

THE SERMON

“Building a God we can believe in.”

Pastor Mike

Luke 4:20 (NRSV)

*And he rolled up the scroll, gave it
back to the attendant, and sat down.
The eyes of all in the synagogue were
fixed on him.*

"Preaching is a conversation between you and me at a particular time in our lives together, informed by our worship and reading of scripture."

It is a conversation about transformation and the Spirit of God in our lives.

Patch Adams Butterfly clip

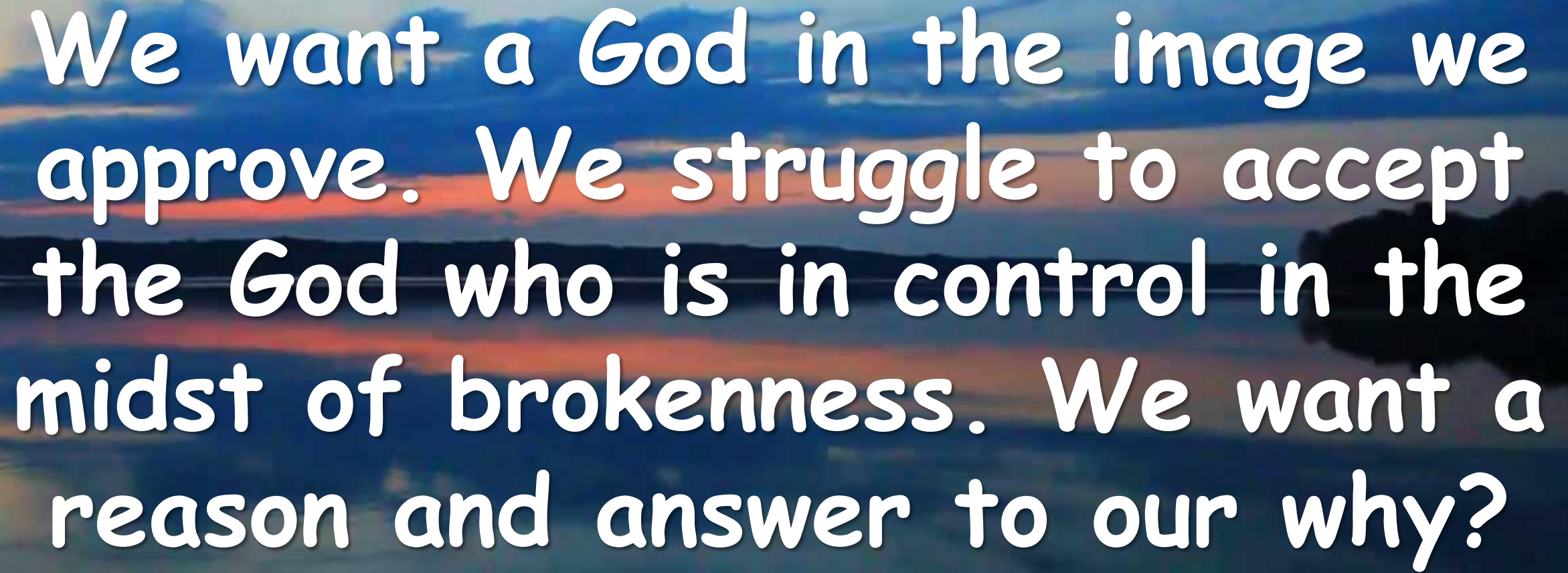
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30rGicdIWm0>



LIVING
THE
NEW
LIFE

Many times we are confused and hurt by what happens in our lives. We don't understand why and we lash out and even challenge God.

"I can't believe in a God that allows _____ to happen!"

