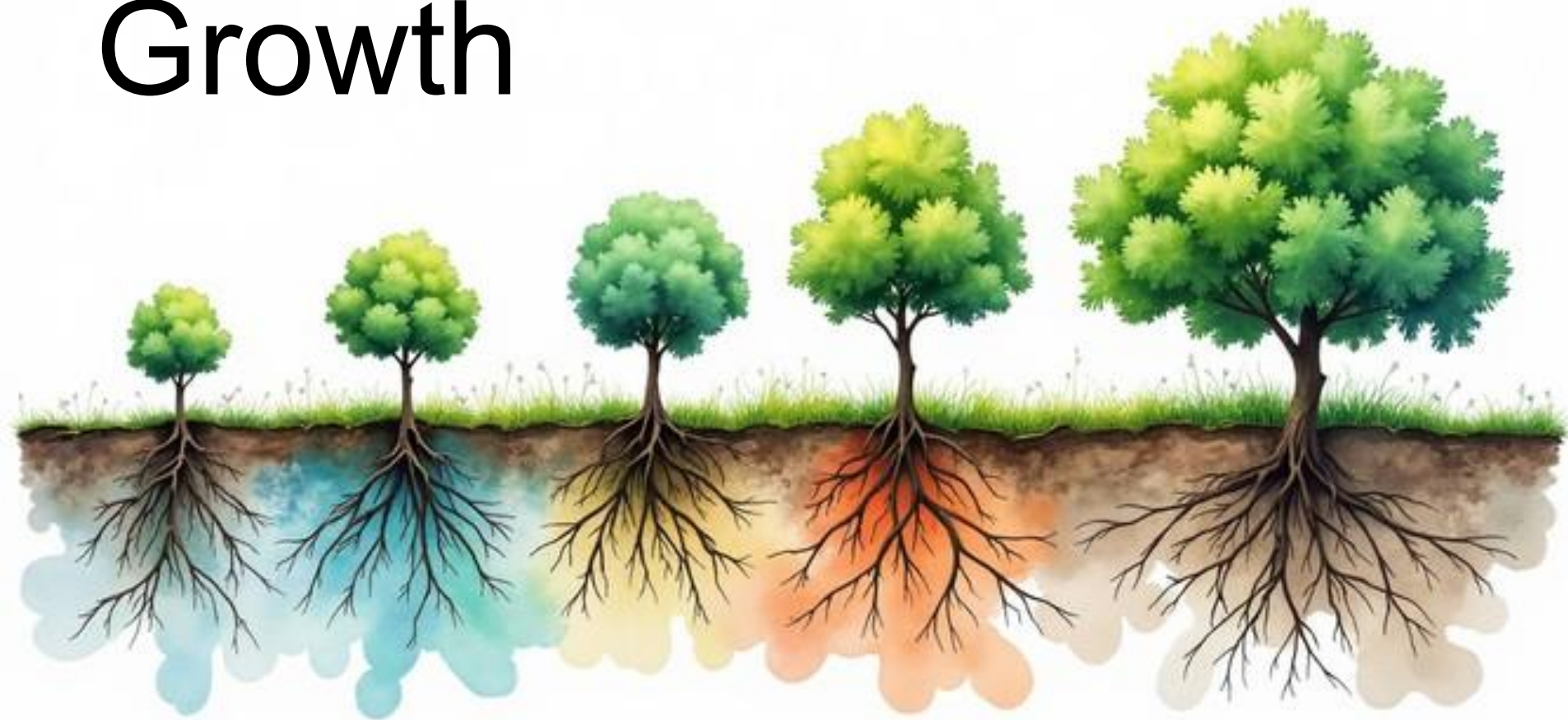


Fundamentals Of Spiritual Growth



Agenda

- Recap
- Central Question
- Frame of Reference
- Love
- Faith – what it is/is not
- Food

Course Preview

- 1: Introduction / Overview
- 2: Complete in Him
- 3: Appropriation
- 4: Understanding the Cross
- 5: The Atmosphere of Growth
- 6: Walking by Faith

Philippians 1:6

⁶ For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Christ Jesus.

