

Living as Children of God:
A Hope That Transforms



1 John 2:28-3:3



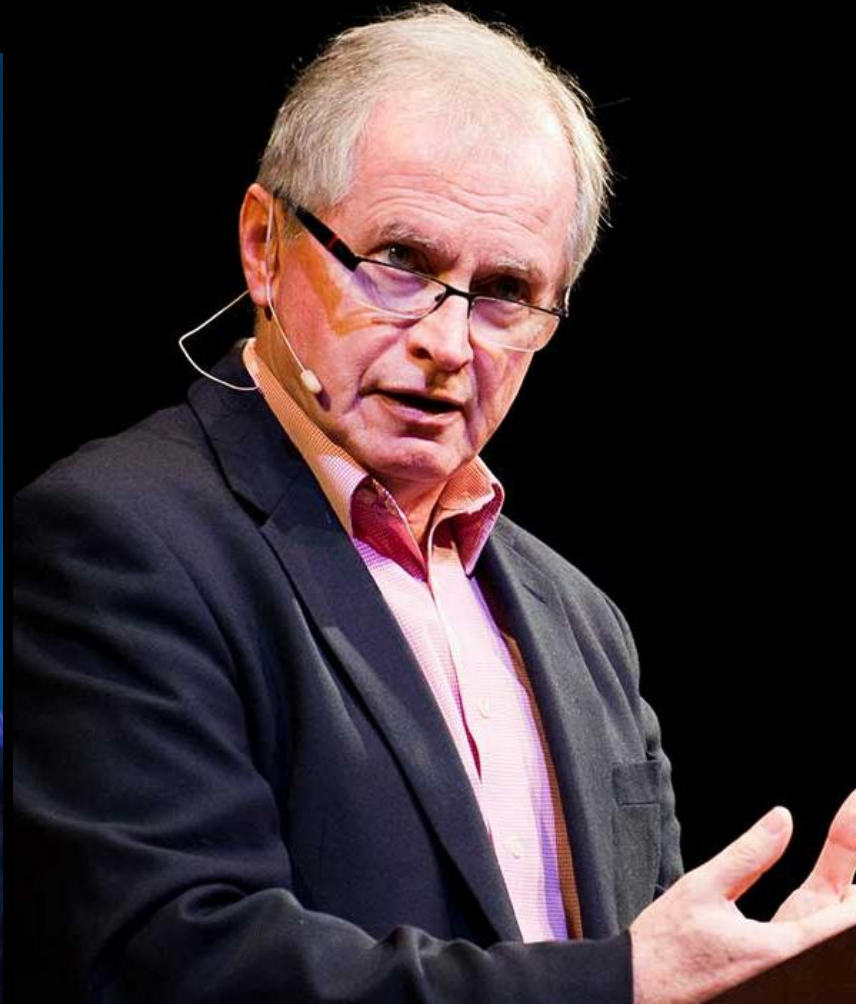
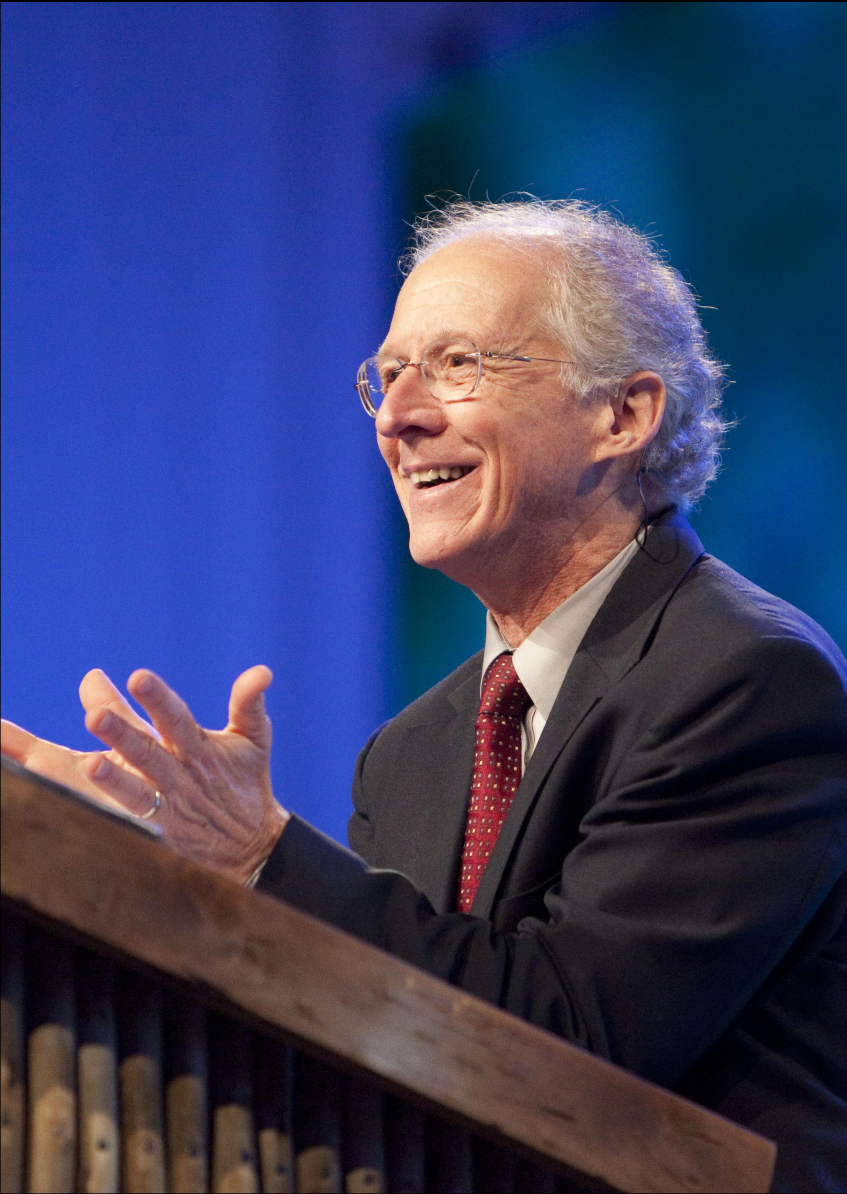
carwow

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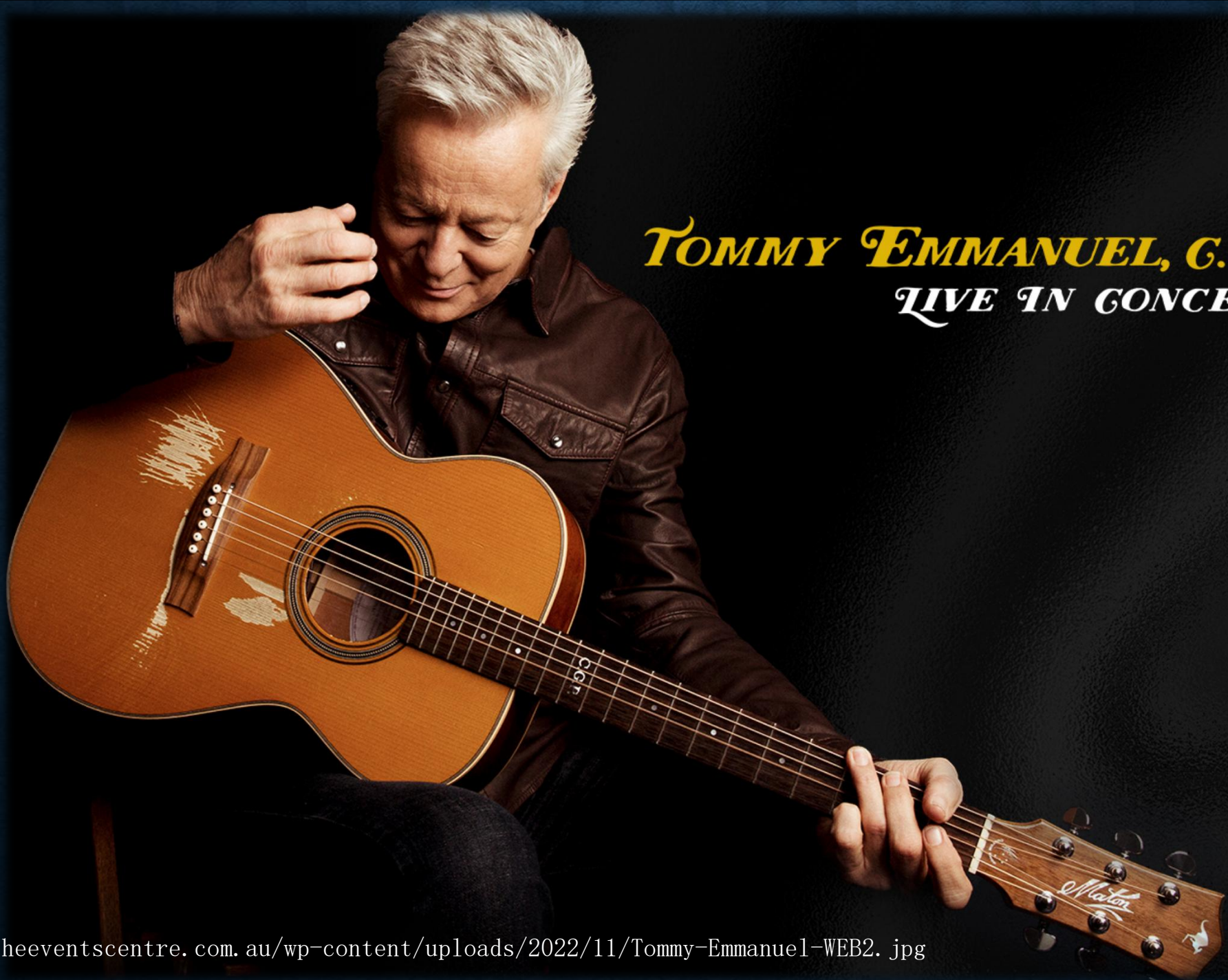


The Best New Cars









TOMMY EMMANUEL, C.G.P.
LIVE IN CONCERT

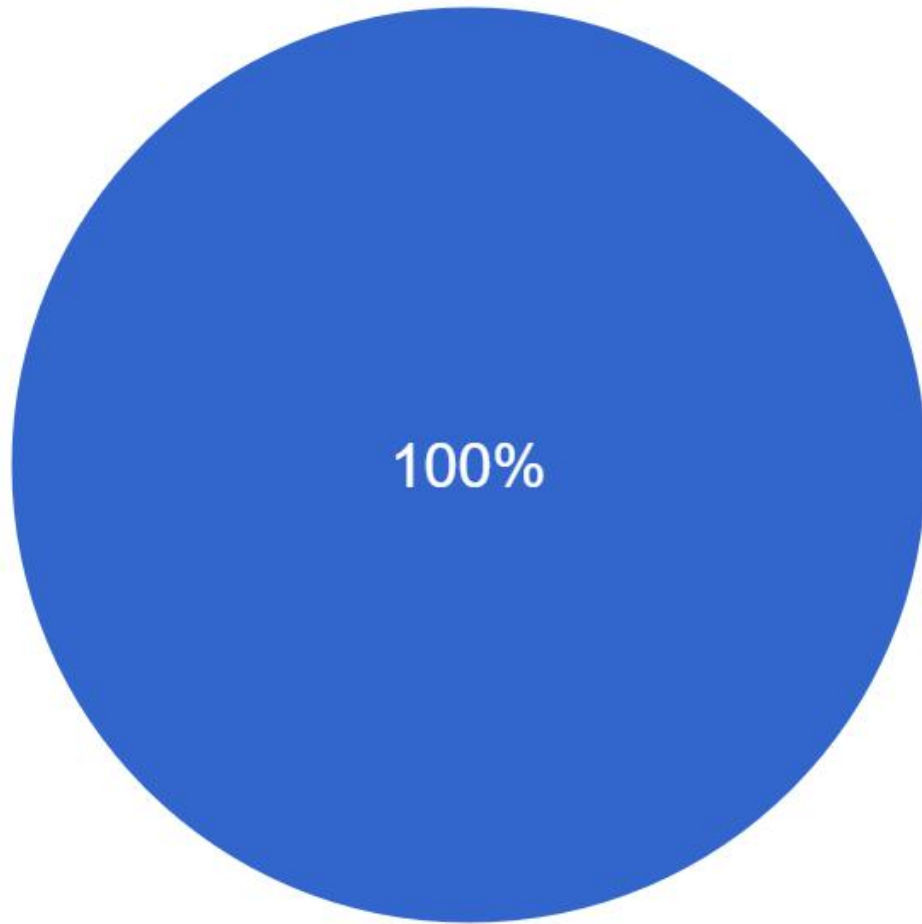
Being Human?

