

Let Us Disciple One Another

Romans 15:14



ONE ANOTHER-ING

Putting Into Practice Jesus' New Way of Being Human Together

____ New Series at Mercy Hill Church ____

THEM

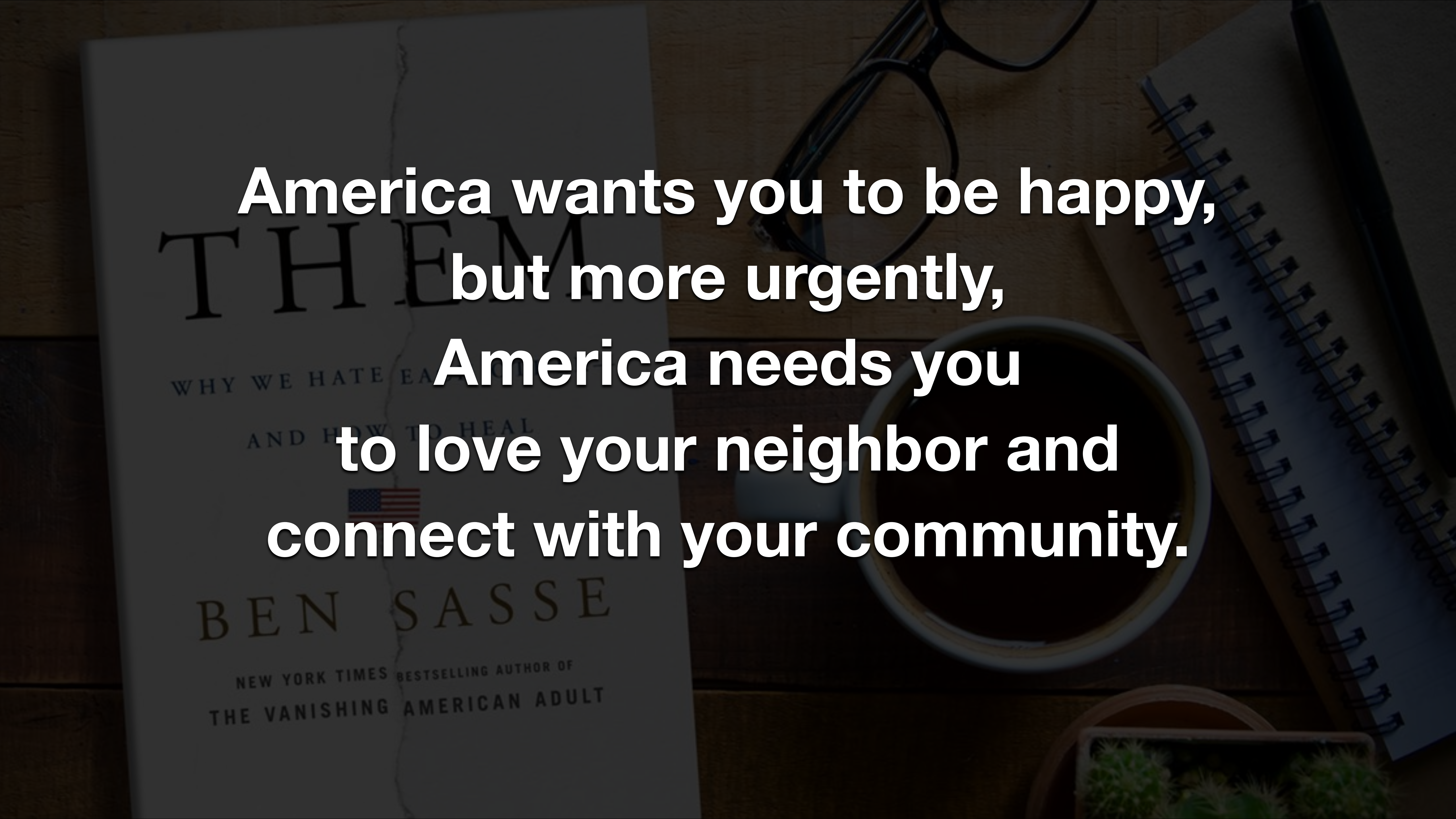
WHY WE HATE EACH OTHER—
AND HOW TO HEAL




BEN SASSE

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
THE VANISHING AMERICAN ADULT

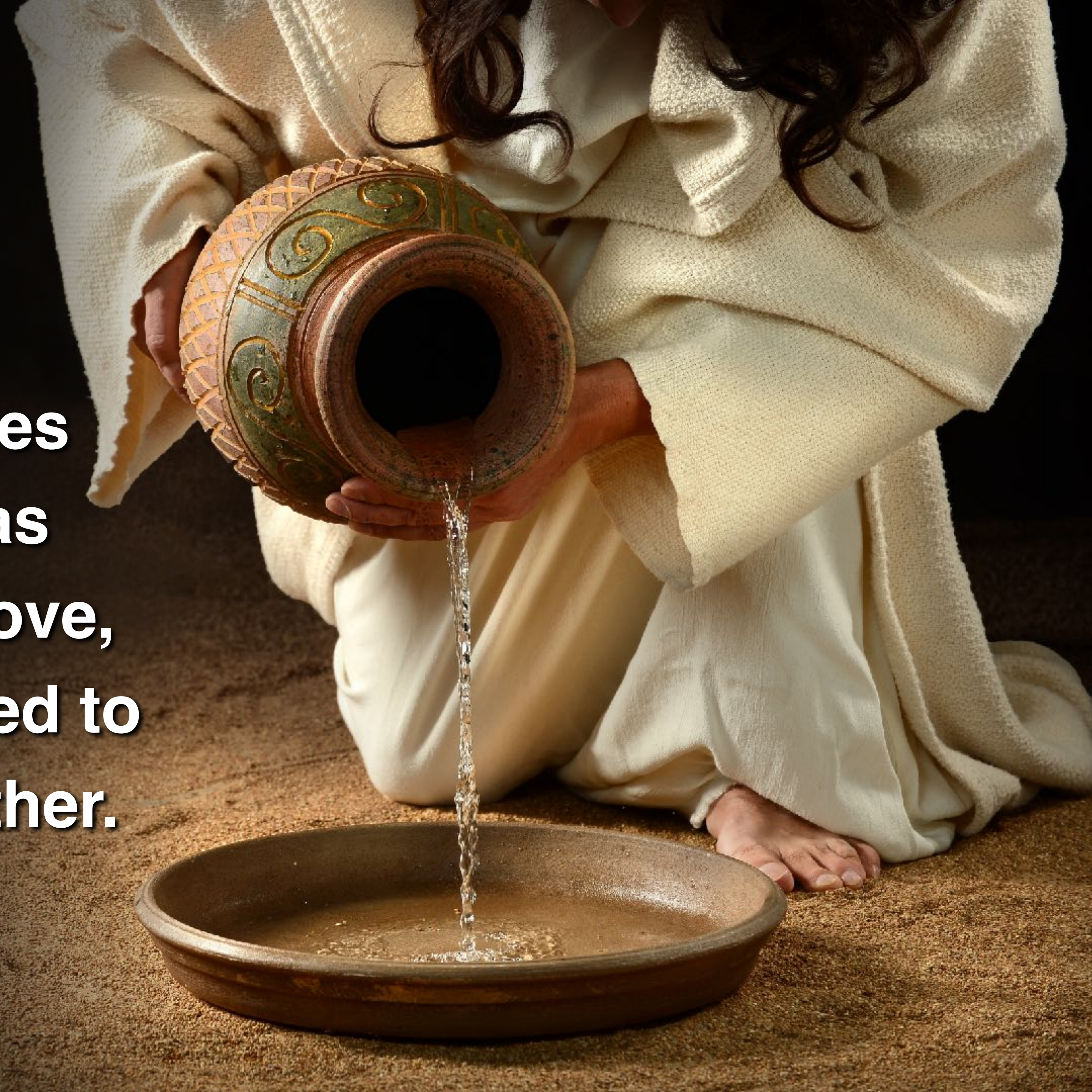




**America wants you to be happy,
but more urgently,
America needs you
to love your neighbor and
connect with your community.**

