

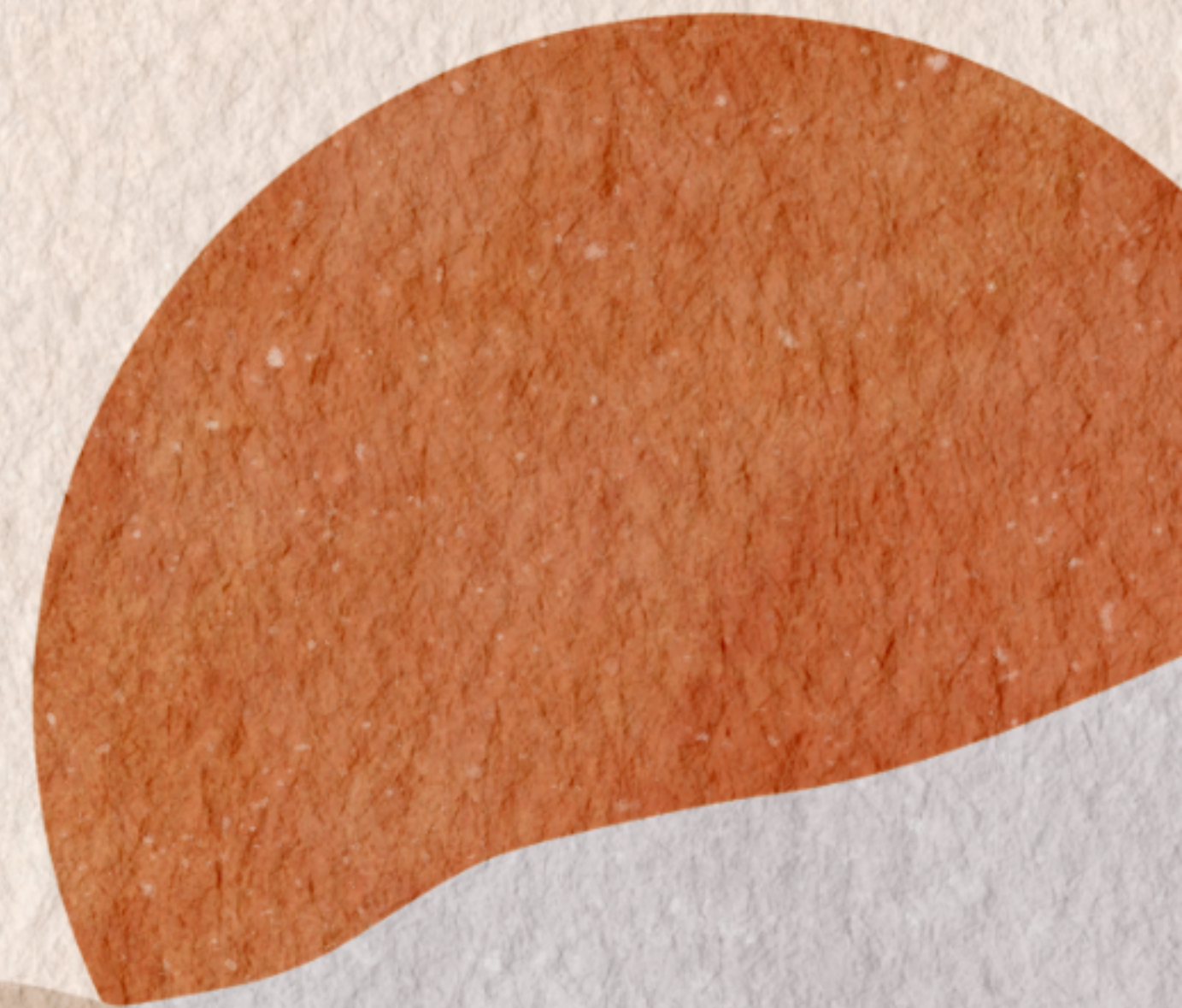
Living Faith

A study in the book of James



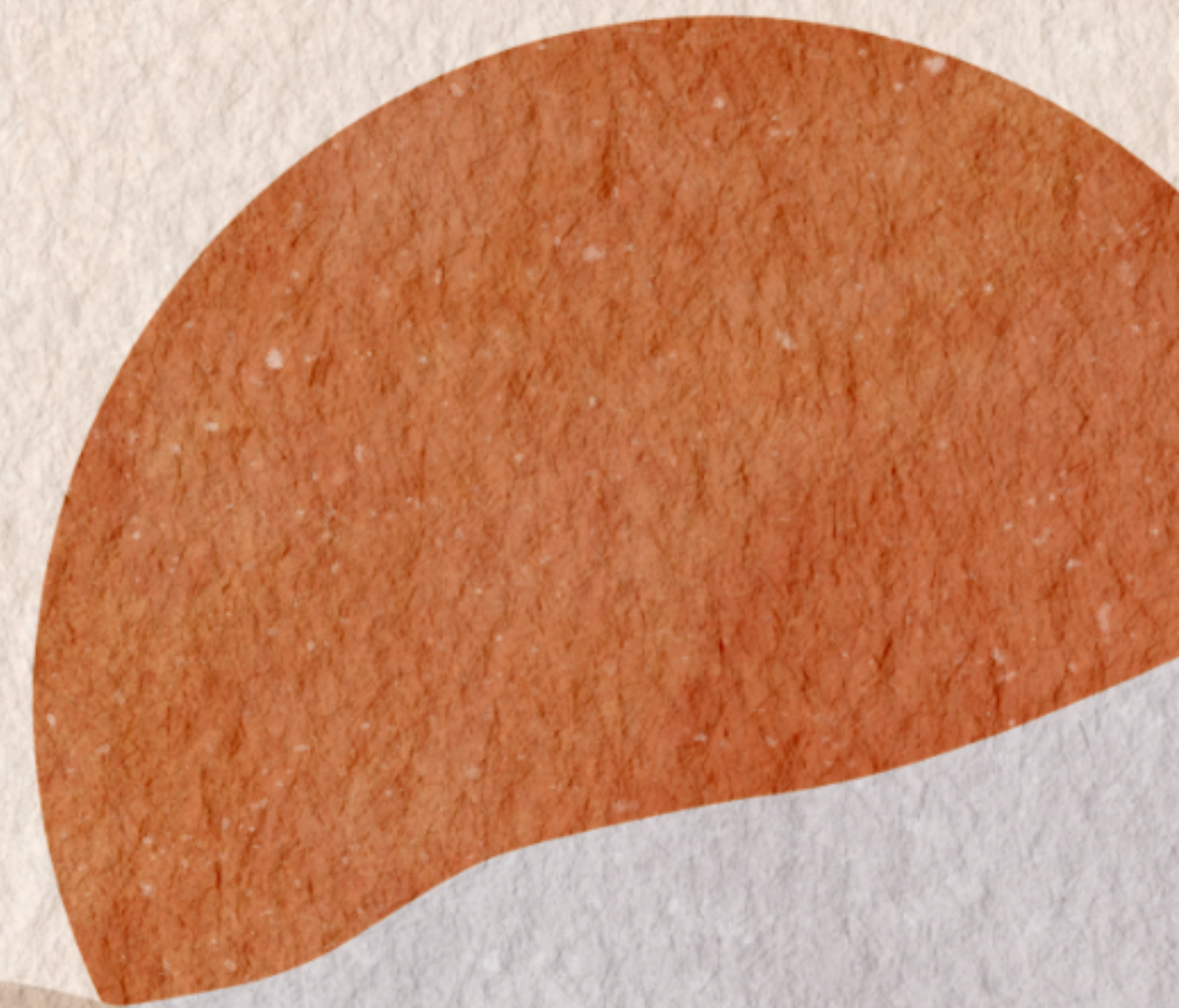
Wisdom from Above

James 3:13-18



Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct, let him show his works
in the meekness of wisdom.

— v 13



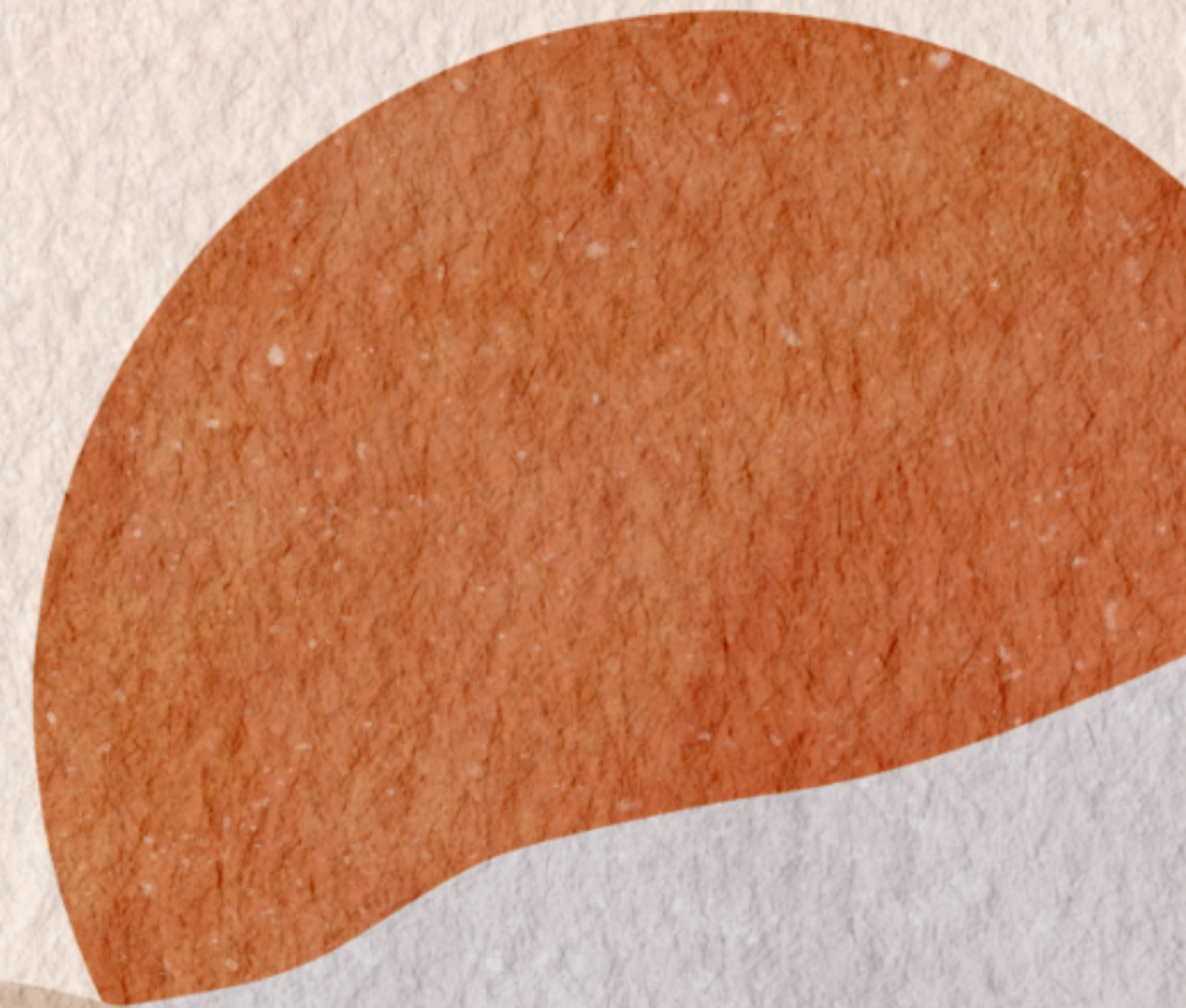
If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