Living as Children of God:
A Hope That Transforms



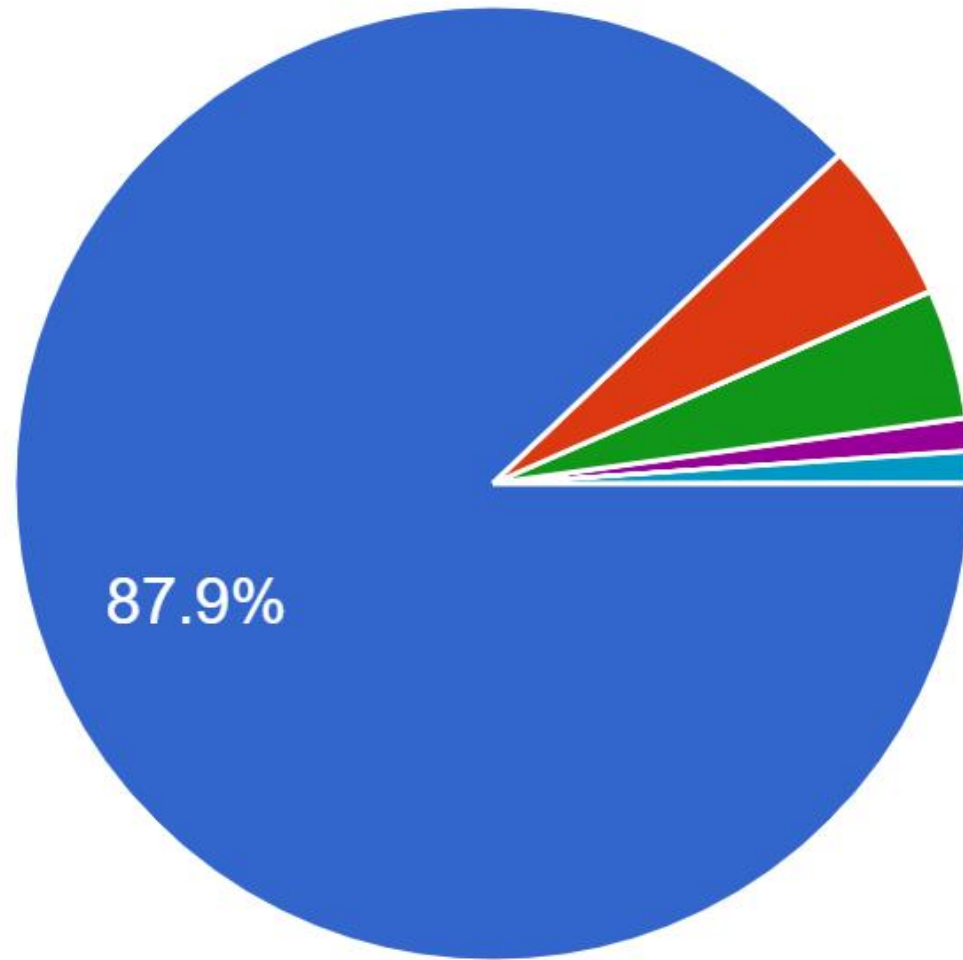
1 John 2:28-3:3

Do you believe you are a child of God?



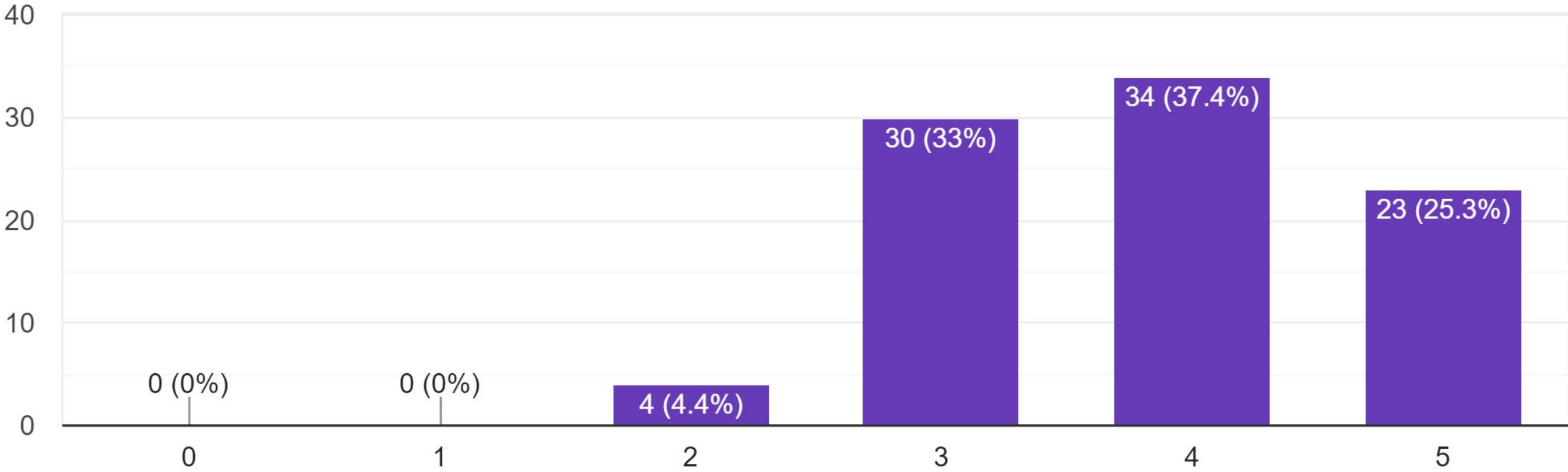
- Yes, of course!
- I believe in Jesus Christ, isn't it enough?
- No

Are you a born again Christian?

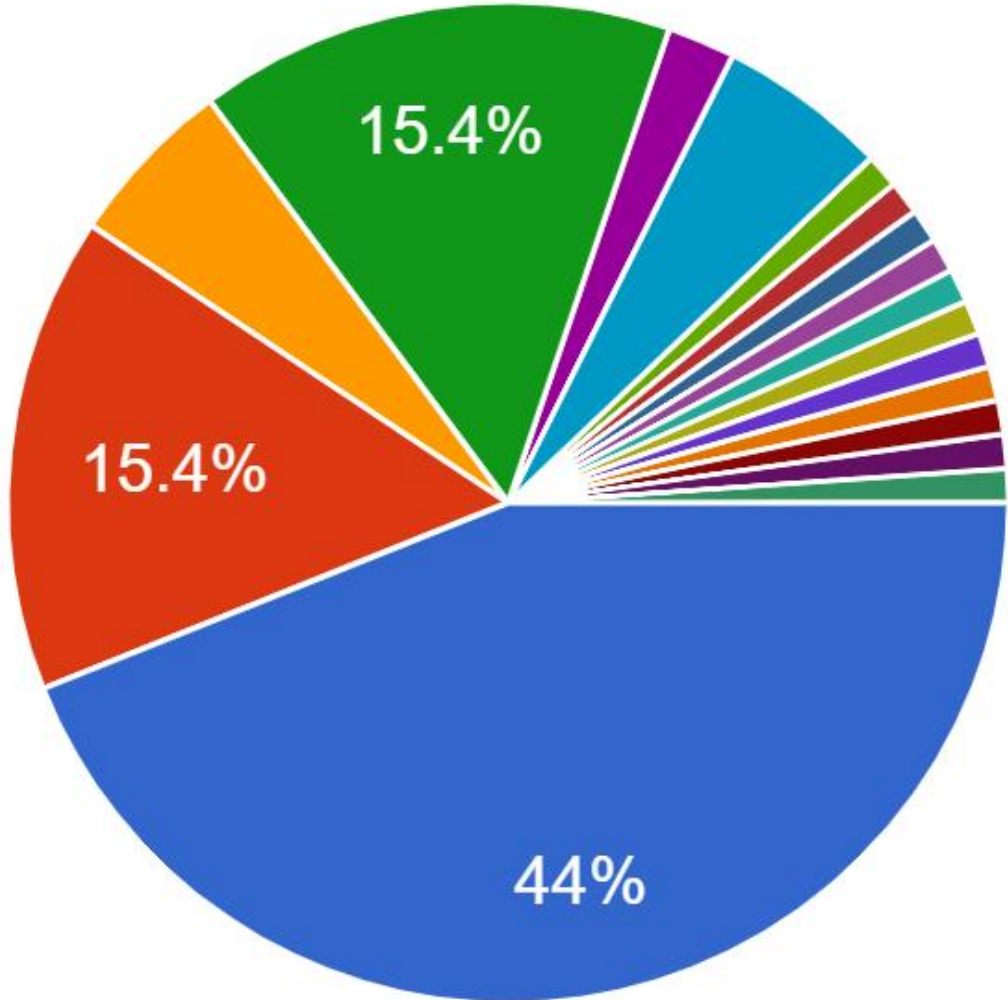


- Yes, of course!
- Not too sure if I'm really born again, but I've been attending church
- No, but I'm exploring / considering
- No
- I don't really get this question.
- How do you define Born Again, although it's so commonly used, but may be misunderstood

How would you rate your relationship with God?

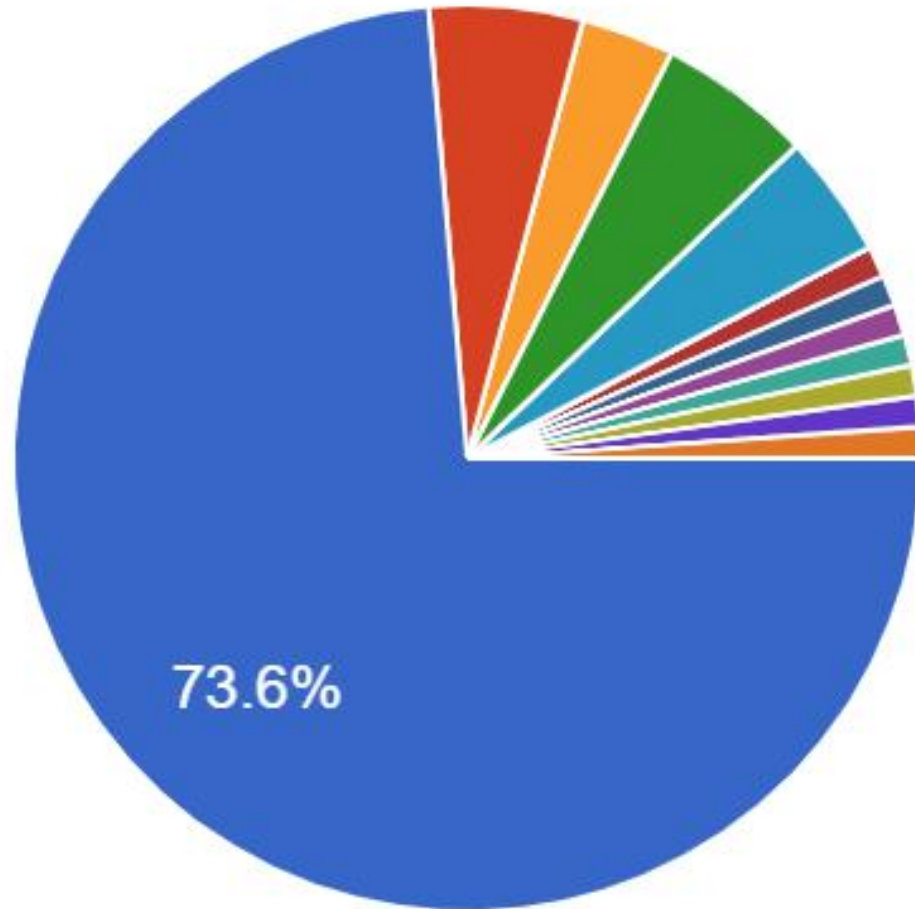


How often do you read the Bible / do your devotion?



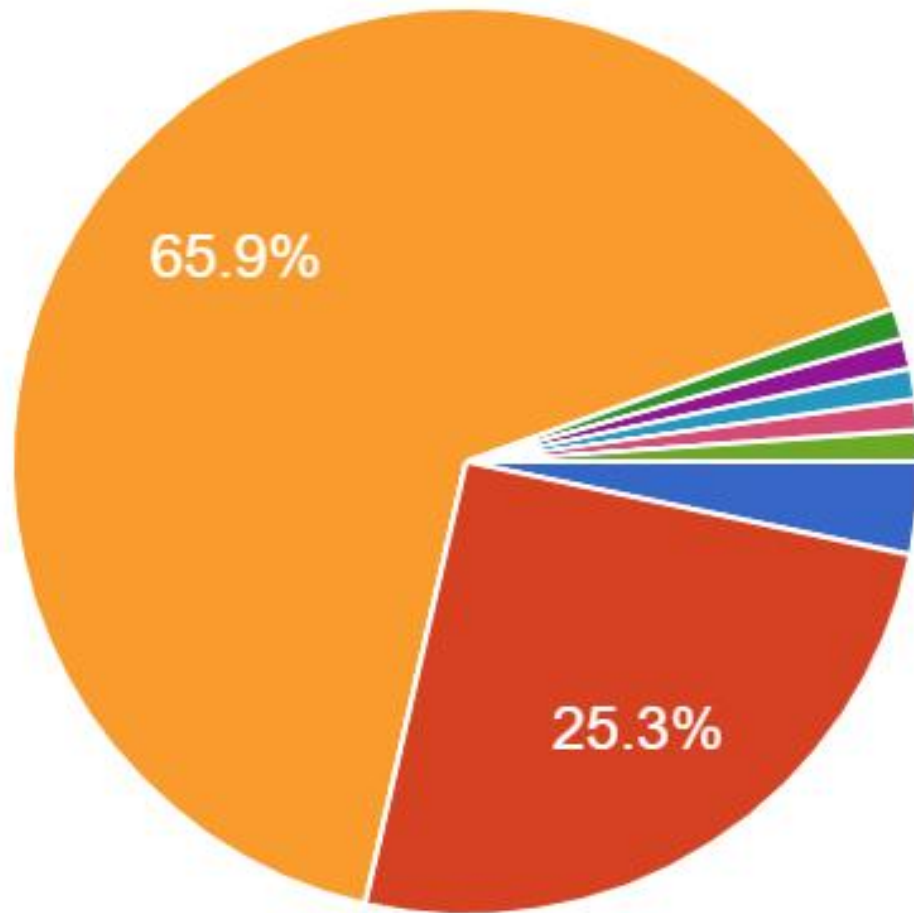
- Everyday
- About once a week
- A few times a month
- Every now and then, when I have som...
- When I need guidance or answers to...
- Only during Christian gatherings (Life...
- I'm not a believer
- Preparing for life gathering & bible study.
- I follow a reading plan
- Every other day
- Few times a week. Short of everyday.
- I don't believe in just doing devotion. L...
- 3 times a week
- My Bible reading differs from time to ti...
- 4-5 times a week
- Few times a week
- most of the week
- About 3 to 4 times a week.

