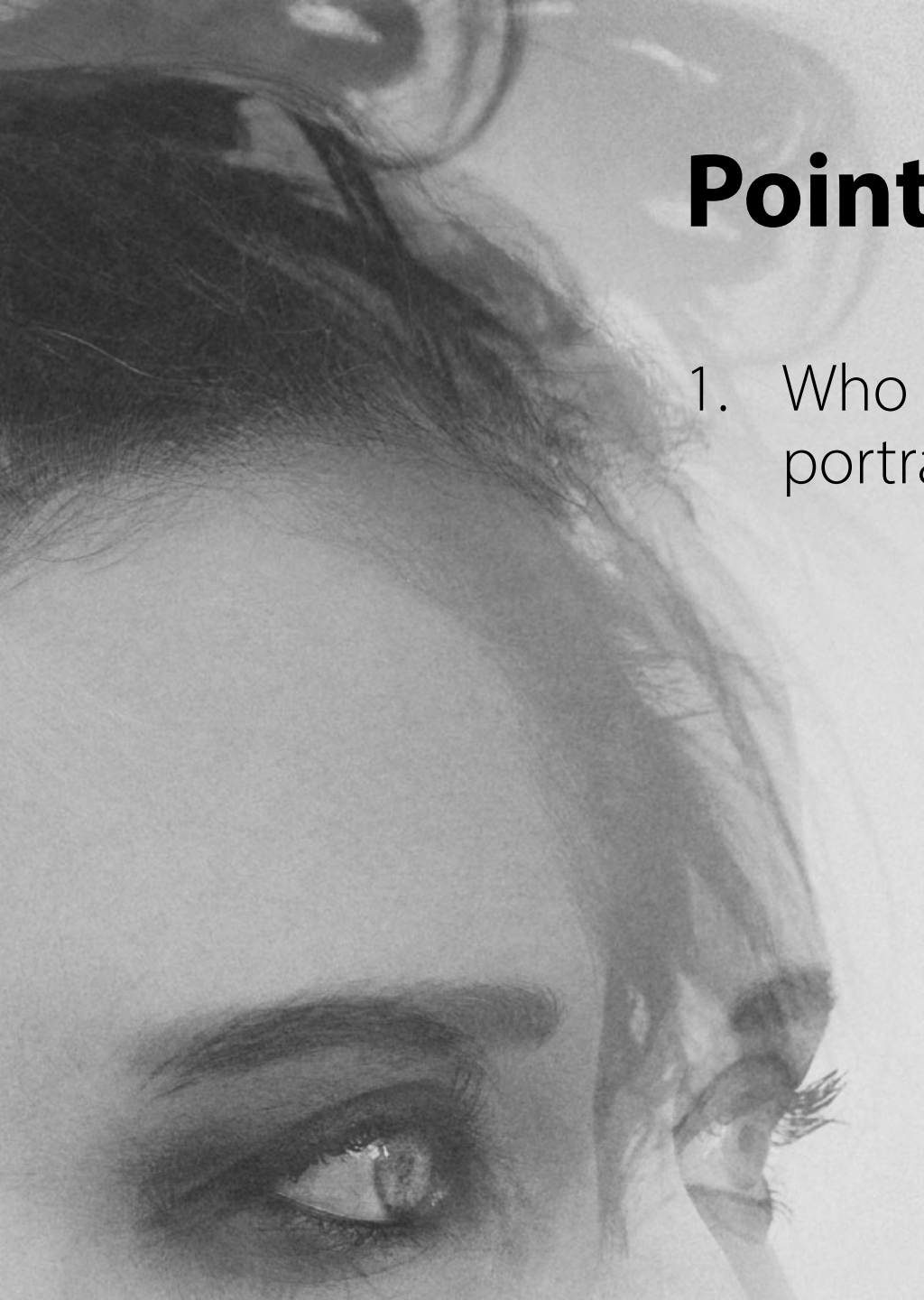


James

KEEPING IT REAL





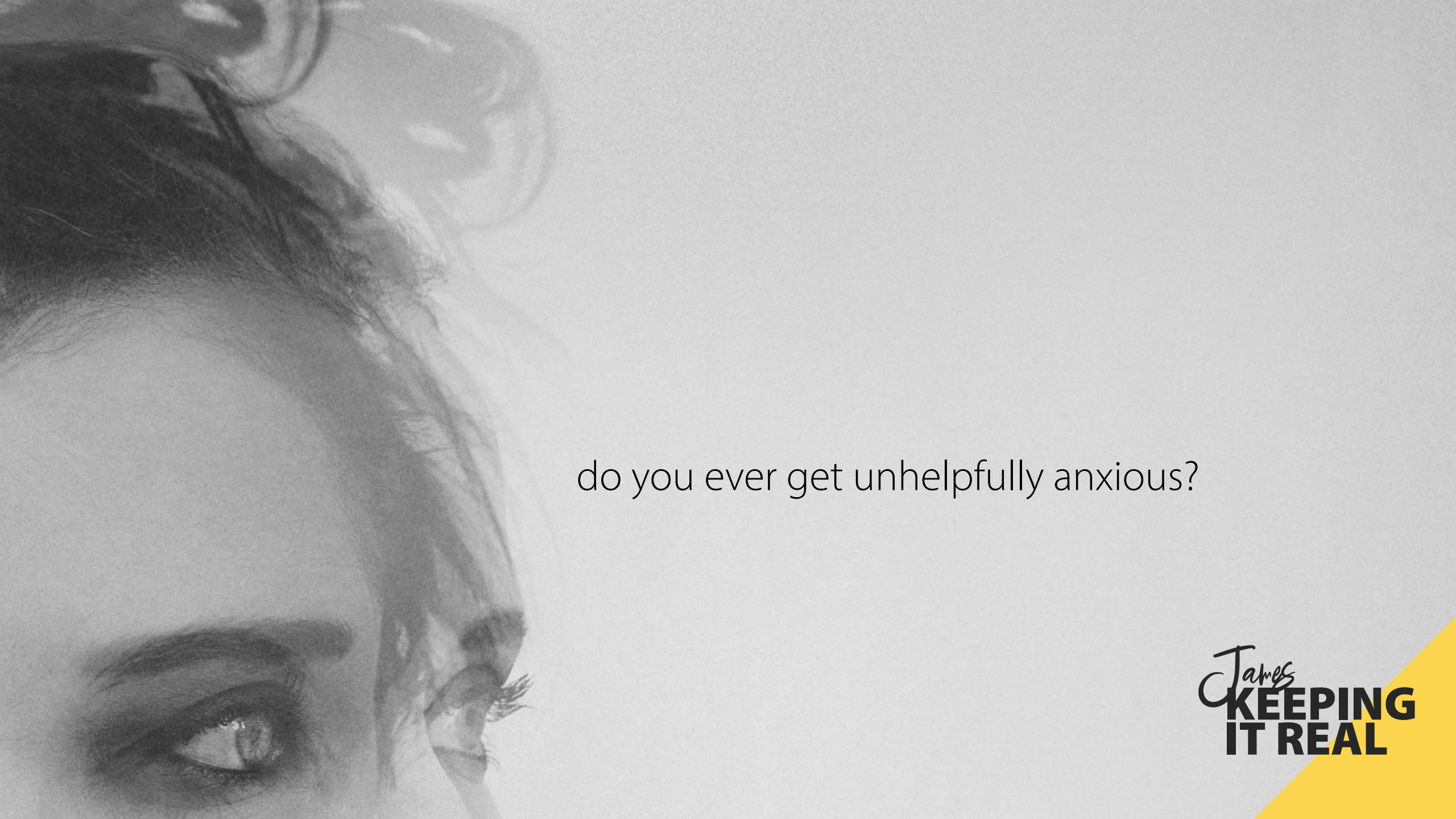
Point No.1

