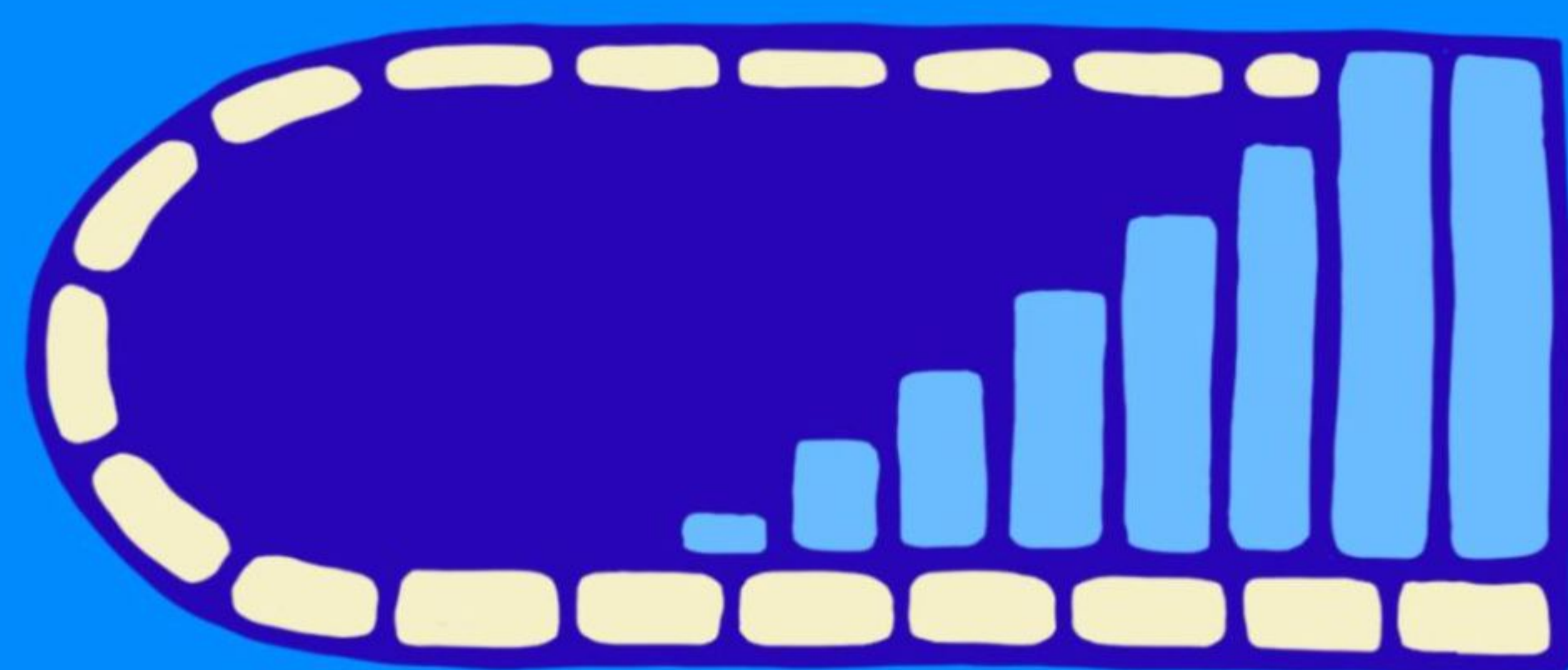


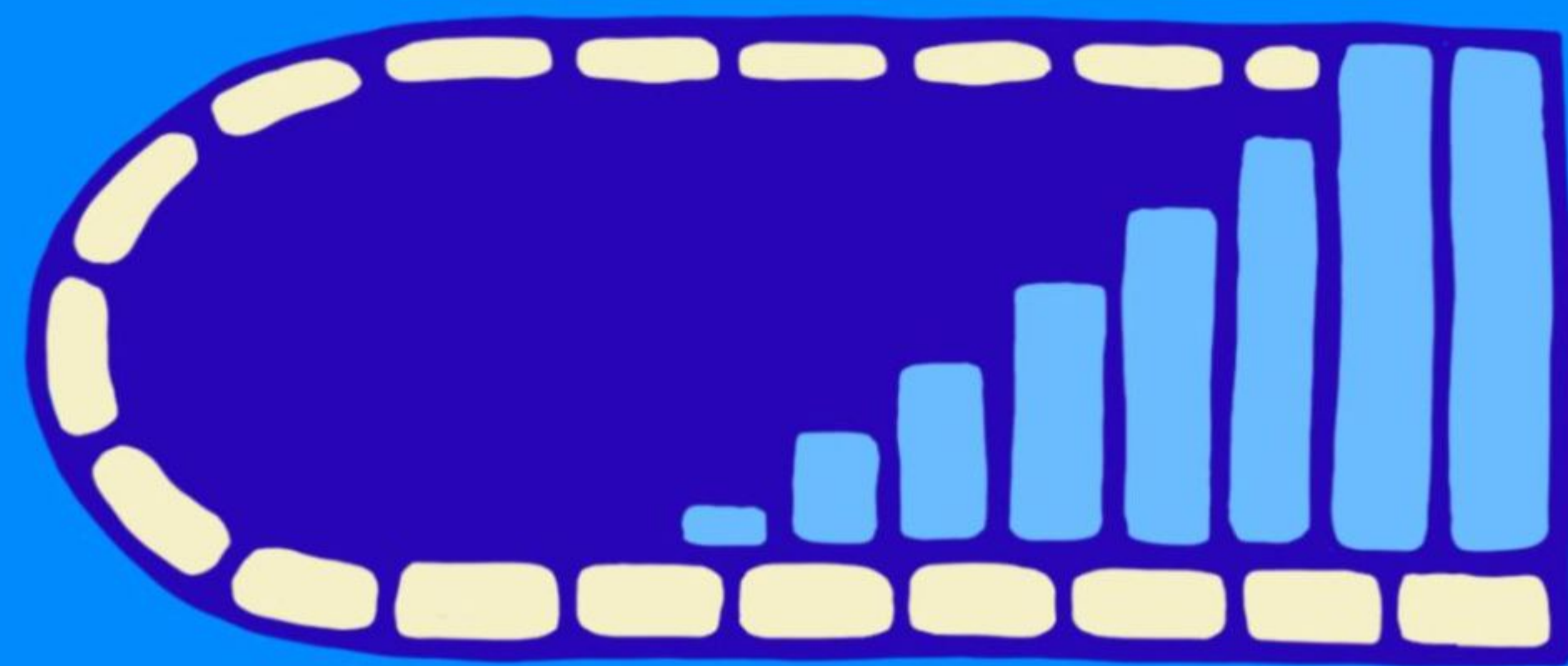
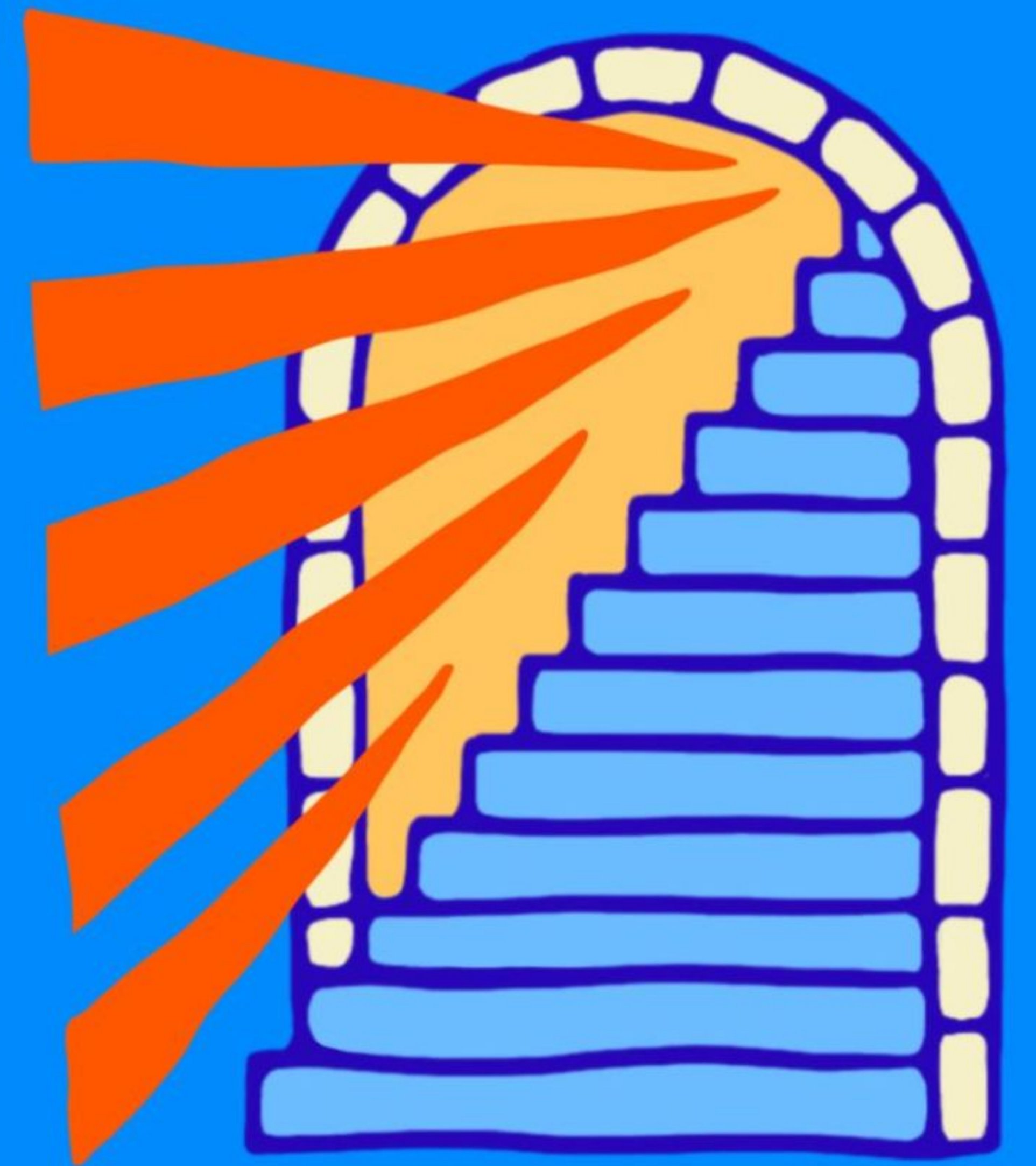
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Ephesians 5:15 – 20

