



*You Are Light ... Shine!*

**THE BEATITUDES (14)**

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

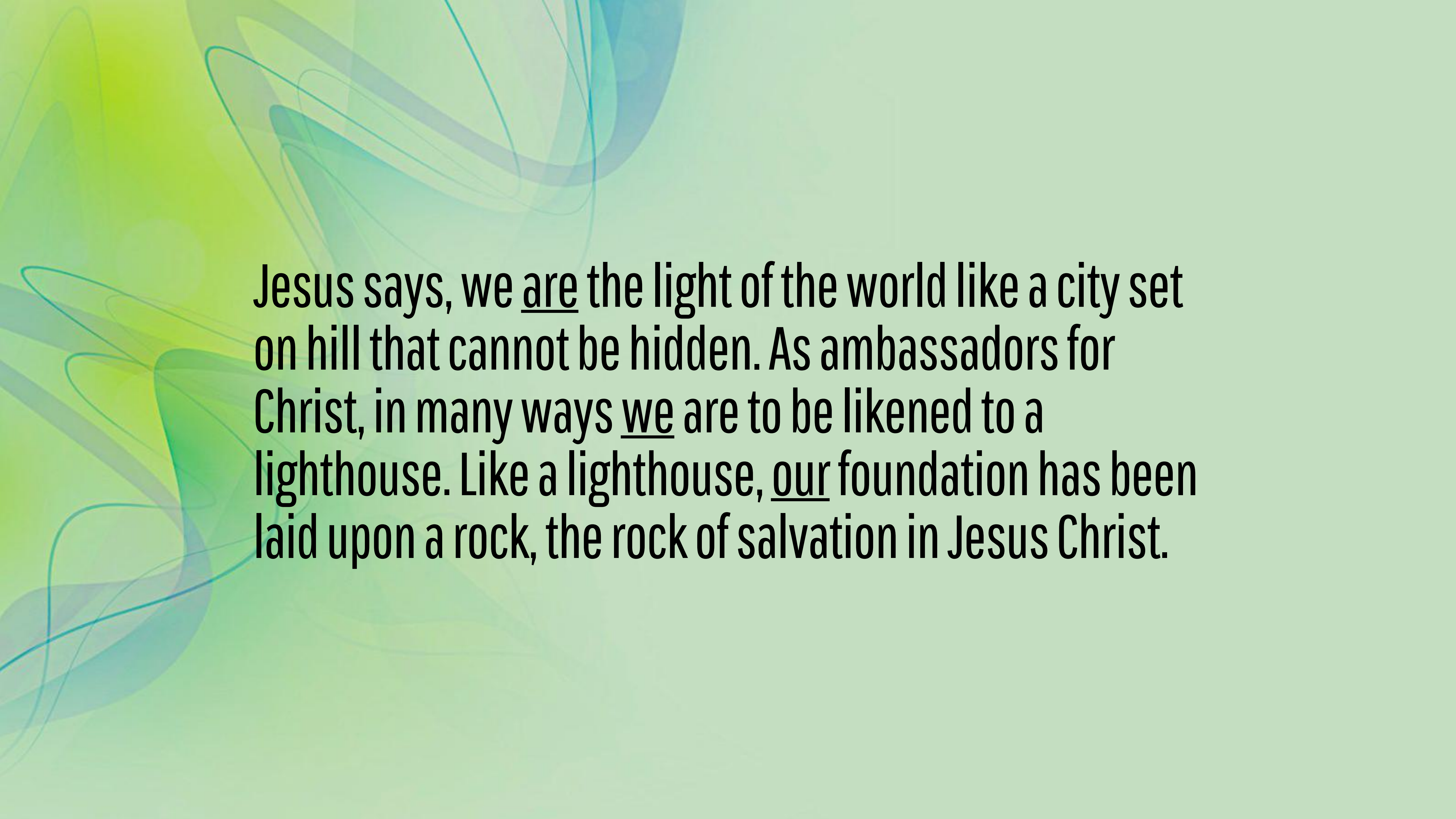
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**Matthew 5:13**

14. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.
15. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.
16. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

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**Matthew 5:14-16**



Jesus says, we are the light of the world like a city set on hill that cannot be hidden. As ambassadors for Christ, in many ways we are to be likened to a lighthouse. Like a lighthouse, our foundation has been laid upon a rock, the rock of salvation in Jesus Christ.

We are the light of the world. Because we have the Holy Spirit dwelling within, His light ought to shine through us in to a dark and stormy world giving direction and hope to those lost and to those in peril in the rock infested waters of this world. Like a lighthouse, we must keep this light shining brightly so others may be led to safety.