A close-up photograph of a car's side-view mirror. The mirror is oval-shaped with a black frame and a gold-colored outer casing. It reflects a desert landscape with a long, straight road stretching into the distance. The road is flanked by dry, sandy terrain. In the lower right corner of the mirror's reflection, the text "OBJECTS IN MIRROR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR" is printed in white, sans-serif capital letters. The overall lighting is warm and golden, suggesting a sunset or sunrise setting.

OBJECTS IN MIRROR ARE
CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR

The Journey So Far

KNOW BE
DO

MADE COMPLETE
IN CHRIST

Colossians 2:9



Knowing-Jesus.com

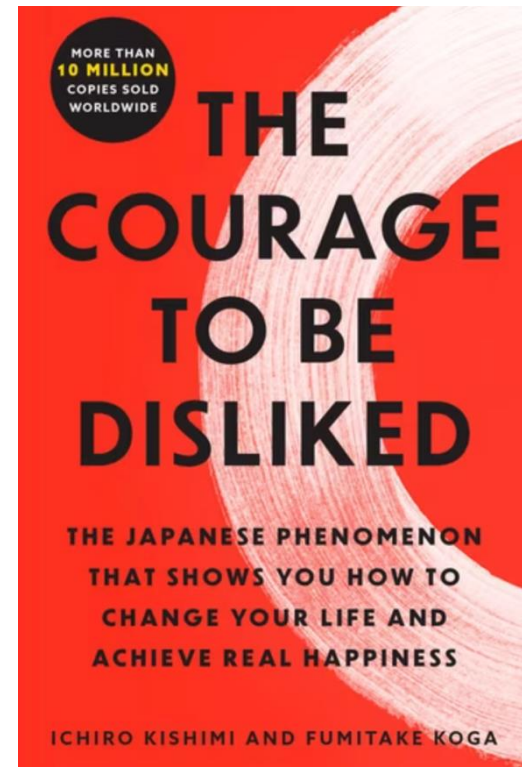
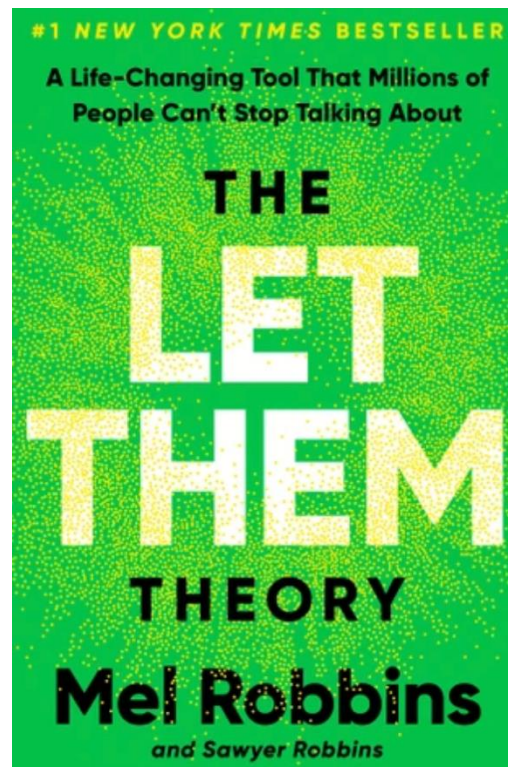
The Journey So Far





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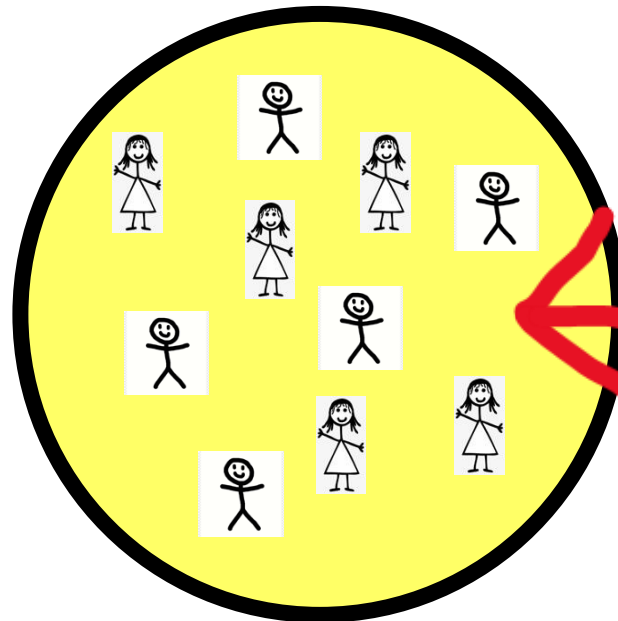