page 1780



# Ephesians 5:15 – 17

Be very careful then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.





# Ephesians 5:18 – 20

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms and hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord. Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



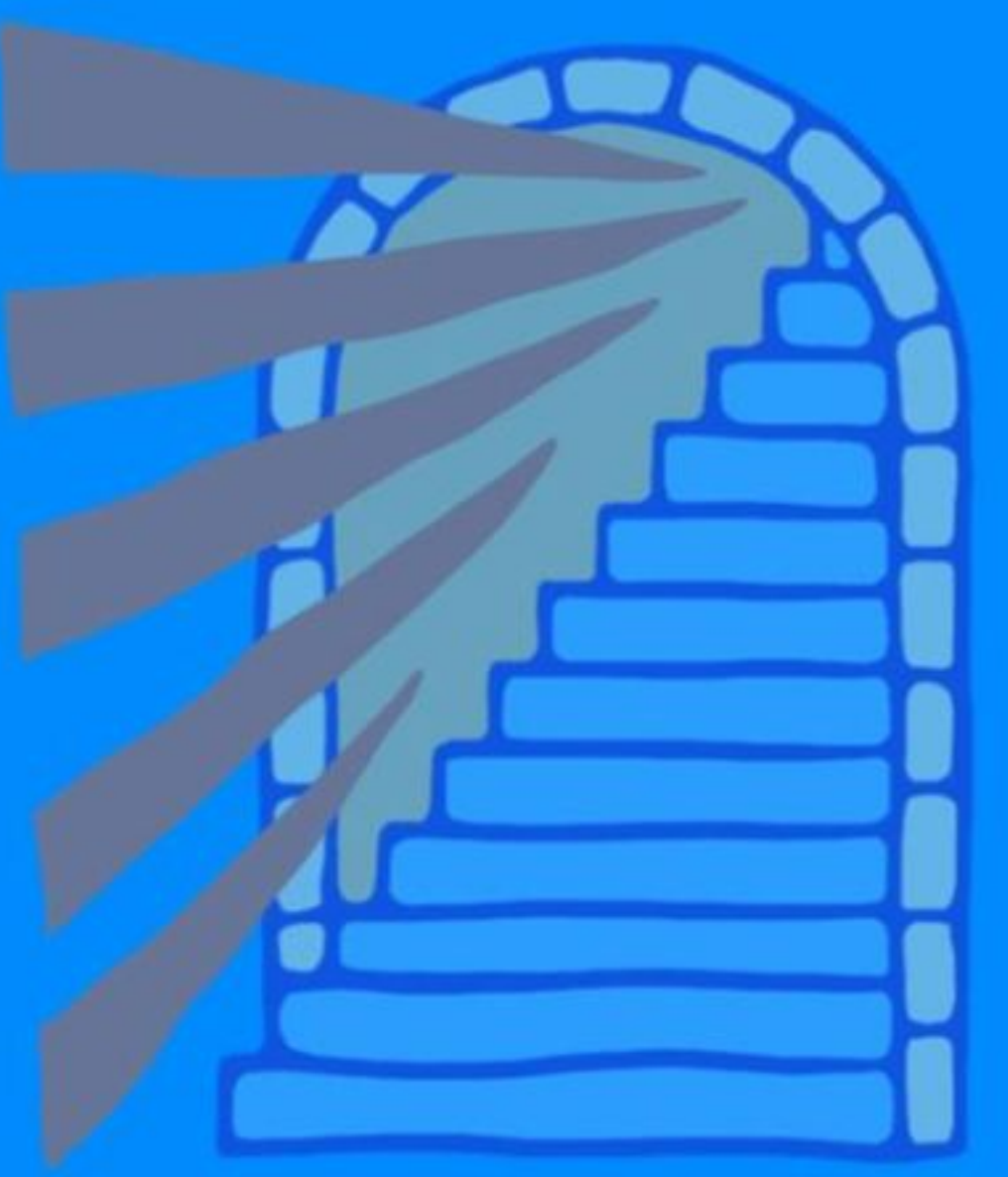
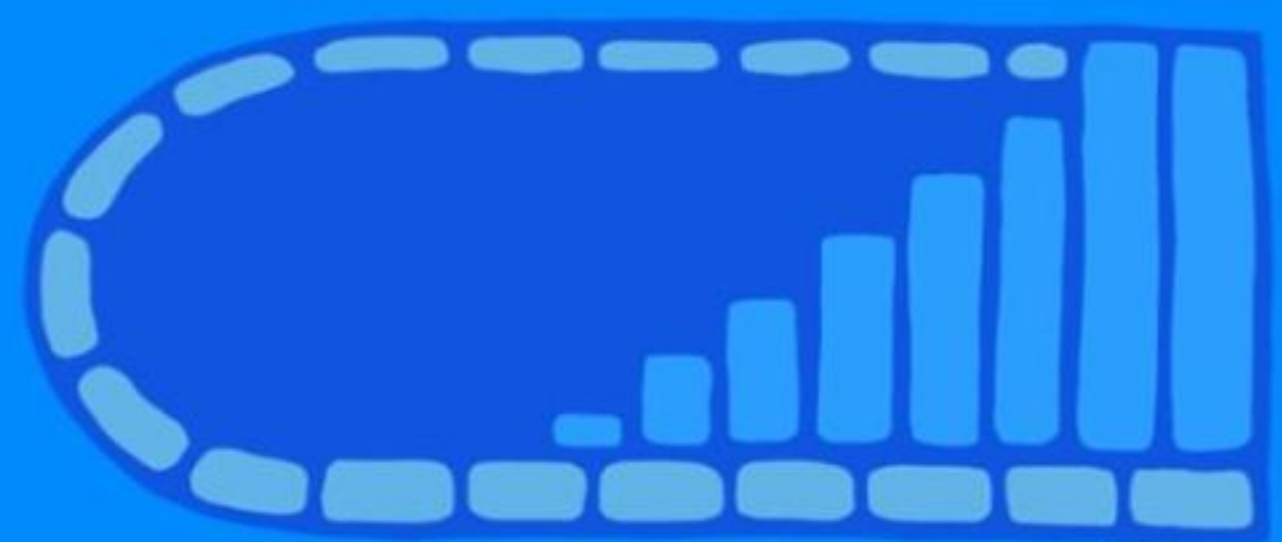


# War and Peace





Living the Christian life  
requires both vigilance  
and joyfulness.