How often do you pray?



- Everyday
- About once a week
- A few times a month
- When I'm lost, needing guidance or help
- Only during Christian gatherings (Life...)
- Usually only before every meal time
- I pray to other Gods
- I don't normally pray
- Almost every day
- My prayer time varies from time to time sometimes I forgot to pray ☐
- 4-5 times a week
- I always remember Him in me at all ti...
- I try to pray every night before bed, bu...
- As often as possible
- Less than everyday more than once a...

What do you think of the statement "Following Christ is Easy"?



- Yes, all the time
- Sometimes, depending on situation
- It's never easy
- Not applicable - I'm not a Christian
- It is not about easy or hard for me. He is God like it or not for me
- Not true. Following Christ is not only easy, it is impossible on our own stren...
- Easy and difficult
- easy and yet not easy because of His...

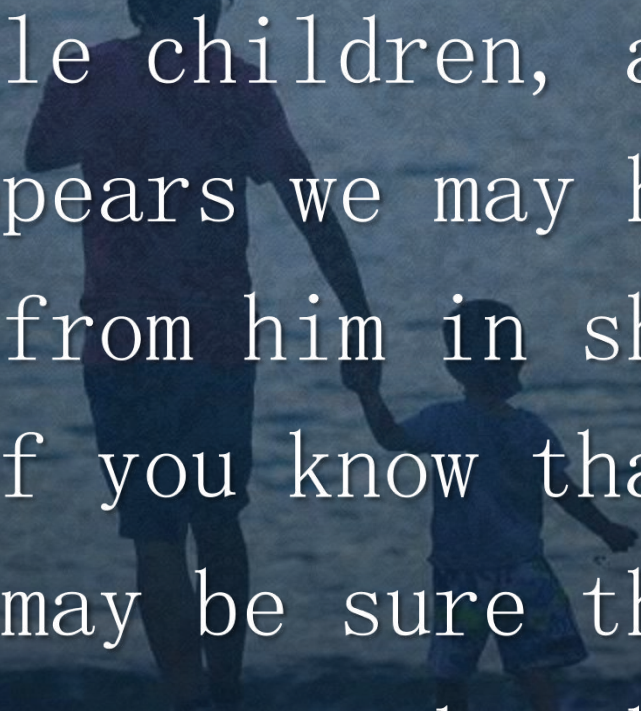
“Is Following Christ Easy?”

1. Following Christ is not easy and involves suffering, sacrifice, and going against worldly values and personal ambitions.
2. It requires daily consent to God's changing work and the training of one's spiritual muscles.
3. The battle between the flesh and the spirit makes following Christ challenging.
4. Denying self and obeying God's commands can be difficult but is necessary.
5. Living in an anti-Christian culture and facing rejection when sharing the Gospel adds to the difficulty.
6. Following Christ involves relying on God's grace, strength, and guidance.
7. Doubts and struggles may arise, but Jesus promises to walk alongside His followers.
8. It requires discipline, humility, and constant reliance on the Holy Spirit.
9. Following Christ means going against the flow of worldly cultures and



1. We bear A New Identity that Abides in Christ (2:28–29)
2. We are adopted into A New Family, made possible by the Amazing Love of the Father (3:1)
3. We have A New Hope that transforms us to be more Christlike (3:2, 3)

1 John 2:28-29 (ESV)

A silhouette of a man and a child walking on a beach at sunset. The man is on the left, holding the hand of the child on the right. They are walking away from the camera towards the ocean. The sky is a mix of orange and blue, and the water is dark.

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

A dimly lit scene with two figures in a room. One figure is seated on the left, and another is standing on the right, both appearing to be in conversation. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a large piece of fabric. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

John 3:3, 5

³ Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Eze 36:25-26

25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.



**THEREFORE, IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST,
THE NEW CREATION HAS COME: THE
OLD HAS GONE, THE NEW IS HERE!**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17



God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better but like turning a horse into a winged creature.

— *C. S. Lewis* —

AZ QUOTES

**I WILL GIVE THANKS TO YOU,
FOR I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE;
WONDERFUL ARE YOUR WORKS,
AND MY SOUL KNOWS IT VERY WELL.**

*Image &
Likeness
of God
(Ge 1:26-27)*

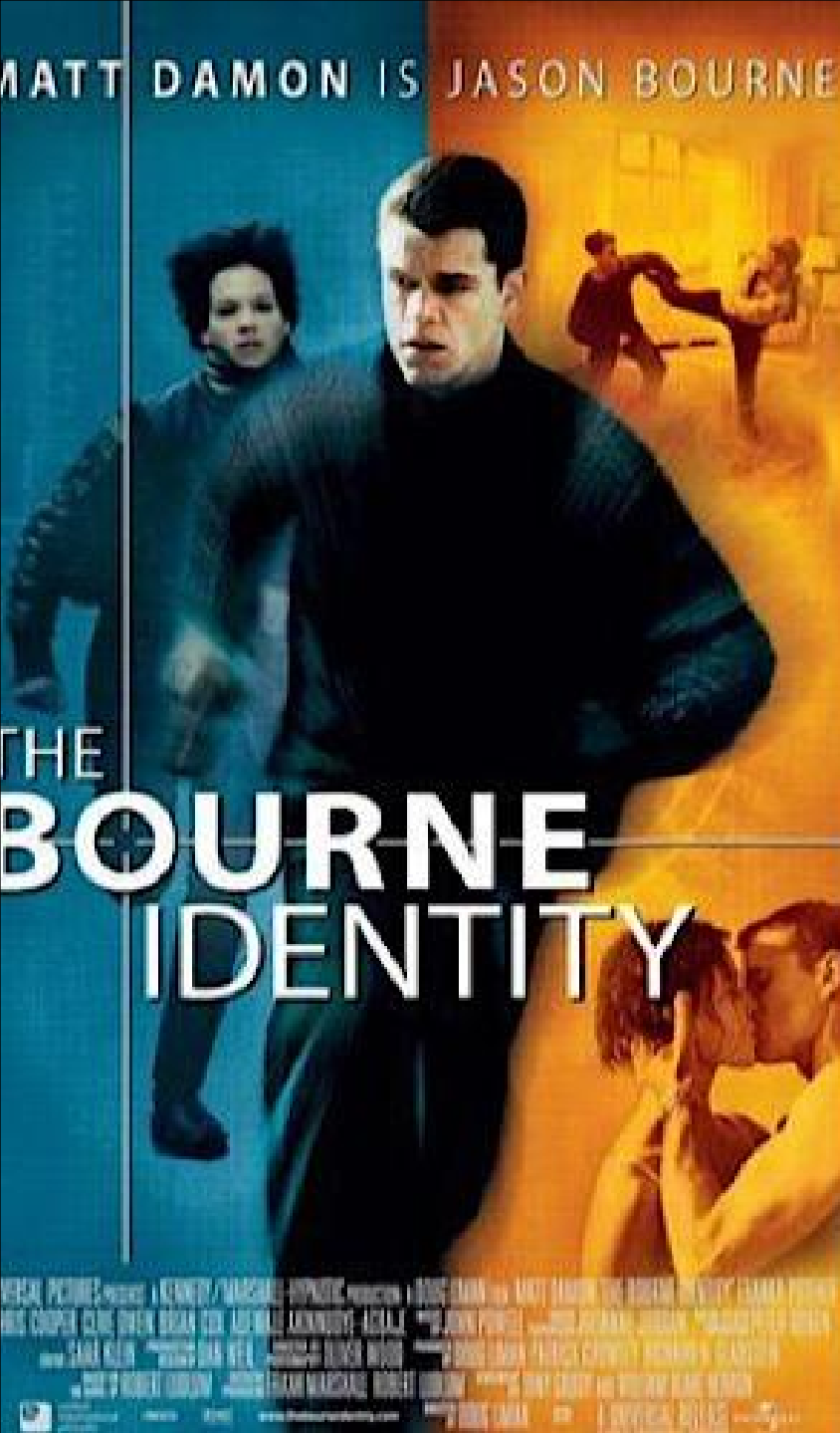
PSALM 139:14

Daily-Bible-Verse.net

<https://daily-bible-verse.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Psalm139.14.jpg>



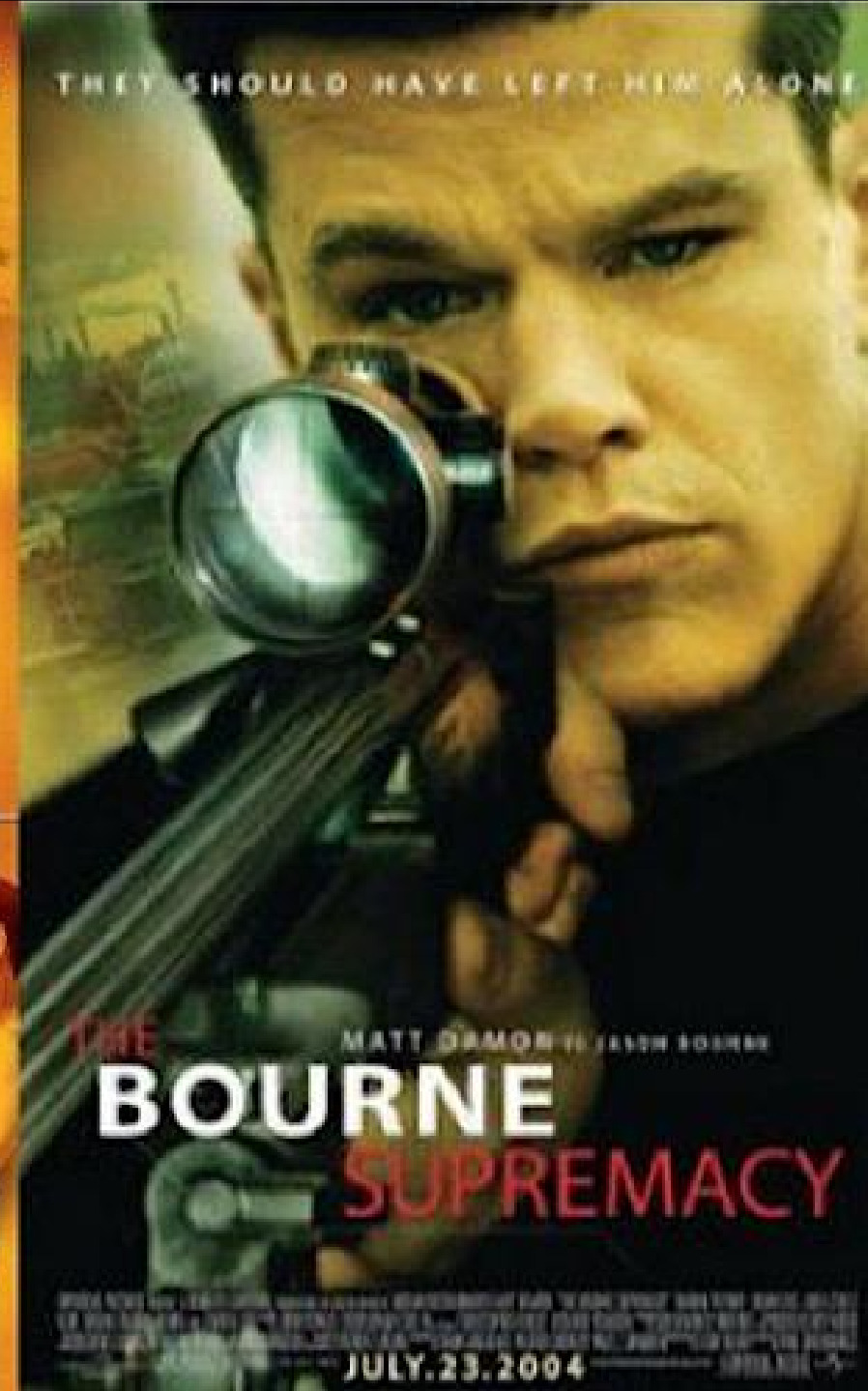
MATT DAMON IS JASON BOURNE



THE BOURNE IDENTITY

VERICAL PICTURES PRESENTS A KENNETH BRANFORD PRODUCTION A JOSS WHEDON FILM MATT DAMON THE BOURNE IDENTITY FRANKA POTENTE
 AND COOPER COLEMAN BOB OAKLEY ADRIAN KENNEDY LESALE THE BOSS PRODUCTIONS JOEL SILVERMAN JENNIFER MANNINGSTEIN
 AND SAMI RAYO MATT DAMON FRANKA POTENTE BOB OAKLEY ADRIAN KENNEDY LESALE THE BOSS PRODUCTIONS JOEL SILVERMAN
 JOEL SILVERMAN MATT DAMON FRANKA POTENTE BOB OAKLEY ADRIAN KENNEDY LESALE THE BOSS PRODUCTIONS JOEL SILVERMAN
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THEY SHOULD HAVE LEFT HIM ALONE



