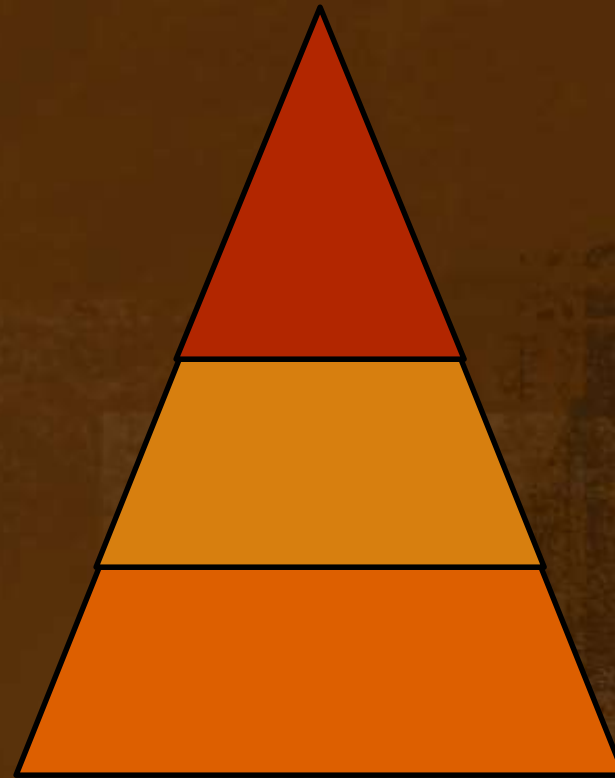
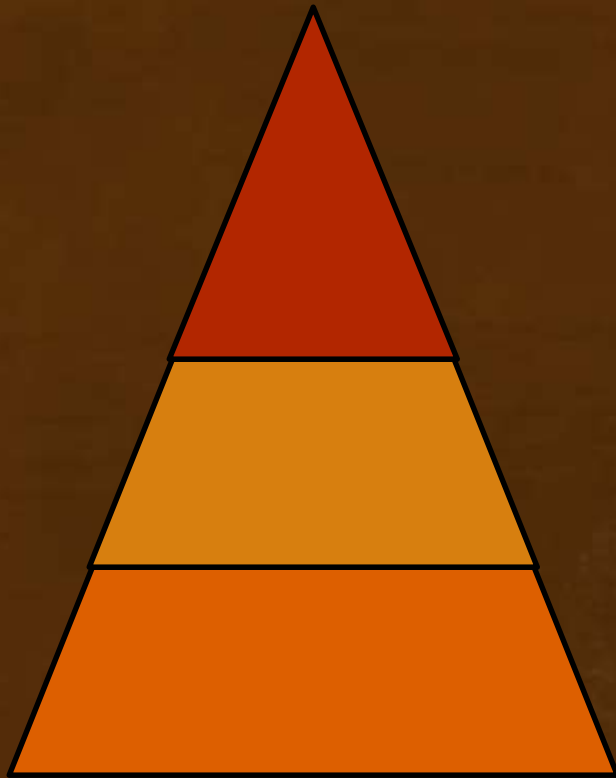
Ask me
questions on Twitter
with
#DigitalEvangelization



