

# Abide Scripture Engagement Workshop

**CMCA Summit**  
**May 16<sup>th</sup>, '24**

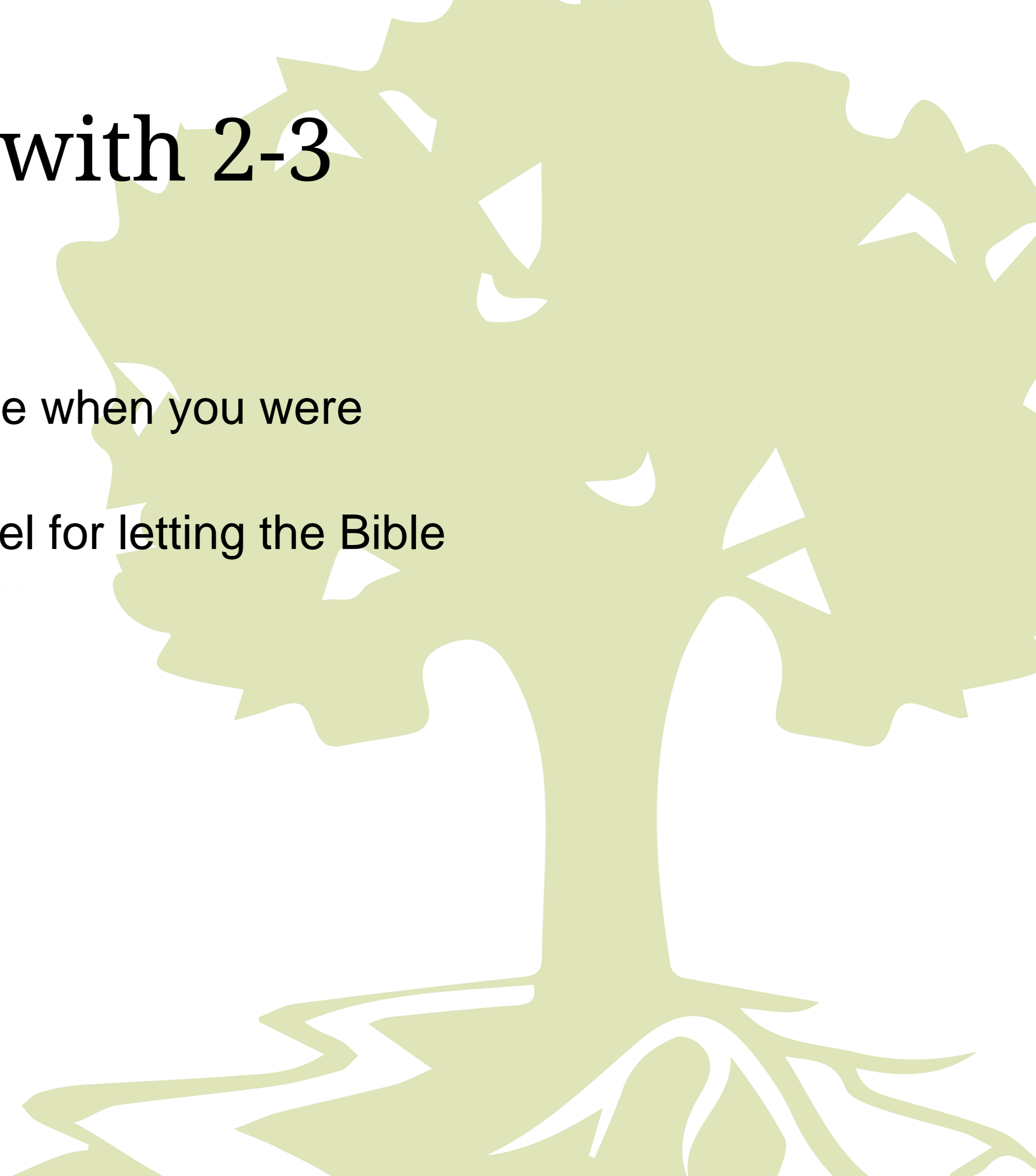


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ENGAGEMENT**

*Engage Scripture, Engage God*

# Close by you, connect with 2-3 others

- How did people around you view the Bible when you were growing up?
- Who in your life has been a positive model for letting the Bible impact his/her life?



# Abide Scripture Engagement Workshop

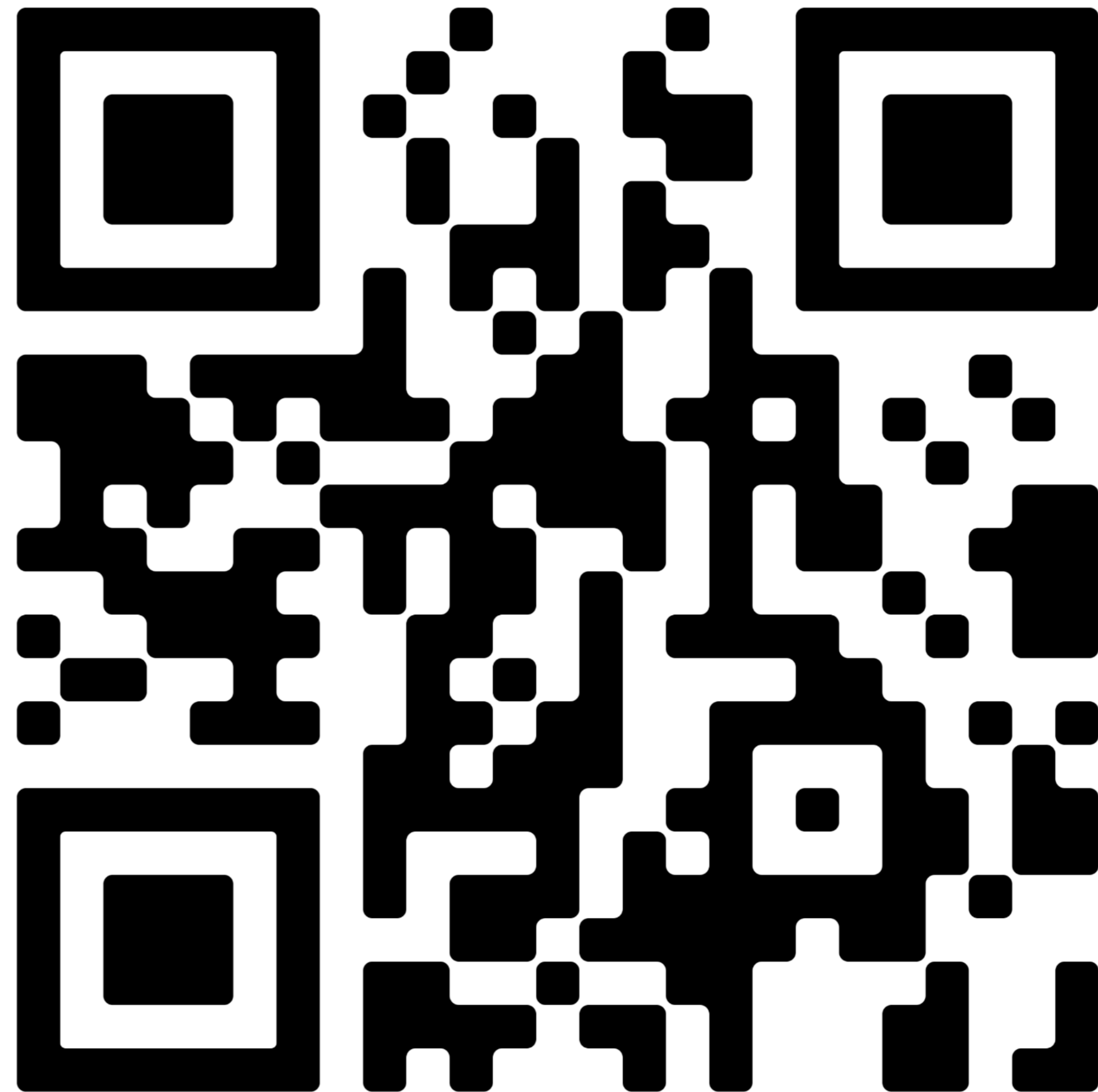
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QR Code for  
PowerPoint



# Psalm 1

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one  
    who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
    or sit in the company of mockers,  
<sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,  
    and who meditates on his law day and night.  
<sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
    which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither—  
    whatever they do prospers.
- <sup>4</sup> Not so the wicked!  
    They are like chaff  
    that the wind blows away.
- <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
    nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
- <sup>6</sup> For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
    but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.