— **James 1:5**

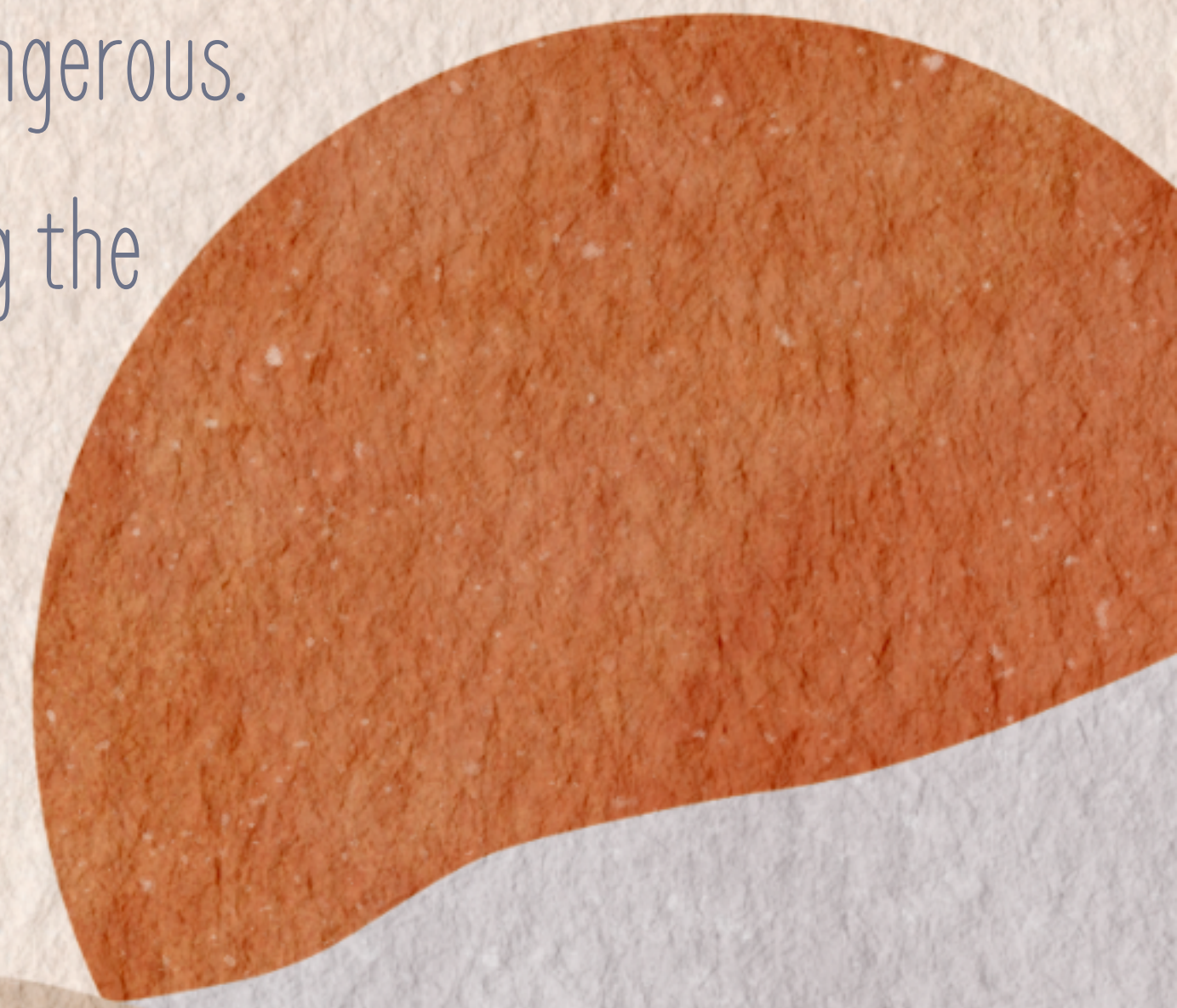


But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

— *vv* 14-15



“Every year I’d get one or two new interns, and they were always these young kids who really wanted to be worship leaders so they were going to the big megachurch where they had this, like, counter cultural thing. They were trying to get in the same stream as us. And the thing that I would always tell them, because I was experiencing it in real time, was like, your charisma and your talent is dangerous. Like, you can survive and thrive off that and your soul will just be coasting the whole time.”