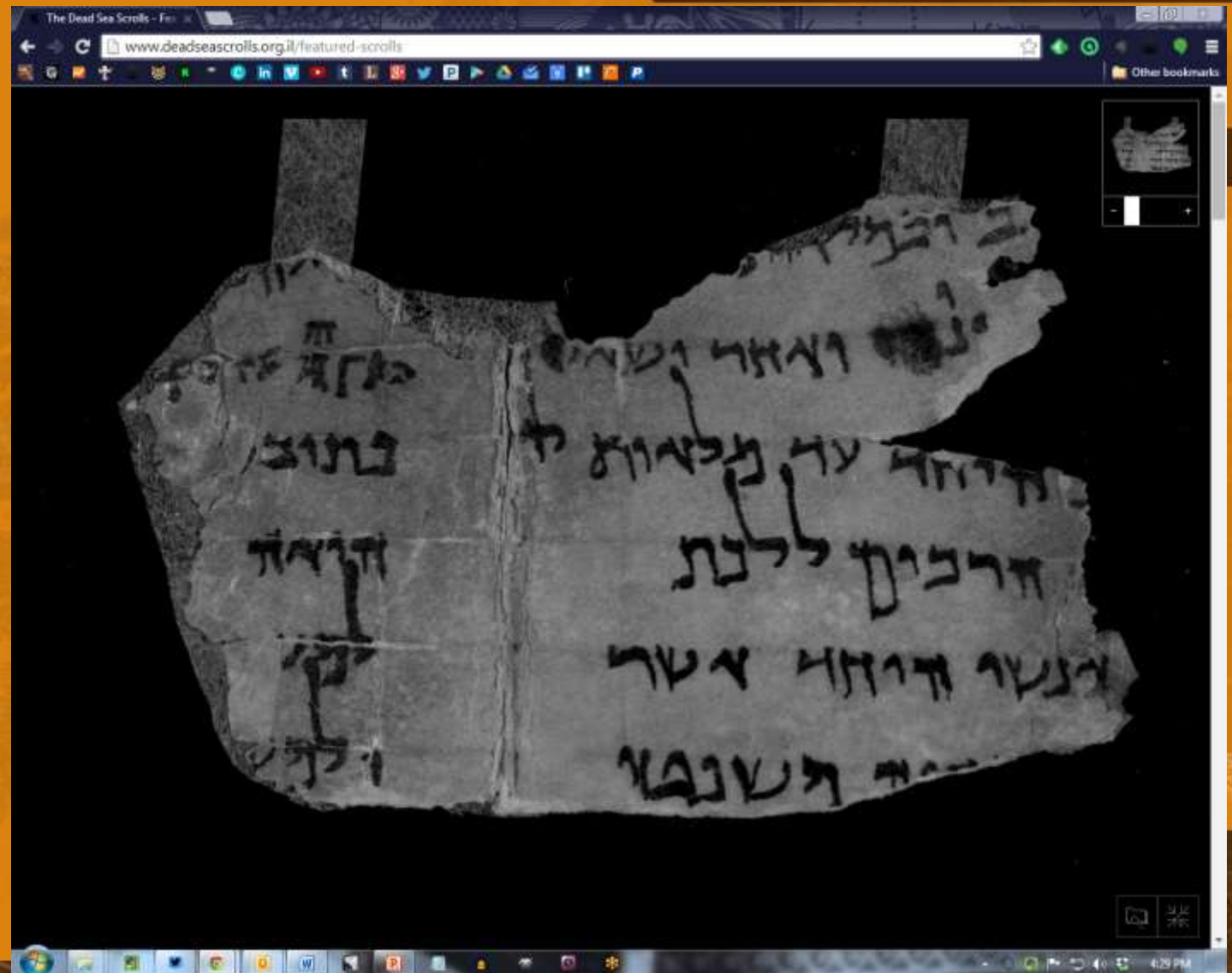
[Click here](#)

