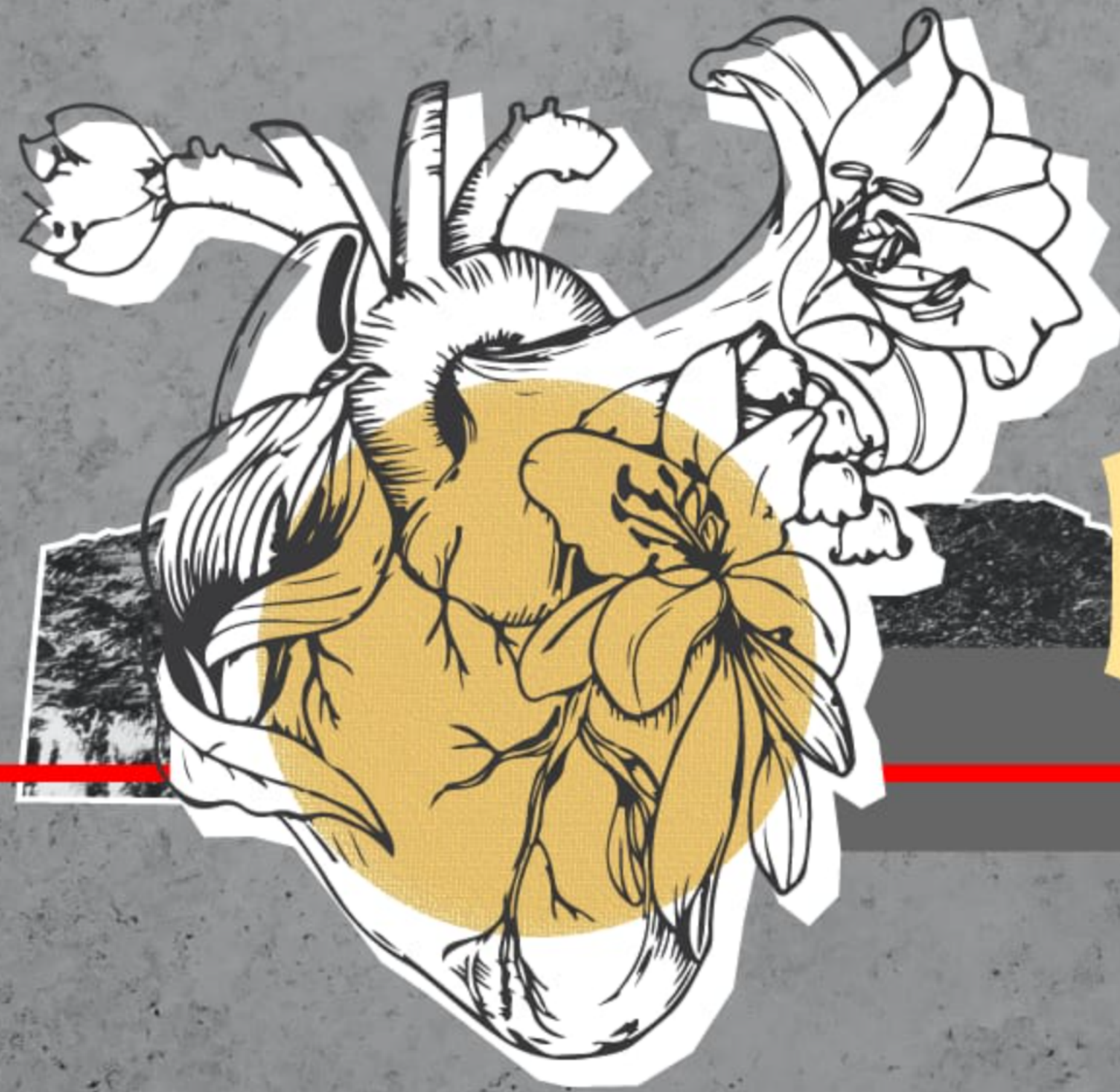




# scrípture

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EZEKIEL 16



# ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY  
IN THE GLORY OF GOD

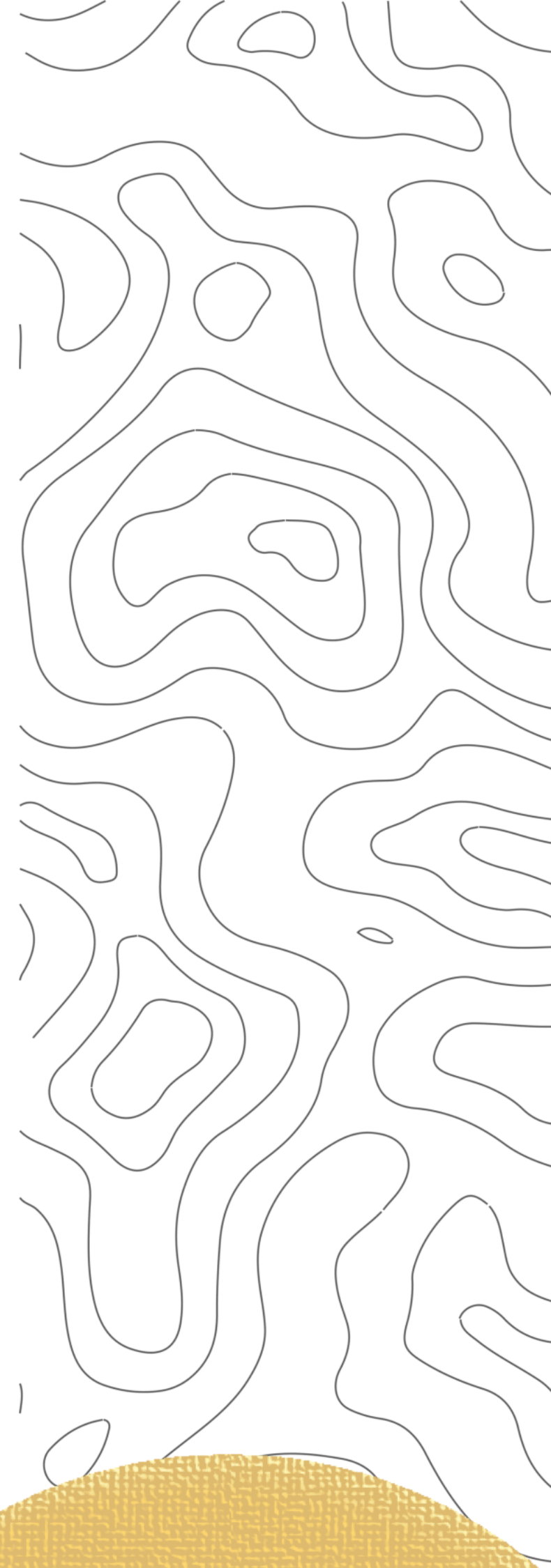
Ezekiel 16:12 "...I (God) put a ring on your nose, earrings on your ears and a beautiful crown on your head."