THEM
WHY WE HATE EACH OTHER
AND HOW TO HEAL

BEN SASSE
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
THE VANISHING AMERICAN ADULT

**One of the great themes
of Jesus' teaching was
that all of life is about love,
and we have been created to
love, not hate, one another.**



Putting Into Practice Jesus' New Way of Being Human Together



Love One Another

Welcome One Another

Show Hospitality to One Another

Encourage One Another

Forgive One Another

Serve One Another



**We are Designed To Flourish in a Spiritual
Community in which We can be Devoted
to One Another and our Default Mode
is “WE” rather than “ME”**



Let Us Disciple One Another

Romans 15:14

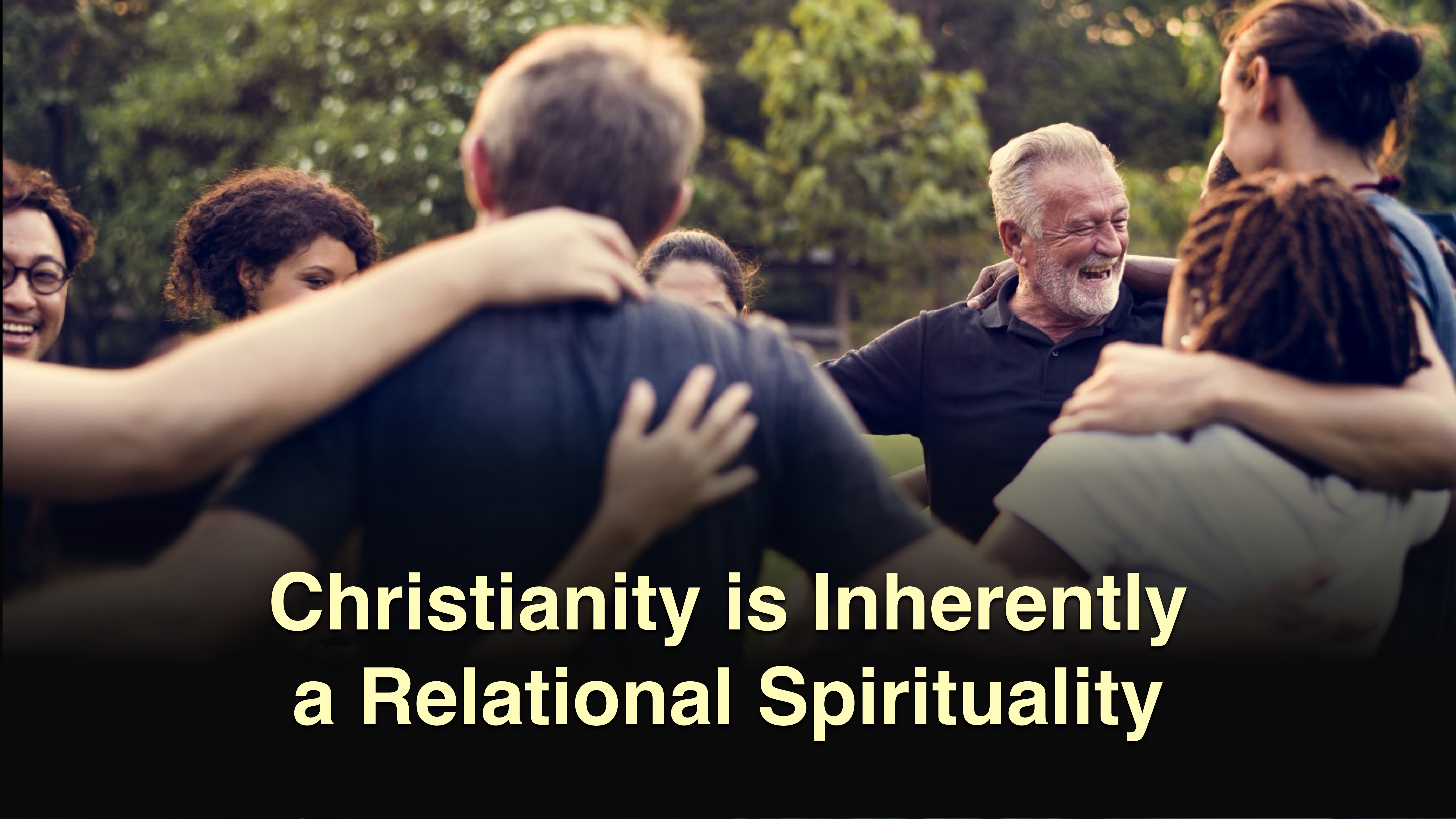
The Apostle Paul

Paul has been writing to a community of Jesus' followers living in Rome explaining God's gift of eternal life in Jesus, and how that gift of new life is supposed to be fleshed out in the way that we live.



Romans 15

5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you **to live in such harmony with one another,** in accord with Christ Jesus, **6** that **together** you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.



**Christianity is Inherently
a Relational Spirituality**

Romans 15

7 Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God....

Romans 15

**14 I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers,
that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with
all knowledge, and able to instruct one another.**

Romans 15

**14 I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers,
that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with
all knowledge, and able to instruct one another.**

I myself am convinced that you yourselves are...

 **... full of goodness**

 **... filled with all knowledge**

 **... able to instruct one another**

A high-speed photograph of a water splash against a white background. A central column of water rises vertically, with numerous small droplets suspended in the air around it. The base of the splash is wide and turbulent, with water flowing outwards in all directions. The lighting creates bright highlights and deep shadows on the water's surface, emphasizing its fluid motion.

