

A stylized world map with a network overlay. The map is rendered in shades of gray and blue, with a network of lines and nodes connecting various points across the globe. The word "ACTS" is written in large, bold, black, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the map.

ACTS

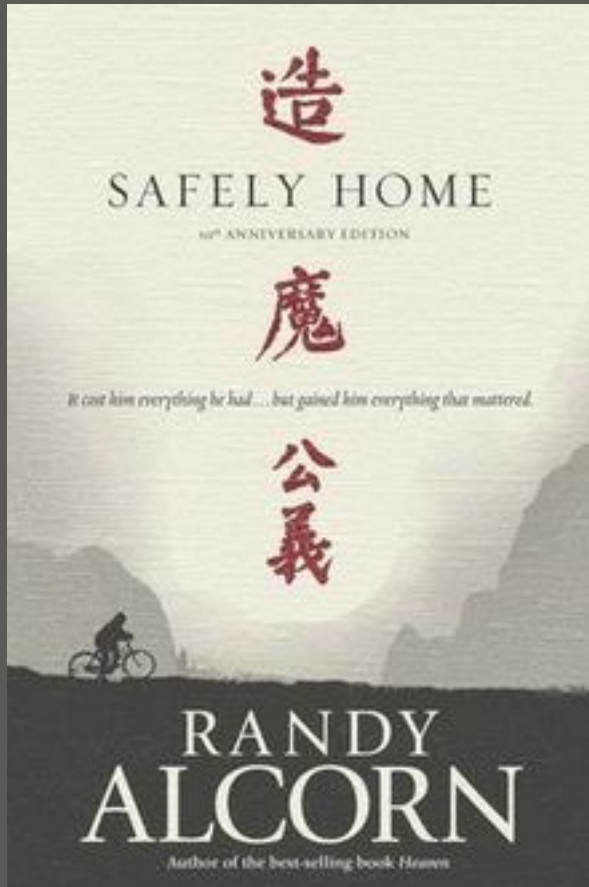
CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



What can we part with?

Acts 21

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



Safely Home is a Christian novel by Randy Alcorn. It takes place in present-day China, and follows the story of two Harvard roommates, one American and one Chinese, who reunite decades after they graduate to discover their faith.


(The novel won the Gold Medallion Book Award for evangelical literature)

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED

“If you are looking for a religion centered around yourself, Ben, I must agree that Christianity is a poor choice.”

Randy Alcorn, Safely Home

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



1 Now when we had parted from them and had set sail, we ran a straight course to Cos, and on the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara;


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2 and having found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail.

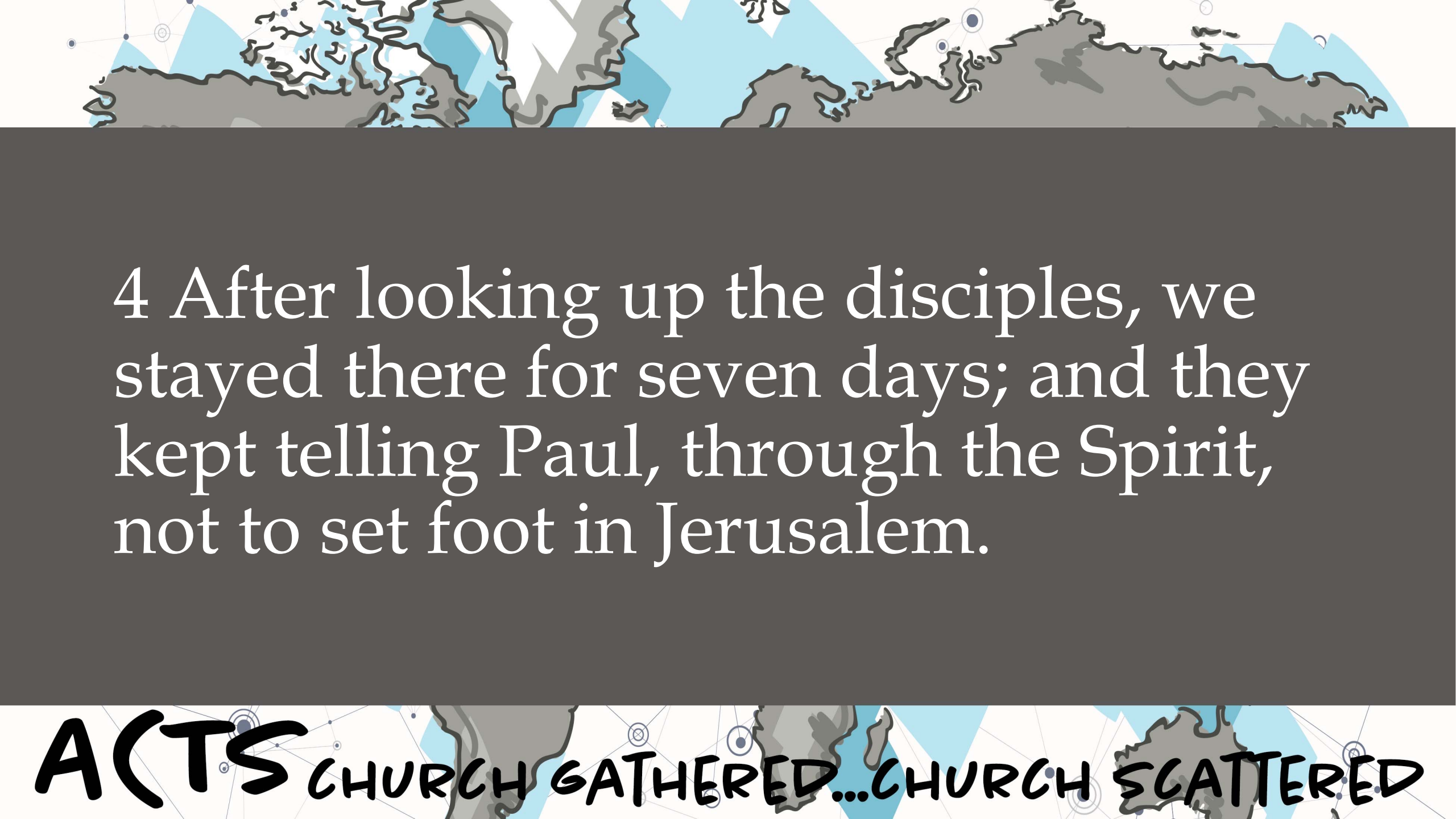
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3 When we came in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left, we kept sailing to Syria and landed at Tyre; for the ship was to unload its cargo there.

