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"Earth's crammed with heaven And every bush afire with God; But only he who sees takes off his shoes; the rest sit around it and pluck blackberries." Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "Aurora Leigh" Book VII

"A Christian Natural Theology is thus about seeing nature in a specific manner, which enables the truth, beauty and goodness of God to be discerned, and which acknowledges nature as a legitimate, authorized and limited pointer to the divine."

Alister E. McGrath,

The Open Secret: A New Vision for Natural Theology



In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

GOD IN THE BEGINNING

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Psalm 90:1-2

- GOD IN THE BEGINNING

Do you not know? Do you not hear?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;
who brings princes to nothing,
and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

Isaiah 40:21-23

- GOD IN THE BEGINNING

The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, not is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us.

Acts 17:24-27

GOD IN THE BEGINNING

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Hebrews 1:3





I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen.

Not only because I see it, but because I see everything by it.

C.S. Lewis, Weight of Glory

- GOD SPEAKS IN NATURE -

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

Psalm 19:1-4

GOD SPEAKS IN NATURE —

The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

Psalm 97:6

— GOD SPEAKS IN NATURE —

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

Romans 1:19-20

GOD SPEAKS IN NATURE —

By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Hebrews 11:3





The created glory may be expected to give us hints of the uncreated; for the one is derived from the other and in some fashion reflects it.

C.S. Lewis, Four Loves

- GOD'S AWE INSPIRING CREATION -

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him.

Psalm 8:3-4

— GOD'S AWE INSPIRING CREATION -

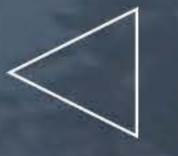
Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Psalm 95:1-5

— GOD'S AWE INSPIRING CREATION —

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?
Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel?

Isaiah 40:12-13



GODISMIGHTY

But nature gave the word glory a meaning for me... And if nature had never awakened certain longings in me, huge areas of what I now mean by the "love of God" would never, so far as I can see, existed.

C.S. Lewis, Four Loves

-GODISMIGHTY -

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Psalm 46:1-3

GODISMIGHTY —

O Lord God of hosts, Who is mighty as you are, O Lord, with your faithfulness all around you? You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, you still them.

Psalm 89:8-9

— GODISMIGHTY —

The floods have risen up, O Lord.
The floods have roared like thunder;
the floods have lifted their pounding waves.
But mightier than the violent raging of the seas,
mightier than the breakers on the shore the Lord above is mightier than these!

Psalm 93:3-4 (NLT)

-GODISMIGHTY -

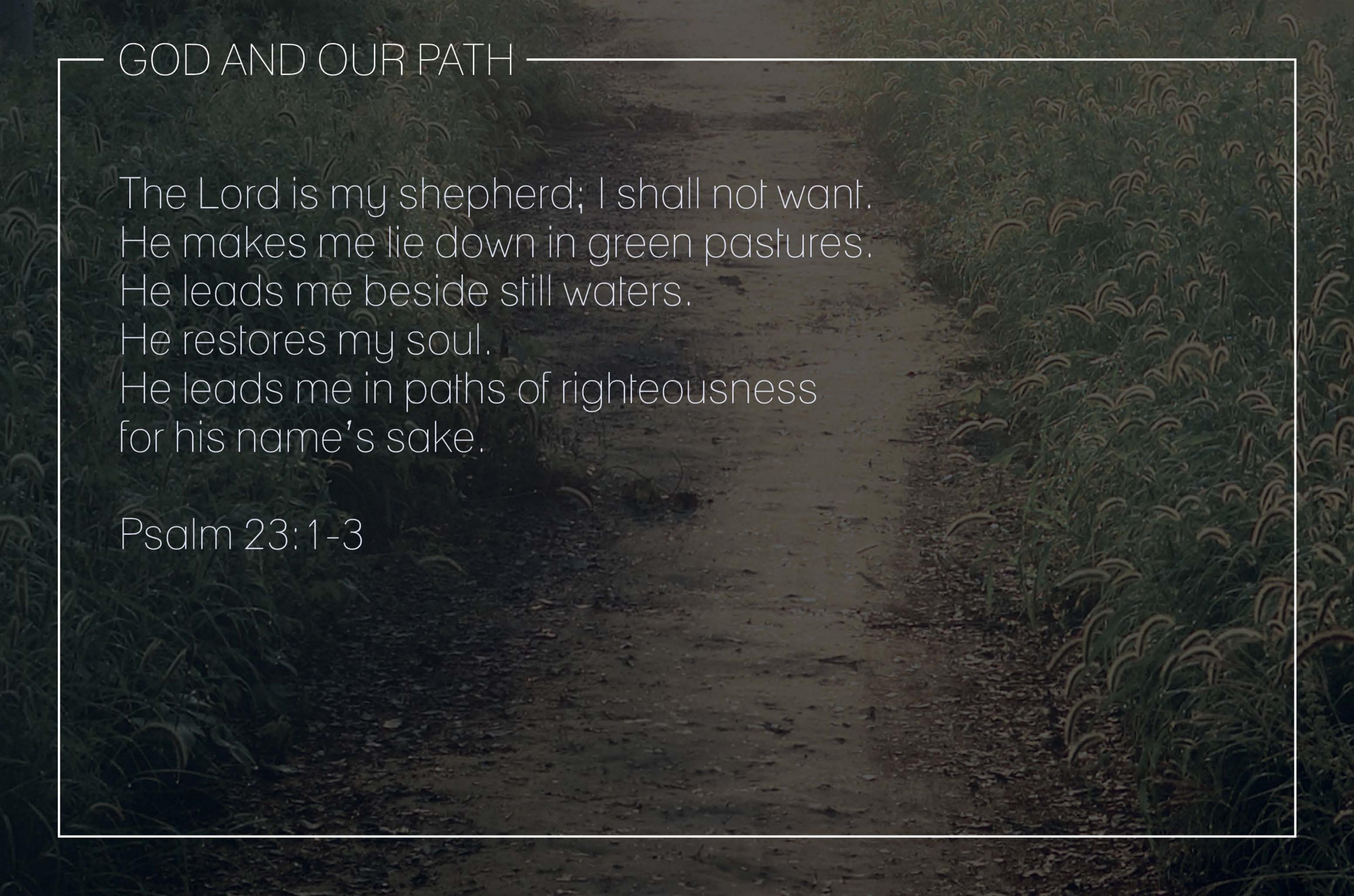
He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.
Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