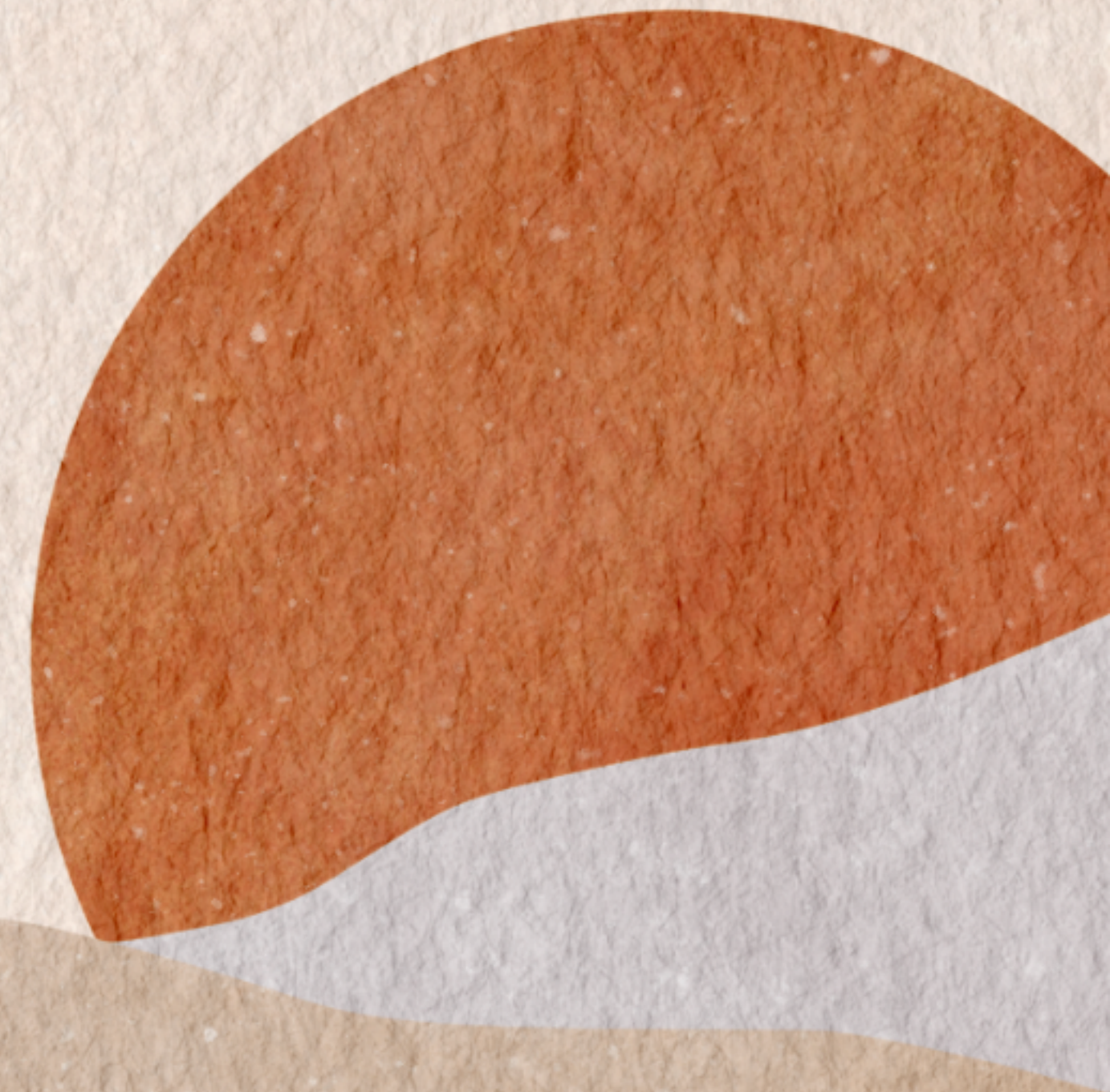


“Monday mornings after Sundays, we’d always have these meetings where we did grades for every part of the service. The greeting team would get an A through an F, the worship would get an A through an F, the children’s ministry, everything. And one of the scariest moments was when I was, like, 22 years old, and I’m sitting there every Monday morning, and I’m just getting A’s, easy A’s, and it’s all just because of talent and some charisma, and it does not matter, like, the condition of my soul or the posture of my spirit or anything else. And you really realize at that moment...this is bad, this is dangerous.”

— Anonymous Worship Leader

Did God actually say, “you shall not eat of any tree in the garden?”

