

ORDER OF SERVICE

March 26, 2023

Worship in Fellowship
Worship in Music
Worship in the Lord's Table
Worship in Message
Worship in Giving

Dan Cox
Wayne Braudrick

Love Sanctifies

Selected Scriptures

Love Is Series

Life Change: We grow in holiness.

Bad books can still contain good points

We are dealing with something for which there is only one appropriate expression, *mysterium tremendum*...the hushed, trembling, and speechless humility of the creature in the presence of—whom or what? In the presence of that which is a *Mystery* inexpressible and above all creatures. – Rudolph Otto, *Das Heilige, The Idea of the Holy*

- Awefulness: holiness so awe-inspiring it produces fear or trembling in the worshipper.
- Overpoweringness: where the worshipper senses his impotence.
- Energy: dynamic power in the encounter.

The Father is more than merely holy. He is personal.

He is absolutely committed to relationship Ps. 139:1-5

He loves unconditionally Rom. 8:38-39

He gives His very best Rom. 8:32

The Father is more than merely holy. He is personal.

He grants direct access Heb. 4:14-16

He disciplines Prov. 3:11-12

The Father engenders sanctification

God himself tore the veil of the temple in two from top to bottom, thereby indicating that the way into his presence, into the Holy of Holies, is now open for all who will come to him through faith in Christ. [For] those who come...we are first separated to him through Christ, as his holy ones, and then made righteous practically and increasingly as his nature gradually transforms our being. – James Montgomery Boice, *The Sovereign God*

We receive imputed power from God Phil. 2:13

We learn to hate sin Col. 3:1-5

We pursue holiness 2 Tim. 2:22

Bill McKenzie's formula for pursuing holiness:

- Does the thought/activity/choice lead me more toward or away from youthful lusts or spiritually immature emotions?
- Does the thought/activity/choice spur me on toward sanctification?
- Is the thought/activity/choice empowered by my flesh or by trust in God?
- Does the thought/activity/choice promote love?
- Does the thought/activity/choice increase peace?
- Does the thought/activity/choice draw me closer into healthy Christian community?

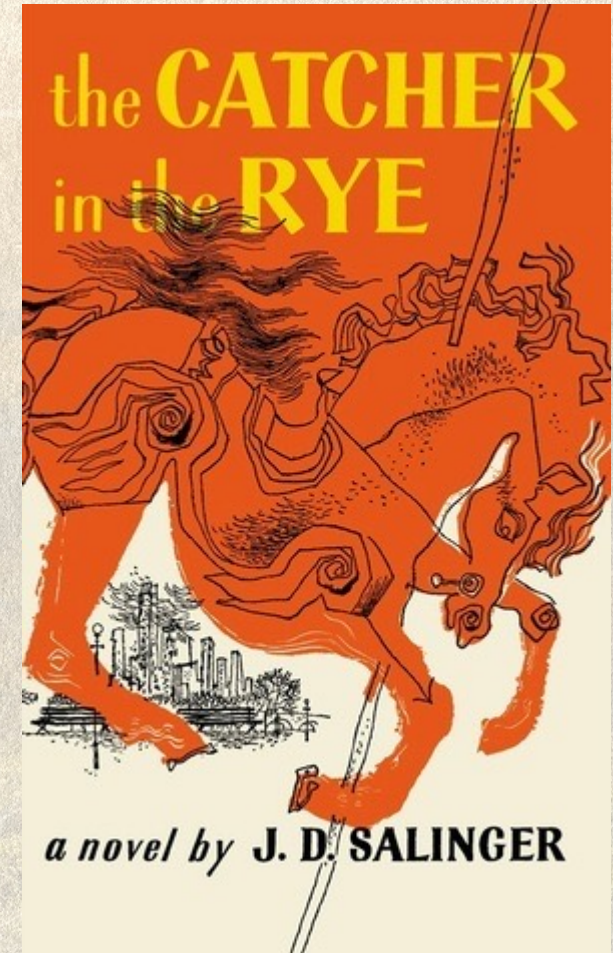
We look to the Day of the Lord Heb. 10:24-25

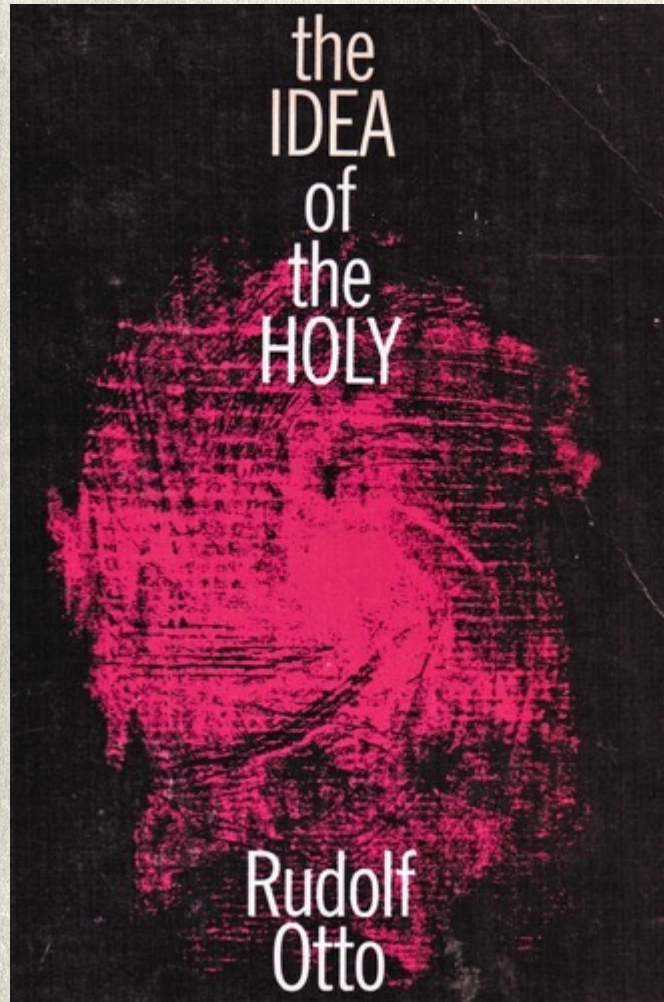


PLEASE SILENCE YOUR PHONE

Gather input widely & critically

Good books can contain bad points, and Bad books can still contain good points. If you only take in what is “approved” by the zeitgeist around you, you can absorb nonsense that was hidden in acceptable guise and you will miss good ideas which were wrapped in a flawed package.





Rudolph Otto only pretended to be Christian. He foolishly rejected absolute truth. He instead falsely separated truth into categories – a type of nonsense that would negatively shape the 20th century.