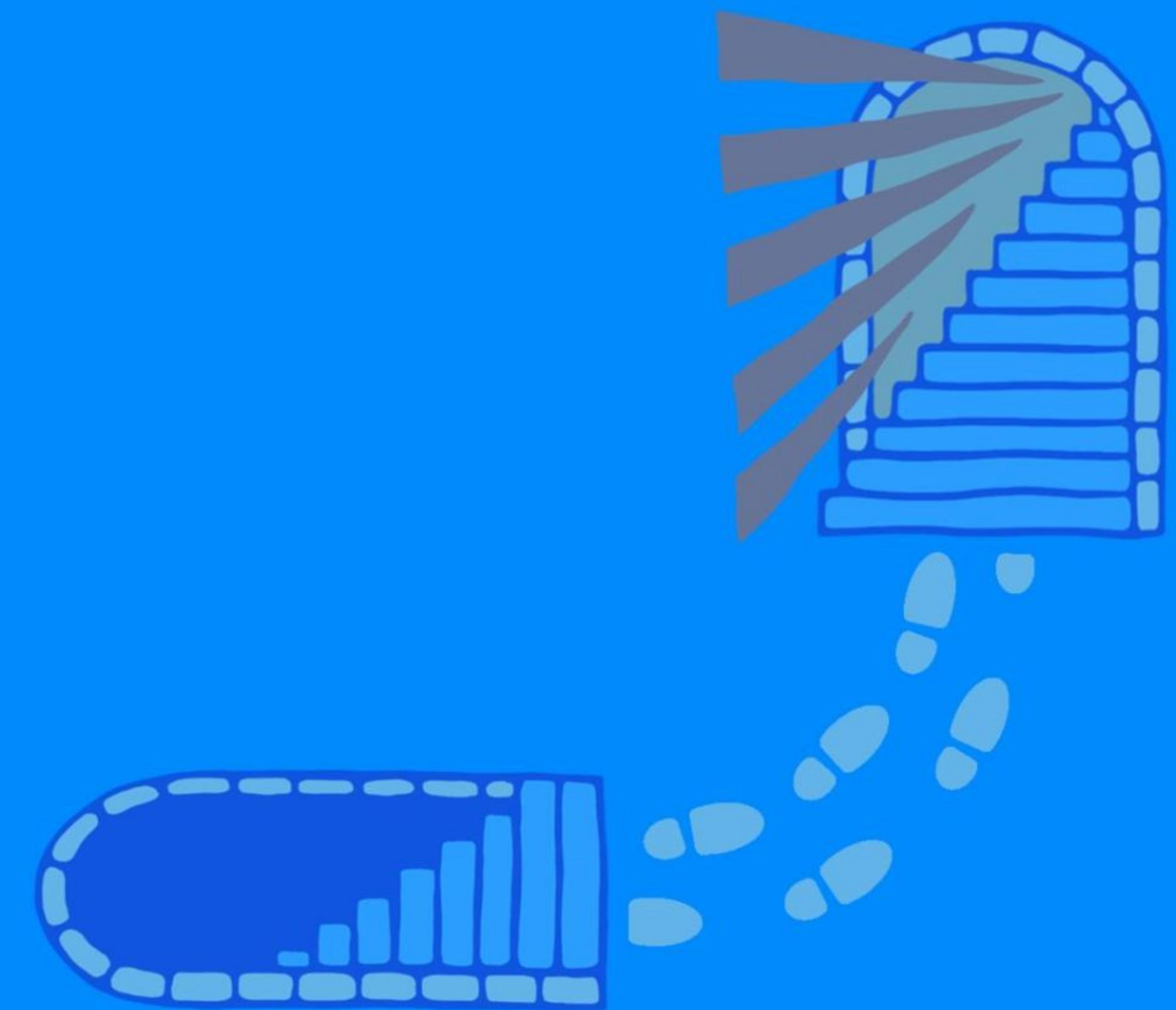




# The Pauline Paradox

The Christian life is both a time of:

1. Vigilance in warfare
2. Joyfulness in worship





# Vigilance in Warfare

*Ephesians 5:15 – 17*

Be very careful then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.





# Vigilance in Warfare

*"The days are evil."*

*Romans 7:21 – 23* So, I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law, but I see another law at work in me waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me.





# Vigilance in Warfare

*1 Peter 5:8a – 9*

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith...





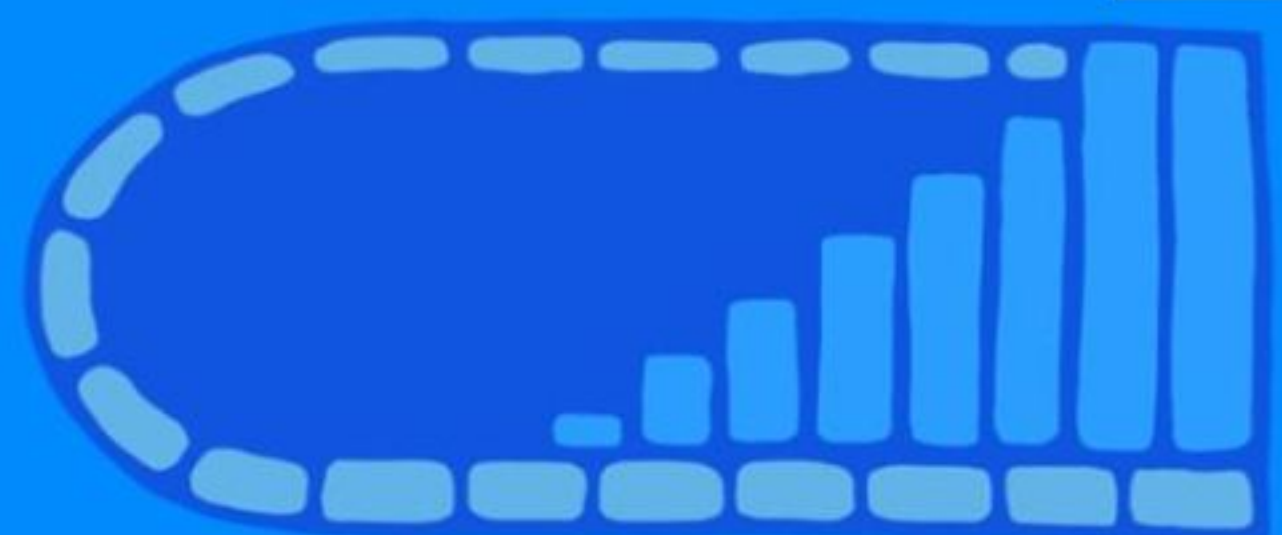
# Vigilance in Warfare

*"Be very careful how you live."*

Drunken Sailor



Sentinel





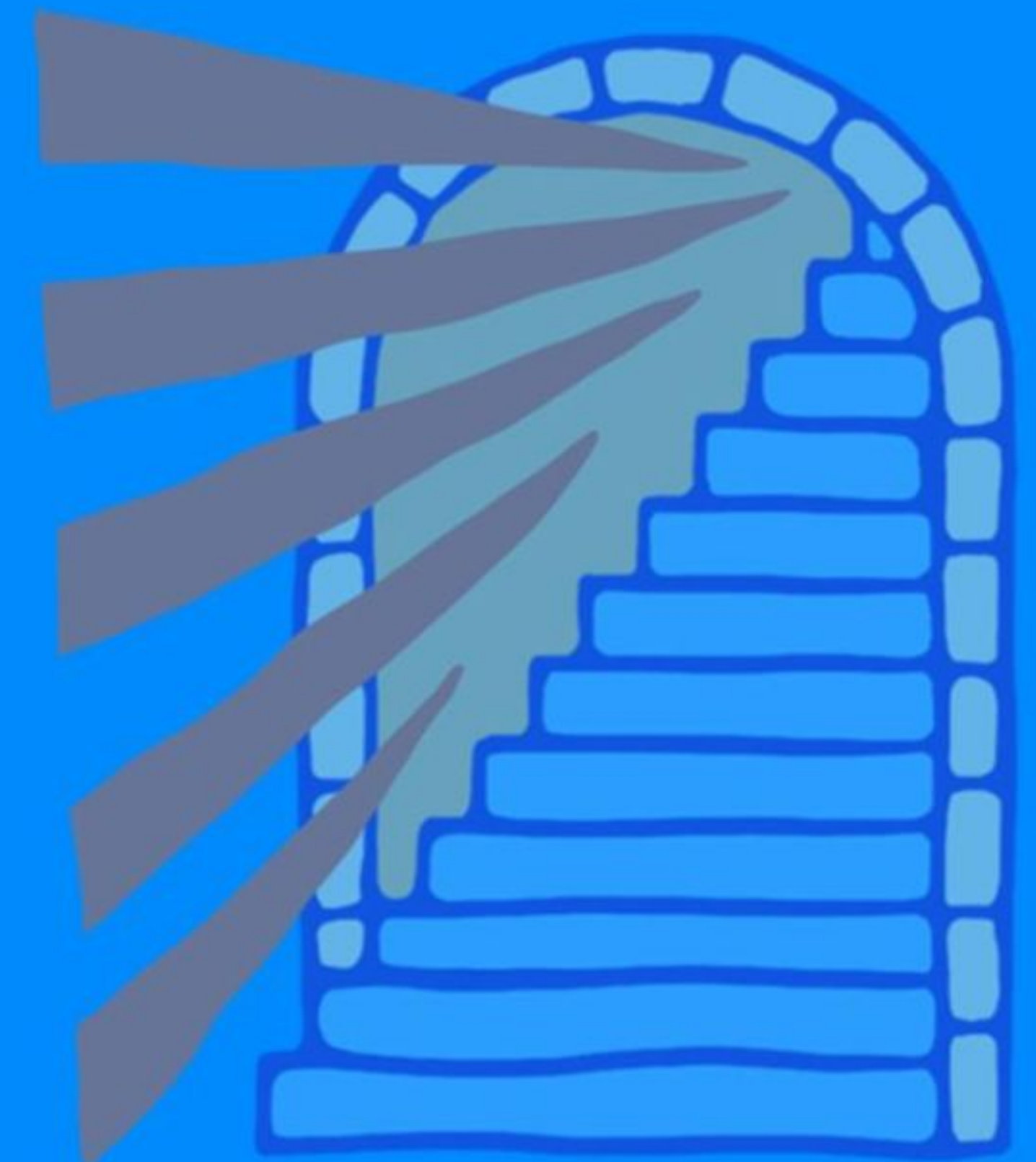
# Vigilance in Warfare

- Don't surrender your powers of judgement to alcohol (5:18)
- "Make the most of every opportunity" (5:16)

