

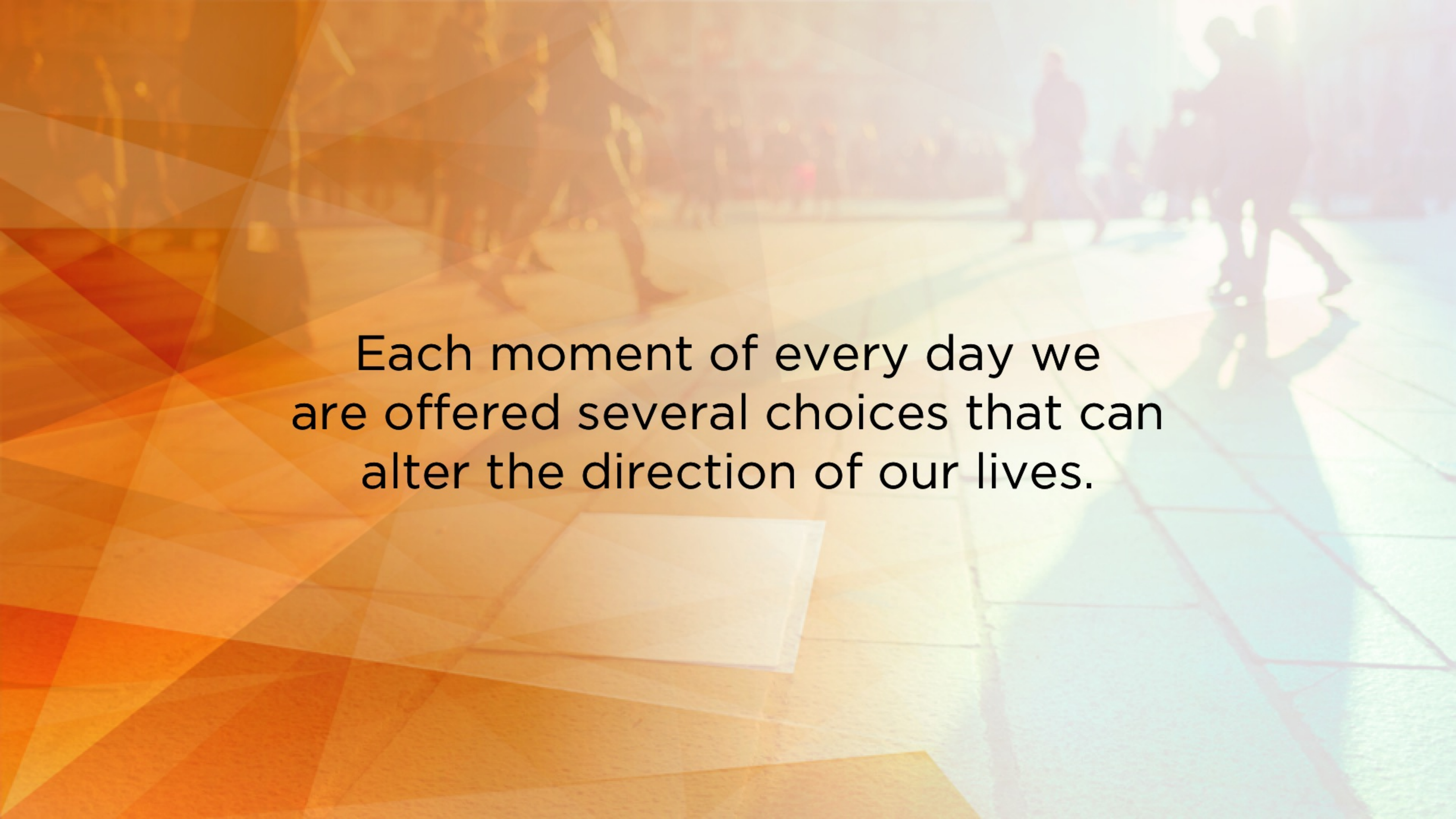


WHISPER

*HOW GOD CHANGES
THE DIRECTION OF OUR LIVES*



35,000



Each moment of every day we
are offered several choices that can
alter the direction of our lives.

**HOW DO YOU
MAKE DECISIONS?**

1 KINGS 18

19 “Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the **four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal** and the **four hundred prophets of Asherah**, who eat at **Jezebel’s** table.”

20 So **Ahab** sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel.

21 Elijah went before the people and said,

“How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”

23 Get two bulls for us. Let Baal's prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. **24** Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. **The god who answers by fire—he is God.**”

26 So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from **morning till noon**. “Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

27 At noon Elijah began to **taunt them**.
“**Shout louder!**” he said. “**Surely he is a god!**
Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling.
Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.”

37 Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

38 Then **the fire of the Lord fell** and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

1 KINGS 19

1 Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how **he had killed all the prophets with the sword.** **2** So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, “May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them.”

3 **Elijah was afraid** and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, **4** while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and **prayed that he might die.**

“I have had enough, Lord,” he said.

“Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.”

5 Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

9 There he went into a cave and spent the night.

The **Lord Appears** to Elijah

And the **word of the Lord** came to him:

“What are you doing here, Elijah?”

11 The Lord said,

“Go out and stand on the mountain
in the presence of the Lord,
for the Lord is about to pass by.”



**GOD OFTEN CALLS US
AWAY FROM WHERE
WE ARE COMFORTABLE.**

11 Then a **great and powerful wind** tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was **not in the wind**.

After the wind there was **an earthquake**, but the Lord was **not in the earthquake**.