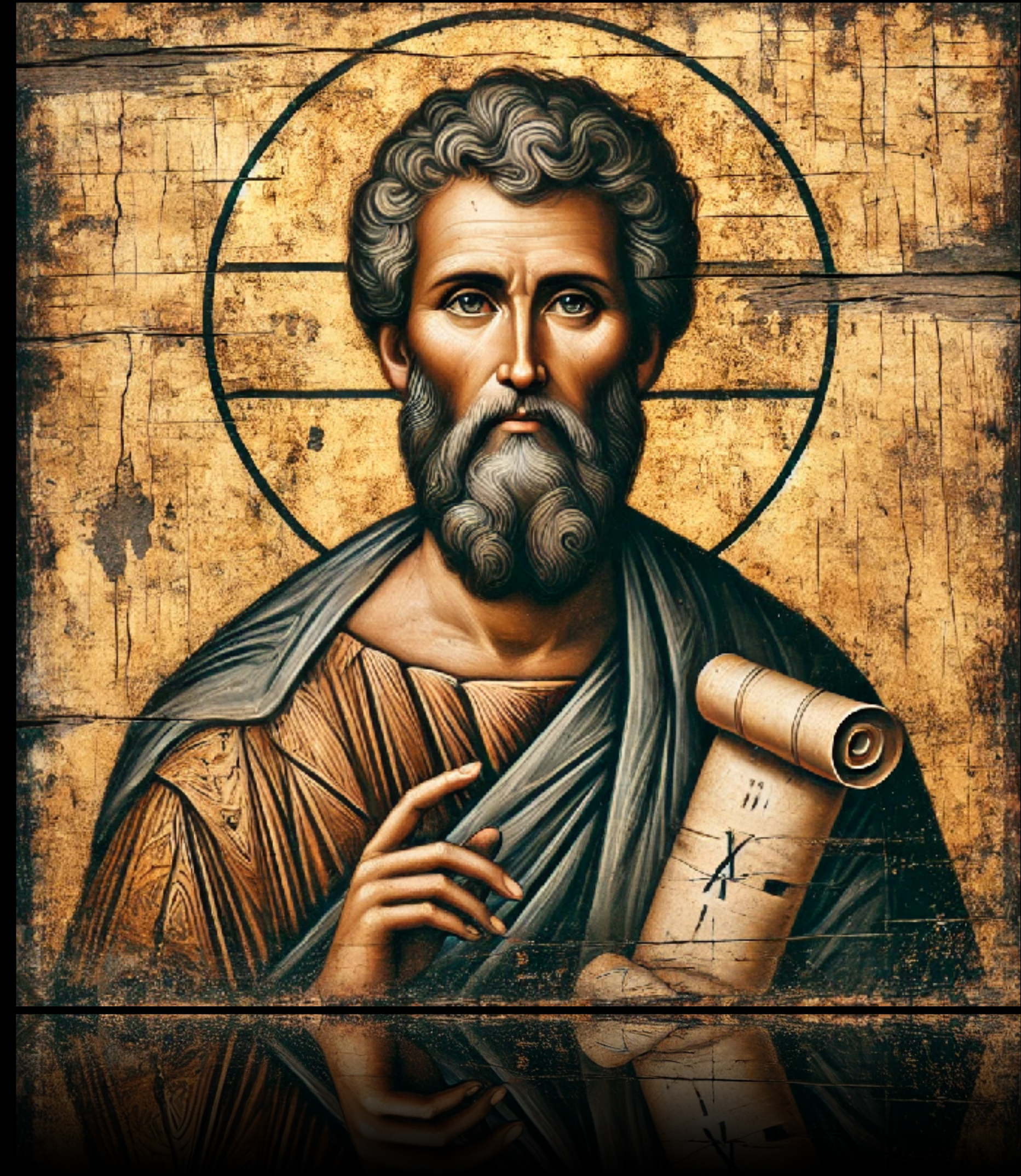
**“...you yourselves
are full of goodness”**

Isn't Paul contradicting himself here? I mean, didn't he say earlier in Romans that there was no one who was good?



**...we have already made
the charge that Jews and
Gentiles alike are all under
the power of sin.**

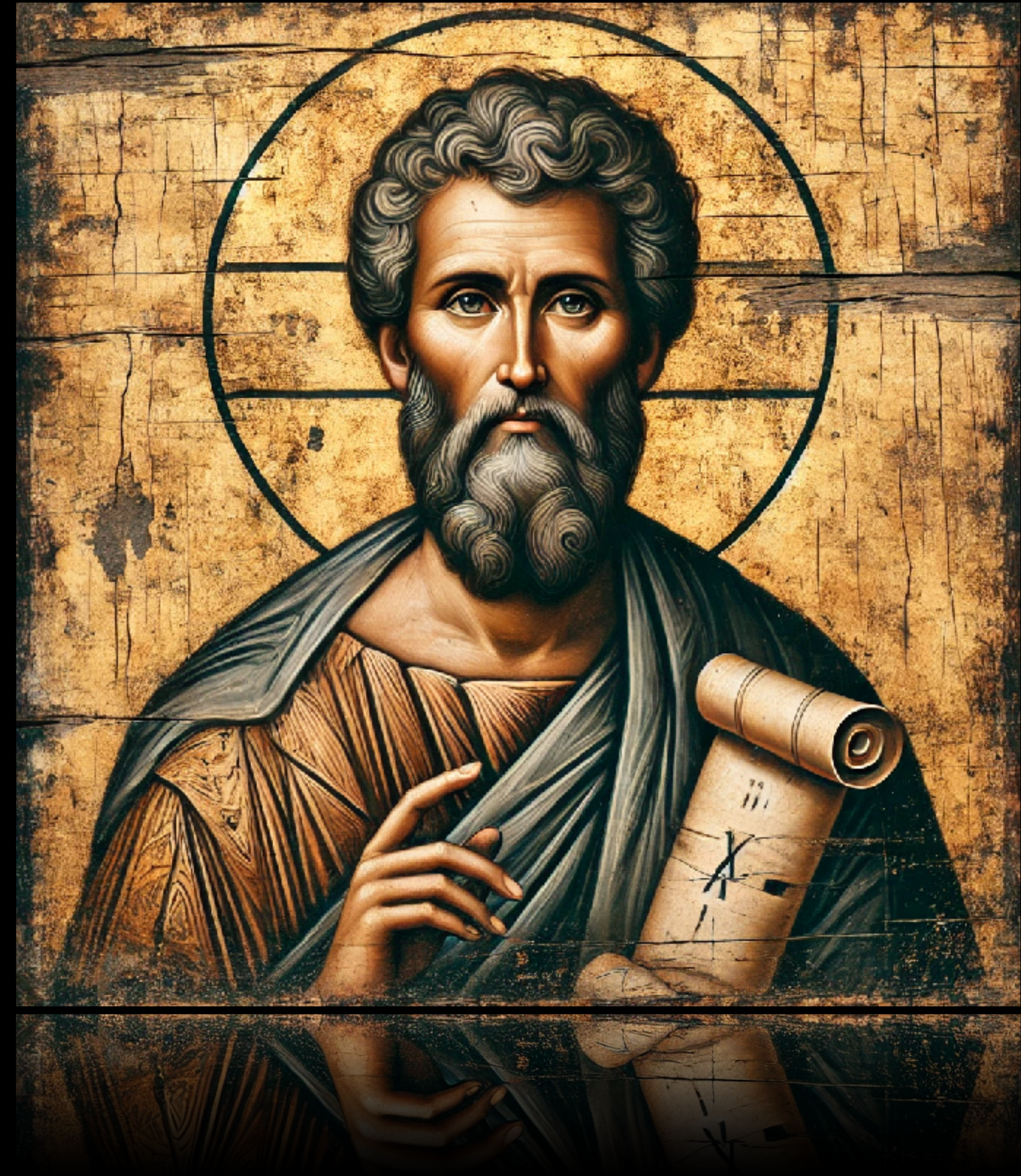
**As it is written:
“There is no one righteous,
not even one; there is no
one who understands;
there is no one
who seeks God.**




**“All have turned away,
they have together become
worthless; there is no one
who does good, not even one.”**

**...There is no difference
between Jew and Gentile,
for all have sinned and fall
short of the glory of God....**

The Apostle Paul
— Romans 3:9-11, & 23 —






The Doctrine of Total Depravity

Every aspect of human nature—mind, will, emotions, and body—has been corrupted by sin.

