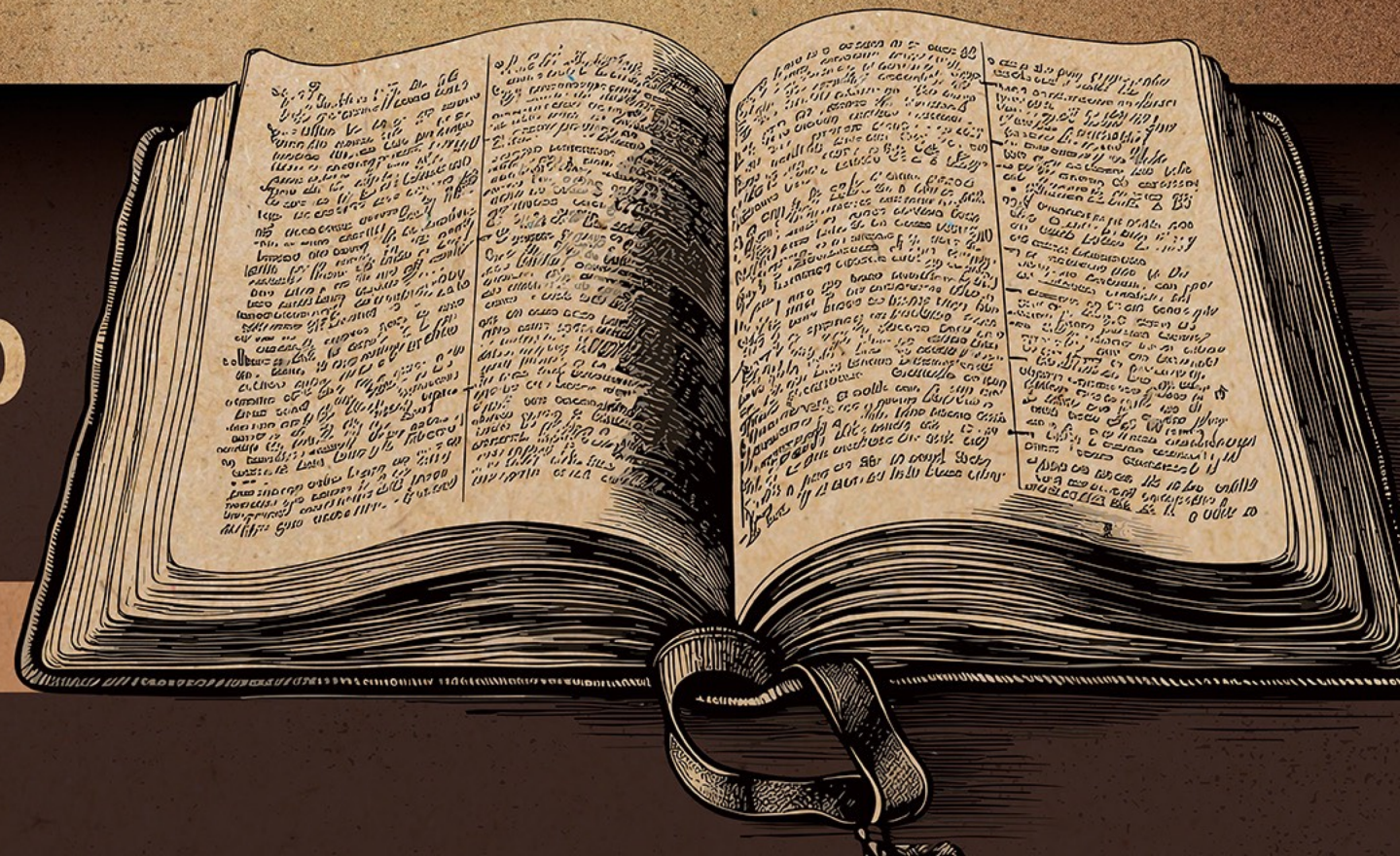


# FORGED BY THE WORD

THURSDAYS, JUNE 5–JULY 31 @ 6:30–7:30A

**LEARN TO READ  
AND UNDERSTAND  
GOD'S WORD**

**MEN'S MORNING STUDY**



Men's Morning Study (Summer 2025)  
**Forged by the Word || Week 1 "The Why and the Heart to Approach the Word"**  
Eric Reed (eric.reed@HoustonsFirst.org)

**What is one thing you learned in the past that you are so glad you learned? Why?**

**Tools of Gospel Transformation:**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Response to the Tools:**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**What is your motivation to read the Word?:**

**What can discourage us from reading the Word? How are we to respond?**

**A Biblical Truth about the Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17):**

- How much of the Scripture is inspired? \_\_\_\_\_
- How much is profitable? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is it good for? \_\_\_\_\_
- Why does it matter? \_\_\_\_\_

**A Good Goal in Reading the Word? Biblical \_\_\_\_\_ + Personal \_\_\_\_\_**

**What should our hearts be like as we approach the Word of God?**

**How to start in your own life with the Word of God:**

- Choose a \_\_\_\_\_
- Choose a \_\_\_\_\_
- Choose a \_\_\_\_\_
- Begin in \_\_\_\_\_
- Shift into \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 119:18 and 1 Samuel 3:10)
- Choose a text a begin to \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ and Share

## Men's Morning Study (Summer 2025)

### **Tips & Pitfalls:**

- Worship Songs?
- Pacing?
- Lingered Worship, Prayer and Word

**“\_\_\_\_\_ leads to life change!!!”**

- Do not be impatient with God's transformation.
- Don't get bogged down when you don't understand.
- Don't feel like you must finish reading a chapter or two all at once.
- Get an overview of the Bible early on.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What has your experience been reading the Bible?
2. What is your current approach to reading the Bible?
3. What are you praying for God to do in your life this summer?

