A person wearing a vibrant, multi-colored shawl is shown from the back, blowing a long, curved horn. The scene is set against a dramatic sunset with a bright sun on the left and a hazy, mountainous landscape in the background. The overall mood is one of proclamation or announcement.

**And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock  
I will build My church, and the gates of Hades  
shall not overpower it [or be strong to its  
detriment or hold out against it].**

**Matthew 16:18 (Amplified Bible)**



**The Person & the Work of the**

# *Holy Spirit*

*10. The Role of the Holy Spirit  
in the Church - 7*

▶ **The Holy Spirit empowers believers to walk in the supernatural presence & power of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit as the Advocate for Christ, the Head of the Church, is both IN & WITH believers to empower us to walk in the manifestations of the power and authority He has given to us SO THAT we might co-labour with Him to accomplish His will on earth & to see the Church built that Jesus said He would build.

1. And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to **spiritual men**, but as to **men of flesh**, as to infants in Christ.
2. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able,
3. for you are still fleshly.

**1 Corinthians 3:1-3**

1. However brethren, I could not talk to you as to spiritual [men], but as to nonspiritual [**men of the flesh, in whom the carnal nature predominates**], as to **mere infants** [in the new life] in Christ [unable to talk yet!]
2. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not yet strong enough [to be ready for it]; but even yet you are not strong enough [to be ready for it],
3. For you are still [**unspiritual, having the nature**] of the **flesh** [under the control of ordinary impulses].

**1 Corinthians 3:1-3** (Amplified Bible)

As for myself, I also, brethren, was not able to speak to you **as I would to those dominated by the Holy Spirit**, but as I would to those dominated by the evil nature, as I would to those in Christ who are still immature spiritually.

**1 Corinthians 3:1** (Wuest New Testament Translation)

# NATURAL man



Unsaved,  
not born again  
(psuchikos)

# FLESHLY man



Fleshly, worldly  
immature in God  
(sarkikos)

# SPIRITUAL man



Maturing in God,  
alive to the Holy Spirit  
(pneumatikos)

## NATURAL man

“does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.”

## FLESHLY man

Their Christian lives are characterised by their own efforts rather than by the ministry of the Holy Spirit.  
**NOT controlled by the Spirit of God.**

## SPIRITUAL man



Maturing in God,  
alive to the Holy Spirit  
(pneumatikos)

And we are witnesses of these things;  
and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God  
has given to **those who obey Him.**

**Acts 5:32**

You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are always **resisting the Holy Spirit**; you are doing just as your fathers did.

