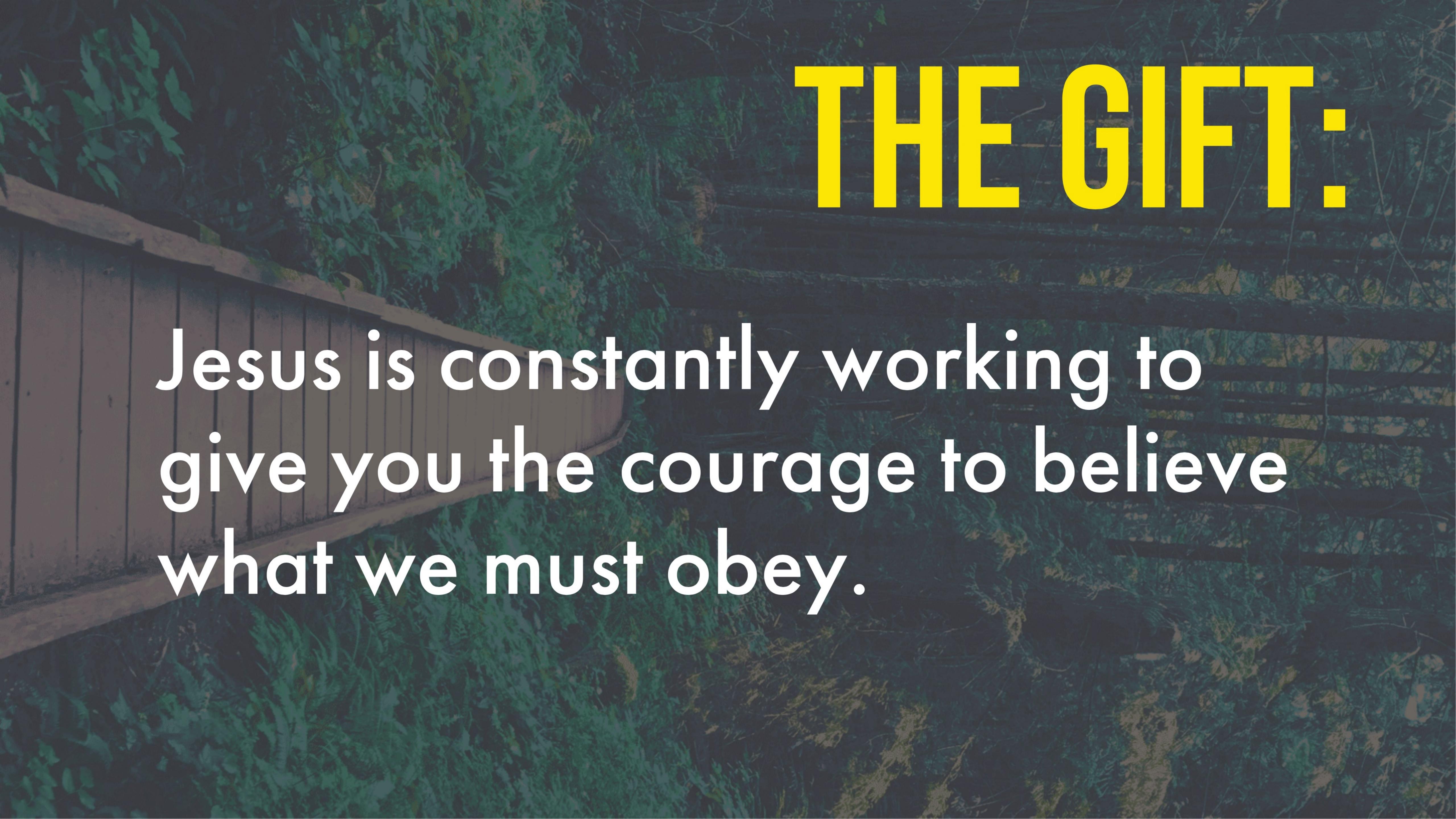


Luke 1:3-4 "...since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught."



