



Courage for a world that challenges our faith

MEN'S MORNING STUDY

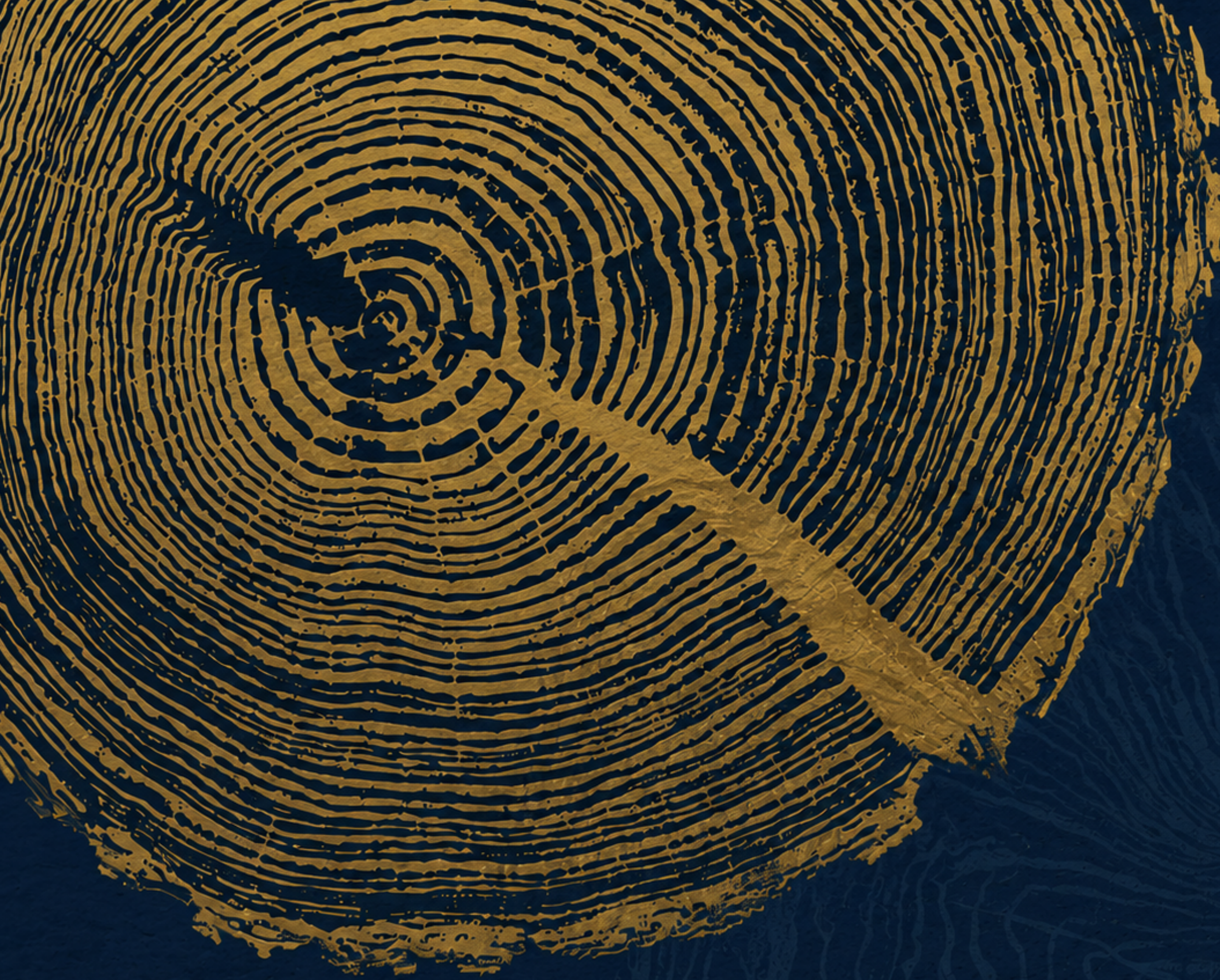
BRAVE *by* FAITH

A STUDY OF DANIEL 1-7

THURSDAYS, JUNE 4-AUG 6 @ 6:30-7:30A
THE LOOP CAMPUS (GARDEN RM)
LEARN MORE AT HOUSTONSFIRST.ORG

BAND OF
BROTHERS
MEN'S MINISTRY

HFBCMen.org



PSALMS FOR THE SOUL

Starting Sept. 10 @ 6:30a

The Story — The Psalm — The Savior — The Soul



Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength. Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil. For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. This is why you must take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand.