Ephesians 1:6

⁶ to the praise of His glorious
grace, with which He has made
us accepted in the Beloved.

Christ
"Beloved"



accepted

Do we feel accepted...



...when things are going well?



...when things are NOT going well?

God's Basis

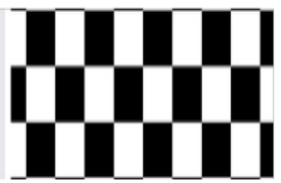


Results

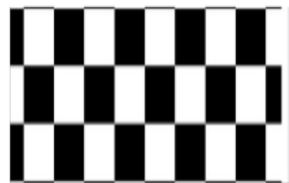
- Change your behavior → become who you should be
- Fear-based motivation

Identity

- Know who you are → behavior follows
- Love-based motivation



POSITION TO WIN



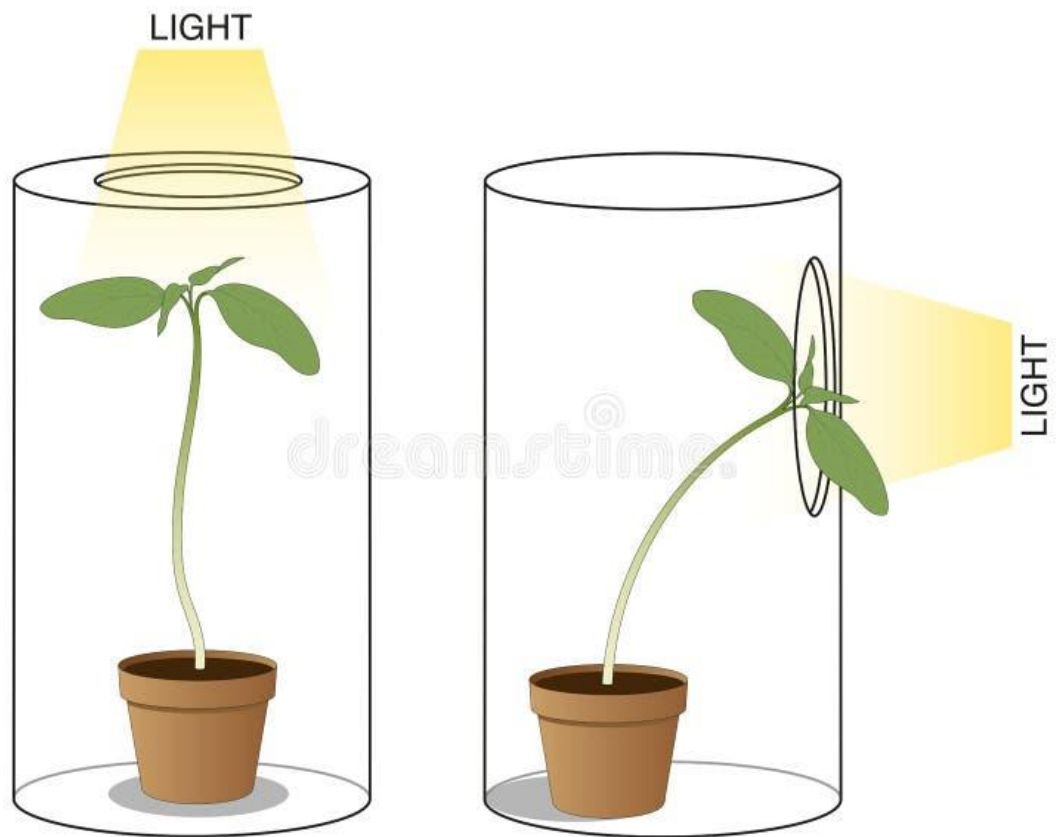
AUTOMOTIVE SALES
TRAINING

2 Peter 3:18

¹⁸ But grow in ~~the~~ grace and in ~~the~~ knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...