1. Who we are, who we think we are, and how we portray ourselves to others don't always match up



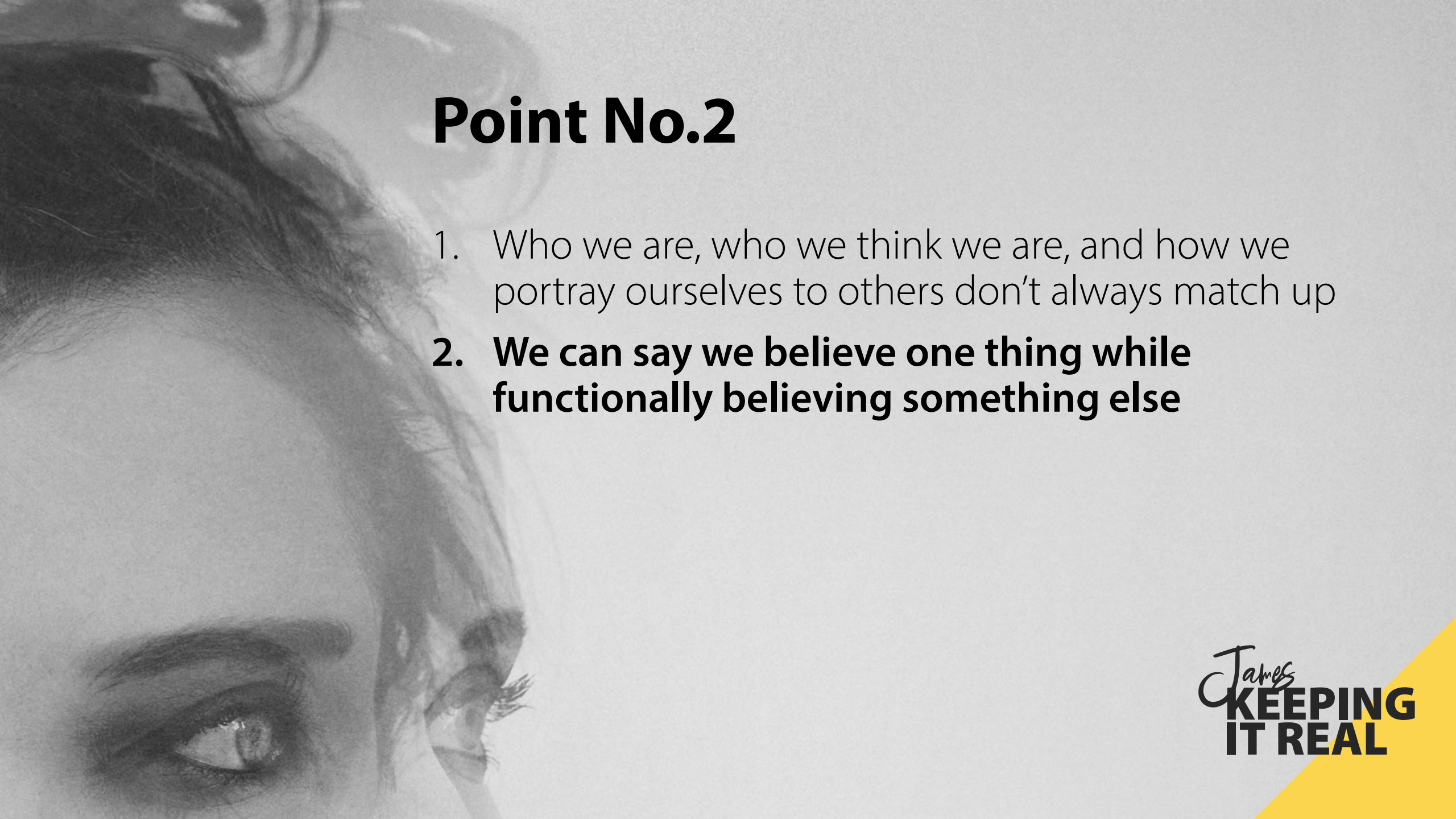
