



Let Us Love One Another

1 John 4:7-11

A still from the movie 'Cast Away' showing Tom Hanks as Chuck Noland. He is on a sandy beach, wearing a brown and white patterned sweater, looking down with a somber expression. A yellow inflatable raft is on the sand behind him. The background shows the ocean and a forested hillside.

CAST
AWAY

Tom Hanks

as

Chuck Noland







“I’m sorry Wilson! Wilson, I’m sorry!”



“I’m sorry!”



“I can’t.... Wilson! Wil...son!”



**WE ARE MADE
FOR COMMUNITY.**

WE LONG TO BELONG.



The early followers of Jesus became more than just good friends who loved one another deeply. They became a family that was deeply devoted to one another. Their default mode was “we” instead of “me.”



ONE ANOTHER-ING

Putting Into Practice Jesus' New Way of Being Human Together

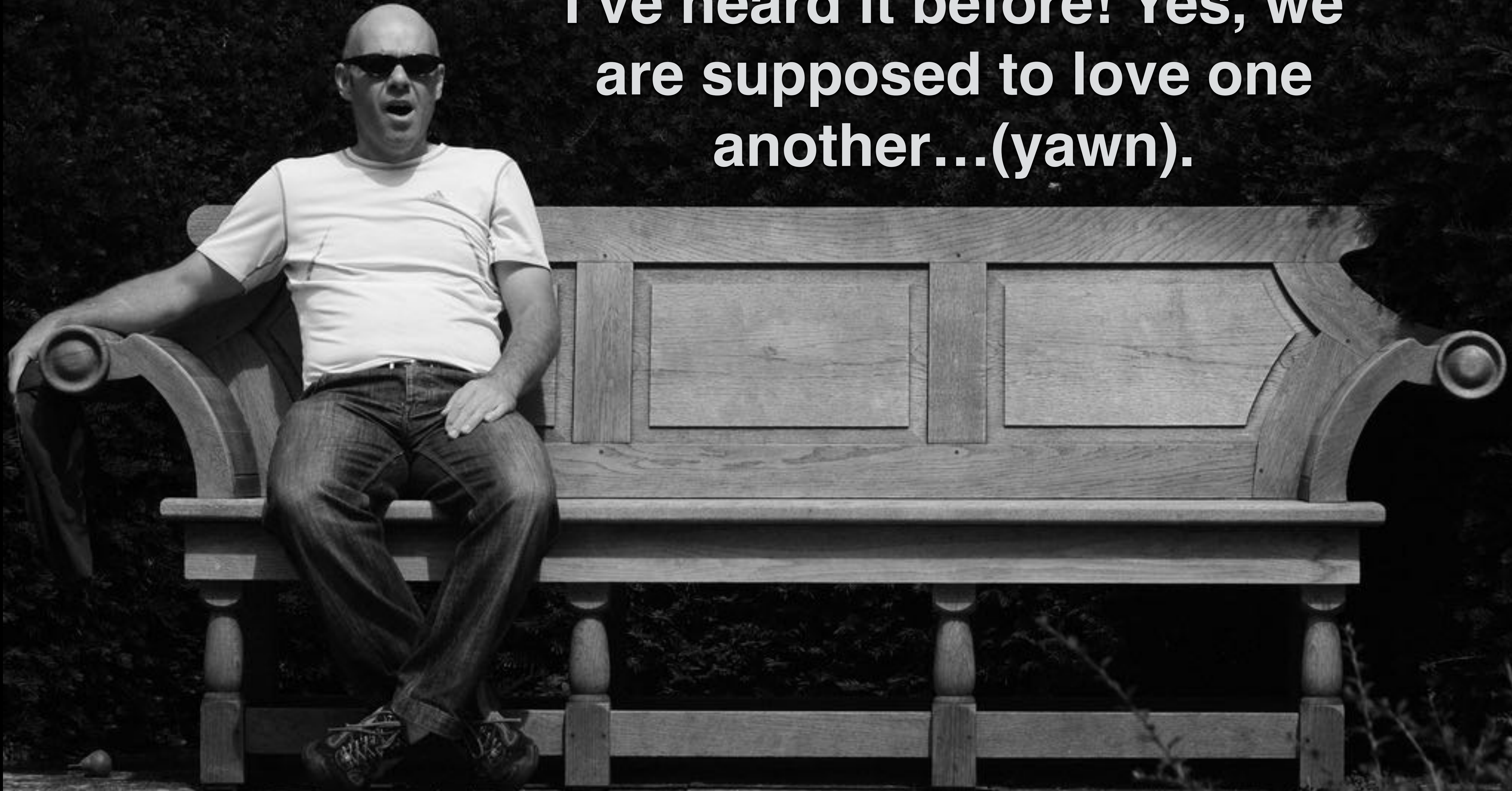
New Series at Mercy Hill Church



Let Us Love One Another

1 John 4:7-11

**I've heard it before! Yes, we
are supposed to love one
another...(yawn).**



Love One Another

Love one another - John 13:34

Love one another - John 15:12

Love one another - John 15:17

Love one another - Romans 12:10

Love one another - 1 Thess. 4:9

Love one another - 1 Peter 1:22

Love one another - 1 John 3:22

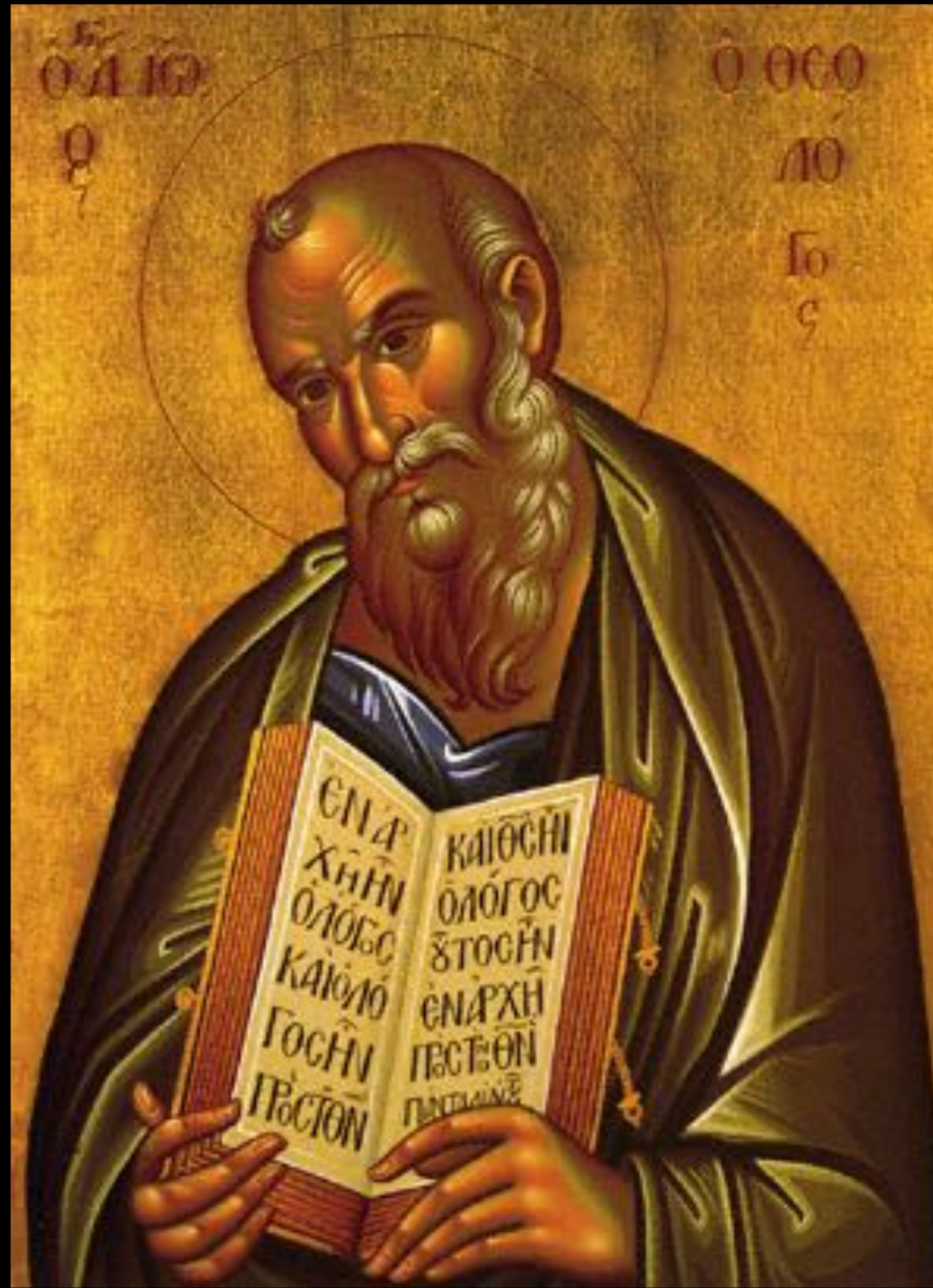
Love one another - 1 John 4:7

Love one another - 1 John 4:11