Be on the attack - Lessons from Peter:

1 Peter 4:7–11

- Be prayerful
- Love deeply
- Practice hospitality
- Serve dynamically



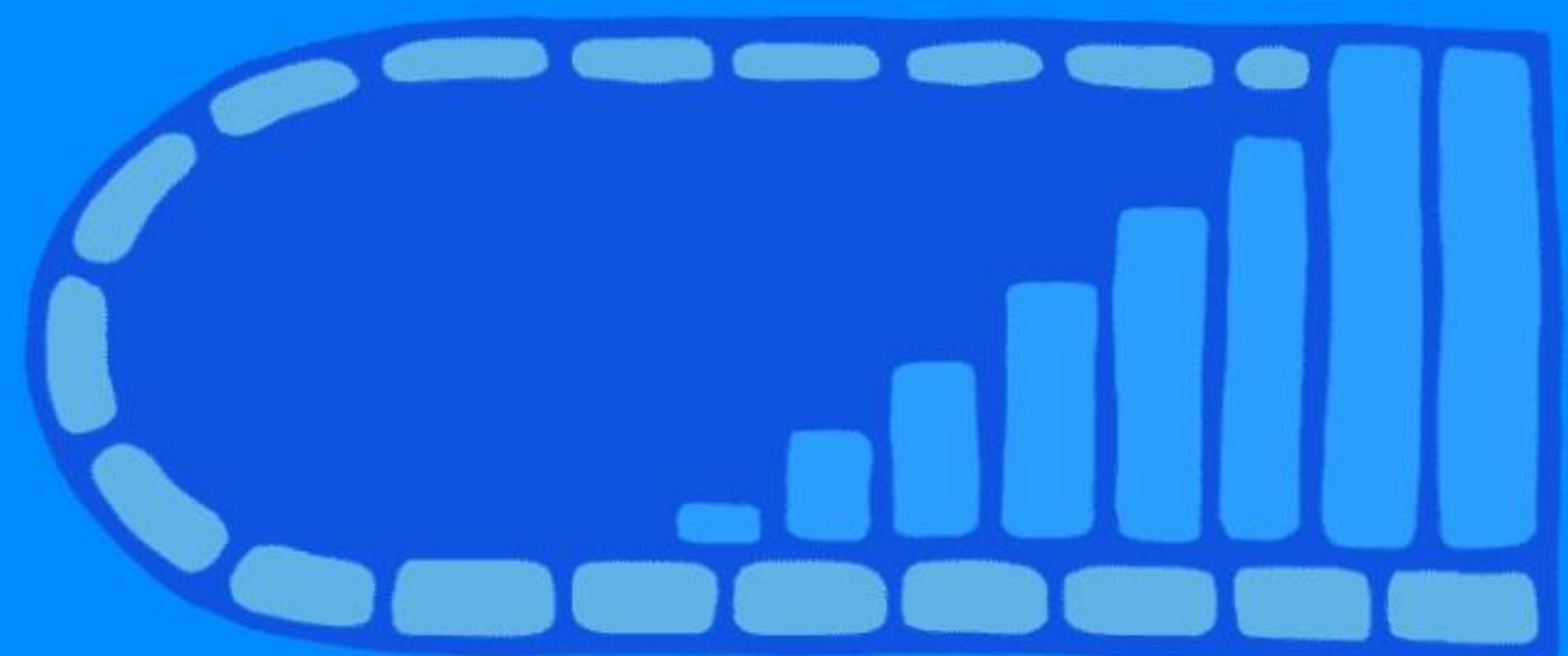


# Vigilance in Warfare

*Ephesians 5:18*

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery.

- Don't surrender your powers of judgement to alcohol.
- Or any other worldly or sensual pleasure.
- Like binging on T.V. shows, social media, videos games, popular music





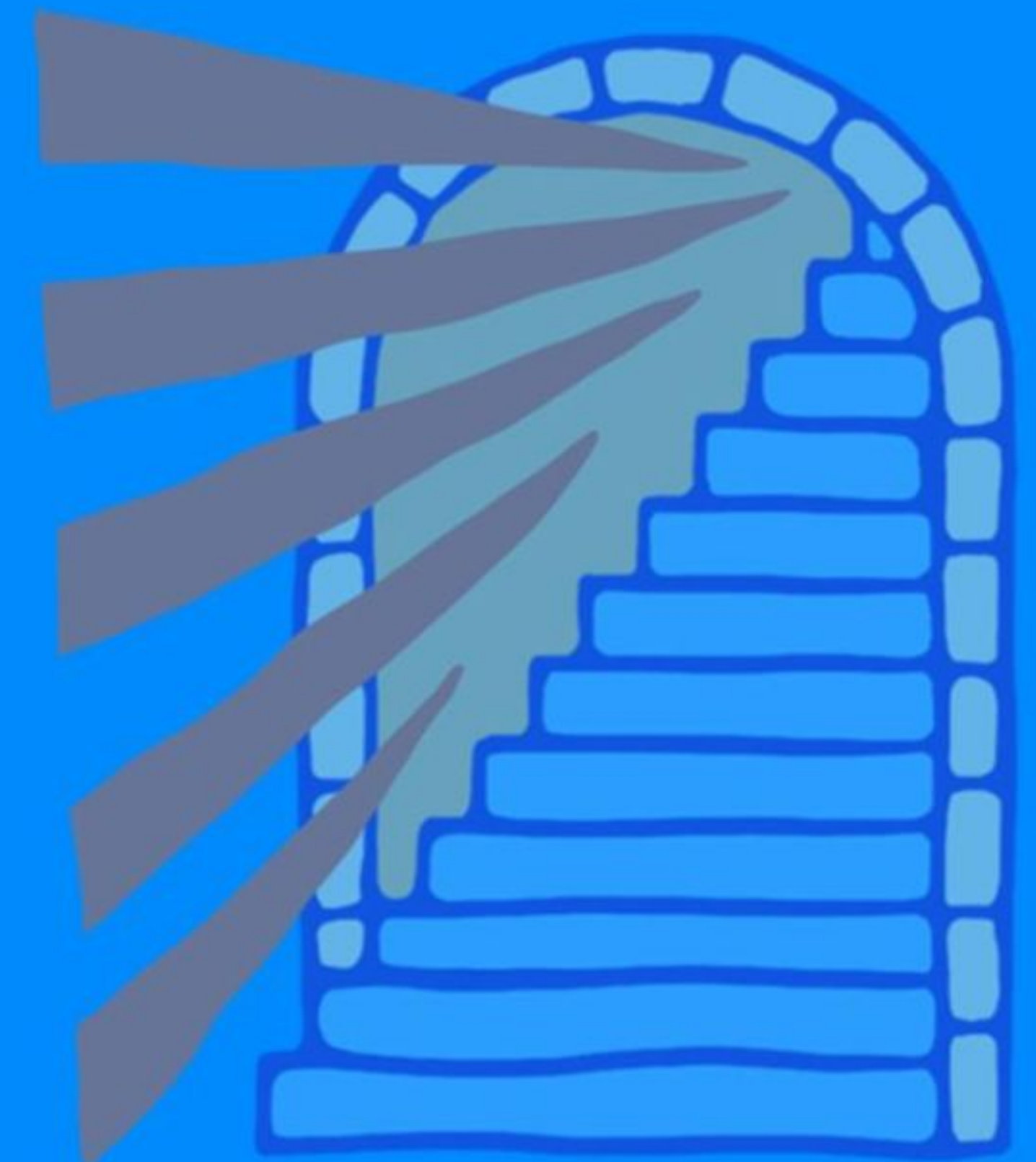
# Vigilance in Warfare

*Ephesians 5:16*

Make the most of every opportunity...