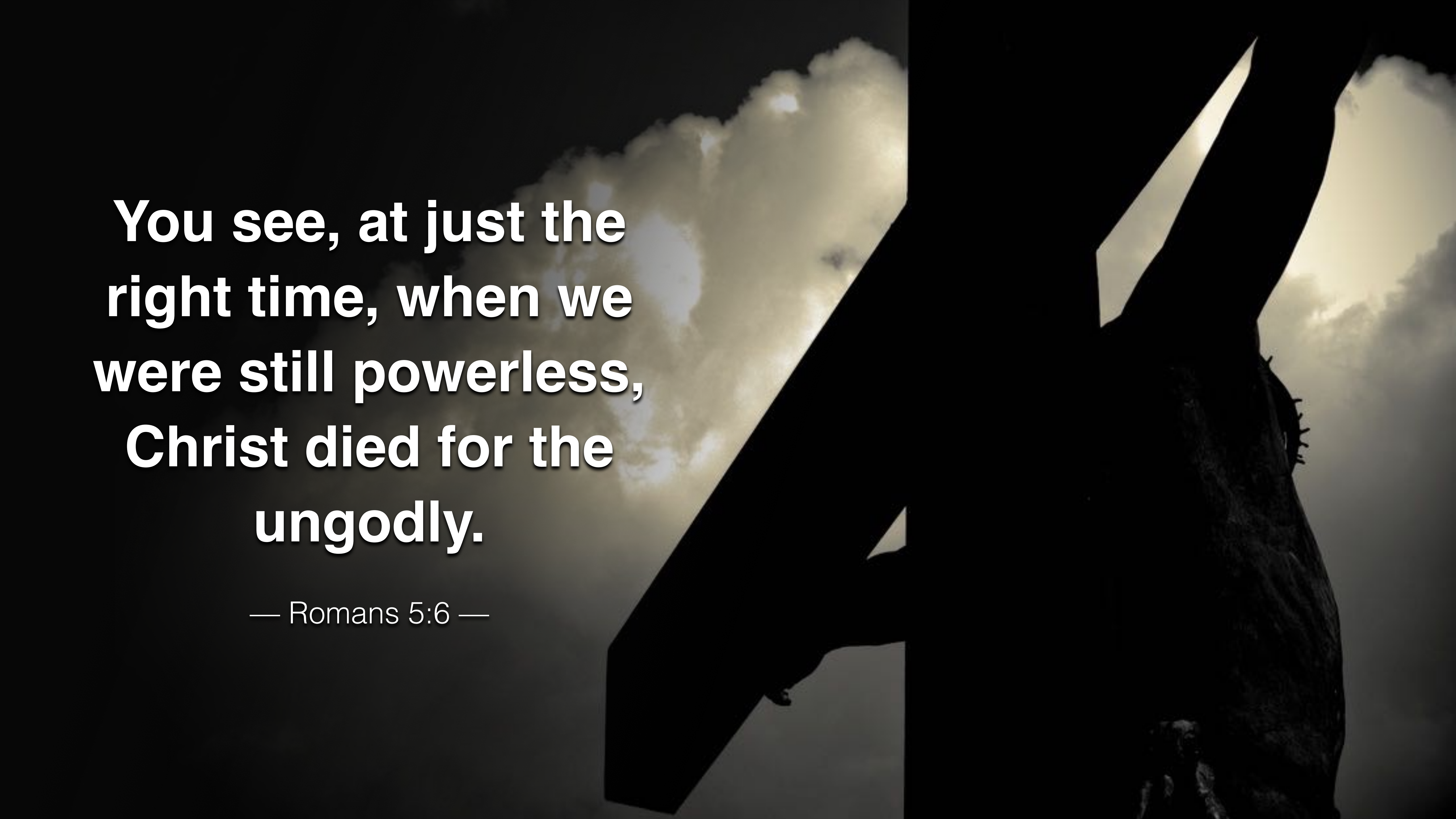
This corruption is so pervasive that no part of a person is untouched by sin's effects.

It does not mean people are as evil as they could possibly be (utter depravity), but rather that sin has affected the totality of our being.

A man with a beard and short hair, wearing a white t-shirt, is pointing his right index finger upwards. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is a solid light blue.

**What has happened to these
Romans who were by nature
totally depraved and now
are “full of goodness”?**

In a word, Jesus.



**You see, at just the
right time, when we
were still powerless,
Christ died for the
ungodly.**

— Romans 5:6 —



**I hear what you're saying
about Jesus dying for us.
But the thing is, I just don't
feel like I'm good enough to
be much help to others.
I mean, I don't have it
altogether, and I'm aware of
how much I need to grow
into being a good person.**

**...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-
control; against such things there is no law.**

— Galatians 5:22-23 —





“He’s a good guy!”

I myself am convinced that you yourselves are...