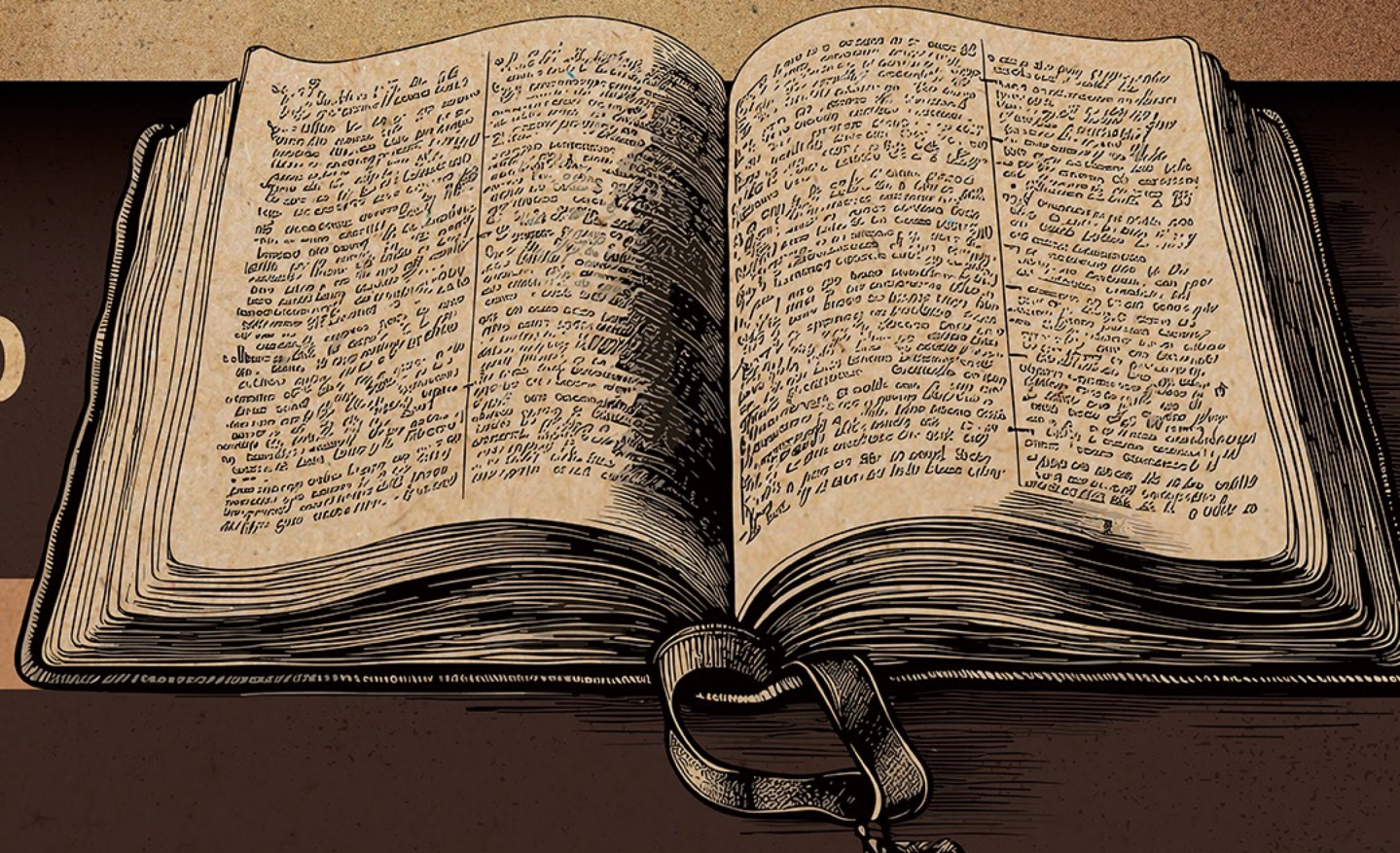
**What is one thing you learned  
in the past that you are so glad  
you learned? Why?**