— *Genesis 3:1*



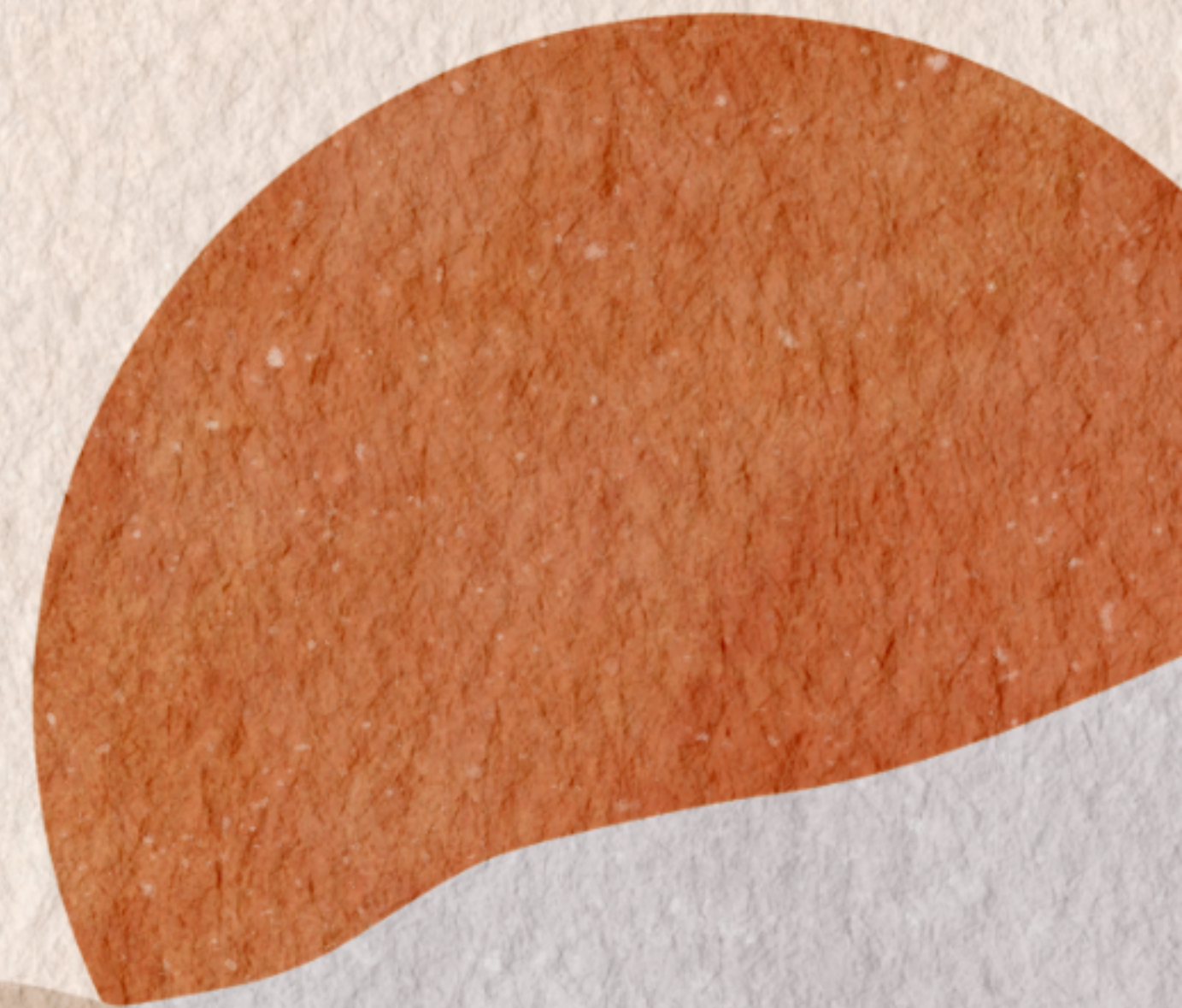
So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

— *Genesis 3:6*



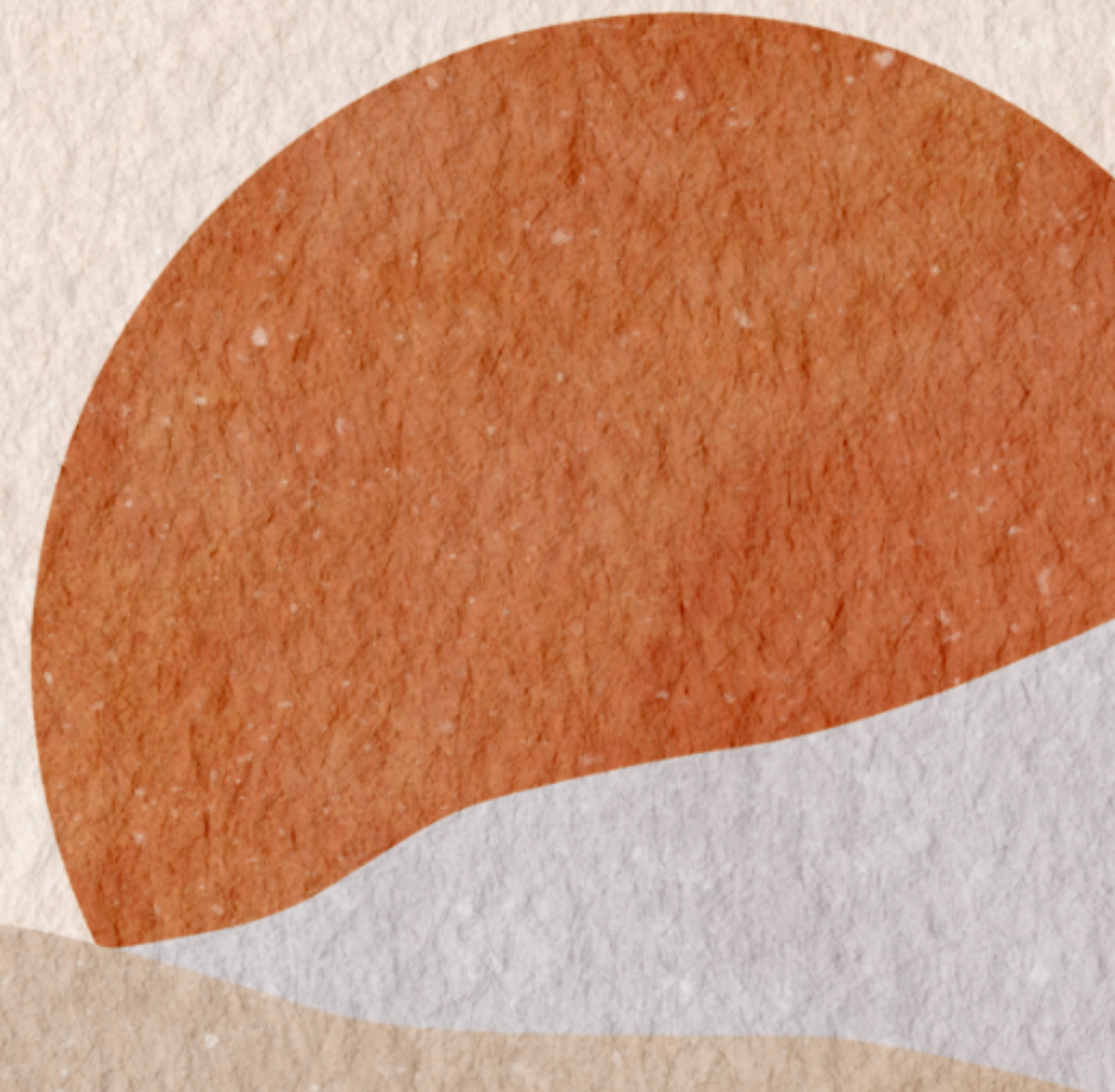
Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

