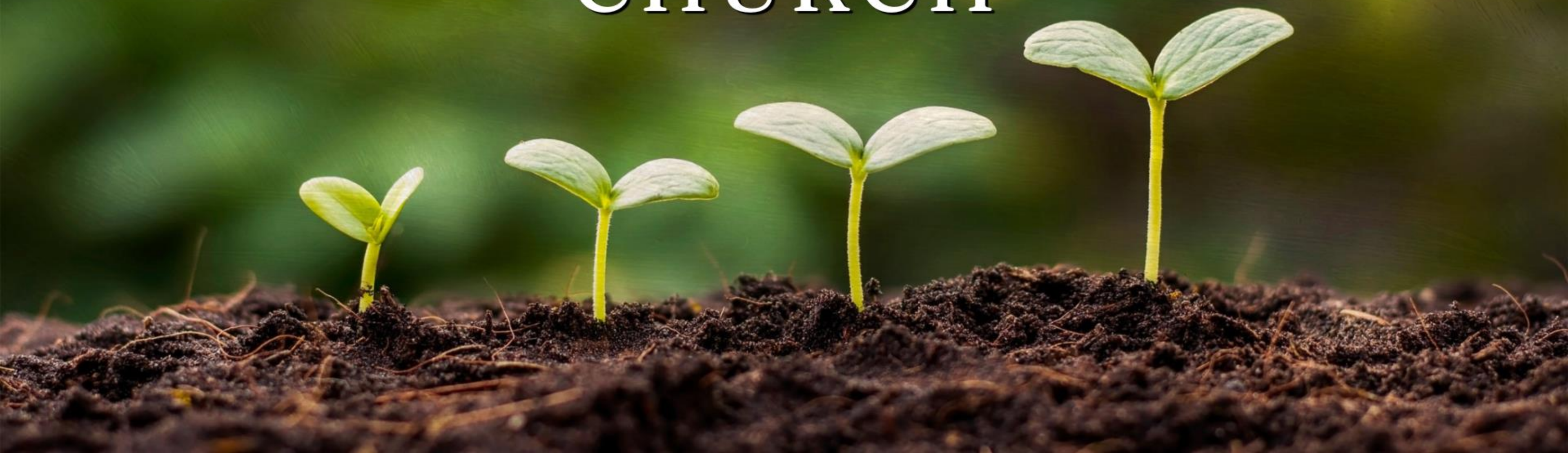


THE
MATURING
CHURCH



The Maturing Church...

Worships

John 4:24; Rom. 12:1-2

The Maturing Church series

- *Grows. Serves. Evangelizes. Tithes. Gives.*
- All of these 'Signs and Symptoms' flow from our personal intimacy with the Lord!
- Gratitude for WHO HE IS and WHAT HE HAS DONE produces our expression of worship
- This happens **NECESSARILY, NOT** out of "compulsion" or "manufactured behavior"

The Maturing Church ... *Worships*

Worship:

“To consider something ultimately worthy”

Biblical worship:

“A person’s entire being bent toward God in gratitude, wonder and reverence because of WHO HE IS and WHAT HE HAS DONE.”

The Maturing Church ... *Worships*

John 4:24

- As we consider HIS qualities/attributes/feats
- As we consider ALL HE HAS DONE
- As we remember what HE has promised to do

Biblical Worship is therefore the result of INWARD recognition and not OUTWARD circumstances.

The Maturing Church ... *Worships*

- Scriptural examples:
 - Believers worship during times of provision
 - Ex. 15:1-21
 - Moses & Miriam after God rescues Israel!
 - Luke 7:36-50
 - The woman worship Jesus bc of who He is.

The Maturing Church ... *Worships*

- Scriptural examples:
 - Believers worship during times of *difficulty*
 - 2 Sa. 12:16-23
 - David worshipped even after painful loss
 - Acts 16:19-34
 - Paul and Barnabas worshipped in prison