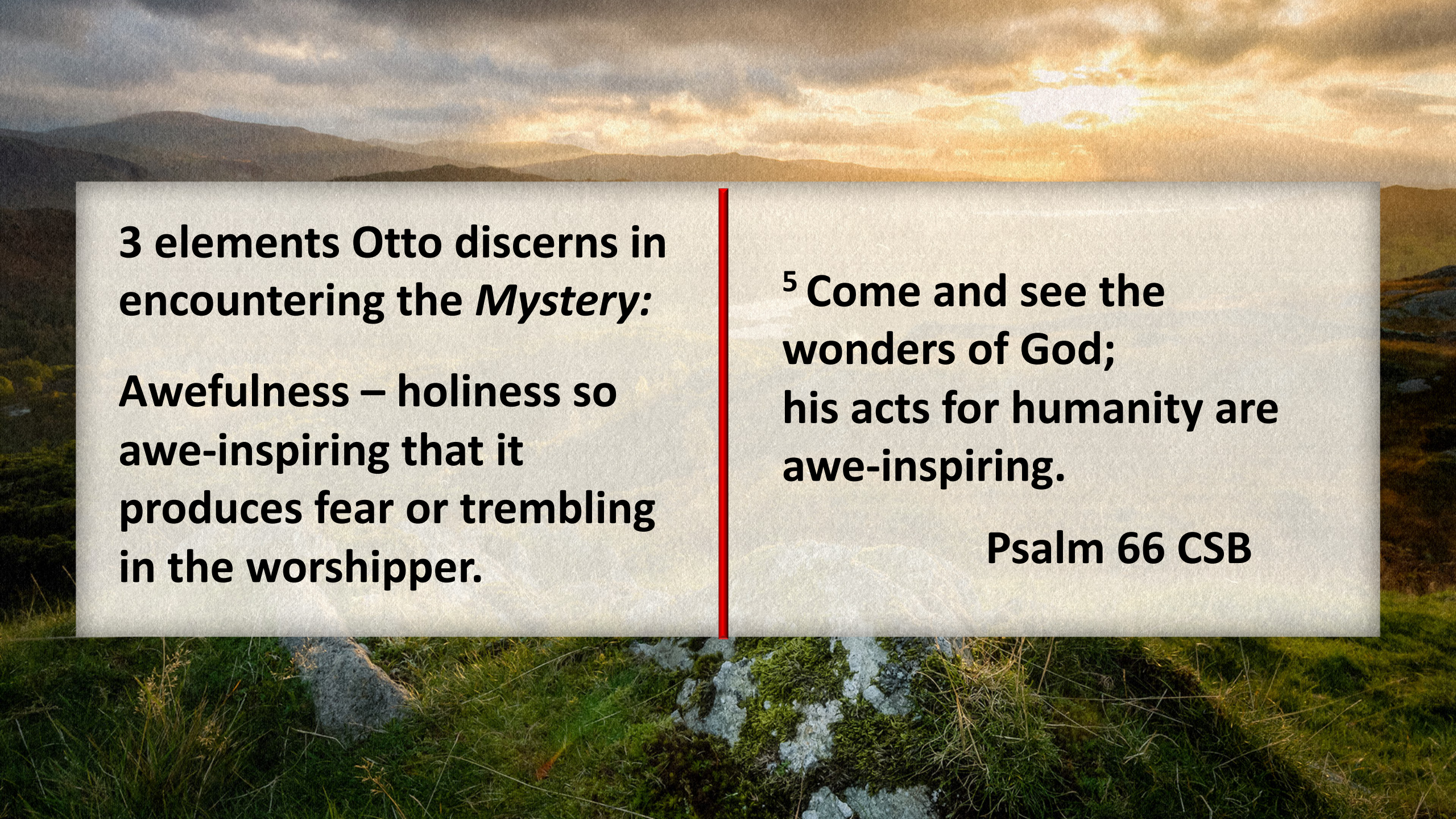
We are dealing with something for which there is only one appropriate expression, *mysterium tremendum*...the hushed, trembling, and speechless humility of the creature in the presence of—whom or what? In the presence of that which is a *Mystery* inexpressible and above all creatures. – Rudolph Otto, *Das Heilige, The Idea of the Holy*





3 elements Otto discerns in encountering the *Mystery*:

- **Awefulness – holiness so awe-inspiring that it produces fear or trembling in the worshipper.**
- **Overpoweringness – where the worshipper senses his impotence.**
- **Energy – a dynamic power in the encounter.**



**3 elements Otto discerns in encountering the *Mystery*:
Awefulness – holiness so awe-inspiring that it produces fear or trembling in the worshipper.**

**⁵ Come and see the wonders of God;
his acts for humanity are awe-inspiring.**

Psalm 66 CSB



3 elements Otto discerns in encountering the *Mystery*:

- **Awefulness – holiness so awe-inspiring that it produces fear or trembling in the worshipper.**
- **Overpoweringness – where the worshipper senses his impotence.**

**33 Oh, the depth of the riches
and the wisdom and the knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments
and untraceable his ways!**

**34 *For who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?***

**35 *And who has ever given to God,
that he should be repaid? [quotes from Job 35, 41; Is 40; Jer 23]***

**36 For from him and through him
and to him are all things.
To him be the glory forever. Amen.**

Romans 11 CSB

3 elements Otto discerns in encountering the *Mystery*:

- **Overpoweringness – where the worshipper senses his impotence.**

**There is none but he
Whose being I do fear: and,
under him,**

My Genius is rebuked

**Wm. Shakespeare, *MacBeth*
(Act 3, Scene 1)**



3 elements Otto discerns in encountering the *Mystery*:

- **Awefulness – holiness so awe-inspiring that it produces fear or trembling in the worshipper.**
- **Overpoweringness – where the worshipper senses his impotence.**
- **Energy – a dynamic power in the encounter.**

²⁷ God wanted to make known among the Gentiles the glorious wealth of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ I labor for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.

Colossians 1 CSB

2 COR

GAL

EPH

PHIL

COLOSSIANS

1 THESS


2 THESS

1 TIM

2 TIM

²⁷ God wanted to make known among the Gentiles the glorious wealth of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ I labor for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.

Colossians 1 CSB



Greek: ἐνέργειαν *energean* = dynamic power, the energy for getting things done; in the Bible, *energea* comes only from God

2 COR

GAL

EPH

PHIL

COLOSSIANS

1 THESS

2 THESS

1 TIM

2 TIM



Rudolph Otto is wrong about so many things. But the Bible says that in this one respect Dr. Otto is correct: those whom God engages experience awefulness, overpoweringness, and dynamic energy.



**So nice of you notice
the good of my work.
Just what do you find
so wrong with it?**

Otto is wrong:

1. There are absolute truths.
2. Truth is not split between experience and fact.
3. God the Father is not merely an impersonal force that one experiences. He is personal.

Otto is correct:

Those whom God engages experience awefulness, overpoweringness, and dynamic energy.

**¹ LORD, you have searched me and known me.
² You know when I sit down and when I stand up;
you understand my thoughts from far away.
³ You observe my travels and my rest;
you are aware of all my ways.
⁴ Before a word is on my tongue,
you know all about it, LORD.
⁵ You have encircled me;
you have placed your hand on me.**

Psalm 139 CSB



The Father is not only holy. He is personal.

- **absolutely committed to relationship**
- **loves unconditionally**
- **gives His very best**
- **grants directs access to Himself**
- **disciplines His children**



**¹ LORD, you have searched me and known me.
² You know when I sit down and when I stand up;
you understand my thoughts from far away.
³ You observe my travels and my rest;
you are aware of all my ways.
⁴ Before a word is on my tongue,
you know all about it, LORD.
⁵ You have encircled me;
you have placed your hand on me.**

Psalm 139 CSB



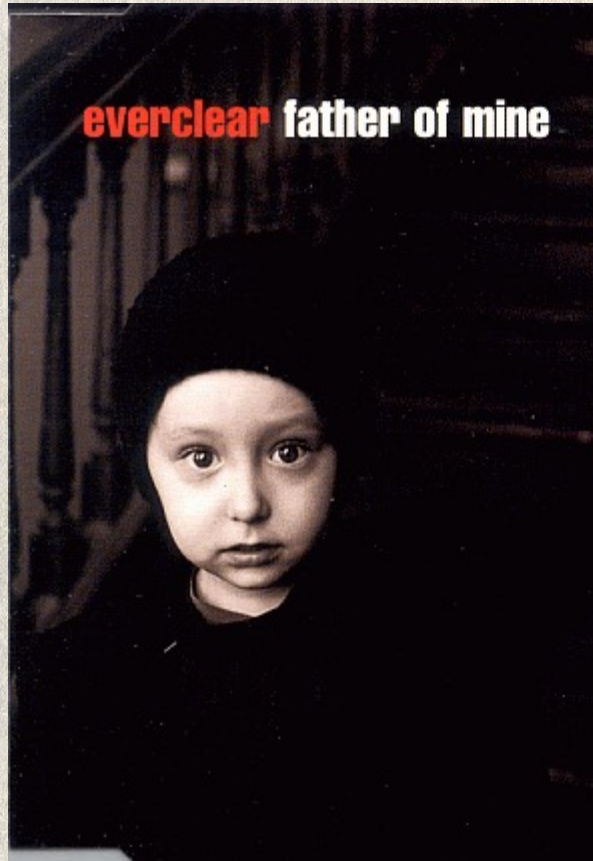
**Father of mine
Tell me where have you been
You know I just closed my eyes
My whole world disappeared
Father of mine
Take me back to the day
Yeah, when I was still your golden boy
Back before you went away**