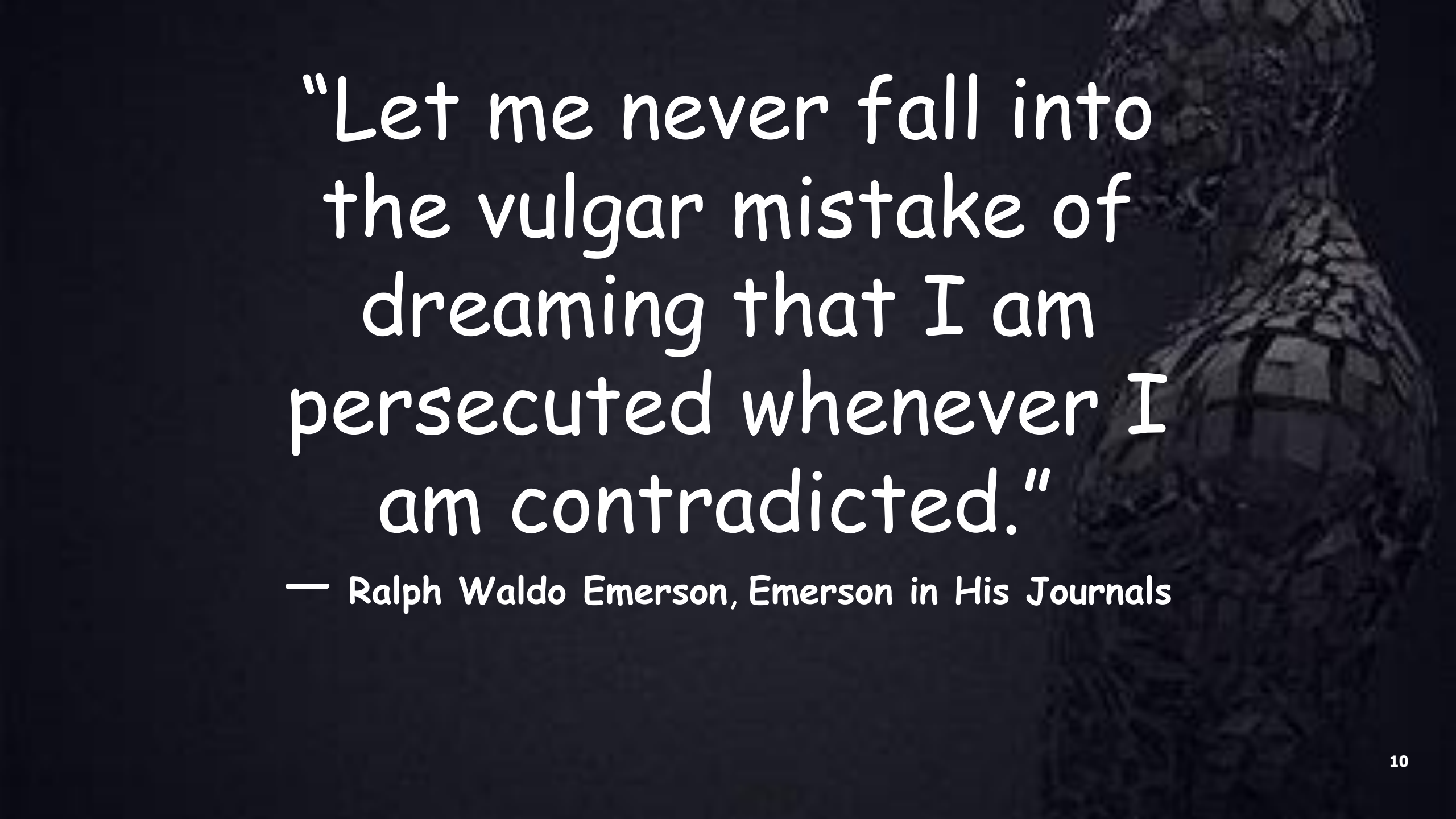
The background of the slide is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of deep blue, orange, and yellow. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange glow. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and bushes.

We want a God in the image we approve. We struggle to accept the God who is in control in the midst of brokenness. We want a reason and answer to our why?

So we gather here today to sort it out again. Every time we enter the doors into the church we must always ask two questions. "What does this Word say to my life?" and "What do the Scriptures on this day say to this community?"