**Acts 7:51**

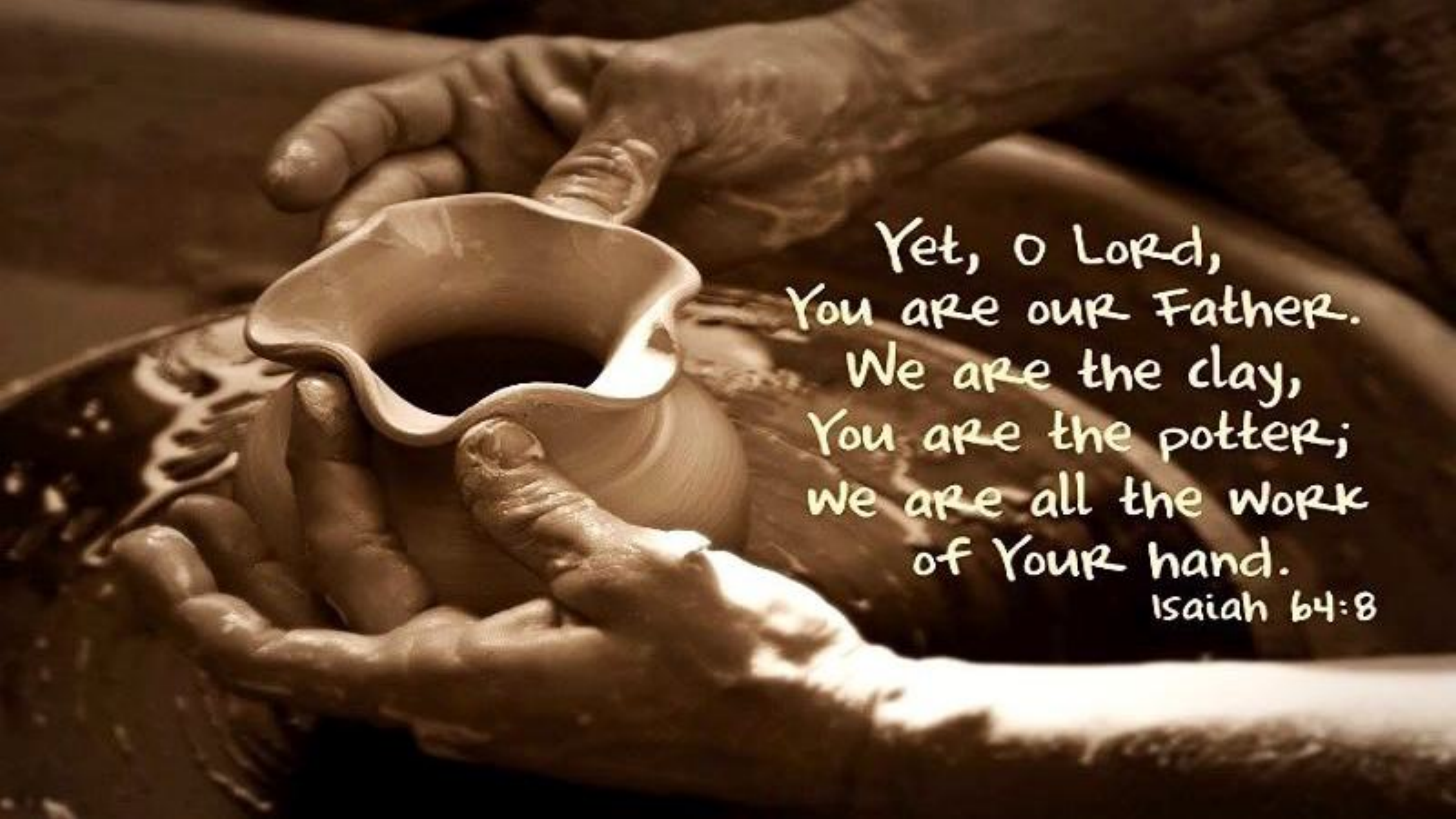
For we are His handiwork, created in Christ Jesus with a view to good works which God prepared beforehand in order that within their sphere we may order our behaviour.

**Ephesians 2:10** (Wuest N.T. Translation)



# Our Journey in God

**OUR IDENTITY**  
God's  
handiwork



Yet, O Lord,  
You are our Father.  
We are the clay,  
You are the potter;  
we are all the work  
of Your hand.  
Isaiah 64:8



# Our Journey in God

**OUR IDENTITY**  
God's  
handiwork

**OUR PURPOSE**  
To do good  
works

Works are to salvation, what thunder is to lightning, an inevitable result. Just as thunder does not generate lightning, our good deeds will not generate salvation. But on the other hand, just as you can't have lightning without the following thunderclap, you can't experience the transformation of salvation without a change in your attitudes and behaviours.