# FORGED BY THE WORD

THURSDAYS, JUNE 5–JULY 31 @ 6:30–7:30A

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**MEN'S MORNING STUDY**

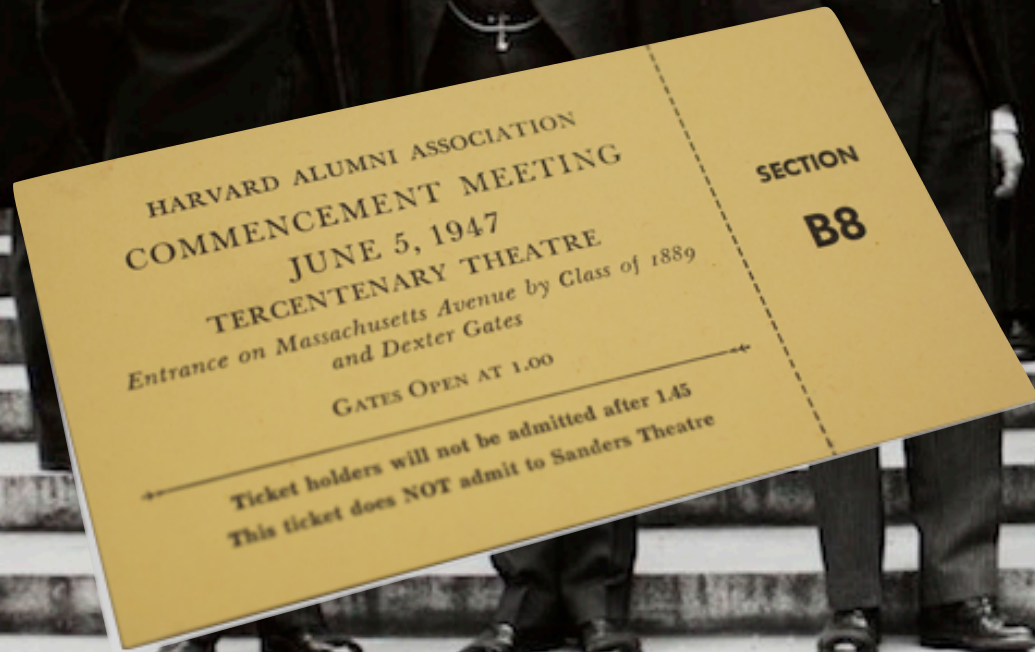


A portrait of General George C. Marshall in a dark military uniform with four stars on his shoulder and several medals on his chest. He is standing in front of a world map. A dark blue rounded rectangle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

**“Organizer of Victory”  
Secretary of Defense**

**Gen. George C. Marshall**

June 5, 1947

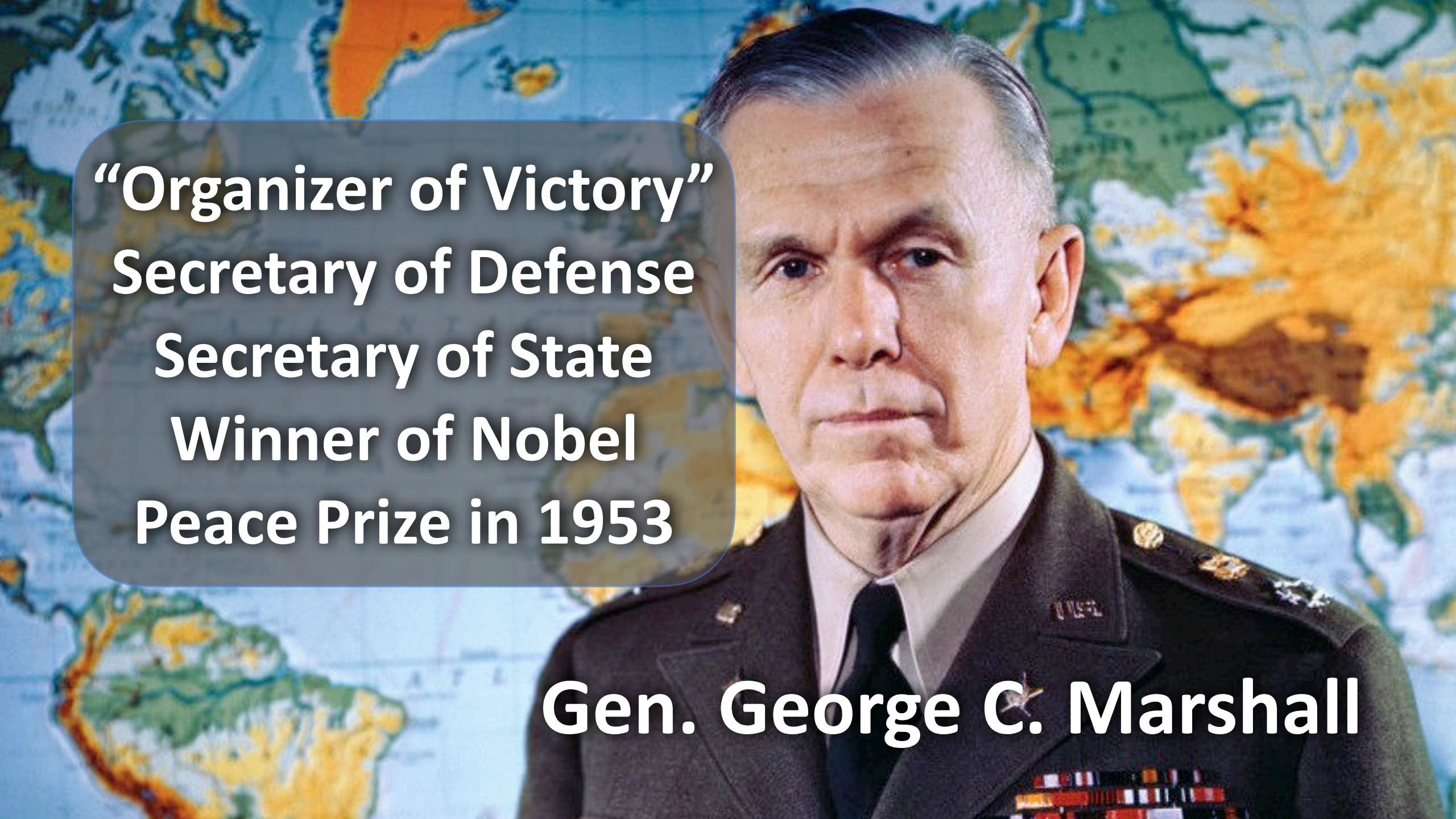




**FOR EUROPEAN RECOVERY**

**SUPPLIED BY THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**





**“Organizer of Victory”  
Secretary of Defense  
Secretary of State  
Winner of Nobel  
Peace Prize in 1953**

**Gen. George C. Marshall**

# The Marshall Plan?

# The Tools of Gospel Transformation

1. The Truth...God's Word

2. The Teacher...God's Spirit

3. The Tribe...God's People

# Our Response to the Tools

1. Time

2.