***“grow in
grace”***



Romans 5:1-2

¹ Therefore since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand...



Titus 2:11-12

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, ¹² instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,

Training / Instruction

- Educates
- Corrects
- Disciplines



DENY

- Ungodliness
- Worldly passions

LIVE

- Sensibly
- Righteously
- Godly



GRACE & KNOWLEDGE





♪ *What is Love?* ♪



one, **13** If I speak in the tongues¹ of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ²If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,⁴ but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁵Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁶It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁷Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁸It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁹Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.



AGAPE

Unconditional, sacrificial
love exemplified by Christ

John 15:13

God and humanity



PHILIA

Brotherly love and
friendship

Romans 12:10

Fellow believers, friends



STORGE

Family affection

Romans 12:10

between family members



EROS

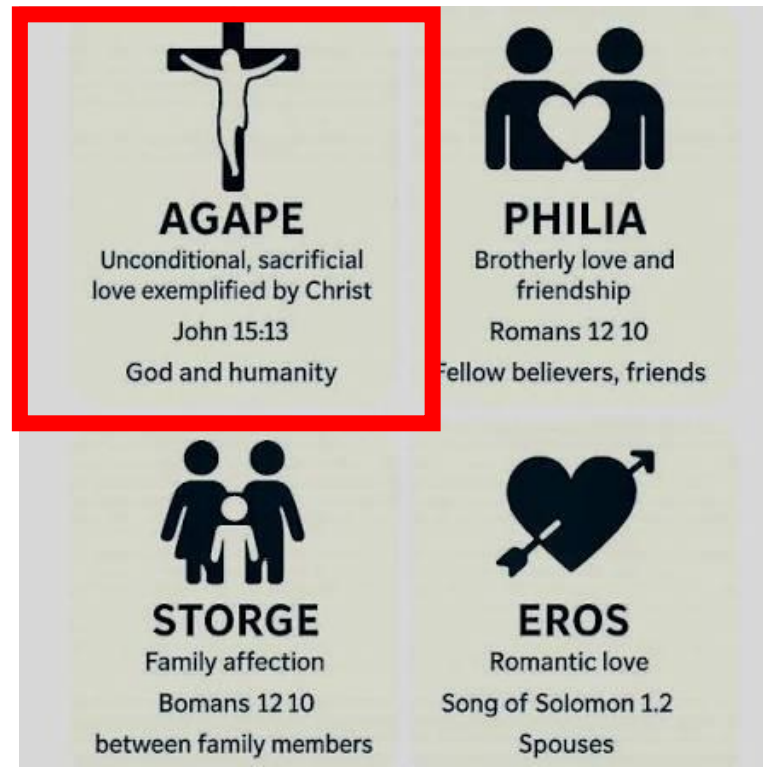
Romantic love

Song of Solomon 1:2

Spouses

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world
that He gave His only begotten
Son....





