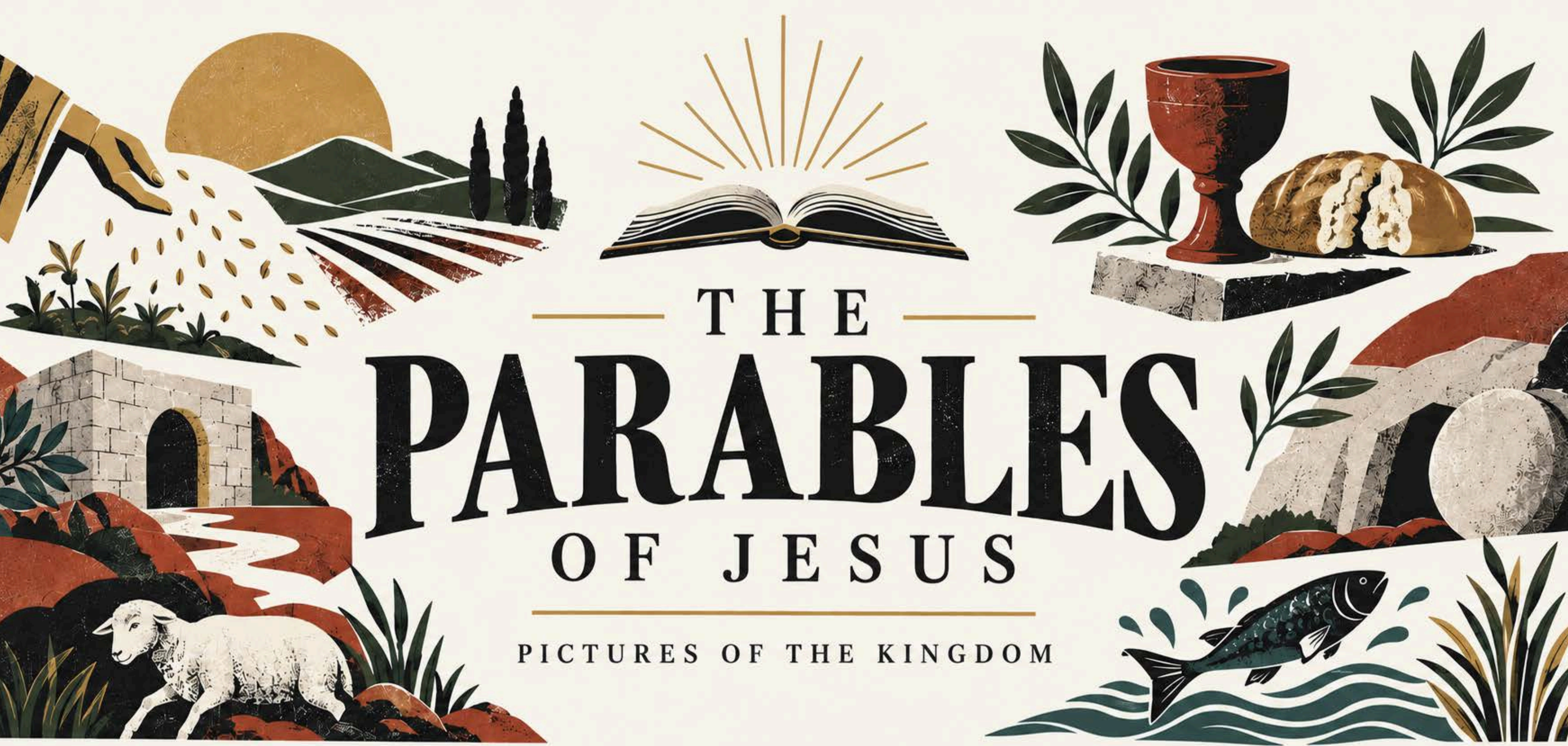




THE

PARABLES

OF JESUS

PICTURES OF THE KINGDOM







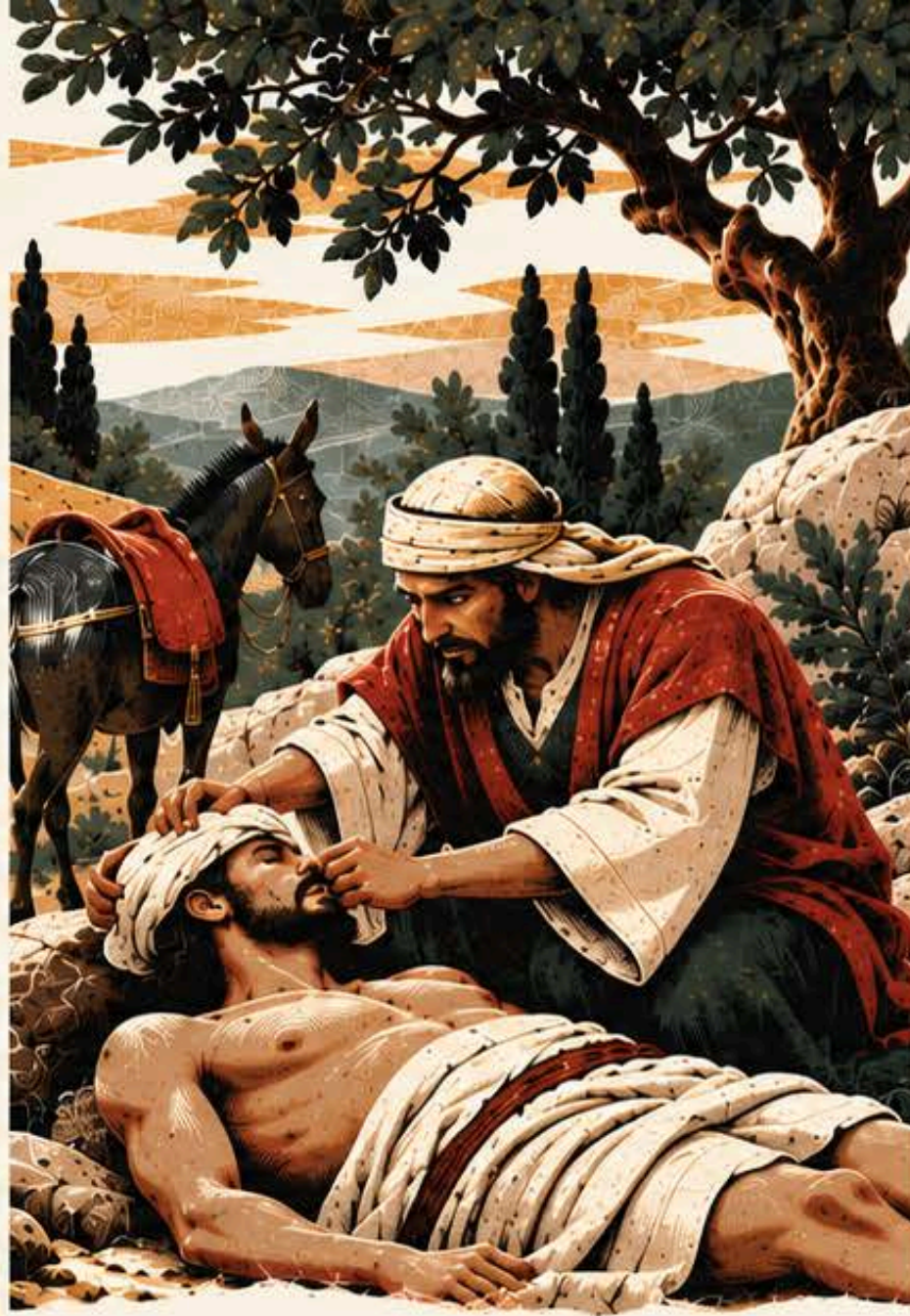




THE PRODIGAL SON

INHERITANCE

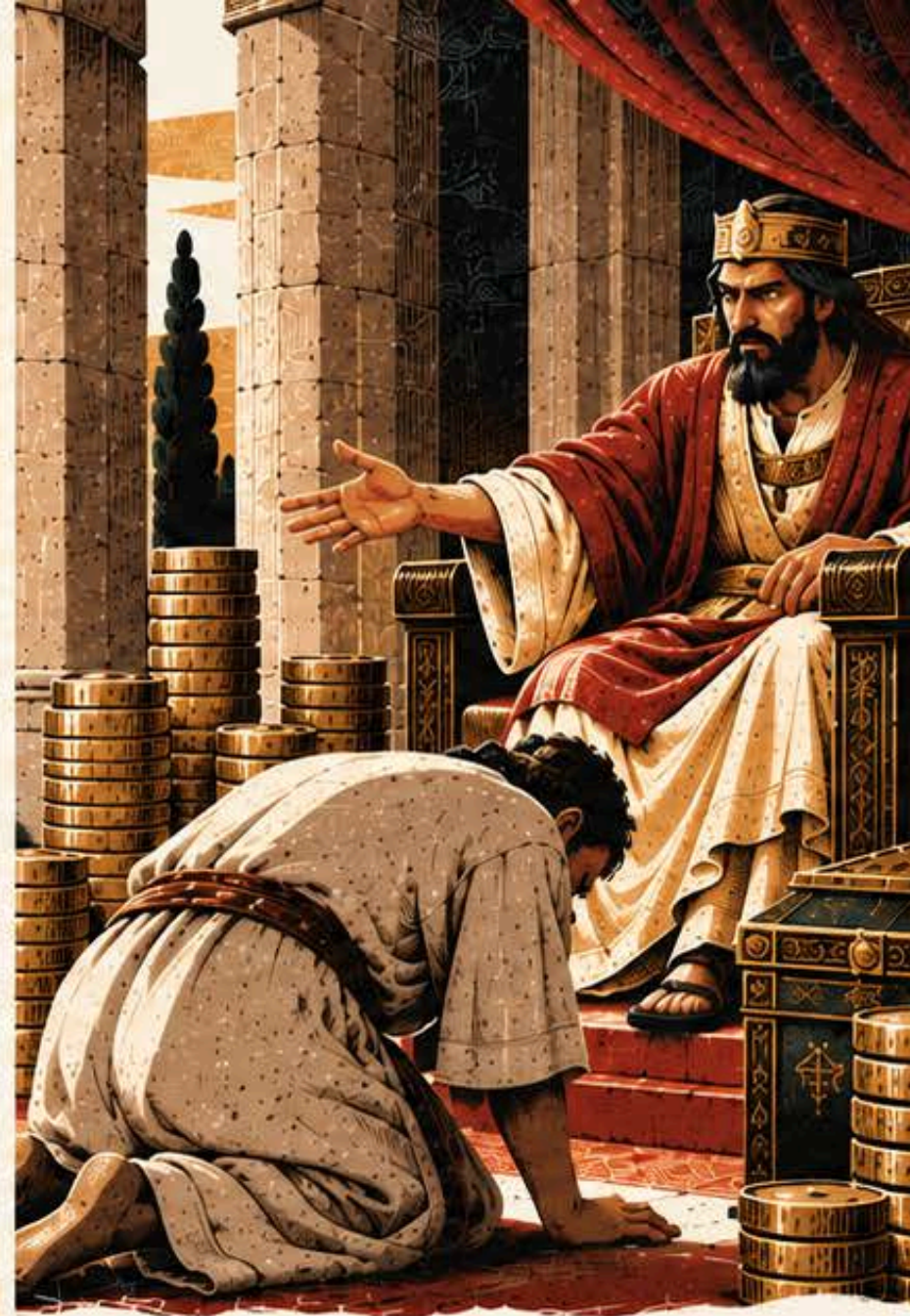
LUKE 15:11-32



THE GOOD SAMARITAN

GENEROSITY

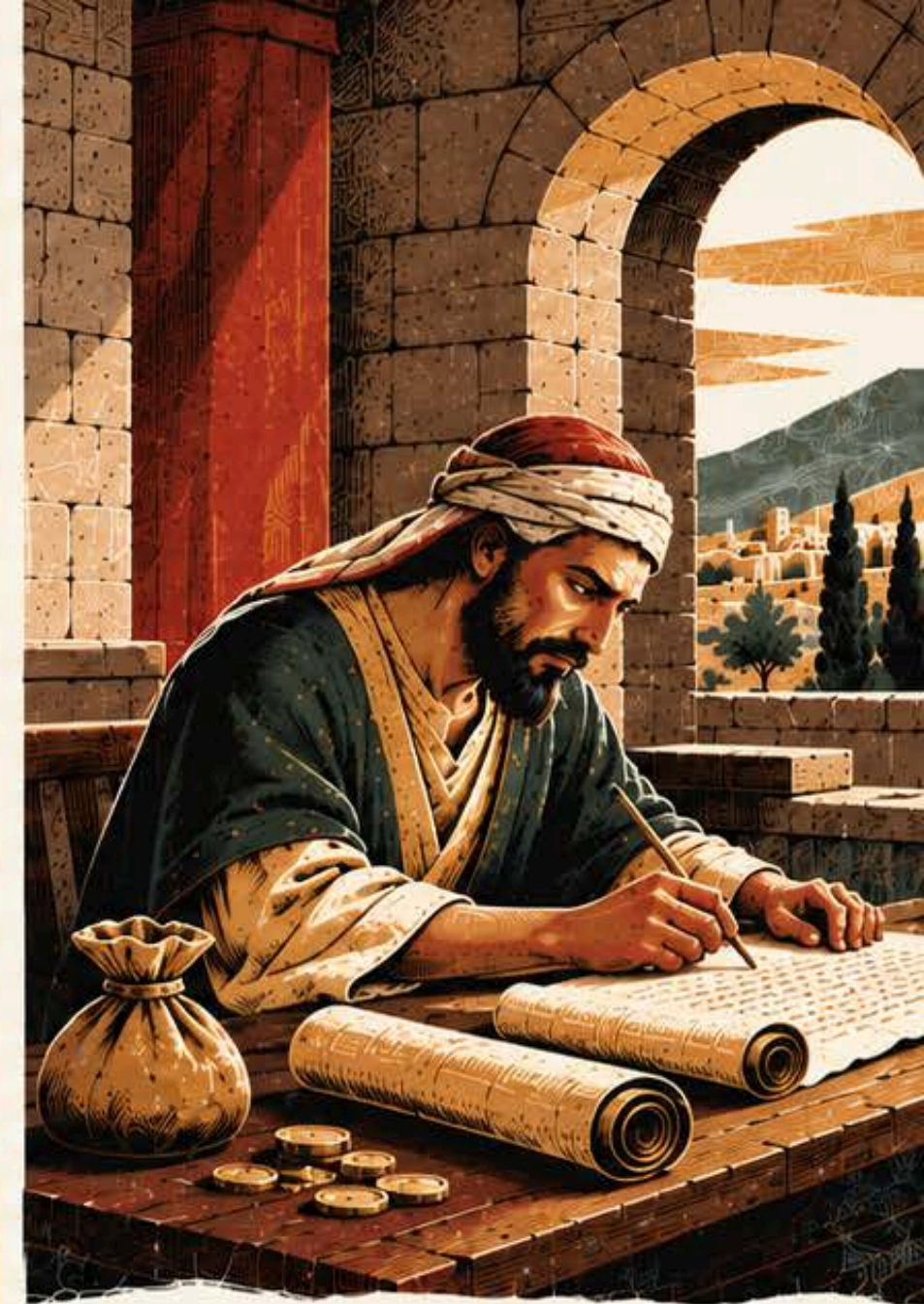
LUKE 10:29-35



THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

DEBT

MATTHEW 18:23-35



THE UNJUST STEWARD

RESOURCES

LUKE 16:1-3



LUKE 16:1-4

THE DISHONEST MANAGER



He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ² And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’

LUKE 16:1-4

All of God's people will **one day give an account** to him for how faithfully they have served him.

INTERPRETATION OF EPISODE 1



LUKE 16:5-9

SONS OF THE WORLD AND OF LIGHT



⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' ⁷ Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' ⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

LUKE 16:5-9



We are not to imitate the manager's unjust behavior, but rather his wise, clever, resourceful, intelligent action, while remaining innocent of all evil. Matthew 10:16, in a quite different context, may in fact be the best one-sentence commentary on Jesus's parable found anywhere. There Jesus commands his followers to be "as shrewd as snakes," but "as innocent as doves."

