

THE

LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Psalms 23:3b / P2



WHEN I'M UNCERTAIN & SEEKING GUIDANCE



**How do I know God's
guidance?**



“He leads me in paths of
righteousness for his
name’s sake.”

(Psalm 23:2-3b, ESV)

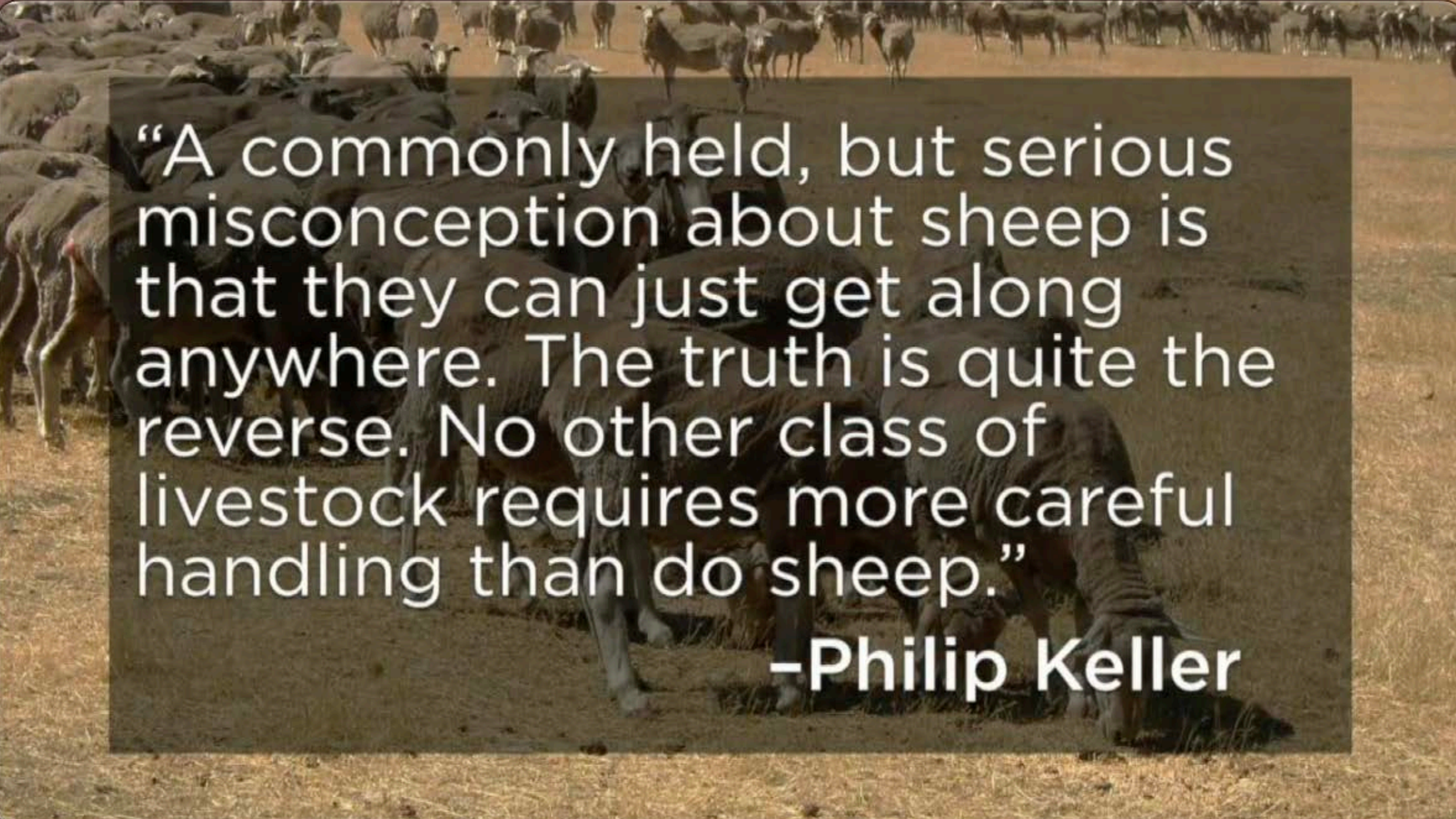


#1—

How does God lead me?