AGAPE

Unconditional, sacrificial
love exemplified by Christ

John 15:13

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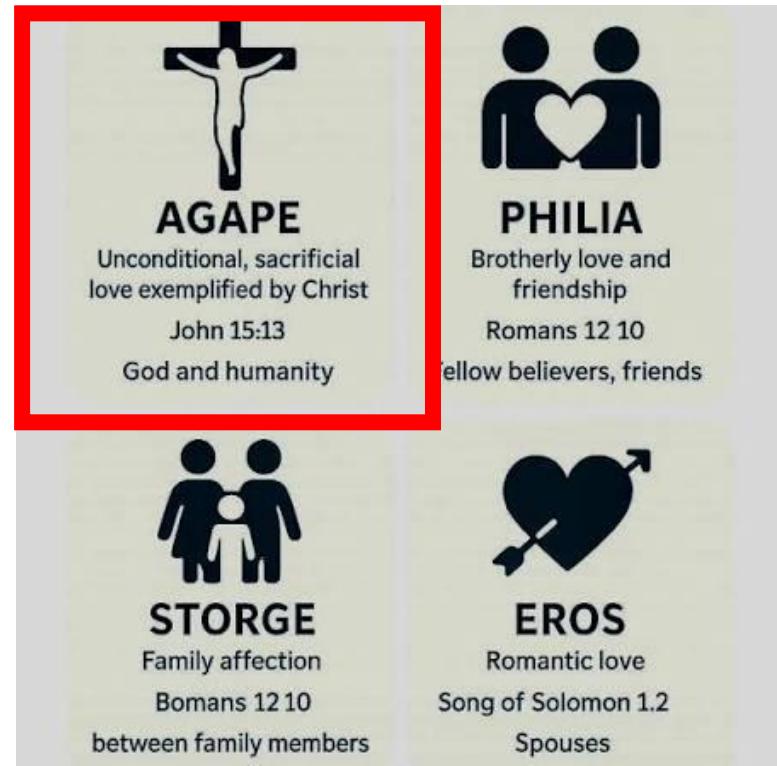
Romantic love

Song of Solomon 1:2

Spouses

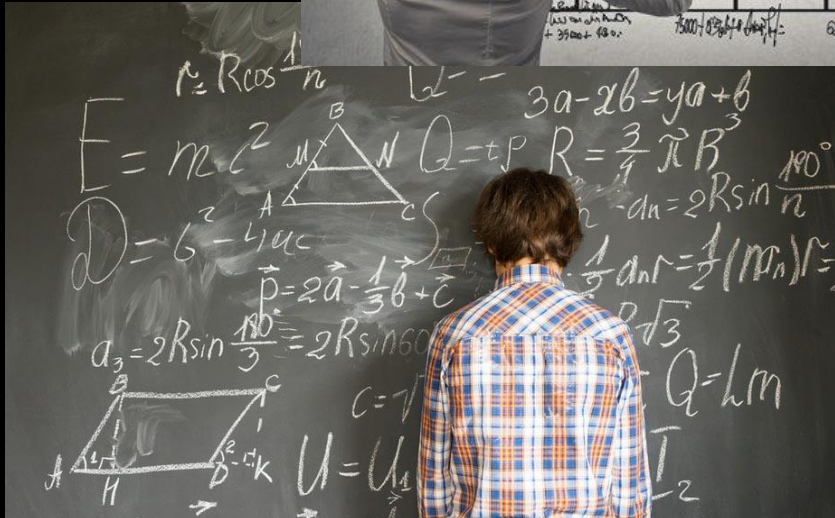
John 3:19

¹⁹ ...light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.





Faith Isn't One Simple Thing Either



Four Aspects of Faith

Its Essence ➔ What faith is

“The Faith” ➔ Body of truth

Personal ➔ Our trust and rest

Principle ➔ How the whole system operates

Hebrews 11:1

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Faith = _____

Hebrews 11:1

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Faith = assurance

Faith = conviction

Hebrews 11:1

¹ Now faith is the **assurance** of things hoped for, the **conviction** of things not seen.

- **Substance**
- **Confidence**
- **Reality**
- **Evidence**
- **Proof**
- **Certainty**