---

Steve Kreloff

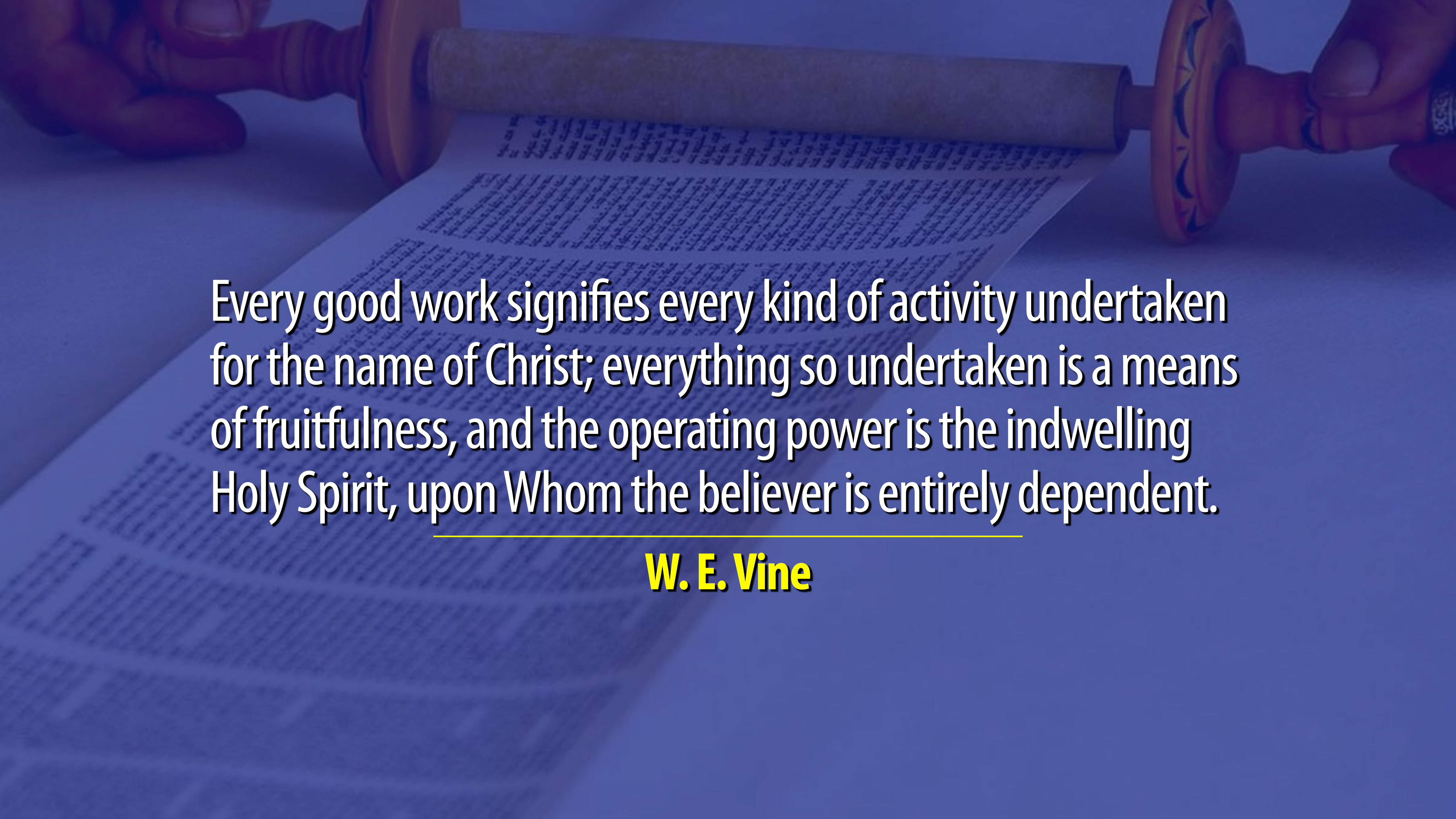
- ▶ We are saved apart from good works, but saved unto good works. **Good works are the aim of our salvation and the evidence of our faith.**
- ▶ Works never produce salvation, but **salvation always produces good works.**
- ▶ We are not saved by faith plus good works, but by a faith that works. Any declaration of faith that does not result in a changed life **and good works** is a false declaration. True saving faith can never be by itself for it always brings life, and life produces good works.
- ▶ Works have nothing to do with redemption; but works testify that redemption has been wrought in the heart. **We work because we are the sons of God.** We do not work to try to gain Heaven - we work because we are on the way to Heaven.

I am the vine and you are the branches. The one who remains in Me, and I in him, will bear much fruit. **For apart from Me you can do nothing.**

**John 15:5**

For it is God who is at work in you, both  
to will and to work for His good pleasure.

**Philippians 2:13**



Every good work signifies every kind of activity undertaken for the name of Christ; everything so undertaken is a means of fruitfulness, and the operating power is the indwelling Holy Spirit, upon Whom the believer is entirely dependent.

---

**W. E. Vine**

Believers do not manufacture these good works but instead such works are to be the fruit of God's Spirit working in a believer's tender, surrendered, obedient heart. Good deeds are "God" deeds. Good deeds differ from your deeds. Good deeds are those supernaturally borne by believers (think of believers as branches) who are abiding (believing, obeying) in Christ (the Vine). Good deeds reflect Christ's life flowing through us and are deeds which are initiated and energised by His Spirit and therefore are deeds which bring pleasure to our Father.