 **... full of goodness**

 **... filled with all knowledge**

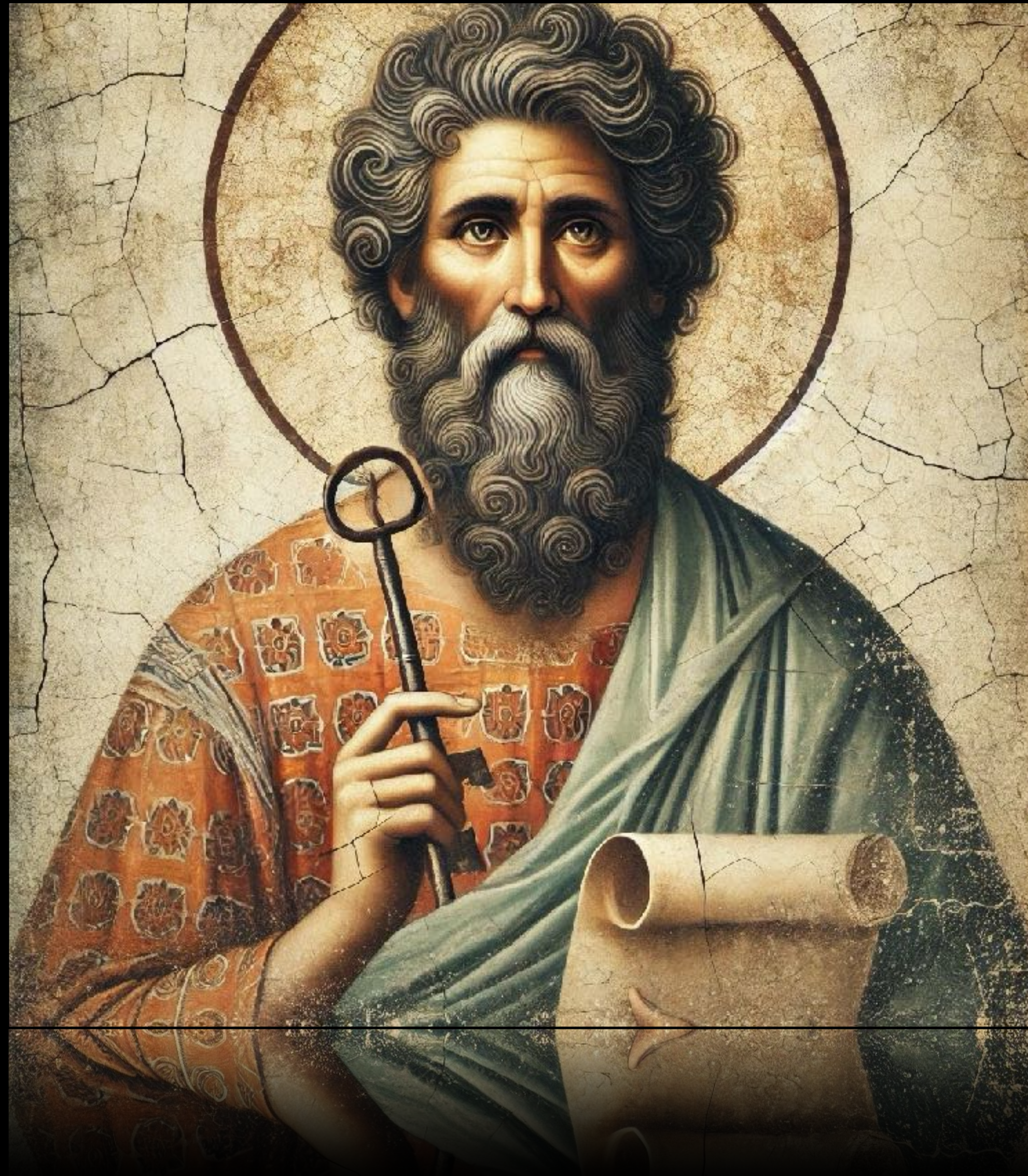
 **... able to instruct one another**

**I definitely don't know
enough to be telling
others about how
to follow Jesus!**





**“...you yourselves...
are filled with
all knowledge”**

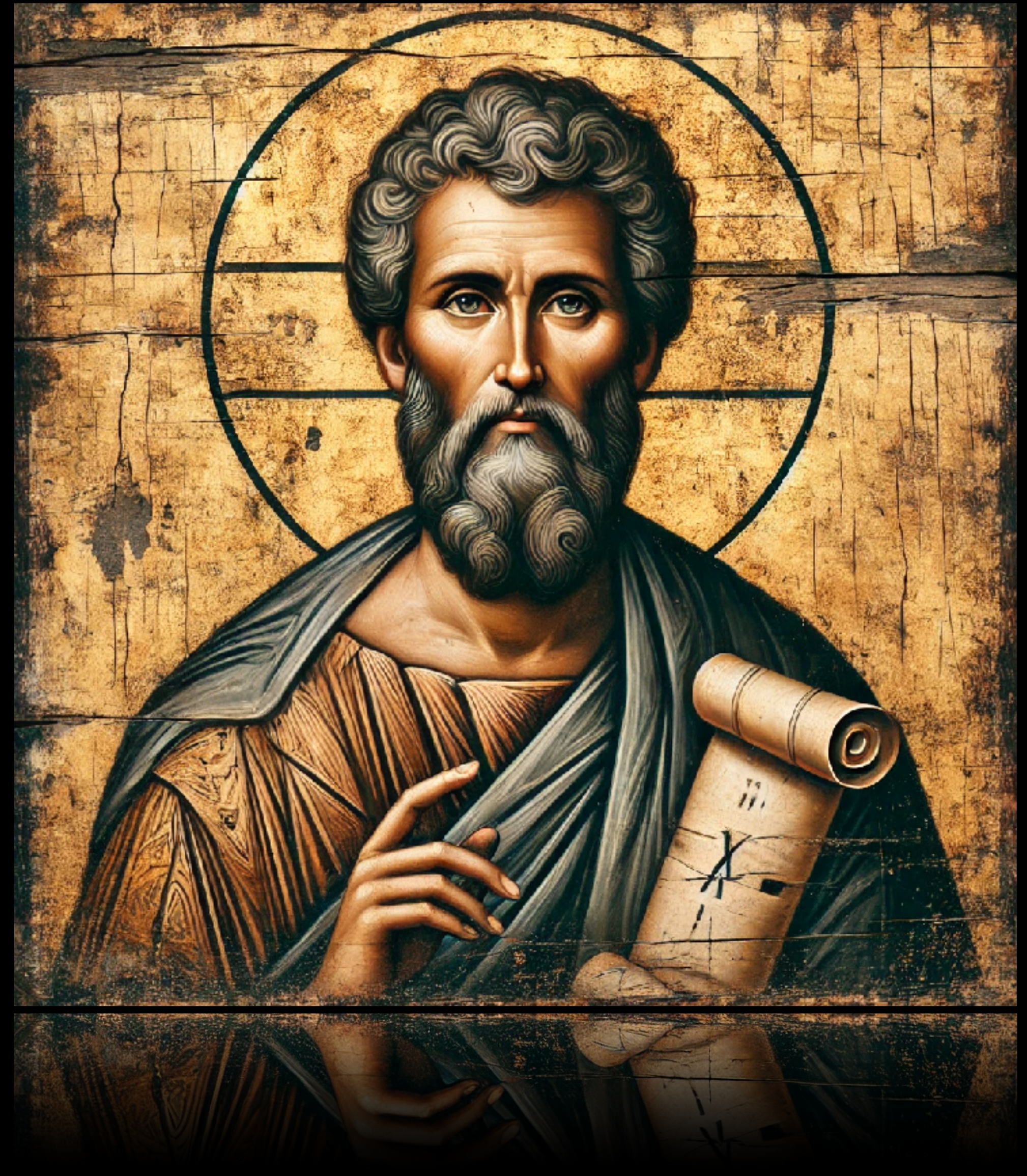


**His divine power has
given us everything we
need for a godly life
through our knowledge of
him who called us by his
own glory and goodness.
Through these he has
given us his very great
and precious promises....**

— The Apostle Peter in 2 Peter 1:3 —

**All Scripture is breathed
out by God and profitable
for teaching, for reproof,
for correction, and for train-
ing in righteousness, that
the man of God may be
complete, equipped for
every good work.**

— The Apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 3:16 —



**Could part of “being filled with all knowledge”
is to know when you don’t know something?**



**But grow in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ.**

— The Apostle Peter in 2 Peter 3:18—

I myself am convinced that you yourselves are...