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# “Contemplate” Lectio Divina

p. 36

# What does the Bible say about Scripture engagement?

- Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.”

- John 8:31



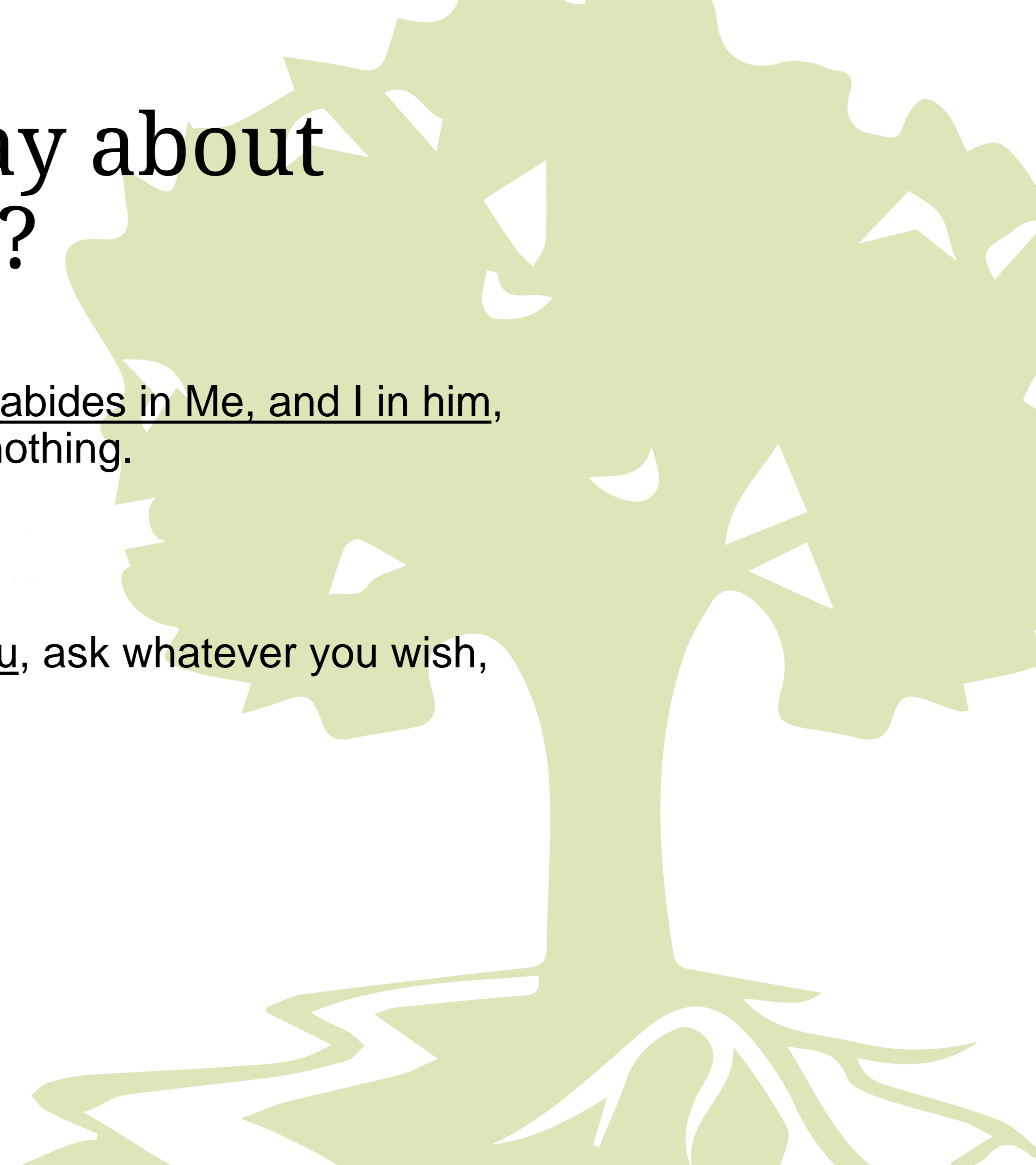
# What does the Bible say about Scripture engagement?