Love one another - 1 John 4:12

Love one another - 2 John 1:5

Love one another - 2 John 3:11



The Apostle John

1 John, Chapter 3

11 For this is the **message** that you have heard from the beginning, that **we should love one another.**



“an announcement or a proclamation”

1 John, Chapter 3

16 For by this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

1 John, Chapter 3

16 For by this we know **love**, that **he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.**

adelphoi = brothers & sisters

fellow believers in Christ

the local church

1 John, Chapter 4

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

When people hear these words,

LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER

what they hear is, “Let us be NICE to one another.”
But you can be nice to someone without being loving.

When the early Christians used the word “LOVE,”
they had something much more profound in mind.

GEEKING OUT ON GREEK

Greek has 4 words for “LOVE”

storge
family affection

eros
romantic

philea
friendship

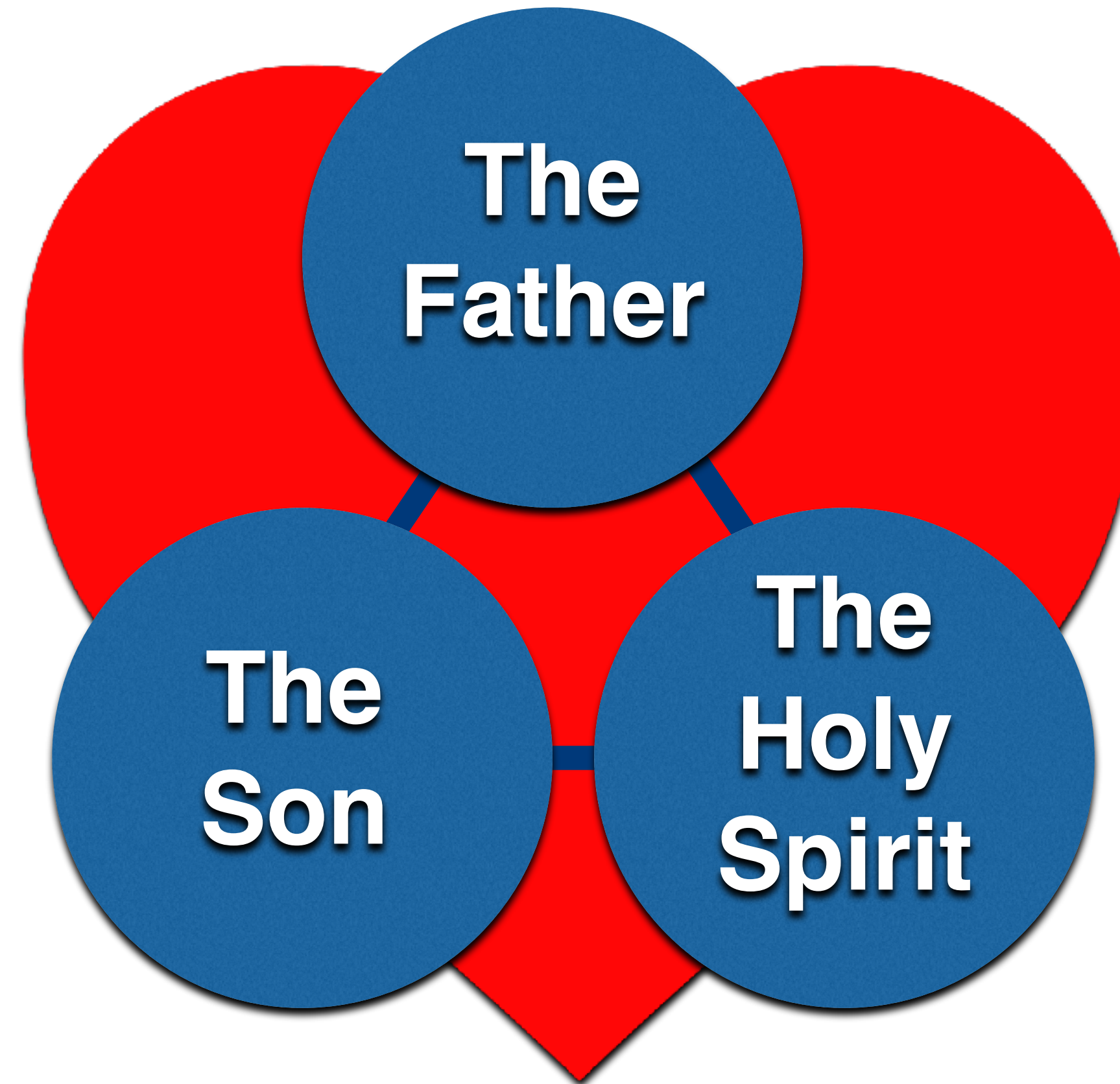
agape
unconditional
sacrificial love



1 John, Chapter 4

7 Beloved, **let us love one another**, for **love** is from God, and whoever **loves** has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not **love** does not know God, because **God is love.**