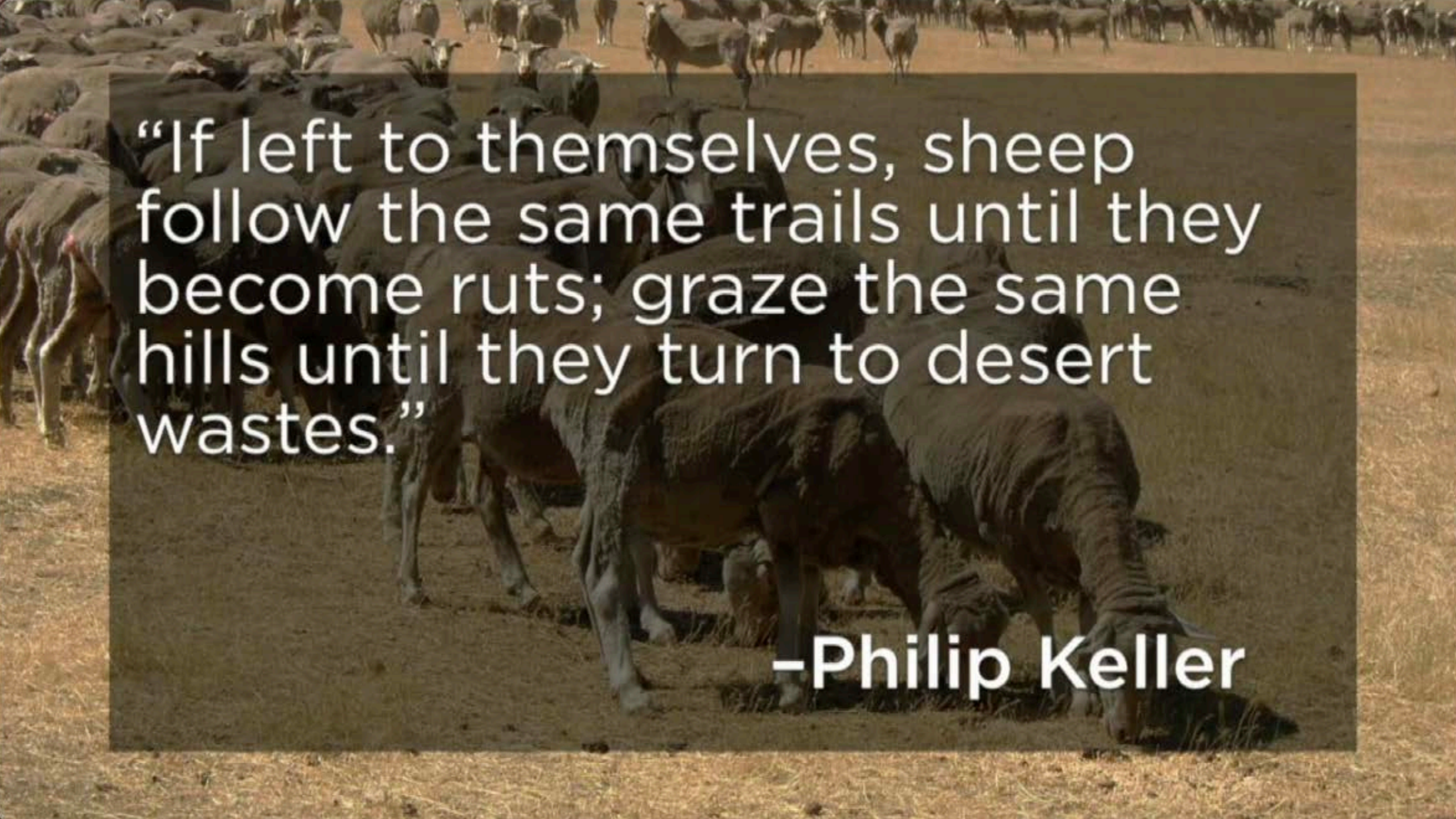




A large flock of sheep is gathered in a dry, open field. The sheep are mostly white with some black markings. They are standing on dry, yellowish-brown grass. The background shows a vast, flat landscape under a clear sky. The sheep are densely packed in some areas and more spread out in others. The overall scene is a pastoral landscape.