NO ROOM FOR
BUTTS
IN THE BODY OF
CHRIST



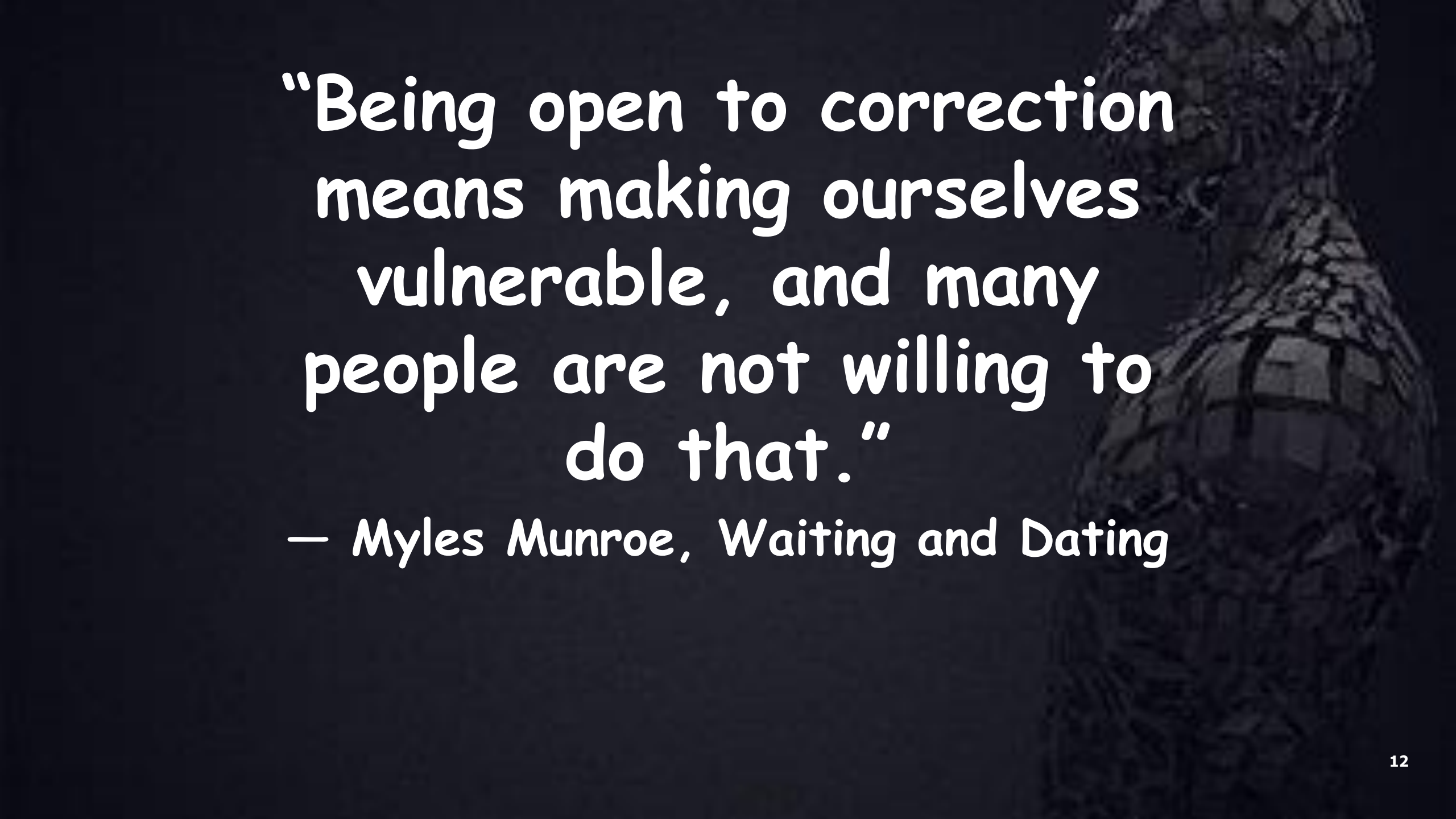
"Let me never fall into
the vulgar mistake of
dreaming that I am
persecuted whenever I
am contradicted."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, Emerson in His Journals

***Jesus' teaching of the Kingdom is the
most powerful truth you will ever
experience!***

***It means taking all you thought and
believed and starting over.***


***It begins with
Death and ends with Resurrection!***



“Being open to correction
means making ourselves
vulnerable, and many
people are not willing to
do that.”

— Myles Munroe, *Waiting and Dating*

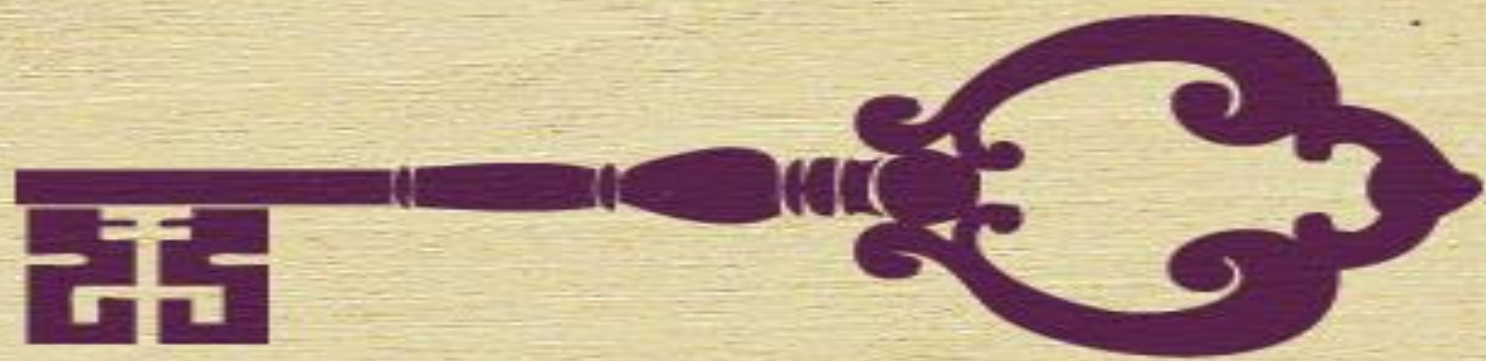
Holy Spirit

A dramatic sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the center-left of the frame, partially obscured by dark, silhouetted clouds. The sky is a deep blue, with lighter blue and white highlights where the sun's light breaks through the clouds. The water in the foreground is dark and reflects the light from the sun and the sky. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