Hebrews 11:1

Faith = assurance of
things hoped for

Faith = conviction of
things not seen

Hebrews 11:1

Faith = reality of
things hoped for

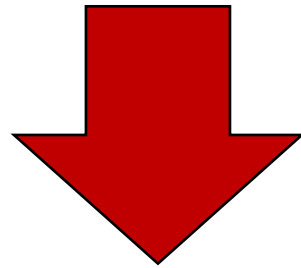
Faith = evidence of
things not seen

TL;DR

Faith = Reality

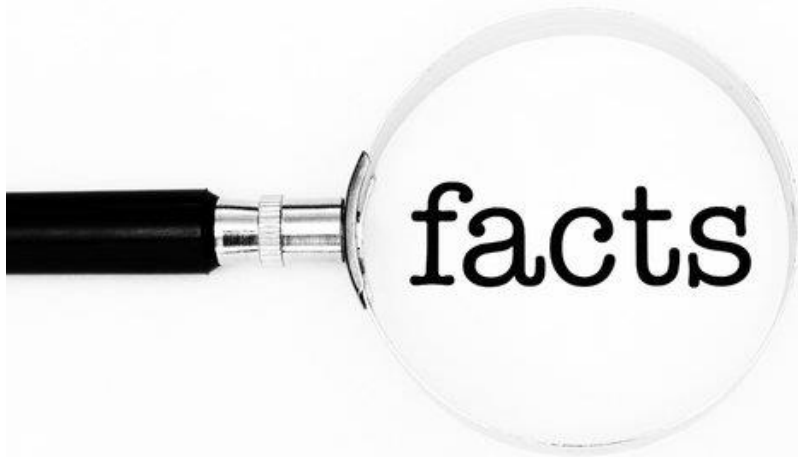
Pivot Point

Faith's Essence



Personal Faith

Faith Needs

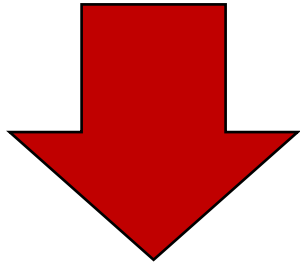


Faith Needs an Object



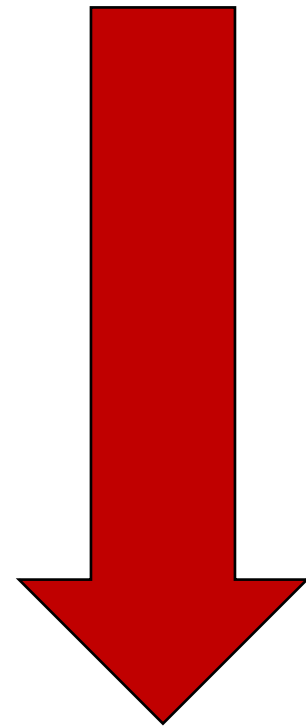
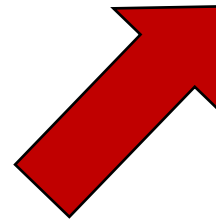
Object of Our Faith

- Human wisdom
- Self-confidence
- Self-reliance
- Self-performance



UNREST

Jesus Christ



REST

Are facts enough?



**FACT:
I KNOW
A LOT OF
RANDOM
FACTS!**

How do we know?



John 17:3

³ And this is eternal life, that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.



VS



Faith IS NOT

- Impressions
- Probabilities
- Willpower
- Positive thinking
- Resignation

Faith IS

- Reality
- Certainty
- Dependence
- Confidence
- Rest

COMPARE & CONTRAST



Impressions

- Something that *feels* true
- “I just have a feeling...”
- Subjective: mood-dependent
- Nothing to do with faith

Reality

- Something that *actually is* true
- This is what God has said
- Objective: **not** mood-dependent
- What faith rests on

Probabilities

- “It doesn’t seem likely...”
- Based on appearances
- Affected by circumstances
- Where faith is NOT found

Certainty

- God said it and I believe it
- Based on what God has said
- Unaffected by circumstances
- Where faith begins

Willpower

- A force you exercise
- “If I believe hard enough...”
- Self-generated effort
- Gritting your teeth

Dependence

- Leaning on God, not self
- “I need to believe what’s true”
- Begins at the end of self
- Learned through helplessness

Positivity

- Manufactured optimism
- “It’ll probably work out...”
- Self-generated, no fixed basis
- Wishful thinking

Confidence

- Grounded assurance
- “God is working for my good”
- Rests on what God already said
- Definitive of God’s purpose