 **... full of goodness**

 **... filled with all knowledge**

 **... able to instruct one another**

to advise

**to give
counsel**

to exhort

“to instruct”

(Greek: νοουθετέω / noutheteō)

Literally “to place in the mind”

to teach

to admonish

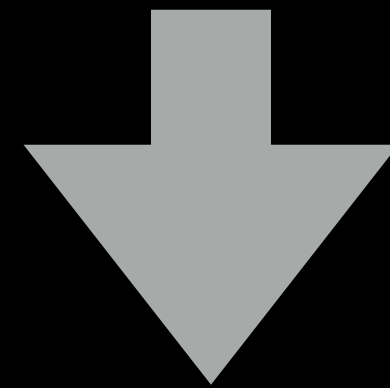
to warn

**I did not shrink from
giving you the whole
counsel of God.... For
three years I did not
cease night or day to
admonish you with tears.**

The Apostle Paul
— Acts 20:27 & 31 —

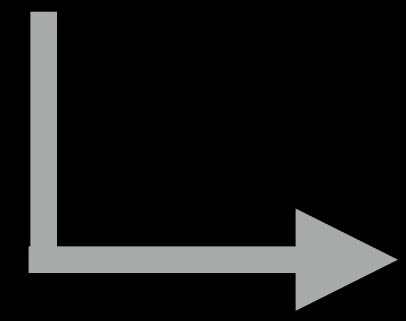


“to instruct / to teach”



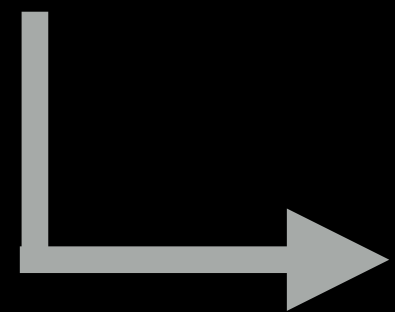
It's the shared responsibility we have to teach, encourage, and to spur one another on as we seek to follow Jesus together.

I myself am convinced that you yourselves are...



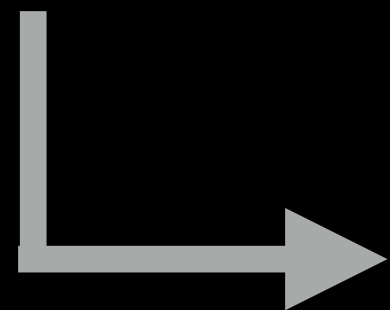
... full of goodness

(rooted in Christ-like character)



... filled with all knowledge

(equipped with spiritual understanding)



... able to instruct one another

(capable of building up one another)

**It's not primarily about
formal teaching, but
includes everyday
interactions—sharing
wisdom, offering
encouragement, or even
gently correcting on
another in love.**

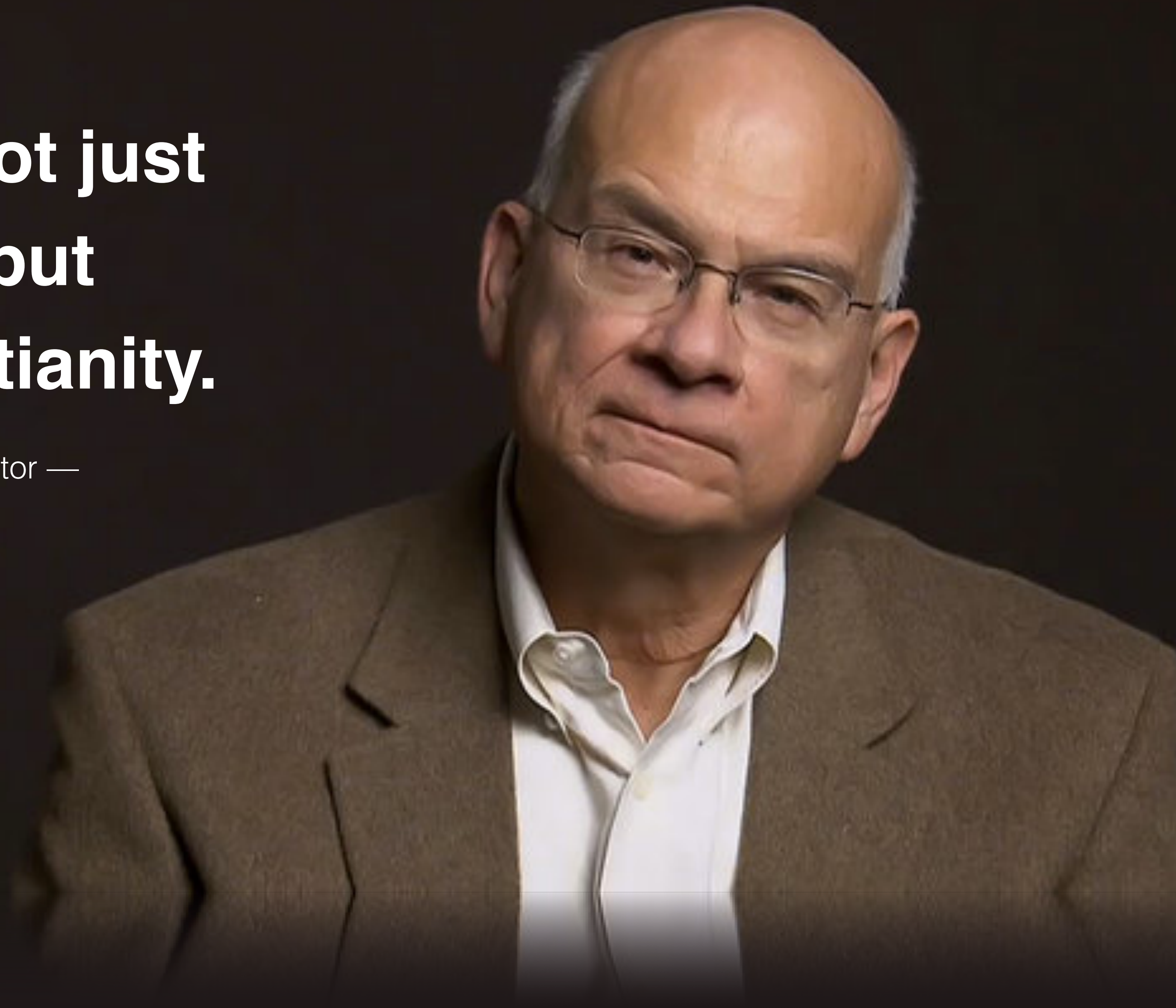




**As you come alongside
one another to encourage
and to instruct, remember
to not just give good
advice or thoughts for
improvement. Always
point each other
to Christ!**