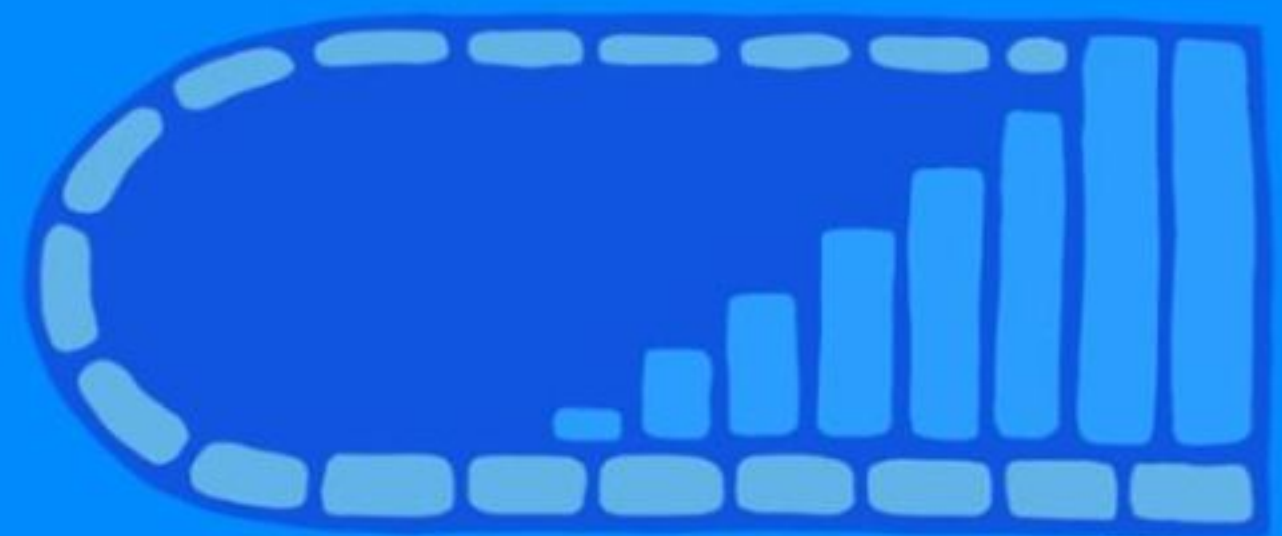
Play offense. Be on the attack

- Lessons from Peter: 1 Peter 4:7–11
  - Be prayerful
  - Love deeply
  - Practice hospitality
  - Serve dynamically





**In what ways do you need to be  
more careful in your warfare?**





# The Pauline Paradox

The Christian life is both a time of:

1. Diligence in warfare
2. Joyfulness in worship

Christians are to live prepared for war and  
Christians are called to be joyful.

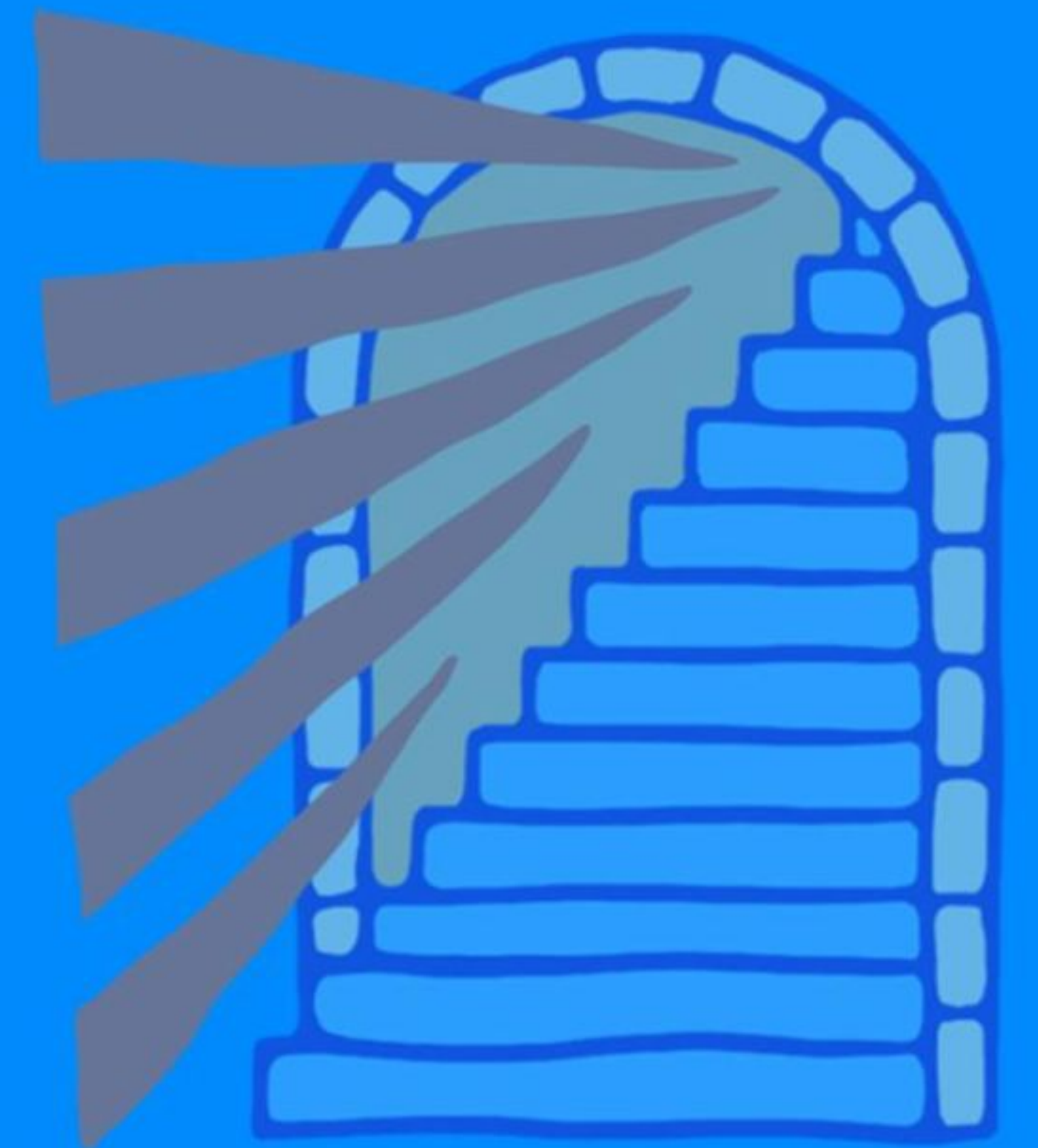




# Joyfulness in Worship

Ephesians 5:18b–20

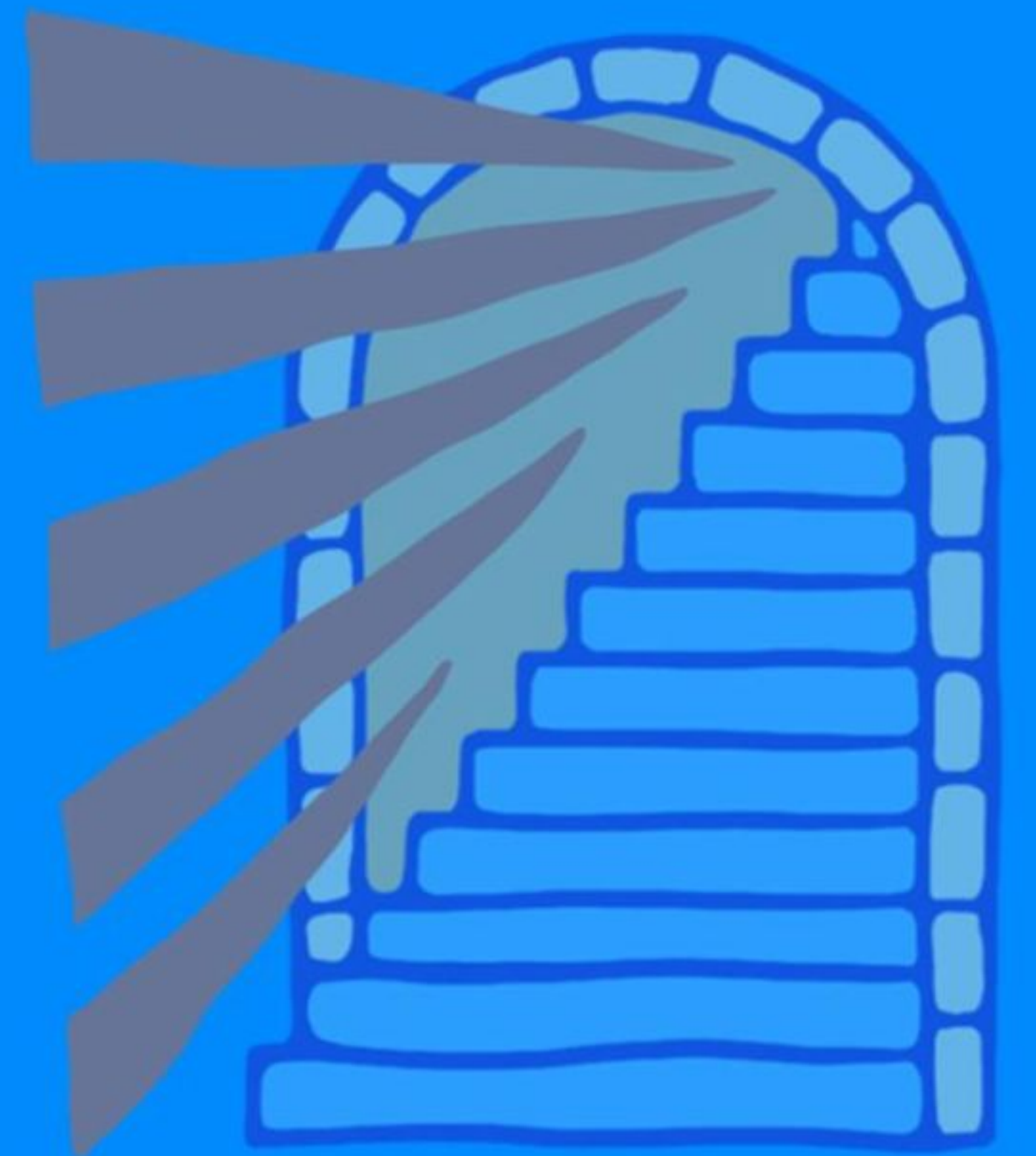
Be filled with the Spirit speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord. Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.