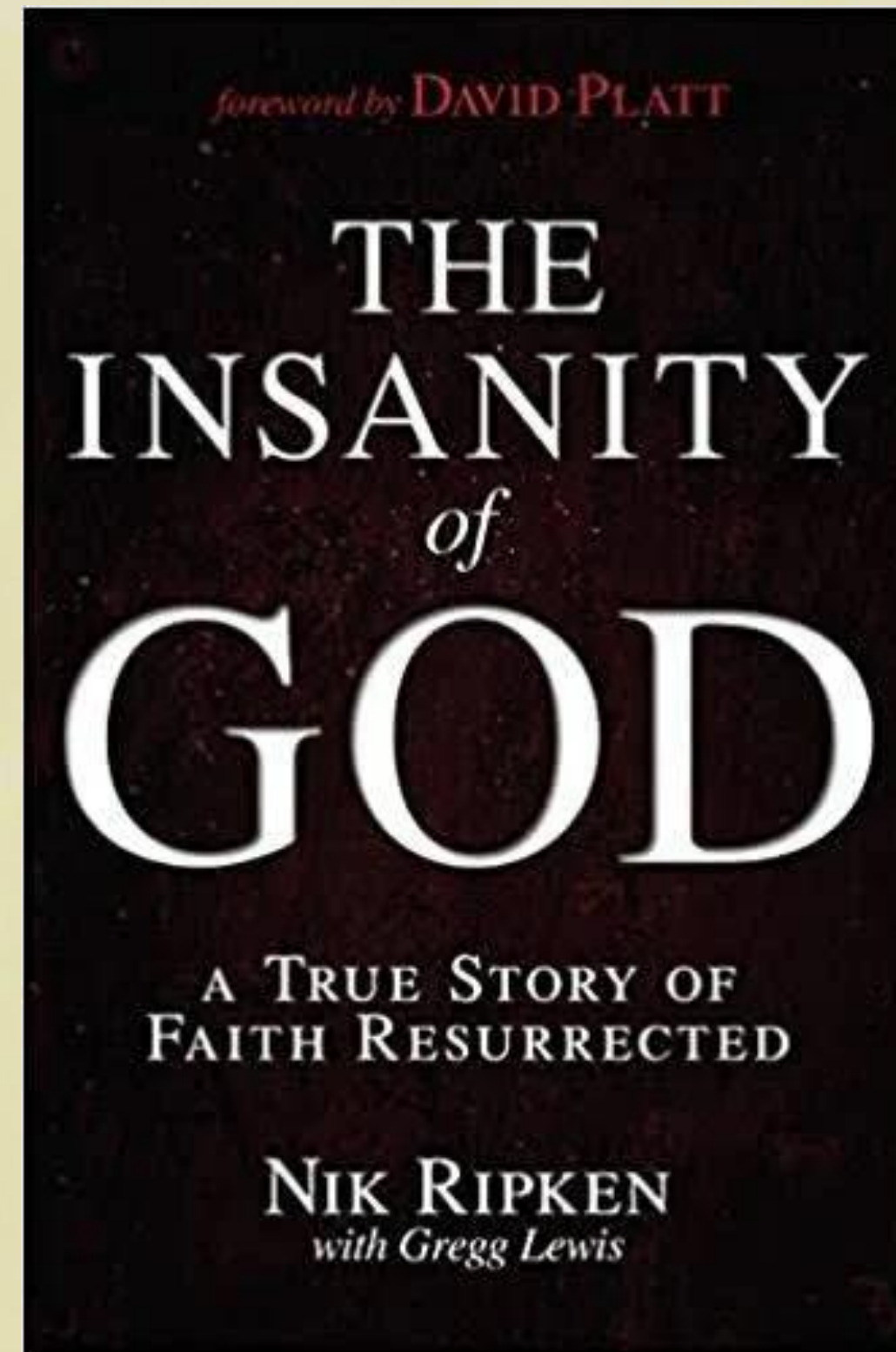
The Maturing Church ... *Worships*

- Worship produces Consistency in:
- (1) **My Perspective** on what I am experiencing
 - God alone is worthy of worship and He does not change.
- (2) **My sense of Mission and Purpose**
 - If HE is ultimately worthy, then I want to be about HIS work

The Maturing Church ... *Worships*

- Worship produces Consistency and Direction *regardless* of my earthly circumstances.

- The Insanity of God,
Nik Ripken



The Maturing Church ... *Worships*

- Worship produces Consistency in:
- (3) My Hope for the future
 - In what do I HOPE? What *cannot* give Hope?
- (4) My Attitude towards myself and others
 - It is in WORSHIP that I am most often convicted to seek reconciliation with others.
 - It is in WORSHIP I am reminded of WHO I am.

Prayer Challenges:

- 1. Am I waiting for the Sunday church service to do something for me that can only come from time with the Lord all week?
- 2. Is Sunday church service the only time I worship?
- 3. What ways can we worship during the week other than singing on Sunday?