**Nose piercings are a symbol of God's adornment of his people and accessorize well with crowns**



Ok, maybe it's **not the MAIN** point....

**"Why get married? I don't  
want him/her to stop trying."**



**Moral Gravity** is the  
**only immunity** to the  
**dangers of splendor**

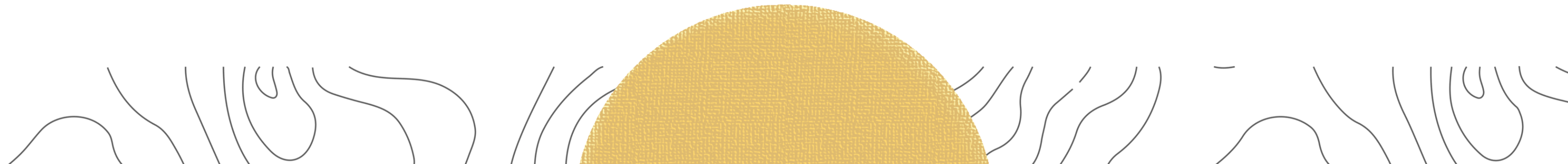
**or:**

**Shame is the compassionate  
treatment for lewdness.**

**1. Extravagant  
generosity is  
inherently  
dangerous  
(to us)**

## **Ezekiel 16:13 – 15**

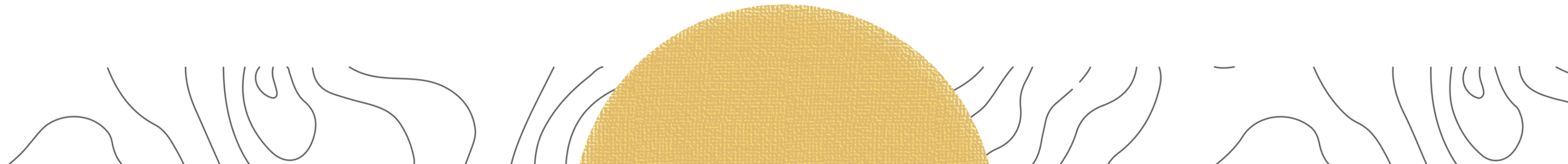
"You became very beautiful and rose to be a queen. And your fame spread among the nations on account of your beauty, because the splendor I had given you made your beauty perfect," declares the Sovereign LORD.





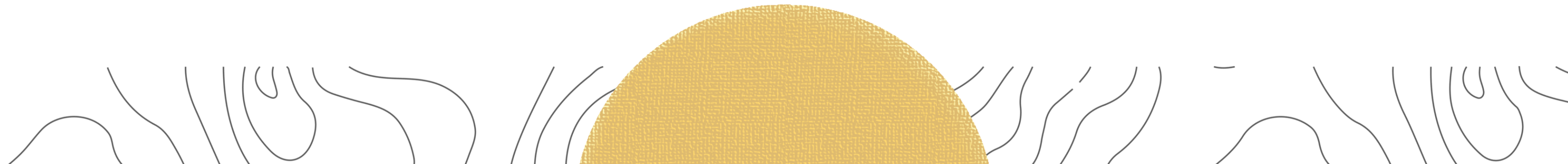
## **Ezekiel 16:13 – 15**

"...the splendor I had given you made your beauty perfect," declares the Sovereign LORD.  
"But you trusted in your beauty and used your fame to become a prostitute. You lavished your favors on anyone who passed by and your beauty became his."



## **Ezekiel 16:43**

"Because you did not remember the days of your youth but enraged me with all these things, I will surely bring down on your head what you have done," declares the Sovereign LORD. "Did you not add lewdness to all your other detestable practices?"



<b>Relational character:</b>	<b>Lewdness</b>	<b>Covenant Love</b>
<b>Commitment</b>	Casual	Comprehensive
<b>Generosity</b>	Takes/spends	Gives/creates
<b>Relationship</b>	Casual/Transactional	Committed/bonded
<b>Scope</b>	A la Carte	Comprehensive
<b>Effect on neighbors</b>	Hurts/unjust	Heals, forms, just
<b>Long Term</b>	Squanders gifts	Builds a legacy
<b>Effect on life</b>	Parasitic	Verdancy
<b>Moral aesthetic</b>	Ugly, disfiguring	Beautify, adorn
<b>Public witness</b>	Shameful, notorious	Noble, honorable
<b>Effect on culture</b>	Degrading	Ennobling