3.

# Our Motivation?

1. Duty > Defiance
2. Devotion > Duty
3. Delight > Devotion

Take delight in the LORD,  
and He will give you your  
heart's desires.

Psalm 37:4

# Our Response to the Tools

1. Time

2. Transparency

3.

# Our Response to the Tools

1. Time

2. Transparency

3. Turning



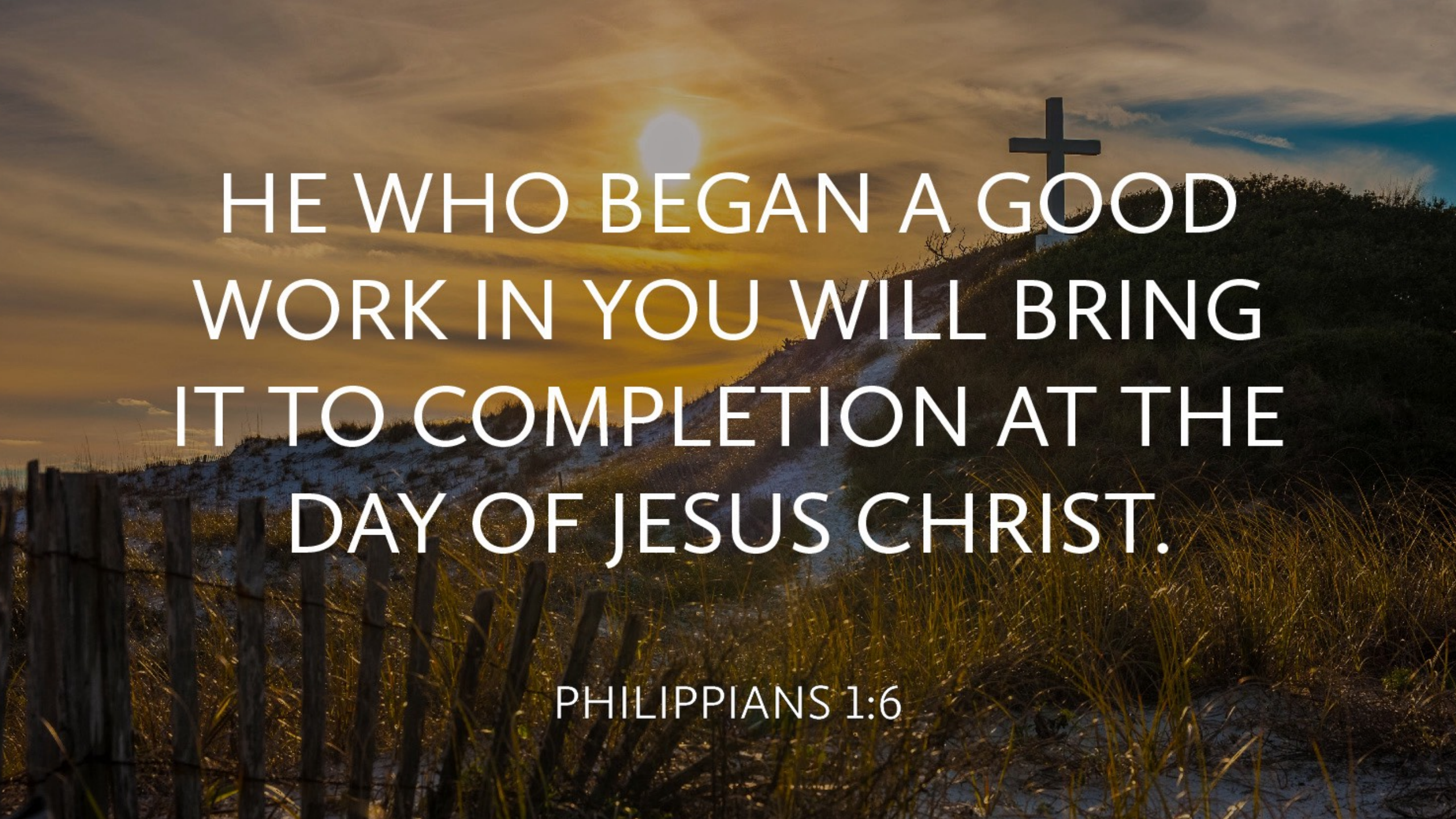
**What can discourage us from  
reading the Word?**