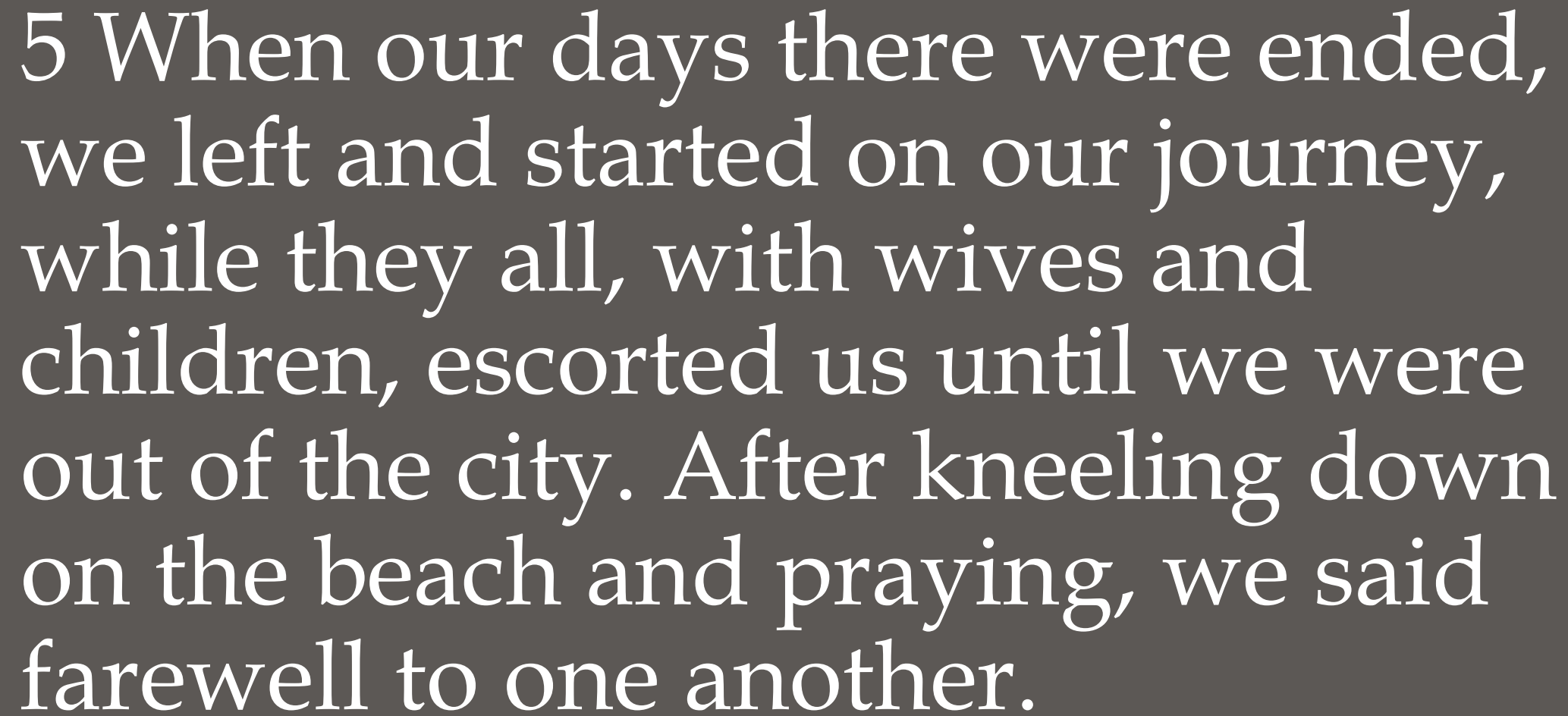
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4 After looking up the disciples, we stayed there for seven days; and they kept telling Paul, through the Spirit, not to set foot in Jerusalem.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