what do you think God is like?

James
**KEEPING
IT REAL**



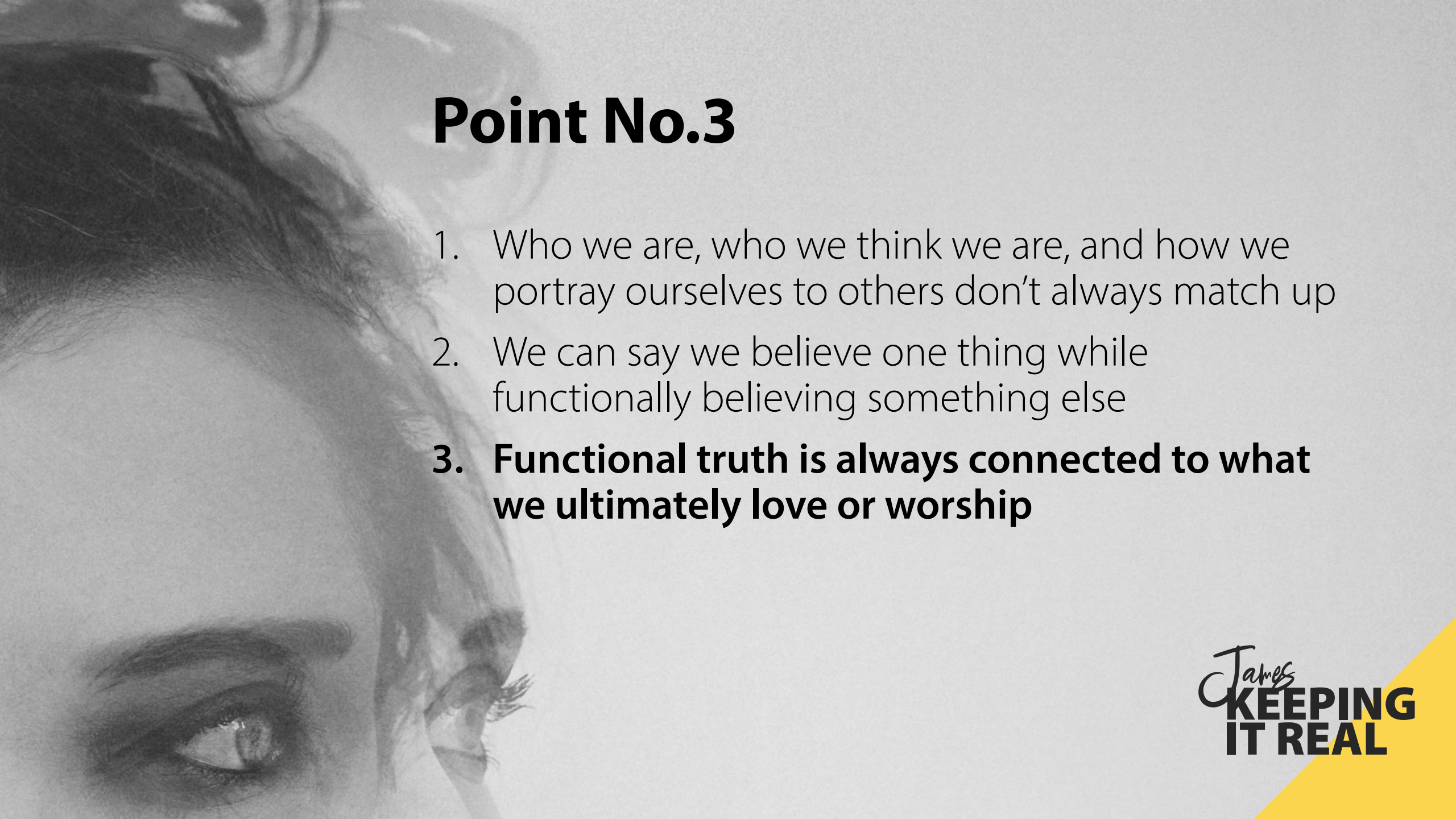
do you ever get unhelpfully anxious?