— *Matthew* 7:13-14



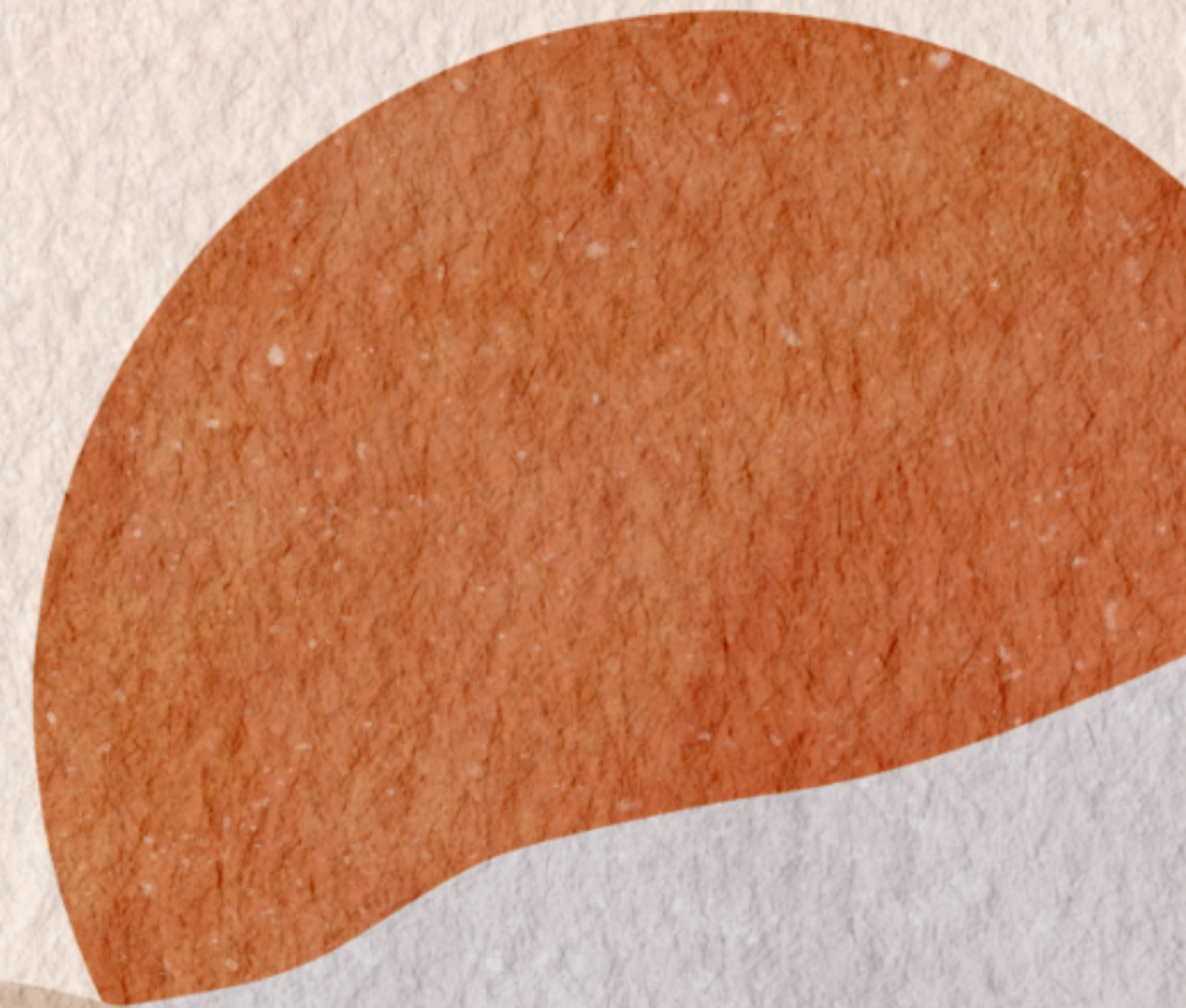
For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

— v 16



But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. *And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

— **vv 17-18**



“But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ [is] the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

— *1 Corinthians 1:24*

“In [Jesus] are hidden all the treasures of
wisdom and knowledge.”