# Descent into Lewdness

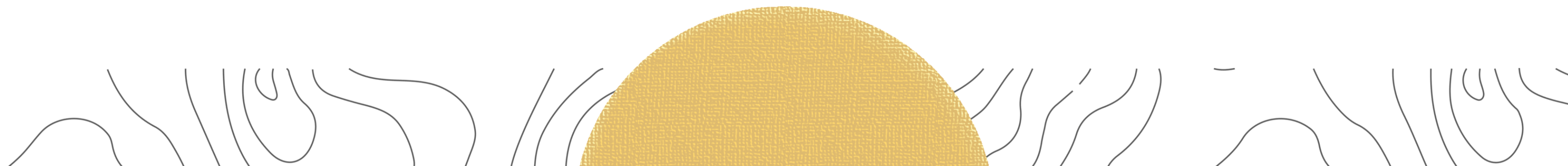
**Lust** – disordered desire

**Moral Amnesia** – convenient forgetting

**Idolatry** – making new gods

**Lewdness** – betrayal is a public virtue

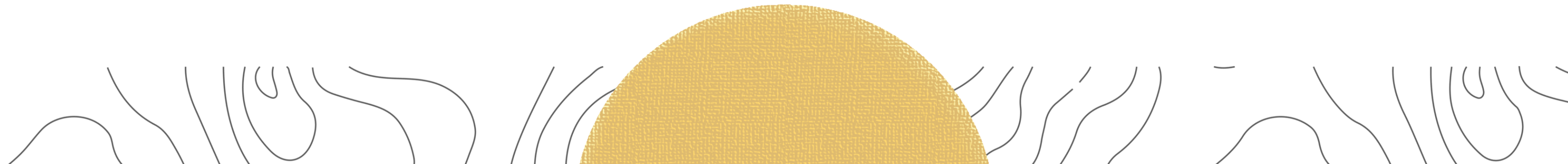
**Devouring** – objectifying everything



# **Only 2 outcomes:**

**Consumption** – the devouring will end

**Shame** – facing the horror



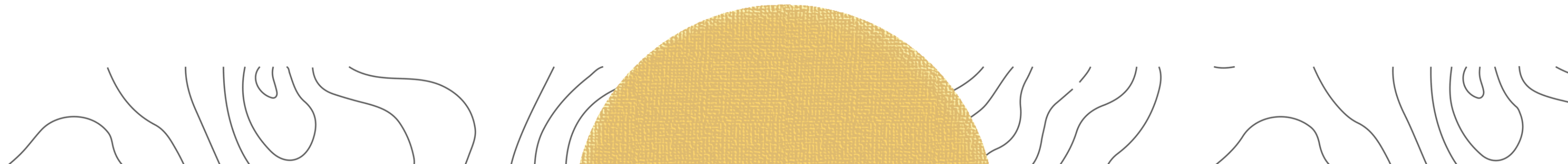
## **2. Confrontation makes restoration possible**

(intervention and consequences  
are a shock cocktail)

# Isn't shame bad?

There are at least 3 kinds of shame.

And keeping them distinct is **CRITICAL**.



# Psychological

## Shame as self-hatred

"My flaws make me unworthy of love, belonging, or connection."

**Remedy:** Self-compassion and vulnerability with empathetic people.



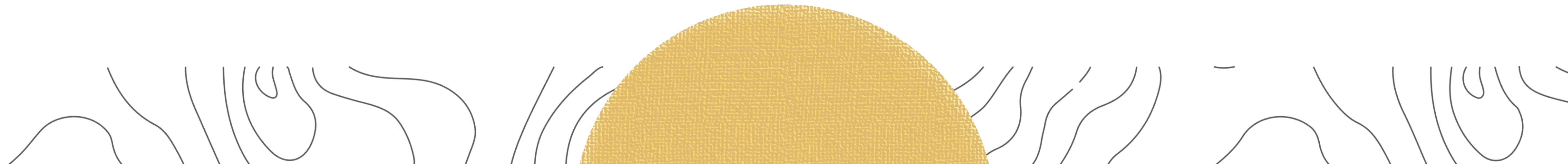


# Social/Cultural

**Shame as opposite of honor**

"Deserved, proportionate moral approbation for failing to act justly and responsibly"

**Remedy:** restitution and recovery

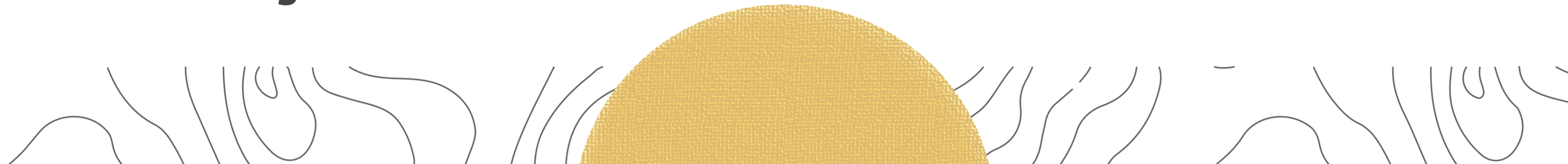


# Moral/Spiritual

**Shame as the opposite of Lewdness**

"The recovery of moral sensitivity to the social costs of selfish and idolatrous behavior" (You not having empathy for others)

**Remedy: SHAME IS THE REMEDY.**



# Do we really want empathy?



# Empathy for God

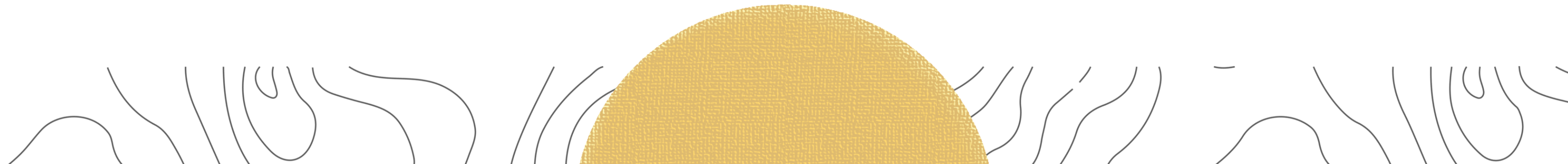


For OUR moral  
restoration

Harlotry — the main metaphor

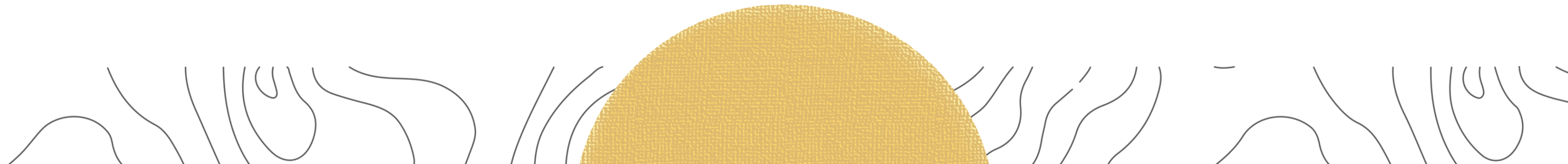
The gory details — do you feel it?