James
**KEEPING
IT REAL**



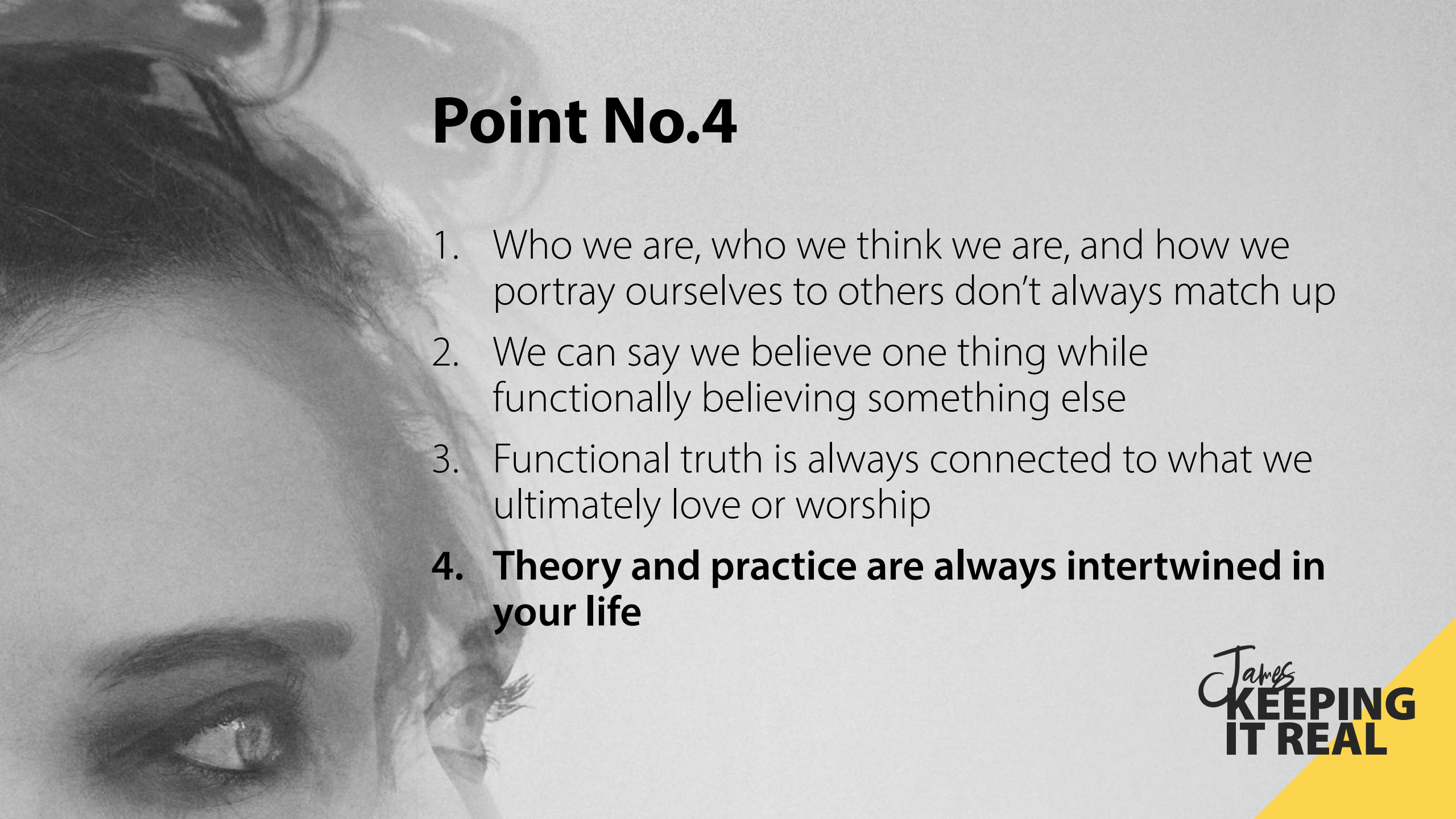
Point No.2

1. Who we are, who we think we are, and how we portray ourselves to others don't always match up
2. **We can say we believe one thing while functionally believing something else**



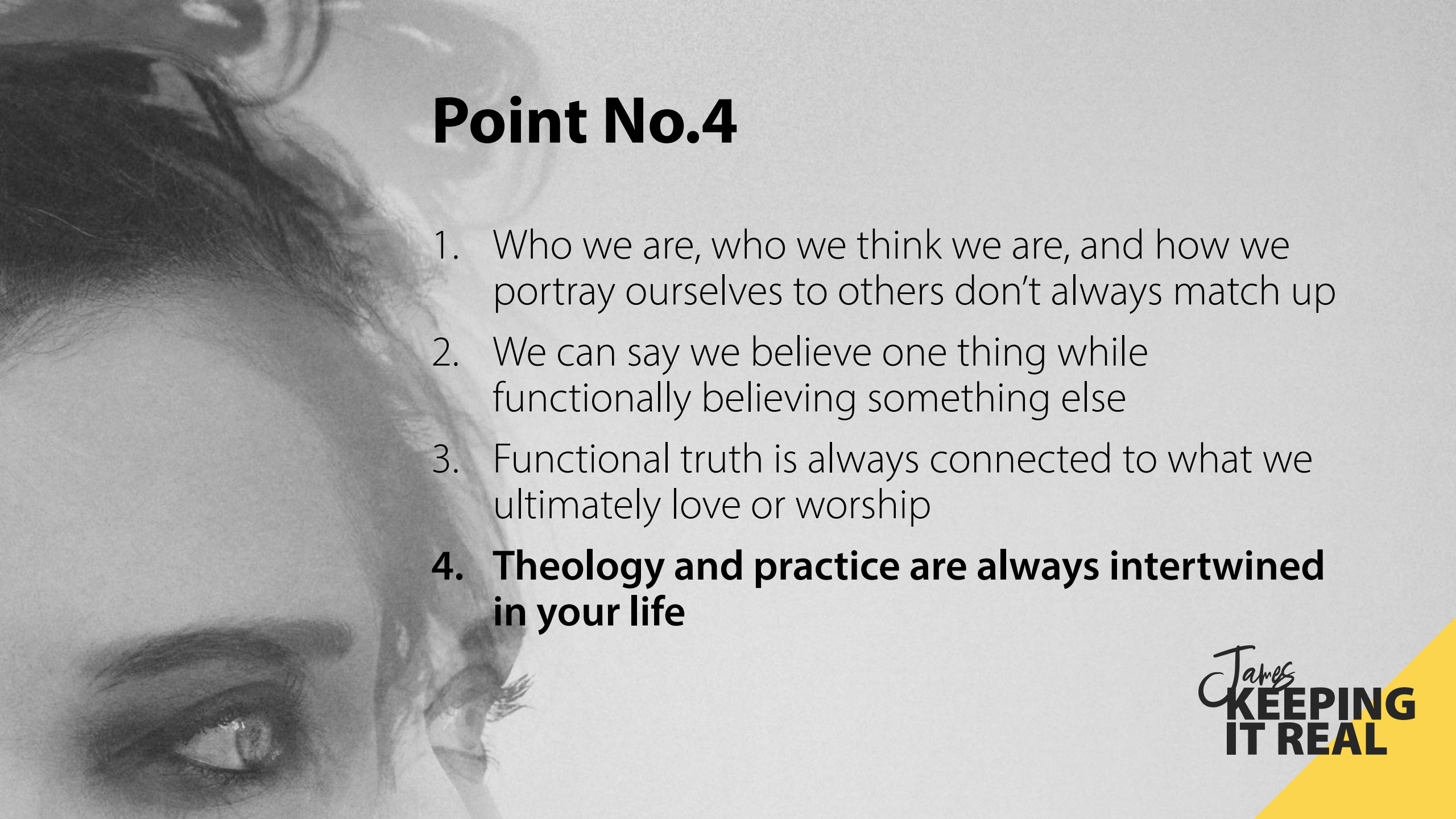
Point No.3

1. Who we are, who we think we are, and how we portray ourselves to others don't always match up
2. We can say we believe one thing while functionally believing something else
3. **Functional truth is always connected to what we ultimately love or worship**