5 When our days there were ended, we left and started on our journey, while they all, with wives and children, escorted us until we were out of the city. After kneeling down on the beach and praying, we said farewell to one another.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



6 Then we boarded the ship, and they returned home.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



MACEDONIA

THRACE

BLACK SEA

BITHYNIA AND PONTUS

GALATIA

ASIA

MYSIA

CAPPADOCIA

COMMAGENE

CILICIA

ACHAIA

CRETE

LYCIA

PAMPHYLIA

SYRIA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

CYPRUS

PHOENICIA

ABILENE

NABATEA

EGYPT

JUDEA

DEAD SEA

Thessalonica
Berea
Amphipolis
Apollonia
Philippi
Neapolis
THASOS
SAMOTHRACE
LEMNOS
Troas
Assos
LESBOS
Mitylene
CHIOS
EUBOEA
Corinth
Athens
Cenchreae
Sparta

Paul restores life to young Eutychus
Troas
Pergamum
Thyatira
Sardis
Philadelphia
Smyrna
Ephesus
Miletus
Hierapolis
Laodicea
Colossae
Iconium
Lystra
Derbe
Tarsus
Seleucia Pieria
Antioch

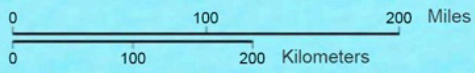
Ancyra
Caesarea
Aleppo
Antioch in Pisidia
Hierapolis
Laodicea
Colossae
Iconium
Lystra
Derbe
Tarsus
Seleucia Pieria
Antioch

John's disciples believe in Jesus
Jewish exorcists fail to reproduce Paul's miracles
Magic books burnt
Demetrius & craftsmen of Diana cause uproar against the Way

Paul exhorts Ephesian elders & says tribulations & chains await him in Jerusalem
Elders weep because they won't see Paul anymore

Disciples warn Paul on the Journey to Jerusalem
Paul determined to do the will of the Lord and go to Jerusalem

Paul arrested in the Temple
Paul defends himself & witnesses to the Jews in Jerusalem



PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 19:1 - 21:14

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches of Asia" - Rev. 2-3
- ← Paul's Route




Witness of the Holy Spirit 1-6

- ‘parted’ –
- Seeking fellowship
- Sharing hearts
- Led by the Spirit!



ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED




“Never forget Yesu is King. Never forget your home is in another world.

Never forget your father will be waiting to see you again.”

Randy Alcorn, Safely Home




ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



7 When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and after greeting the brothers and sisters, we stayed with them for a day.

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8 On the next day we left and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.