**“Father of Mine” by Art Alexakis,
Craig Montoya, Greg Eklund**

**I remember the blue skies
Walking the block
I loved it when you held me high
I loved to hear you talk
You would take me to the movie
You would take me to the beach
Take me to a place inside
That is so hard to reach**

**“Father of Mine” by Art Alexakis,
Craig Montoya, Greg Eklund**





**Father of mine
Tell me where did you go
Yeah, you had the world inside your hand
But you did not seem to know
Father of mine
Tell me what do you see
When you look back at your wasted life
And you don't see me**

**Daddy gave me a name
My dad he gave me a name
Then he walked away
Daddy gave me a name
Then he walked away
My dad he gave me a name**



I will never be safe
I will never be sane
I will always be weird inside
I will always be lame
Now I'm a grown man
With a child of my own
And I swear I'm not going
to let her know
All the pain I have known

Father Of Mine

Art Alexakis, Greg Eklund and Craig Montoya

Lesson 3 - Golden Boy: Verses

Instructor: Henrik Linde

Transcribed by Stelios Michas

Moderate ♩ = 97

Verse

Db5 F5

T
A
B

1.
Gb5 Eb5

9 9 9 9 9 9 10 10 10 10 10 10

2.
Gb5 Eb5

9 9 9 9 9 9 10 10 10 10 10 10

© 1997 Commongreen Music, Evergleam Music, Irving Music Inc., Montalupis Music
All Rights Reserved
Used by permission of Universal Music Publishing

**My dad he gave me a name
Then he walked away**

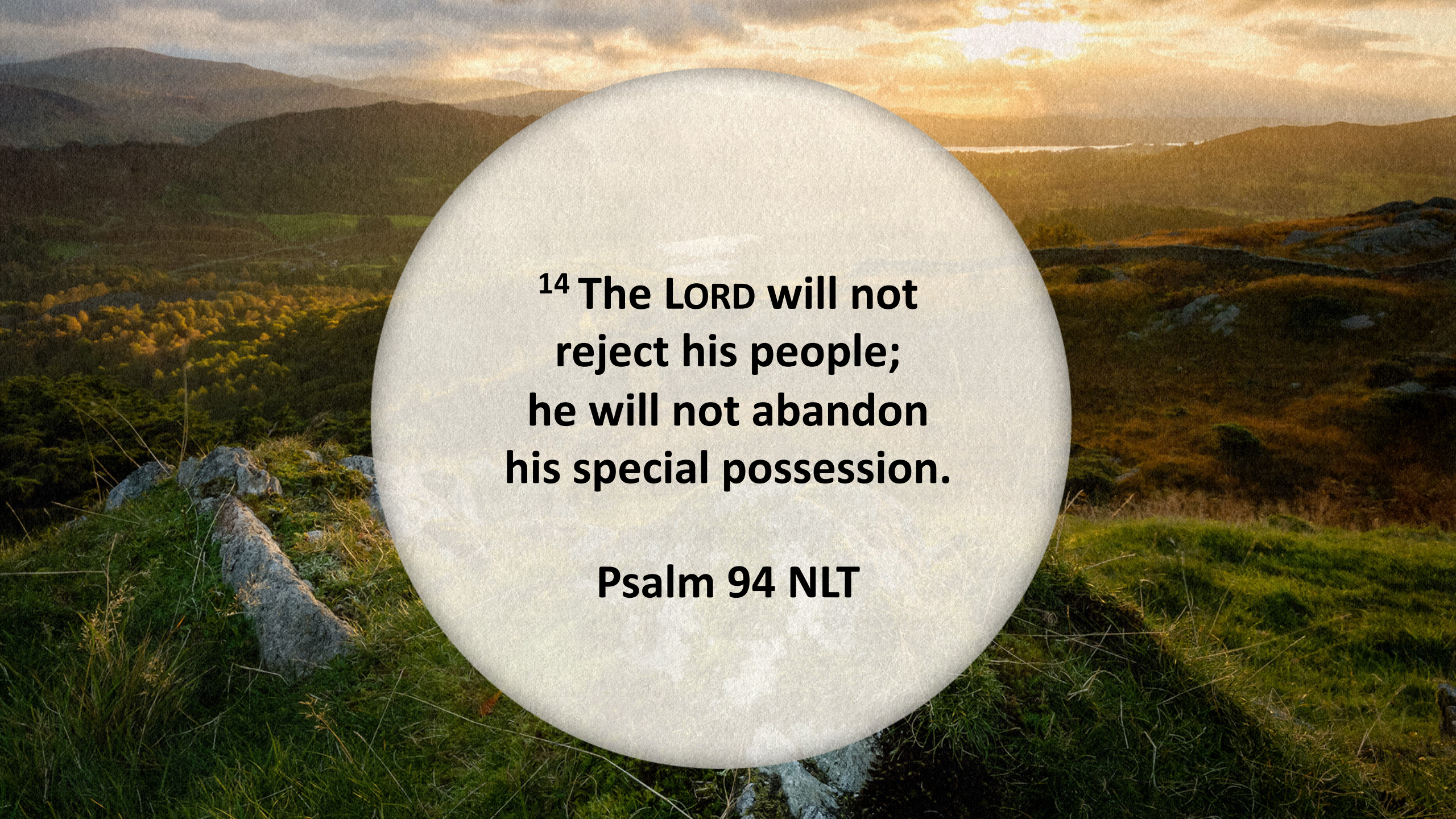


**¹ LORD, you have searched me
and known me.**

**⁵ You have encircled me;
you have placed your hand
on me.**

**Psalm 139
CSB**





**¹⁴ The LORD will not
reject his people;
he will not abandon
his special possession.**

Psalm 94 NLT

**For I am sure that neither death nor life,
nor angels nor rulers,
nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Romans 8:38-39 ESV

God can't
unconditionally
love me. Not as
rotten as I have
been.