Ezekiel 16; 23:3, 20, 21



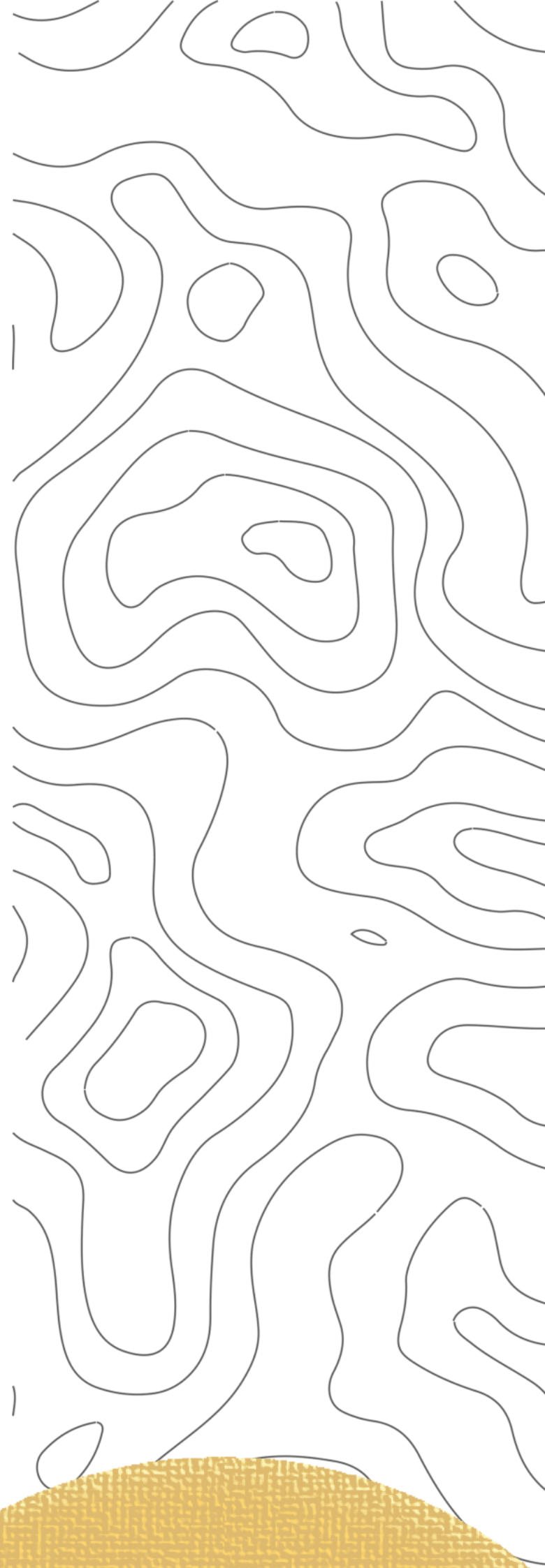
# Shame's reversal of lewdness

1. Devouring – feeling the pain yourself
2. Memory – "coming to yourself" (Luke 15)
3. Realization – rewriting false memories
4. Shame and humiliation
5. Rehabilitation and restoration to Grace
6. Remarriage and re-adornment



# Memory, shame and splendor

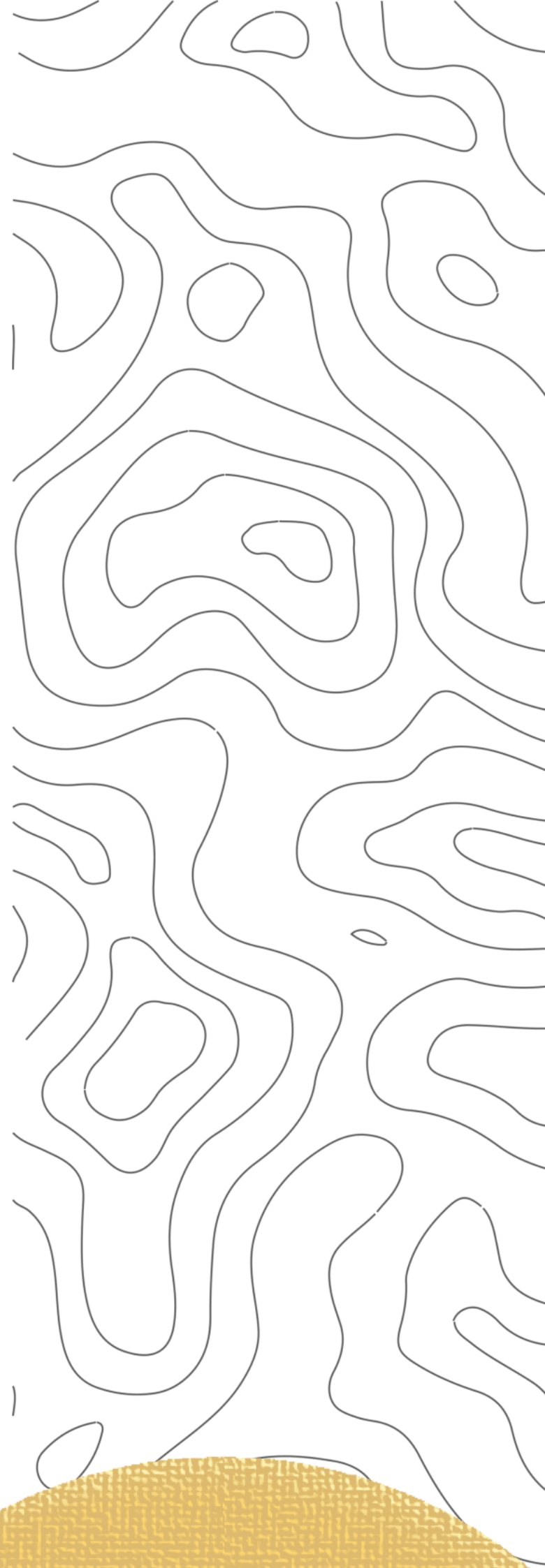
- Our safety in the splendor of glorification is in the solidity of our moral gravity
- Memory of our spiritual immune system



# "You did not remember"

**Ezekiel 16:22**

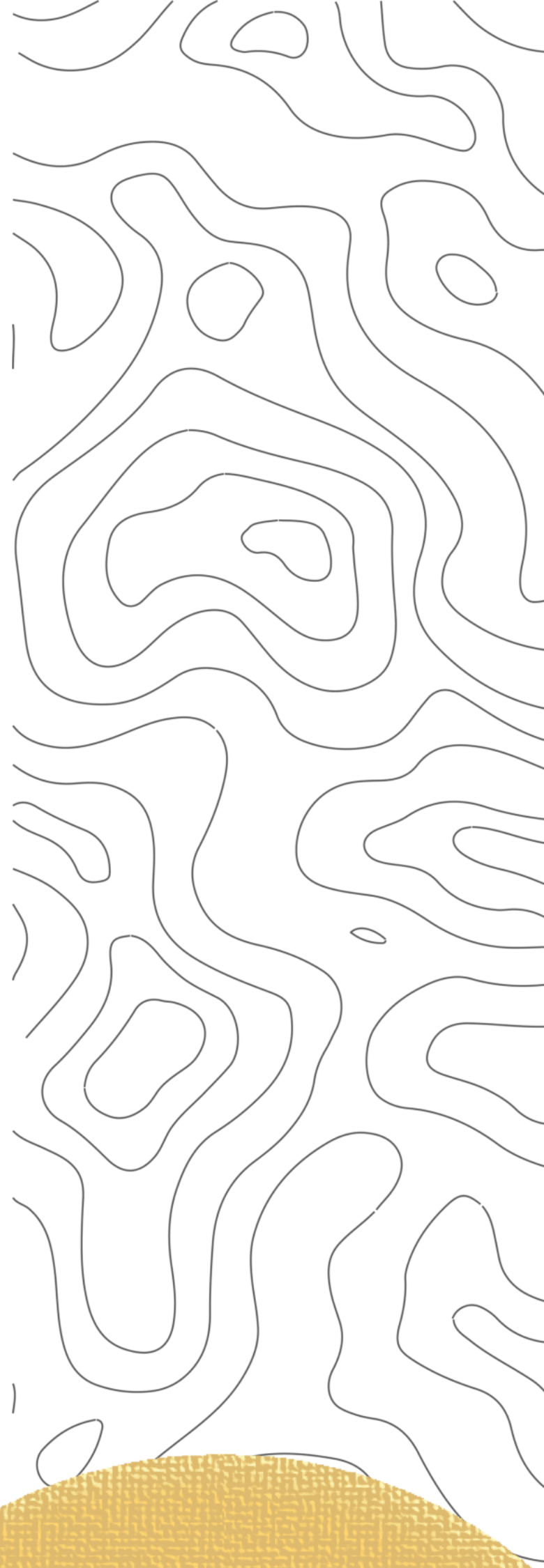
"...In all your detestable practices and your prostitution **you did not remember** the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, kicking about in your blood."