GOD IS LOVE



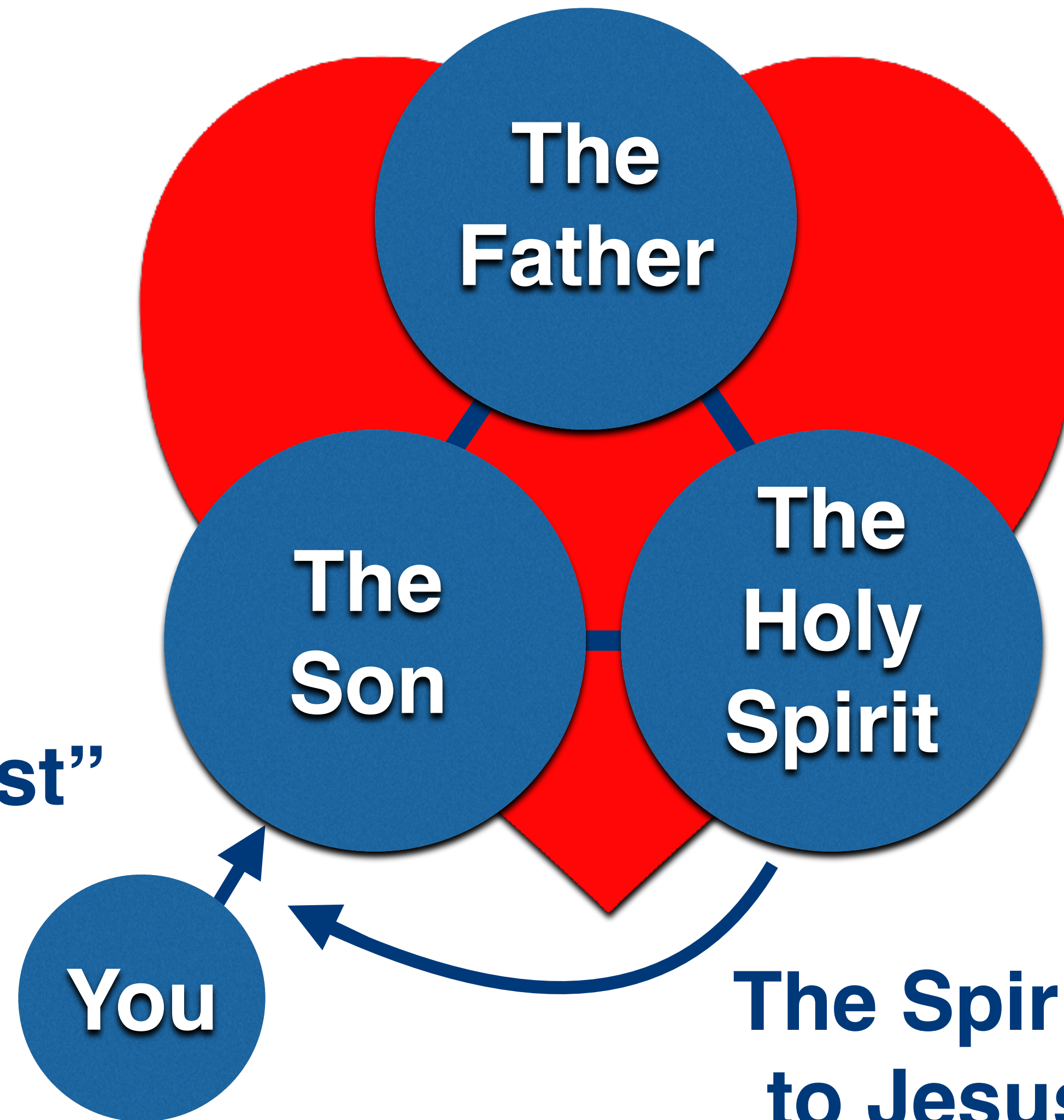
**One God in Three Persons
The Blessed Trinity**

GOD IS LOVE

**“partakers of
the divine
nature”**

— 2 Peter 1:4 —

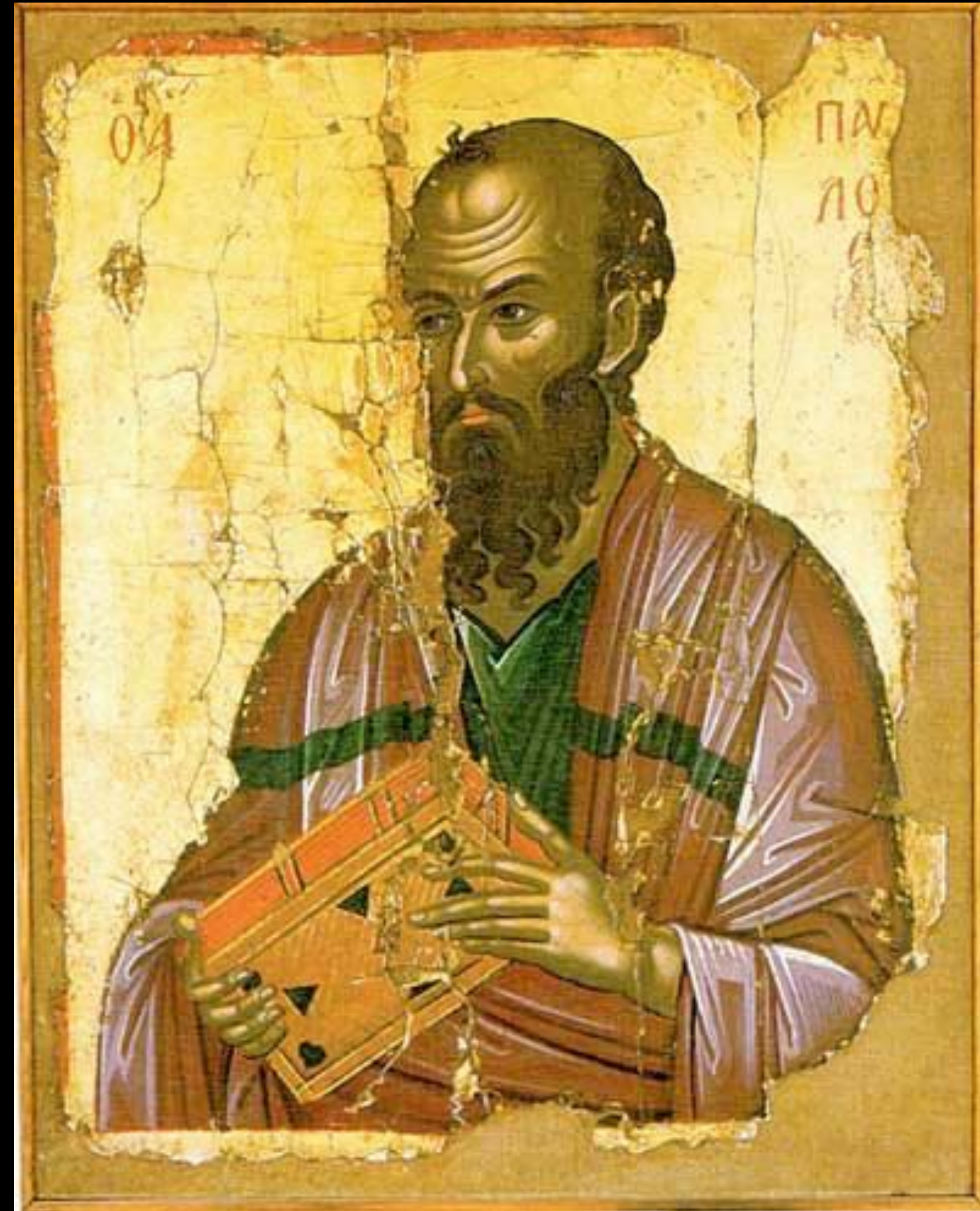
“in Christ”