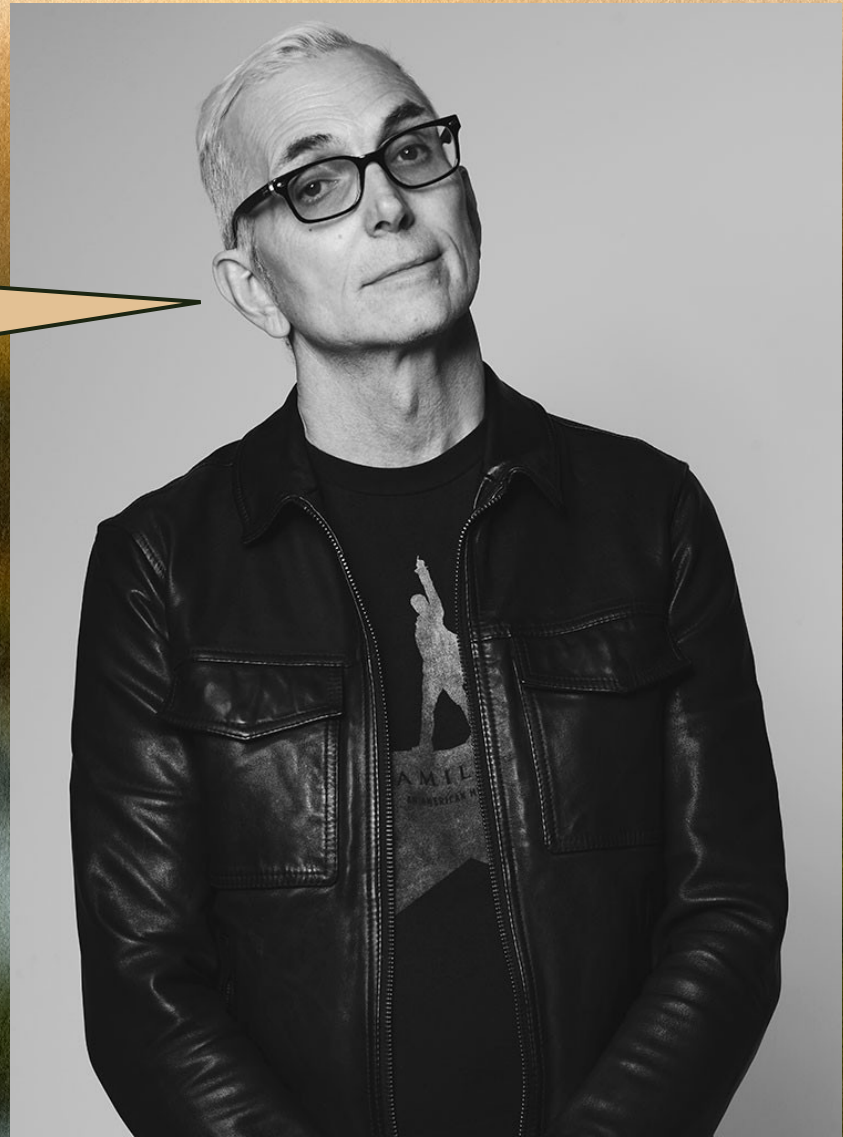
Phil must be
separated
from God's
love because
he is acting
like a fool.

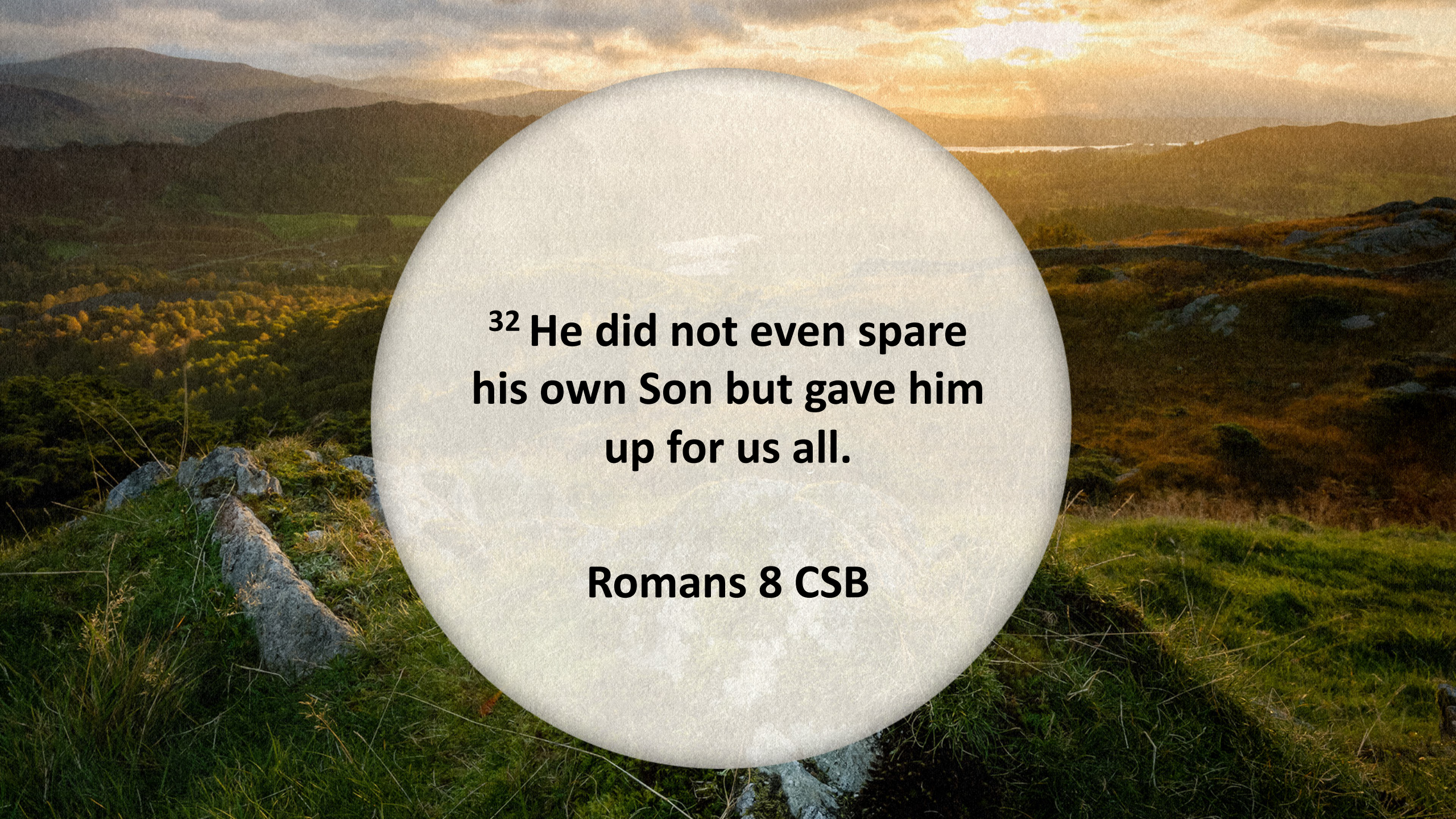
No circumstance, seen or unseen power, person, action, or inaction on your part can separate you from God's love. That is powerful. And that is a promise that only your Heavenly Father has the power to fulfill. Every person on this earth who claims to love you and never leave you will still be separated from you (at least temporarily) through their death or yours. But God's Word promises that even in death there is no separation from God's love – ever (see 2 Corinthians 5:8).



– Cindi McMenamin, “God the Father”

God is holy. We ain't. So how can He be personally engaged with us?