# "You did not remember"

**Ezekiel 16:43**

"Because **you did not remember** the days of your youth but enraged me with all these things, I will surely bring down on your head what you have done," declares the Sovereign LORD. "Did you not add lewdness to all your other detestable practices?"

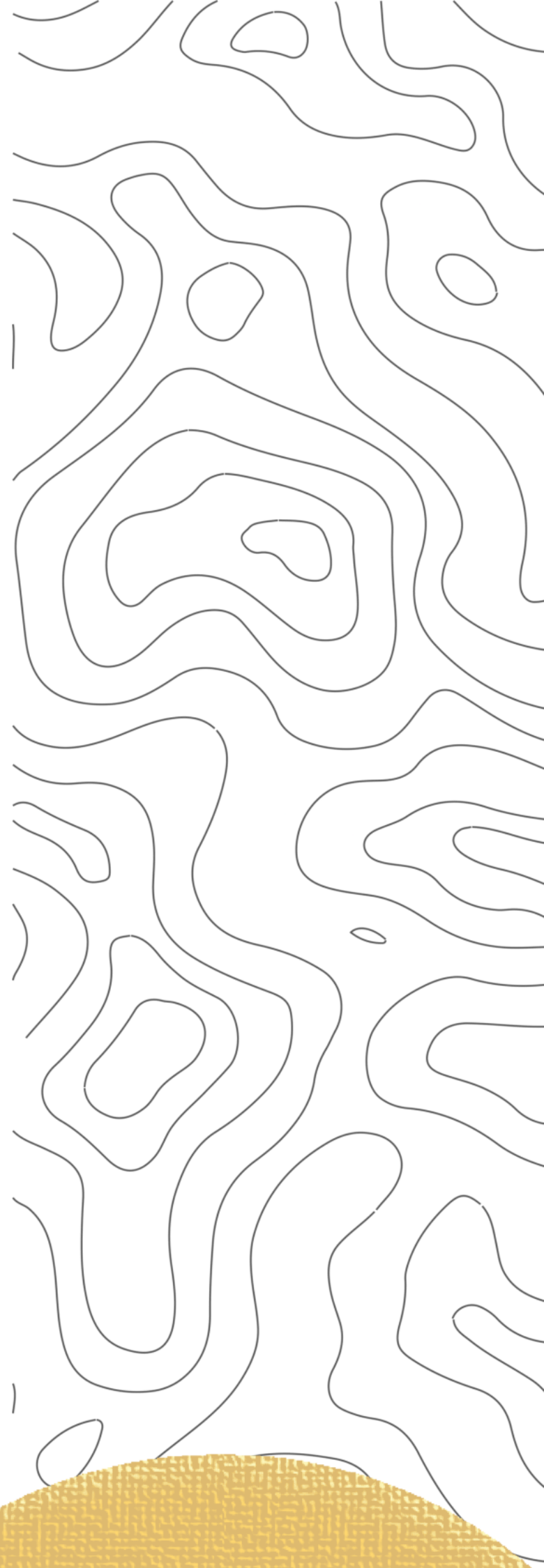




# "You will remember"

**Ezekiel 20:43 – 44**

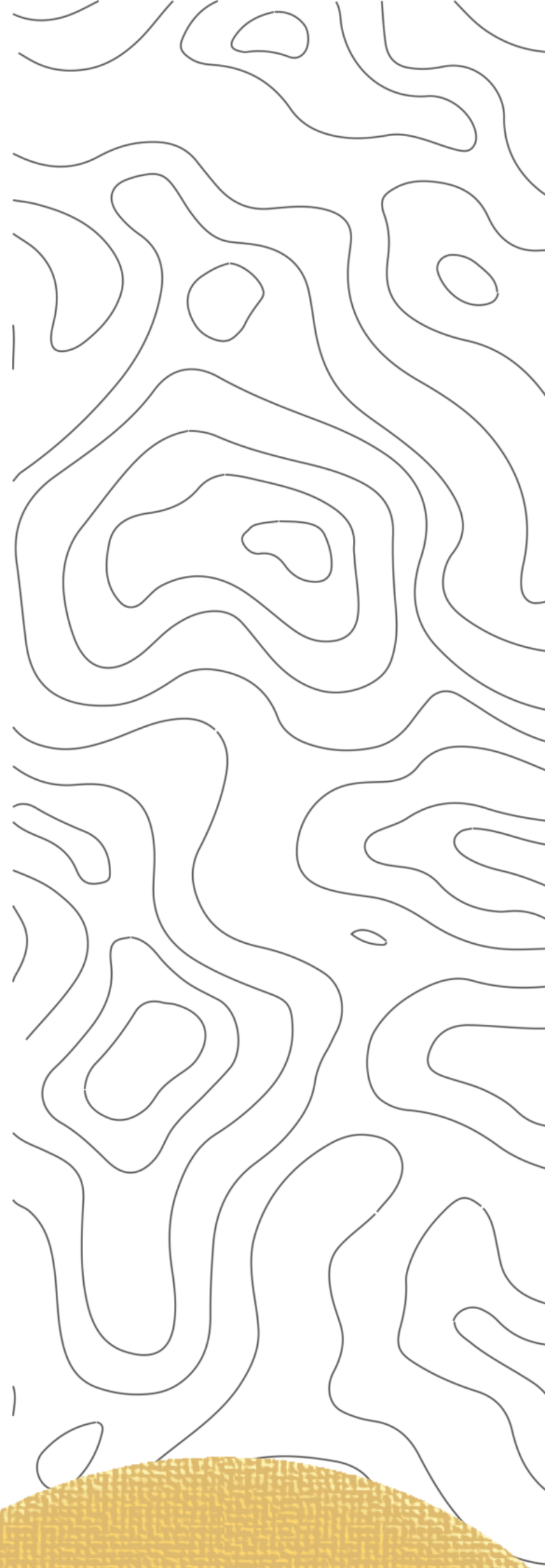
"There **you will remember** your conduct and all the actions by which you have defiled yourselves, and you will loathe yourselves for all the evil you have done. You will know that I am the LORD..."