MATT DAMON IS JASON BOURNE

THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

JOSS WHEDON PRESENTS A KENNETH BRANFORD PRODUCTION A JOSS WHEDON FILM MATT DAMON THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
 FRANKA POTENTE BOB OAKLEY ADRIAN KENNEDY LESALE THE BOSS PRODUCTIONS JOEL SILVERMAN JENNIFER MANNINGSTEIN
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JULY 23, 2004



MATT DAMON IS JASON BOURNE

THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

THIS IS THE END OF THE BOURNE MOVIES

JOSS WHEDON PRESENTS A KENNETH BRANFORD PRODUCTION A JOSS WHEDON FILM MATT DAMON THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
 FRANKA POTENTE BOB OAKLEY ADRIAN KENNEDY LESALE THE BOSS PRODUCTIONS JOEL SILVERMAN JENNIFER MANNINGSTEIN
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1 John 2:28-29 (ESV)

1

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is

righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

1 John 2:28-29 (ESV)

Gk *meno* - stay, remain, continue, dwelling, enduring, waiting, etc..

1

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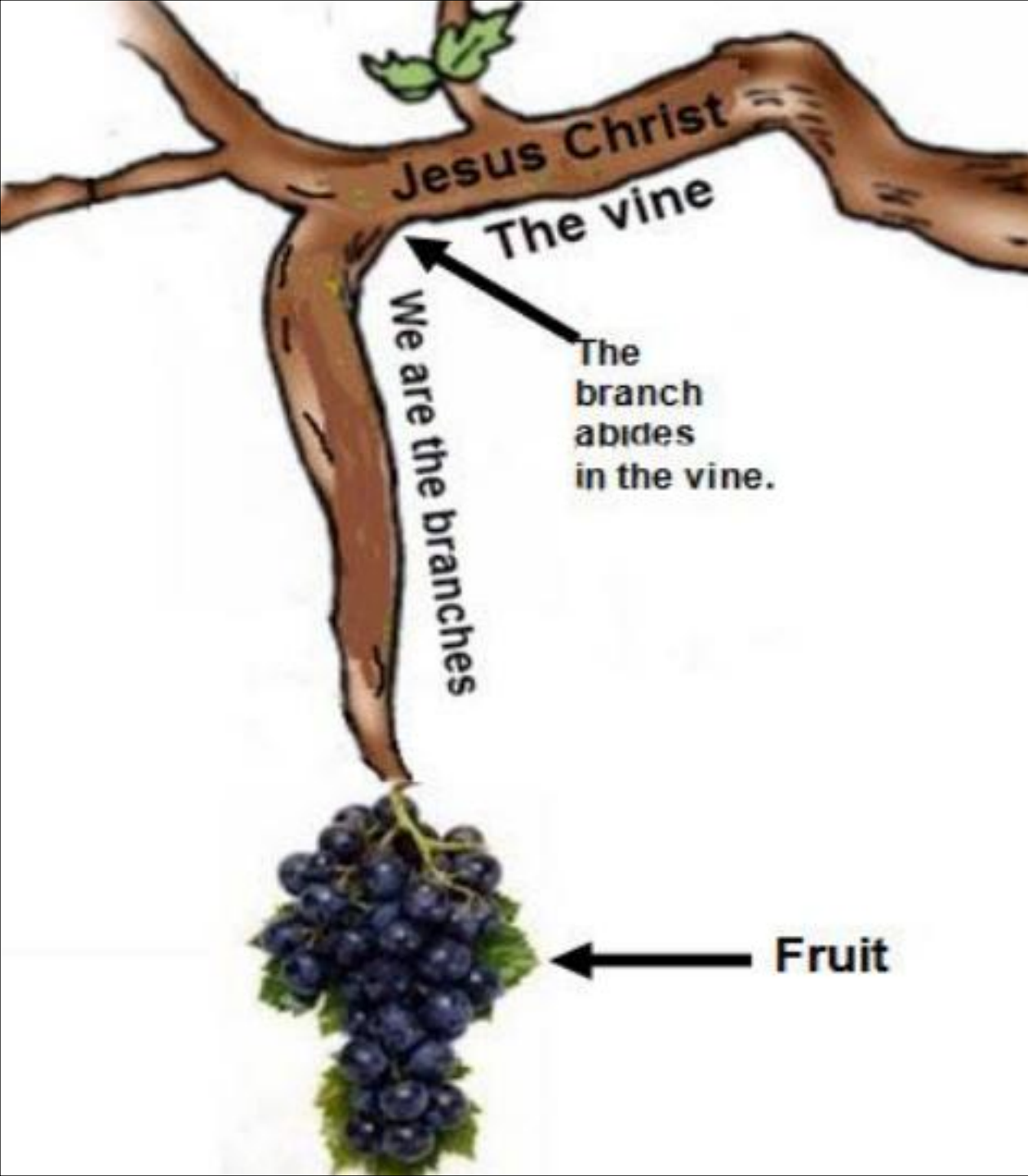
Gk *meno* - stay, remain, continue, dwelling, enduring, waiting, etc..

1

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so

2 John 9 (NIV)

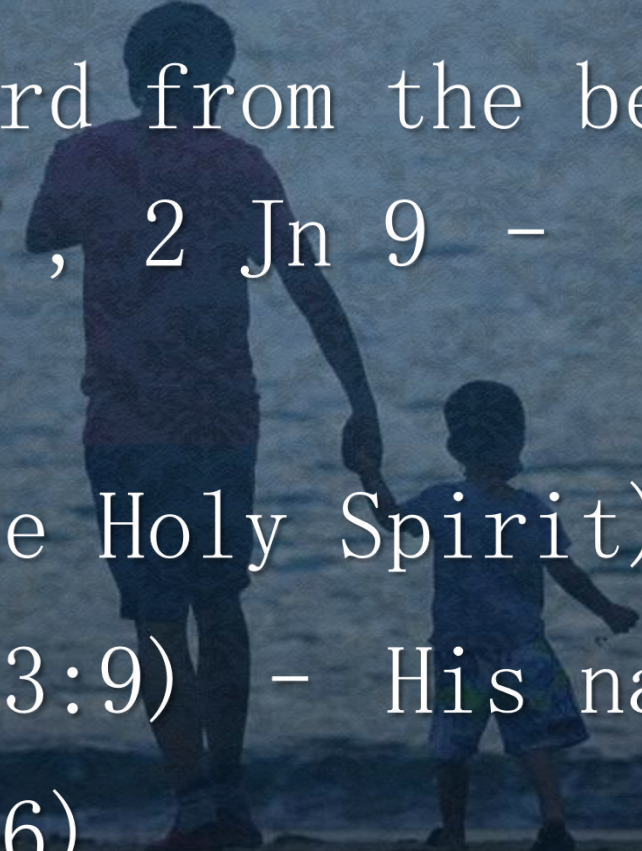
Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God;



John 15:5 (ESV)

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

What Abides in us?

- 1. Word** (2:14 - “word of God”, 2:24 - “what we heard from the beginning”, 2 Jn 2 - “truth”, 2 Jn 9 - “teaching of Christ”)
 - 2. Anointing** (The Holy Spirit) 2:27
 - 3. God’ s seed** (3:9) - His nature
 - 4. Love** (4:12, 16)
- 
- A silhouette of a man and a child walking on a beach at sunset. The man is on the left, holding the hand of the child on the right. They are walking away from the camera towards the ocean. The sky is a deep blue with a hint of orange from the setting sun. The water is dark and calm.



“Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house...He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of – throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.”

~ C. S. Lewis *More Christianity*

1 John 2:28-29 (ESV)

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²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is

2

righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.



The child exhibits the parent's
character because he shares the
parent's nature

— *John Stott* —

AZ QUOTES

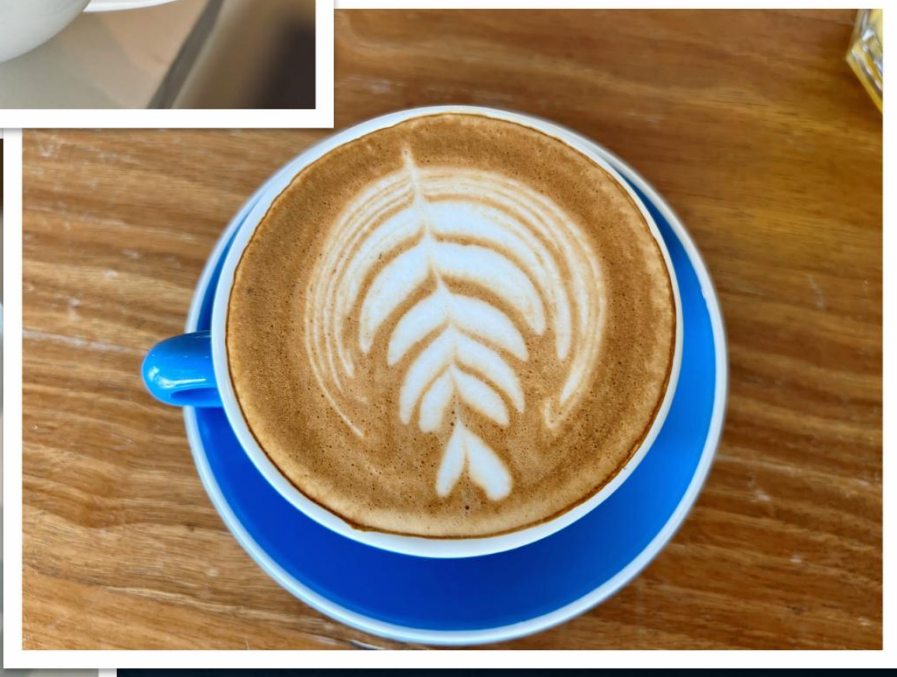
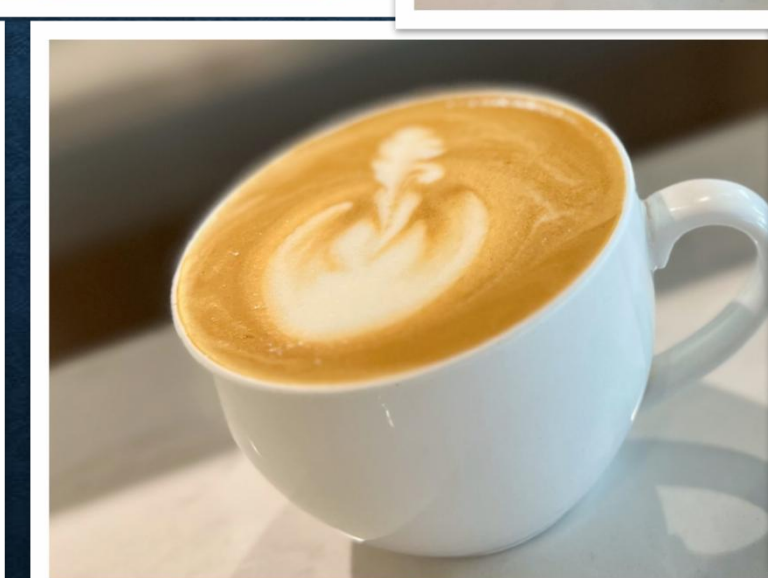


PRACTICE

makes

~~PERFECT~~

PERMANENT



1 John 2:28-29 (ESV)

1

28 And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. 29 If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.



1. We bear A New Identity that Abides in Christ (2:28–29)
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1 John 3:1 (NIV)

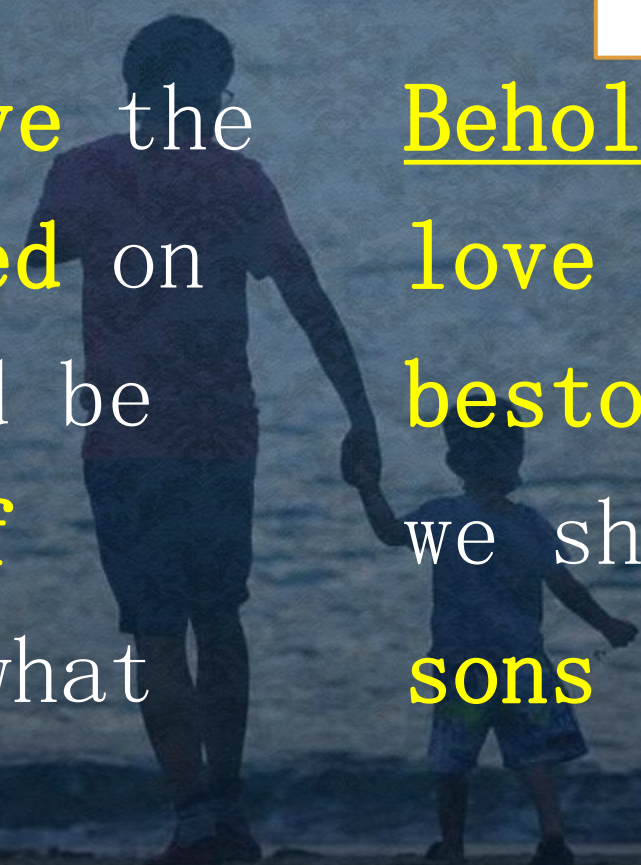
See **what great love** the Father has **lavished** on us, that we should be called **children of God!** And that is what we are!