---

**Precept Austin Commentary**



Paul is referring to a genuine, sincere, loving, Spirit empowered, God glorifying eagerness to serve others. No matter how hostile the society around us may be, we are to be good to the people in it whose lives intersect with ours. Paul reminded the Galatian believers that while we have (time related) opportunity (kairos), [we are to] do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith (Galatians 6:10).

---

**Precept Austin Commentary**



# Our Journey in God

**OUR IDENTITY**  
God's  
handiwork

**OUR PURPOSE**  
To do good  
works

**OUR PATHWAY**  
Predestined  
by God

**You & I are ...**  
**vessels of mercy - prepared beforehand**  
**for good works - prepared beforehand**

- ▶ good works ordained beforehand
- ▶ good works made ready in advance
- ▶ referring to a specific action that has already taken place before the foundations of the world

1. Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
2. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.
3. **For you have died** and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

**Colossians 3:1-3**

I have been crucified with Christ; and **it is no longer I who live**, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

**Galatians 2:20**

And that he died on behalf of all in order that those who live **should not live any longer for themselves** but for the One who on their behalf died and was raised.

**2 Corinthians 5:15**

For I know the plans that I have for you,  
declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not  
for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

**Jeremiah 29:11**

For we are His handiwork, created in Christ Jesus with a view to good works which God prepared beforehand in order that within their sphere we may order our behaviour.

**Ephesians 2:10** (Wuest N.T. Translation)



# Our Journey in God

**OUR IDENTITY**  
God's  
handiwork

**OUR PURPOSE**  
To do good  
works

**OUR PATHWAY**  
Predestined  
by God

**OUR RESPONSE**  
Walking in  
His pathways

The Greek original reads more literally, "which God prepared in advance, so that we might walk in them." The language of walking was used by teachers in the time of Paul in the way we might talk of living or engaging in a certain lifestyle. In other words, the good works are not obviously religious activities scattered throughout an otherwise secular life. Rather, the good works encompass the whole of the Christian, all that we do by God's grace for God's purposes.

Each of us has an eternally-designed job description which includes **the task, the ability, and the place to serve**. You may prefer Jerusalem, but you will glorify Him more in Babylon if He has called you there. And whatever the task to which He has called you, you will be equipped for it as surely as a bird is capable of flight. And in doing the works He has called you to do, you will be both more and more His workmanship and more and more your true self.