For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

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## **1 Thessalonians 5:5**

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

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## **Ephesians 5:8**

Take no part in and have no fellowship with the fruitless deeds and enterprises of darkness, but instead, let your lives be so in contrast so as to expose and reprove and convict them.

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**Ephesians 5:7** (Amplified Bible)

Why then are Christians placed in the world? They are to benefit the world. But we benefit it only when we live as light. If we join in the same sins as the world, what difference will they ever see Christ has made in us? If they lie and we lie, what is the difference? When they do a sloppy job, and we do a sloppy job, what is the difference? When they complain and murmur against others, and we complain and murmur against others? What is the difference? When they are lazy and we are lazy what is the difference? We cannot benefit the world when we are like the world.

**P.G. Matthew**

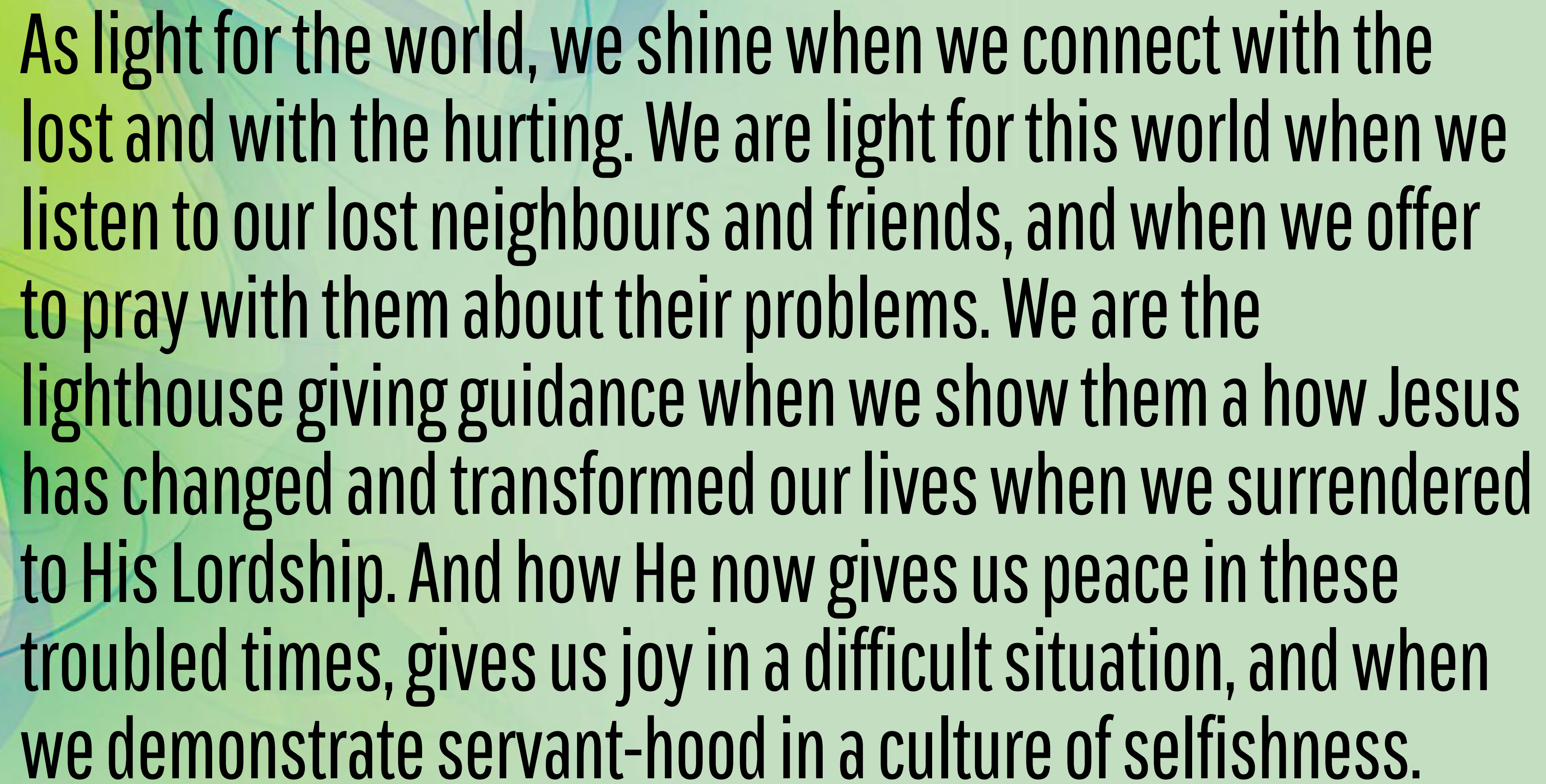
14. Do all things without grumbling and faultfinding and complaining and questioning and doubting among yourselves,
15. that you may show yourselves to be blameless and guiltless, innocent and uncontaminated, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and wicked generation, among whom you are seen as bright lights (stars or beacons shining out clearly) in the dark world.