**³² He did not even spare
his own Son but gave him
up for us all.**

Romans 8 CSB



Murnau mit Kirche II
(Murnau with Church II)
Wassily Kandinsky
1910



Murnau mit Kirche II
Wassily Kandinsky
1910
Sold for \$45,000,000

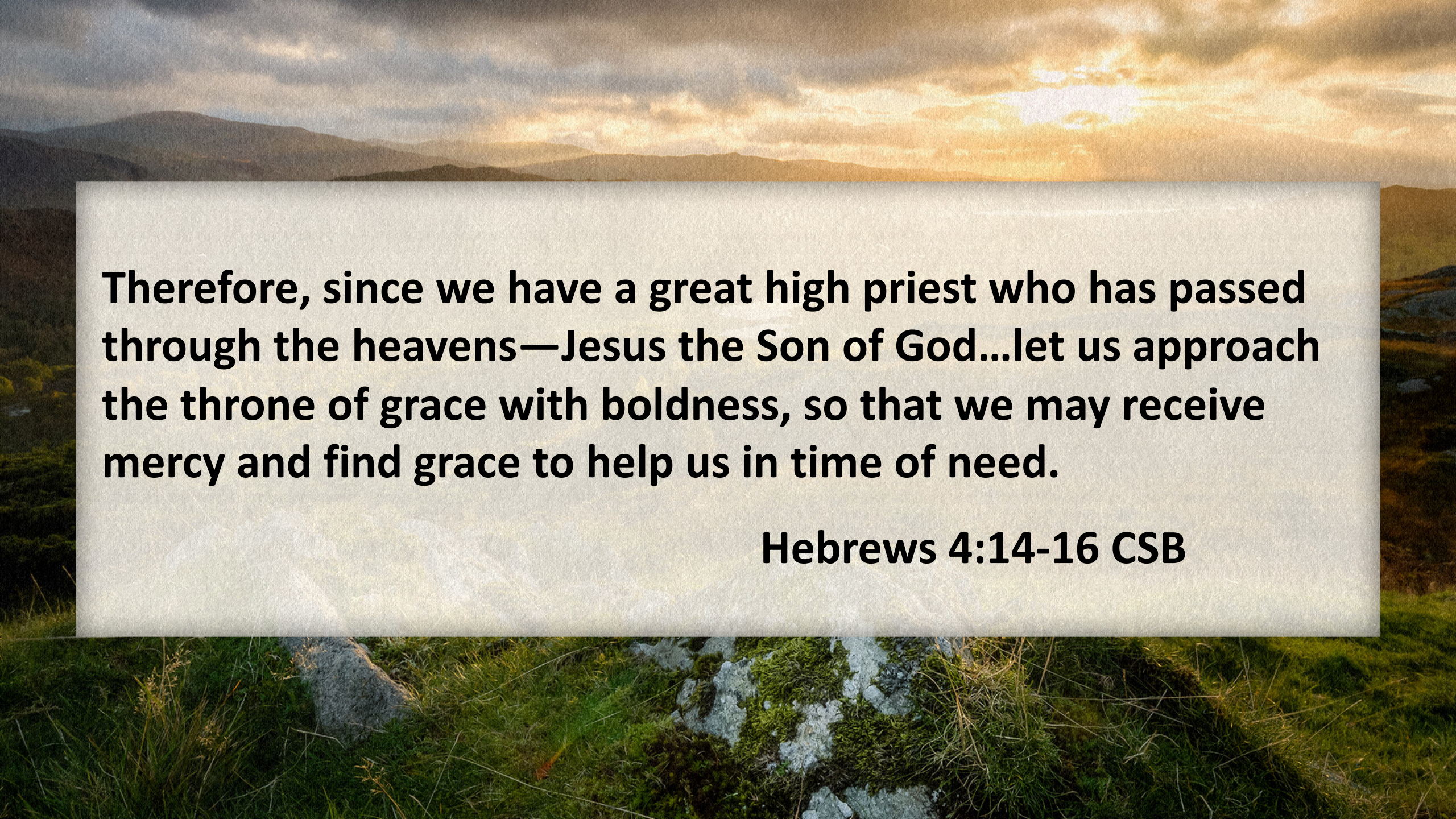
**³² He did not even spare
his own Son but gave him
up for us all.**

Romans 8 CSB

**²⁰ for you were bought at a
price.**

1 Corinthians 6 CSB



A scenic landscape featuring rolling mountains under a dramatic, sunset sky with golden light breaking through dark clouds. The foreground shows green grass and a large, moss-covered rock. A white rectangular text box is centered over the middle of the image.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens—Jesus the Son of God...let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16 CSB

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens—Jesus the Son of God...let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16 CSB

³⁷ Jesus let out a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸ Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ^{CSB}

Mark 15 CSB



© Frazier Harrison/Getty

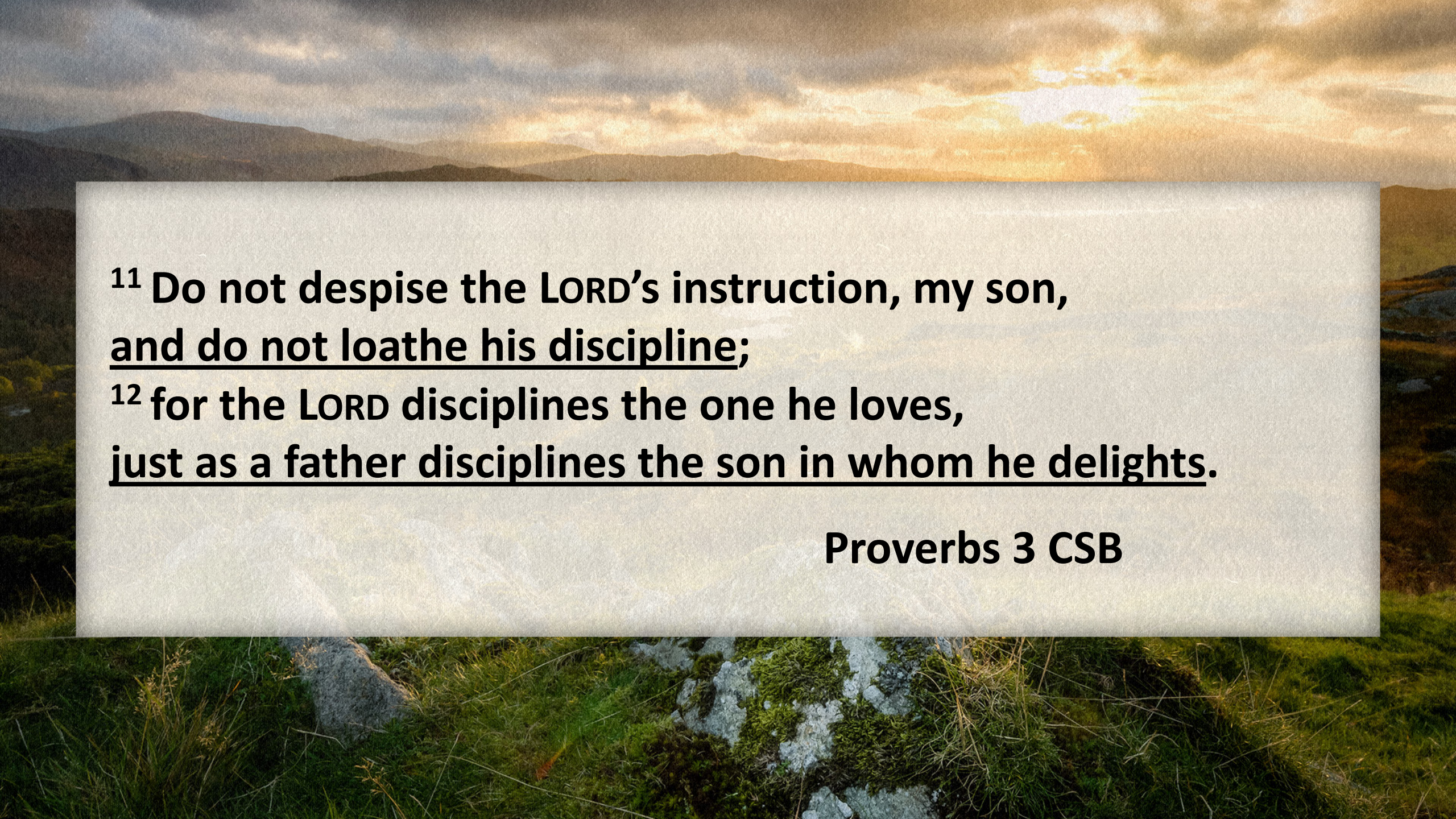


courtesy ABC

The Father is not only holy. He is personal.