CRAIG L. BLOMBERG

⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' ⁷ Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' ⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

LUKE 16:5-9

We should prepare for Judgement Day by wisely using everything God has entrusted to us, **especially our money.**

INTERPRETATION OF EPISODE 2



LUKE 16:10-13

FAITHFUL WITH LITTLE, FAITHFUL WITH MUCH



¹⁰ “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³ No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”



LUKE 16:10-13



¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

JAMES 2:14-17



¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸
Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

1 JOHN 3:17-18

¹⁰ “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³ No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

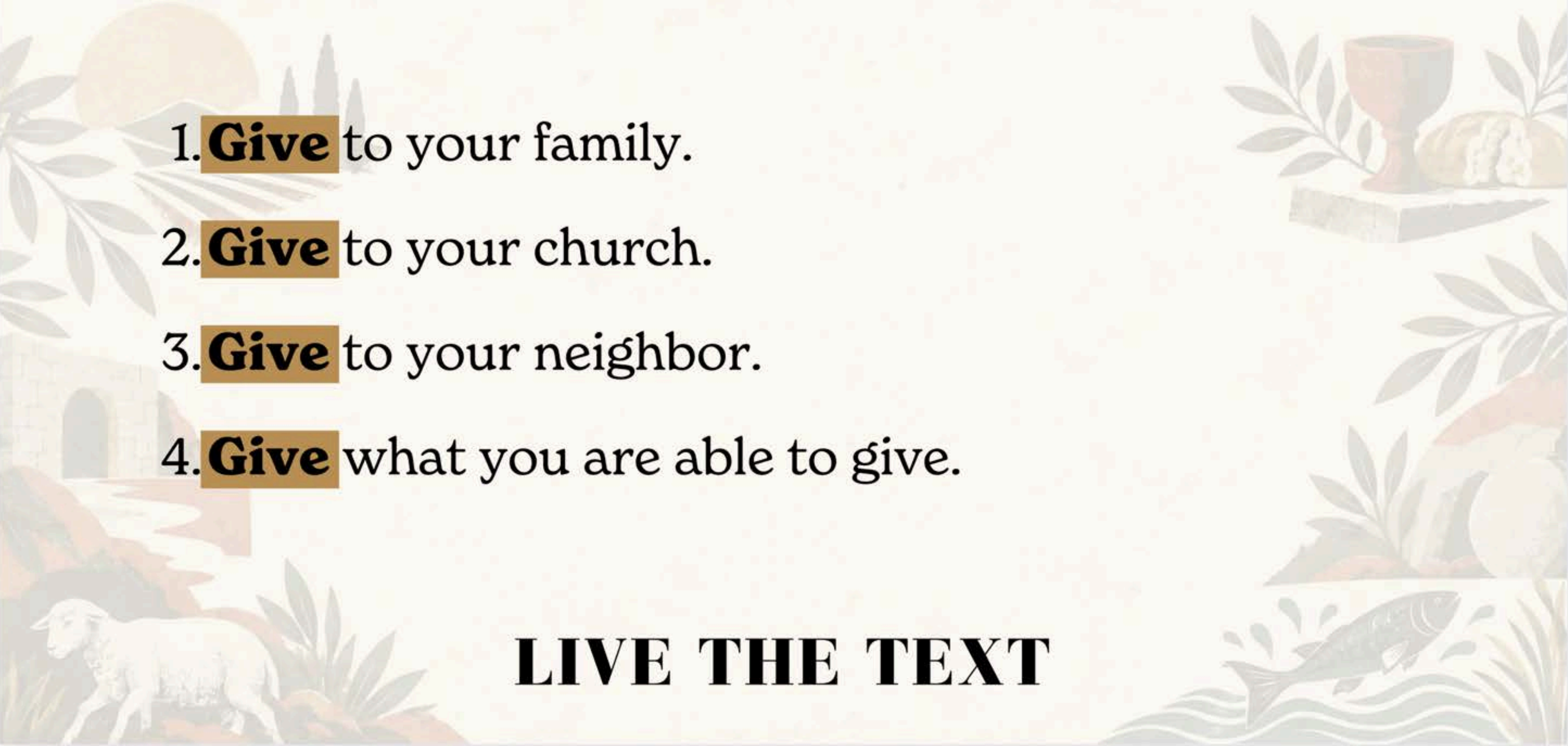
LUKE 16:10-13

Those who **wisely use what God has entrusted** to them show themselves to be faithful disciples and will share in the joy of eternal life.