Psalm 147:4-5





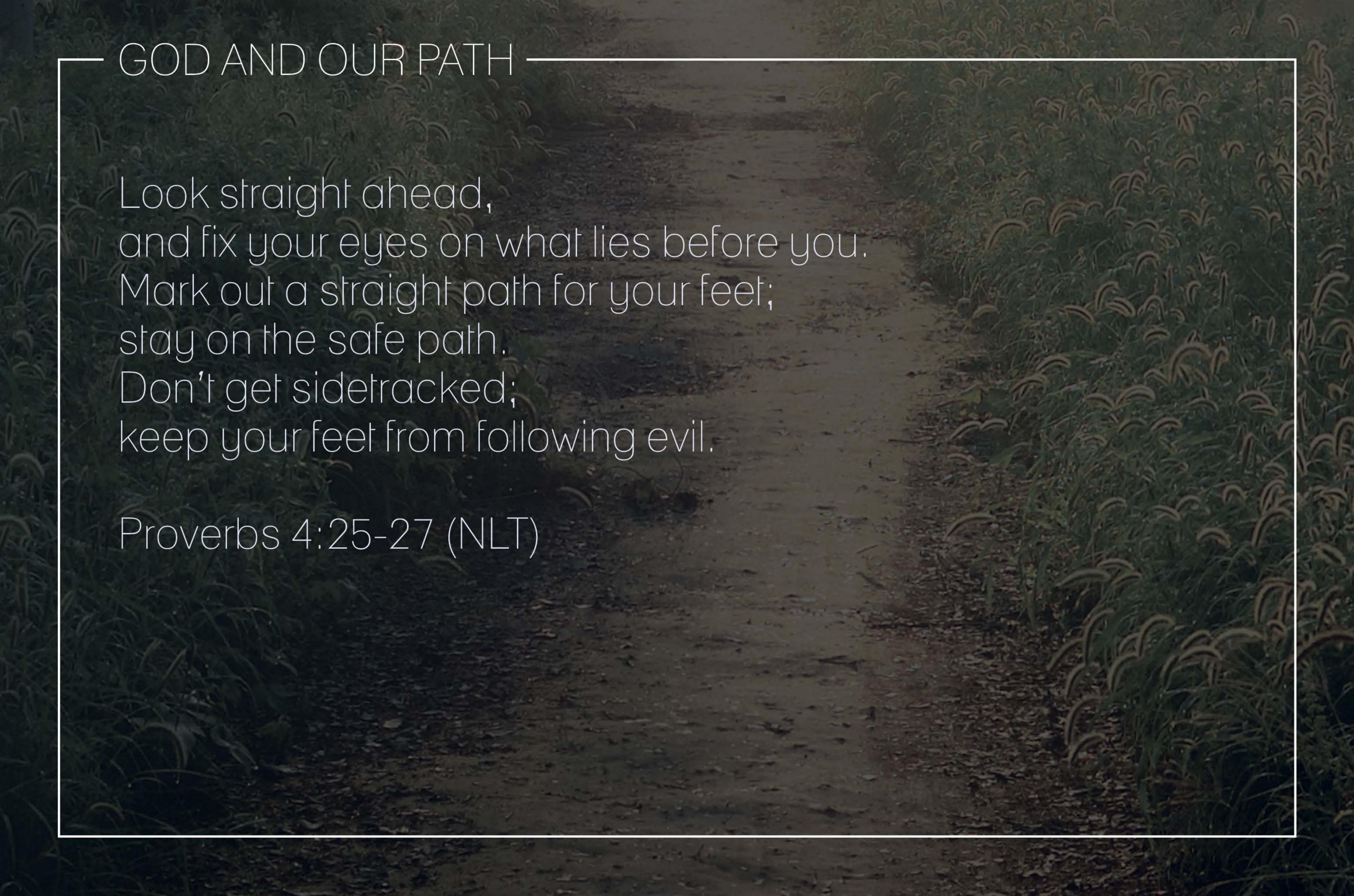


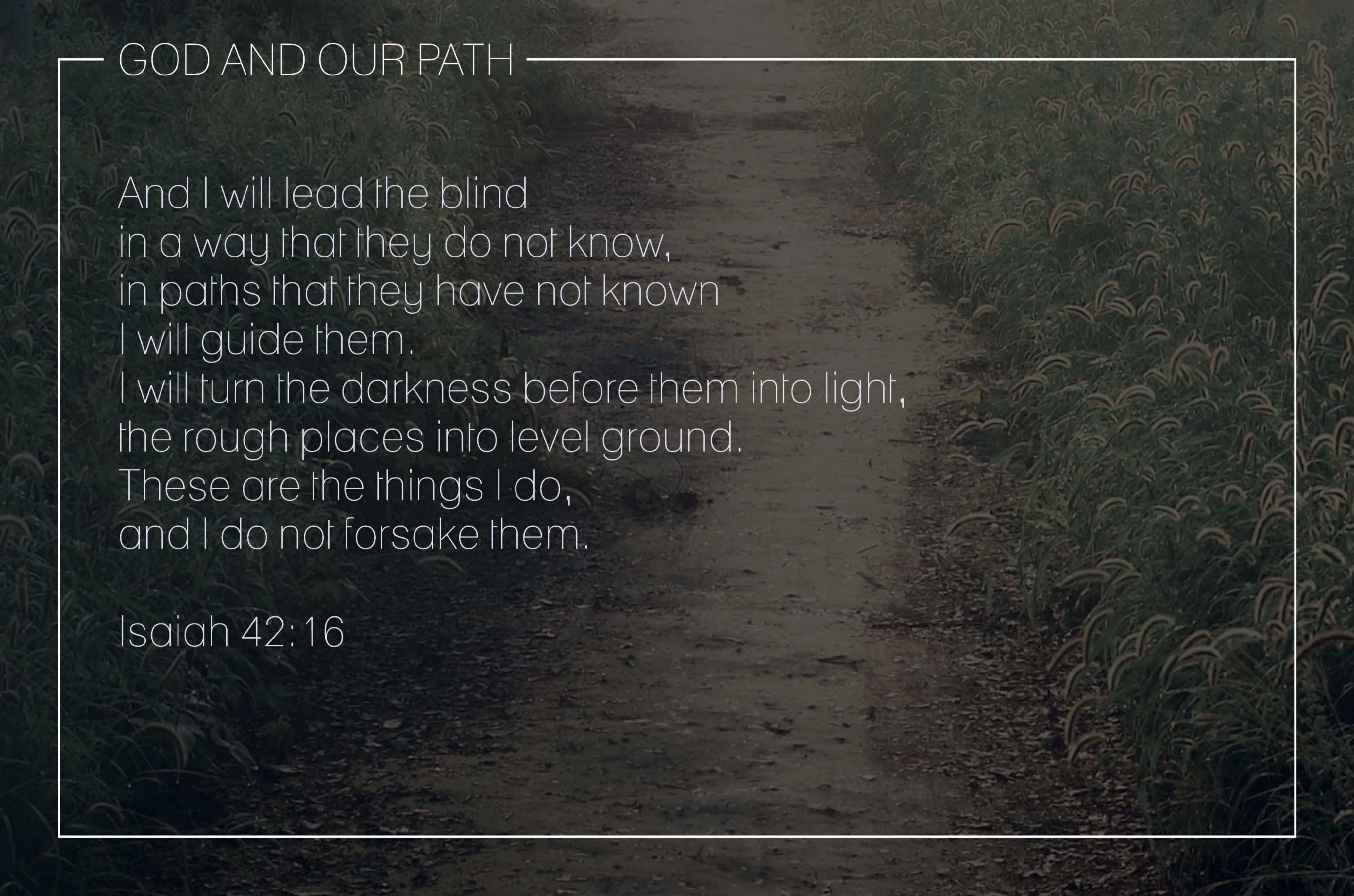


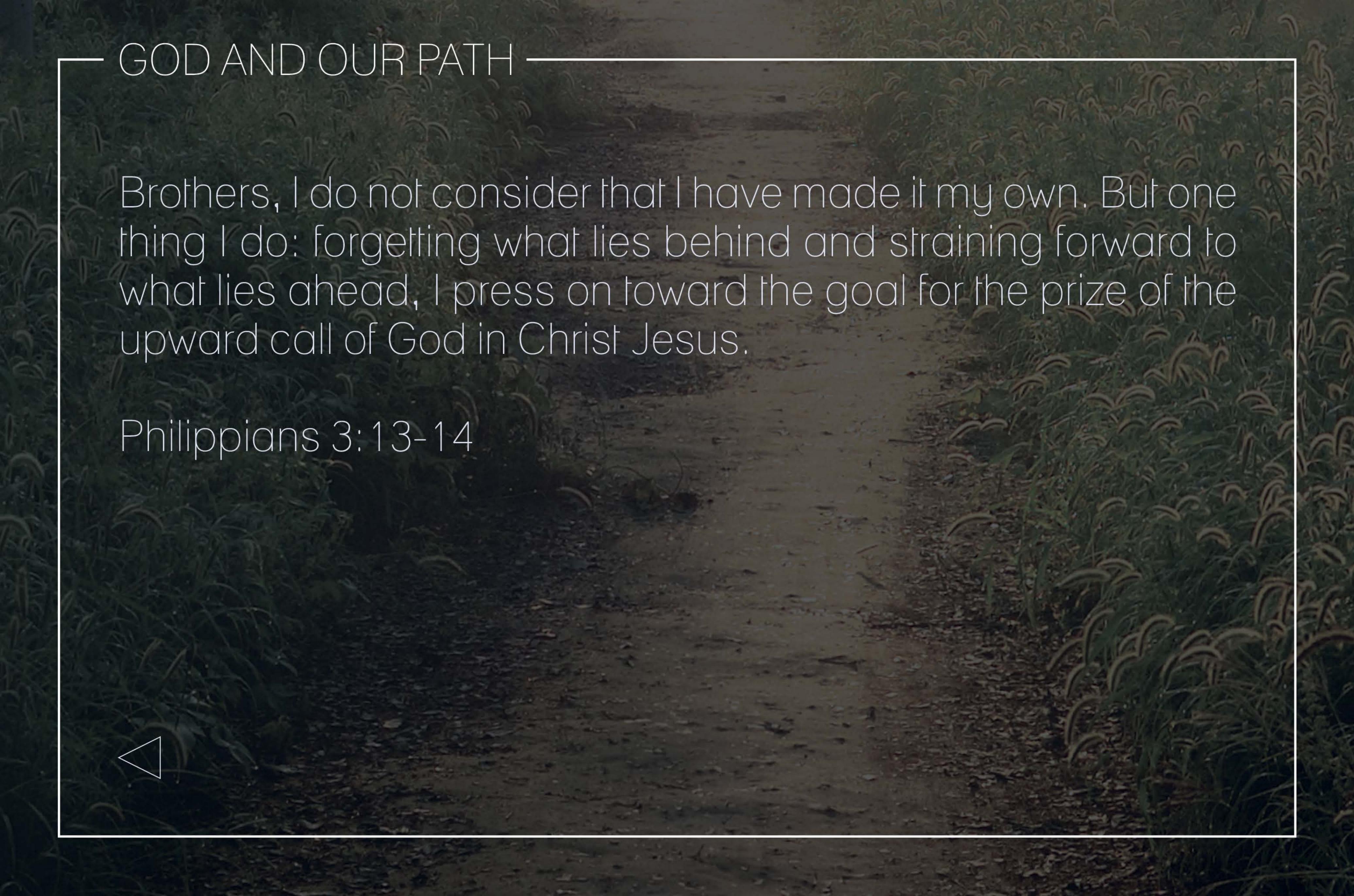




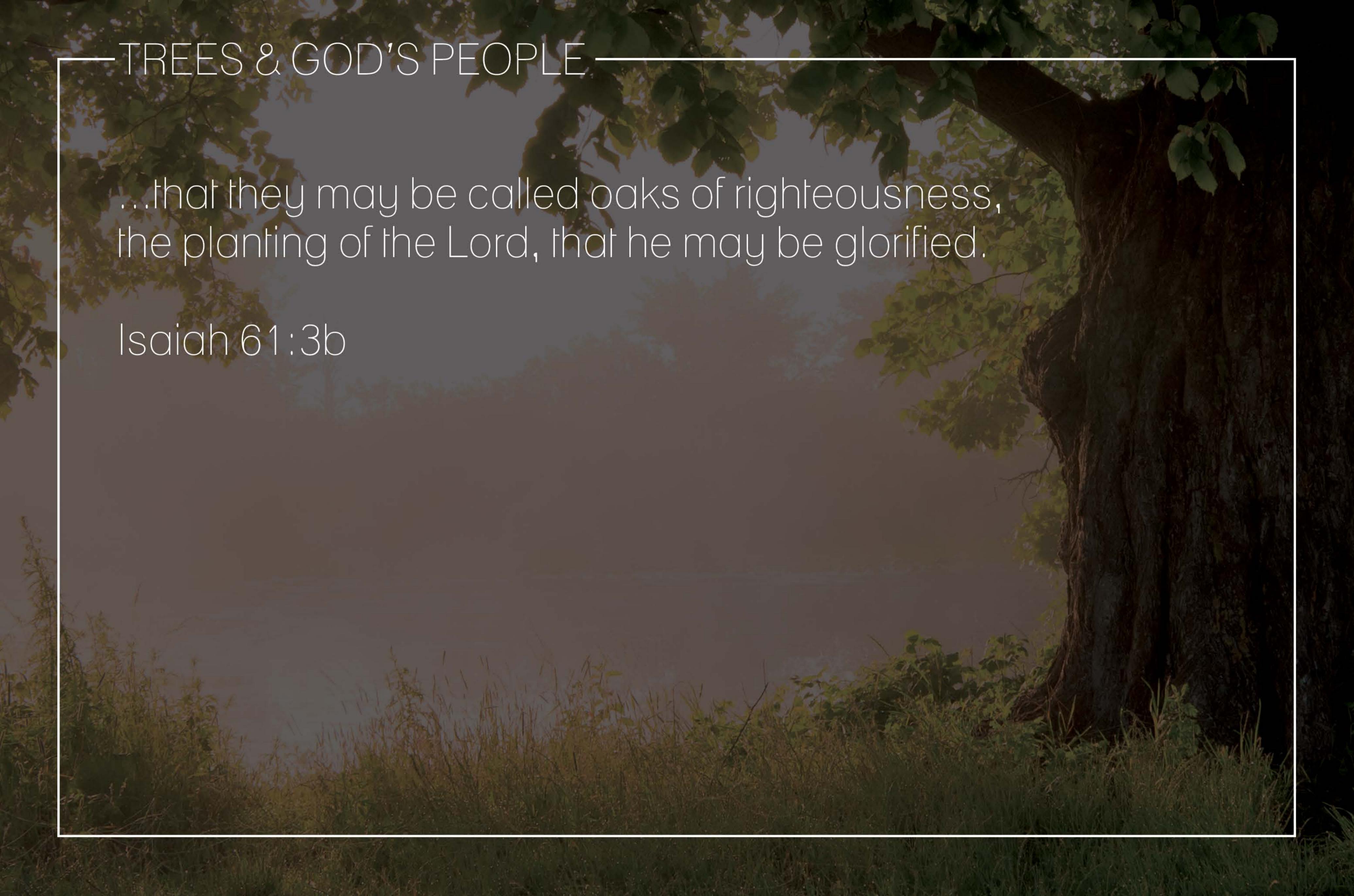


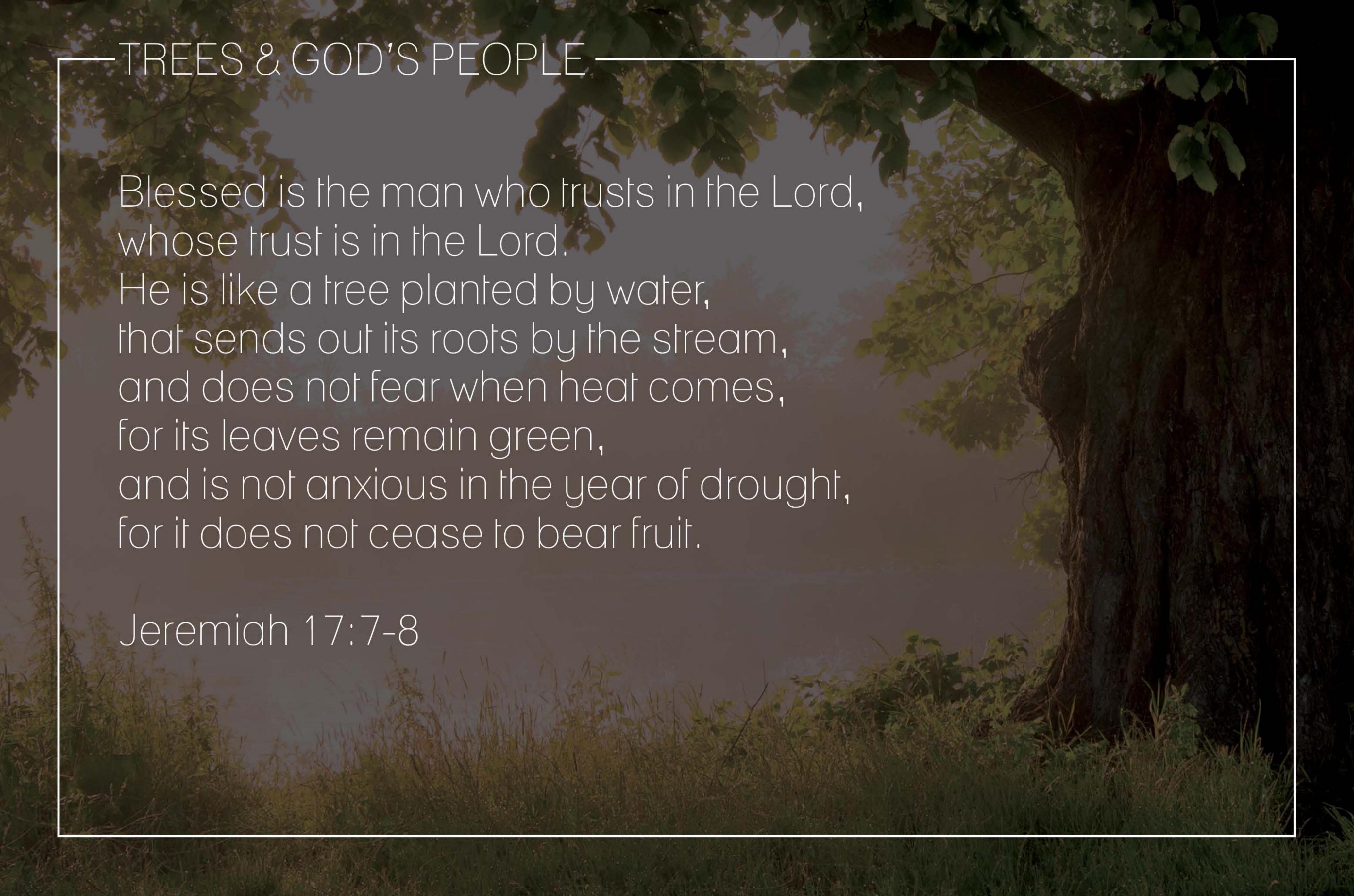