### TO BELIEVE AND OBEY

#### To Believe: (truths we need)

- 1. Spiritual confusion is self-inflicted
- 2. Jesus affirms the OT witness
- 3. The OT witness matters
- 4. Gospel comission is central

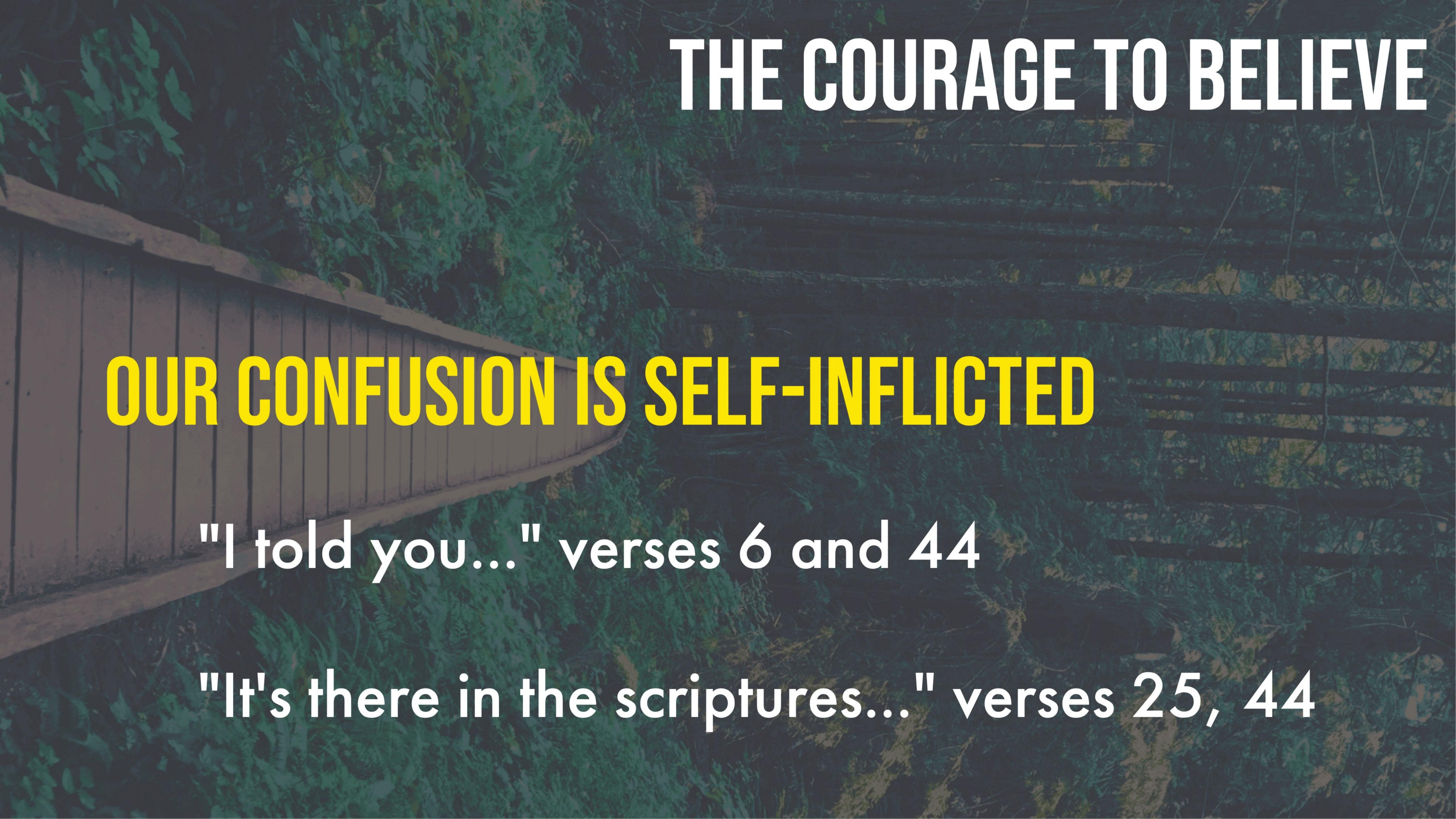
#### To Obey: (needs he truths)

- 1. Jesus is interested in ordinary disciples
- 2. Jesus is leading us toward each other
- 3. Spiritual foolishness can be escaped
- 4. Jesus wants an opened mind and a burning heart

# 1. JESUS IS WORKING TO GIVE YOU THE COURAGE TO BELIEVE Truths we need.

Look at the state of their hearts and minds.

Now...look at yours.



#### THE COURAGE TO BELIEVE

#### JESUS AFFIRMS THE OLD TESTAMENT WITNESS

Explicit: Matthew 5:18, Luke 16:17

Indirect: He assumes they hold the accurate revelation of the Messiah.