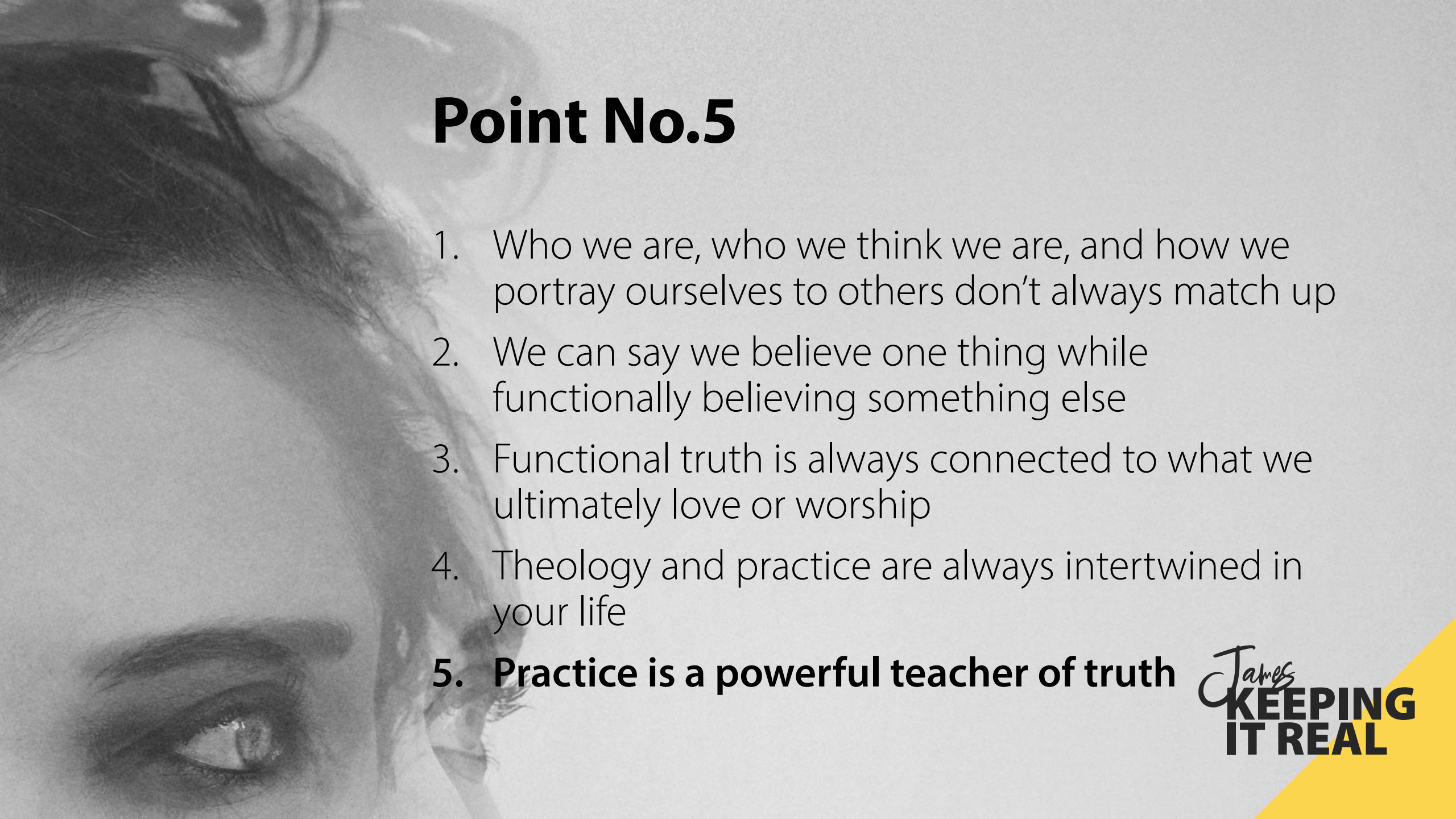
Point No.4

1. Who we are, who we think we are, and how we portray ourselves to others don't always match up
2. We can say we believe one thing while functionally believing something else
3. Functional truth is always connected to what we ultimately love or worship
4. **Theory and practice are always intertwined in your life**



Point No.4

1. Who we are, who we think we are, and how we portray ourselves to others don't always match up
2. We can say we believe one thing while functionally believing something else
3. Functional truth is always connected to what we ultimately love or worship
4. **Theology and practice are always intertwined in your life**