1 John 3:1 (KJV)

Gk *Potapos* - *Lit.*

“from what country?”

Behold, what manner of **love** the Father hath **bestowed** upon us, that we should be called the **sons of God**...



Hymn: And Can It Be *(Charles Wesley)*

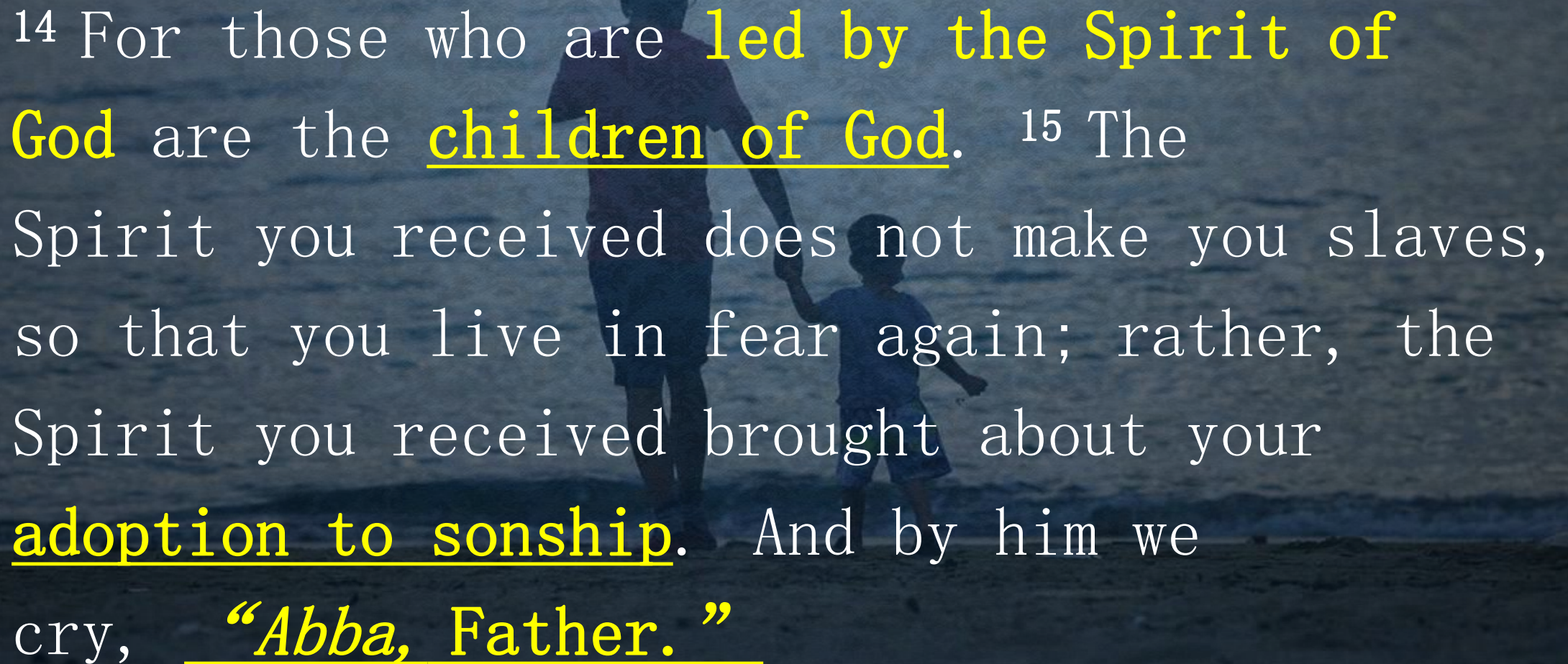
And can it be that I should gain
An int' rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?

**Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for
me?**

1 John 3:1 (NIV)

See **what great love** the Father has
lavished on us, that we should be
called **children of God!** And that is
what we are!

Romans 8:14-17 (ESV)

A silhouette of a man and a young child walking on a beach at sunset. The man is on the left, holding the child's hand. The child is on the right, walking towards the water. The background is a bright, hazy sky over the ocean.

¹⁴ For those who are **led by the Spirit of God** are the **children of God**. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your **adoption to sonship**. And by him we cry, **“Abba, Father.”**

Romans 8:14–17 (ESV)

¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 8:14–15 (ESV)

¹⁴ For those who are **led by the Spirit of God** are the **children of God**. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your **adoption to sonship**. And by him we cry, **“Abba, Father.”**

Gk *huiiothesia*



Caesar Augustus
(Octavian)

Romans 8:14–15 (ESV)

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1 John 3:1 (NIV)

See **what great love** the Father has **lavished** on us, that we should be called **children of God!** And that is
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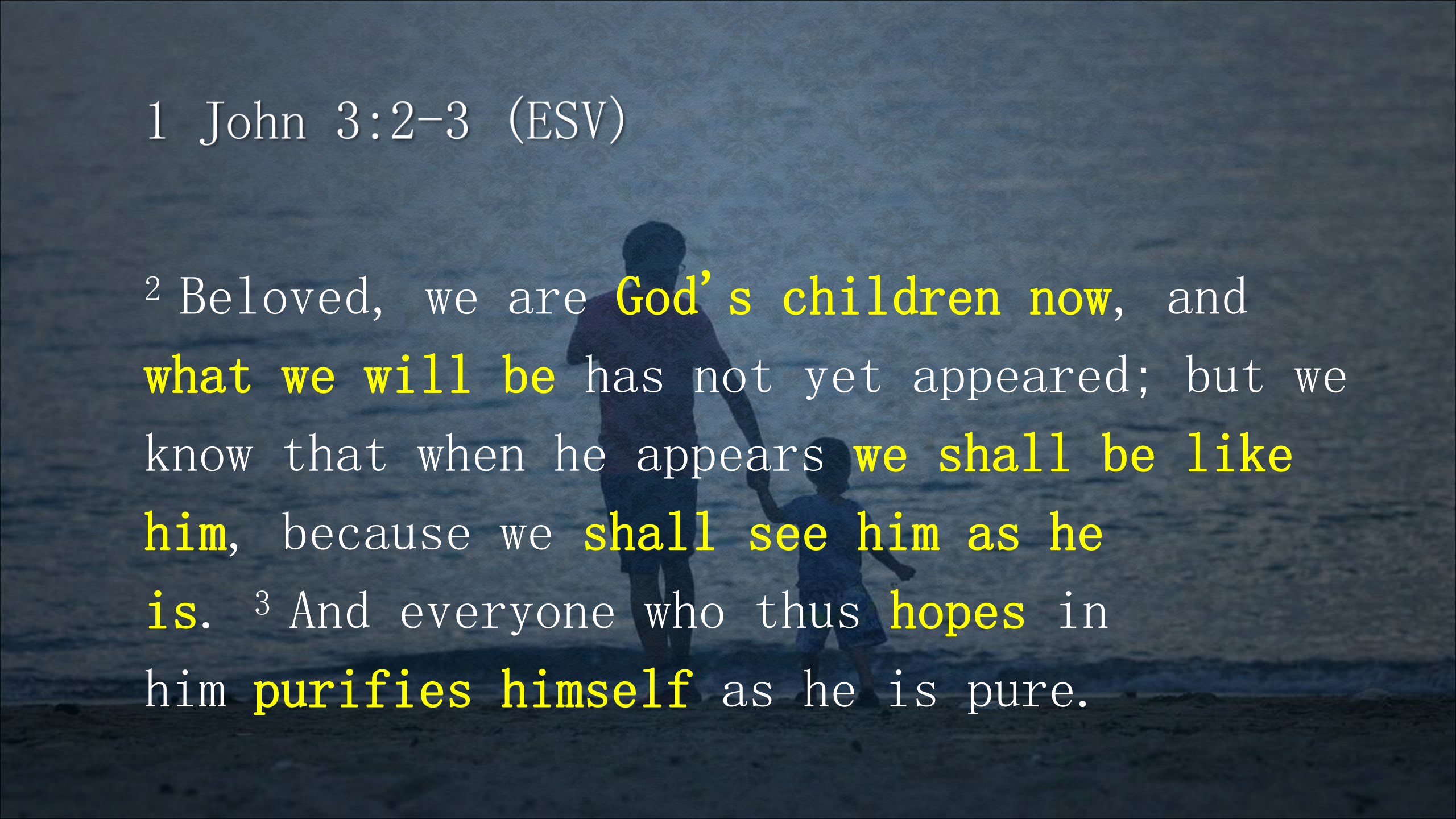
1 John 3:1 (NIV)

See **what great love** the Father has **lavished** on us, that we should be called **children of God!** And **that is what we are!** The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him



1. We bear A New Identity that Abides in Christ (2:28–29)
2. We are adopted into A New Family, made possible by the Amazing Love of the Father (3:1)
3. We have A New Hope that transforms us to be more Christlike (3:2, 3)

1 John 3:2-3 (ESV)



² Beloved, we are **God's children now**, and **what we will be** has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears **we shall be like him**, because we **shall see him as he is**. ³ And everyone who thus **hopes** in him **purifies himself** as he is pure.

1 John 3:2-3 (ESV)

1. Why?

² Beloved, we are **God's children now**, and **what we will be** has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears **we shall be like him**, because we **shall see him as he is**. ³ And everyone who thus **hopes** in him **purifies himself** as he is pure.

NOW

Rom 8:15 – ... the Spirit you received
brought about your adoption to sonship

NOT
YET

Rom 8:23 – ... but we ourselves, who
have the **firstfruits of the Spirit**,
groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for
our adoption to sonship, the redemption
of our bodies

1 John 3:2-3 (ESV)

2 Beloved, we are **God's children now**, and **what we will be** has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears **we shall be like him**, because we **shall see him as he is**. 3 And everyone who thus **hopes** in him **purifies himself** as he is pure.

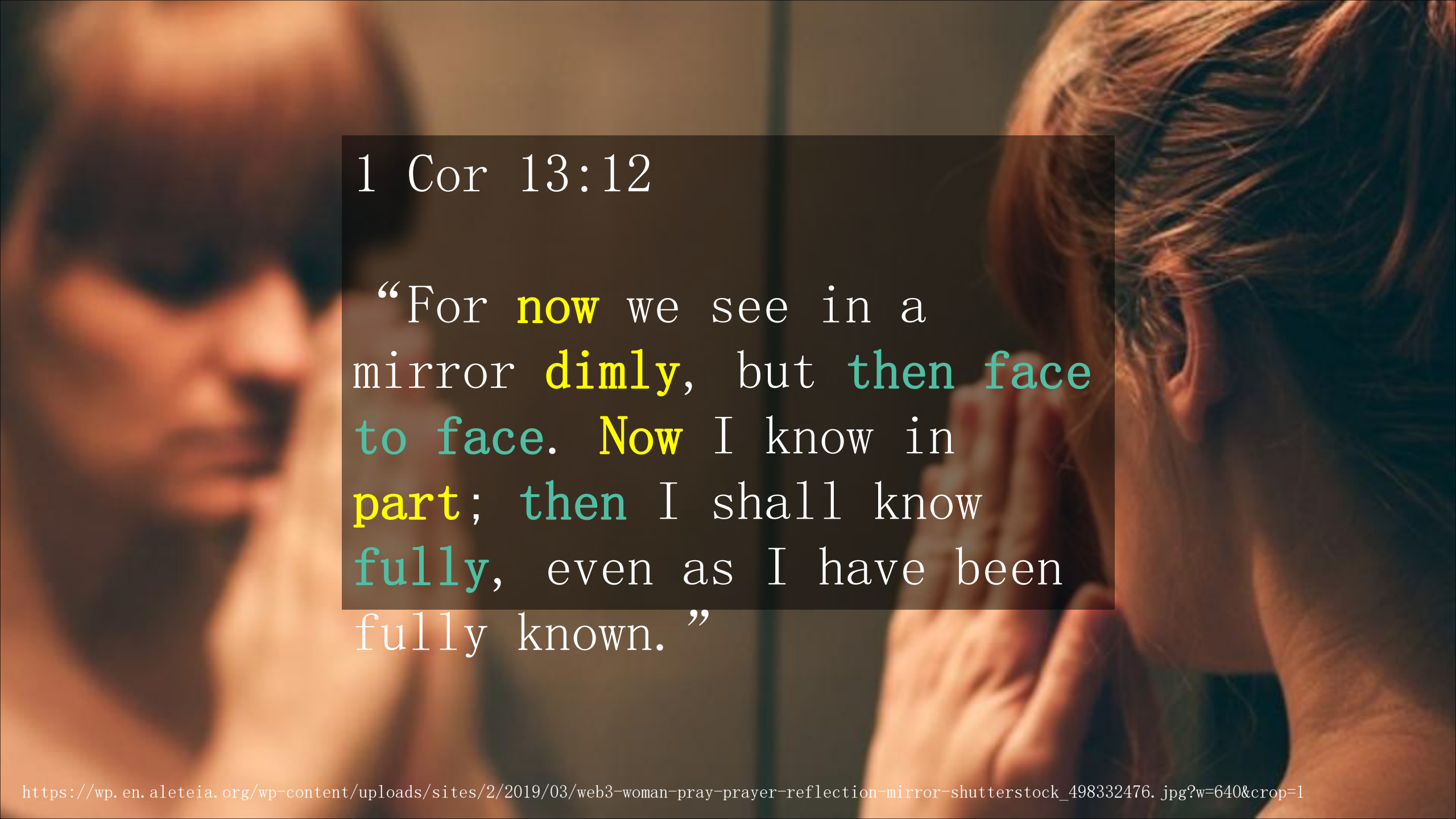
2. What?