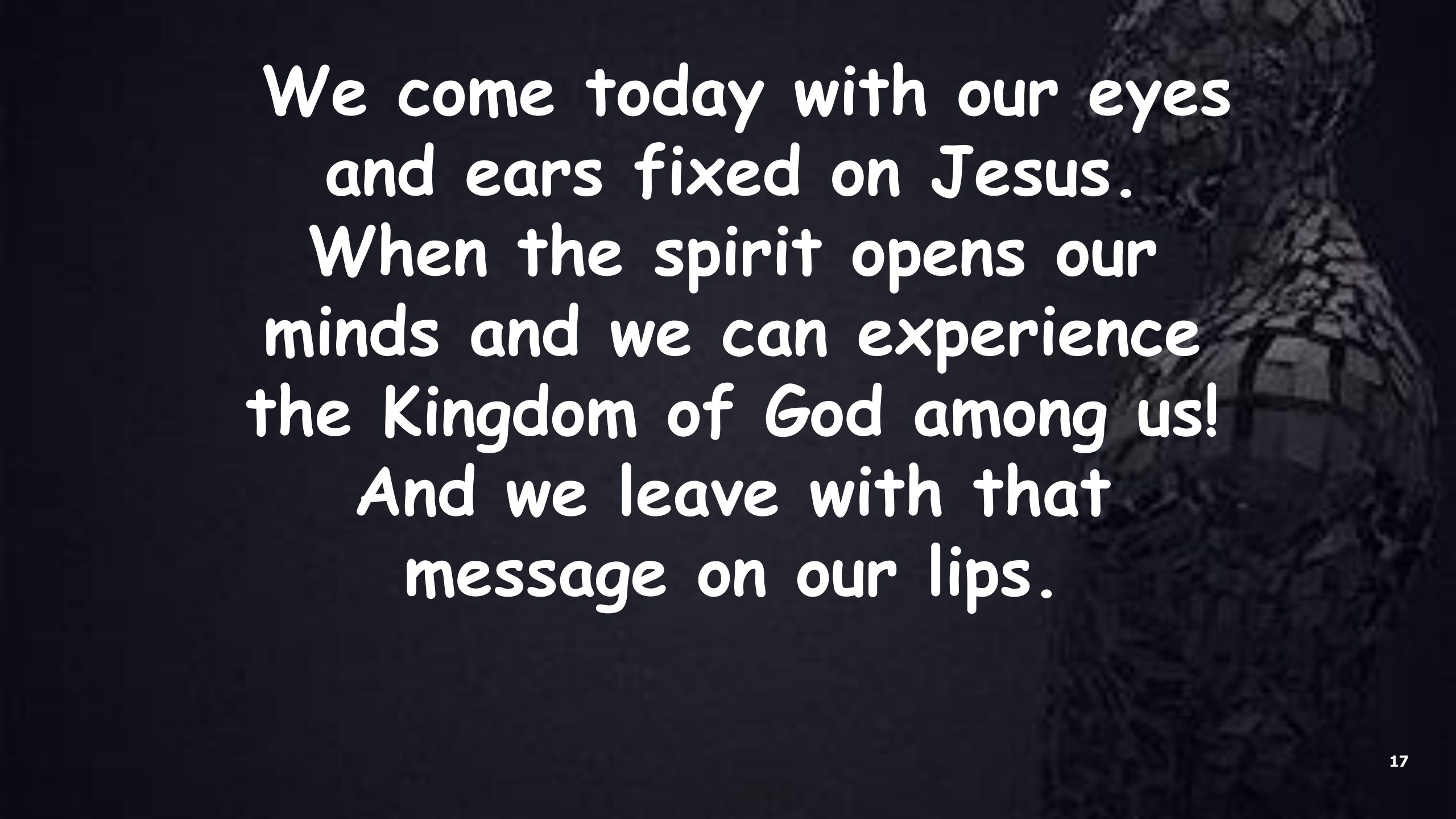
It takes the Spirit of God with the Word of God
and the people of God to make children of God

"The Problem: I can describe to you what spiritual emptiness feels like and what it means to have God fill the void. But I cannot tell how to do it. Only God can do that... and it isn't that God hasn't done it for you... I can only guess that it just isn't what you wanted or you are still arguing about it." -PMC

THE BAD NEWS:
There is no
key to happiness.



THE GOOD NEWS:
It isn't locked.



We come today with our eyes
and ears fixed on Jesus.
When the spirit opens our
minds and we can experience
the Kingdom of God among us!
And we leave with that
message on our lips.