- I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

- John 15:5

- If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

-John 15:7







# Scripture Engagement Passages - pp. 104-107

## **Meditate**

Psalm 1:2

## **Reflect**

2 Timothy 2:7

## **Look intently**

James 1:25

## **Dwell in**

Colossians 3:16

## **Receive**

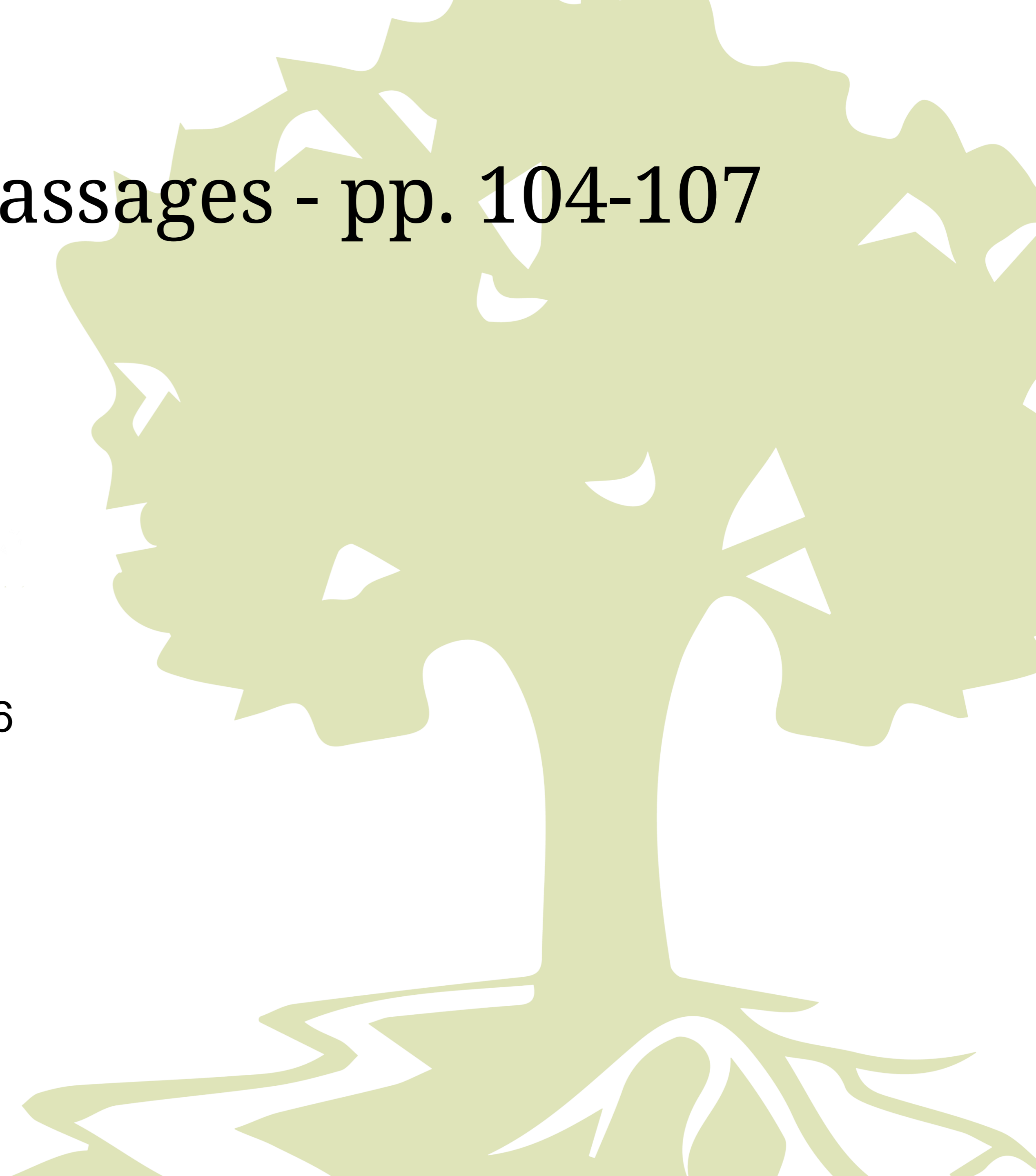
Acts 17:11

## **Ponder**

Psalm 119:95

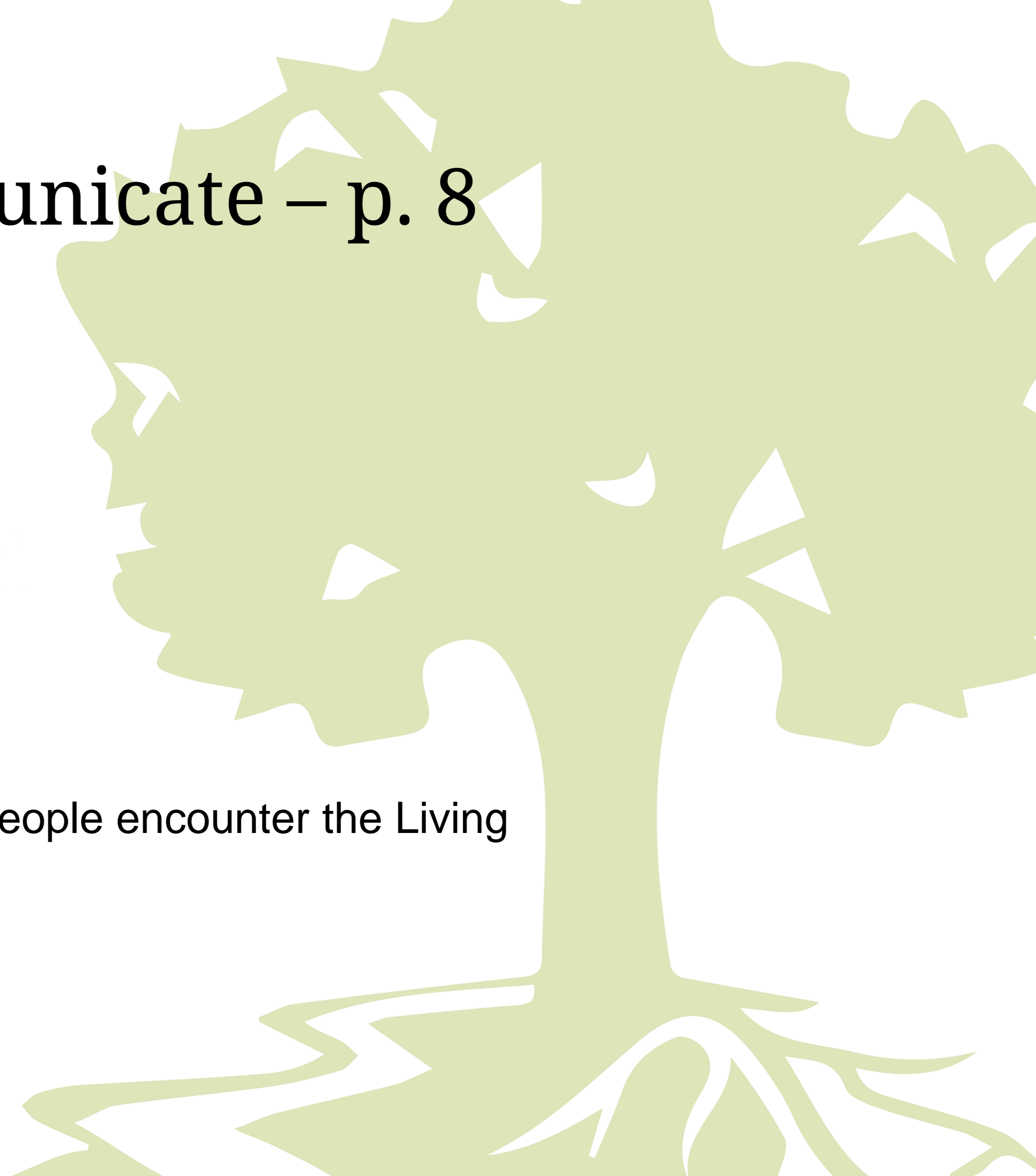
## **Eat**

Jeremiah 15:16



# Phrases that may Communicate – p. 8

- Spiritual reading
- Marinating
- Ruminating
- Mulling Over
- Holy attention
- Soaking in the Bible
- Through interaction with the written Word, people encounter the Living Word Jesus Christ.



# Definition of Scripture Engagement - p. 103

“Scripture engagement is a way of hearing and reading the Bible with an awareness that Christ encounters us in Scripture. It is an abiding in, meditating over, reflection upon, dwelling in, or a pondering of the Scriptures, resulting in a “transformative engagement” with God, an allowing of the Holy Spirit to form us through his Word.”

*TU Center for Scripture Engagement*

Scripture “engagement is the process whereby people are connected with the Bible such that they have meaningful encounters with Jesus Christ and their lives are progressively transformed in Him.”

*Lawson Murray*

# Primary Scripture Engagement

## “Ingredients” - p. 28

- Preparation of the heart to listen to God/An openness to the Holy Spirit
- Reading/Listening to God’s Word
- Reflecting/Meditating on God’s Word
- Prayer
- A community to talk to about what is being learned/experienced
- Commitment to obey