---

**R. Kent Hughes** (The Mystery of the Body of Christ)

# **SPIRITUAL man**

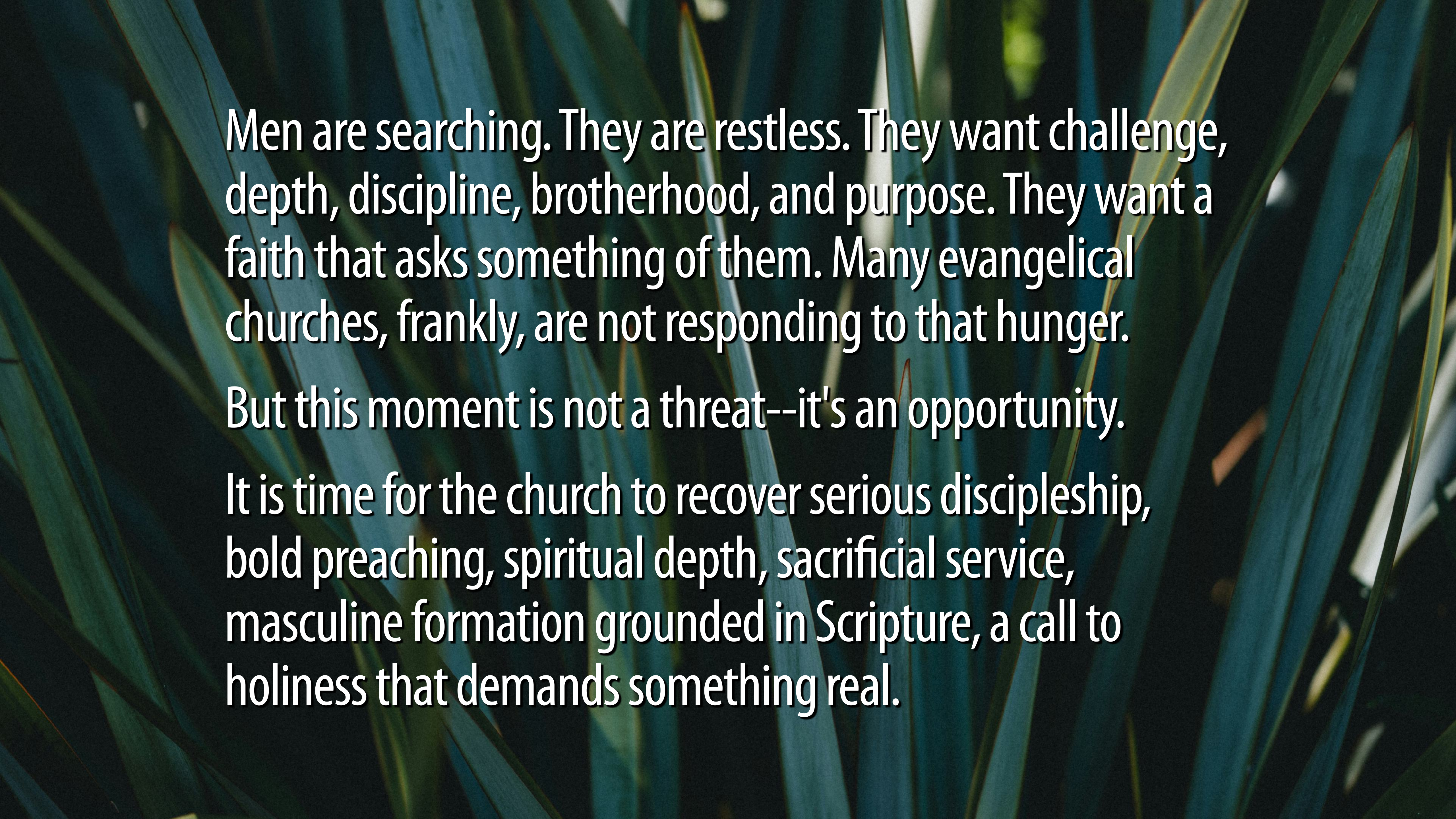


**Maturing in God,  
alive to the Holy Spirit  
(pneumatikos)**

Dying to self is never portrayed in Scripture as something optional in the Christian life. It is the reality of the new birth; no one can come to Christ unless he is willing to see his old life crucified with Christ and begin to live anew in obedience to Him. Jesus describes lukewarm followers who try to live partly in the old life and partly in the new as those whom He will spit out (Revelation 3:15–16). That lukewarm condition characterised the church of Laodicea as well as many churches today. Being “lukewarm” is a symptom of unwillingness to die to self and to live for Christ. Death to self is not an option for Christians; it is a choice that leads to eternal life.

---

[gotquestions.org](http://gotquestions.org)



Men are searching. They are restless. They want challenge, depth, discipline, brotherhood, and purpose. They want a faith that asks something of them. Many evangelical churches, frankly, are not responding to that hunger.

But this moment is not a threat--it's an opportunity.