— *Colossians 2:3*



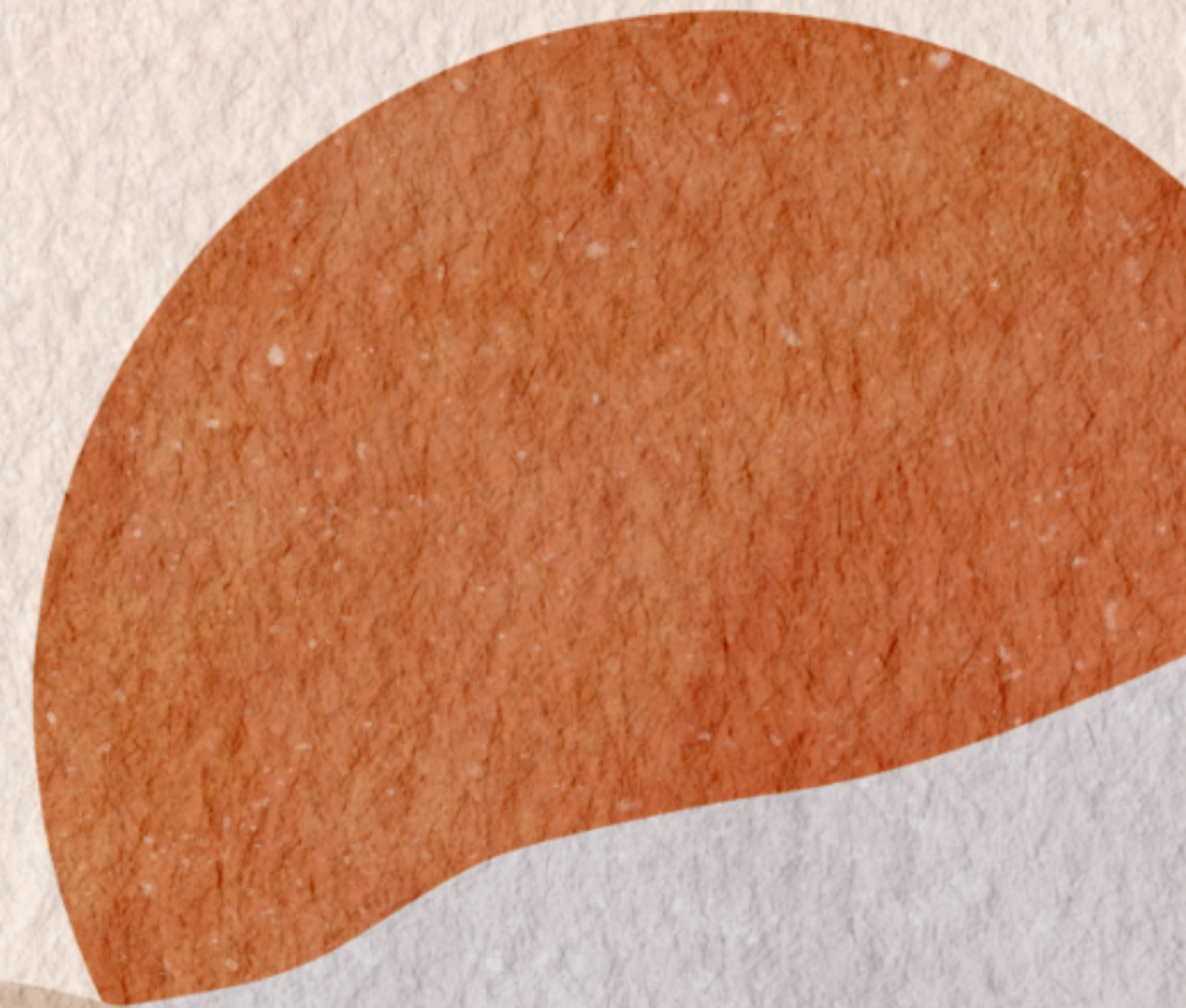
“My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints.”

— Proverbs 2:1-8



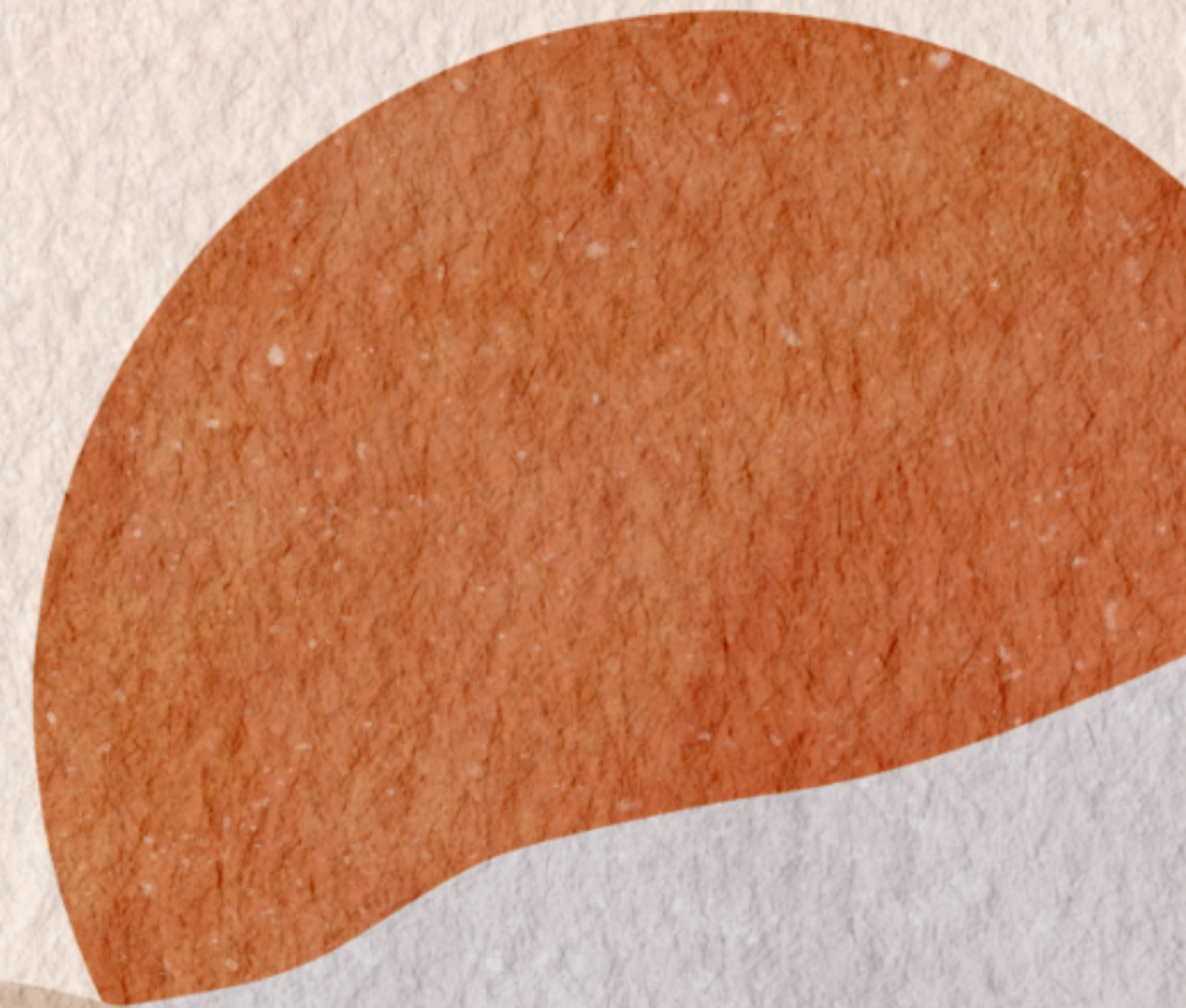
“As the Lord changes the heart, our virtues and good deeds become habits that are invisible to us. When loving-kindness flows from a renewed heart, not from conscious efforts to keep regulations, it creates the beautiful lifestyle that James has in mind.”