# Joyfulness in Worship

Joyfulness in worship, the singing of songs of praise to God out of a heart of love and the giving of thanks to God are the result of being filled with the Spirit.

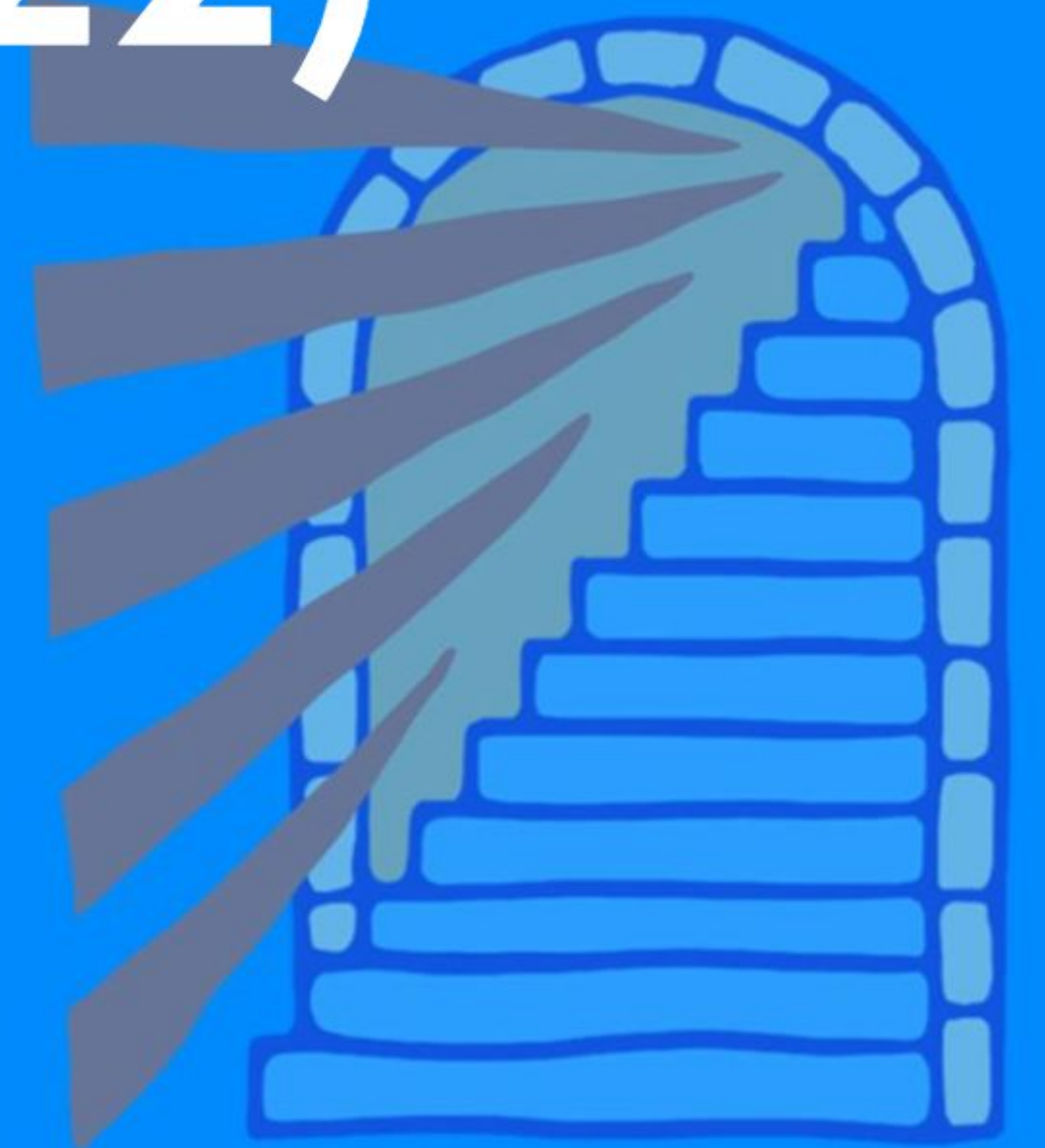




# Joyfulness in Worship

How can I obey the command  
to be filled with the Spirit?

1. Be indwelt by the Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13)
2. Live in obedience to what the Spirit desires.  
(Romans 6:3–4,11 and 8:12)
3. Produce the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 6:22)
4. Sing songs of praise to one another  
and give God thanks for everything.  
(Ephesians 5:19–20)





# Joyfulness in Worship

How can I obey the command  
to be filled with the Spirit?

**To be filled with the Spirit** as a way of life  
we need to experience God mentally (I know  
what the Word says), physically (I do what  
the word says), emotionally (I experience  
the joy of worship and thanksgiving).