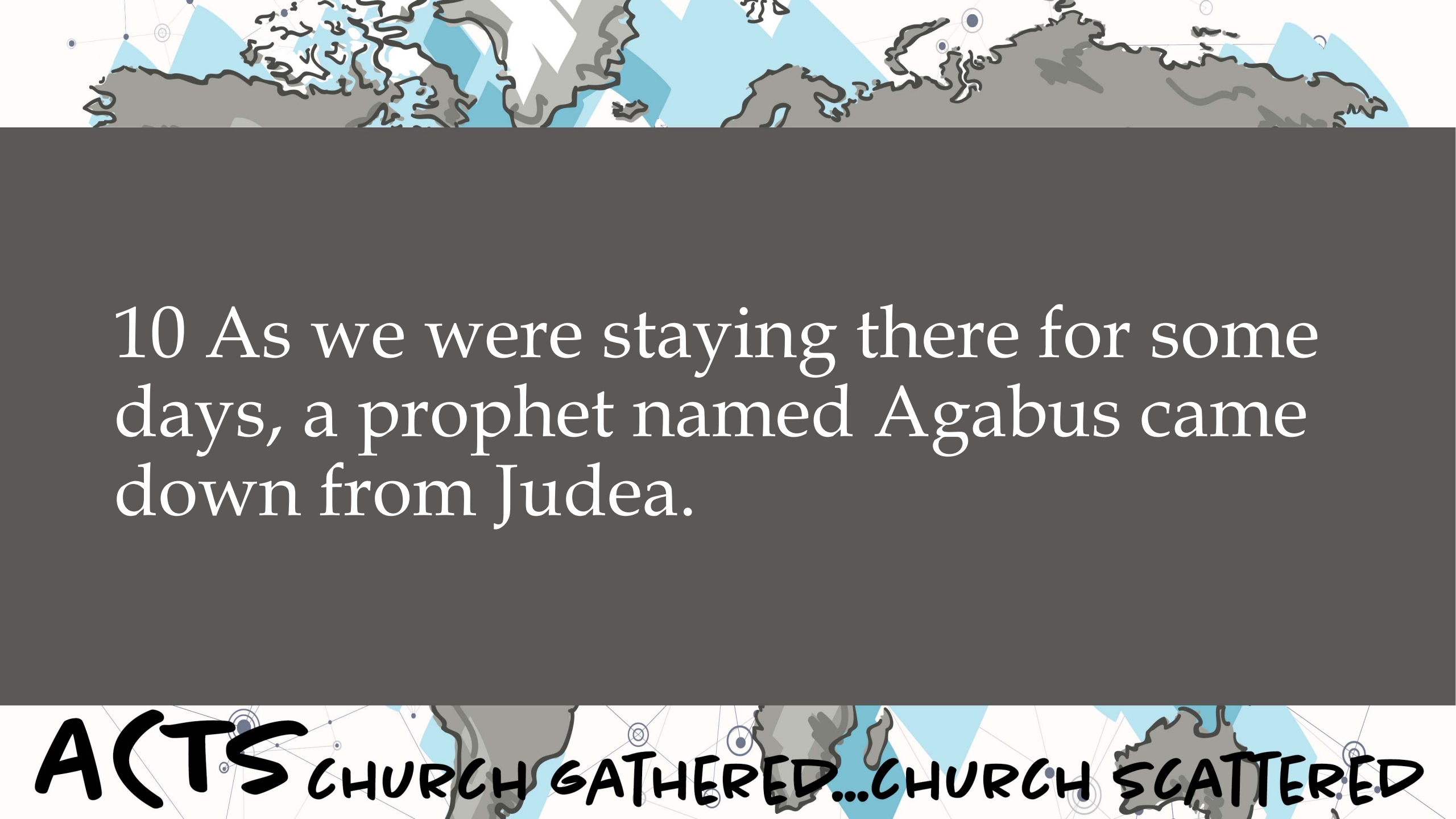
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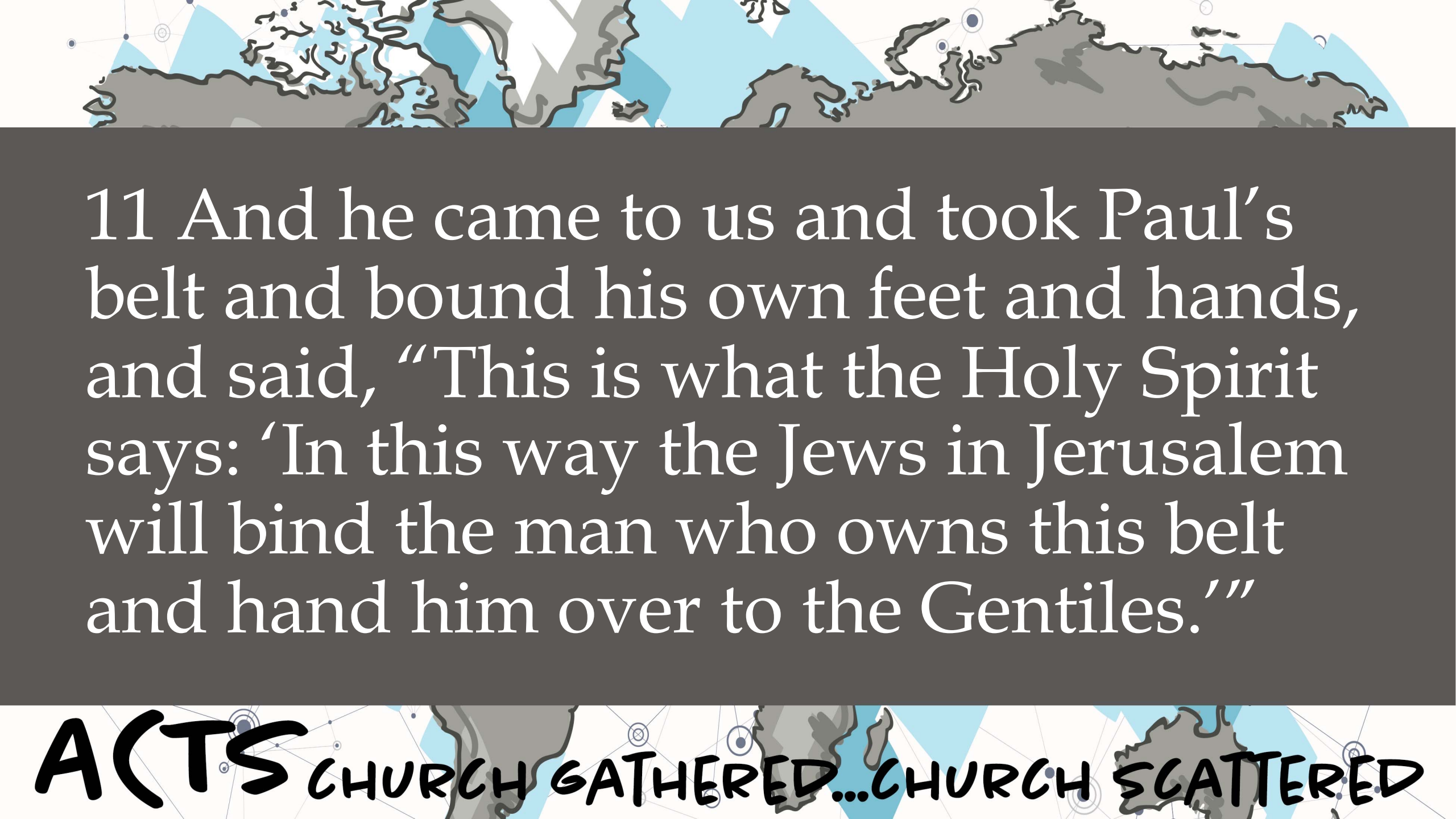
9 Now this man had four virgin daughters who were prophetesses.