- **absolutely committed to relationship**
- **loves unconditionally**
- **gives His very best**
- **grants directs access to Himself**
- **disciplines His children**






**¹¹ Do not despise the LORD's instruction, my son,
and do not loathe his discipline;
¹² for the LORD disciplines the one he loves,
just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights.**

Proverbs 3 CSB



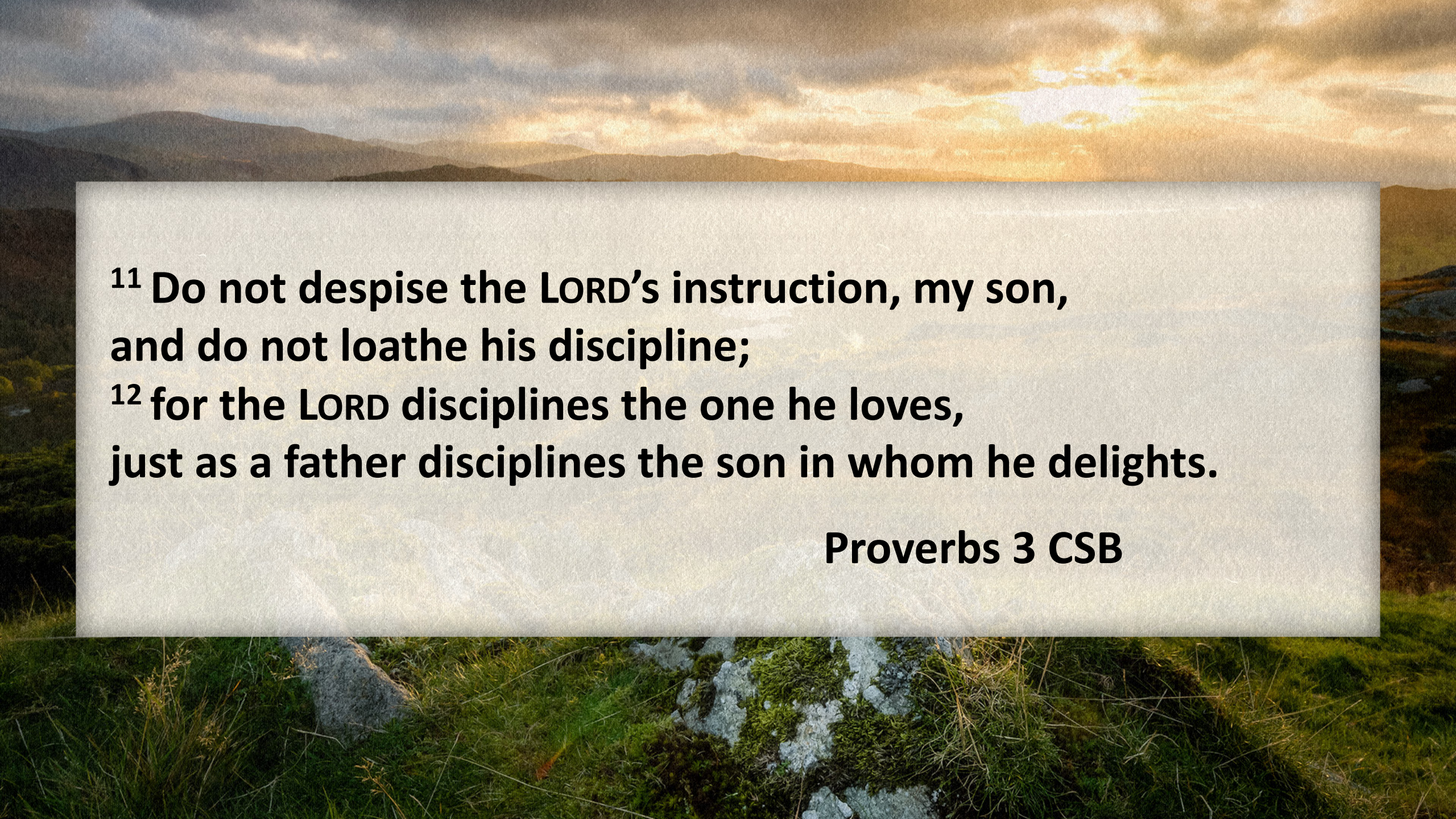
courtesy Lionsgate



**It's hard to
have no Father
at home.**

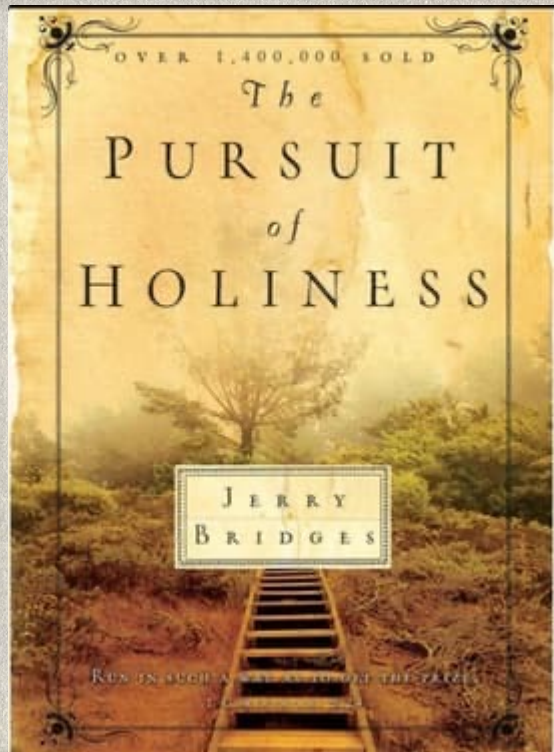
**Sometimes I
wish I had no
father.**

No, you don't.



**¹¹ Do not despise the LORD's instruction, my son,
and do not loathe his discipline;
¹² for the LORD disciplines the one he loves,
just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights.**

Proverbs 3 CSB



He never overlooks our sin. He never decides not to bother, since the sin is only a small one. No, God hates sin intensely whenever and wherever He finds it...because He loves us. — Jerry Bridges, *The Pursuit of Holiness*

27 God wanted to make known among the Gentiles the glorious wealth of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

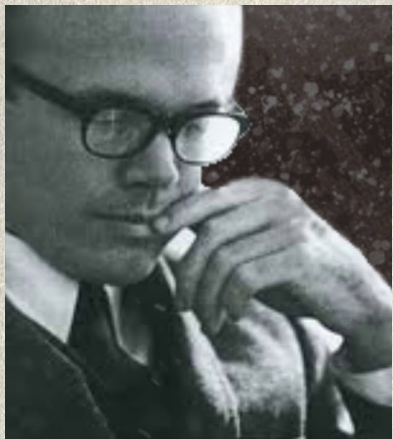
28 We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. 29 I labor for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.

Colossians 1 CSB



God himself tore the veil of the temple in two from top to bottom, thereby indicating that the way into his presence, into the Holy of Holies, is now open for all who will come to him through faith in Christ. [For] those who come...we are first separated to him through Christ, as his holy ones, and then made righteous practically and increasingly as his nature gradually transforms our being.