**The Spirit unites the believer
to Jesus and draws us into
the fellowship of the Trinity**

**...God's love has been
poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit
who has been given to us.**

The Apostle Paul
— Romans 5:5 —



1 John, Chapter 4

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us,

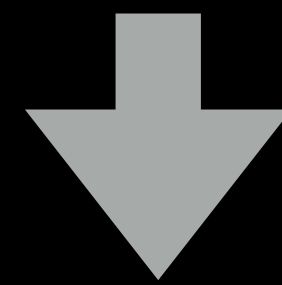
1 John, Chapter 4

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

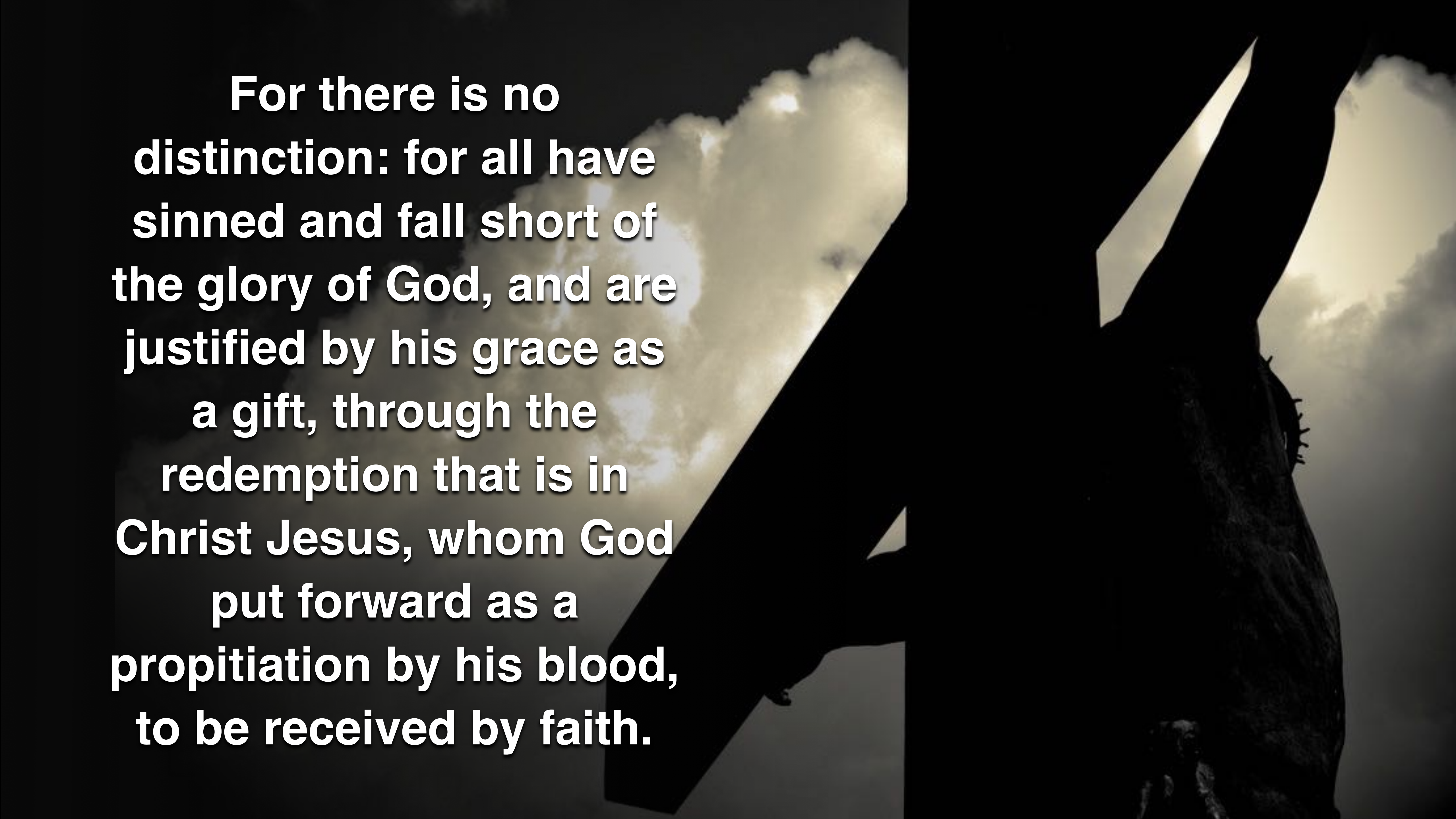
1 John, Chapter 4

10 In this is **love**, not that we have loved God but that **he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation** for our sins.

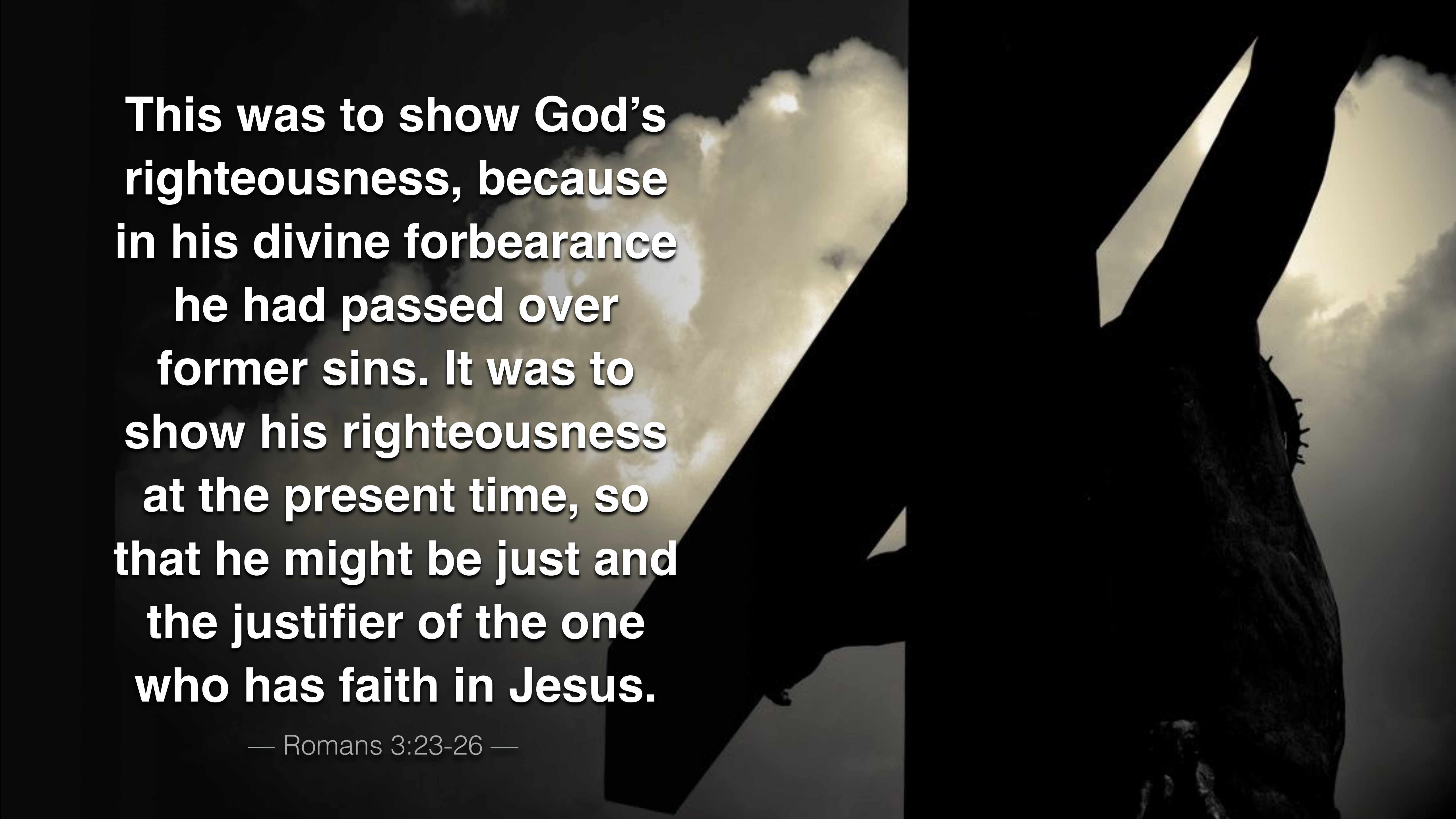
pro·pi·ti·a·tion



the means by which justice is satisfied
and our sins are atoned for



For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.



**This was to show God's
righteousness, because
in his divine forbearance
he had passed over
former sins. It was to
show his righteousness
at the present time, so
that he might be just and
the justifier of the one
who has faith in Jesus.**

— Romans 3:23-26 —

Jesus Is Our Propitiation / Atonement



God remains a God of justice



Allows God to justify those who trust in Jesus as their Savior

**THE ONE
WHO KNOWS
ME BEST
LOVES ME
MOST.**

— Kyle Idleman —



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J. I. PACKER



KNOWING
GOD

There is tremendous relief in knowing that his love to me is utterly realistic, based at every point on prior knowledge of the worst about me, so that no discovery can now disillusion him about me, in the way I am so often disillusioned about myself, and quench his determination to bless me.

1 John, Chapter 4

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love
one another....