# SIN AND SHAME



# **Sin, Repentance & Celebration**

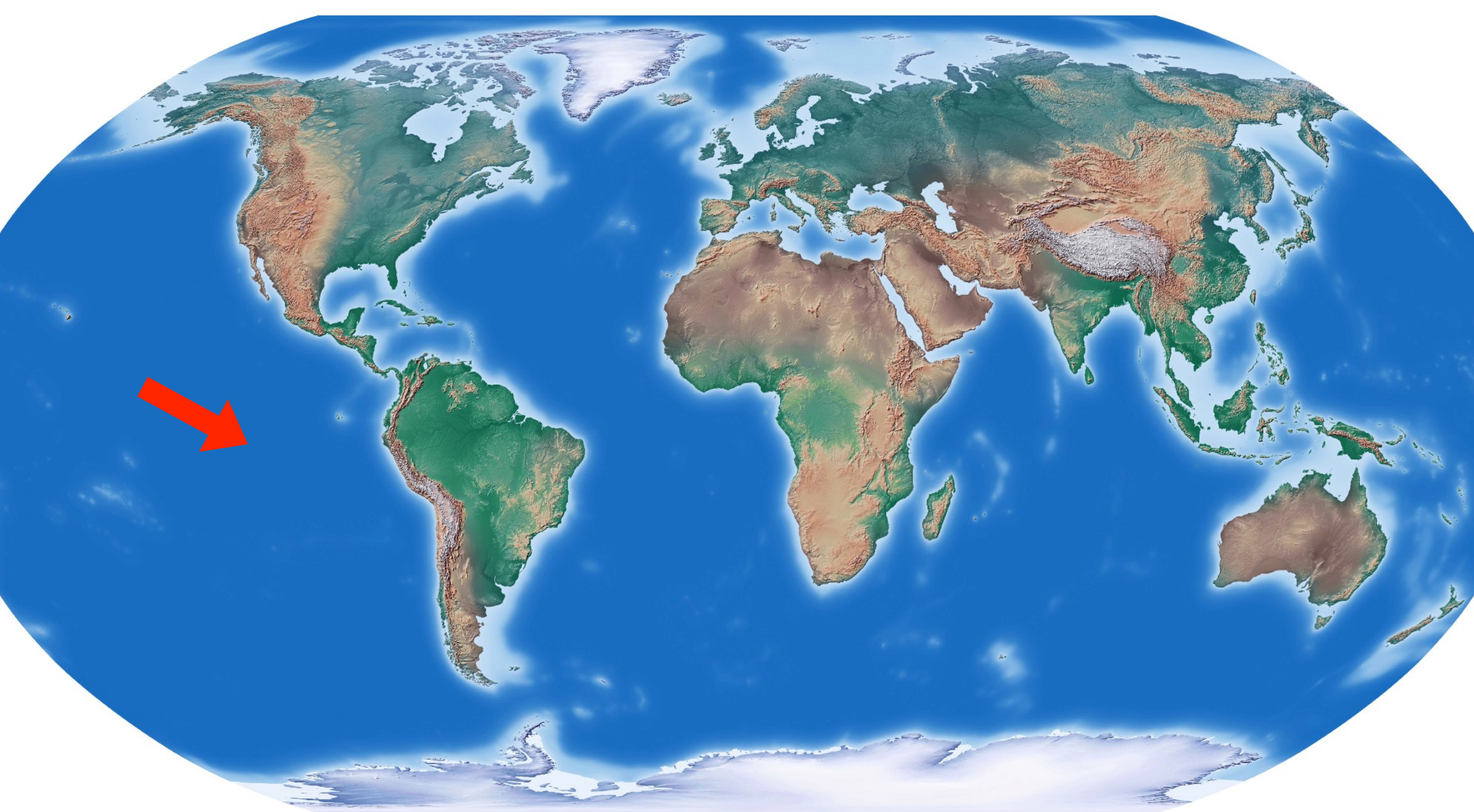
*Repentance is the only response that builds intimacy with the Father since it is the only response that is a move toward Christ and not away. It is rooted in trusting the heart of God.*

A sunset over a grassy hill with a wooden fence in the foreground and a cross on the hilltop. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. The sky is filled with soft, golden light, and the clouds are tinged with orange and yellow. The grass on the hill is dark green, and the wooden fence in the foreground is made of vertical posts and horizontal rails. A simple wooden cross stands on the peak of the hill, silhouetted against the bright sky.

HE WHO BEGAN A GOOD  
WORK IN YOU WILL BRING  
IT TO COMPLETION AT THE  
DAY OF JESUS CHRIST.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6