EPHESIANS 6:10-13



Faultlines in our Culture

- Identity
- Sexuality
- Marriage
- Truth
- Authority
- What it means to be human



Two Extreme Responses

1) Conformity

- Assimilation
- Silence
- Compromise
- Despair

2) Hostility

- Anger
- Resentment
- Bitterness
- Contempt



Daniel's Response

Resilient Righteousness



Daniel's Response

Resilient Righteousness

- Conviction
- Courage
- Compassion
- Hope



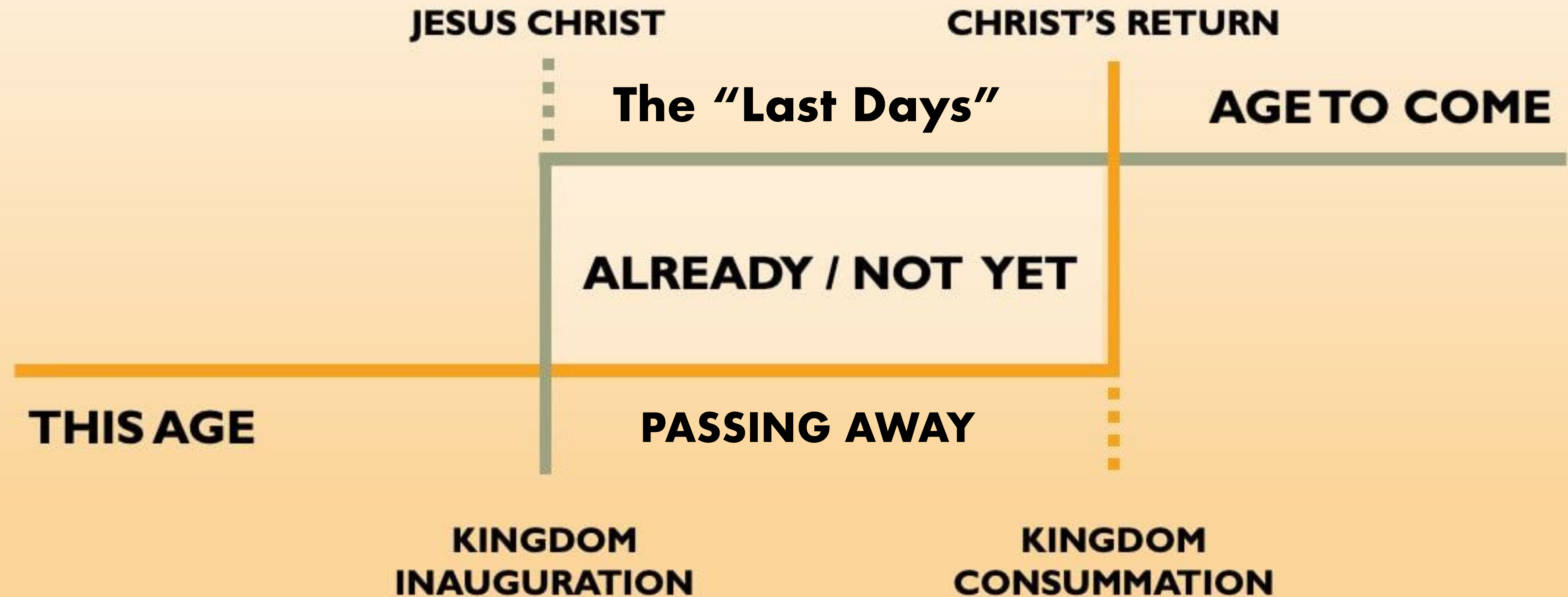
Daniel 1-7 Summary

Chapter	Key Event	Key Truth
1	Daniel & Friends refuse King's Food	Know Your Lines
2	Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of the Great Statue	Keep Your Confidence
3	The Golden Image & the Fiery Furnace	Obey God—Despite Circumstances
4	Nebuchadnezzar's Dream, Humiliation & Restoration	Speak Out because God is Big
5	Belshazzar's Feast & the Writing on the Wall	See Through the Glitter
6	Daniel in the Lion's Den	Serve Well, Stand Firm
7	Daniel's Vision of the Beast & the Son of Man	Take Heart—God Wins!