2 Cor 3:18 – ...transformed into His image
with ever-increasing glory..

Ro 8:29 – ...predestined to be conformed to the
image of Christ

Eph 4:24 – put on the new self, created to be
like God in true righteousness and holiness

Phil 3:20–21 – ...we await a Savior, the Lord
Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly
body to be like his glorious body...



1 Cor 13:12

“For **now** we see in a mirror **dimly**, but **then face to face**. **Now** I know in **part**; **then** I shall know **fully**, even as I have been fully known.”

1 John 3:2-3 (ESV)

² Beloved, we are **God's children now**, and **what we will be** has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears **we shall be like him**, because we **shall see him as he is**. ³ And everyone **who thus hopes in him purifies himself** as he appears.

3. Who?

1 John 3:2-3 (ESV)

² Beloved, we are **God's children now**, and **what we will be** ^{4.} (Until) **When?** **When he appears** we shall be like **him**, because we **shall see him as he is**. ³ And everyone who thus **hopes** in him **purifies himself** as he is pure.

1 John 3:2-3 (ESV)

² Beloved, we are **God's children now**, and **what we will be** has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears **we shall be like him**, because we **shall see him as he is**. ³ And everyone who thus **hopes** in him **purifies himself** as he is pure.

5. How?

HOW DO ONE "PURIFY HIMSELF"?

- Confession and Repentance from sin
- Renewing of our minds through God's Word and Prayer
- Power of the Holy Spirit
- Little by little everyday..

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Atomic Habits

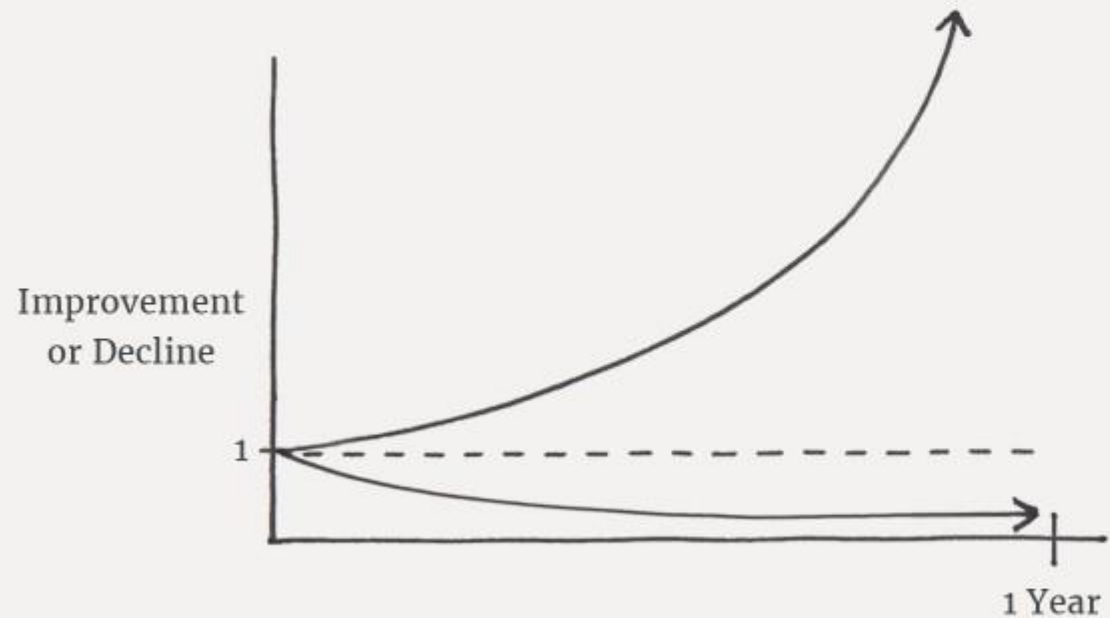
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& Break Bad Ones

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The Power of Tiny Gains

$$\begin{aligned} 1\% \text{ better every day} & \quad 1.01^{365} = 37.78 \\ 1\% \text{ worse every day} & \quad 0.99^{365} = 0.03 \end{aligned}$$



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THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

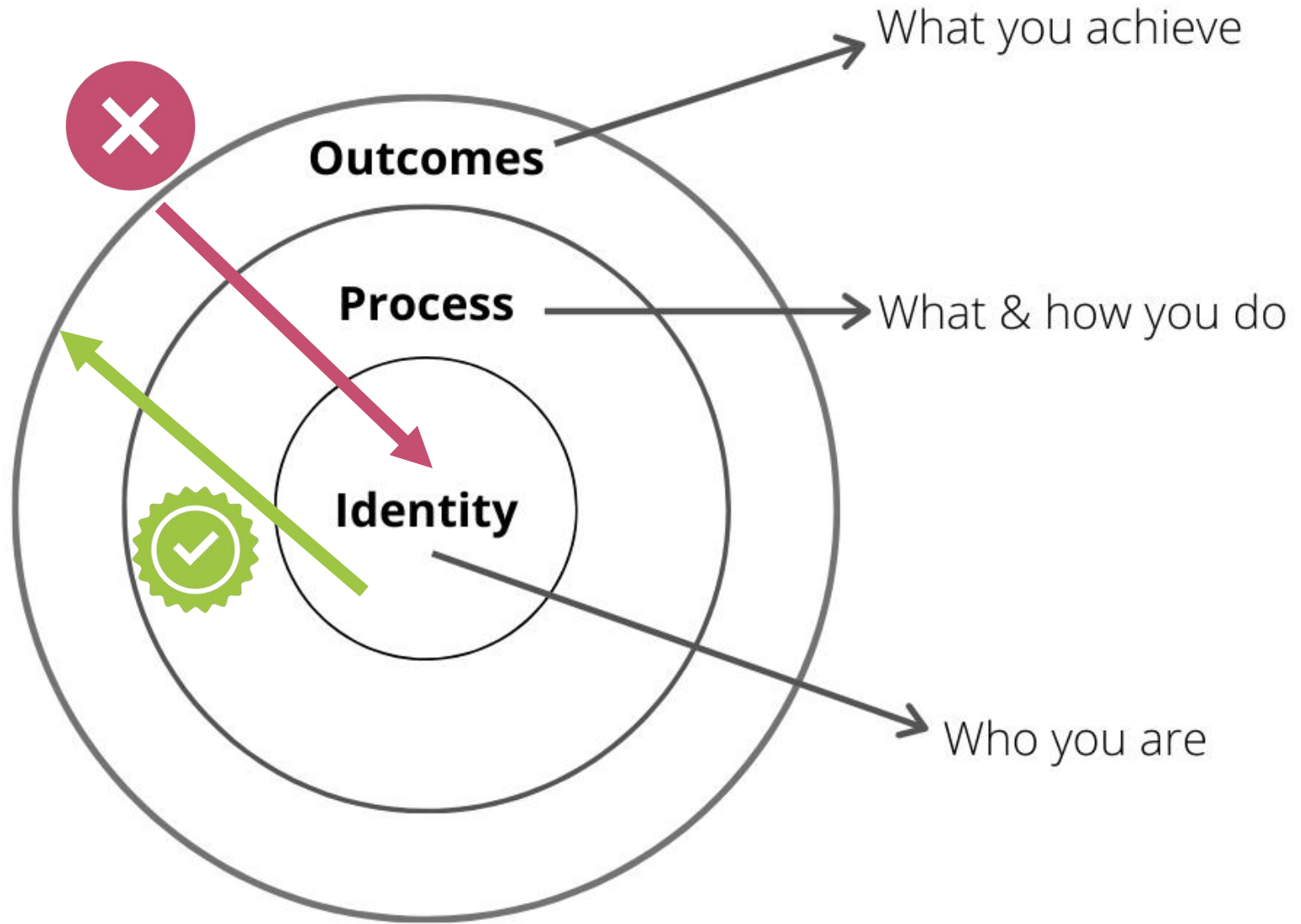
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For he is like a
refiner's
fire ... ³ He will
sit as a refiner
and purifier of
silver, and he
will **purify**... and
refine them like
gold and silver..
~Mal 3:2-3





Our Christian hope is that we are going to live with Christ in a new earth, where there is not only no more death, but where life is what it was always meant to be.

— *Timothy Keller* —

AZ QUOTES



**TIMOTHY
KELLER**

1950-2023

“Tim Keller set out there as an aim for a teacher or preacher to cause your audience to **adore Christ**, that we would put Christ forward in such a way that would help people to see **his beauty** and **his necessity**, and his **significance** in such a way that it would cause people to **adore Christ.**”

Nancy Guthrie, Author &

Benediction

Phil 1:9-11

Backup

NOW

- Pest, Eats Leaves
- Walks Slowly
- Sexless, doesn't mate
- Simple Eyes
- Small Antennae

- Drinks Nectar
- Flies long distances
- Male/Female, Can mate
- Compound Eyes
- Larger Antennae, more functions



NOT YET

My Daily Reminder ❤️ 🙌🏽😊

I am Aaron/Ryan. I am a child of God.

I am loved, saved, redeemed.

I am brave and strong. I can do hard things.

I am kind. I can help others.

I am smart. I can learn new things every day.

I can be patient. Good things are worth waiting for.

I can show grace, even when others wrong me.

I can forgive. Because Jesus has forgiven my sins.

I am resilient. If I fail. I take a break. And try again.

When things get hard, that's okay too. I'm a good kid, who's having a hard time. It's ok to make mistakes. That's how I learn and grow.

I matter. My mommy and daddy and Ryan/koko love me soooo much!

I am whole, able and competent.

Today/tomorrow is a new day and a new adventure! 🌈🌈🌈

John 15:5

I am the vine;
you are the branches.

Love

Peace

Joy

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-control

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.

CHRISTIAN HOPE

WHY?

- Now and Not Yet
- Salvation is WIP

WHAT?

- Now and Not Yet
- Salvation is WIP



Like **Daddy**:

- Fun Loving
- Adventurous
- Liking music and singing

Like **Mommy**:

- Neat & Tidy
- Loving reading

Like **Both**?

- Being left-handed

Is 53:2-3

² For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;

he had **no form or majesty** that we should look
at him,

and **no beauty** that we should desire him.