12 After the earthquake came **a fire**, but the Lord was **not in the fire**.

And after the fire came a **gentle whisper**.

13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him,

“What are you doing here, Elijah?”



**GOD'S VOICE OFTEN
COMES FROM
UNFAMILIAR PLACES.**

**HOW CAN WE HEAR
HIS WHISPER?**

EPHESIANS 3

1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

2 Surely you have heard about the **administration of God's grace** that was given to me **for you**, **3** that is, the mystery made known to me **by revelation**, as I have already written briefly.

4 In reading this, then, **you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,**
5 which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now **been revealed by the Spirit** to God's holy apostles and prophets.

6 This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, **members together of one body**, and **sharers together** in the promise in Christ Jesus.

14 For this reason

I kneel before the Father,

15 from whom every family in heaven
and on earth derives its name.





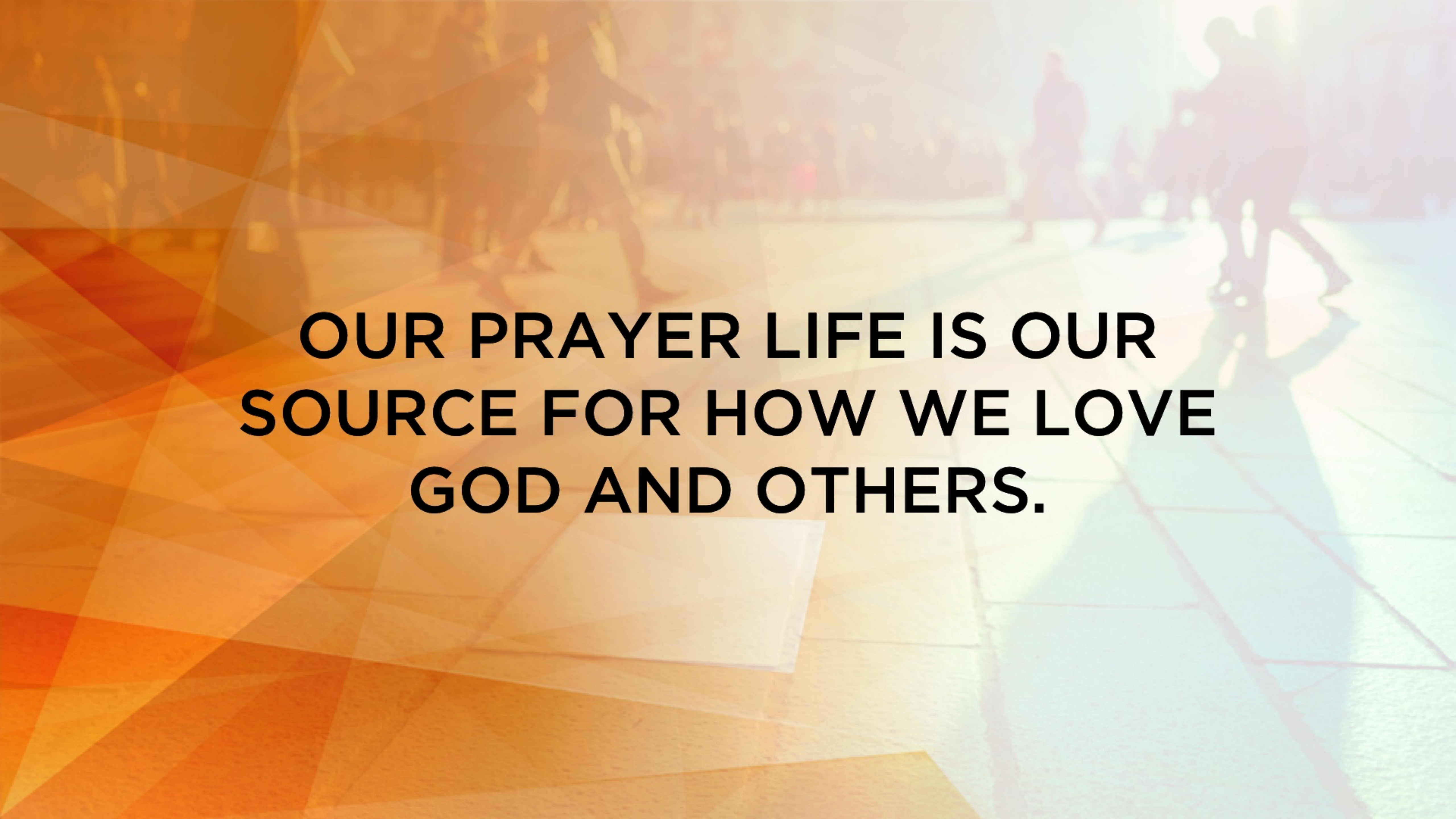
**WE KNEEL TO WHAT IS
MOST IMPORTANT TO US.**

16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may **strengthen you with power** through his Spirit in **your inner being, 17** so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.



**PRAAYER IS OUR SOURCE FOR
STRENGTH AND DIRECTION.**

And **I pray** that you, being **rooted and established in love, 18** may have power, **together with all the Lord's holy people**, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, **19** and **to know this love** that surpasses knowledge—**that you may be filled** to the measure of all the fullness of God.



**OUR PRAYER LIFE IS OUR
SOURCE FOR HOW WE LOVE
GOD AND OTHERS.**