Point No.5

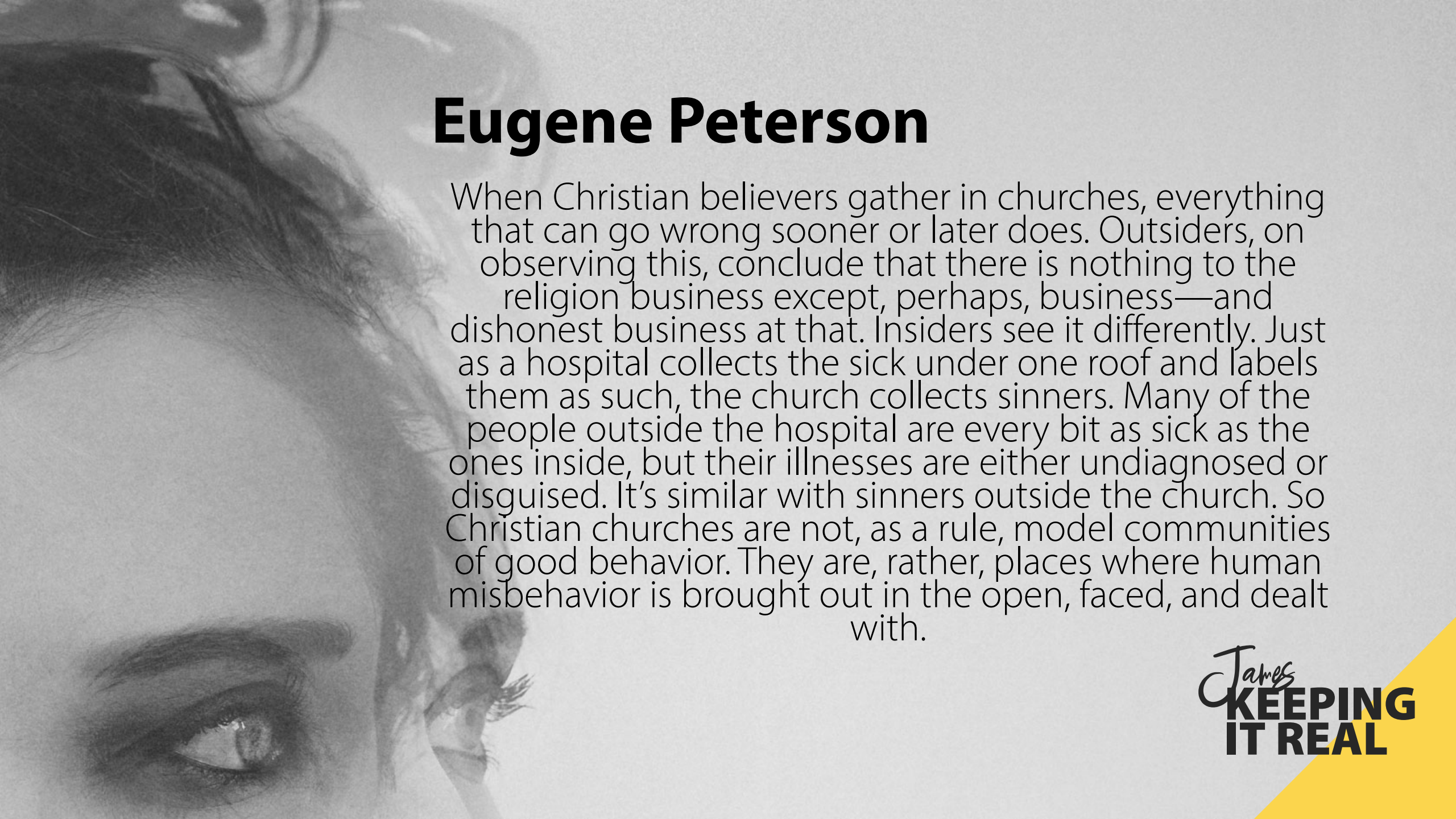
1. Who we are, who we think we are, and how we portray ourselves to others don't always match up
2. We can say we believe one thing while functionally believing something else
3. Functional truth is always connected to what we ultimately love or worship
4. Theology and practice are always intertwined in your life
5. **Practice is a powerful teacher of truth**

James
**KEEPING
IT REAL**



so what?