1 John, Chapter 4

19 We love because he first loved us.

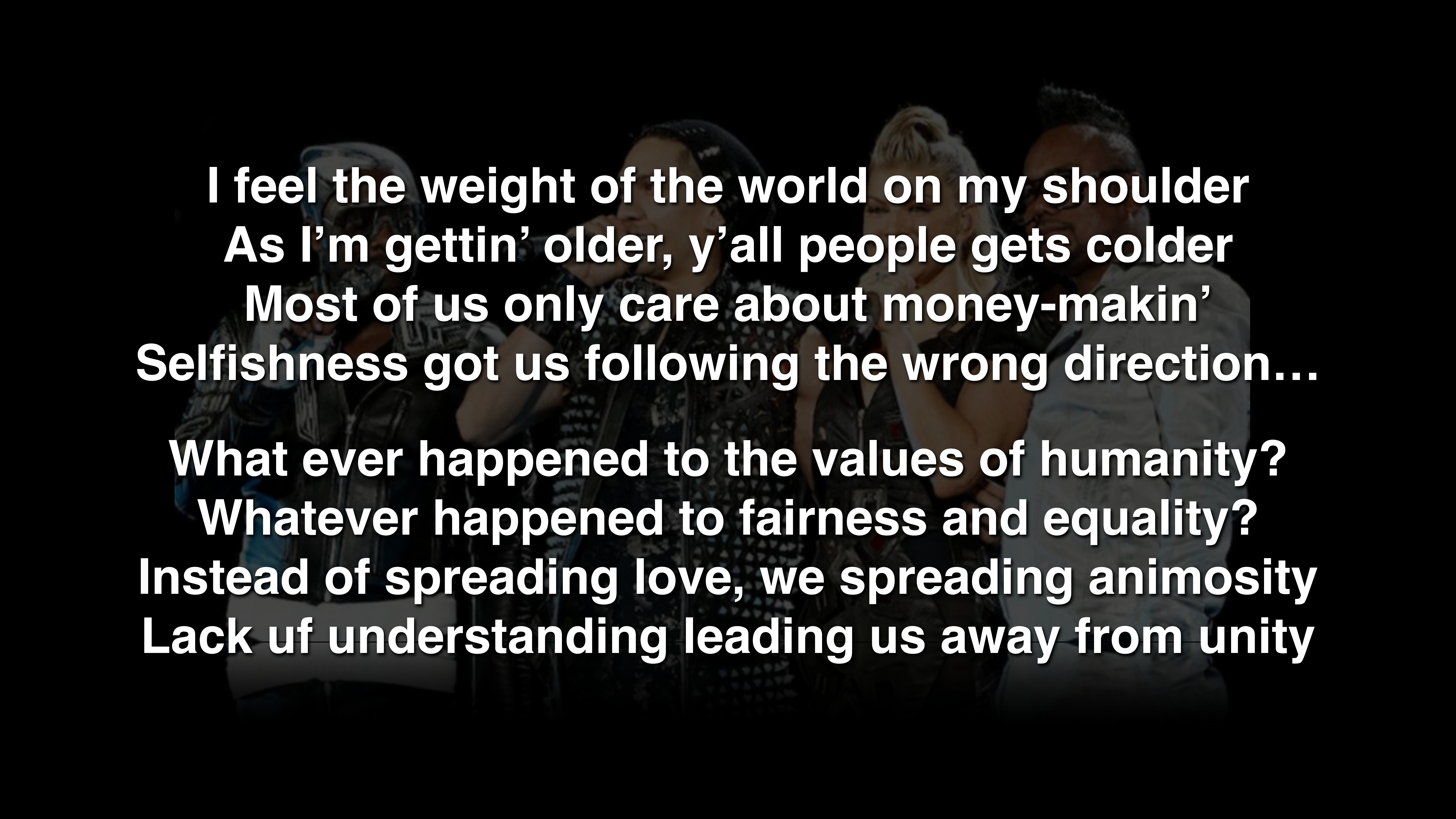
1

**Let's Live Into
This New Way of
Being Human**



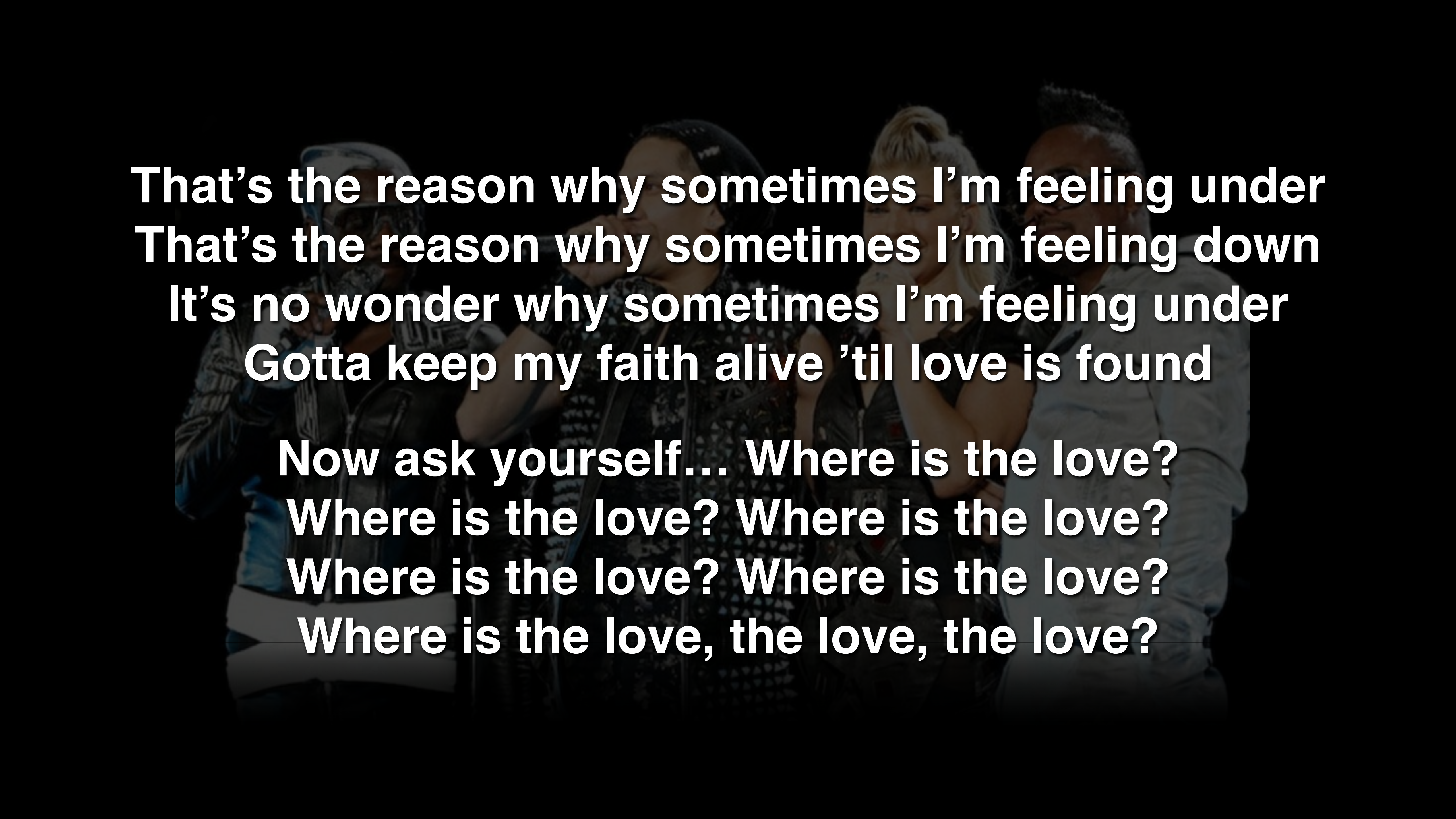


— The Black Eyed Peas —



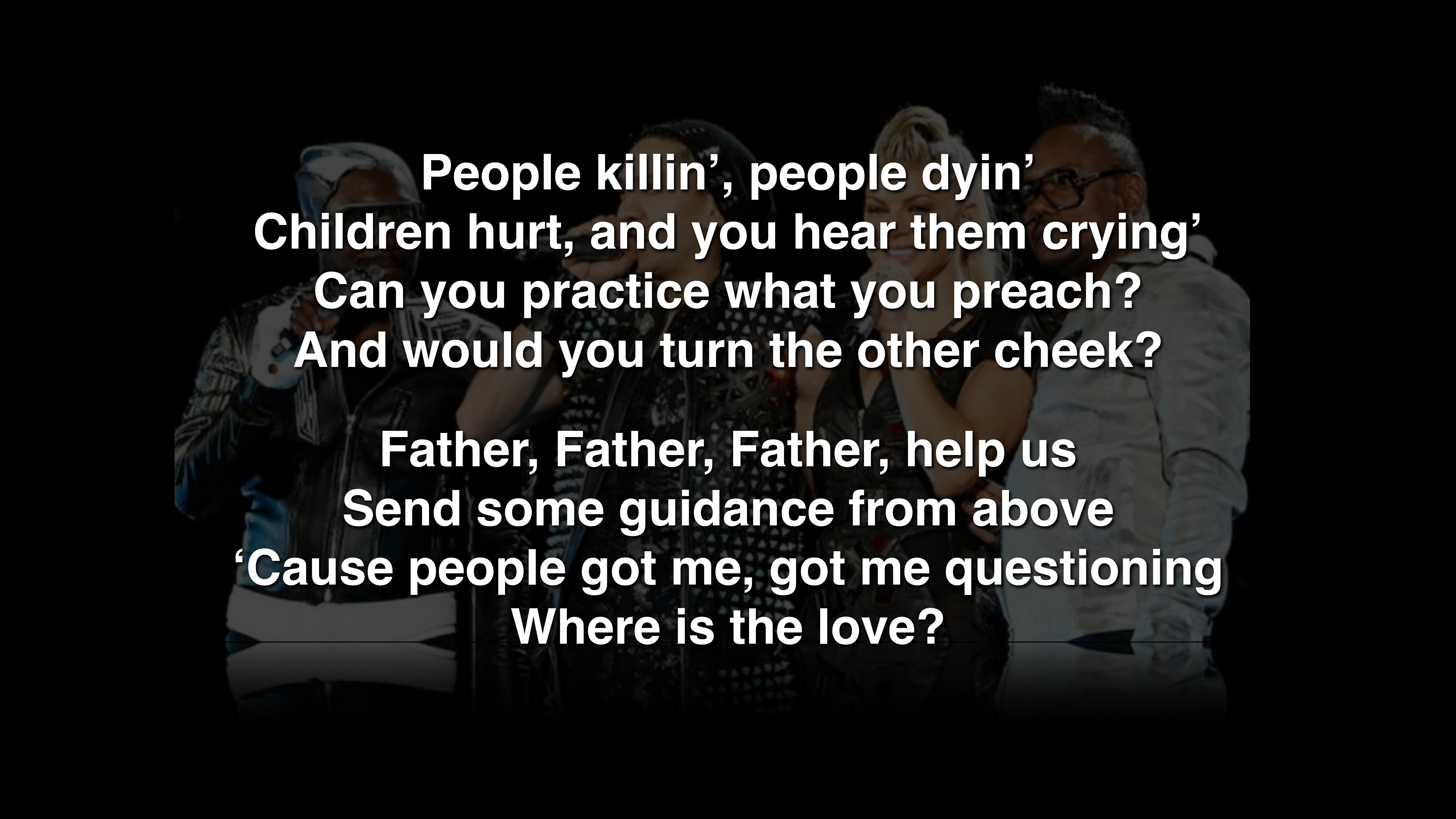
**I feel the weight of the world on my shoulder
As I'm gettin' older, y'all people gets colder
Most of us only care about money-makin'
Selfishness got us following the wrong direction...**

**What ever happened to the values of humanity?
Whatever happened to fairness and equality?
Instead of spreading love, we spreading animosity
Lack of understanding leading us away from unity**



**That's the reason why sometimes I'm feeling under
That's the reason why sometimes I'm feeling down
It's no wonder why sometimes I'm feeling under
Gotta keep my faith alive 'til love is found**

**Now ask yourself... Where is the love?
Where is the love? Where is the love?
Where is the love? Where is the love?
Where is the love, the love, the love?**



**People killin', people dyin'
Children hurt, and you hear them crying'
Can you practice what you preach?
And would you turn the other cheek?**

**Father, Father, Father, help us
Send some guidance from above
'Cause people got me, got me questioning
Where is the love?**



**Can you practice
what you preach?**

**If I speak in the tongues of men
and of angels, but have not love,
I am a noisy gong or a clanging
cymbal. And if I have prophetic
powers, and understand all
mysteries and all knowledge,
and if I have all faith, so as to
move mountains, but have not
love, I am nothing.**

