



THE *Blessed* LIFE

A Poverty Spirit

The background of the image is a dark, teal-colored water splash. The water is captured in a dynamic, mid-air state, with numerous droplets and splashes of varying sizes. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the edges of the water droplets and creating a sense of movement and energy. The overall tone is somber and contemplative, which complements the title 'A Poverty Spirit'.

Poverty Spirit

- Money
- Emotionally, Relationally, Spiritually



Poverty

- Lack of money (resources)
- Inferiority
- Poorness

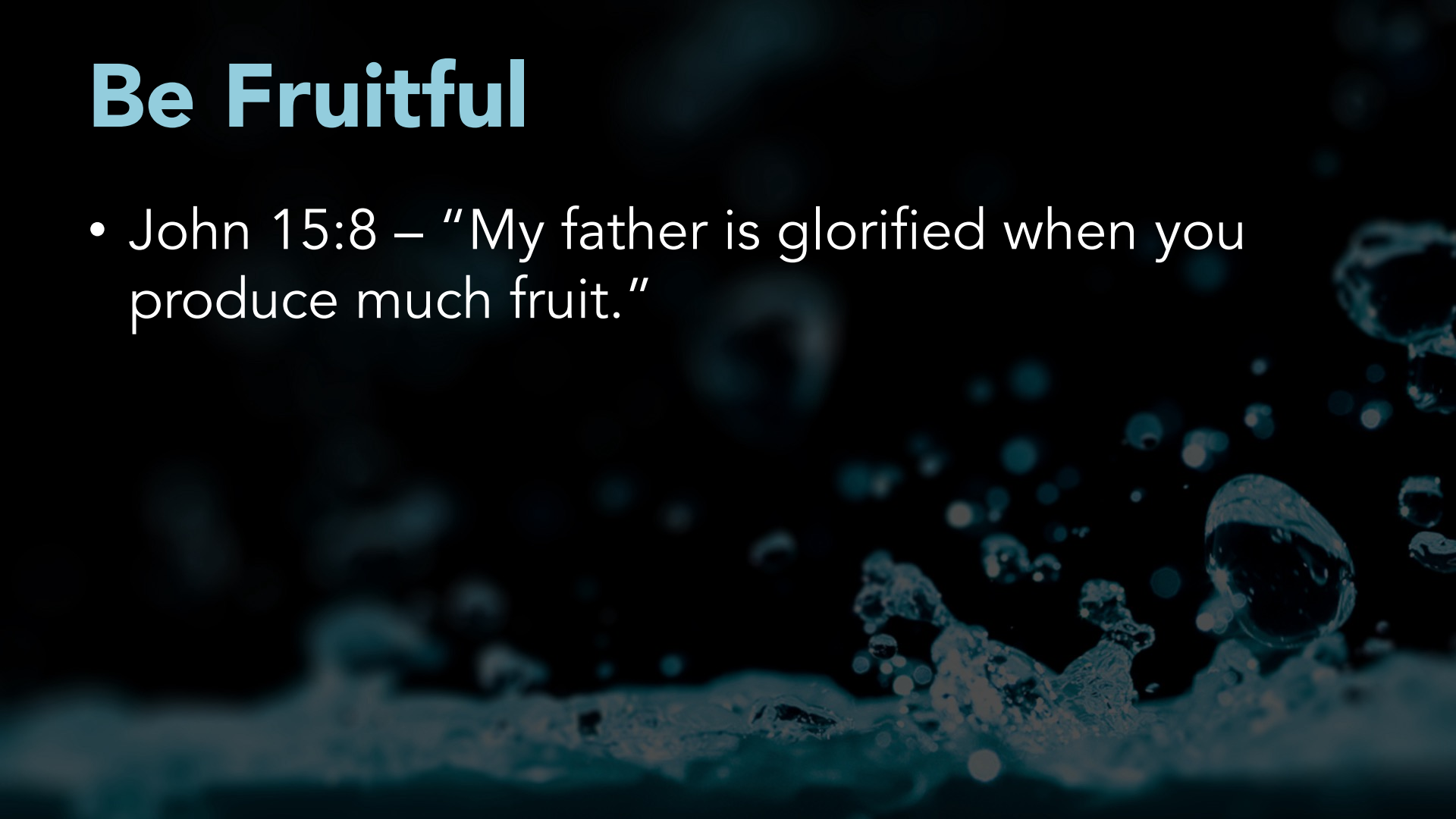


Impooverish

- To cause to become poor
- To exhaust the natural strength or fertility of soil

Be Fruitful

- John 15:8 – “My father is glorified when you produce much fruit.”