The Dilemma

The Already, but Not Yet nature of the Kingdom







Faith and Feelings



Our feelings are God-given and very real!



Examples in Scripture

- Elijah on Mt. Carmel and after
- Jeremiah in the city of Jerusalem
- Daniel in the Lion's Den
- Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego in the Fire
- Mary receiving news of being a single mom
- Christ in the Garden



**Our feelings were never designed
to lead our lives!**



Curb



Curb

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Messiah has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father also loves the one born of Him. This is how we know that we love God's children when we love God and obey His commands. For this is what love for God is: to keep His commands. Now His commands are not a burden, because whatever has been born of God conquers the world. This is the victory that has conquered the world: our faith. And who is the one who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 JOHN 5:1-5

For through the law I have died to the law, so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

GALATIANS 2:19-21

Once you were alienated and hostile in your minds because of your evil actions. But now He has reconciled you by His physical body through His death, to present you holy, faultless, and blameless before Him - if indeed you remain grounded and steadfast in the faith and are not shifted away from the hope of the gospel that you heard.

COLOSSIANS 1:21-23



Emotions > Faith



Faith > Emotions



Our FAITH must be rooted
in FACTS!



The Facts

- God is good even when life is painful
- God is present even when He seems distant
- God is faithful even when the outcome is uncertain
- Christ has died for us
- Christ has risen from the dead
- Christ has promised never to leave or forsake us
- Christ has promised to work all things for the good of those who love Him & are called according to His purpose
- Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ



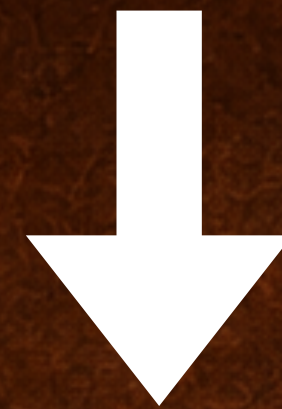
Be Like Daniel...TRUST GOD!