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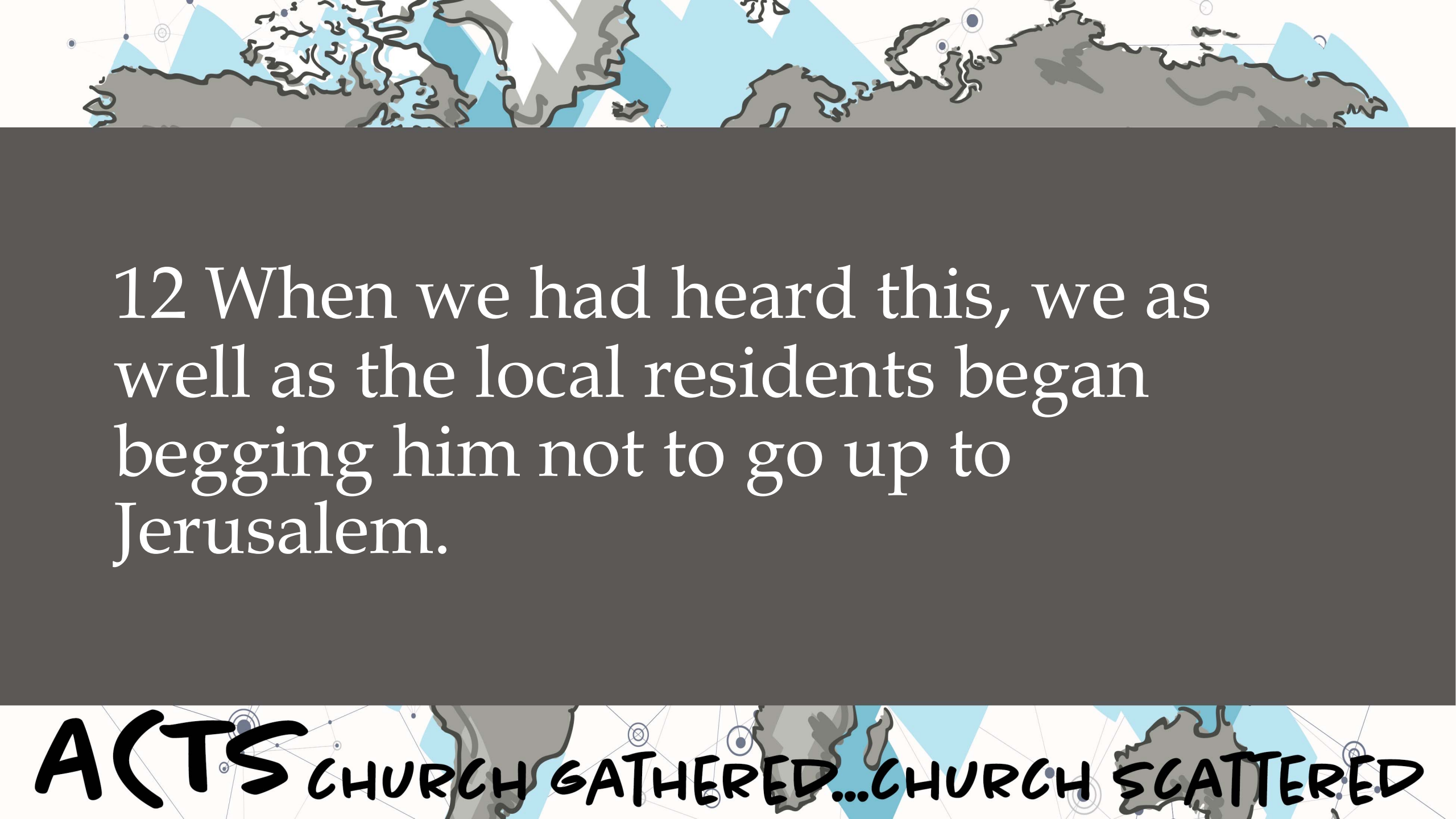
10 As we were staying there for some days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea.