# The Word





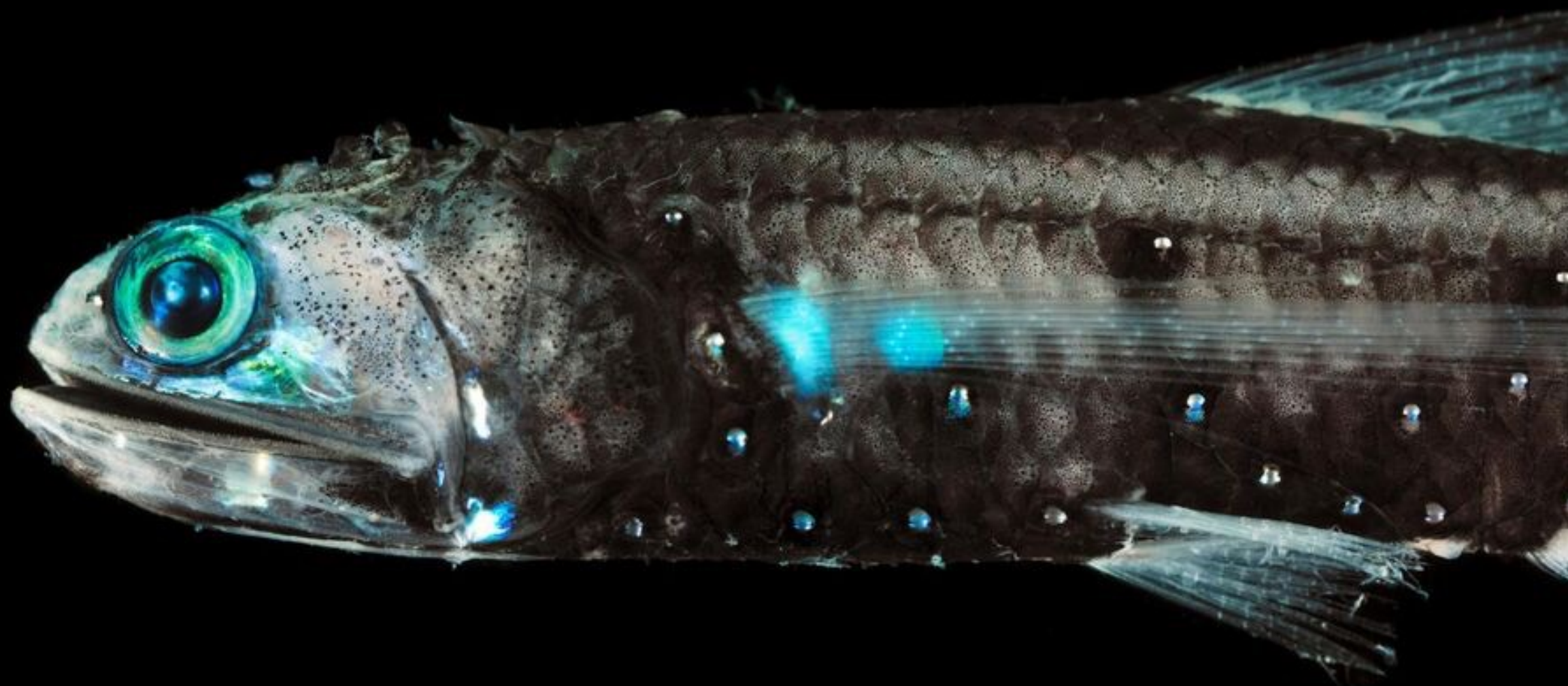












## 2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17

All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work

**HCSB**

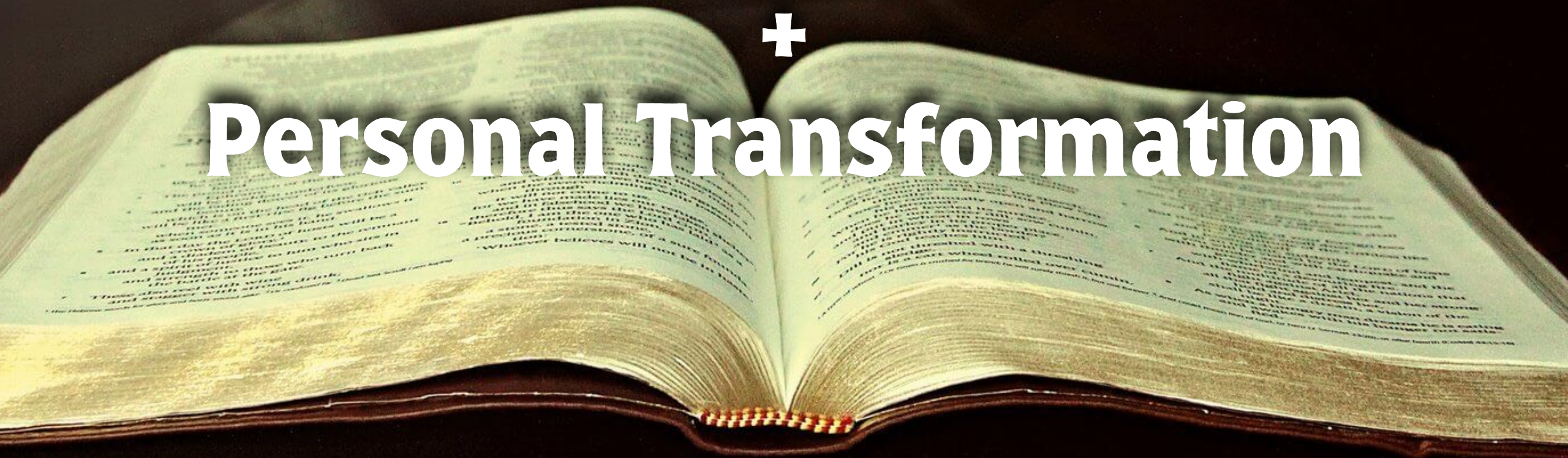
# A Biblical Truth About the Word

- How much of the Scripture is inspired?
- How much is profitable?
- What is it good for?
- Why does it matter?

# Biblical Knowledge

+

# Personal Transformation



# Our Heart Posture toward the Bible?

- A broken and contrite heart. (Ps. 51:17)

The sacrifice pleasing to  
God is a broken spirit. God,  
You will not despise a  
broken and humbled heart.

PSALM 51:17

# Our Heart Posture toward the Bible?

- A broken and contrite heart. (Ps. 51:17)
- A heart that worships Him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:23-24)

“But an hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. Yes, the Father wants such people to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

**JOHN 4:23-24**

# Our Heart Posture toward the Bible?

- A broken and contrite heart. (Ps. 51:17)
- A heart that worships Him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:23-24)
- A heart of humility. (James 4:6)

But He gives greater grace.

