

A person is paragliding over a beach at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water. The sky is a mix of blue and orange. The person is silhouetted against the bright light of the sun. The paraglider is a yellow and red striped canopy. The person is sitting in a harness, suspended from the canopy. The beach is visible in the foreground, and the ocean is in the background. The overall mood is peaceful and adventurous.

THE CHALLENGE  
OF TRANSFORMING FRIENDSHIP

Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me



you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me

\*sinful\*



you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me

\*sinful\*



you





Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me

\*sinful\*



you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me

\*sinful\*



you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me  
\*sinful\*

you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me

you

\*sinful\*



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication

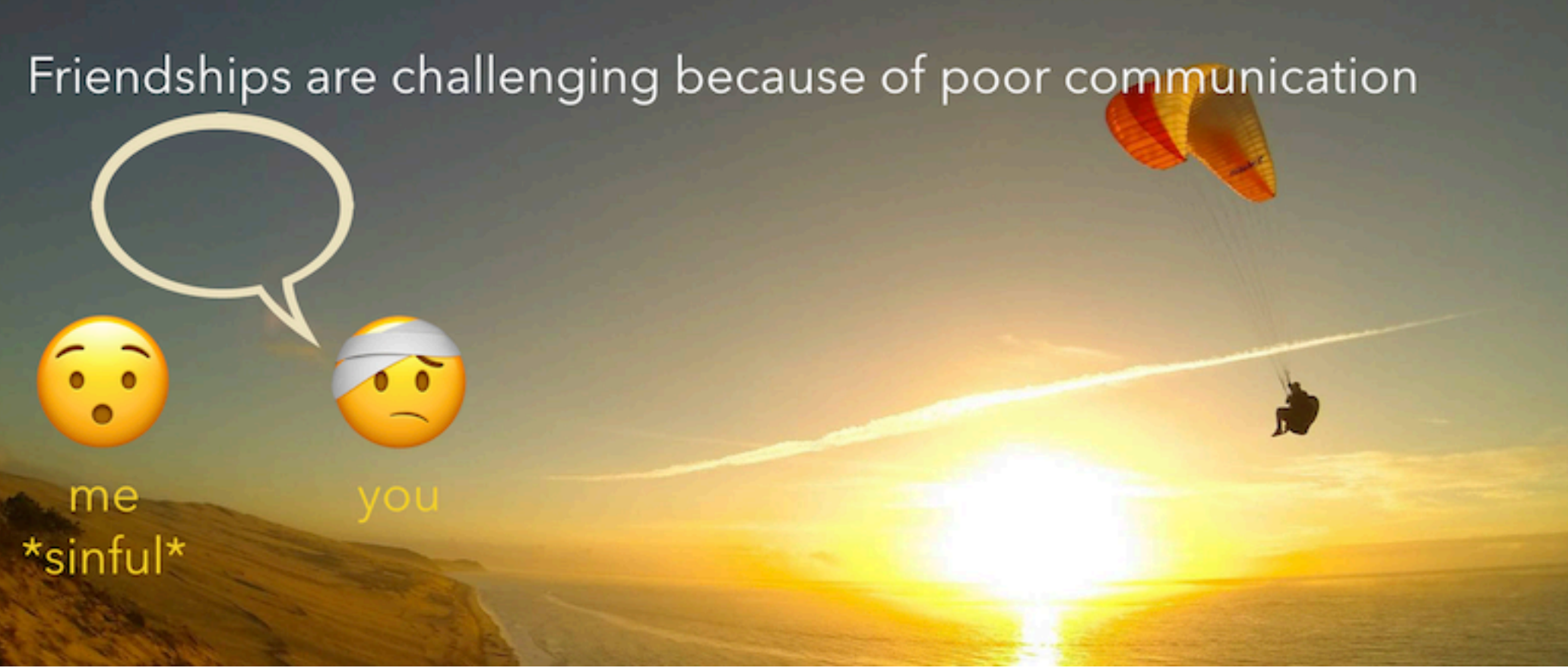


me

\*sinful\*



you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me

repentant\*



you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication



me



you



Friendships are challenging because of poor communication

*God uses our  
friendships to  
transform us*



me



you





Friendships are challenging because of poor communication

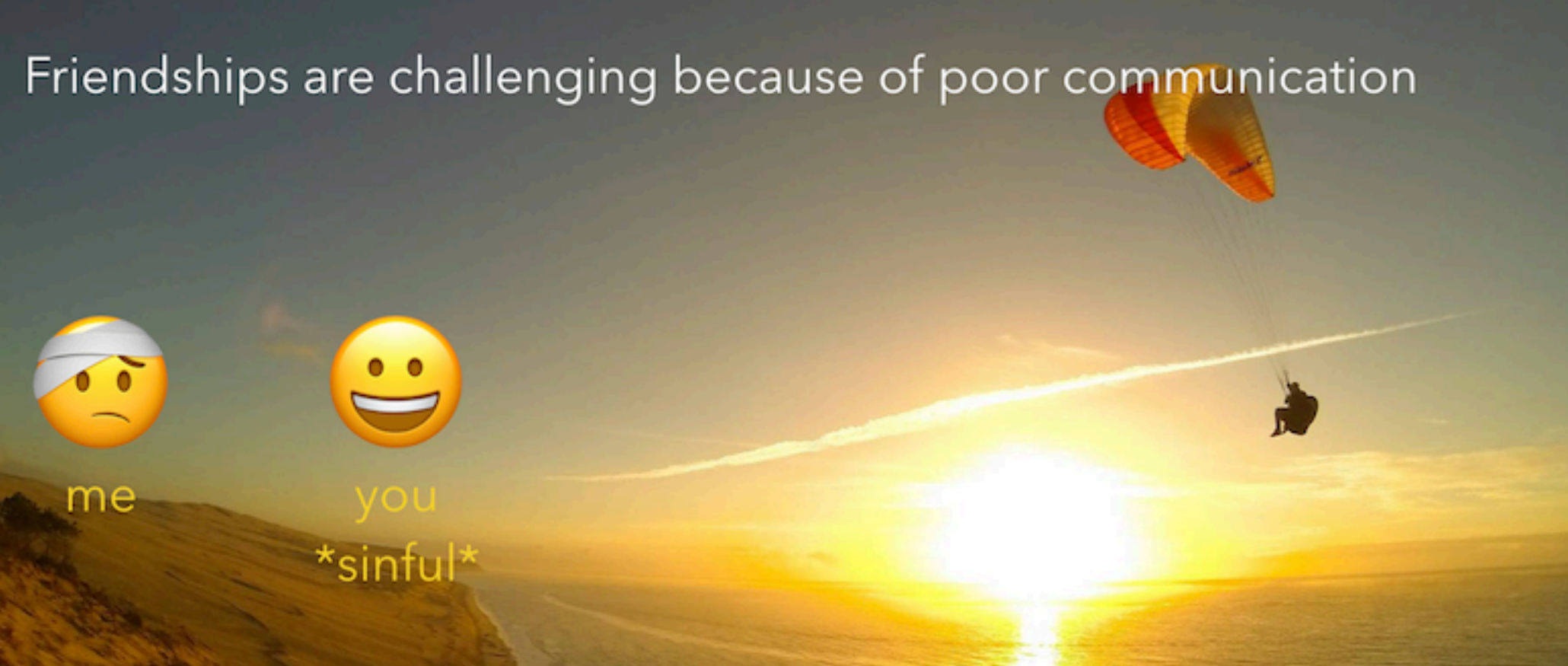


me



you

\*sinful\*



# Friendships are challenging because of poor communication

*God uses our  
friendships to  
transform us*



me

*We don't  
know what we  
don't know*



you

*We all need  
each other's  
help*



# Friendships are challenging because of poor communication

*God uses our friendships to transform us*



me

*We don't know what we don't know*



you

*We all need each other's help*



# Friendships are challenging because of poor communication

*God uses our friendships to transform us*

*We don't know what we don't know*

*We all need each other's help*



me



you





# Friendships are challenging because of poor communication

*God uses our friendships to transform us*

*We don't know what we don't know*

*We all need each other's help*