# "You will remember"

**Ezekiel 36:31 – 36**

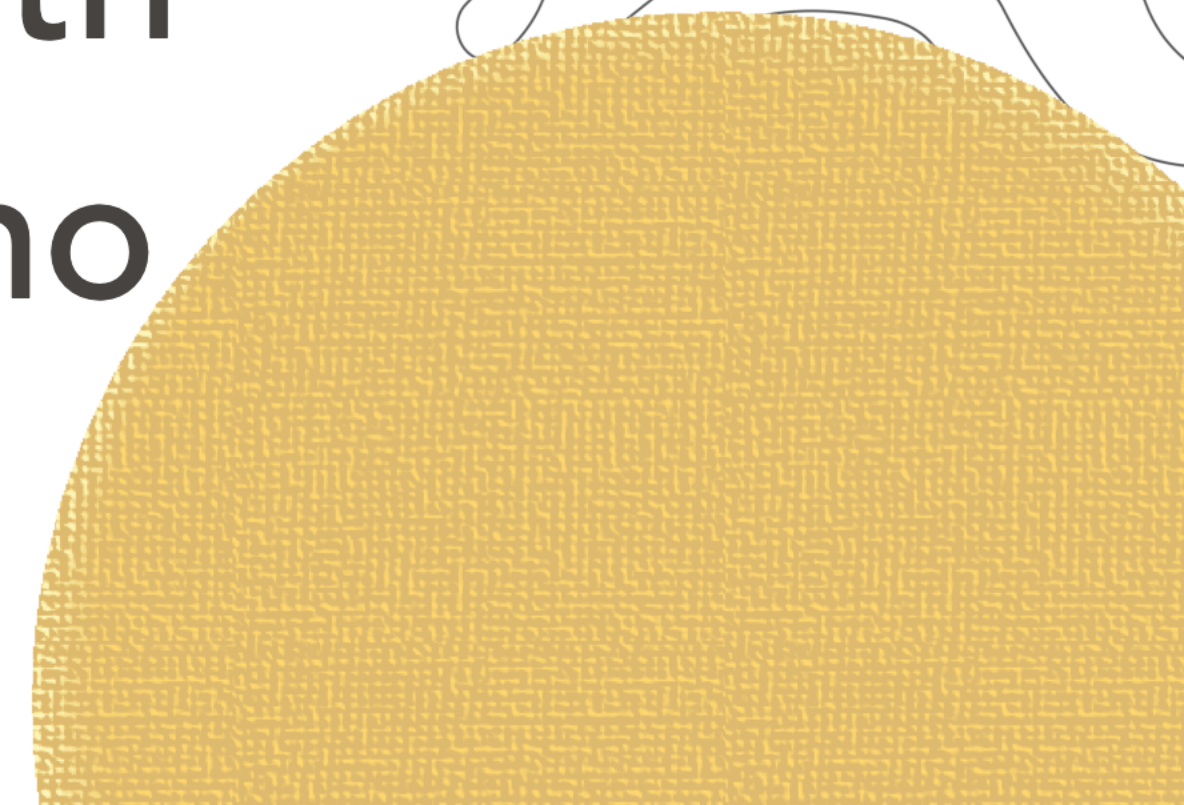
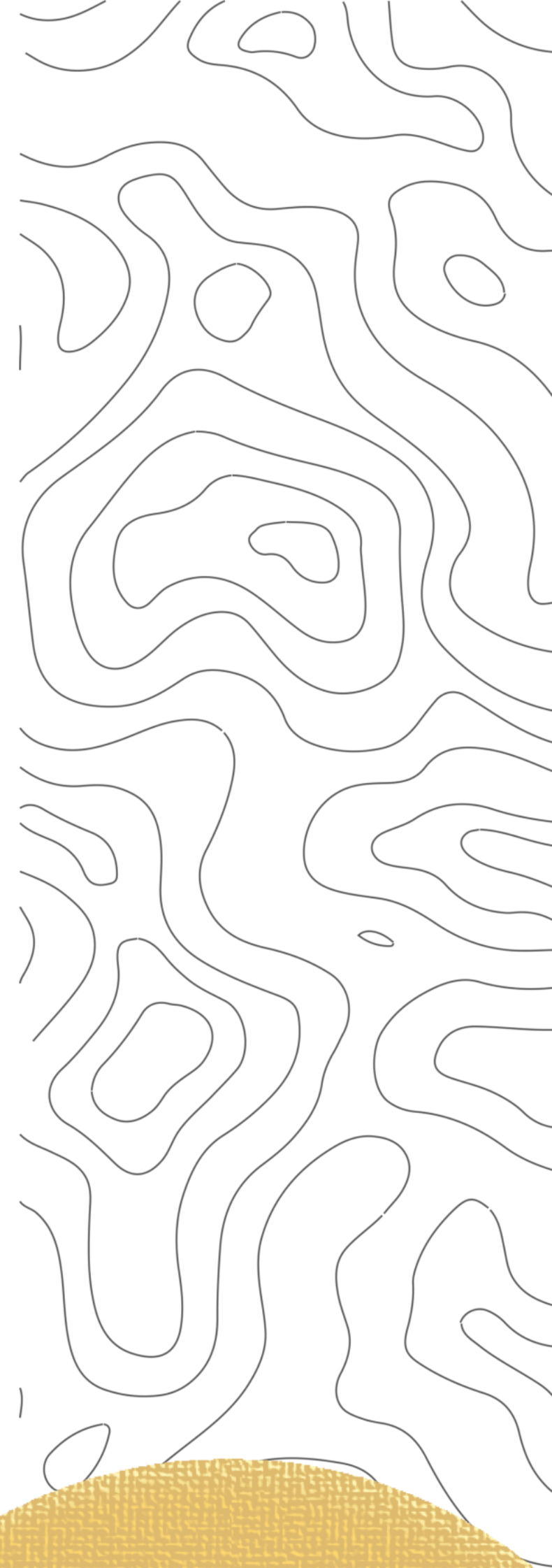
"Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices. I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake," declares the Sovereign LORD.