**The gospel is not just
the A-B-C's but
the A-Z of Christianity.**

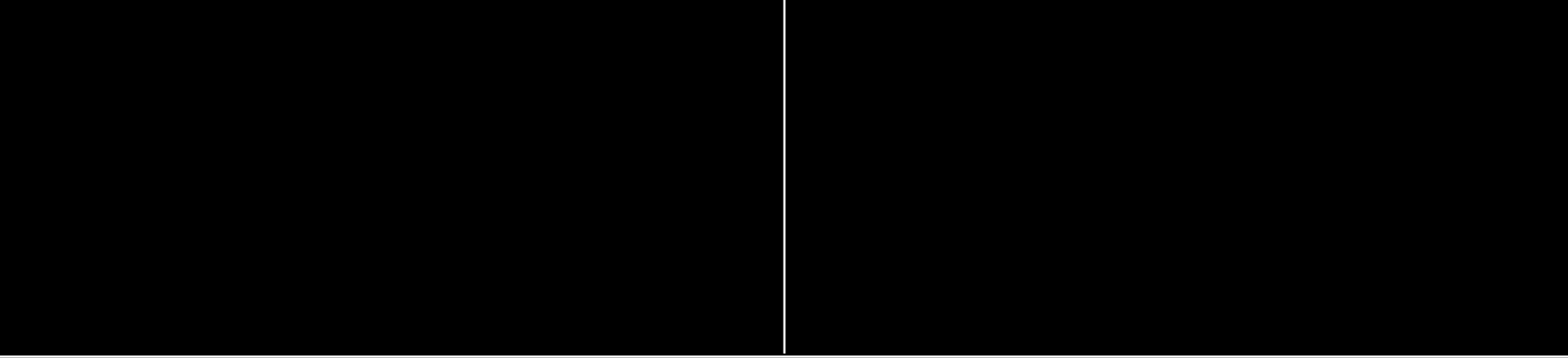
— Tim Keller, Author & Pastor —



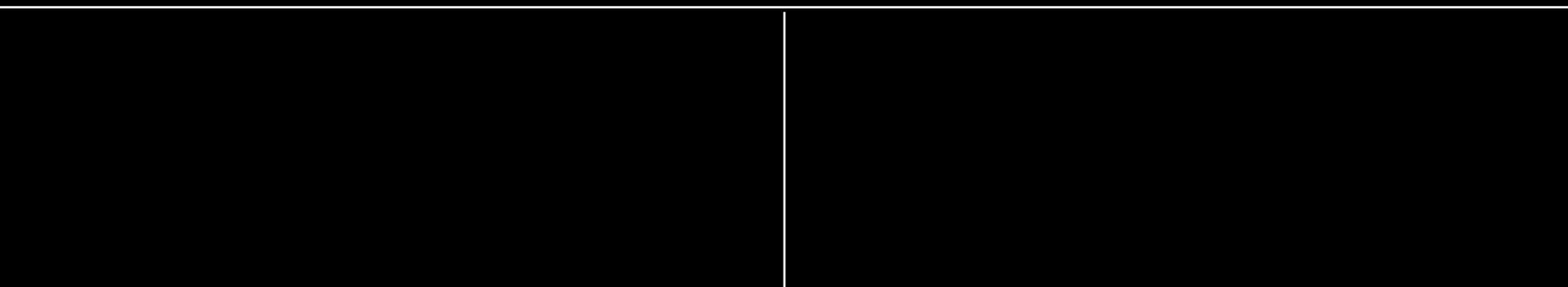


There is simply no basis for ever saying, “I’ve got the gospel; now what’s next?” Indeed the gospel is the ABC’s of this life of grace; it’s the A to Z, the Alpha and Omega, the prelude through the closing credits, the appetizer through the dessert.

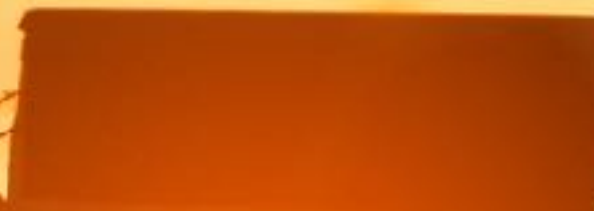
— Scotty Smith, Author & Pastor —



**Mercy Hill, your Christ-like character
and your growing understanding
of the gospel of Jesus enable you to
come alongside one another to guide,
counsel, and disciple one another.**



**Let's Seek to Grow in
Christ-like Character,
Specifically, Goodness**

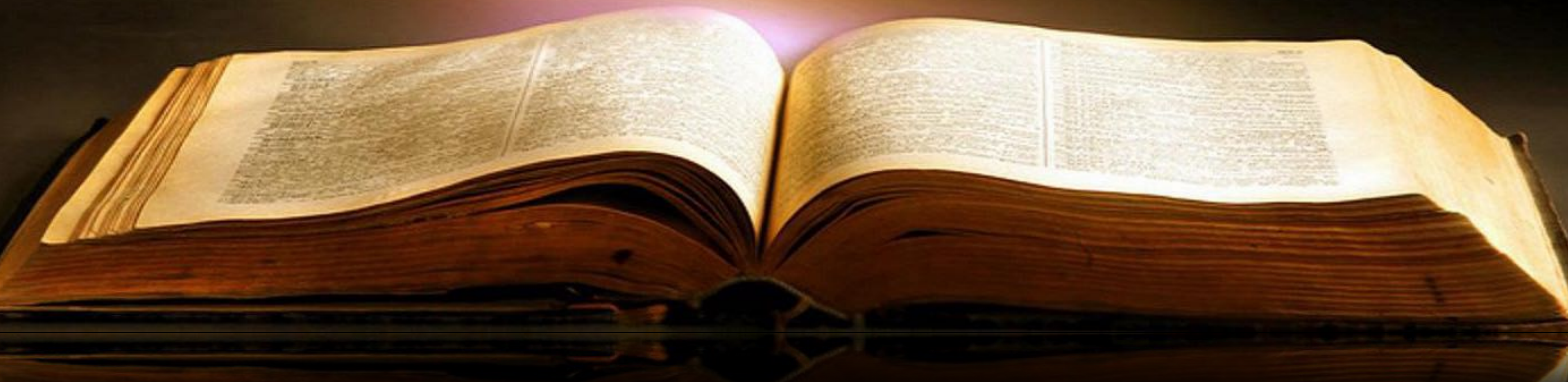




**Let's Be A People in whom
the Word of Christ Dwells Richly**

**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another in all
wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual
songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.**

— The Apostle Paul in Colossians 3:16 —



A photograph showing a person in a plaid shirt with their hands clasped in prayer, and another person's hands gesturing over an open book. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from a window on the left. The text is overlaid on the lower left of the image.