— Daniel Doriani



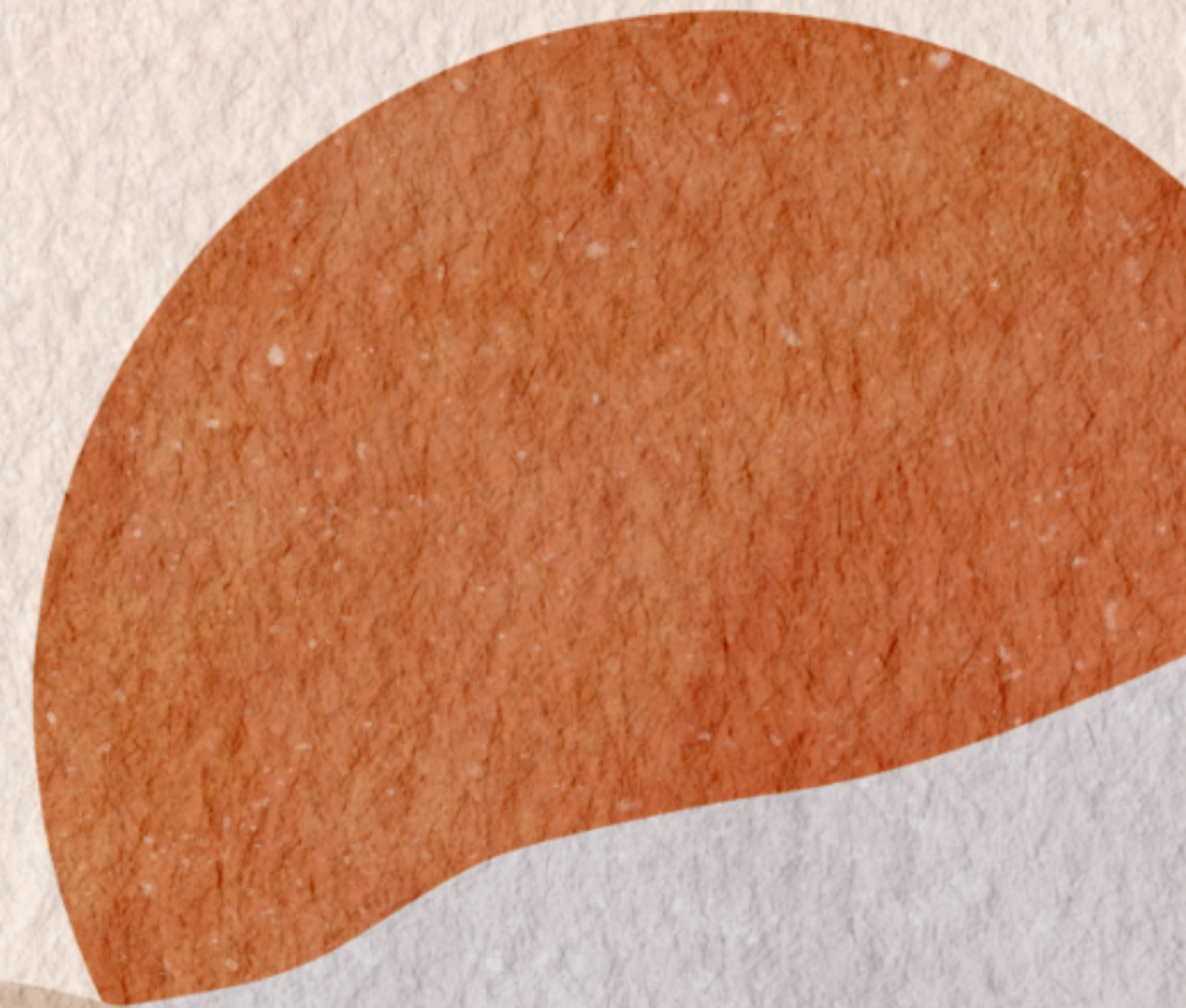
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— *vv* 17-18



“The spark that ignites the forest becomes the spark that sets the world ablaze with the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

— Sam Allberry



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