# I will remember

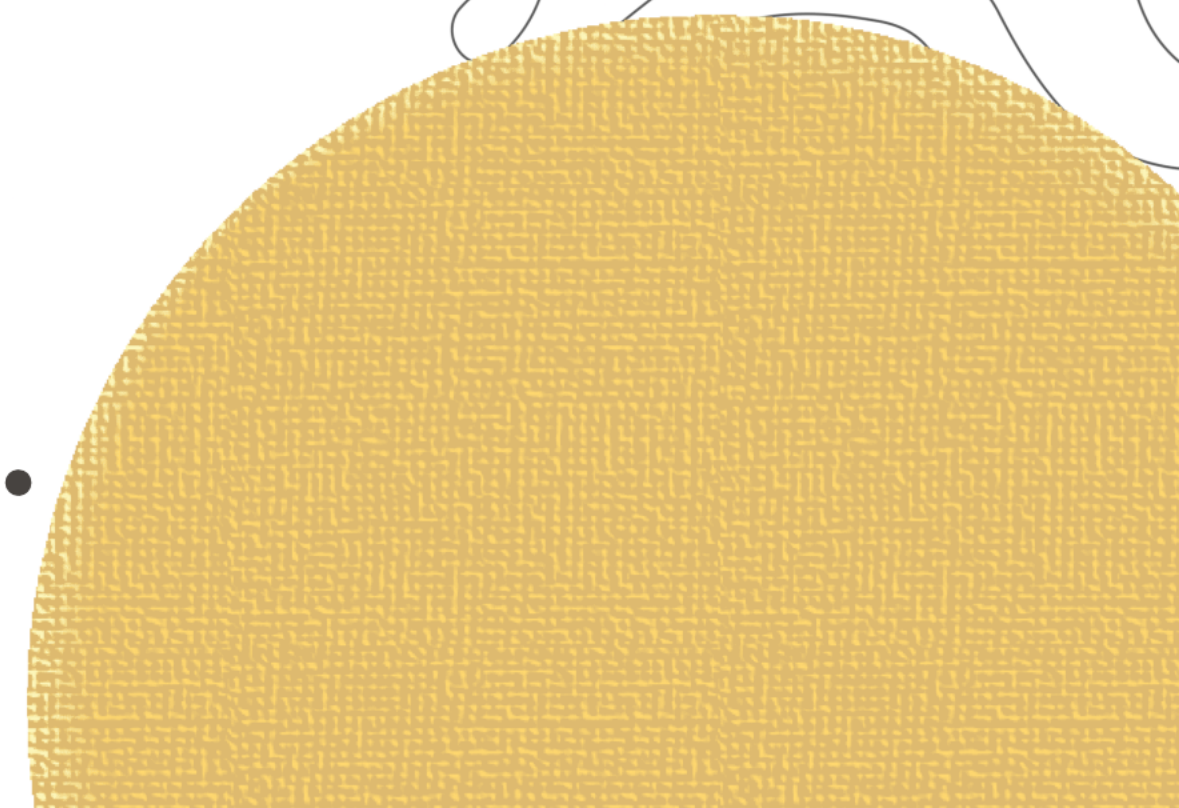
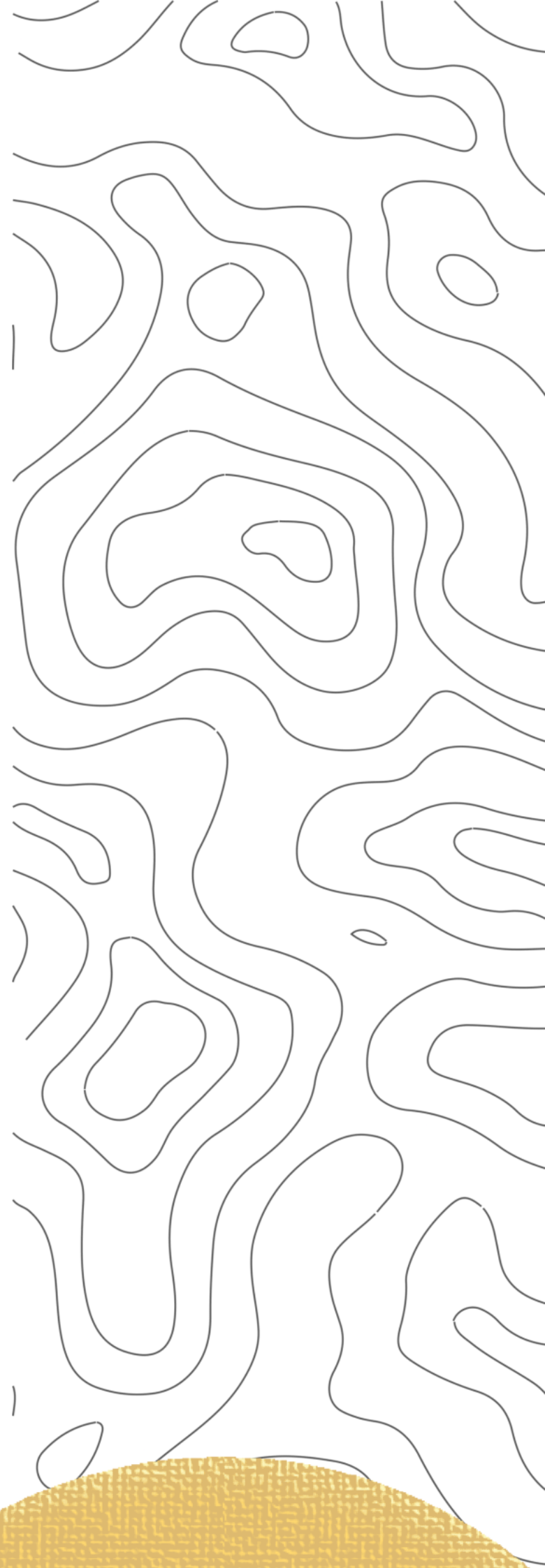
**Ezekiel 16:60 – 63**

**"Yet I will remember the covenant I made with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you. Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed when you receive your sisters, both those who are older than you and those who are younger..."**



# I will remember

"...I will give them to you as daughters, but not on the basis of my covenant with you. **So I will establish my covenant with you**, and you will know that I am the LORD. Then, when I make atonement for you for all you have done, **you will remember** and be ashamed and never again open your mouth because of your **humiliation**," declares the Sovereign LORD.