Therefore He says: “God  
resists the proud, but gives  
grace to the humble.

**James 4:6**

# Our Heart Posture toward the Bible?

- A broken and contrite heart. (Ps. 51:17)
- A heart that worships Him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:23-24)
- A heart of humility. (James 4:6)
- A heart of obedience. (James 1:22-23)

But be doers of the word  
and not hearers only,  
deceiving yourselves.

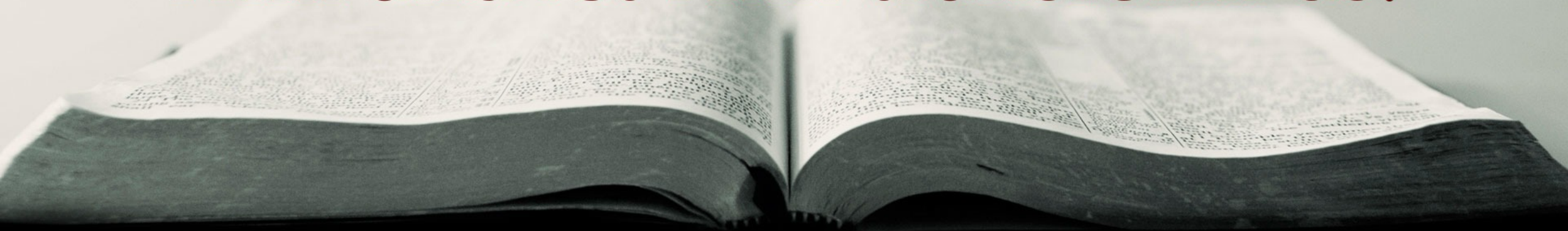


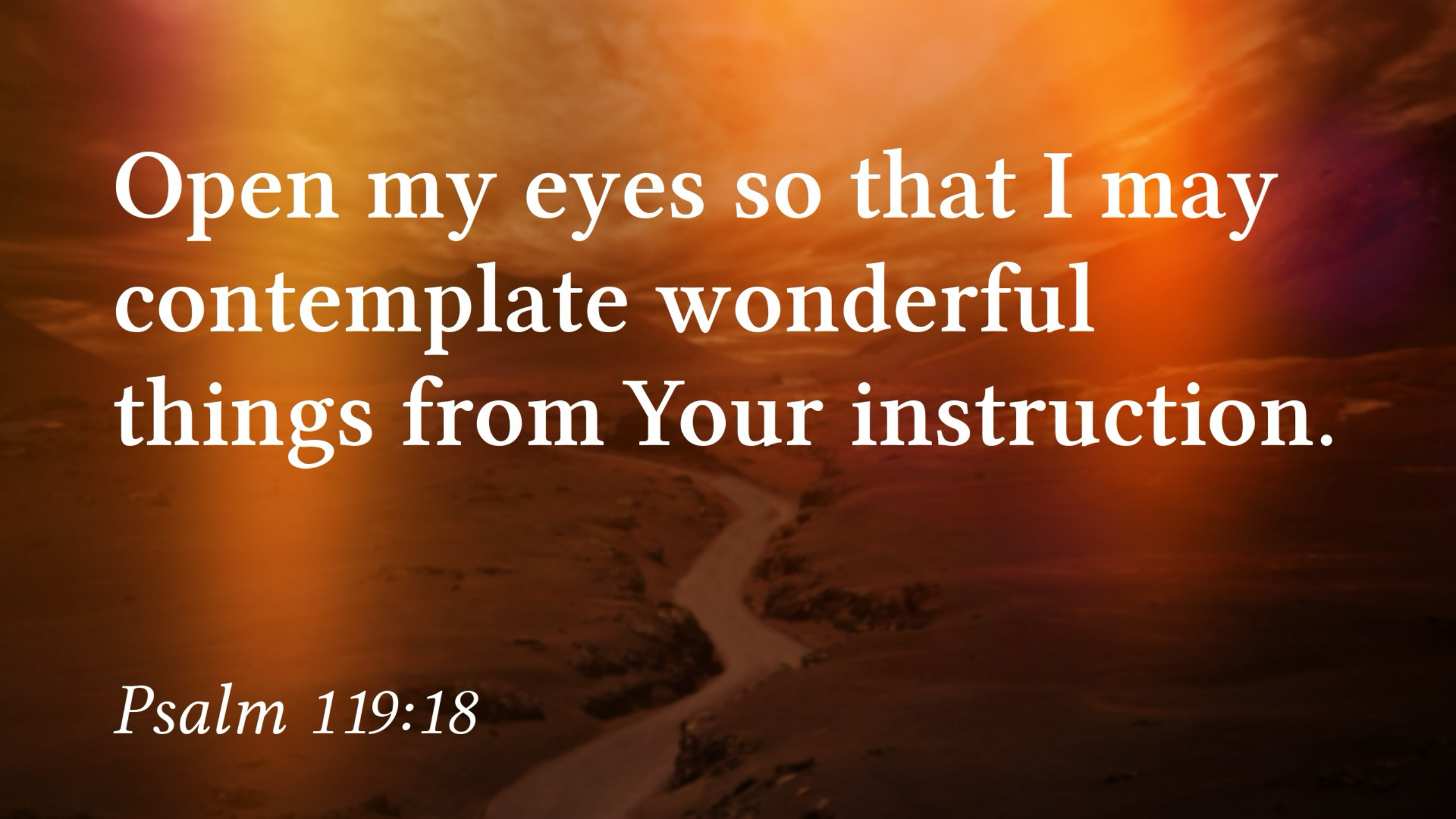
**JAMES 1:22**

# Where to Start in Your life with the Word?

1. Choose a time
2. Choose a place
3. Choose a passage
4. Begin in stillness
5. Shift into Prayer
6. Read
7. Write & Share

We read the Bible to spend time with Jesus! Don't come to the text in order to get something from God. Come to the text to encounter Him and let Him transform us!





Open my eyes so that I may  
contemplate wonderful  
things from Your instruction.

*Psalm 119:18*

# SPEAK

FOR YOUR SERVANT HEARS

1 SAMUEL 3:10



# Tips and Pitfalls

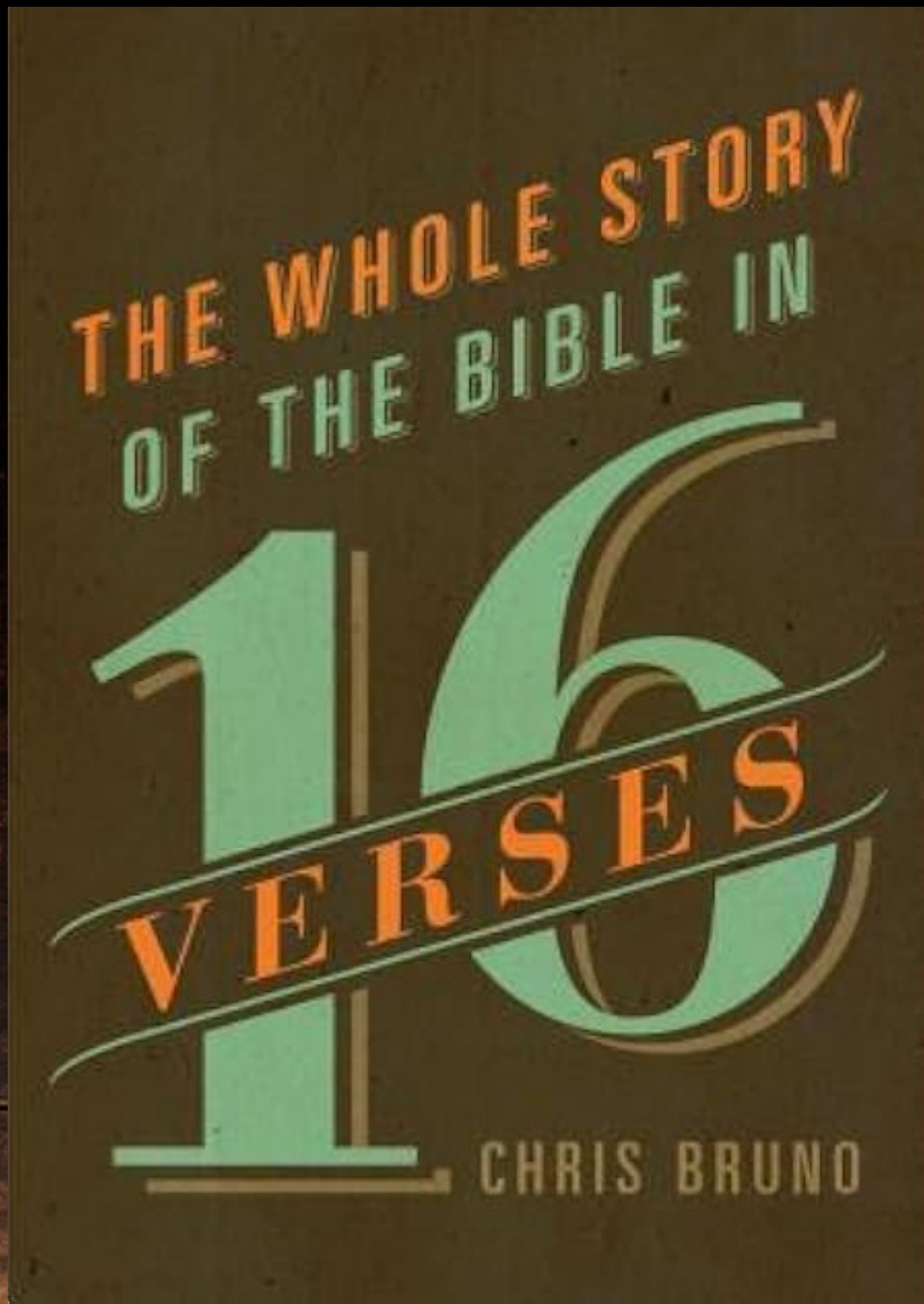
- Worship Songs?
- Pacing?
- Lingering Worship,  
Prayer and Word

Lingering leads  
to life change.



# Tips and Pitfalls Continued

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- Don't get bogged down when you don't understand.
- Don't feel like you have to finish a chapter or two all at once.
- Get an overview of the Bible early on.



***The Whole Story of  
the Bible in 16 Verse***  
By Chris Bruno

# Q&A

# Discussion

1. What has your experience been reading the Bible?
2. What is your current approach to reading the Bible?
3. What are you praying for God to do in your life this summer?