– James Montgomery Boice, *The Sovereign God*





LIFE

**KENNEDY vs.
CONNALLY**

They Clash
on the Economy

**The
Great
Jesus
Rally
in Dallas**

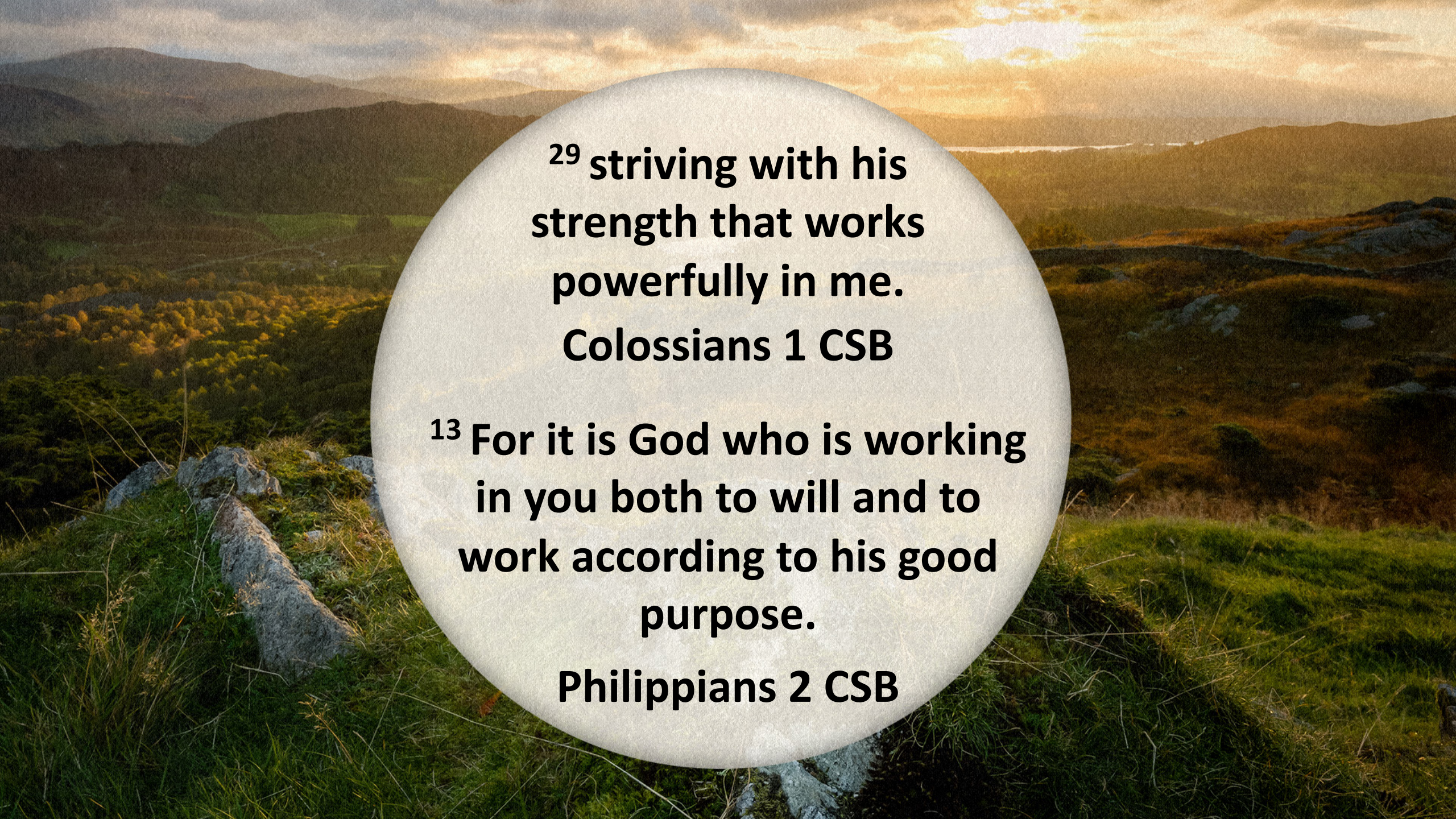
mysterium tremendum*...the hushed, trembling, and speechless humility of the creature in the presence of—whom or what? – Rudolph Otto, *Das Heilige, The Idea of the Holy



29 I labor for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.

Colossians 1 CSB





**²⁹ striving with his
strength that works
powerfully in me.**

Colossians 1 CSB

**¹³ For it is God who is working
in you both to will and to
work according to his good
purpose.**

Philippians 2 CSB



courtesy TRUMPF



courtesy anonhq


28 We proclaim him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. 29 I labor for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.

Colossians 1 CSB

Greek: ἐνέργειαν energean = dynamic power, the energy for getting things done, in the Bible, energeia comes only from God

13 For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose.

Philippians 2 CSB



**We are redeemed community
Doing the Great Commission
By the power of the Holy Spirit
For the glory of God**

Passivity must be addressed. Some say, “God does it all. You simply believe, and the rest is up to God.” No! The folks who teach that may be well-meaning, but they are misled. It is up to God to give us strength. He takes charge and pours His power into us...yet it is up to us to claim it and obey. When we do, His holy will becomes our delight. Remarkably, by walking in His will, we, sinful creatures though we are, experience what it means to be holy – set apart for God’s glory. – Charles Swindoll, *The Mystery of God’s Will*



A central globe of the Earth is shown with a glowing green network of lines connecting various points across its surface. The globe is surrounded by a dense field of glowing green and yellow particles, some of which are arranged in circular patterns, suggesting a global network or data flow. The background is a dark, deep blue with a subtle grid pattern.

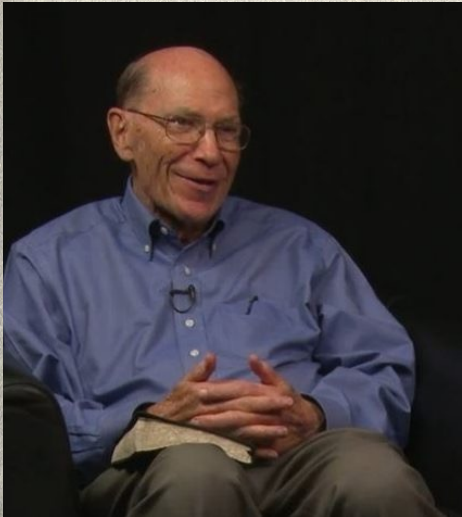
ACTIVATE

— 2022-23 ANNUAL VISION —

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Therefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3 CSB

We need to cultivate in our own hearts the same hatred of sin God has. Hatred of sin as sin, not just as something disquieting or defeating to ourselves, but as displeasing to God, lies at the root of all true holiness...We need to brace ourselves up and to realize that we are responsible for thoughts, attitudes, and actions. We need to reckon on the fact that we died to sin's reign, that it no longer has any dominion over us, that God has united us with the risen Christ in all His power and has given us the Holy Spirit to work in us. Only as we accept our responsibility and appropriate God's provisions will we make any progress in our pursuit of holiness. — Jerry Bridges, *The Pursuit of Holiness*



¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Therefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3 CSB