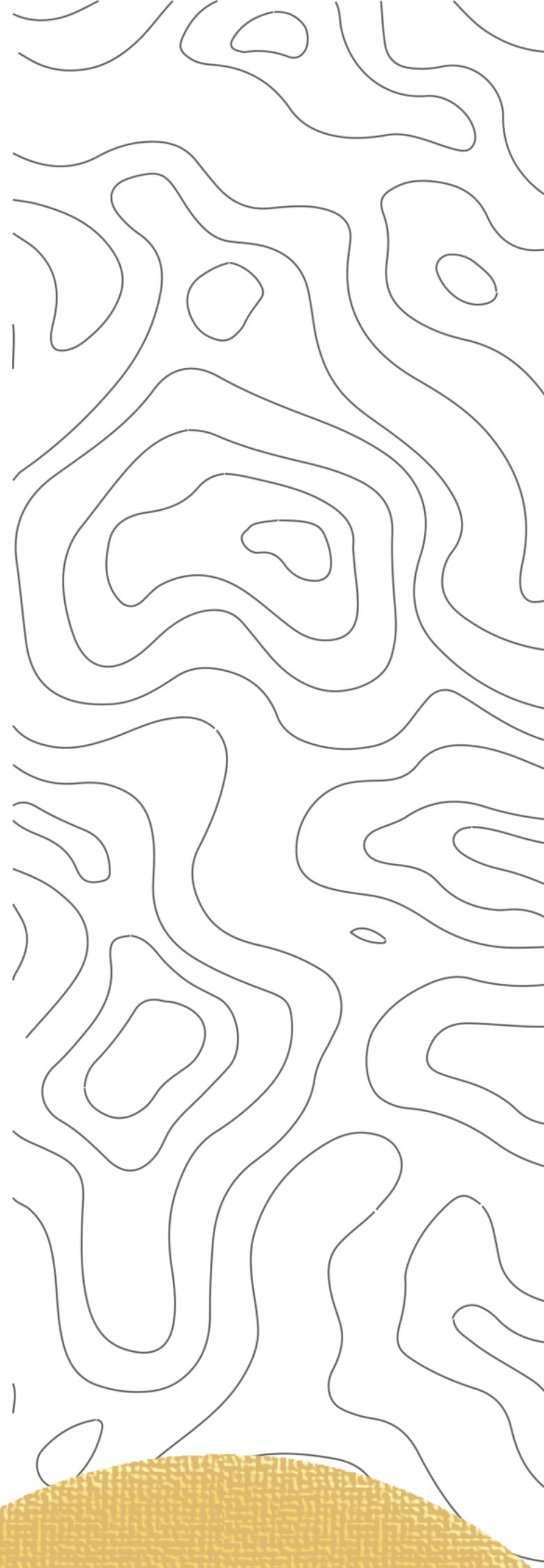


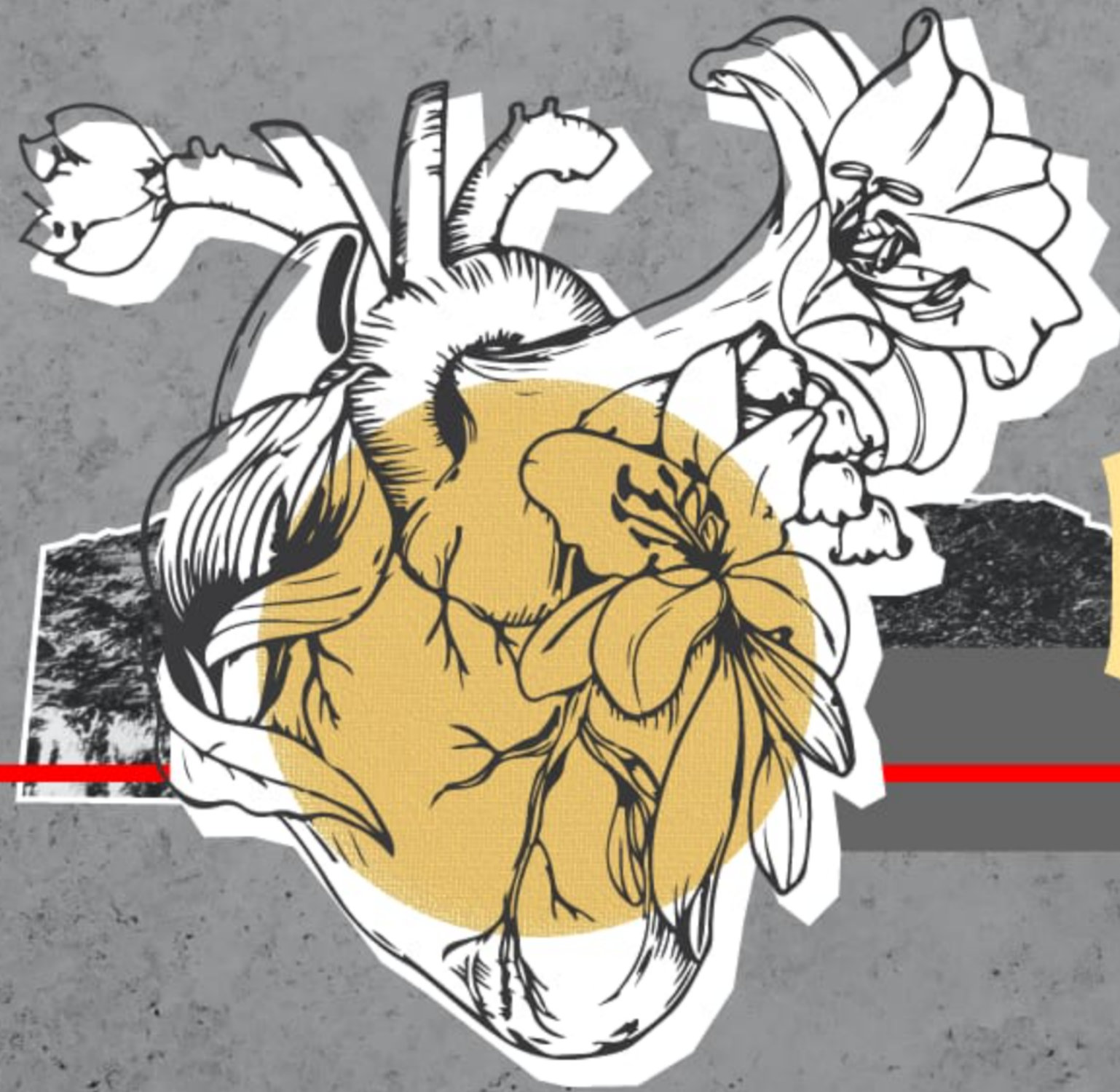
## Luke 22:18 – 20

"For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; **do this in remembrance of me.**"

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."





# ezekiel

FINDING SPIRITUAL GRAVITY  
IN THE GLORY OF GOD