INTERPRETATION OF EPISODE 3



**SO, WHO IS
YOUR MASTER?**

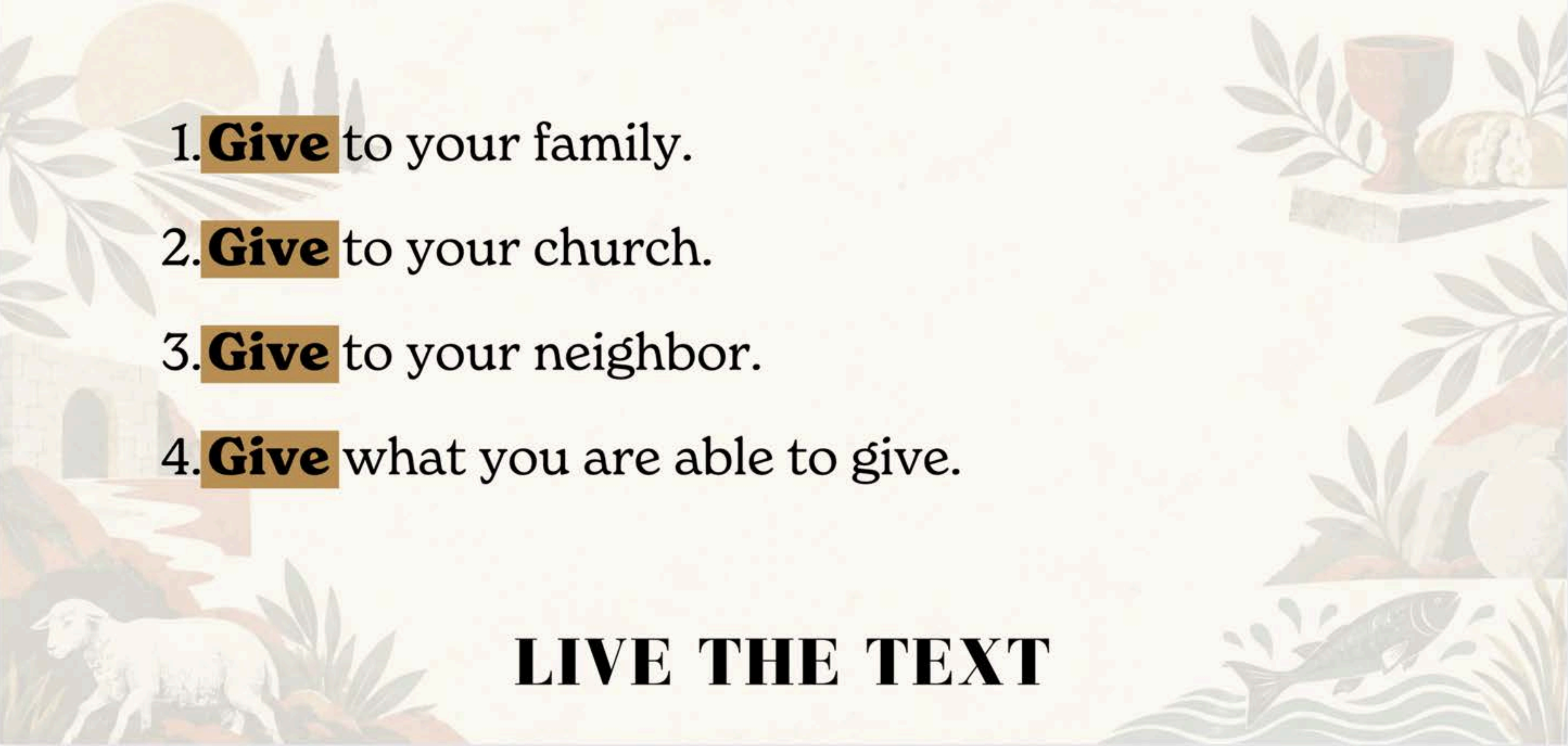
- 
1. **Give** to your family.
 2. **Give** to your church.
 3. **Give** to your neighbor.
 4. **Give** what you are able to give.

LIVE THE TEXT



But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1 TIMOTHY 5:8

- 
1. **Give** to your family.
 2. **Give** to your church.
 3. **Give** to your neighbor.
 4. **Give** what you are able to give.