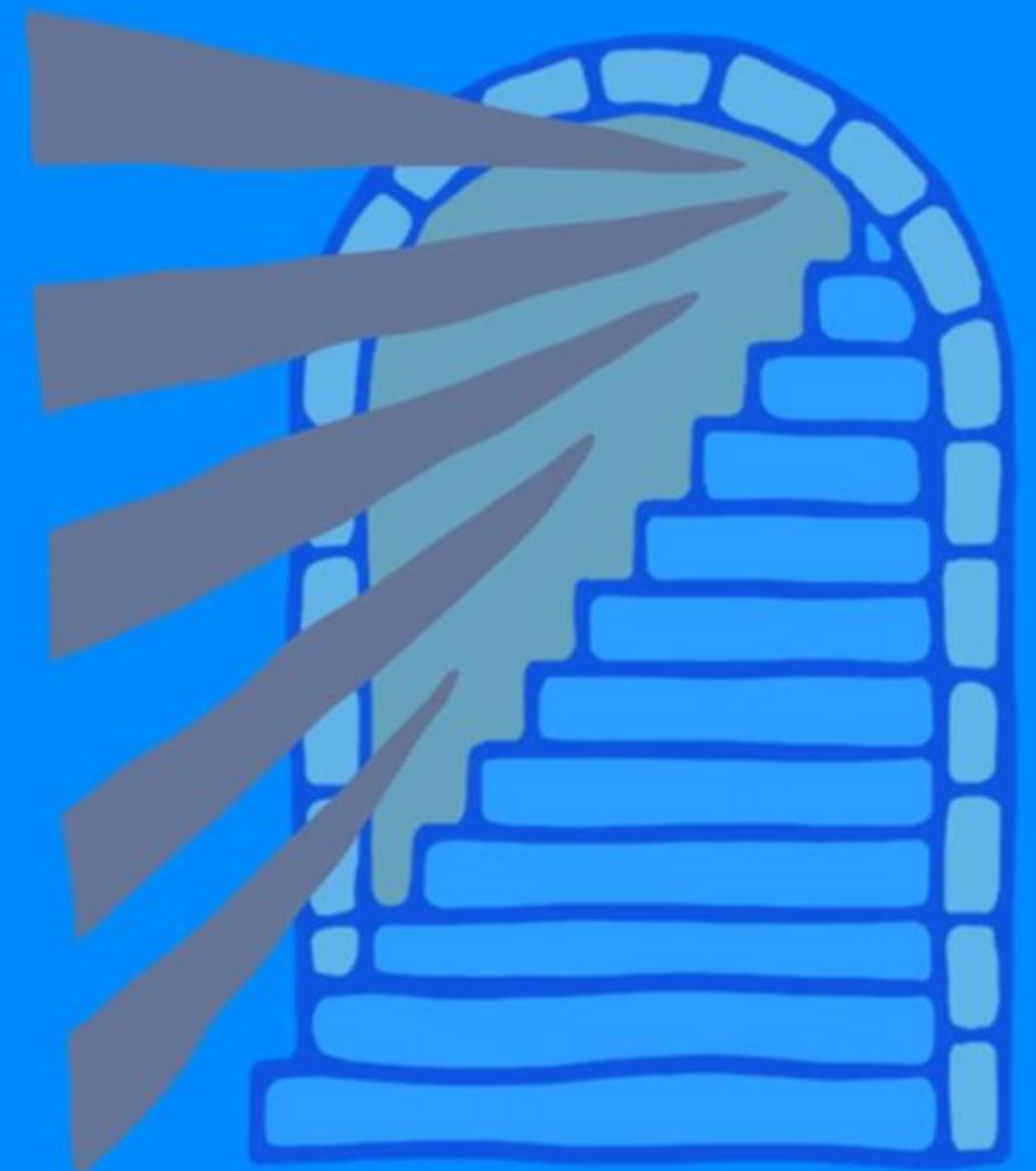


# Joyfulness

We are to *"sing and make music from the heart to the Lord."*

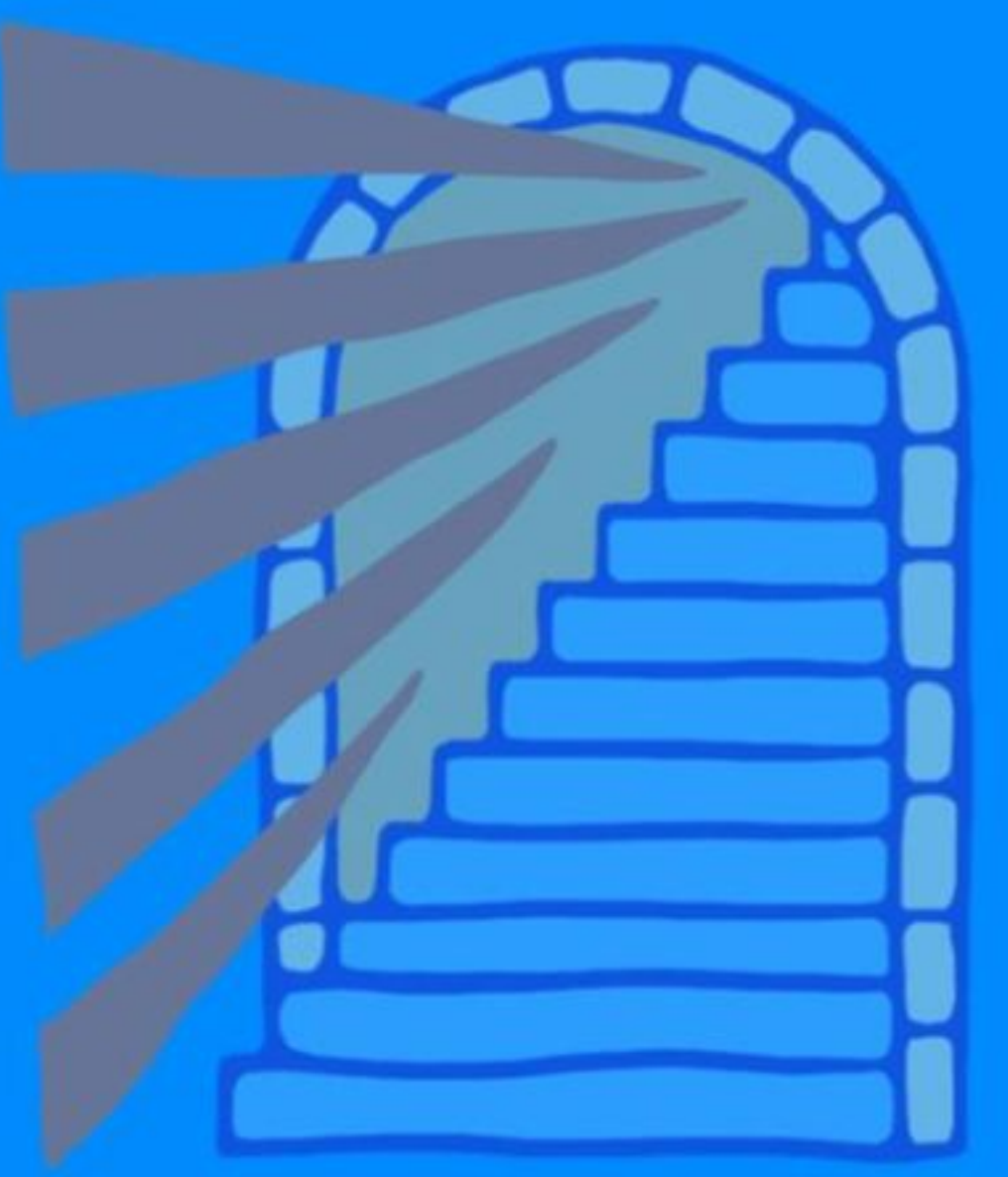
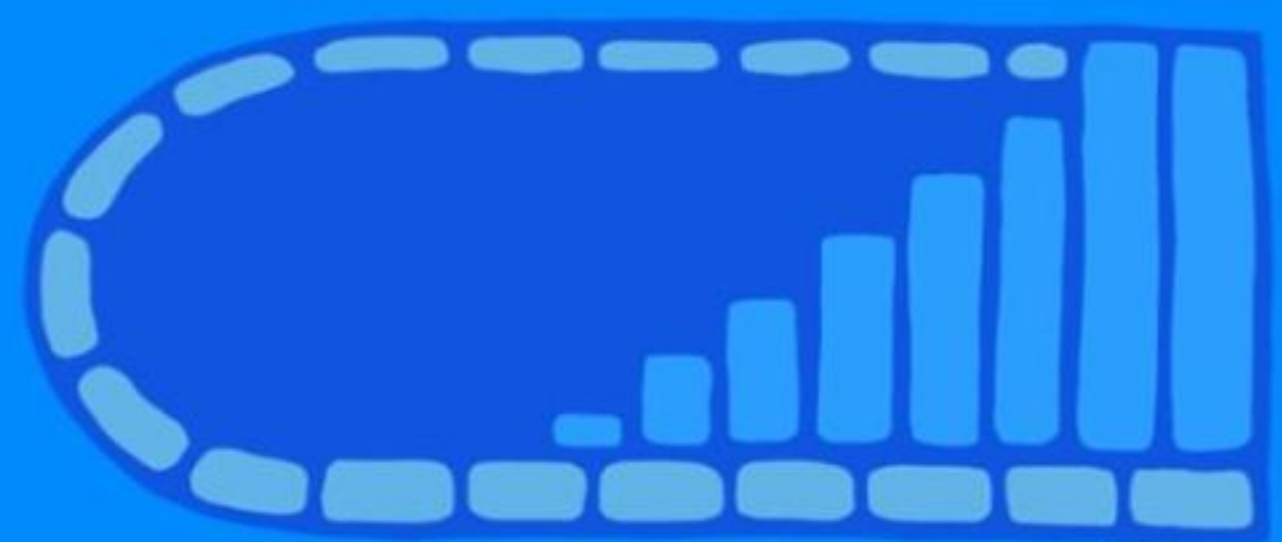
*"With your heart"* signifies that you mean it and that you feel it.

This is where our joy comes from. The essence of Christian worship and peace is an inner, authentic valuing of God in the heart.





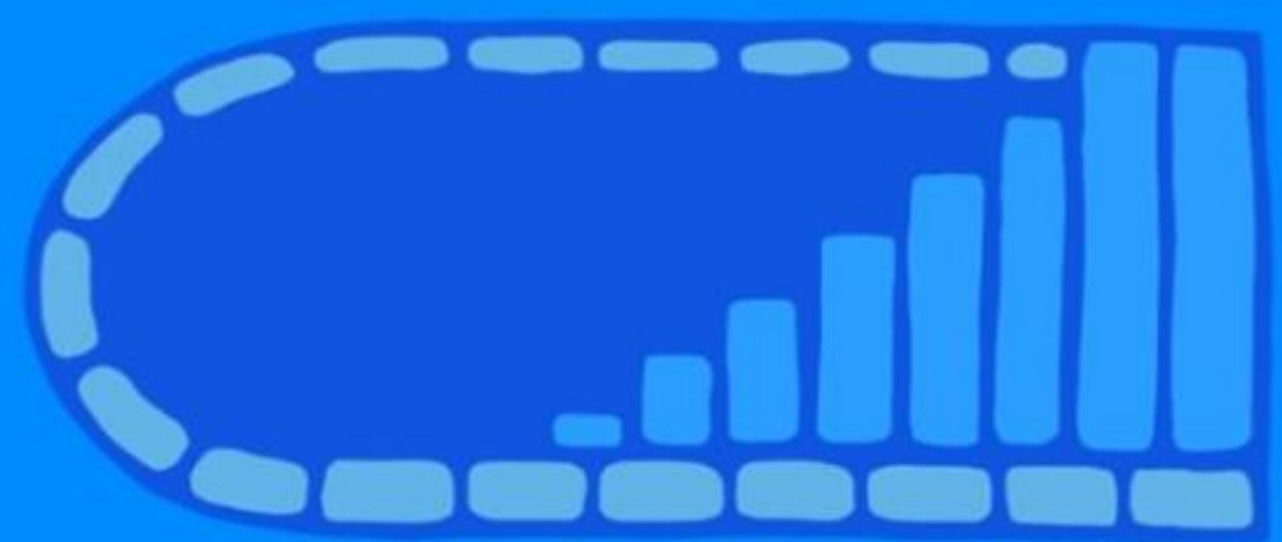
Living the Christian life  
requires both vigilance  
and joyfulness.





Living the Christian life requires both vigilance and joyfulness.

One without the other produces either burnout or wipe out.