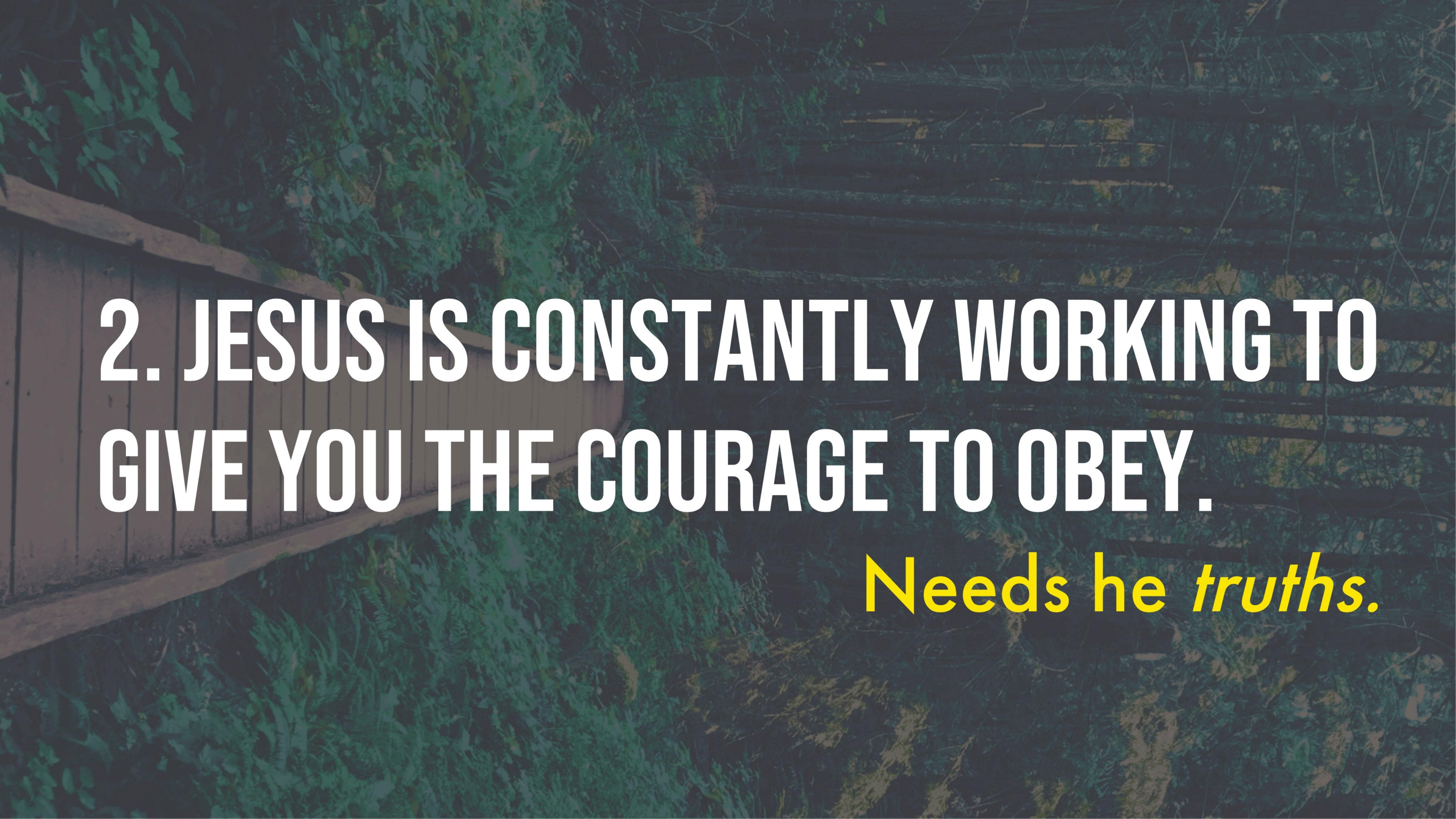


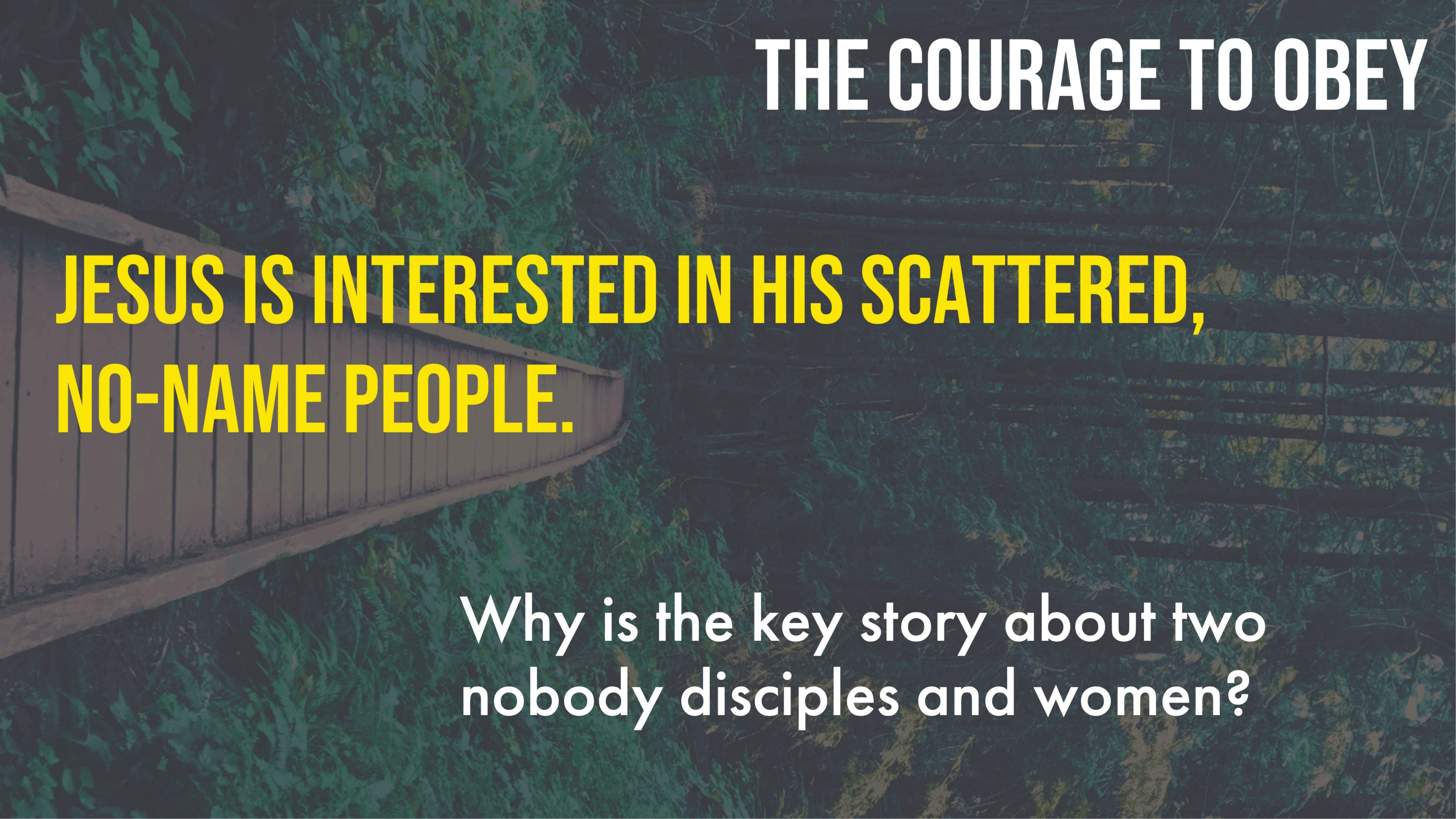
#### THE COURAGE TO BELIEVE

THE GOSPEL COMMISSION IS A CENTRAL TO THE KINGDOM AS THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF

GOD'S GHRIST

Isaiah 49:6 "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."





## JESUS IS GUIDING US TOWARD EACH OTHER AS HE GUIDES US TOWARD HIMSELF

verse 33 "They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem."
(at night after walking 7 miles)

#### SPIRITUAL FOOLISHNESS CAN BE ESCAPED.

We need piety and attendance

Charles Simeon "An ignorance of the Scriptures is far more injurious to us than we are apt to imagine; for it lies at the root of all our errors both in faith and practice."