³ He was **despised and rejected by men,**

a **man of sorrows** and **acquainted with
grief;**

and as one from whom men hide their faces

he was **despised,** and we **esteemed him not.**

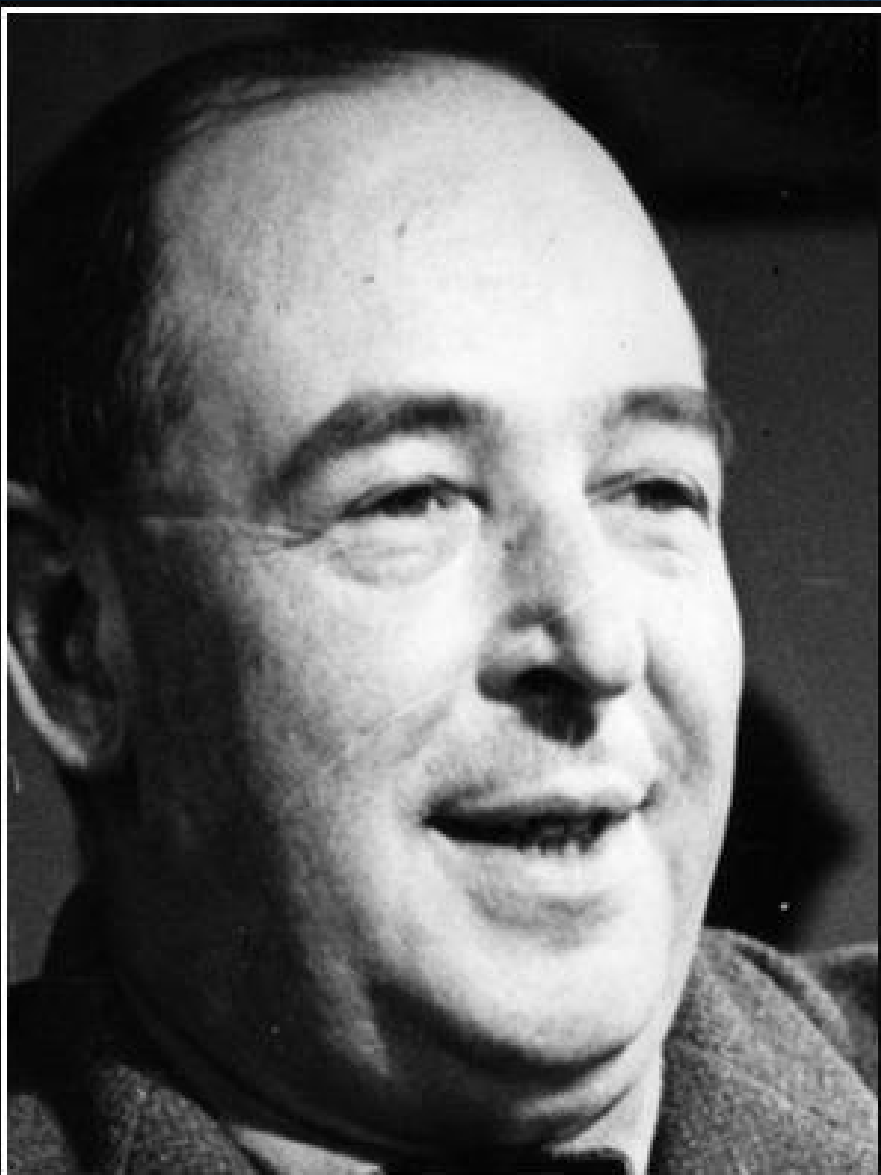


Spiritual transformation into Christ-likeness is not going to happen unless we act... What transforms us is the will to obey Jesus Christ.

— Dallas Willard —

AZ QUOTES

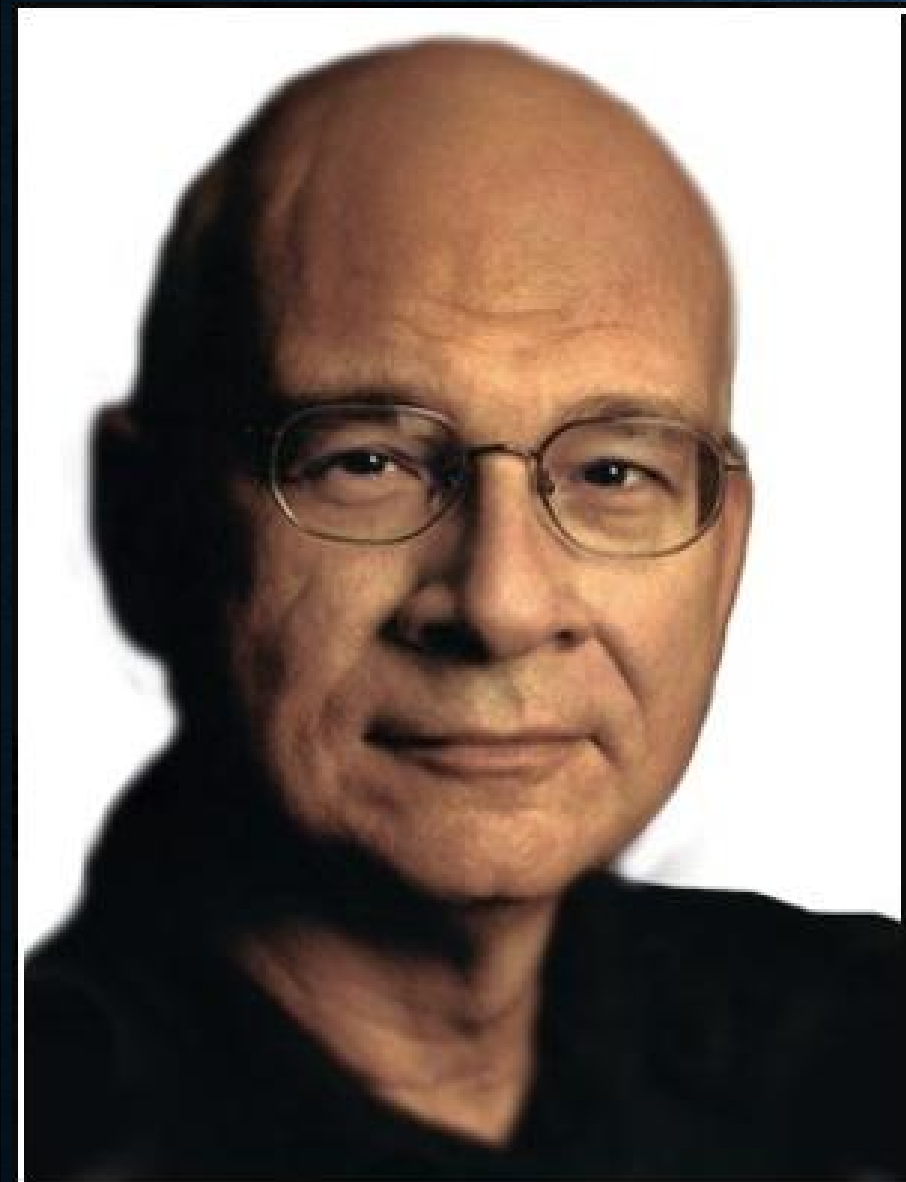




God became man to turn creatures into sons: not simply to produce better men of the old kind but to produce a new kind of man. It is not like teaching a horse to jump better and better but like turning a horse into a winged creature.

— *C. S. Lewis* —

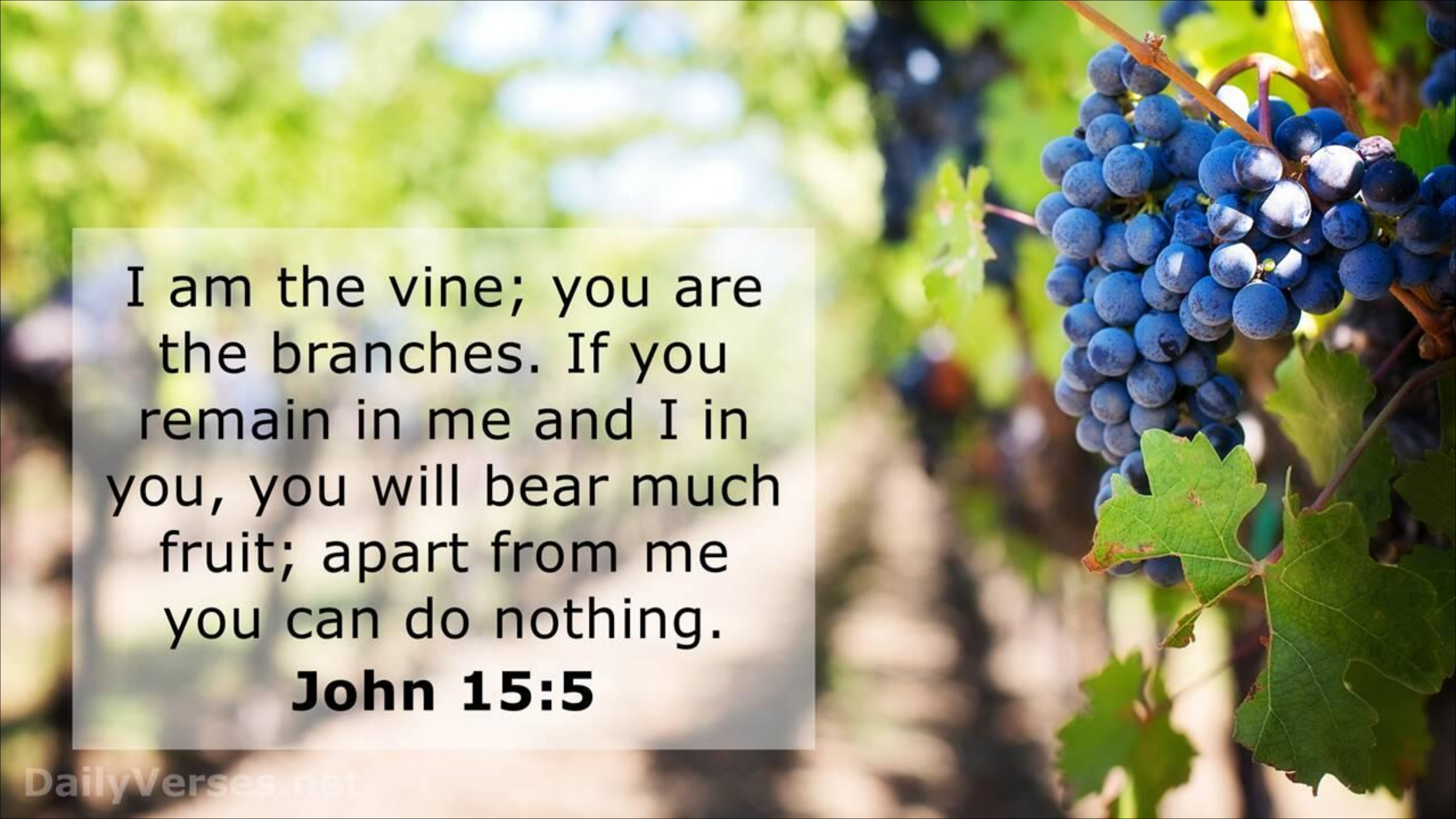
AZ QUOTES



God sees us as we are, loves us as
we are, and accepts us as we are.
But by His grace, He does not leave
us as we are.

— *Timothy Keller* —

AZ QUOTES



I am the vine; you are
the branches. If you
remain in me and I in
you, you will bear much
fruit; apart from me
you can do nothing.

John 15:5

1 John 2:28–3:3 (ESV)

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

³ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

1 John 2:28-3:3 (NIV)

²⁸ And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

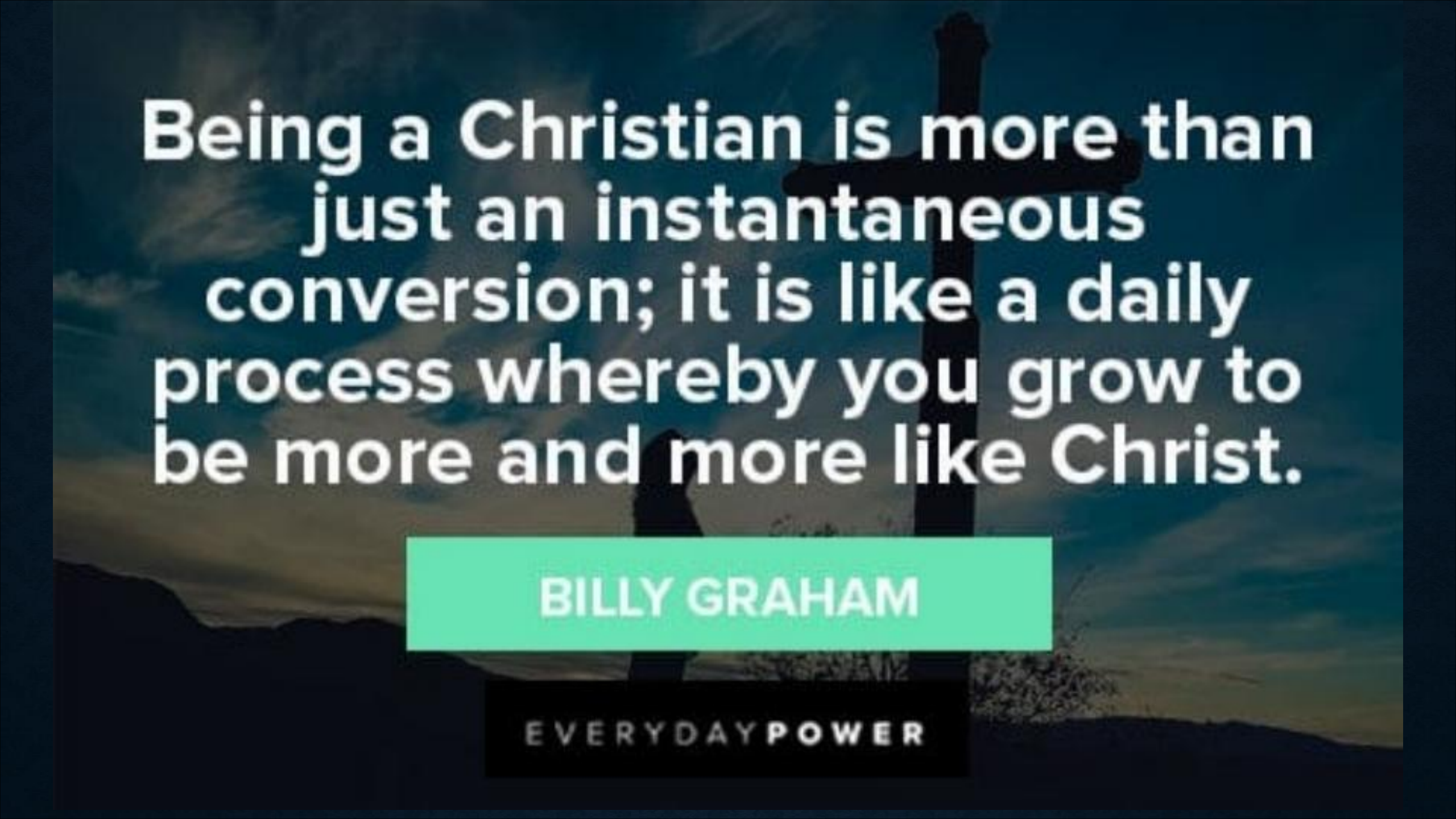
²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

3 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure

1 John 2:28-3:3 (NKJV)

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. ²⁹ If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

3 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.