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11 And he came to us and took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands, and said, "This is what the Holy Spirit says: 'In this way the Jews in Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and hand him over to the Gentiles.'"

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12 When we had heard this, we as well as the local residents began begging him not to go up to Jerusalem.

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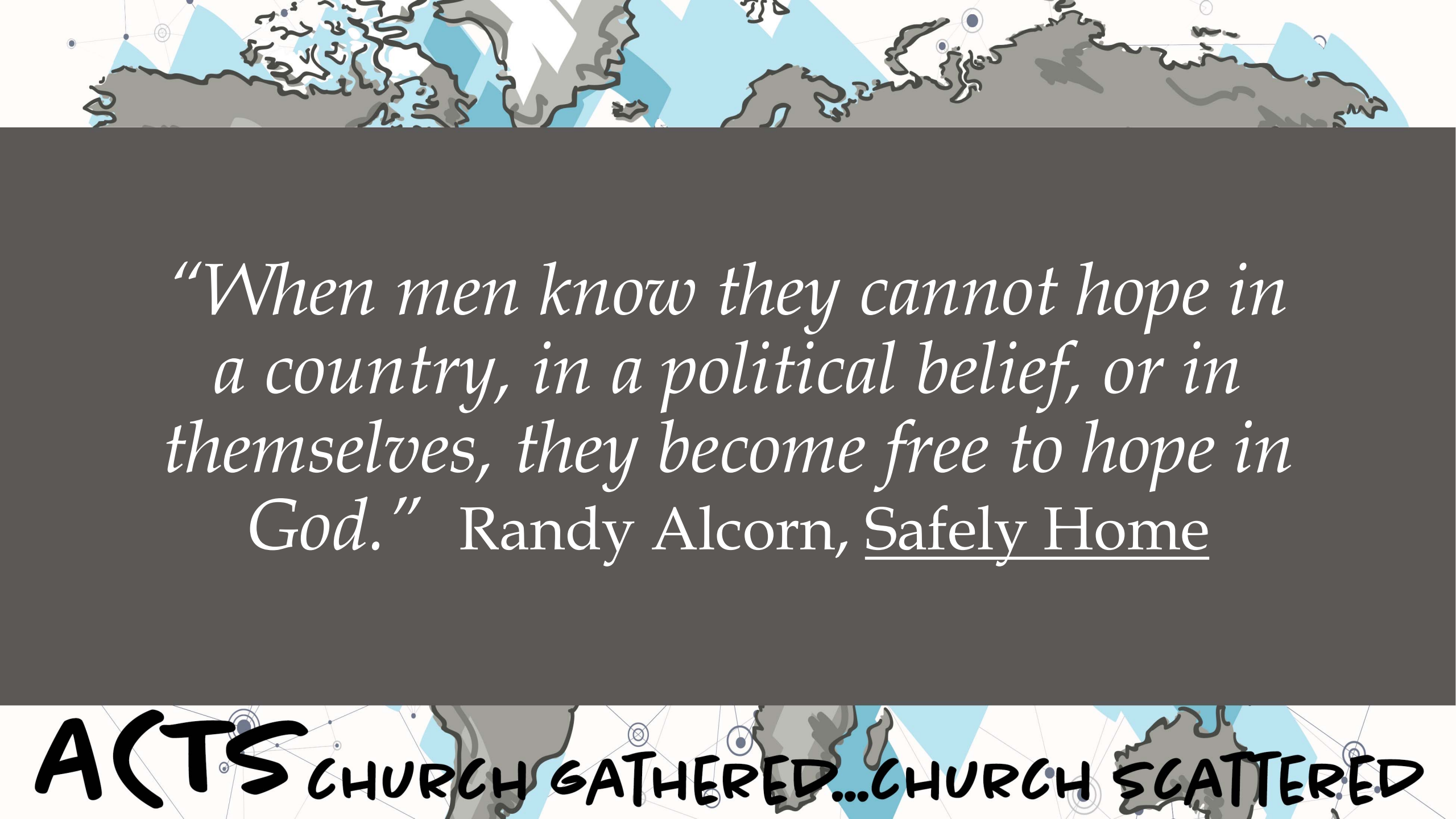