Subverts Hierarchy

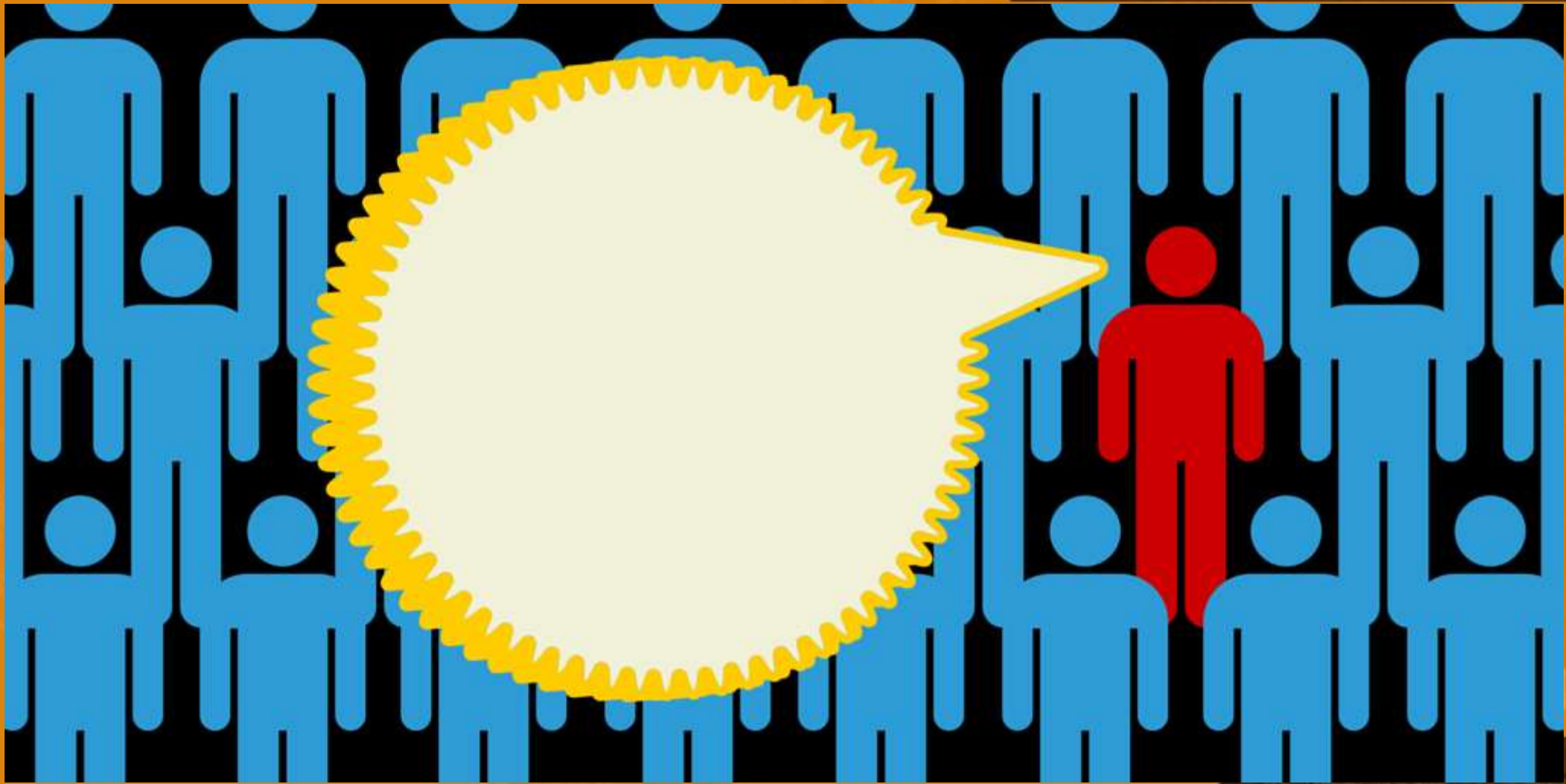
”Relationships without permission”



Democratizes Access



Nimble Individuals





The Emerging Digital Culture

“Although social media has been around for less than 10 years, it doesn’t have the makings of a fad. We’re being told that **it is causing as fundamental a shift in communication patterns and behavior as the printing press did 500 years ago.** And I don’t think I have to remind you of what happened when the Catholic Church was slow to adapt to that new technology.”

Bishop Ron Herzog, USCCB Address (2010)

“Totality of socially transmitted behavior patterns, arts, beliefs, institutions, and all other products of human work and thought.”

American Heritage College Dictionary, third edition

Digital Culture

Behavior Patterns

- Carrying devices
- Receiving and responding to notifications
- Texting
- Sharing (status updates, photos, videos, etc.)



Photo Credit: Ikhlusal Amal (cc-by-nc)