“A commonly held, but serious misconception about sheep is that they can just get along anywhere. The truth is quite the reverse. No other class of livestock requires more careful handling than do sheep.”

-Philip Keller

A large herd of sheep is grazing in a dry, hilly landscape. The sheep are densely packed in some areas, particularly in the foreground and middle ground, where they are seen from behind or in profile as they graze. The terrain is arid with sparse, dry vegetation. In the background, more sheep are visible, scattered across the hills. The overall scene conveys a sense of a large, unmanaged flock in a natural, albeit harsh, environment.

“If left to themselves, sheep follow the same trails until they become ruts; graze the same hills until they turn to desert wastes.”

–Philip Keller

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righteousness for his
name’s sake.”

(Psalm 23:2-3b, ESV)



Revelation from outside: The Bible



“Your **Word** is a lamp to
guide me, and a light for
my path.”

(Psalm 119:106, GN)



The Bible God's Wisdom on Life!

Here are some places to start:

On Marriage

Eph. 5:21-30,
Matt. 5:31-32, 19:3-9

On Work

Prov. 16:3, 15:22, 21:5,
Col. 3:23-24

On Words

Prov. 13:3, 16:23, 20:25,
18:21, Jam 3:2-12

On Anger

Prov. 15:1, 29:11, Ecc. 7:9,
Eph. 4:26, 31, Matt. 5:22

On Sexual Morality

Eph. 5:3, 1 Thes. 4:3-8,
Prov. 6:23-28, 5:16-20

On Worry

Phil. 4:6-8, Lk. 12:22-25,
Matt. 6:25-34

On Your Riches in Christ

Eph. 1:3-9, Rom. 8:1-2, 28-39,
2 Cor. 1:20-22

On Peace w/ Others

Matt. 5:23-24, Rom. 12:18, 14:19,
Col. 3:15, 1 Thes. 5:13, Heb. 12:14

Transformation from inside: The Holy Spirit



Cautions:

Don't be guided by
feelings alone



Cautions:

God's **will** never
contradicts
God's **Word**



#2—

Where does God lead me?



“He leads me in paths of
righteousness for his
name’s sake.”

(Psalm 23:2-3b, ESV)



“The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.”

(James 3:17, NIV)

Of the 25 times that the phrase
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22x: righteousness



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3x: God’s sovereignty



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**0x: God’s leading about
details of life**

God's will always has
more to do with my
character than my
circumstances.



**WHY DO I GET SO
STRESSED ABOUT
DECISION MAKING?**



I think God might
trick me



“You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them stone instead? Or if they for a fish, do you give the snake? Of course not!”