⁵ Therefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3 CSB



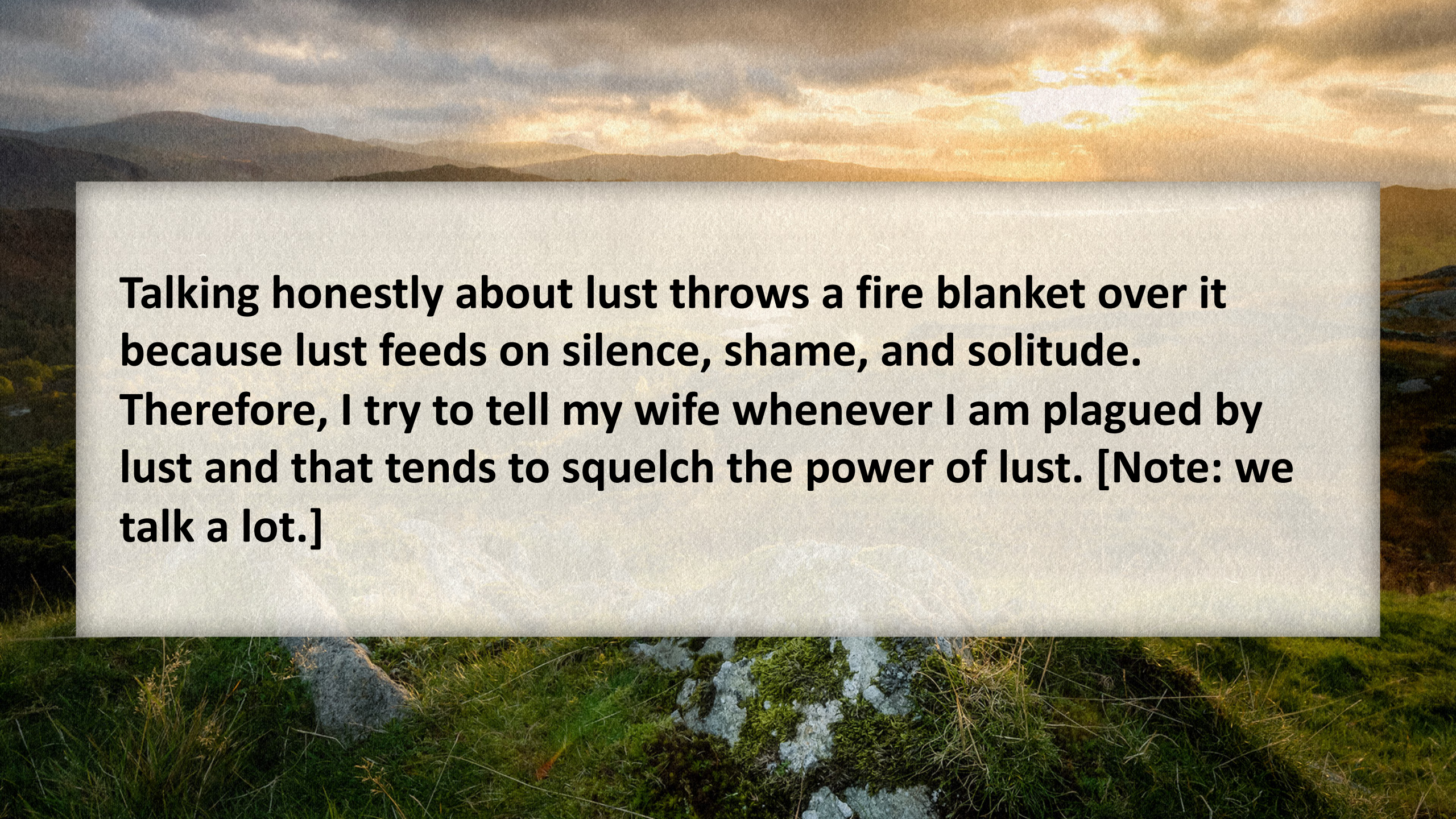


Greed flames up in the presence of insecurity and entitlement. Thus, if remind myself of how I deserve nothing yet receive complete security in Christ's grace, greed loses its allure.

⁵ Therefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3 CSB



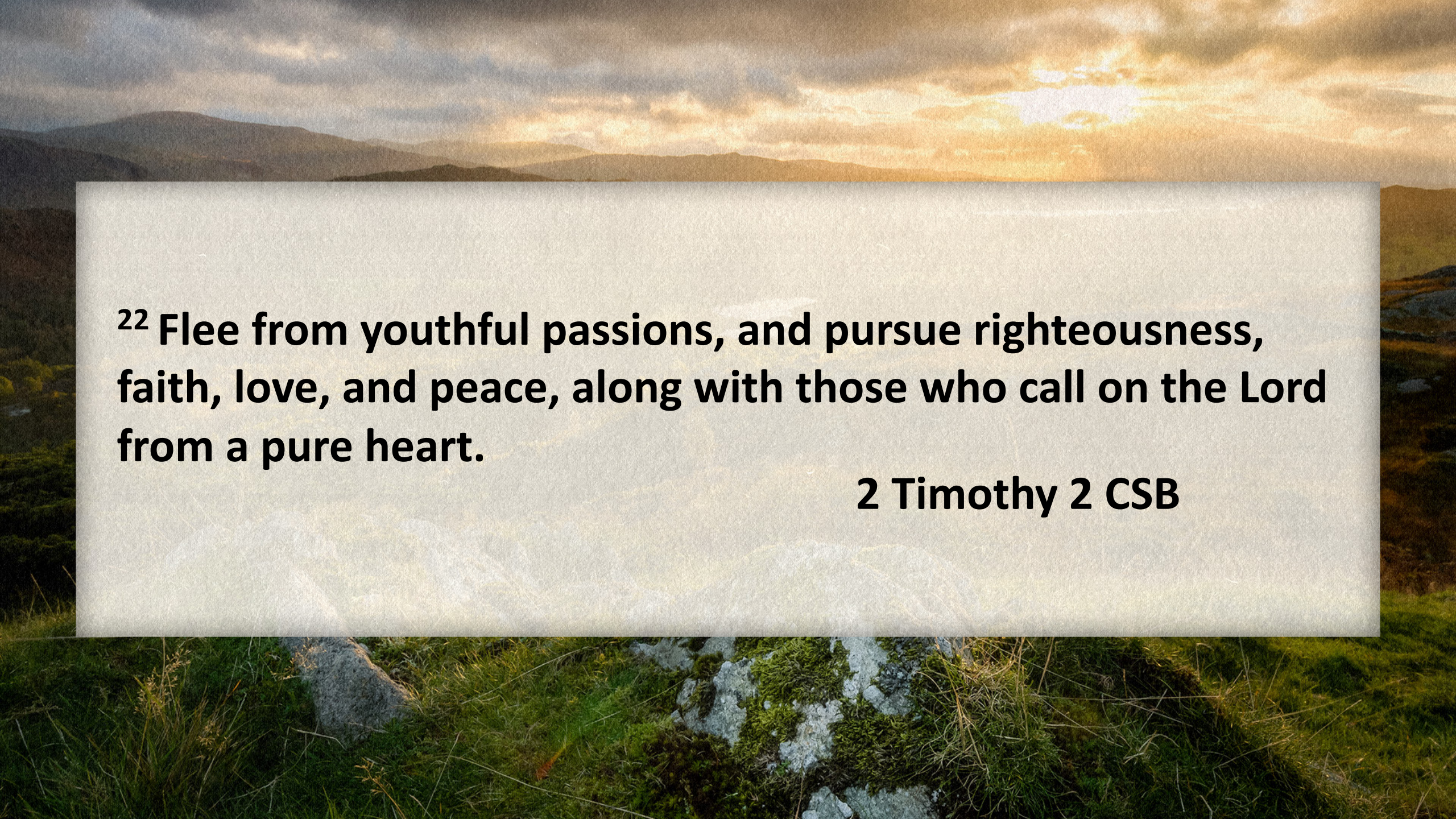
A scenic landscape featuring rolling mountains under a dramatic, sunset sky with golden light breaking through clouds. The foreground shows green grass and a large, moss-covered rock. A white rectangular text box is centered over the middle of the image.

Talking honestly about lust throws a fire blanket over it because lust feeds on silence, shame, and solitude. Therefore, I try to tell my wife whenever I am plagued by lust and that tends to squelch the power of lust. [Note: we talk a lot.]

⁵ Therefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3 CSB



A scenic landscape featuring rolling mountains under a dramatic, sunset-colored sky with golden and grey clouds. The foreground shows green grass and mossy rocks. A large white rectangular box is centered over the image, containing text.

22 Flee from youthful passions, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

2 Timothy 2 CSB



**Jerry Bridges, Howard Hendricks,
Bill McKenzie fishing and talking
about turning that property into a
camp (Pine Cove).**

**25 years later, Bridges & Hendricks
taught me while McKenzie lead
our Sunday school class.**

2 Timothy 2 CSB

22 Flee from youthful passions, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Bill McKenzie's formula for pursuing holiness:

- Does the thought/activity/choice lead me more toward or away from youthful lusts or spiritually immature emotions?**
- Does the thought/activity/choice spur me on toward sanctification?**
- Is the thought/activity/choice empowered by my flesh or by trust in God?**
- Does the thought/activity/choice promote love?**
- Does the thought/activity/choice increase peace?**
- Does the thought/activity/choice draw me closer into healthy Christian community?**

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Therefore, put to death what belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3 CSB

A day is coming when holiness becomes permanent & inherent and sin is abolished.

²⁴ Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Hebrews 10 NASB