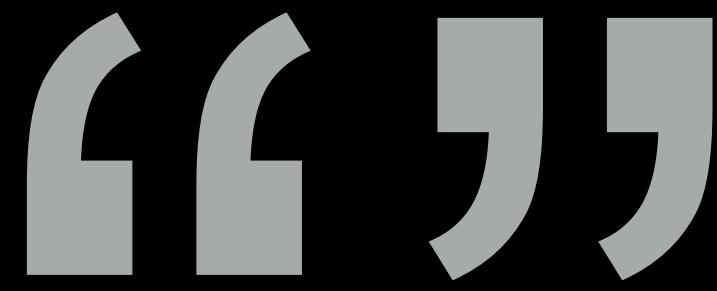


**The Apostle Paul
— 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 —**



2

Let's Get the Assignment Right

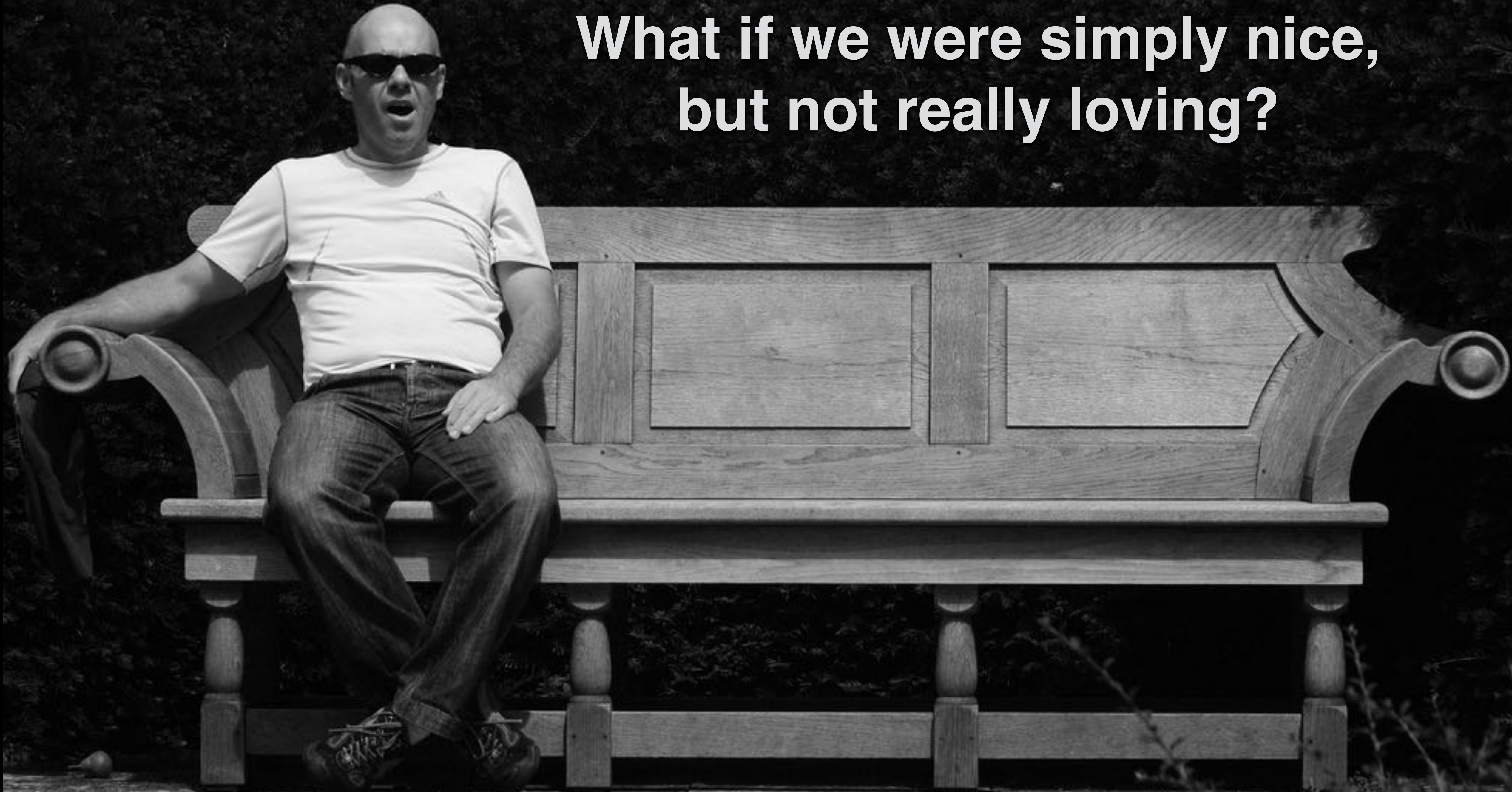


This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus of Nazareth

The Gospel of John, 15:12-13

**What if we were simply nice,
but not really loving?**





Phil M. Wagler

Kingdom CULTURE

Growing the Missional Church

“Nice” is an entirely unbiblical term.

“He was nice” is what neighbors say to a reporter about the guy who just committed a heinous crime.

“Nice” is a sign that we do not actually see people, but have instead dismissed them. Perhaps our deepest conversation has only been, “Hey, how’s it going?” We may be nice, but we have yet to see the person. Nice is a dismissive term; the jargon of non-relationship.



Phil M. Wagler

Kingdom CULTURE

Growing the Missional Church

Culturally...we are told to see everyone as nice and to be nice, but this is really a sinister slippery slope toward taking no one in the least bit serious. If we are only nice, we do not truly appreciate the other's uniqueness and potential blessing in my life. We just walk by with a shallow smile, wave, and nod.

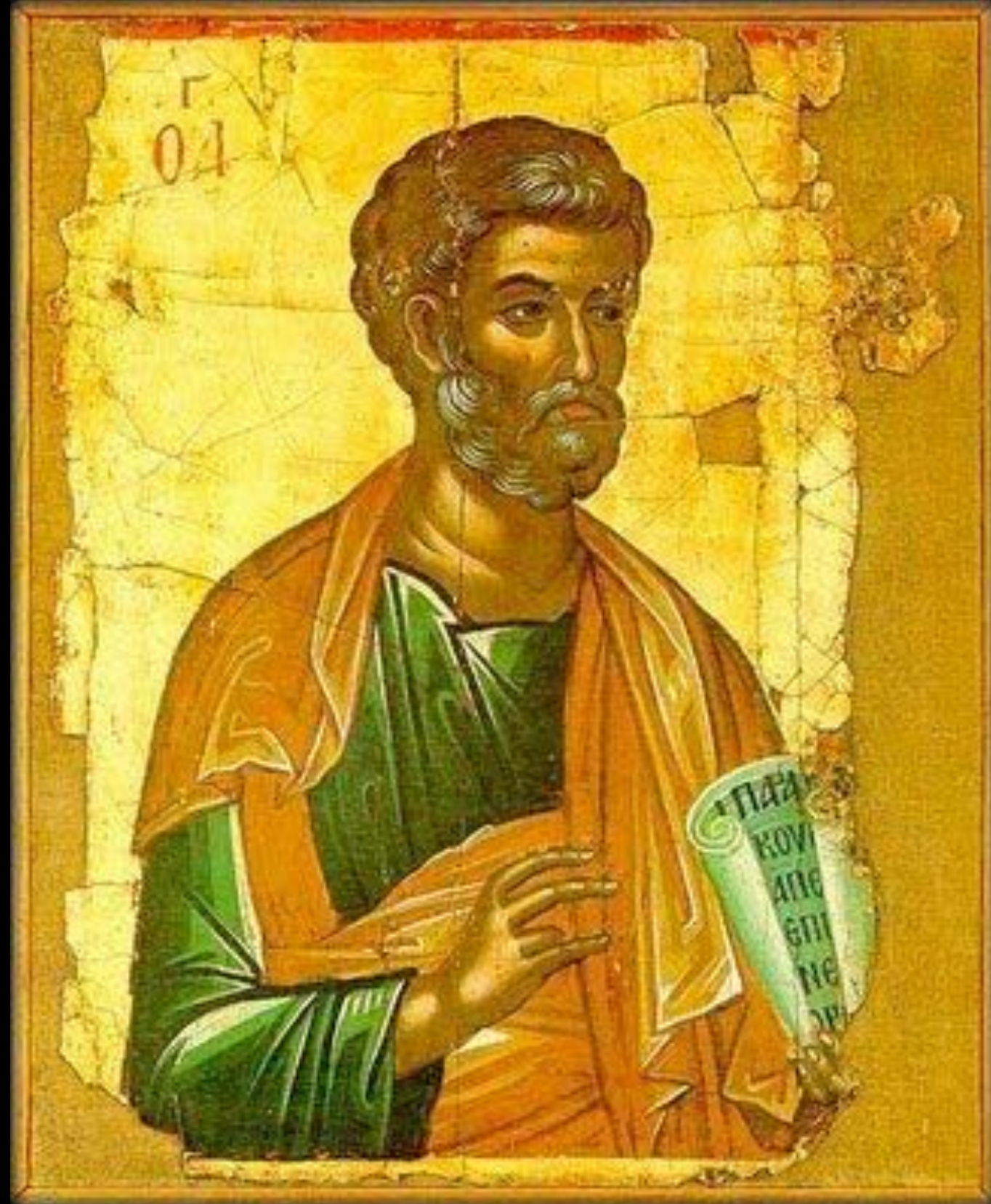


Phil M. Wagler

Kingdom **CULTURE**

Growing the Missional Church

If we are only nice, we take no interest in the story that has shaped their beauty, pain, and even ugliness. And, to our great shock, we discover that no one knows our story either. More does it seem they care. Our world is left to us desolate.