**Let's Admit That We
Need the Wise Counsel
& Encouragement of
One Another**



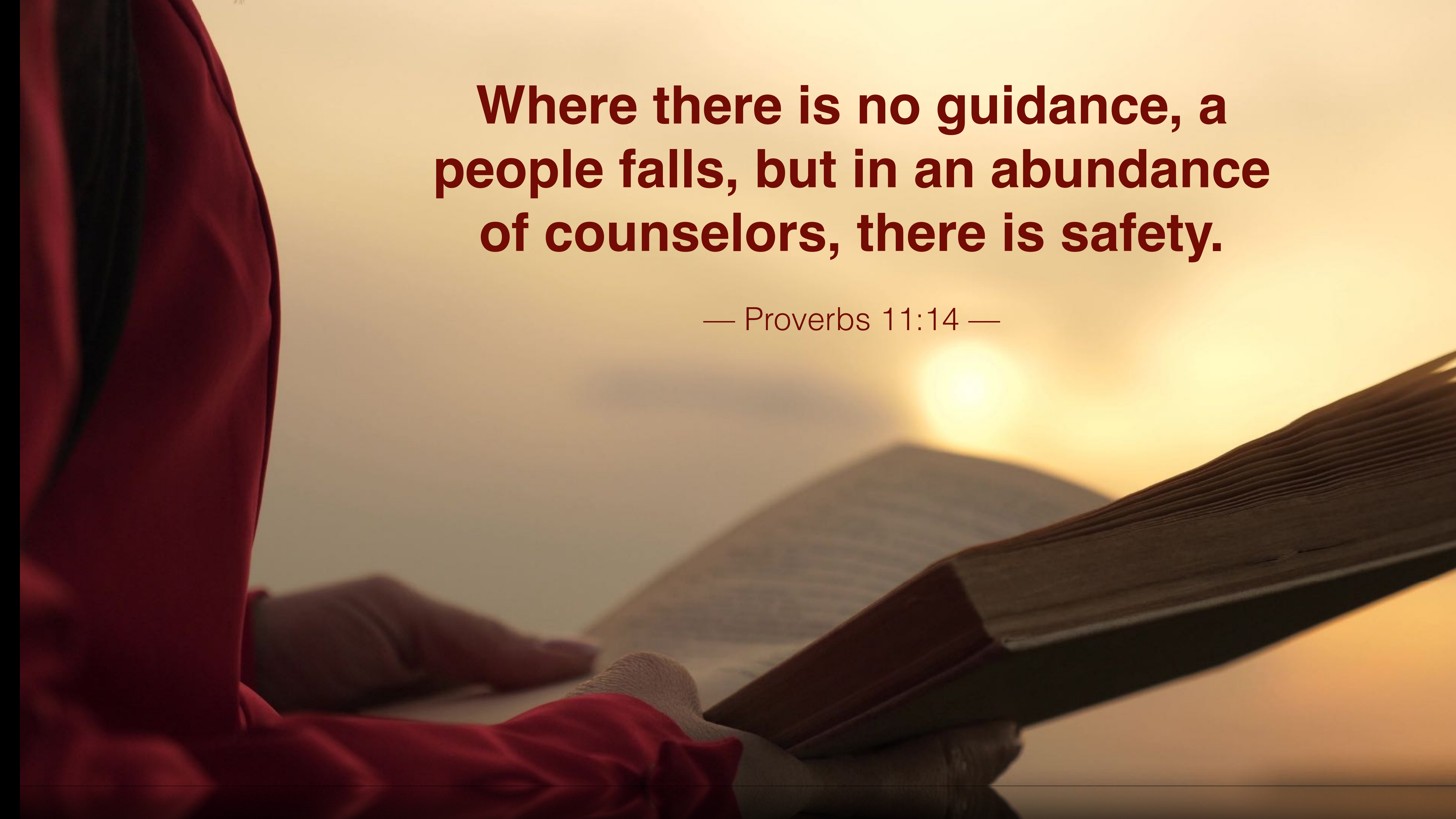
...personal insight is a product of community. I need you in order to really see and know myself. Otherwise, I will listen to my own arguments, believe my own lies, and buy into my own delusions.

— Paul David Tripp —
Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands



**My self-perception is as
accurate as a carnival
mirror. If I am going to see
myself clearly, I need you
to hold the mirror of God's
Word in front of me.**

— Paul David Tripp —
Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands

A person wearing a red robe is shown from the side, holding a large, thick book open. The scene is set against a warm, golden sunset background. The person's hand is visible, resting on the pages of the book. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**Where there is no guidance, a
people falls, but in an abundance
of counselors, there is safety.**

— Proverbs 11:14 —



**Mutual instruction and encouragement
transforms a congregation from a collection
of individuals into a vibrant community.**

How About Connecting One-on-One for Mutual Encouragement?

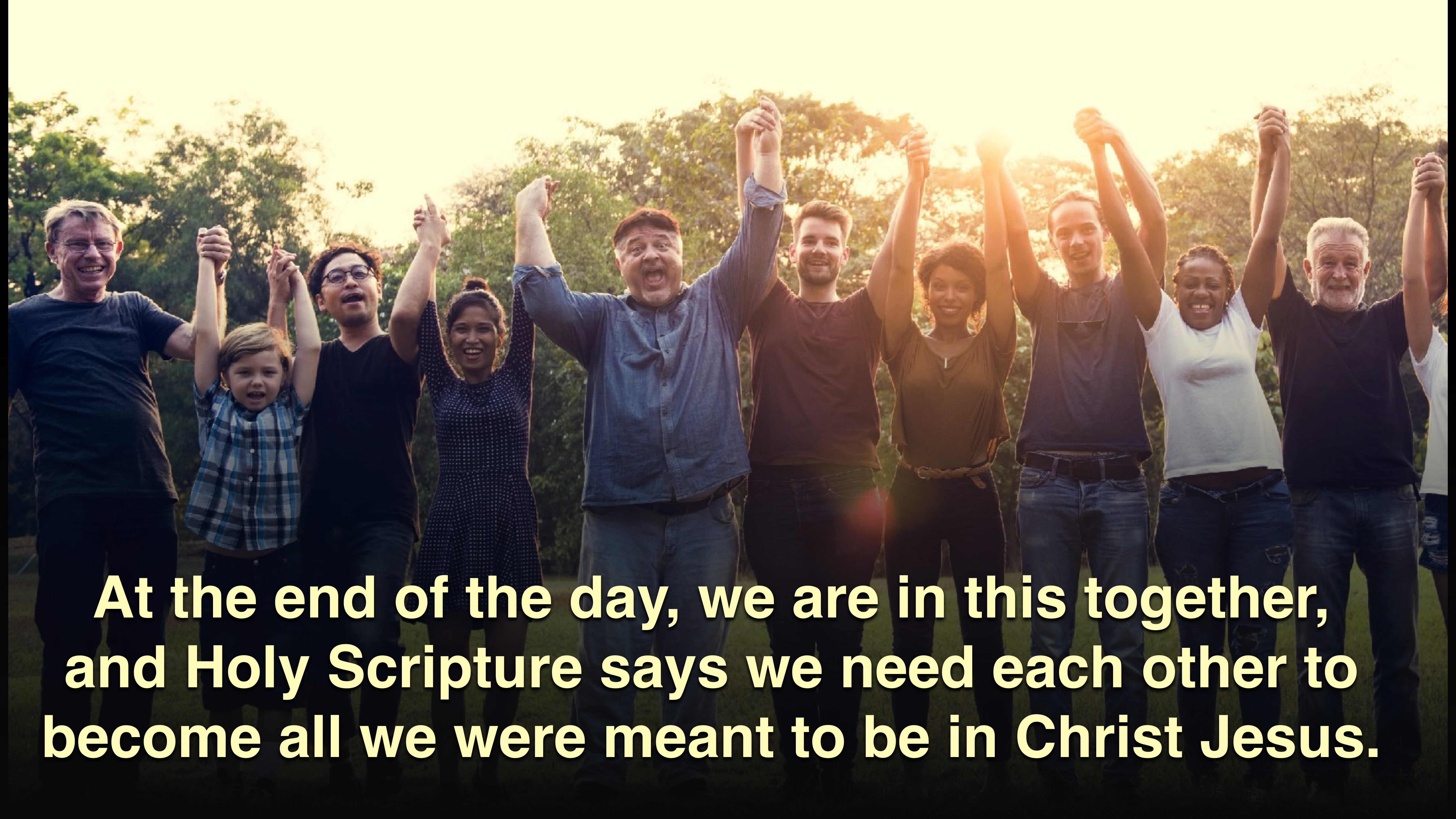




**How about getting together in groups of
3-4 people for mutual discipleship?**

A photograph of a group of people in a life group setting. In the foreground, a person's hands are clasped in prayer. In the background, a person is playing an acoustic guitar. A table in the foreground holds a stack of books, a cup of coffee, and a small plate with a cookie. The scene is warmly lit, suggesting a cozy and intimate gathering.

**How about finally connecting with a life group
to spur each other on in following Jesus?**



**At the end of the day, we are in this together,
and Holy Scripture says we need each other to
become all we were meant to be in Christ Jesus.**