# Primary Scripture Engagement “Ingredients” - p. 28

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# Scripture Engagement

- How do we do this?
- List of practices – pp. 28-33 in
- Not one size fits all



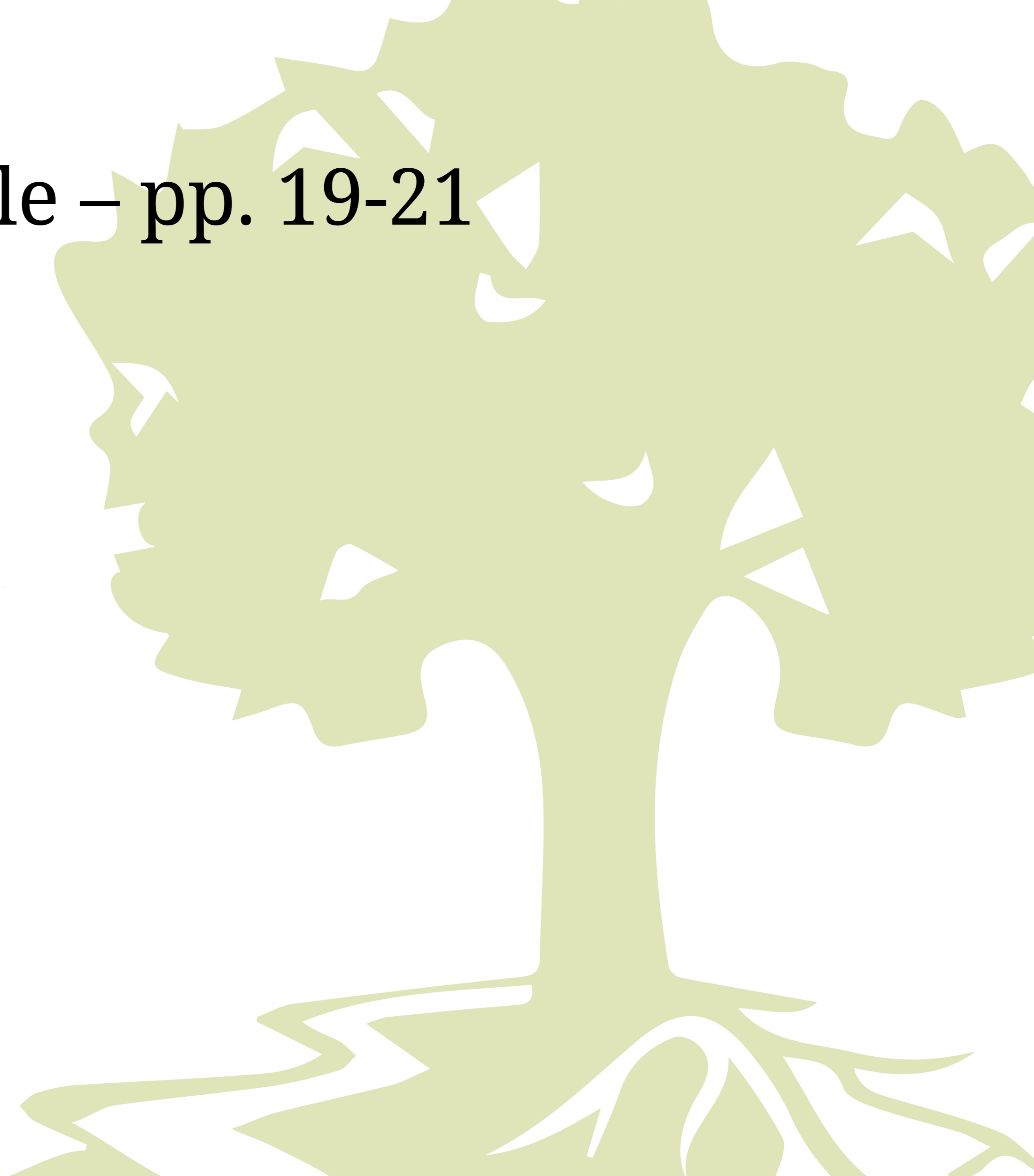
# Scripture Engagement and Bible Study – pp. 22-24

- The two are not the same
- Study is essential but not complete
- Complement each other
- Both must be taught



# How Not to Read the Bible – pp. 19-21

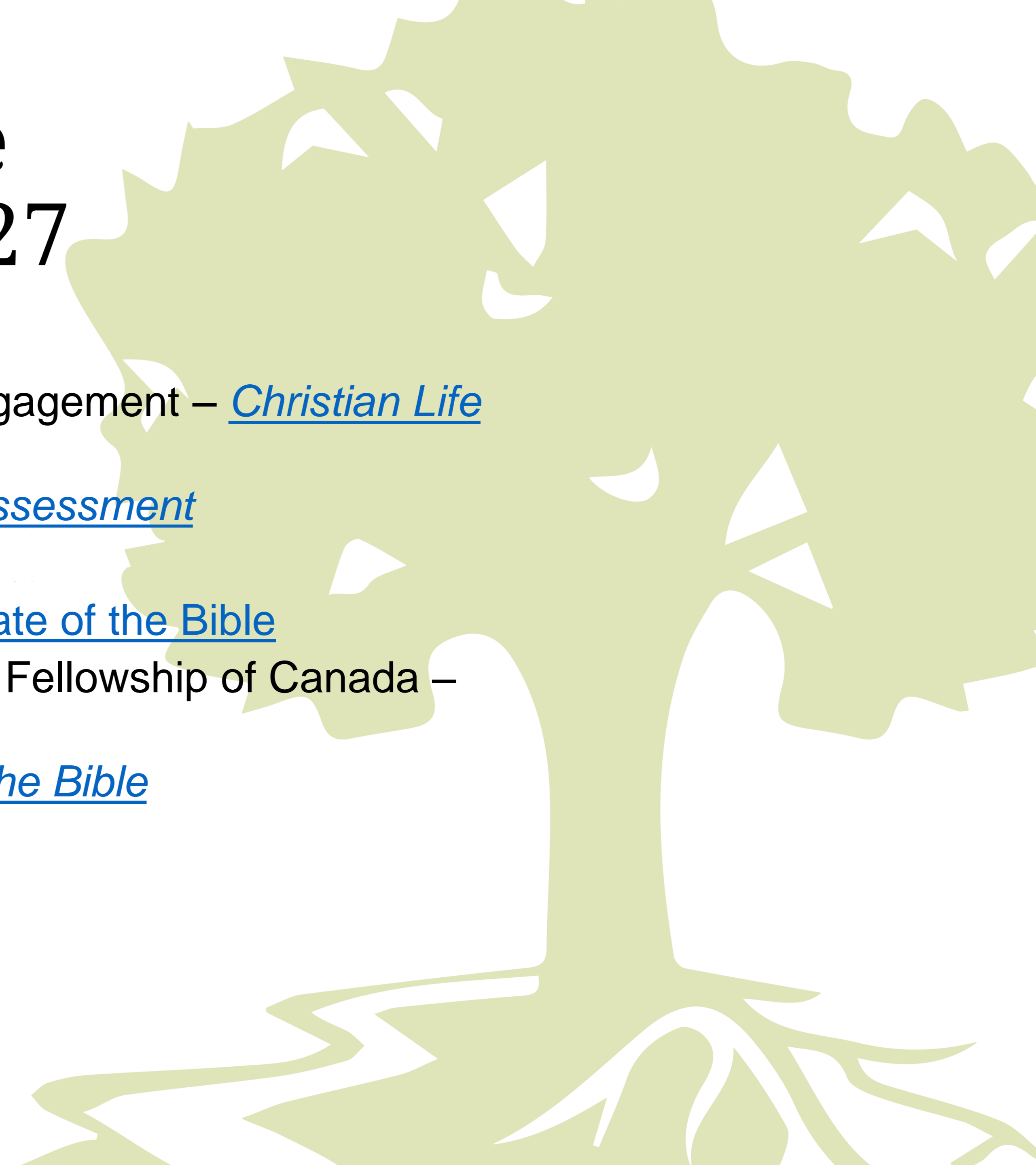
- For information only
- For a devotional “Thought of the Day”
- Out of guilt
- To manipulate God





