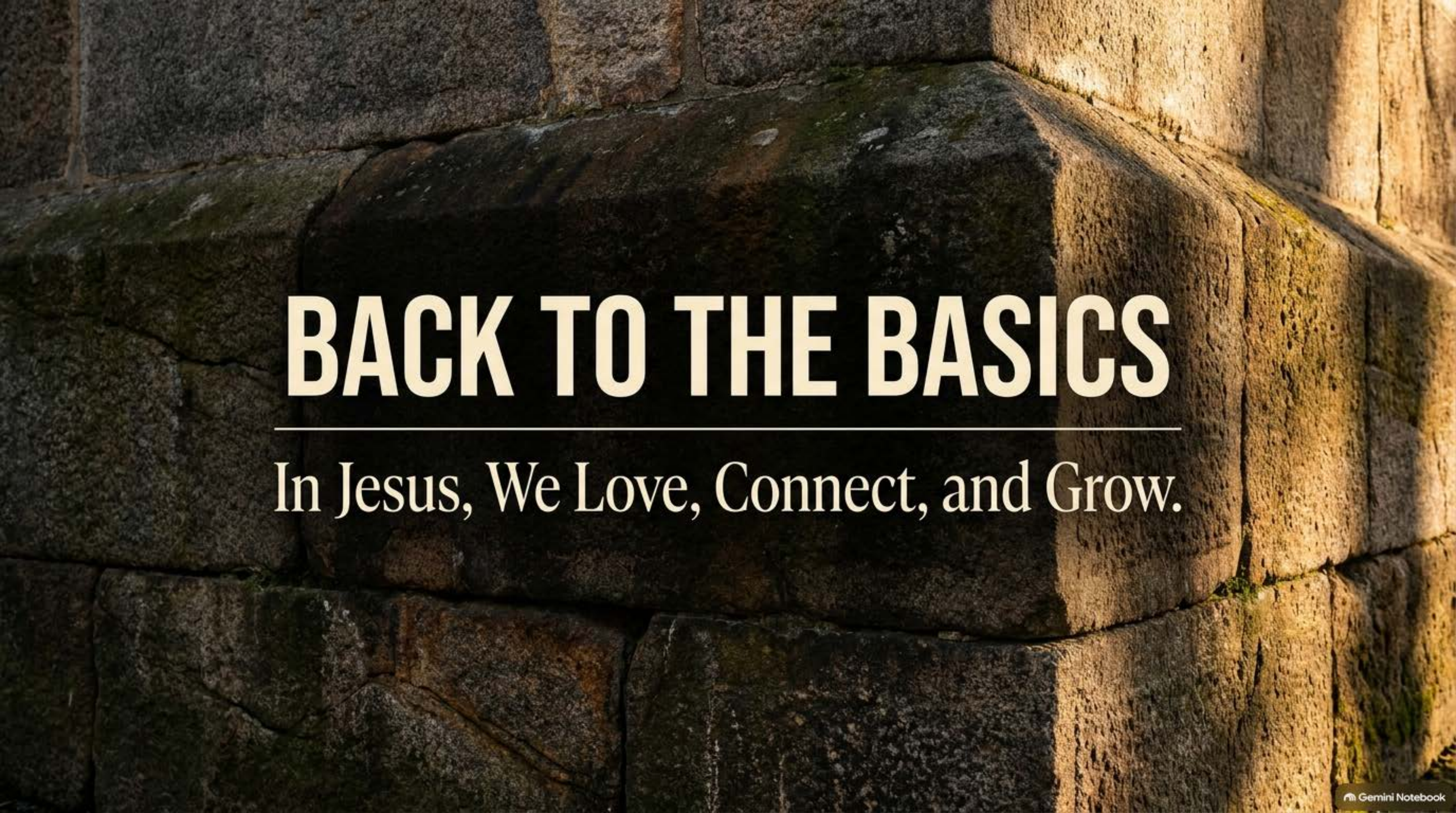




BACK TO THE BASICS

In Jesus, We Love, Connect, and Grow.



**“Gentlemen, this
is a football.”**

When we struggle, we don't need
something new and complicated.
We need our fundamentals.

Our Purpose. Our Fundamentals.