**Being a Christian is more than
just an instantaneous
conversion; it is like a daily
process whereby you grow to
be more and more like Christ.**


BILLY GRAHAM

EVERYDAYPOWER

**I wish not merely to be
called Christian, but
also to be Christian.**

SAINT IGNATIUS

EVERYDAYPOWER

A man in a white dress shirt and red tie is standing in a bathroom, combing the hair of a young boy who is also wearing a white dress shirt and red tie. They are positioned in front of a white sink with a gold faucet. The background features a doorway with a dark arched frame and light-colored curtains. The scene is lit with soft, indoor lighting.

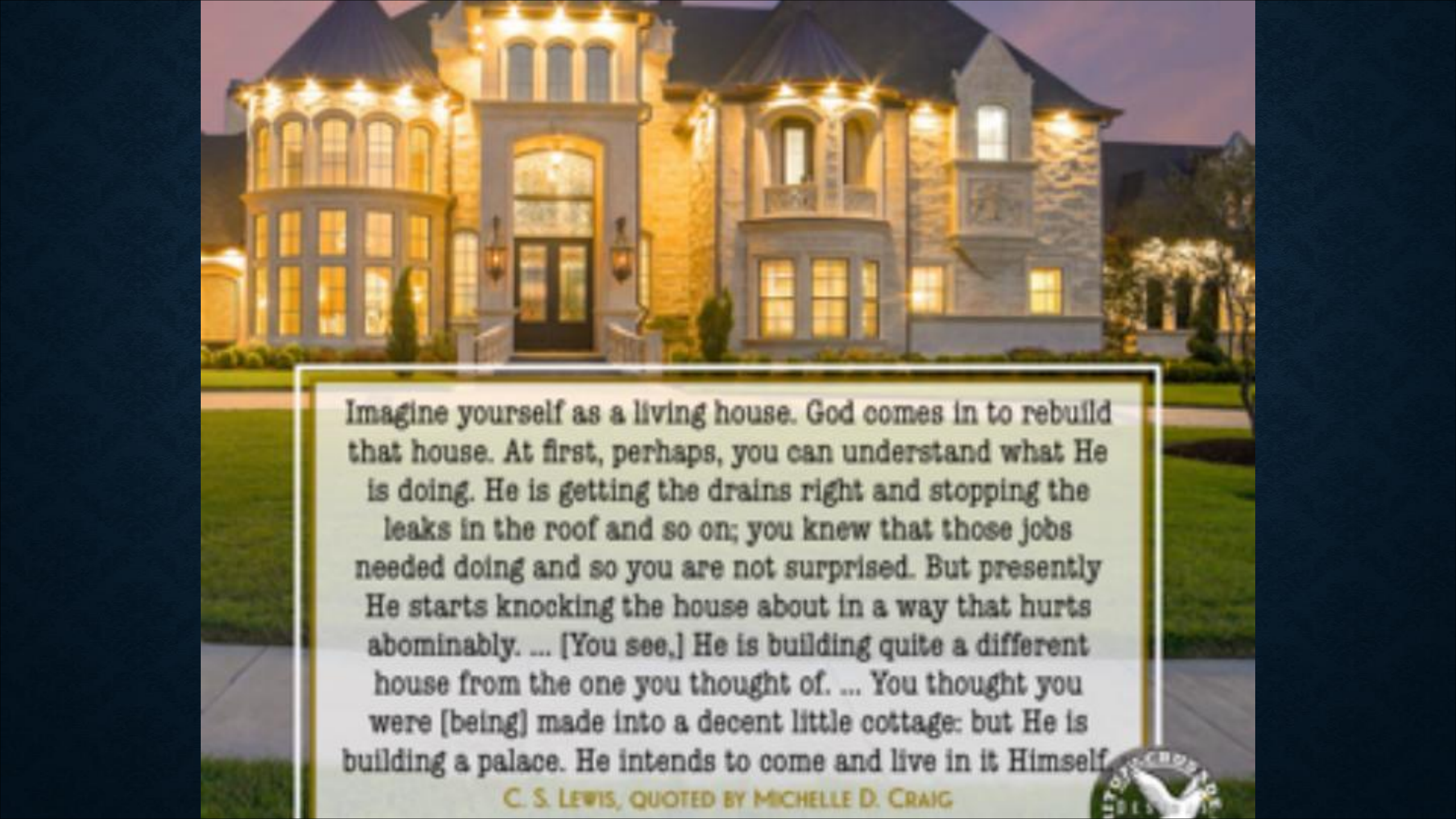
*I want to be just like You
'Cause he wants to be like me*

And God said,
“Let us make man in our image,
after our likeness...”

— Genesis 1:26



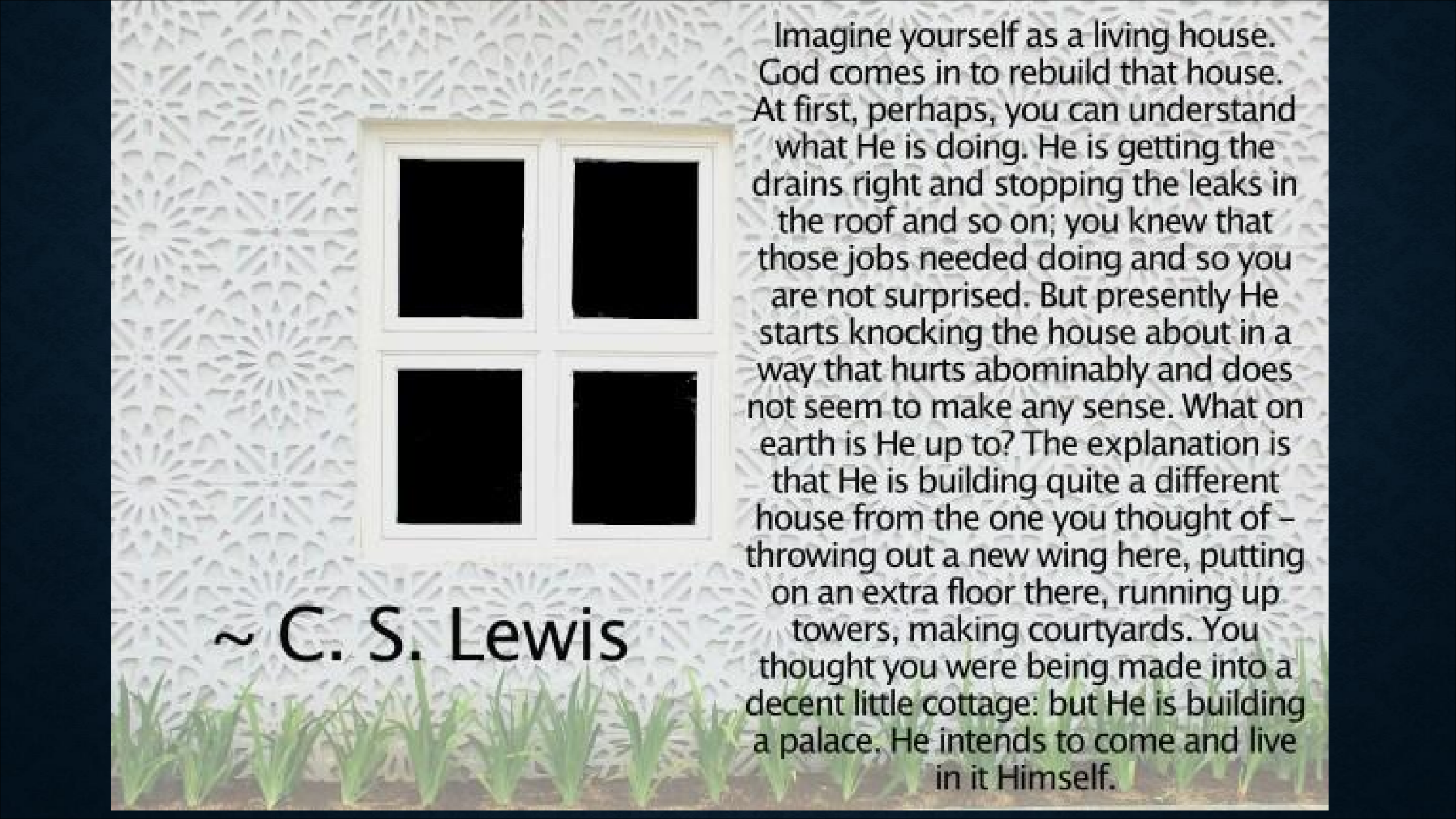
Source: King James Version (KJV) Bible.
Image: Creation of Adam by Michelangelo



Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably. ... [You see,] He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of. ... You thought you were [being] made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.

C. S. LEWIS, QUOTED BY MICHELLE D. CRAIG

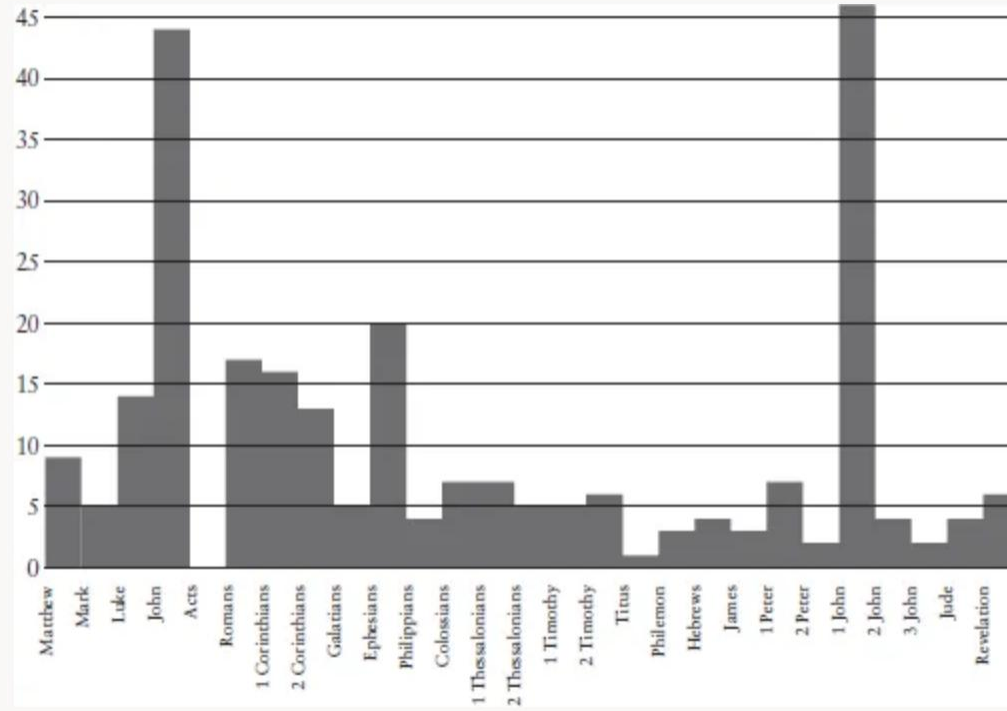


A white wall with a repeating geometric pattern of stylized floral or starburst designs. In the center, there is a white-framed window with four black rectangular panes. At the bottom of the image, there is a row of green plants, possibly irises, growing in a garden bed.

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of – throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.

~ C. S. Lewis

New Testament Occurrences of Love Language



“Just as” passage in 1

John

Implication

2:6: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as [καθώς] Jesus did.

Jesus’s ethical example has a normative force for his followers.

2:27: Just as [καθώς] his anointing teaches you, abide in him.

Believers’ anointing is instructive for living.

3:7: He who does what is right is righteous, just as [καθώς] he is righteous.

Christ’s righteousness furnishes an ethical and character norm for his followers.

3:12: [Love one another,] not like [καθώς] Cain.

Cain’s example of hostile lovelessness illustrates a *via negativa* for Christ’s followers, who are to love and not hate.

3:23: Let us love each other just as [καθώς] he gave us command.

Christ’s command to love is an ongoing mandate for his followers.

4:17: Because just as [καθώς] Christ is, so are we in this world.

The love Christ manifested, which is appropriated and lived out among believers, is their confidence in the day of judgment.