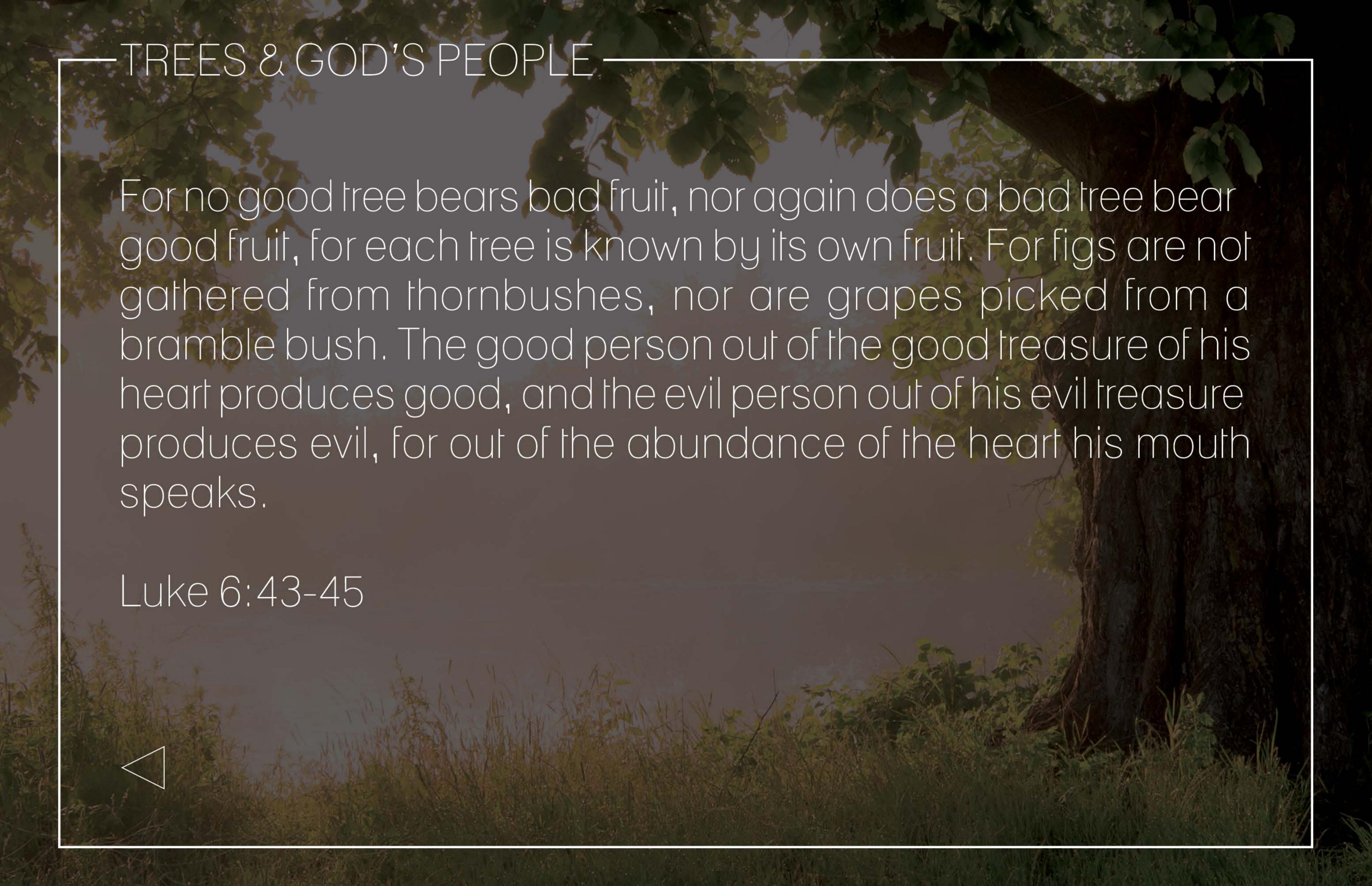




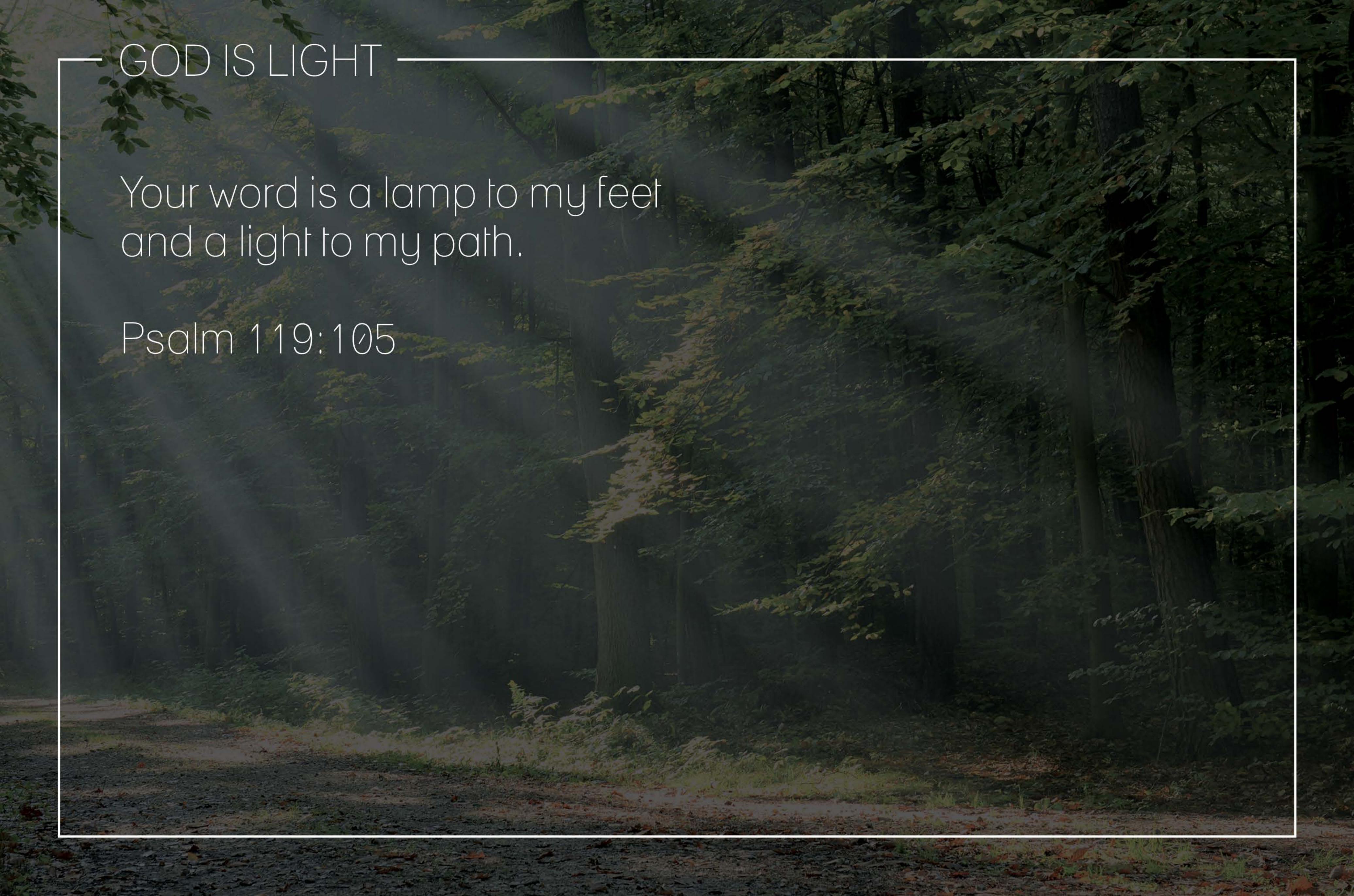


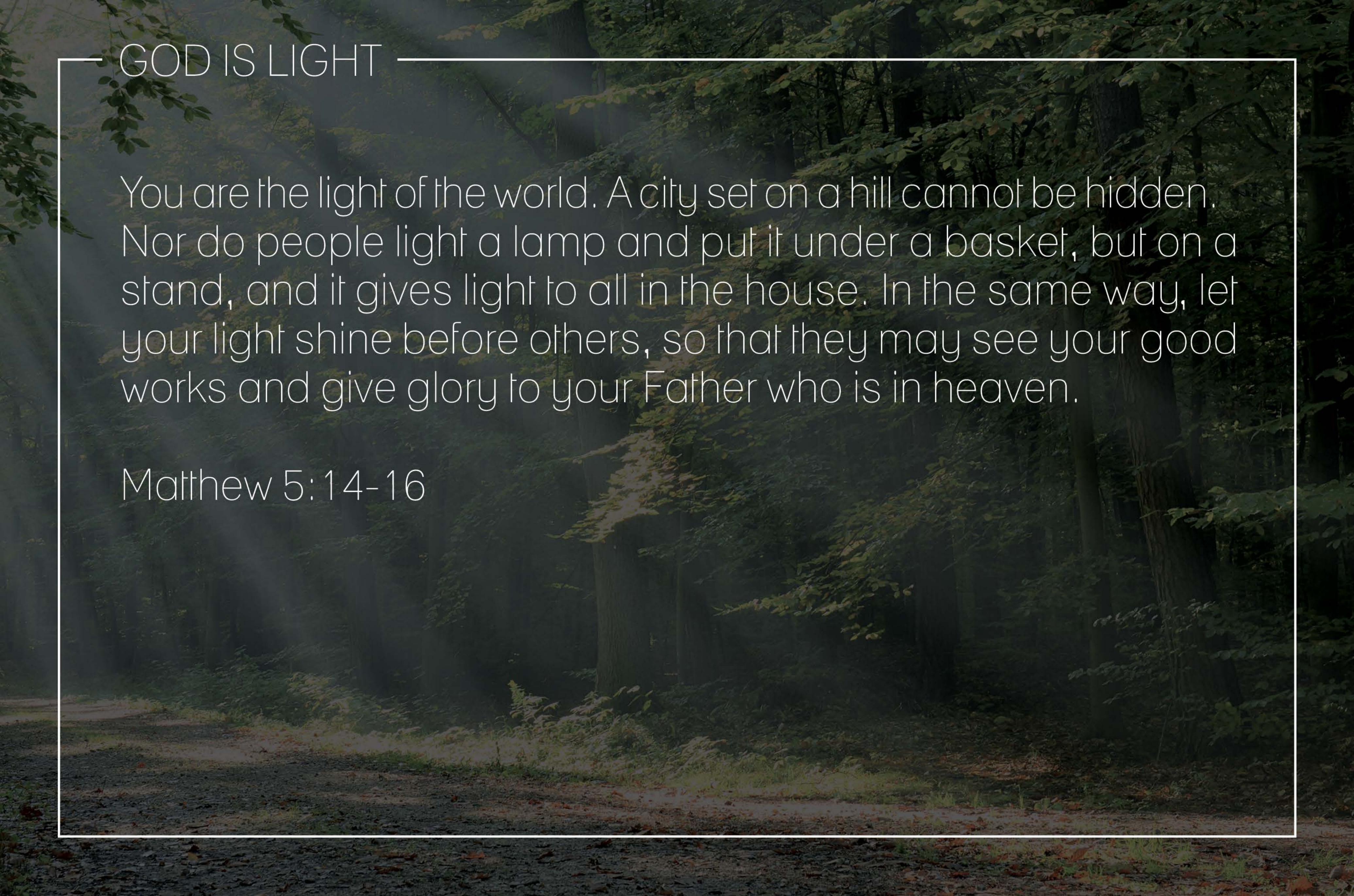


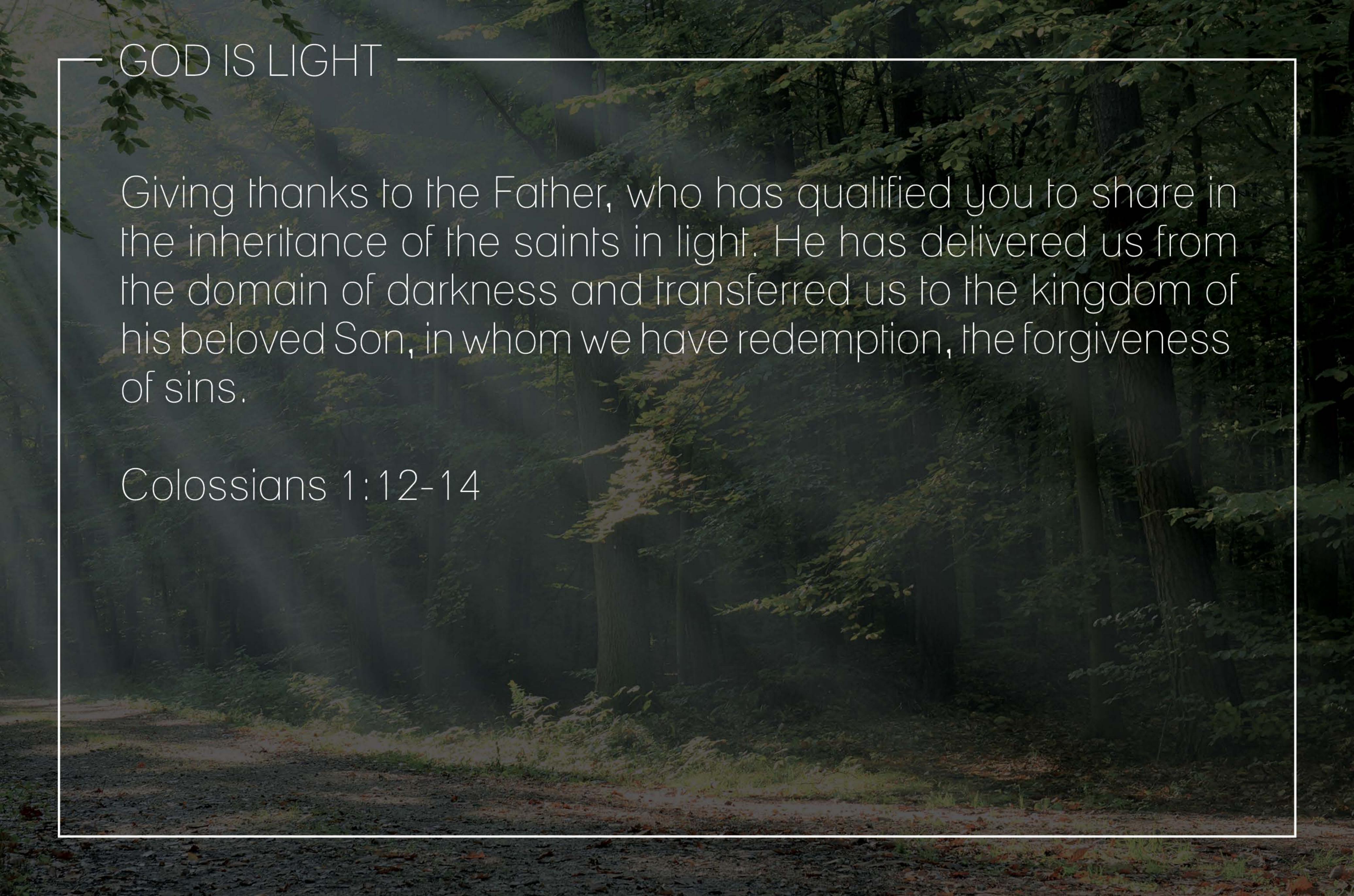


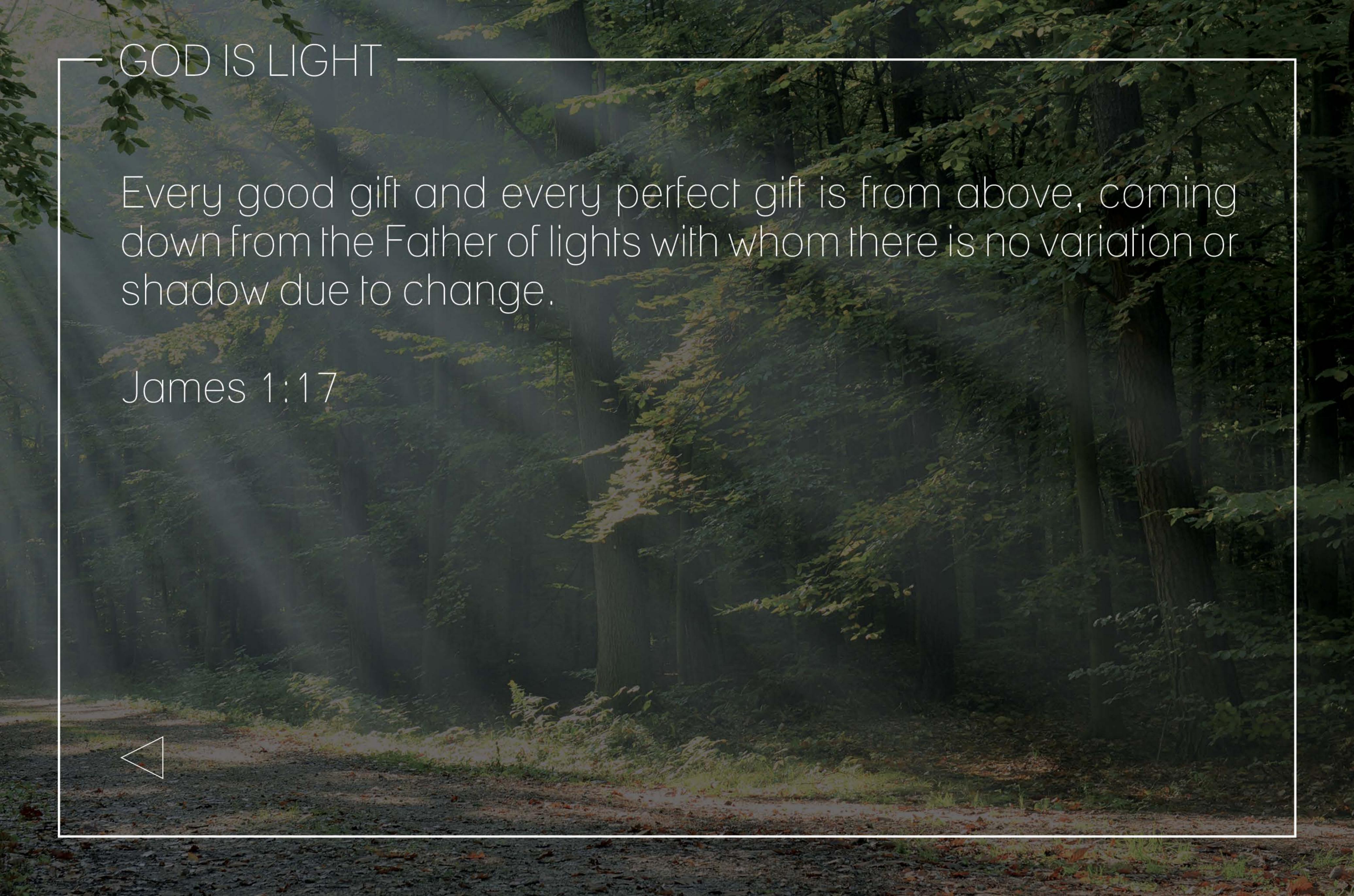