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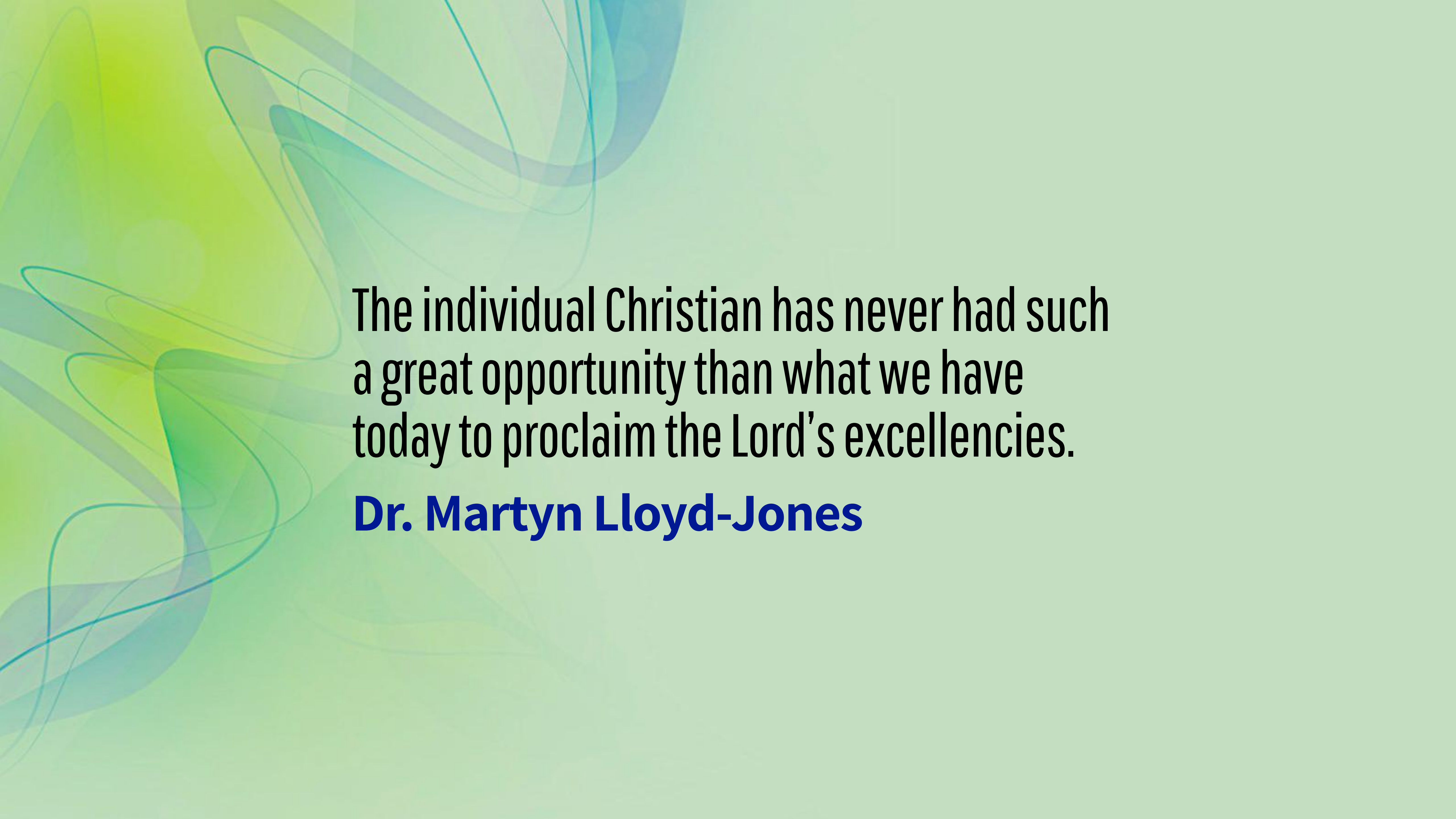
**Philippians 2:14-15** (Amplified Bible)

I believe that the individual Christian is having a greater opportunity today than he has had for many a century [to be light in this world] owing to the whole state of the world and society. I believe that people are watching us very closely because we claim to be Christian; and they are watching our reactions to people, and to the things they say and do to us. Do we flare up? The non-Christian does; the Christian should not. He is like the man in the Beatitudes, so he reacts differently. And when confronted with world events, with wars and rumours of wars, with calamities, pestilence and all these other things, he is not anxious, troubled or irritable. The world is; the Christian is not. He is essentially, different.

**Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones**



As light for the world, we shine when we connect with the lost and with the hurting. We are light for this world when we listen to our lost neighbours and friends, and when we offer to pray with them about their problems. We are the lighthouse giving guidance when we show them a how Jesus has changed and transformed our lives when we surrendered to His Lordship. And how He now gives us peace in these troubled times, gives us joy in a difficult situation, and when we demonstrate servant-hood in a culture of selfishness.



The individual Christian has never had such a great opportunity than what we have today to proclaim the Lord's excellencies.

**Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones**

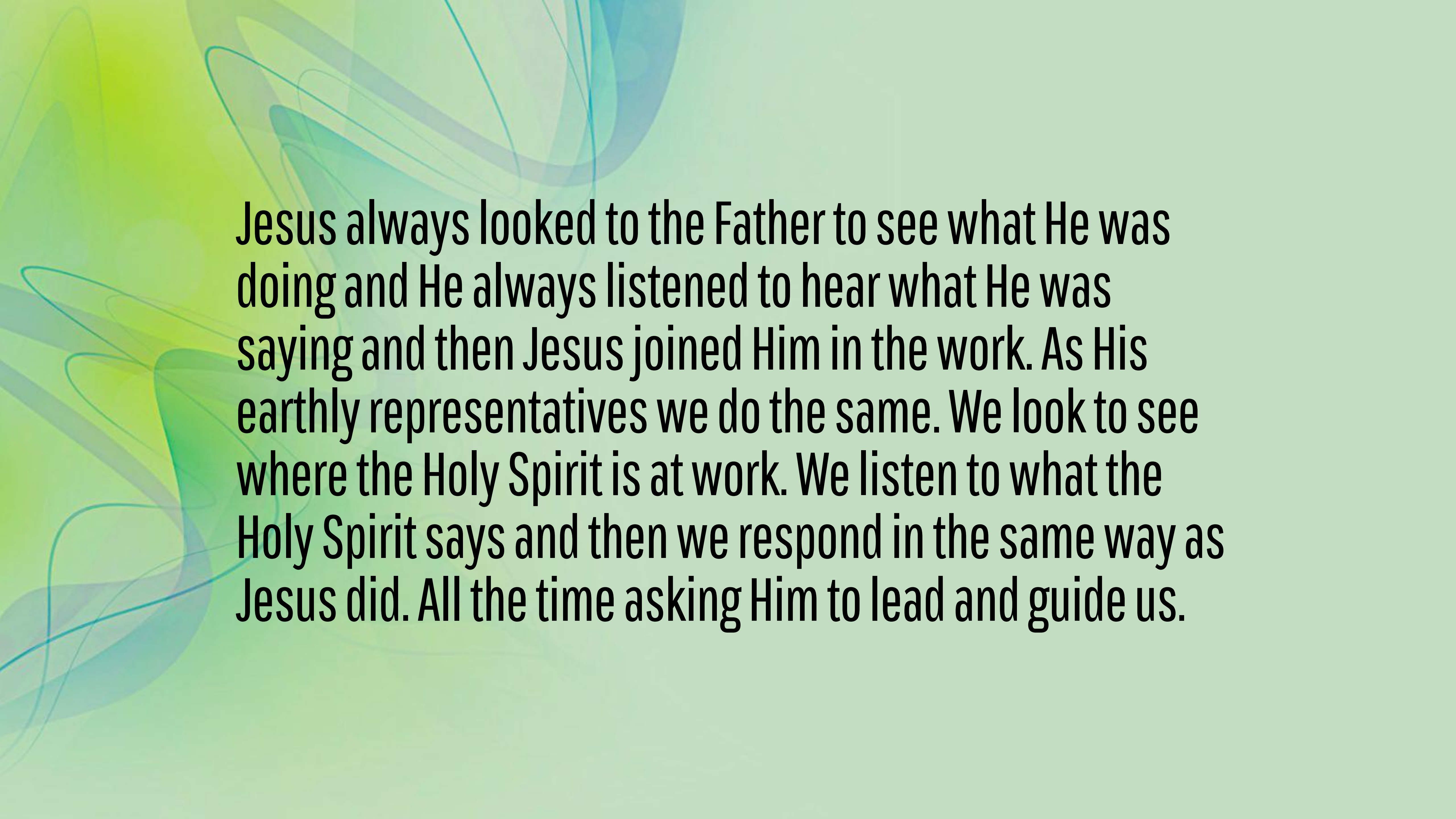
But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.

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**1 Peter 2:9**

How can we be content to spend all our time with the already-rescued when we are living surrounded by a sea of dying people? How can we say that we're following the One who came, as He said, to "seek and save what was lost" and not be doing that with all our heart? If you're following Jesus, I'll tell you where He's going. He's always headed for a sea of lost people. That's where we should end up, too.