LIVE THE TEXT



⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, **as any had need.** ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with **glad and generous hearts,** ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:42-47



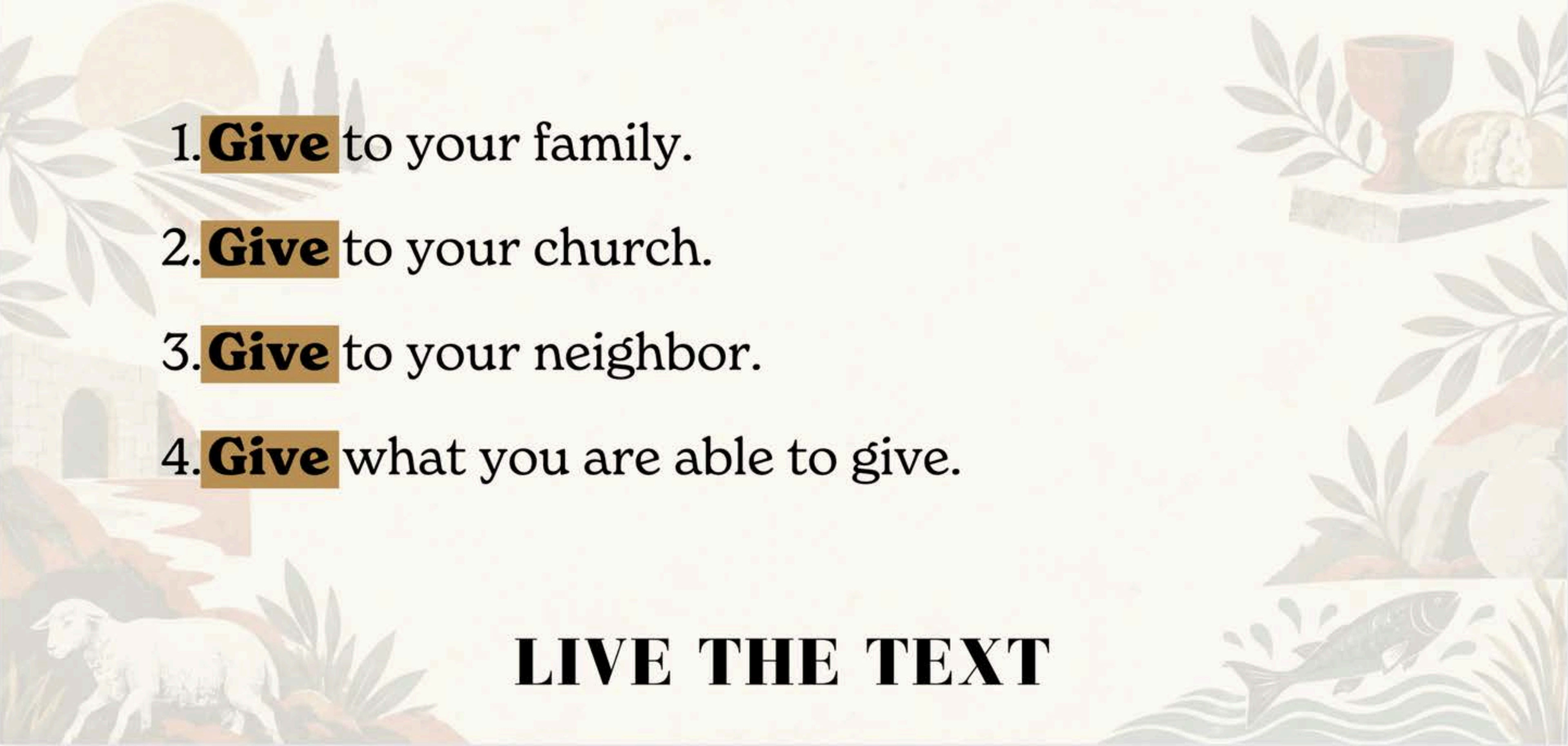
¹³ Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? ¹⁴ In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel **should get their living by the gospel.**

1 CORINTHIANS 9:13-14



Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. ² On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, **as he may prosper**, so that there will be no collecting when I come.

1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-2

- 
1. **Give** to your family.
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LIVE THE TEXT