Digital Culture

Arts

- Selfie
- Mash-up
- Blog
- Podcast
- Memes
- Wiki
- Cat videos



Digital Culture

Institutions

- Too early?
- Wikipedia



Digital Culture

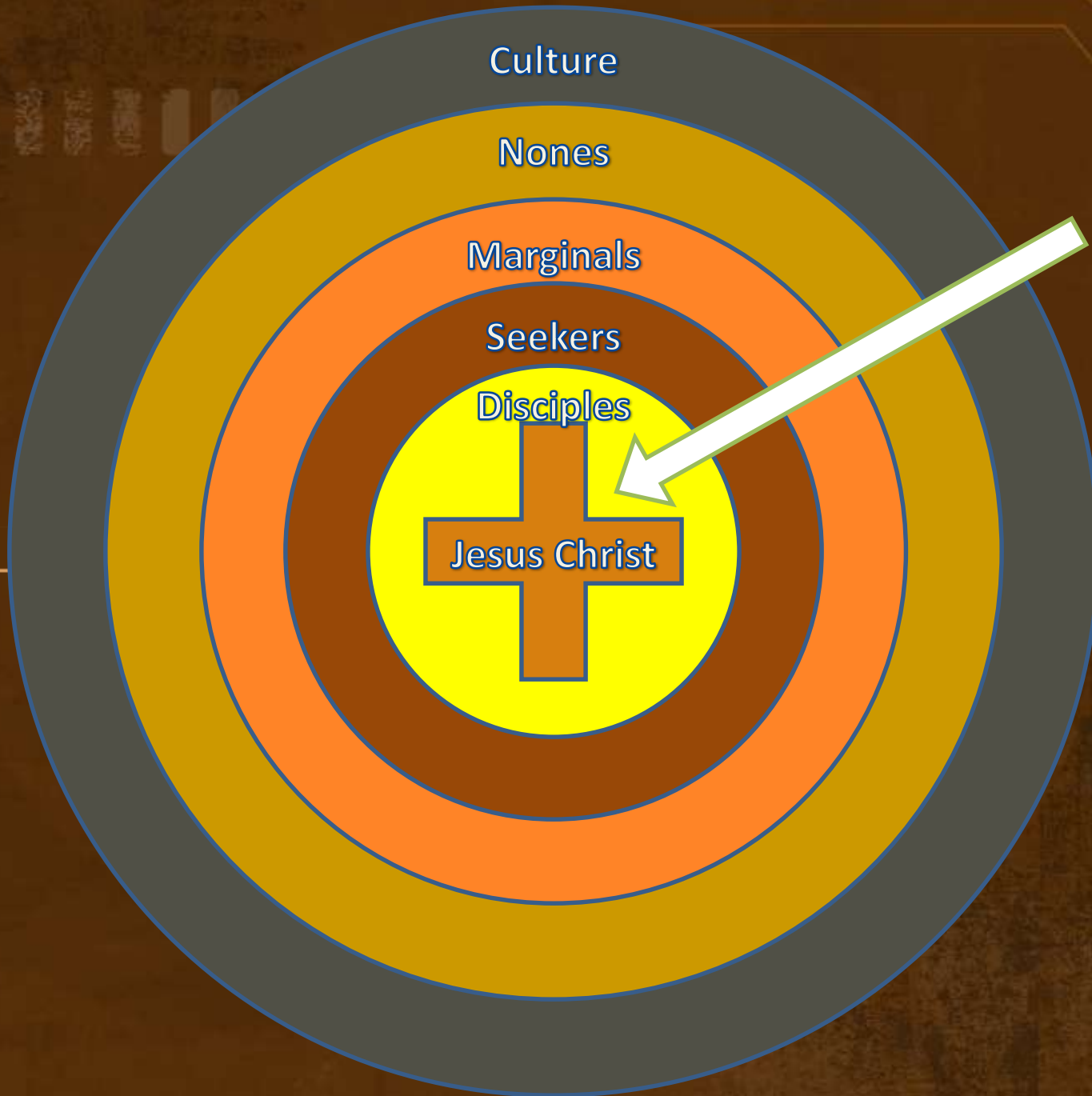
Beliefs

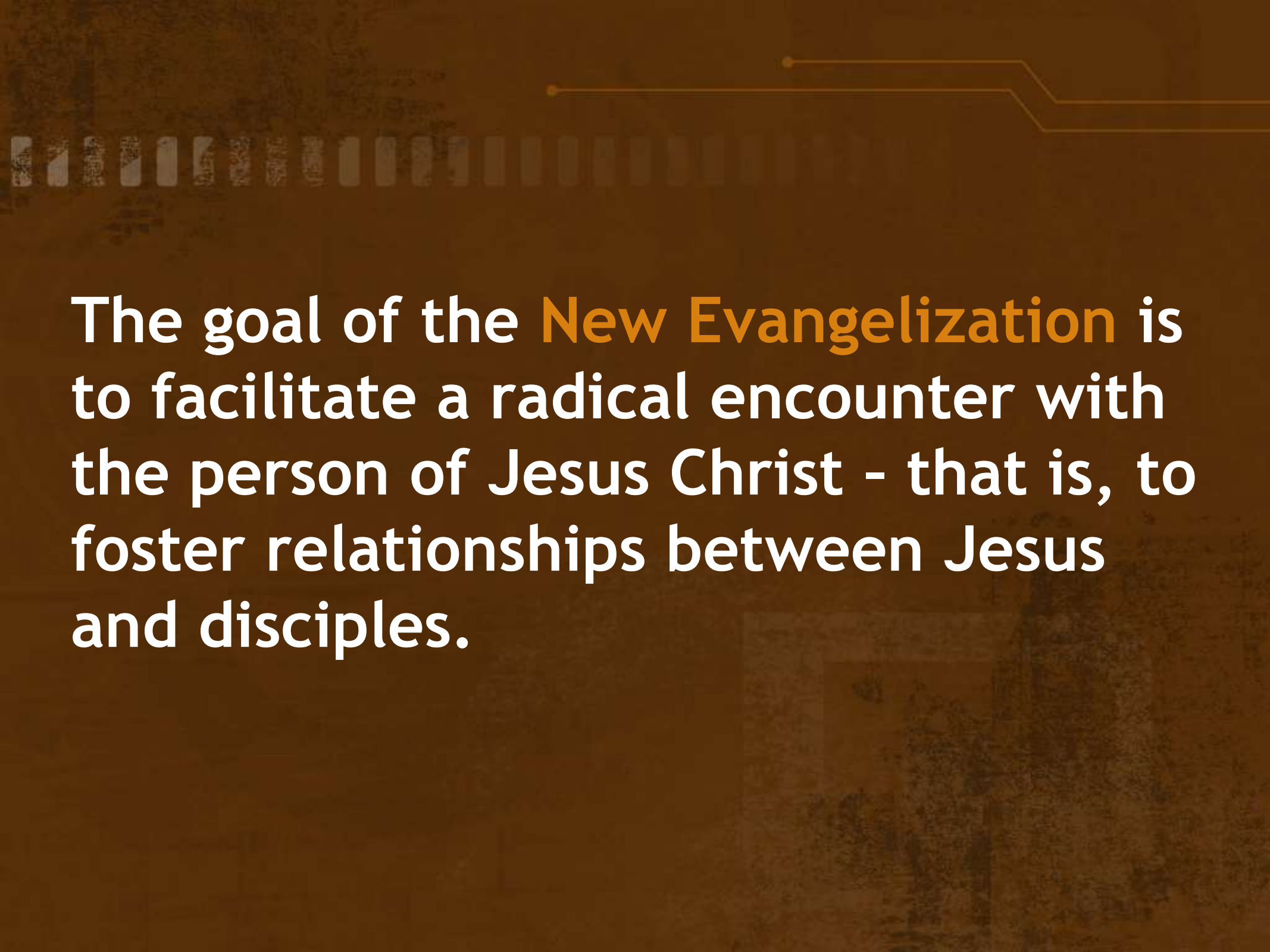
- Information wants to be free
- Relationships are built on trust





Relationships and the New Evangelization



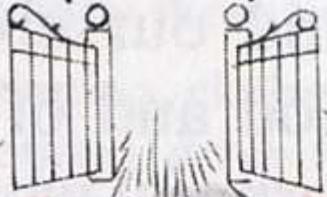


The goal of the **New Evangelization** is to facilitate a radical encounter with the person of Jesus Christ - that is, to foster relationships between Jesus and disciples.



Photo Credit: smif (cc-by-nc-nd)

HEAVEN



CHRISTIANITY IS A
WAY OF LIFE

THE COMMANDMENTS
GUIDE US ON THE WAY.

LIFE IN CHRIST

THOU SHALT

THOU SHALT NOT

EACH COMMANDMENT
ORDERS US TO TAKE
THE RIGHT ROAD AND
FORBIDS US TO TAKE
THE WRONG ROAD.

HELL





The Hyperlinked Parish

“The parish is not an outdated institution; **precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours...** [I]f the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity, it continues to be ‘the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters’.”

Evangelii Gaudium, no. 28

Characteristics of a hyperlinked parish

”The parish is... a centre of constant missionary outreach.”



- Recognizes changing relationships with parishioners
- Encourages leaders to act as “links”
- Engages in conversation using human language

Characteristics of a hyperlinked parish

”The parish is... a centre of constant missionary outreach.”