**Ron Hutchcraft**



Jesus always looked to the Father to see what He was doing and He always listened to hear what He was saying and then Jesus joined Him in the work. As His earthly representatives we do the same. We look to see where the Holy Spirit is at work. We listen to what the Holy Spirit says and then we respond in the same way as Jesus did. All the time asking Him to lead and guide us.

The people dwelling in darkness have seen a  
great light, and for those dwelling in the region  
and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned.

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**Matthew 4:16**

7. And when you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet.
8. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.
9. But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for My sake, to bear witness before them.
10. And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations.

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**Mark 13:7-10**

And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

**Mark 13:11**

Co-joining with Jesus and His work. It's about committing ourselves to be used by Him in His greatest priority. So that when you speak, you speak His words, with His authority and His anointing, to accomplish His will in their lives. It's about submitting ourself to His will, and being governed and directed by the Holy Spirit, and actively joining Him in His work as we go, as we live life with our friends, neighbours and family members.

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart, (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim).

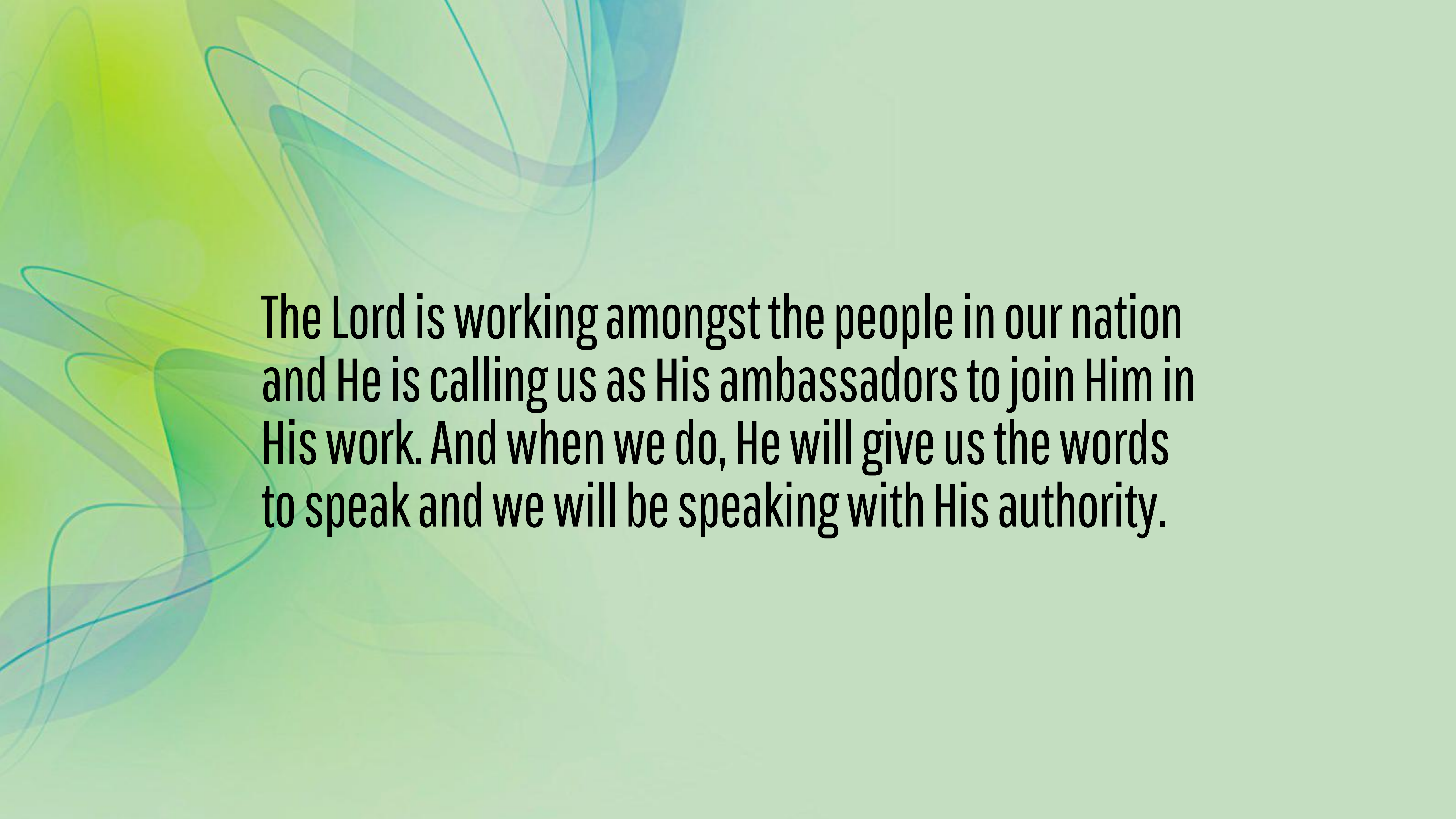
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**Romans 10:8**