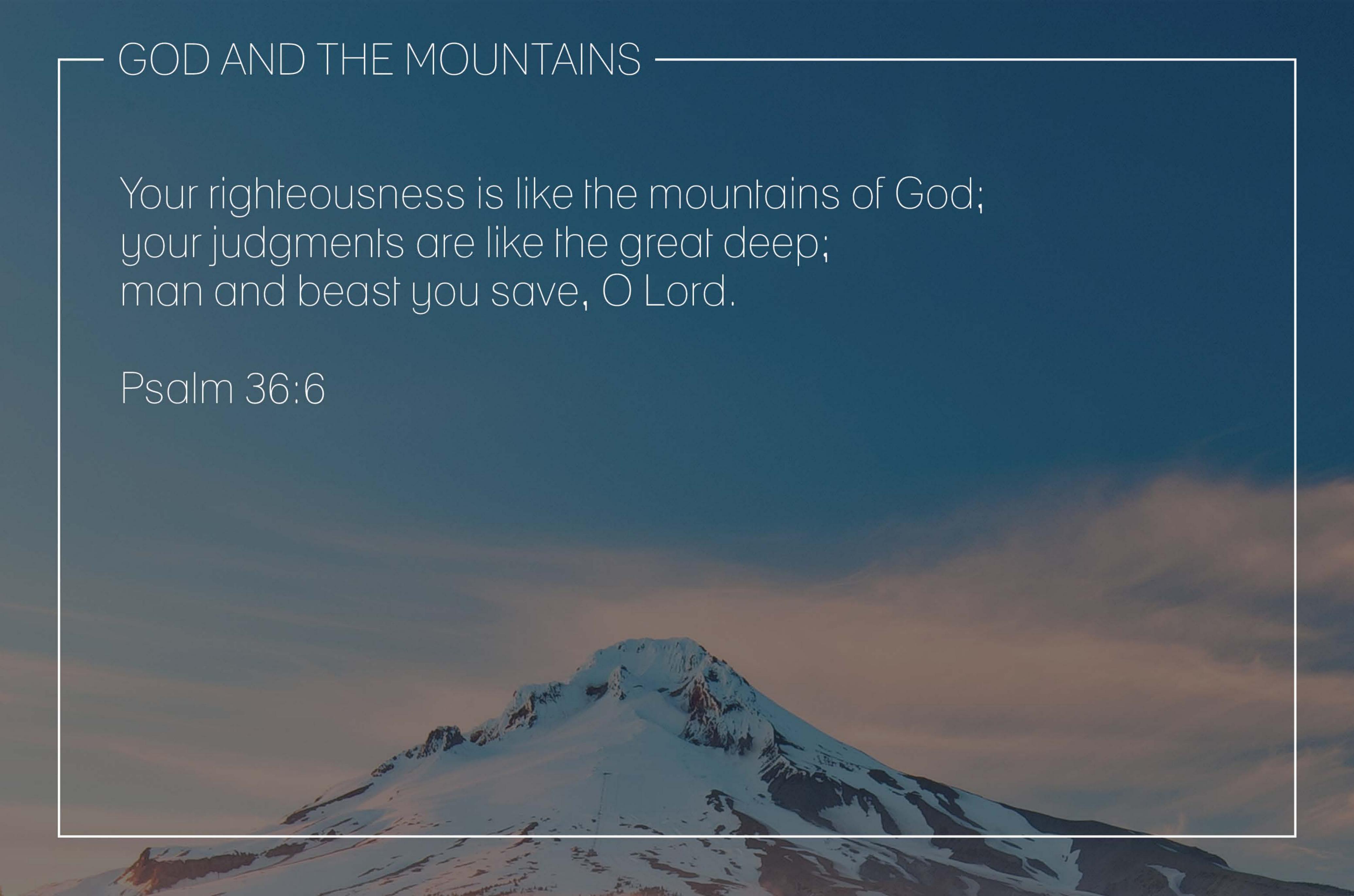


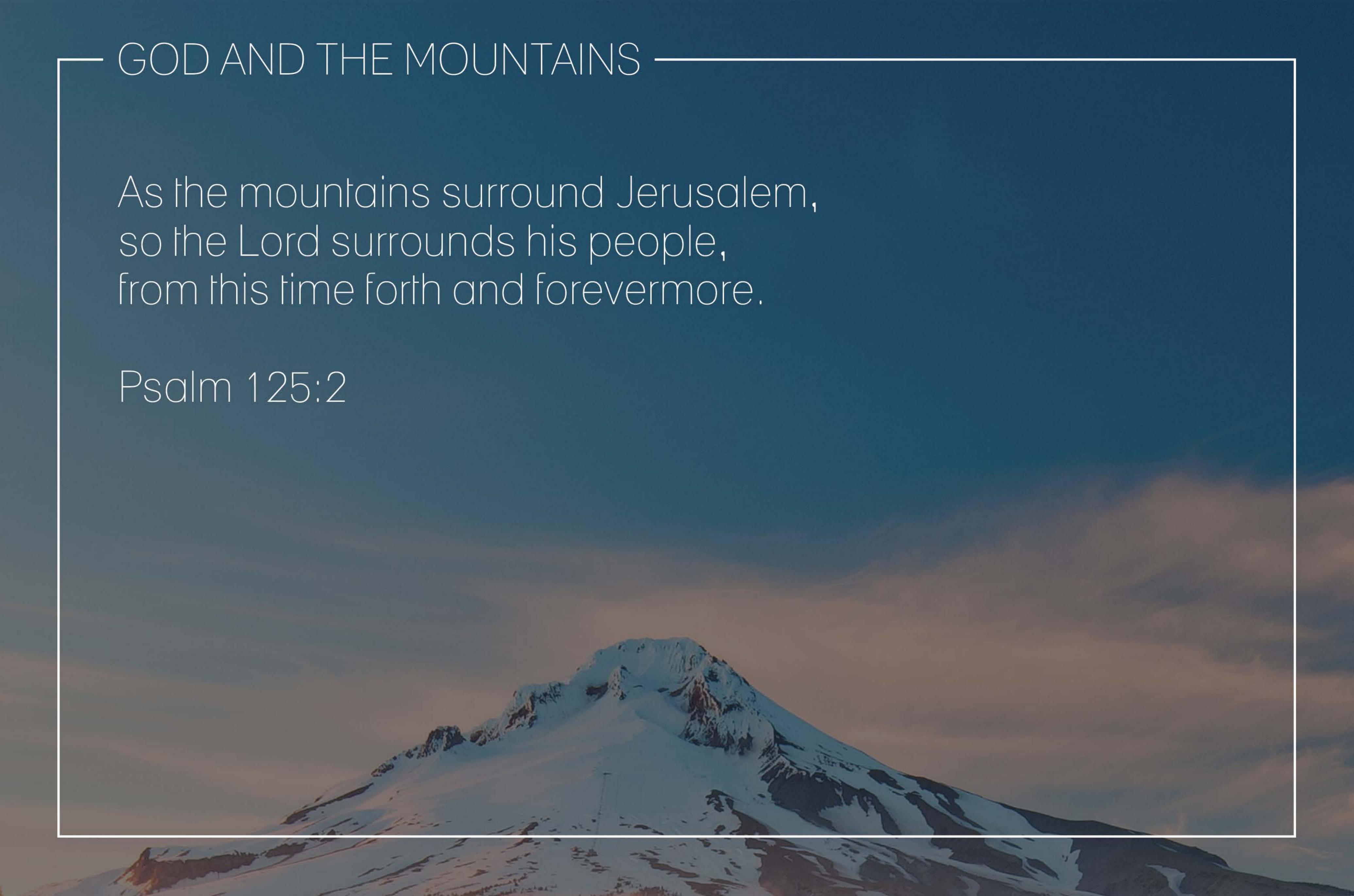




The mountaintop is not meant to teach us anything, it is meant to make us something.







— GOD AND THE MOUNTAINS —

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Isaiah 52:7



For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! If I would count them, they are more than the sand.

Psalm 139:17

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted."

Isaiah 12:3-4

For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. They shall spring up among the grass like willows by flowing streams.

Isaiah 44:3-4

Oh that you had paid attention to my commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

Isaiah 48:18

For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Jeremiah 2:13

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

John 4:10

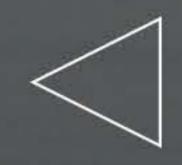
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The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

John 4:11-14

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

John 7:37-39





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