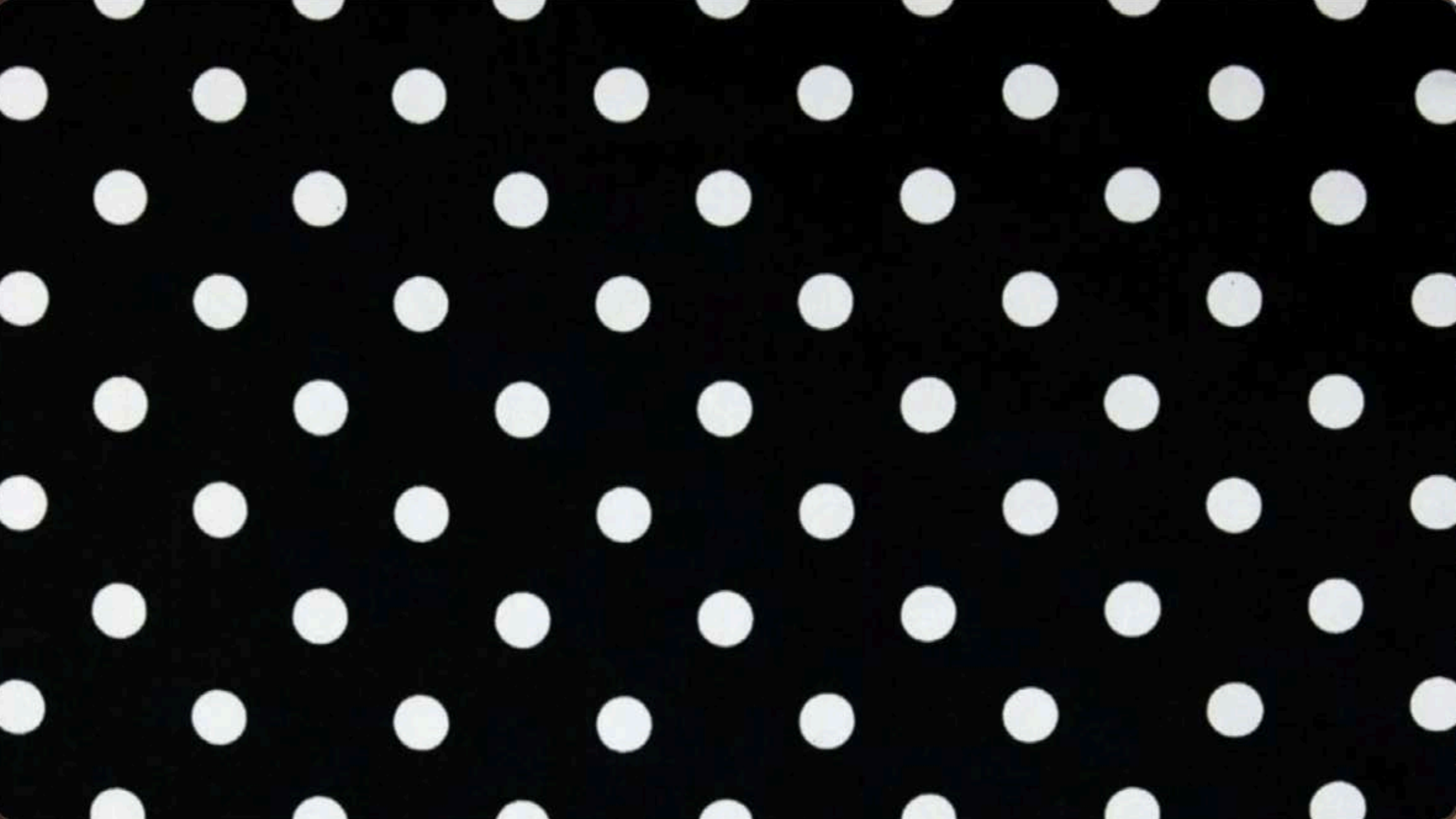
(Matthew 7:10, NLT)

“So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.” *(Matthew 7:11, NLT)*



**I think God's will
is a dot**







“Everyone must make up
his own mind as to how
much to give.”

(2 Corinthians 9:7, NCV)



“Everyone must **make up**
his own mind as to how
much to give.”

(2 Corinthians 9:7, NCV)



“If some unbeliever invites
you to a meal and you want
to go, eat whatever is put
before you...”

(1 Corinthians 10:27, NIV)



“If some unbeliever invites
you to a meal **and you want
to go**, eat whatever is put
before you...”

(1 Corinthians 10:27, NIV)



“If anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward the young woman he is engaged to... and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants.” *(1 Corinthians 7:36, ESV)*



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#3—

Why does God lead me?



**Act in a way
that people are
drawn to God**



**The most important
decision I can make:**



“Trust in the LORD with all
your heart and lean not on
your own understanding, in
all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths
straight.” *(Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV)*



“Trust in the LORD with all
your heart and **lean not on**
your own understanding, in
all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths
straight.” *(Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV)*



**The most important
decision I can make:
Trust God with my
whole life**



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