Worry of the Church 7-12

- Seeking fellowship of Faith
- Philip the Evangelist (Stephen)
- Prophecy a confirming sign to Church
- Message correct – calling overriding

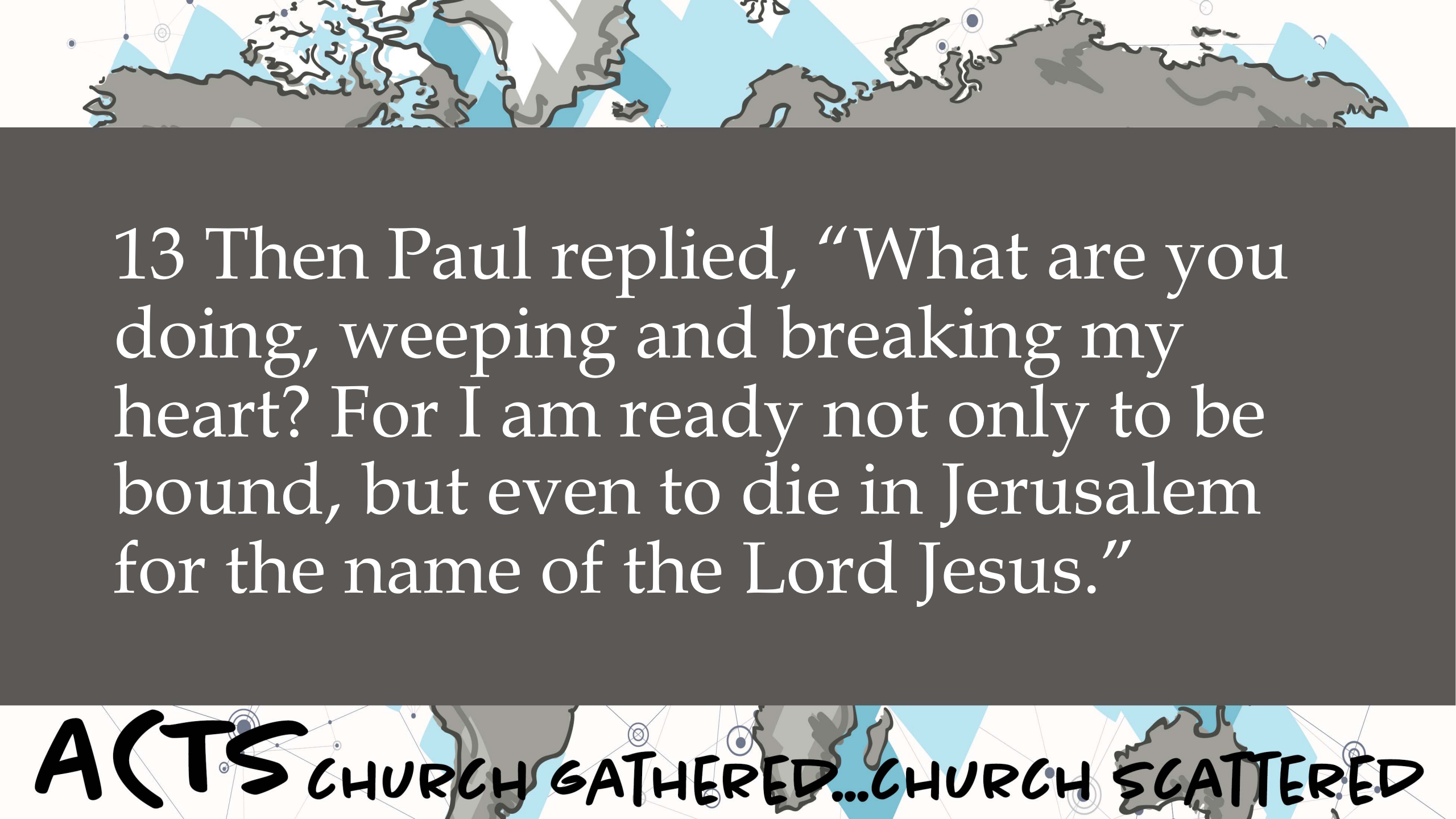


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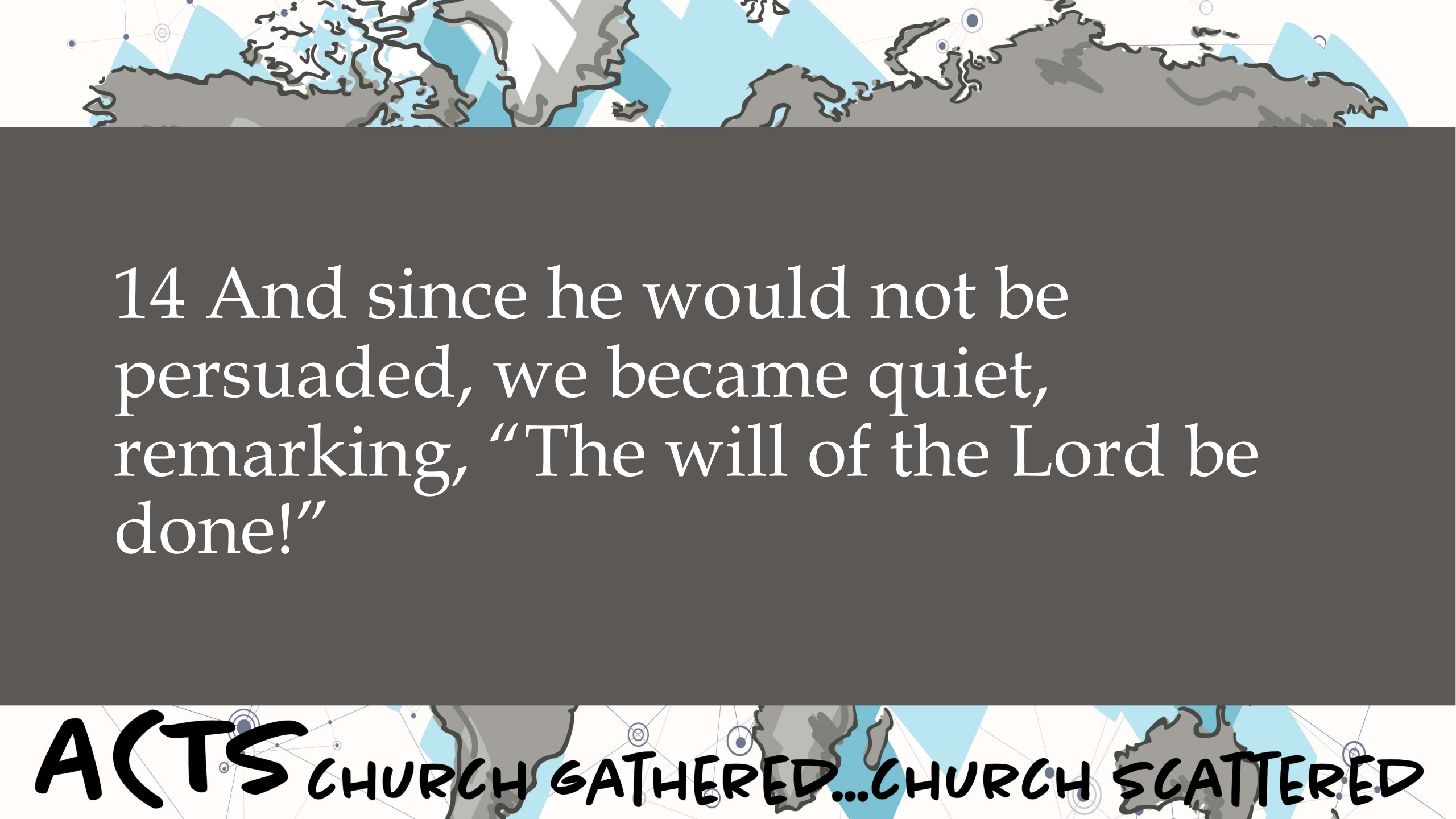
“When men know they cannot hope in a country, in a political belief, or in themselves, they become free to hope in God.” Randy Alcorn, Safely Home

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED




13 Then Paul replied, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED




14 And since he would not be persuaded, we became quiet, remarking, “The will of the Lord be done!”

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



15 After these days we got ready and started on our way up to Jerusalem.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



16 Some of the disciples from Caesarea also came with us, taking us to Mnason of Cyprus, a disciple of long standing with whom we were to stay.



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“Real gold fears no fire!”
Randy Alcorn, *Safely Home*

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Will of God 13-16

- What will we part with?
- What is most important?
- What is true encouragement?
- What do we fear?



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*“When Yesu is everything to you,
it is impossible not to speak of him.”*

Randy Alcorn, Safely Home



ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



Matt 16:24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED






Will for us!

- Target is primary (20) *“you see how many”*
- Travel where led (21) *“among the Gentiles”*
- Train others (22) *“they will hear that you have come”*
- Trust each other (23) *“do as we tell you”*
- Tarry until done (24) *“take them along...together”*



ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



“Even a bad father can leave an inheritance. Only a good father can leave a heritage.”

Randy Alcorn, Safely Home

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED