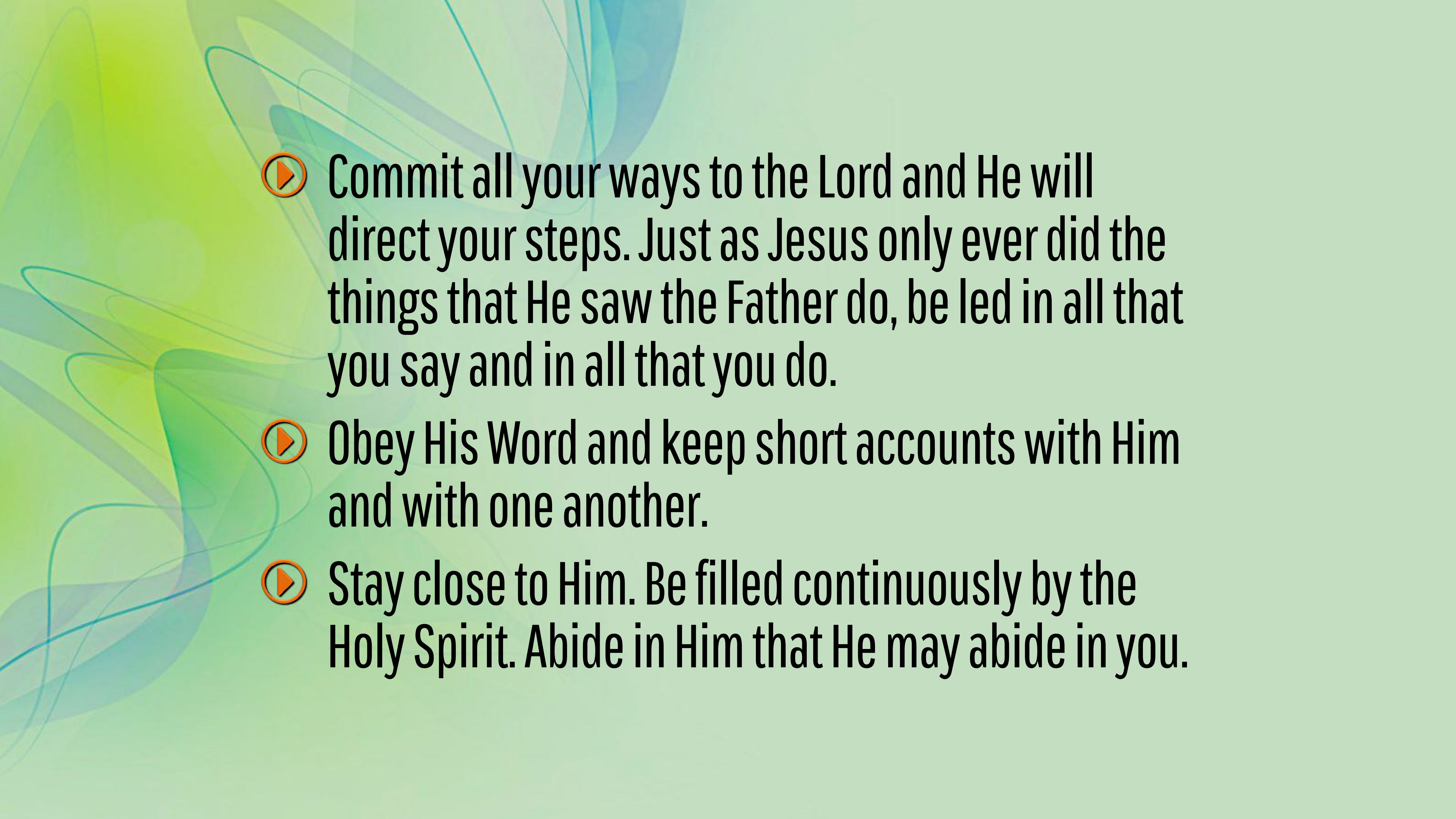
13. This will be your opportunity to bear witness.
14. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer,
15. for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.