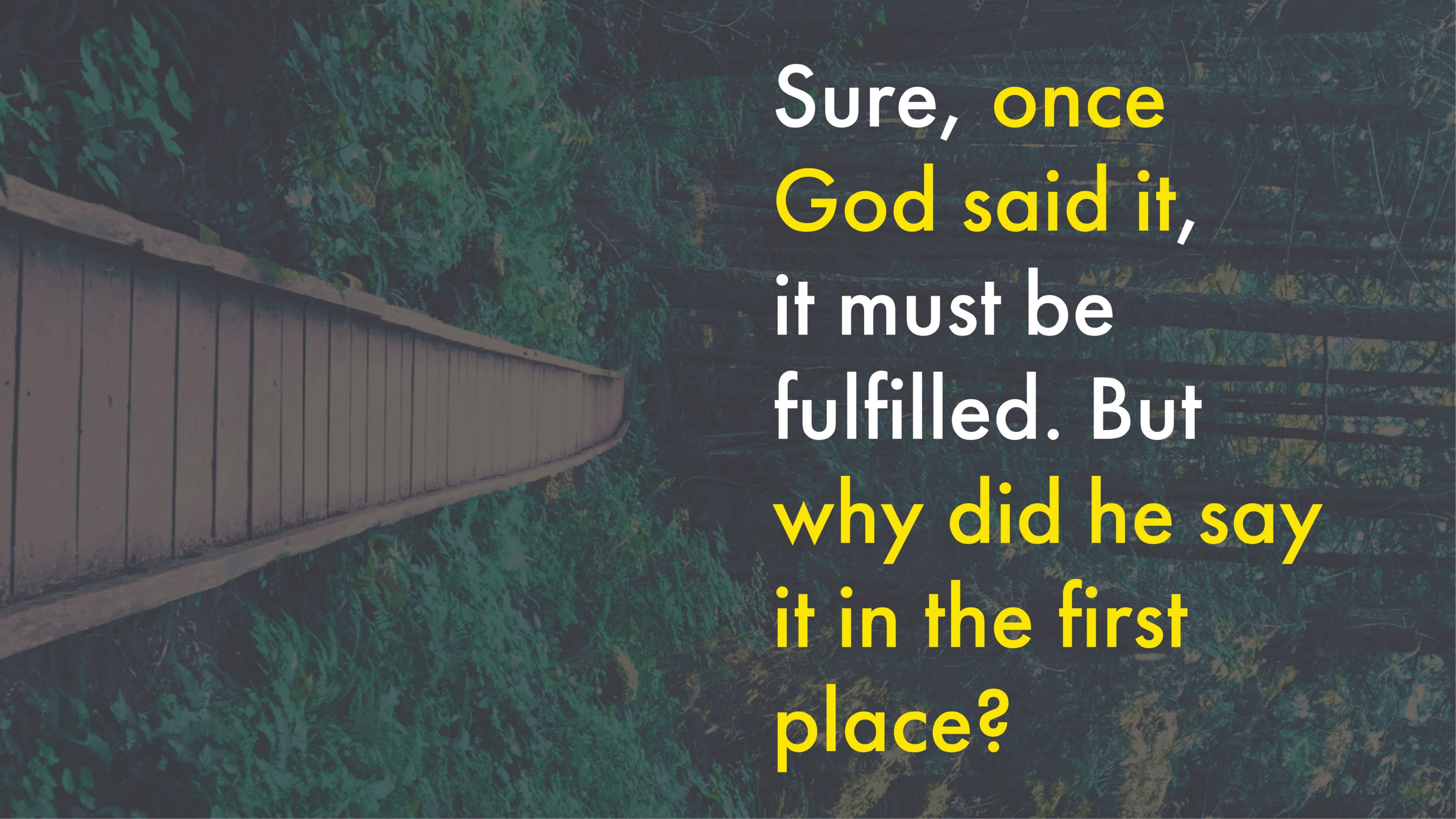
#### JI REASA

"I think that people don't read the Bible because they think they are too spiritually foolish to understand it. That is such a lie from the enemy. Not reading it is what <u>keeps</u> <u>us</u> spiritually foolish."

#### THE COURAGE TO BELIEVE AND OBEY

"Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" verse 26

"This is what I told you when I was still with you: everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." verse 44



Jesus tells us:

"and it will be preached in his name:
repentance into the forgiveness of sins
among all the nations; starting in Jerusalem."

Some relevant passages: Genesis 3:15, Daniel 9:26, Isaiah 52:14-15, 53:3-5, all of ch 49-56, Psalm 22, 118, Zechariah 12:10-11, Jonah, Leviticus 14, etc.

Isaiah 53:3-5

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Psalm 16:8-11 I have set the LORD always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.



Isaiah 52:14-15

Just as there were many who were appalled at him—his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness—so will he sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.

JESUS GOAL ISN'T AN OPEN MIND, BUT AN OPENED MIND.

Vs 45 "Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures."

G.K. Chesterton: "an open mind, like an open mouth, does have a purpose, and that is to be closed upon something solid otherwise it becomes like a city sewer, rejecting nothing."

It is discernment that makes us properly open minded.

## JESUS WANTS TO TEACH YOU BOTH FOR AN OPENED MIND AND A BURNING HEART

Verse 32 "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"