# Research on Scripture Engagement – pp. 25-27

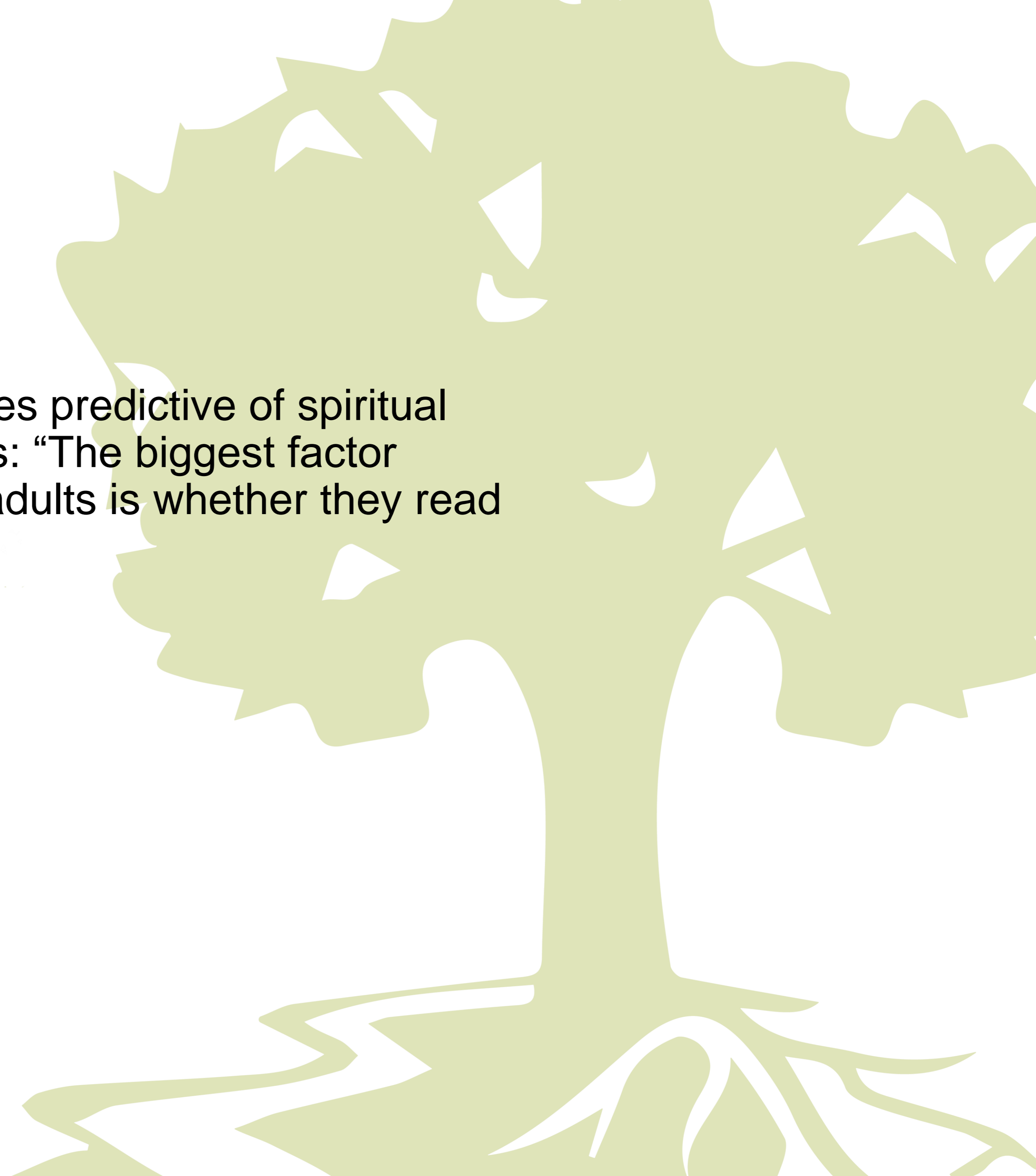
- Taylor University Center for Scripture Engagement – [\*Christian Life Survey\*](#)
- LifeWay – [\*Transformative Discipleship Assessment\*](#)
- Move – [\*Reveal Study\*](#)
- Barna & the American Bible Society – [\*State of the Bible\*](#)
- Canadian Bible Forum & the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada – [\*Canadian Bible Engagement Study\*](#)
- [\*Center for Bible Engagement – Back to the Bible\*](#)



# LifeWay Research

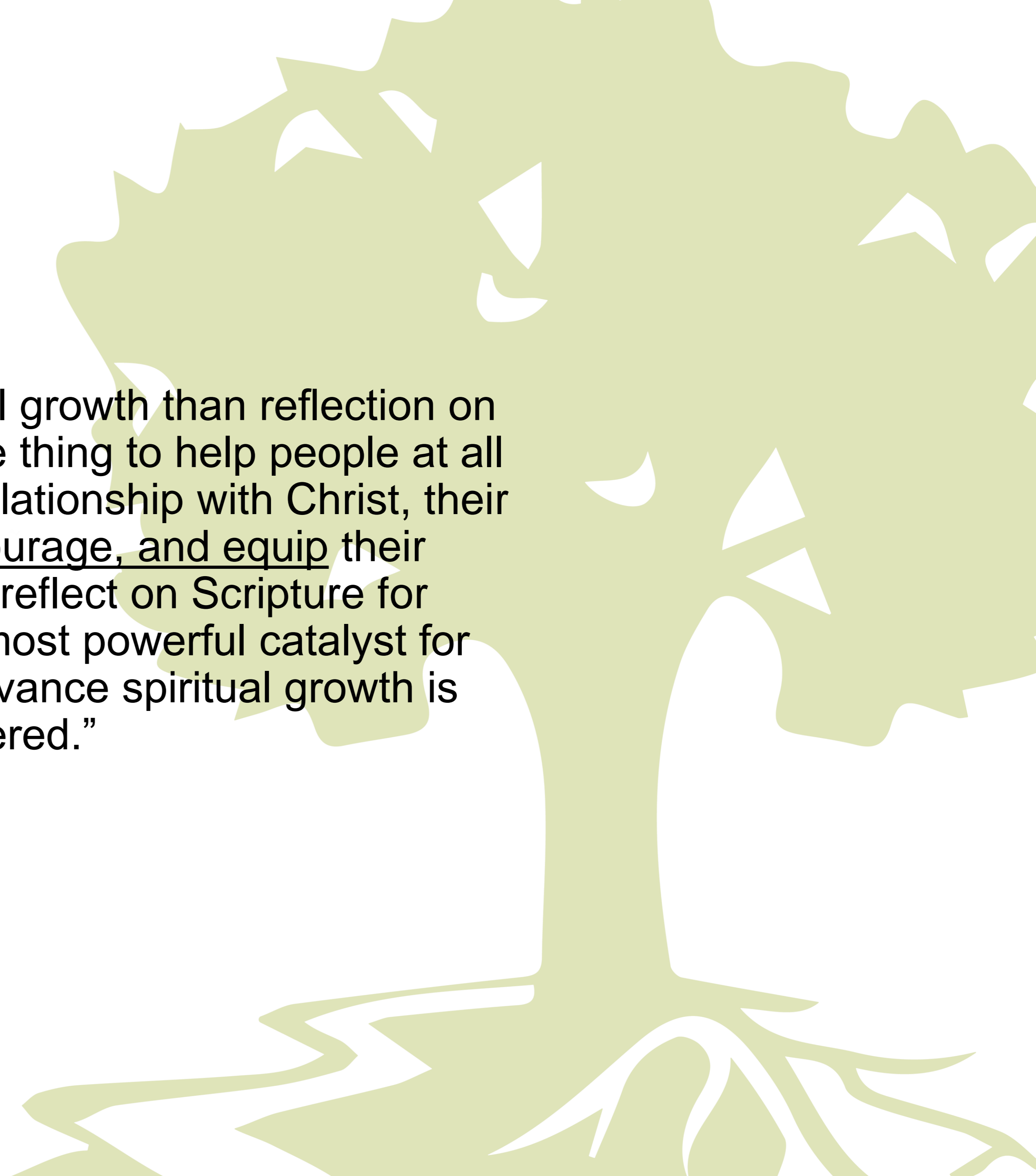
- Looked at forty different parenting practices predictive of spiritual health among young adults. Their findings: “The biggest factor predicting their spiritual health as young adults is whether they read the Bible regularly as kids.”

- *Bob Smietana*



# Move Research

- “Nothing has a greater impact on spiritual growth than reflection on Scripture... If churches could do only one thing to help people at all levels of spiritual maturity grow in their relationship with Christ, their choice is clear. They would inspire, encourage, and equip their people to read the Bible – specifically, to reflect on Scripture for meaning in their lives...The Bible is the most powerful catalyst for spiritual growth. The Bible’s power to advance spiritual growth is unrivalled by anything else we’ve discovered.”