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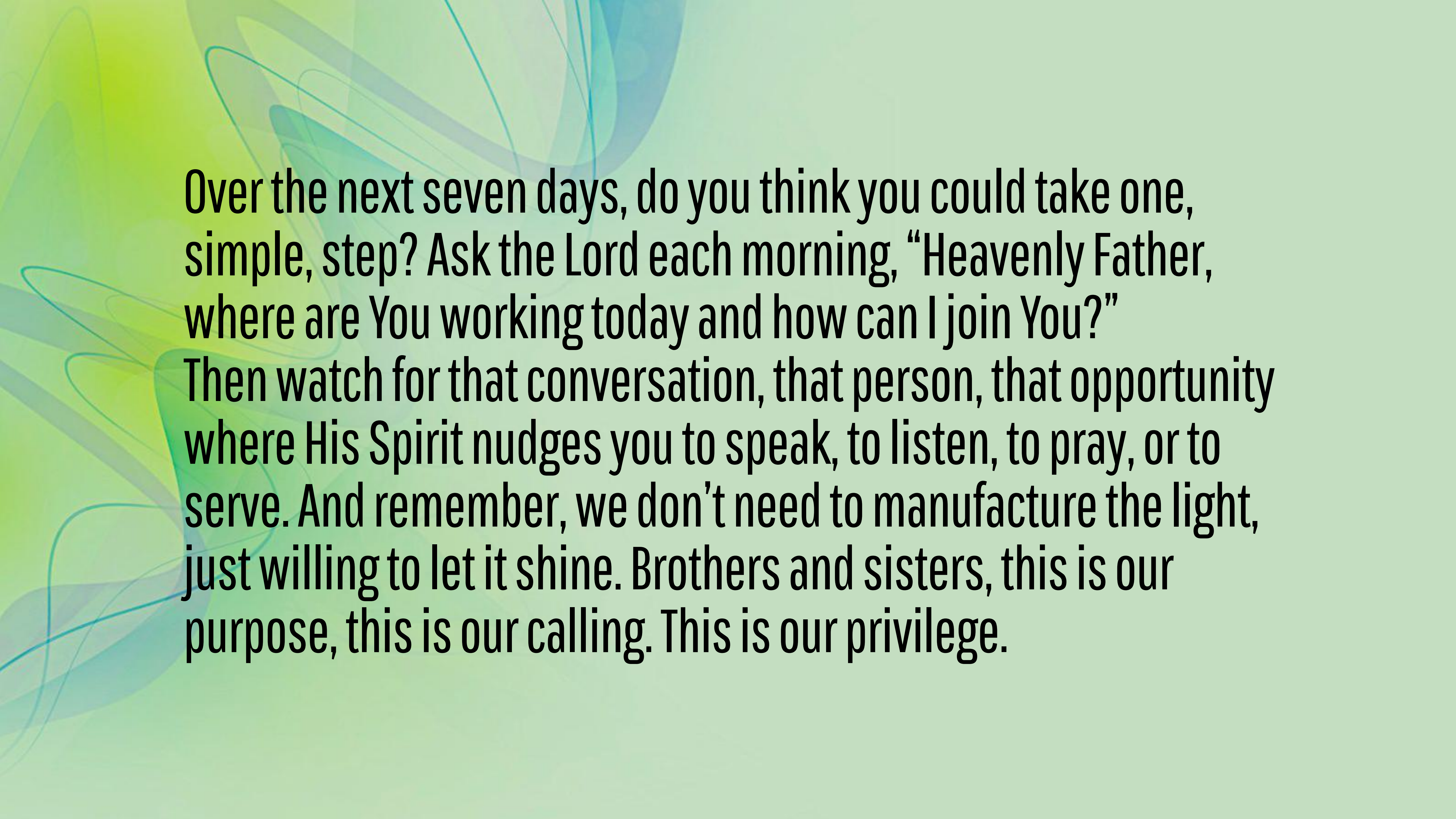
**Luke 21:13-15**