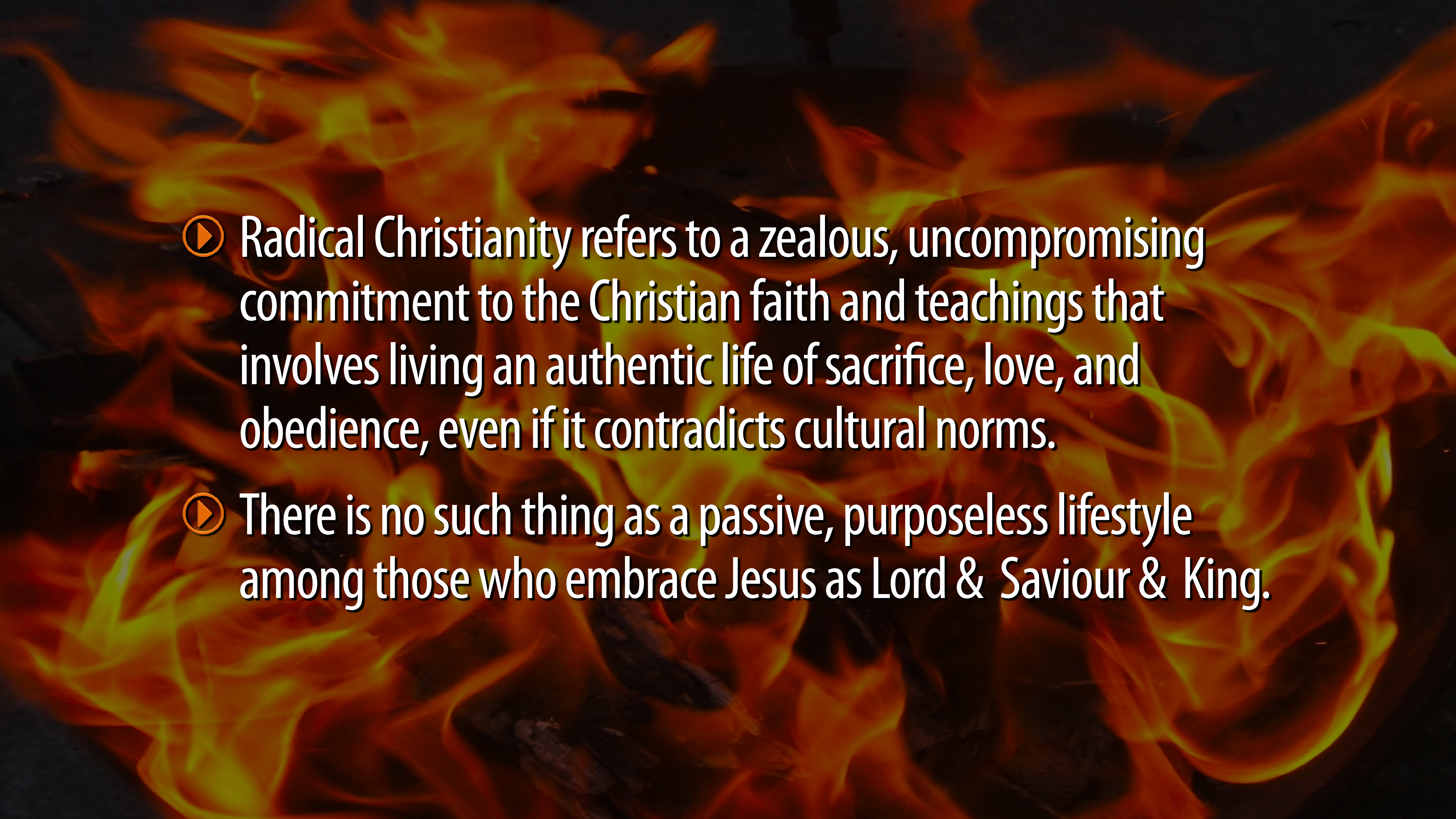
It is time for the church to recover serious discipleship, bold preaching, spiritual depth, sacrificial service, masculine formation grounded in Scripture, a call to holiness that demands something real.

If we fail, men will continue looking elsewhere--some toward ancient traditions, others toward harmful extremes.

But if we answer the call, if we preach Christ crucified with clarity and conviction, if we disciple men into real spiritual maturity, then this generation of seekers will not need to look to other places for what can only be found in Christ.

They will find it right where it always should have been--in the church of Jesus Christ, grounded in Scripture, alive with the power of the Spirit, and ready to raise up men who lead, serve, fight sin, love their families, and build God's kingdom with courage.



- 
- ▶ Radical Christianity refers to a zealous, uncompromising commitment to the Christian faith and teachings that involves living an authentic life of sacrifice, love, and obedience, even if it contradicts cultural norms.
  - ▶ There is no such thing as a passive, purposeless lifestyle among those who embrace Jesus as Lord & Saviour & King.

For because of Him **the whole body** (the church, in all its various parts), closely joined and firmly knit together by the joints and ligaments with which it is supplied, when each part **[with power adapted to its need]** is working properly **[in all its functions]**, grows to full maturity, building itself up in love.

**Ephesians 4:16** (Amplified Bible)

- ▶ Am I truly surrendered to the Lord in every area of my life?
- ▶ Am I listening for God's voice among the many voices calling for my attention?
- ▶ What good works has God prepared for me to walk in and am I walking in them?
- ▶ Is the desire of my heart to live a life of radical obedience and Spirit-filled power?