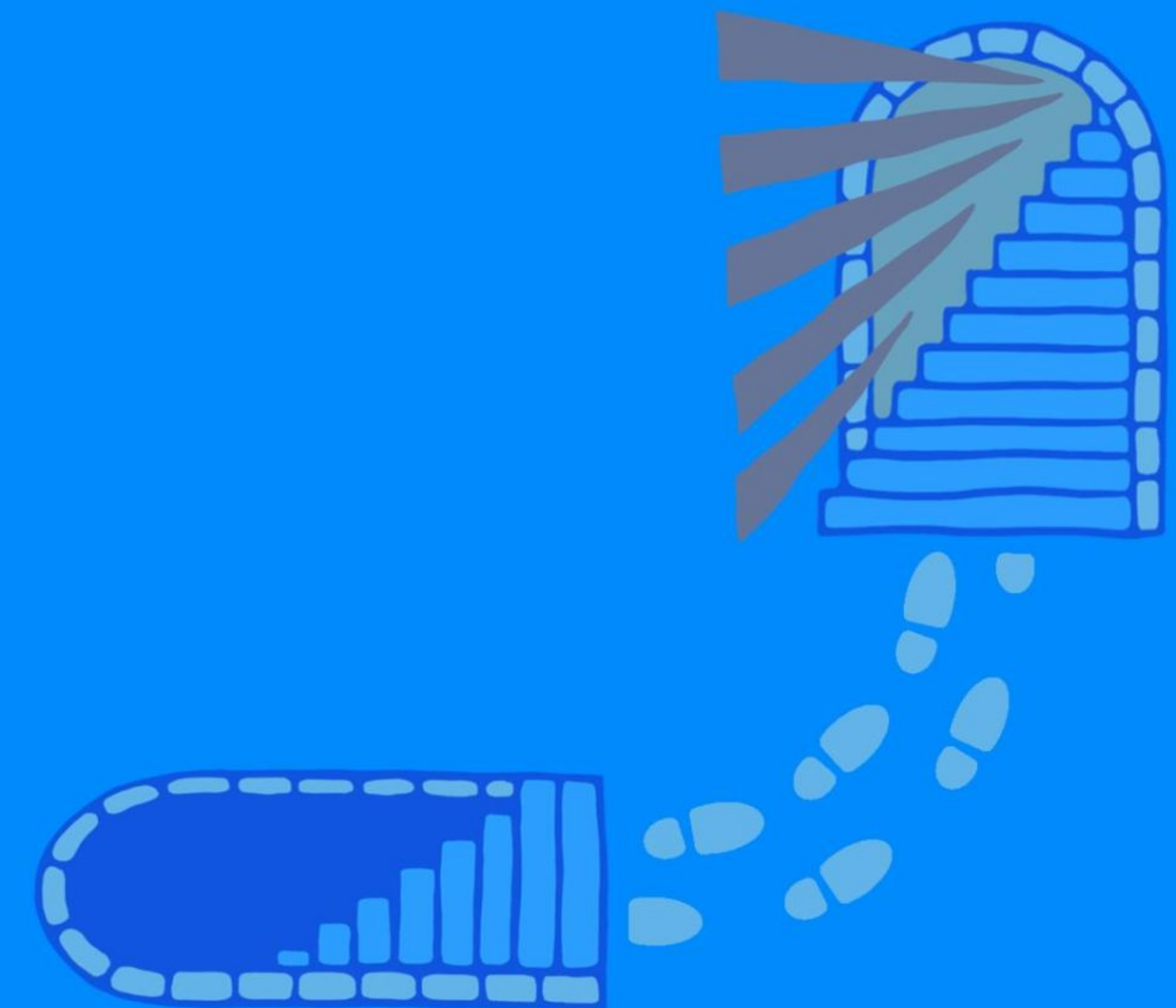




# The Pauline Paradox

The Christian life is both a time of:

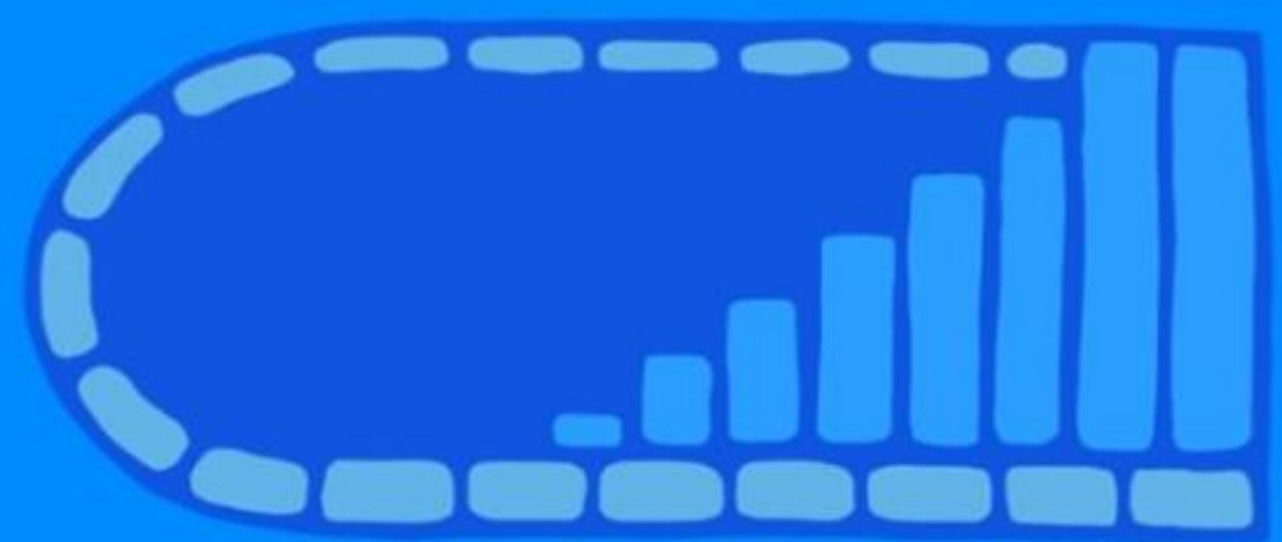
1. Vigilance in warfare
2. Joyfulness in worship





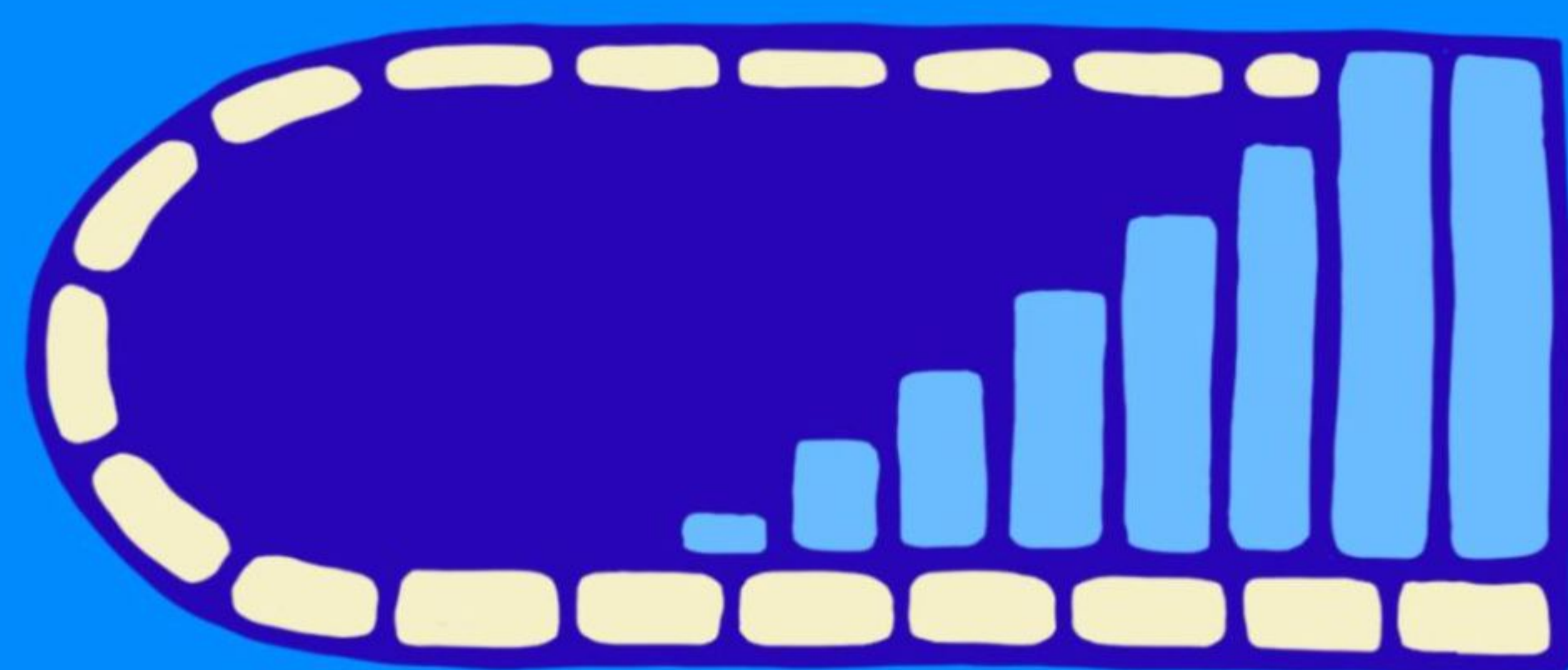
# Closing Illustration

Lord, thank you  
for the 30 years!





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