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# Picture It: Ignatian Method

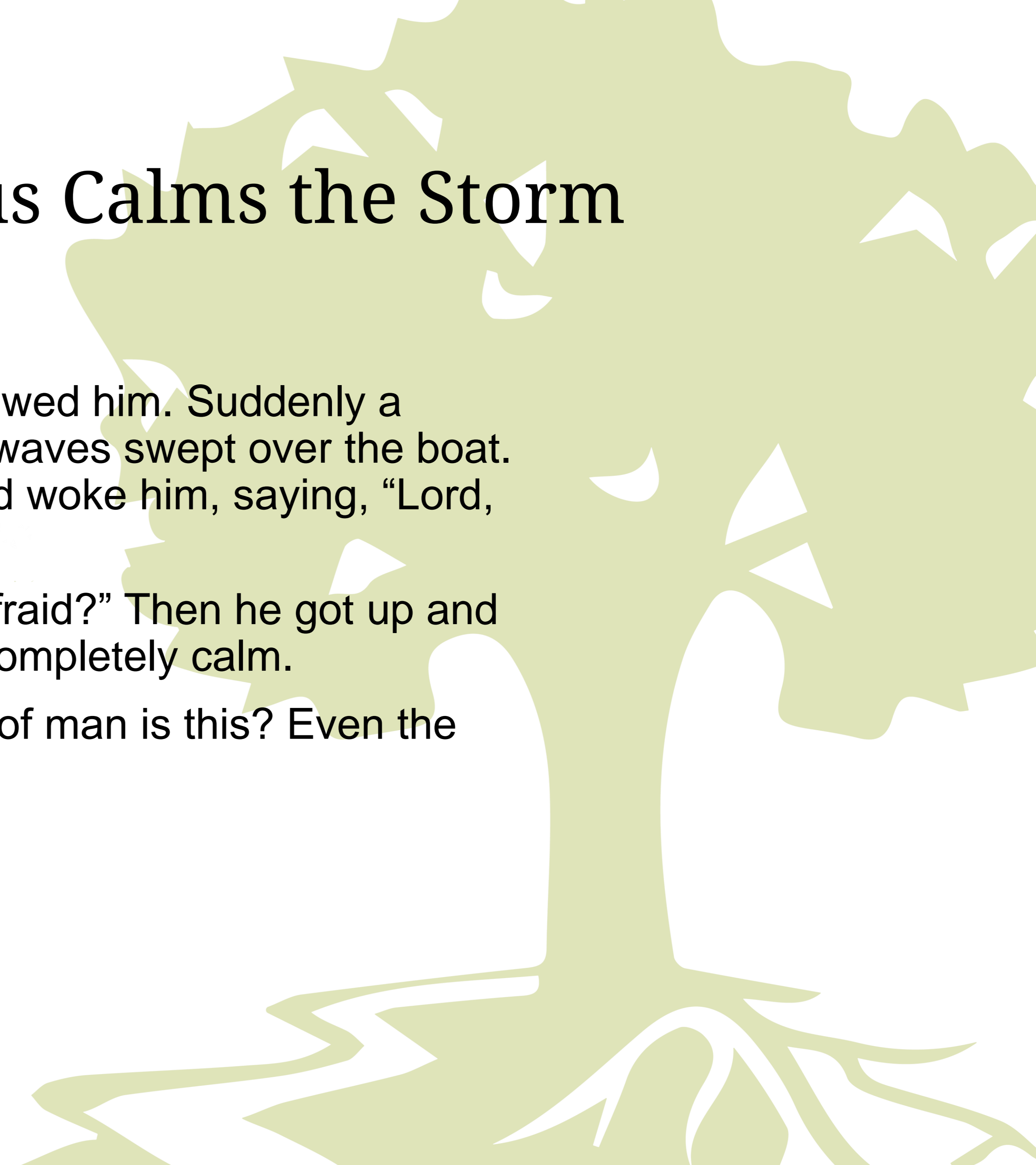
p. 52

# Matthew 8:23-27 – Jesus Calms the Storm

Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, “Lord, save us! We’re going to drown!”

He replied, “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

The men were amazed and asked, “What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!”