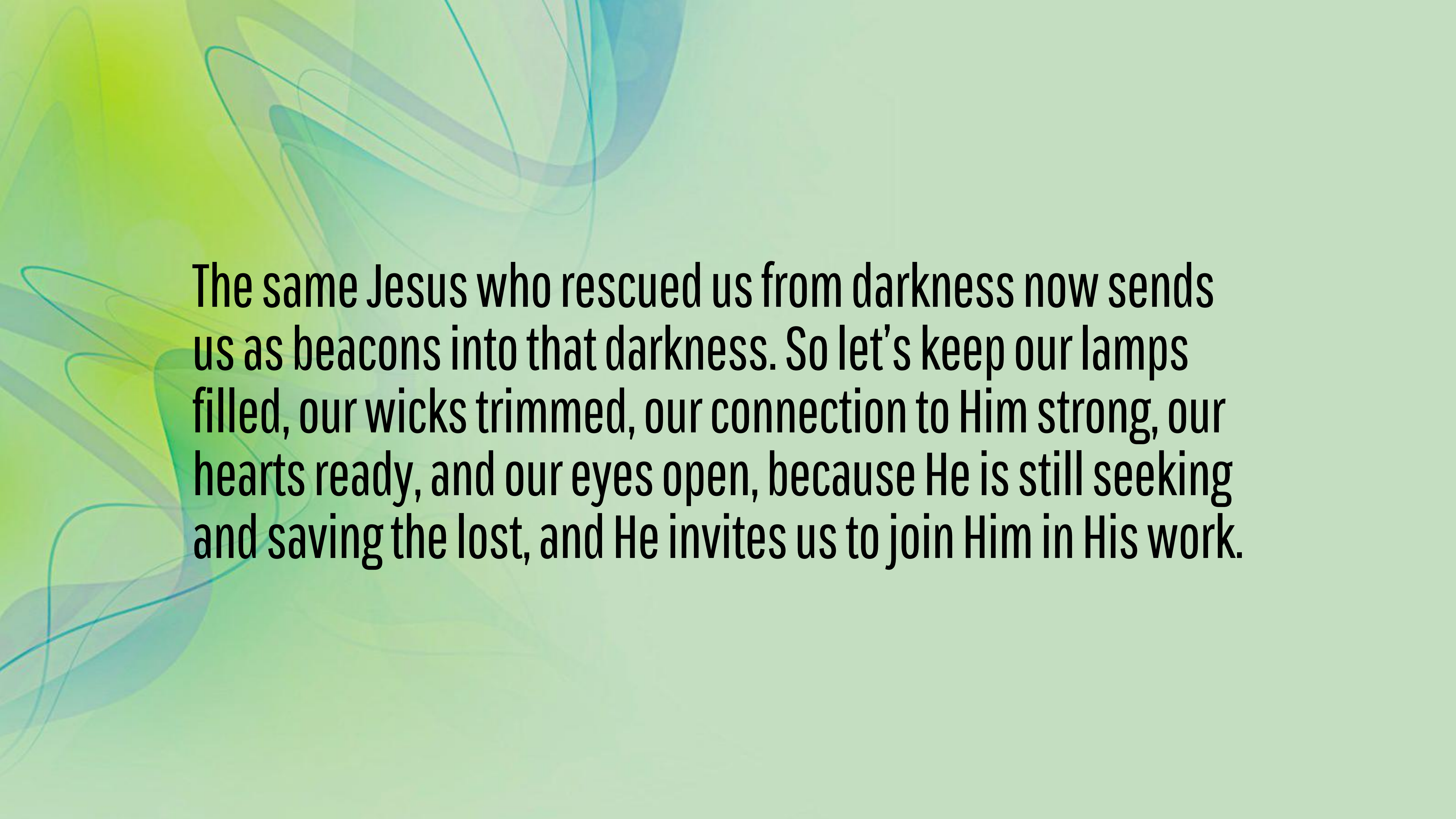
**The Lord is working amongst the people in our nation and He is calling us as His ambassadors to join Him in His work. And when we do, He will give us the words to speak and we will be speaking with His authority.**

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- ▶ **Commit all your ways to the Lord and He will direct your steps. Just as Jesus only ever did the things that He saw the Father do, be led in all that you say and in all that you do.**
  - ▶ **Obey His Word and keep short accounts with Him and with one another.**
  - ▶ **Stay close to Him. Be filled continuously by the Holy Spirit. Abide in Him that He may abide in you.**

Jesus is not telling us to shine by straining or striving. He telling us to shine by staying close to Him. A lighthouse needn't generate its own power; it simply remains connected to its source so that it shines at its maximum potential. In the same way, our light grows brighter as we abide in Christ, walk in the Spirit, and obey the small daily promptings of God. As the world darkens, then this is not a time for dimming nor being silent. This is the moment for distinctiveness, for brightness, for clarity, for spirit-filled courage, and for compassion.



Over the next seven days, do you think you could take one, simple, step? Ask the Lord each morning, “Heavenly Father, where are You working today and how can I join You?” Then watch for that conversation, that person, that opportunity where His Spirit nudges you to speak, to listen, to pray, or to serve. And remember, we don’t need to manufacture the light, just willing to let it shine. Brothers and sisters, this is our purpose, this is our calling. This is our privilege.

The background features a light green gradient with abstract, flowing lines in shades of blue and green. A faint, stylized globe is visible in the upper left quadrant, partially obscured by the lines.

**The same Jesus who rescued us from darkness now sends us as beacons into that darkness. So let's keep our lamps filled, our wicks trimmed, our connection to Him strong, our hearts ready, and our eyes open, because He is still seeking and saving the lost, and He invites us to join Him in His work.**