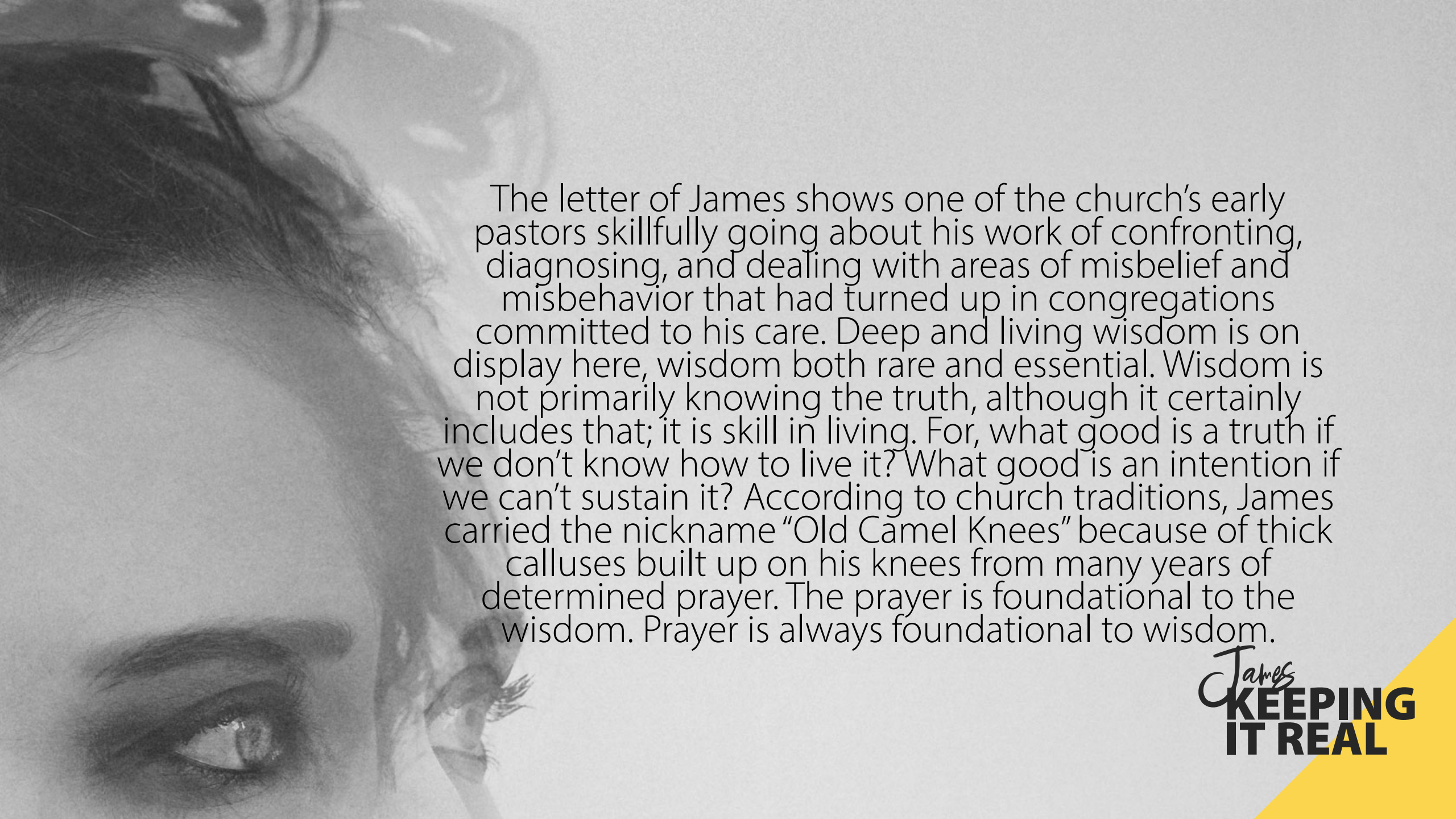
James
**KEEPING
IT REAL**



Eugene Peterson

When Christian believers gather in churches, everything that can go wrong sooner or later does. Outsiders, on observing this, conclude that there is nothing to the religion business except, perhaps, business—and dishonest business at that. Insiders see it differently. Just as a hospital collects the sick under one roof and labels them as such, the church collects sinners. Many of the people outside the hospital are every bit as sick as the ones inside, but their illnesses are either undiagnosed or disguised. It's similar with sinners outside the church. So Christian churches are not, as a rule, model communities of good behavior. They are, rather, places where human misbehavior is brought out in the open, faced, and dealt with.

James
**KEEPING
IT REAL**



The letter of James shows one of the church's early pastors skillfully going about his work of confronting, diagnosing, and dealing with areas of misbelief and misbehavior that had turned up in congregations committed to his care. Deep and living wisdom is on display here, wisdom both rare and essential. Wisdom is not primarily knowing the truth, although it certainly includes that; it is skill in living. For, what good is a truth if we don't know how to live it? What good is an intention if we can't sustain it? According to church traditions, James carried the nickname "Old Camel Knees" because of thick calluses built up on his knees from many years of determined prayer. The prayer is foundational to the wisdom. Prayer is always foundational to wisdom.

James
**KEEPING
IT REAL**