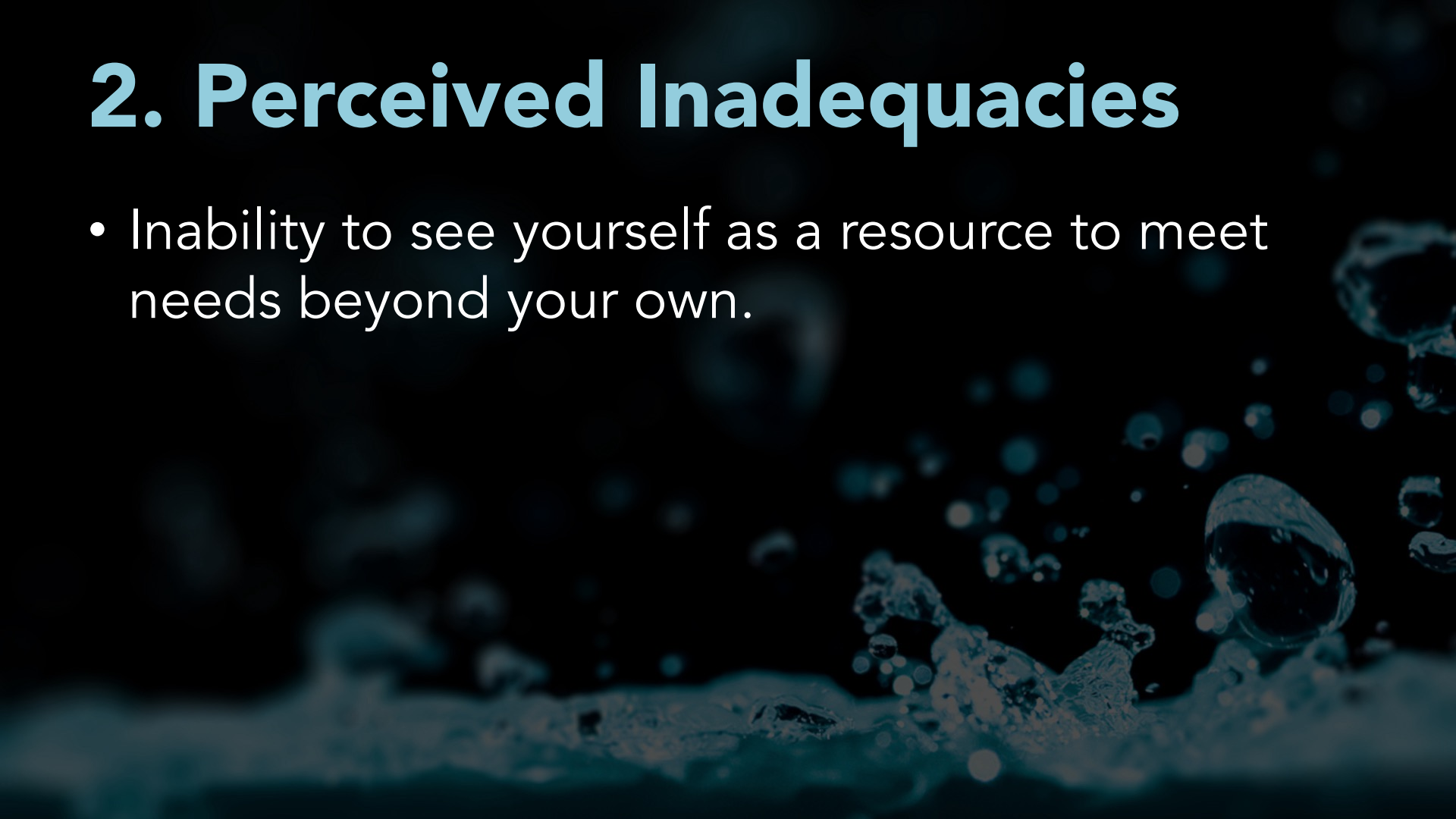


1. Inferiority

- You're not good enough.
- Proverbs 23:7 – "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he."

2. Perceived Inadequacies

- Inability to see yourself as a resource to meet needs beyond your own.



3. Limited Vision

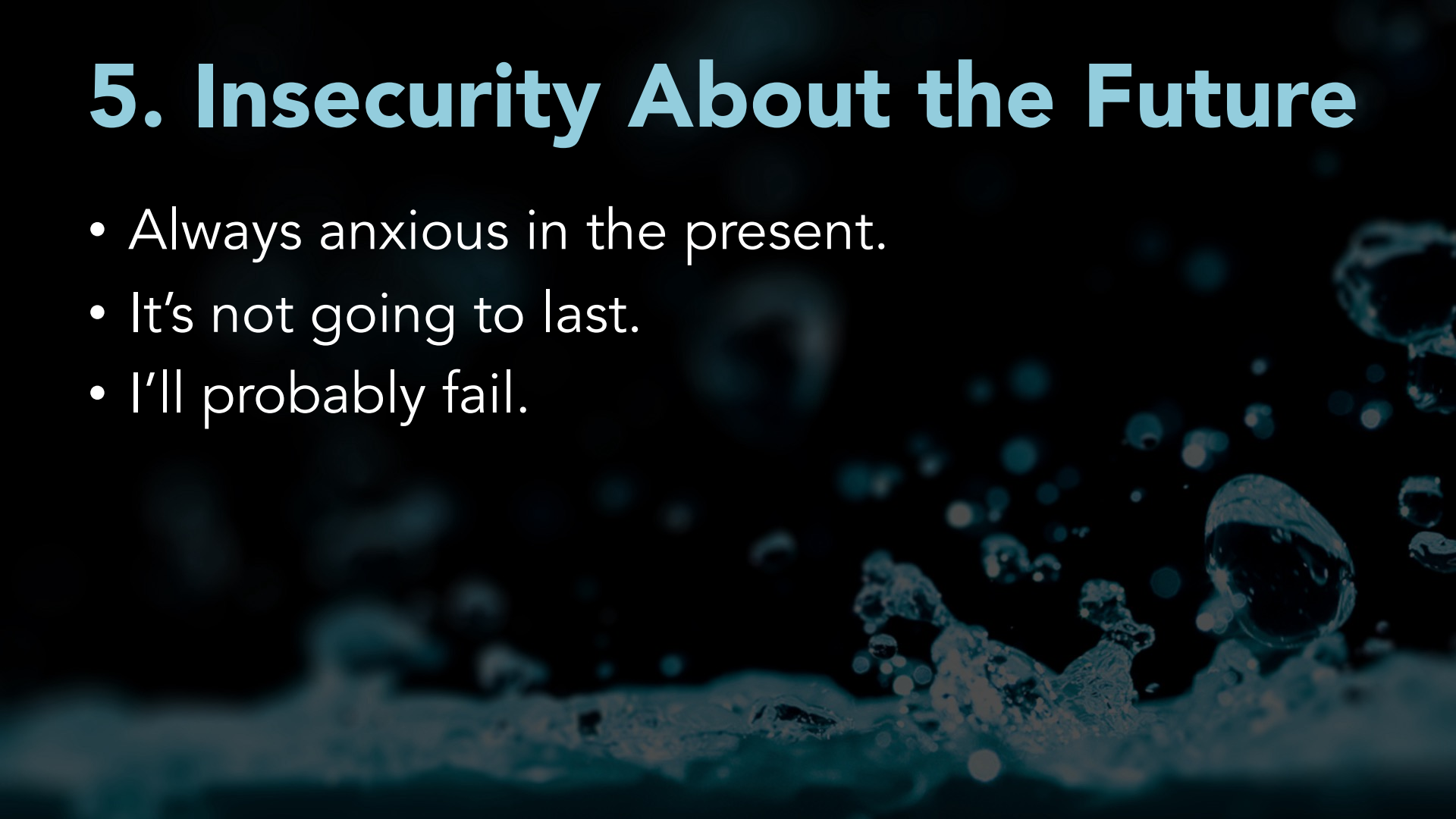
- No vision for more.
- 2 Cor. 9:8 – “And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed.”

4. Hoarding Mentality

- Driven to accumulate more than you need in the present, because of a fear of lack in the future.
- Extreme
- Proverbs 11:25 – “A generous man will prosper. He who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.”

5. Insecurity About the Future

- Always anxious in the present.
- It's not going to last.
- I'll probably fail.



6. Hopelessness

- We serve the God of all hope.
- There's no such thing as a hopeless situation.
- Jeremiah 29:11 – “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

7. Victim Mentality

- Keeps people from seeking solutions to their predicament.
- Refuse to be a victim anymore.
- You can choose.

1 Kings 17:1-18

¹ Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."

² Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah:

³ "Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁴ You will drink from

1 Kings 17:1-18 [continued]

the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you there.”⁵ So he did what the Lord had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there.⁶ The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.⁷ Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land.

1 Kings 17:1-18 [continued]

⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to him: ⁹ "Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food." ¹⁰ So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?"

1 Kings 17:1-18 [continued]

¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread." ¹² "As surely as the Lord your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread – only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it – and die." ¹³ Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you

1 Kings 17:1-18 [continued]

have said. But first make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.

¹⁴ For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord gives rain on the land.' ¹⁵ She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for

1 Kings 17:1-18 [continued]

Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶ For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah. ¹⁷ Some time later the son of the woman who owned the house became ill. He grew worse and worse, and finally stopped breathing. ¹⁸ She said to Elijah, "What do you have against me, man of God? Did you come to remind me of my sin and kill my son?"

Elijah

- He wasn't picky about the way God provided for him.
- He was open to change.

Widow

- She didn't see herself as a resource.
- 1 Kings 17:12 – "I don't have a single piece of bread."
- How do you see yourself?
- 2 Cor. 3:6 – "able minister"



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