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.  
Romans 8:28



Sometimes we have legitimate differences of opinion

Listen well

Bless each other

Don't leave debris in your heart or  
someone else's



# Practical Conflict Resolution

## 1. Take initiative


- If someone hurts you, talk to them



"If your brother or sister<sup>TM</sup> sins,  
go and point out their fault,  
just between the two of you.  
If they listen to you, you have  
won them over.

Matthew 18:15

# Practical Conflict Resolution



## 1. Take initiative

- If someone hurts you, talk to them
- if you hurt someone, talk to them

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>11</sup>leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5:23-24




# Practical Conflict Resolution

## 1. Take initiative

## 2. Be a good listener

- hearing ≠ listening
- learn to ask clarifying questions
- lack of information leads to vain speculation
- if you have a problem with anger, its because you haven't learned to be quick to listen and slow to speak
- put yourself in their shoes until they feel like you "get them"

A person is paragliding over a sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds. The paraglider is silhouetted against the bright sky, and their colorful canopy is visible in the upper right. A dark grey text box is overlaid on the right side of the image.

"Be quick to listen, slow to speak,  
and slow to get angry." James 1:19

# Practical Conflict Resolution



1. Take initiative


2. Be a good listener

3. Ask God to show you your faults first

Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Matthew 7:3-5

# Practical Conflict Resolution



1. Take initiative

2. Be a good listener

3. Ask God to show you your faults first

4. Be a great forgiver

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

Matthew 18:21-22

Friendships

Transforming

Challenge

Jesus!

Healing

God, help me to  
believe again!

*God, I'll let you  
use the  
friendships I'm in*

*Help me speak  
with my friends*

*I want to know  
Jesus as my Lord  
and Savior*

*I need healing in  
my body*

Help me engage  
back in  
friendships

*I'll take initiative*

*Help me receive  
from my friends*

*I want to restart  
my relationship  
with Jesus*

*I need healing in  
my relationships*