**What I know about God must carry more
weight than what I presently feel!**

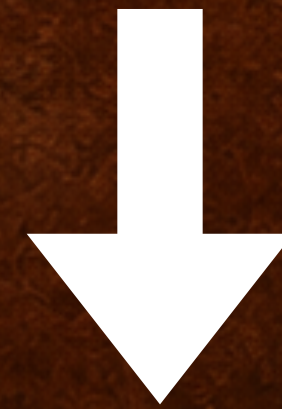


Mature Christian Life

Facts inform Faith



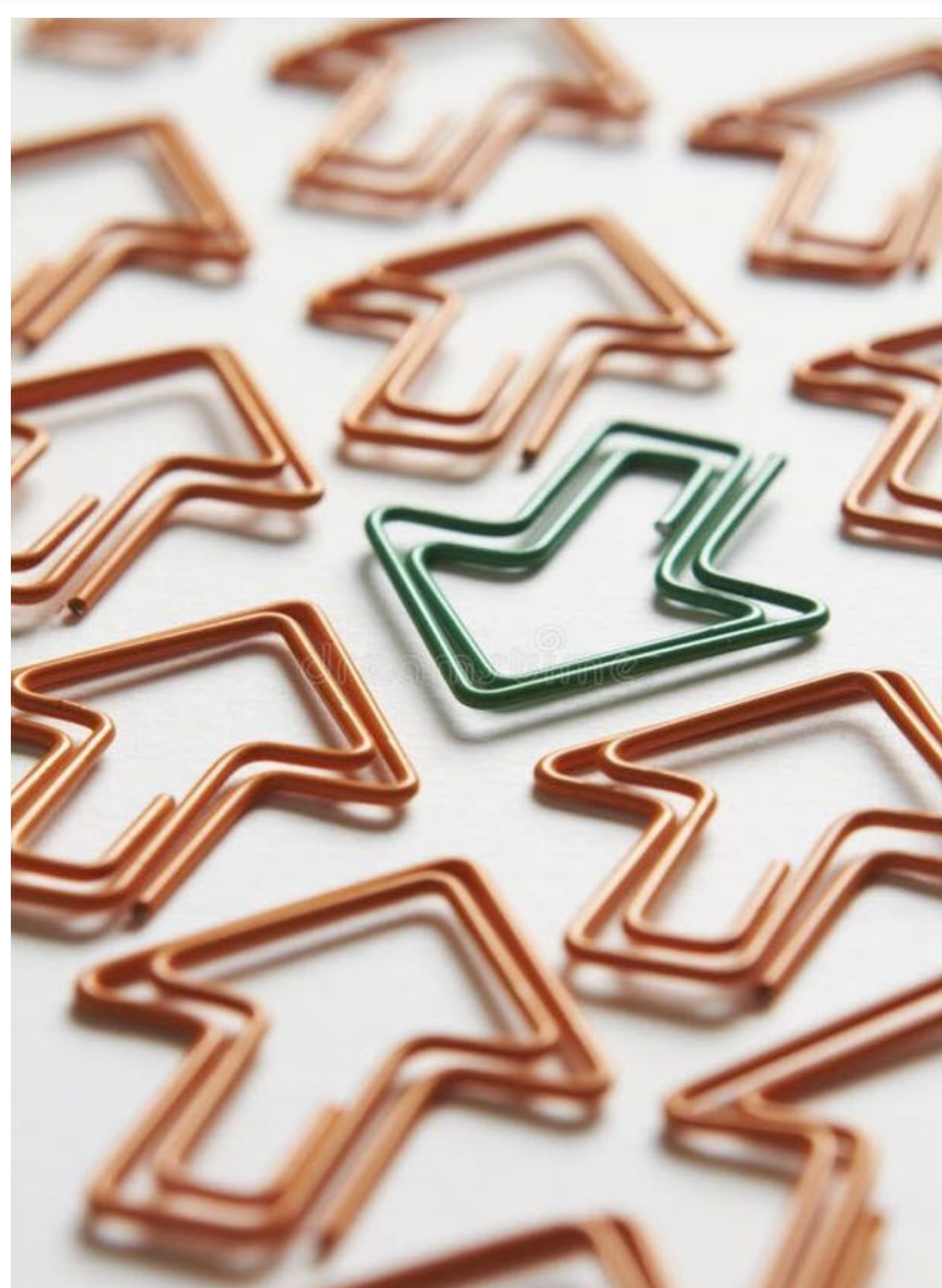
Faith directs Obedience



Feelings are entrusted to God



Faith and Emotions

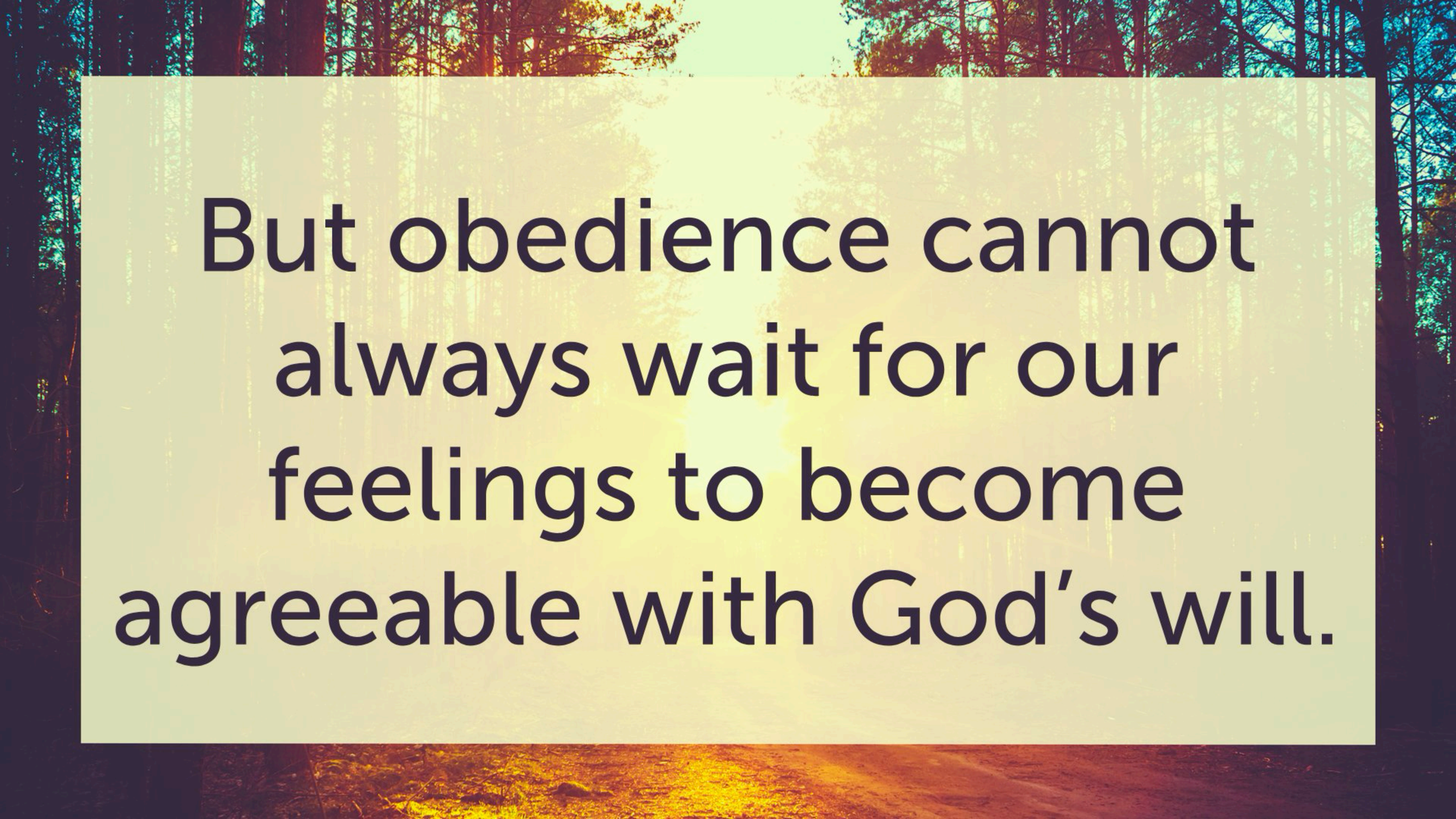




Spiritual Maturity

Sometimes...

- **We obey while still afraid.**
- **We worship while still grieving.**
- **We trust while still confused.**
- **We move forward while our emotions are begging us to turn back.**

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a forest. The path is illuminated by warm, golden light, possibly from the sun low in the sky. Tall, thin trees line both sides of the path, their trunks and branches visible against the bright background. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

But obedience cannot
always wait for our
feelings to become
agreeable with God's will.



**If we are walking in feelings, we are
walking in our flesh.**

**If we are walking by faith, we are
walking in the Spirit.**



Questions to help Faith return to Facts

1. What do I know about God?
2. What has Christ already accomplished?
3. What has God clearly said?
4. What promises remain true regardless of my present emotions?
5. What would obedience look like if my feelings were not controlling the decision?

**...He has given us very
great and precious
promises, so that through
them you may share in
the divine nature,
escaping the corruption
that is in the world
because of evil desires.**

2 Peter 1:4



Confidence

“Con” + “Fides”