1. In Jesus — Our Cornerstone

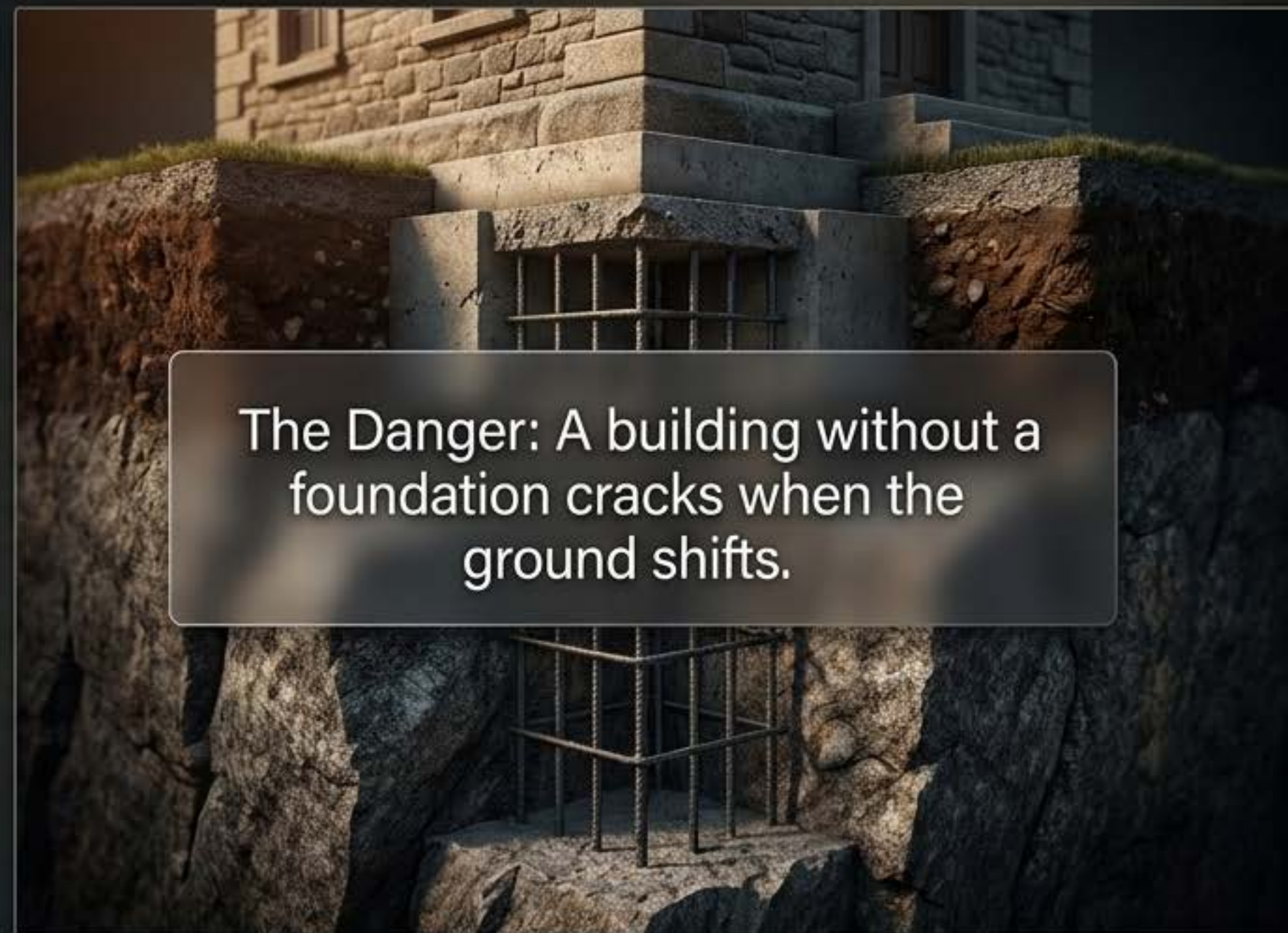
Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”

— *Colossians 2:6–7 (ESV)*

The Foundation Precedes the Building



The Danger: A tree without roots blows over in the first strong wind.



The Danger: A building without a foundation cracks when the ground shifts.

The Reality: Holiness is not the way to Christ. Christ is the way to holiness. — Adrian Rogers

The Truth: Salvation is not a self-improvement plan; it is receiving a gift we could never earn.