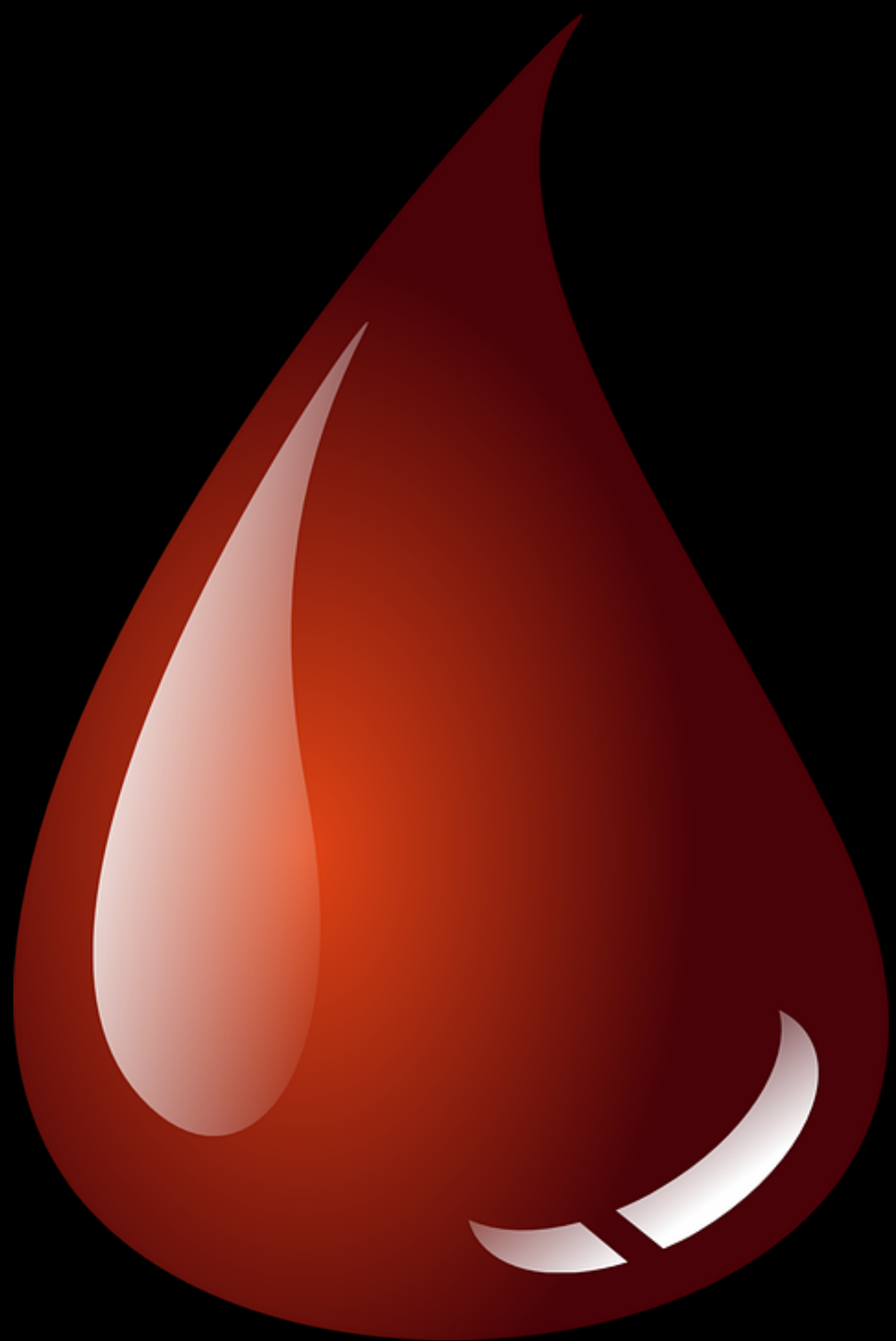


**Love one another
EARNESTLY
from a pure heart.**

The Apostle Peter
— 1 Peter 1:22 —



“...EARNESTLY...”



“...**EARNESTLY**...”

And being in agony he
prayed more earnestly; and
his sweat became like great
drops of blood falling down
to the ground.

— Luke 22:44 —

Now concerning brotherly **LOVE**, you have no need of anyone to write you for you yourselves have been taught by God to **LOVE ONE ANOTHER**. But we urge you, brothers, to do this **MORE** and **MORE**.



The Apostle Paul
1 Thessalonians 4:9-10



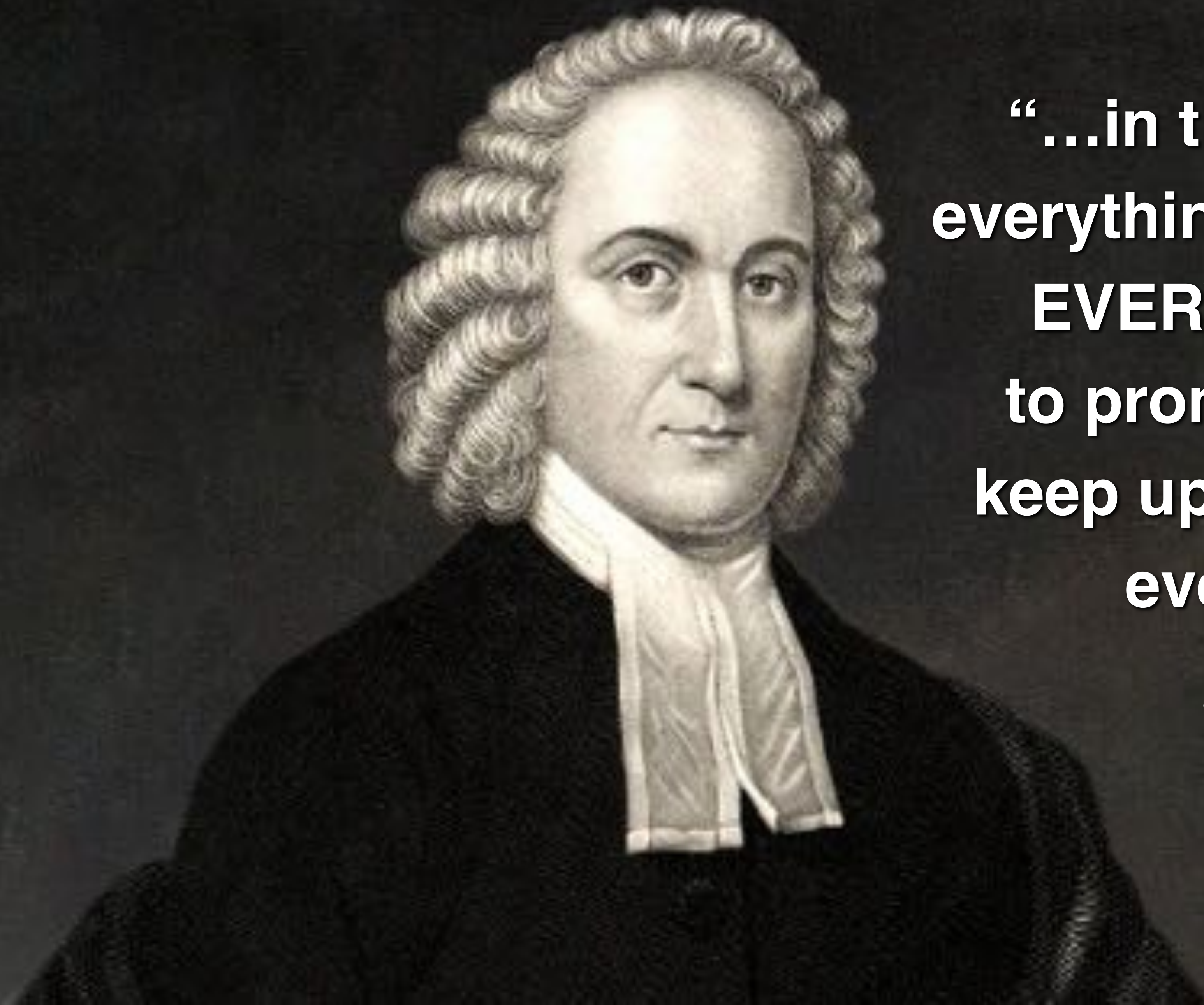
**Can you practice
what you preach?**



3

**Let Us Participate
in the Dress
Rehearsal**

image:
Tracy Whiteside



**“...in the paradise of love...,
everything is filled with love, and
EVERYTHING CONSPIRES
to promote and kindle it, and
keep up its flame, and nothing
ever interrupts it....”**

Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758)

“Heaven: A World of Love”



**Can you practice
what you preach?**



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Putting Into Practice Jesus' New Way of Being Human Together

New Series at Mercy Hill Church