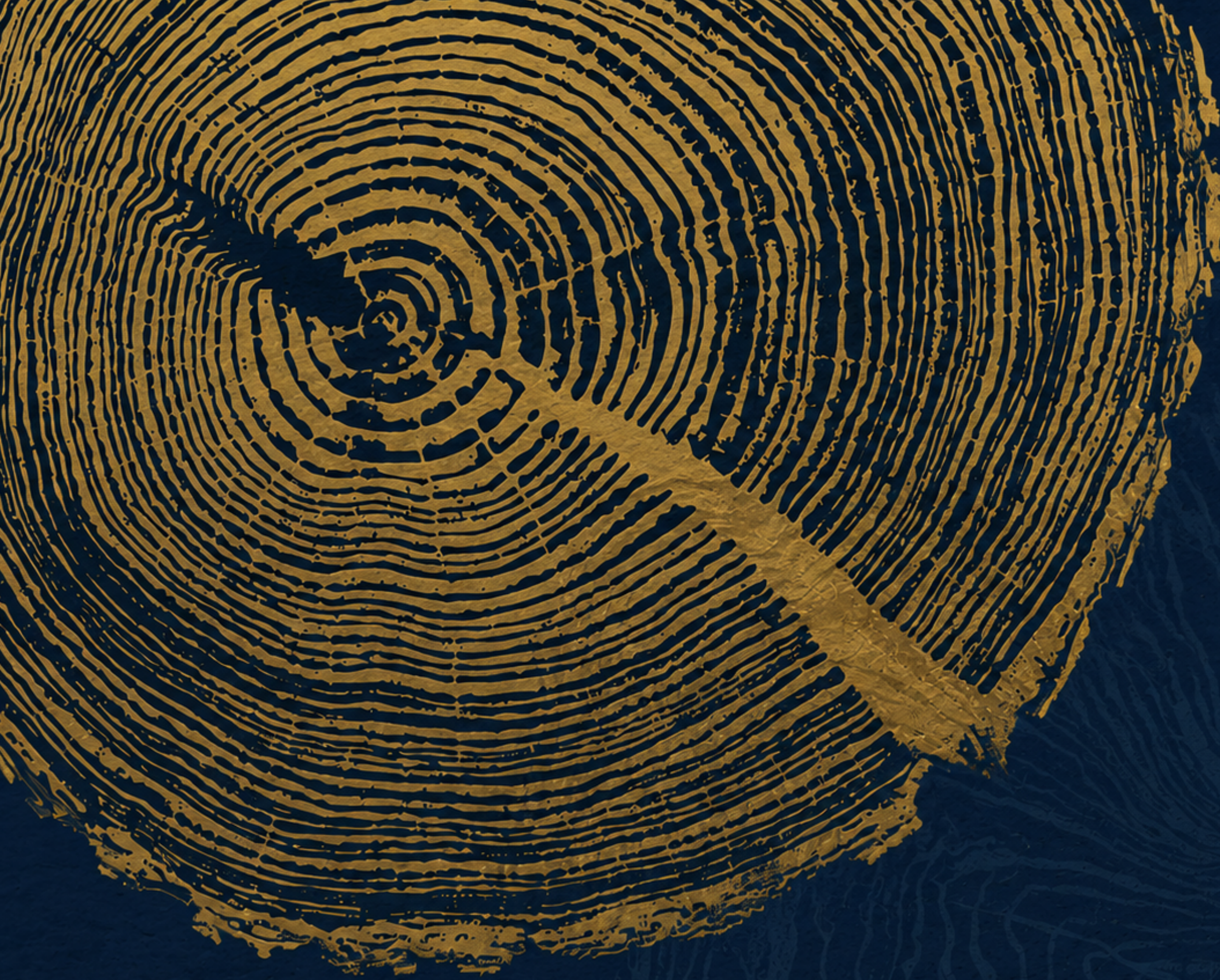
With Faith!!!





Discussion Questions

- 1. As you look at the conflicts between Christian values and the culture, which ones are the most troubling to you.**
- 2. Prov. 29:25 states, “The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe.” In what ways can the fear of man hinder us from living for God’s kingdom?**
- 3. How does Jesus’ reign as “Ancient of Days” motivate you to live bravely for God’s glory in your current life situation?**
- 4. What circumstances do you need to surrender your FEELINGS about by placing your FAITH in the FACTS of the Gospel?**
- 5. What is one thing you would like prayer for?**



PSALMS FOR THE SOUL

Starting Sept. 10 @ 6:30a

The Story — The Psalm — The Savior — The Soul