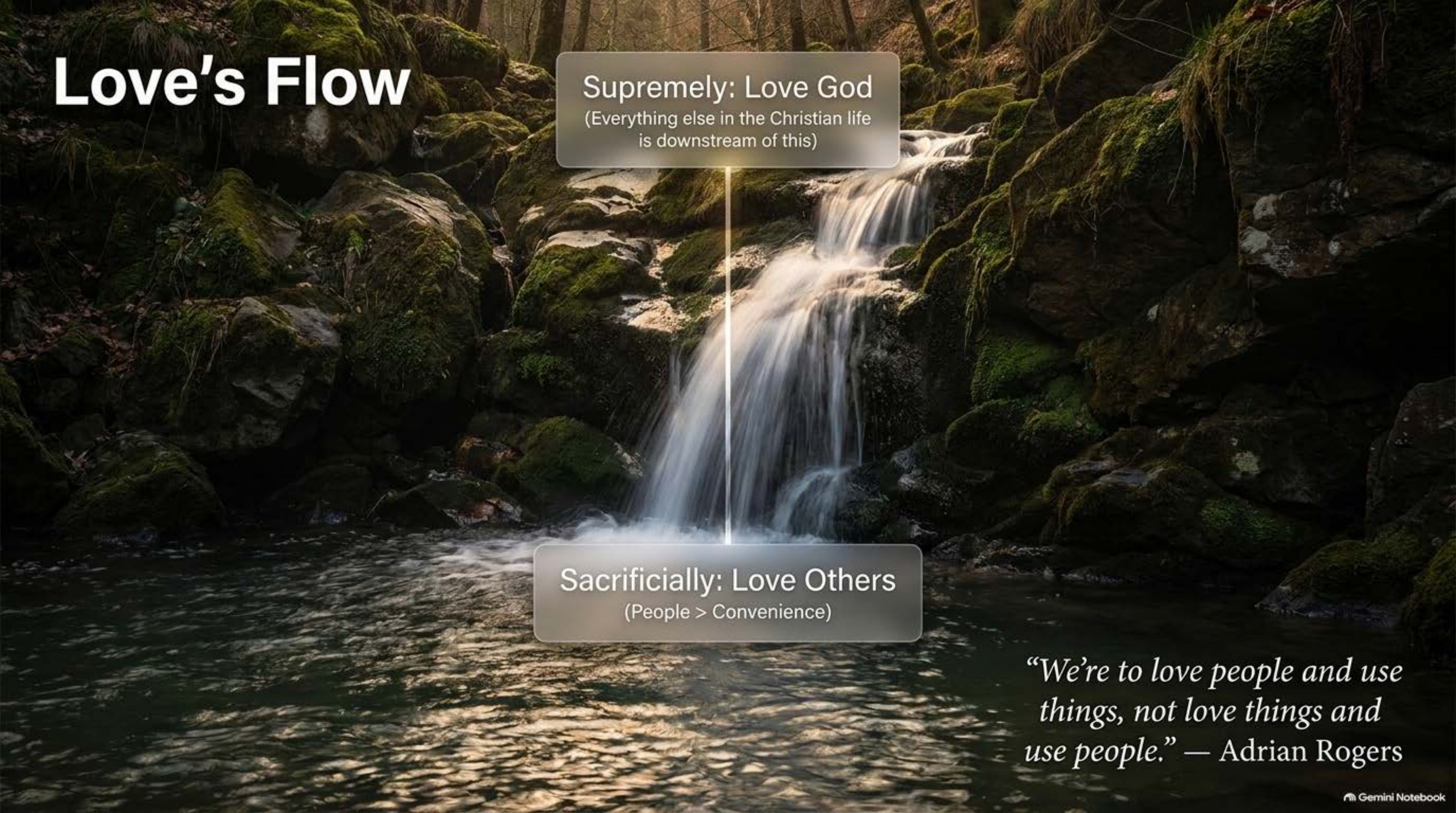


2. We Love — Our Compassion

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

— *John 13:34–35 (ESV)*

Love's Flow

A photograph of a waterfall in a forest. The water is cascading over mossy rocks. A vertical line runs down the center of the waterfall, connecting two text boxes. The top box is labeled 'Supremely: Love God' and the bottom box is labeled 'Sacrificially: Love Others'. The background is a dense forest with trees and foliage.

Supremely: Love God
(Everything else in the Christian life
is downstream of this)

Sacrificially: Love Others
(People > Convenience)

*“We’re to love people and use
things, not love things and
use people.” — Adrian Rogers*

3. Connect — Our Community

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers... day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes...

— *Acts 2:42, 46 (ESV)*



From Rows to Circles

A crowd cannot know your name. A small group can.



"Sheep go in flocks, and so do God's people." — Charles Spurgeon

4. Grow — Our Cultivation

But grow in the grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
To him be the glory both now and to
the day of eternity. Amen.

— *2 Peter 3:18 (ESV)*

Slow and Steady Cultivation

Intake (The Word)

Sunday sermons, small groups,
personal reading.



Output (Outreach)

Feeding others, local missions,
Operation Christmas Child, North
Cyprus.



A Christian who is only fed but never feeds others has stalled spiritually.

The Ministry Grid

Reach Out Reach In Reach Up	In Jesus	We Love	Connect	Grow
	Believe & Abide	Give Time & Talent	Worship & Communion	Train in Discipleship
	Baptism & Membership	Read Word & Bear Fruit	Join Small Groups	Serve Using Spiritual Gifts
	Share Good News	Pray for the Lost	Invite & Befriend	Go on Missions (Local/Cyprus)

5. What is Your Next Step? — Our Choice

And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

— Acts 2:47 (ESV)



A glowing lantern sits on a set of stone steps, casting a warm light. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a stone wall or cave.

God lights paths, not runways. — David Jeremiah

You don't have to see the whole staircase. Just take the step in front of you.

Salvation?
(Receiving Christ)

Connection?
(Signing up for a group today)

Growth?
(Picking the Bible back up)

Outreach?
(Praying for a neighbor, North Cyprus)

Where have you drifted?

☐ In Jesus.

☐ We Love.

☐ Connect.

☐ Grow.

(Fill out your My Next Step Card today).

My Next Step