- Shares its gifts and resources

- Exercises transparency

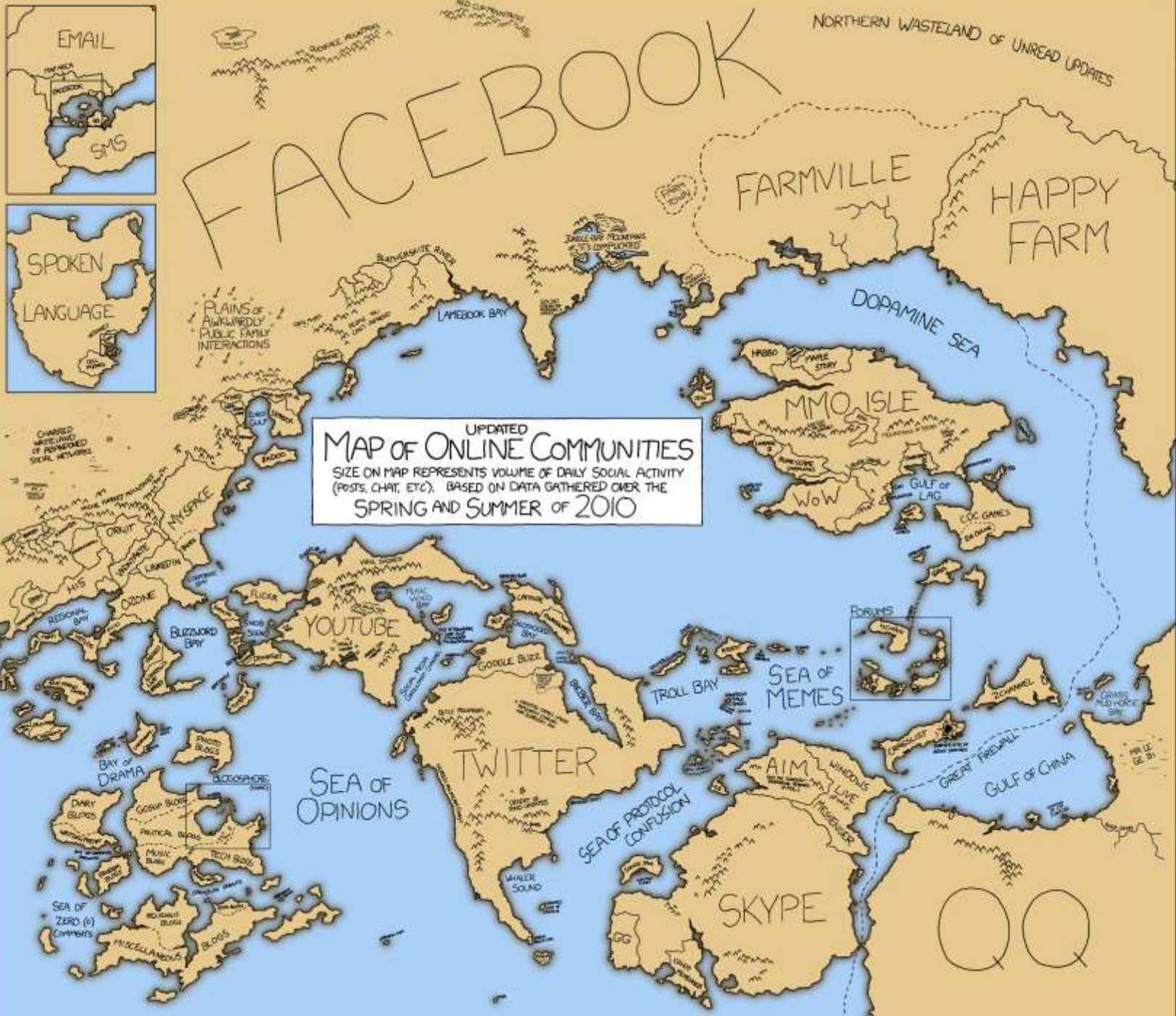


Image Credit: xkcd.com (cc-by-nc)

Notes and slides available at

JonathanFSullivan.com

Follow me on Twitter at

[@sullijo](https://twitter.com/sullijo)

The background is a dark brown, textured surface. It features several glowing orange circuit lines that run horizontally and vertically, some with small circular nodes. A large, faint, circular gear or cogwheel is visible in the background, partially obscured by the circuit lines. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and technological.

Placeholder for a Two Line Title Presentation Template

Technology Theme

Content Slide Title Placeholder

Technology Theme

- **First level bullet would look like this here**
 - Second level gets a size change and indent
- **Try to keep bullets short and sweet**
 - The more bullets you have, the less likely someone is going to actually read them
 - Third level gets really deep and actually kind of small
- **Having less than six bullets is a good rule of thumb**
- **Last bullet falls in this area here**

Two Column Content Slide Title

Technology Theme

Column Heading 1

- Try to keep bullets short and sweet
- Having less than six bullets is a good rule of thumb
- Last bullet falls in this area here

Column Heading 2

- Try to keep bullets short and sweet
- Having less than six bullets is a good rule of thumb
- Last bullet falls in this area here

“Sample quote goes here. Could be something technology based or innovative.”

Dr. Johnny Goodquote
June 2, 2008



Transitional Slide Placeholder