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# Singing Scripture

p. 80

# Psalm 94:1-10

[Sons of Korah – Psalm 94](#) - on *Refuge* album

YouTube

Spotify

Apple Music

A Psalm of Corporate Lament

A Prayer for Deliverance from the Wicked





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# Visual Arts

p. 61



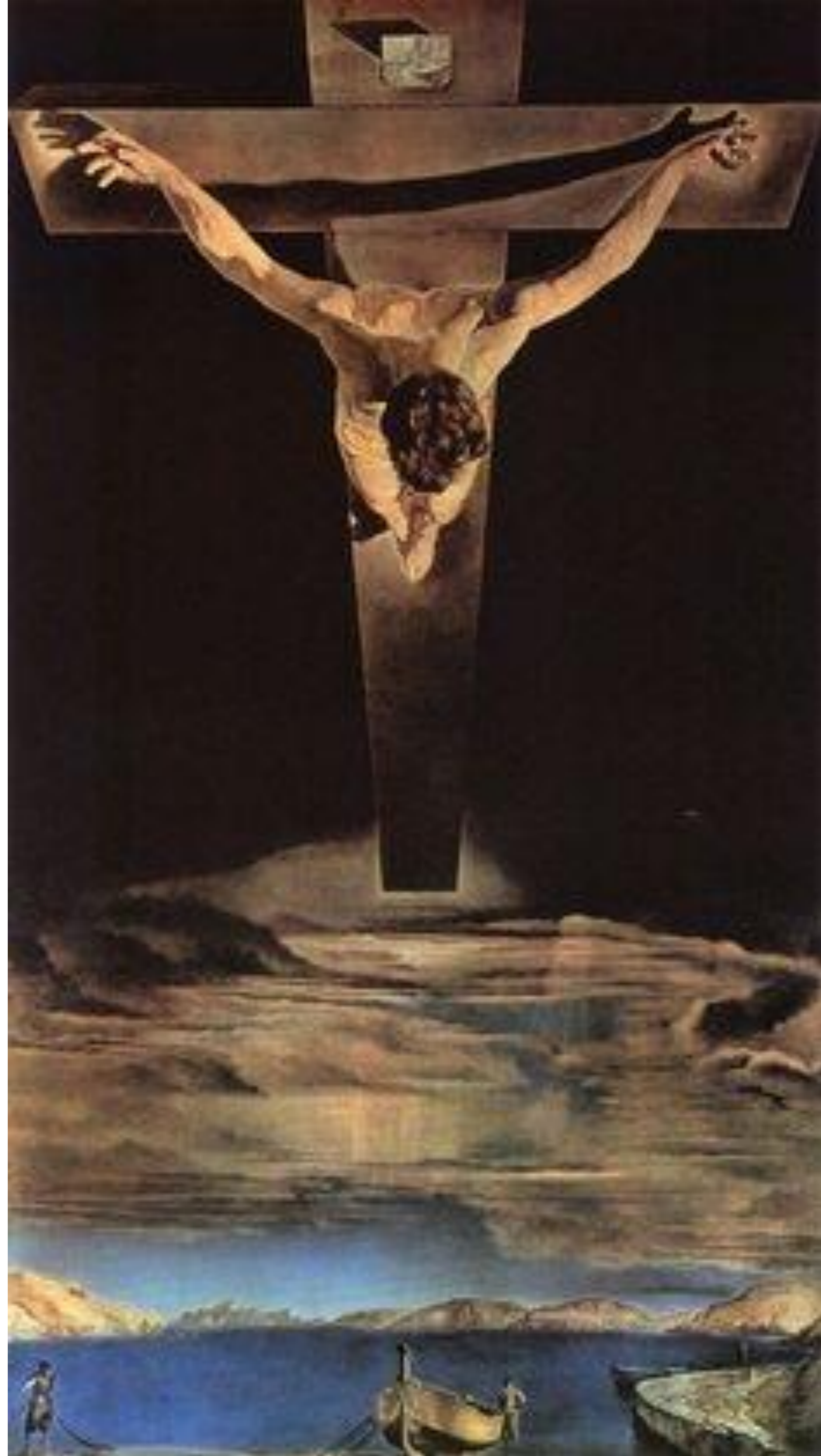


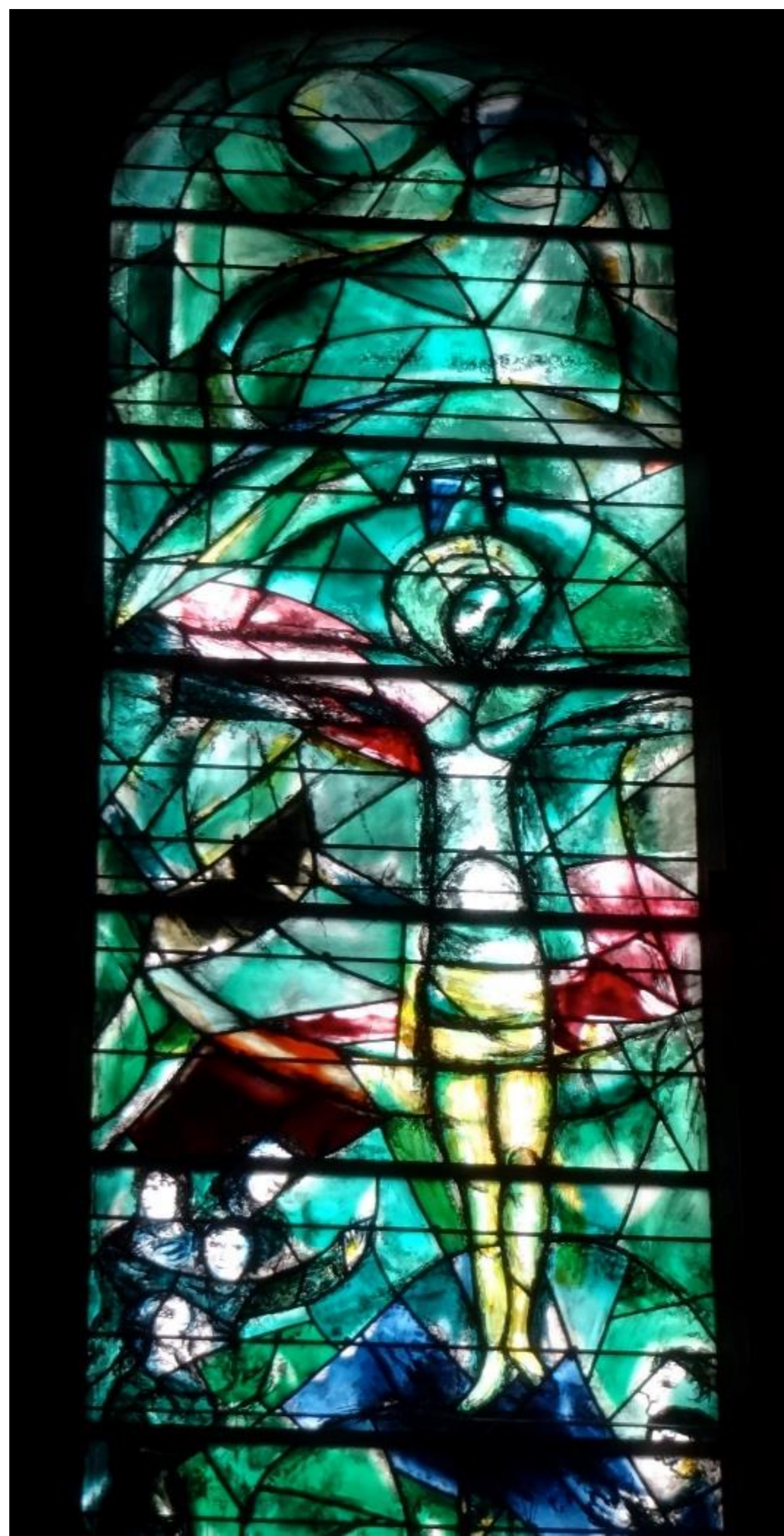










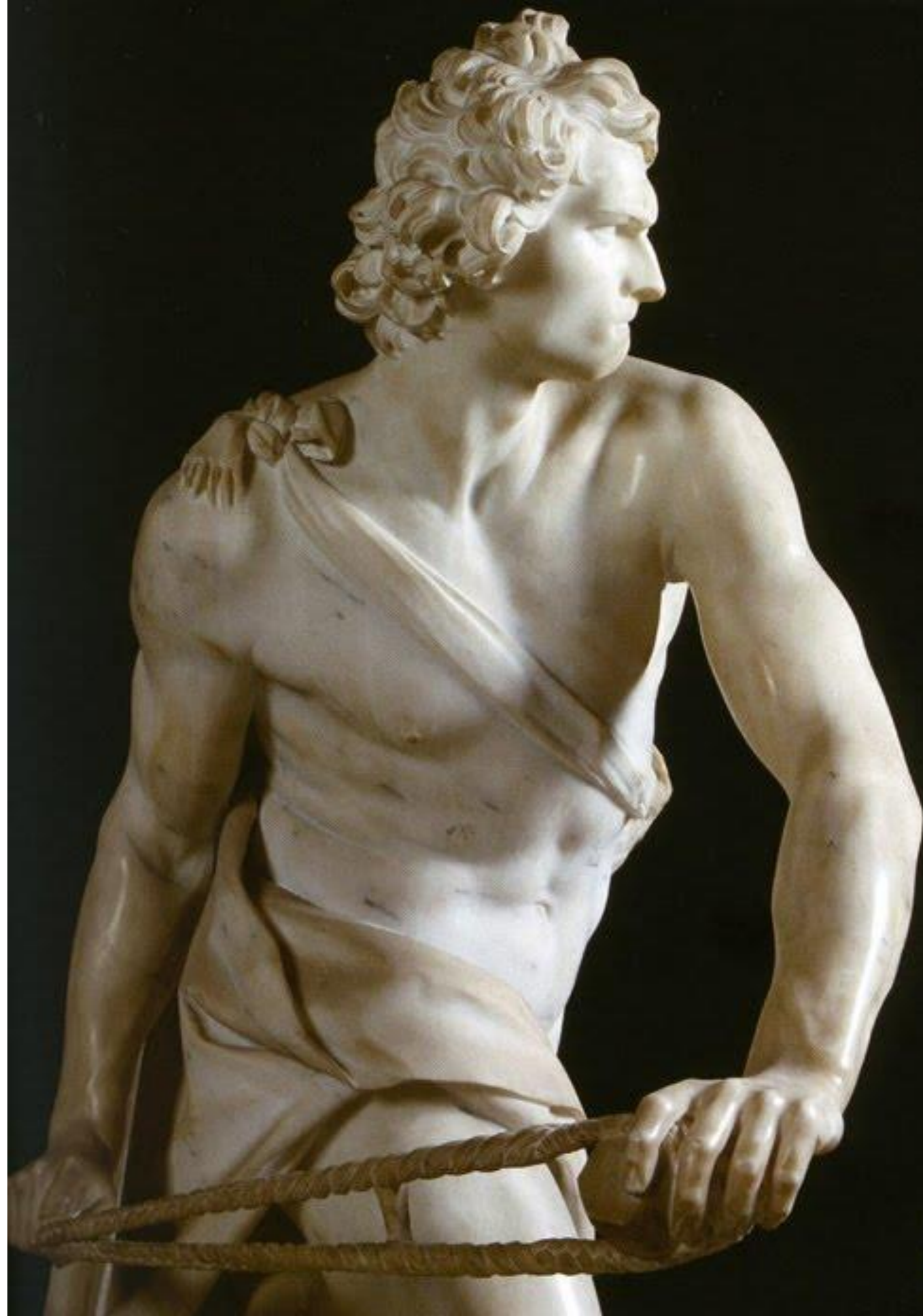


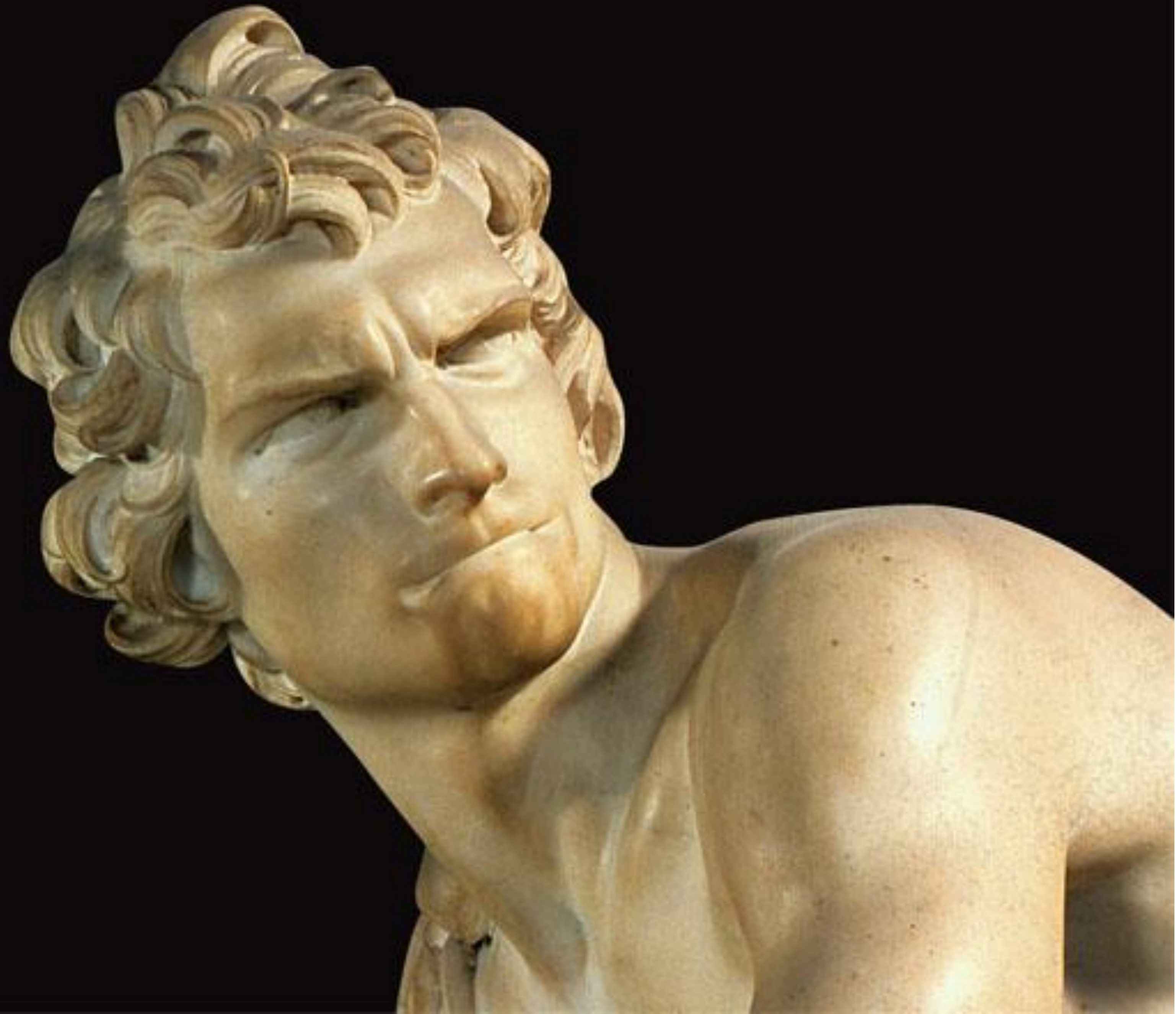


















BUT  
SEEK YE FIRST  
THE KINGDOM OF GOD  
AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

AND all these things  
shall be added  
unto you

MATTHEW 6:33















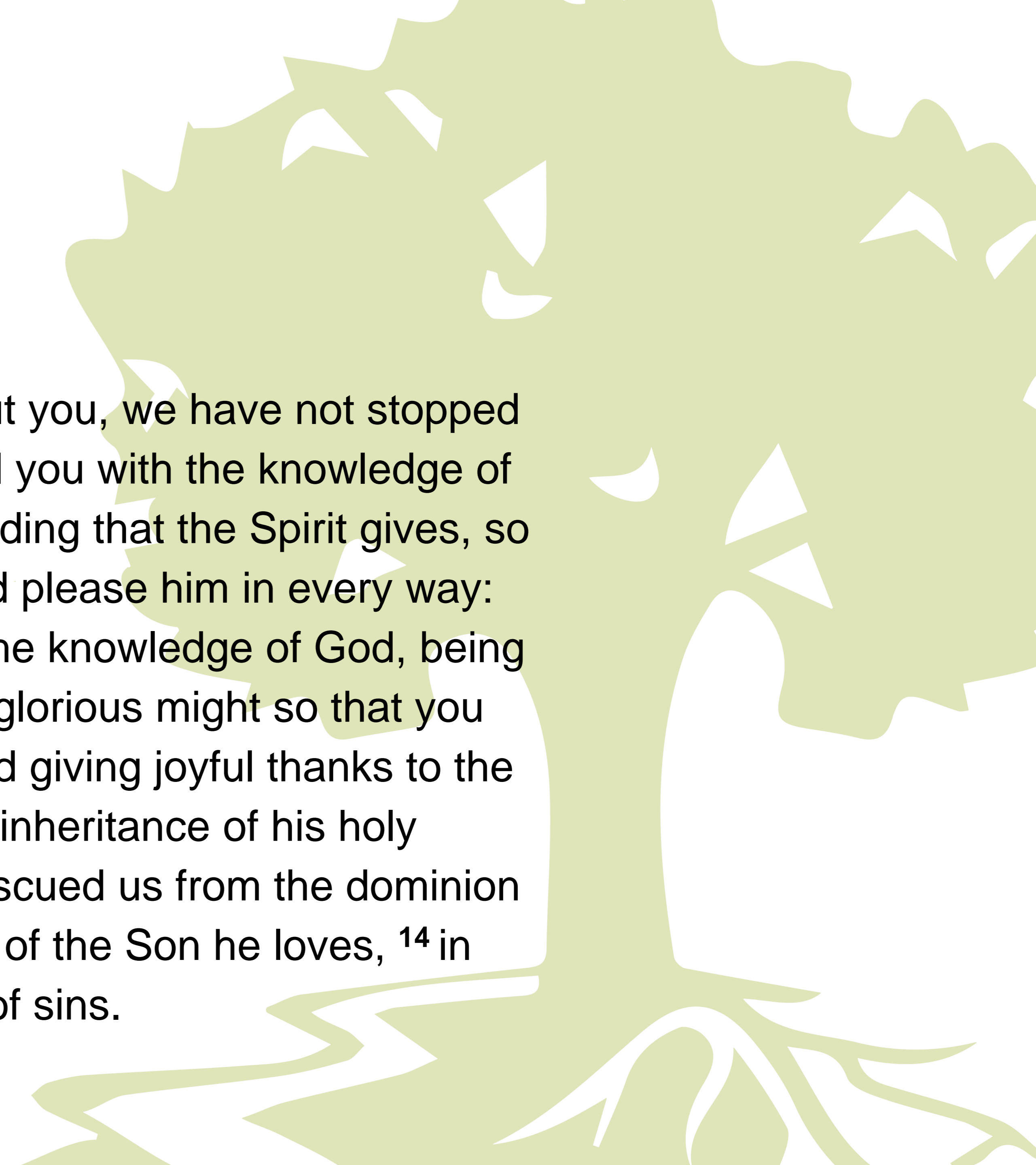
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# Praying Scripture

p. 55

# Colossians 1:9-14

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.



# Scripture Engagement Resources

- [Bible Gateway](#) – 50+ articles and videos – Free
- [Abide Bible](#) – 2,500 Scripture engagement prompts
- [Abide Bible Course](#) – small group video curriculum
- [Abide Bible Journals](#) – all books of the Bible with room to write
- [21 Days in John](#) – a 21-day video series going through the book of John, sent via email if you sign up. Free.
- [Christian Life Survey](#) - Free
  - Feedback on your own spiritual life and engagement with Scripture
  - Suggestions on which Scripture engagement practices might best fit you
- [Scripture Engagement Reading Plans](#) – Six different SE reading plans, 25 days each - sent via email if you sign up for them. Free.
- [5-Day Audio Devotional](#) – Listen to 5 different 5-minute SE audio devotionals on Spotify. Free.