Resignation

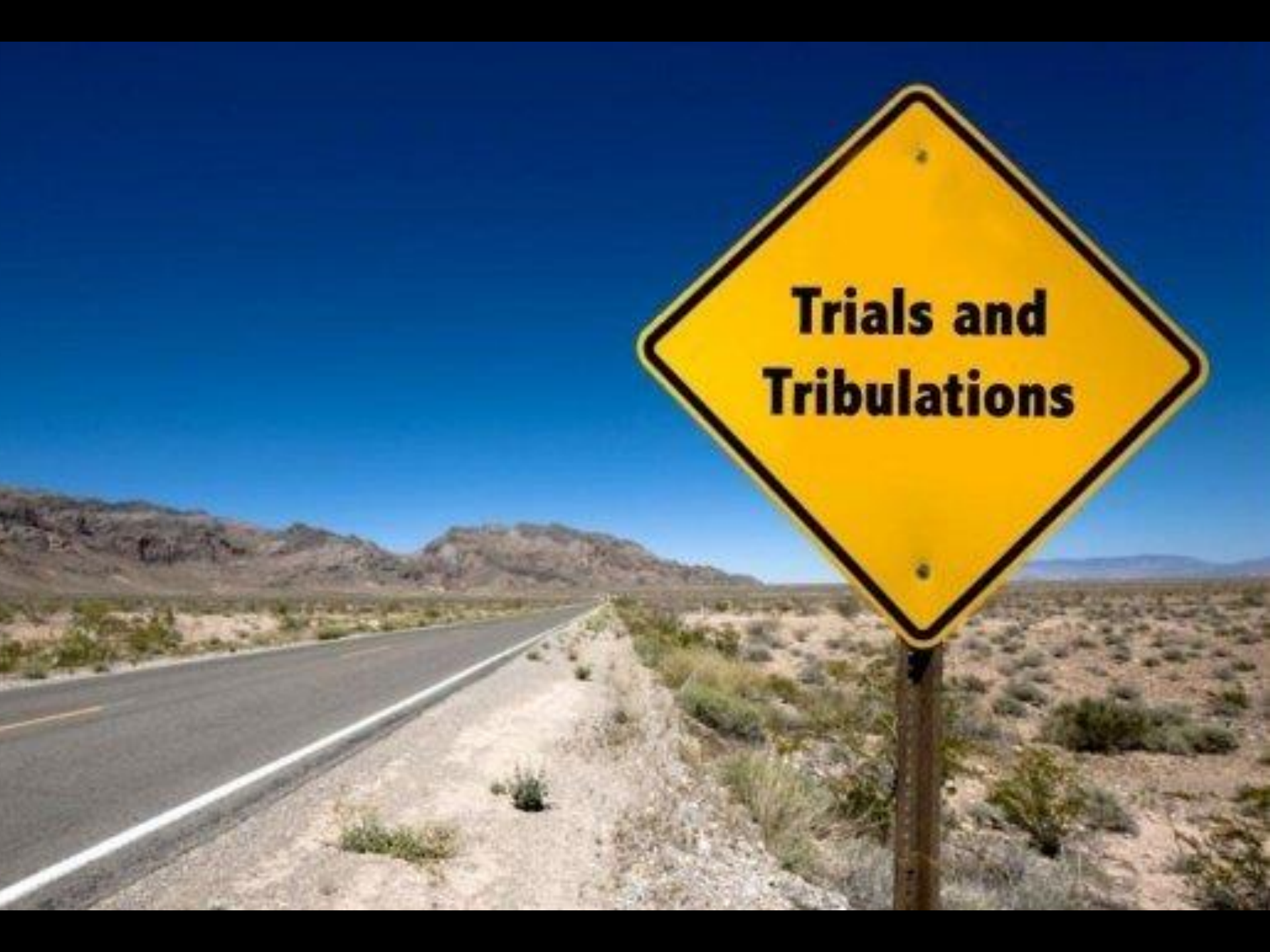
- Giving up the fight
- “I’ve made my peace with it...”
- Quiet acceptance
- Giving up the fight

Rest

- Settled trust, not defeated
- “I’m at peace because of God”
- Accepting His will for us
- Quiet confidence He is working







**Trials and
Tribulations**

HOW GOD USES OUR TRIALS FOR GOOD



James 1:2-4

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

