



# Welcome

we are glad you are here



**EVERY NATION**  
CHURCH • PENANG

EMBRACING RADICAL VALUES IN A CONFORMING WORLD



# THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM




**EVERY NATION**  
CHURCH • PENANG




**UPSIDE-DOWN?  
KINGDOM?**

The image features a bright yellow background. At the top, there is a silhouette of a city skyline, including various skyscrapers, rendered in a dark blue color. This skyline is upside-down, appearing to hang from the top edge of the frame. At the bottom, there is a similar silhouette of a city skyline, also in dark blue, but oriented normally as if viewed from the ground. The central text is in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font.



The image features a city skyline at sunset, with the top half inverted. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

**KINGDOM OF GOD  
VS  
OF THIS WORLD**



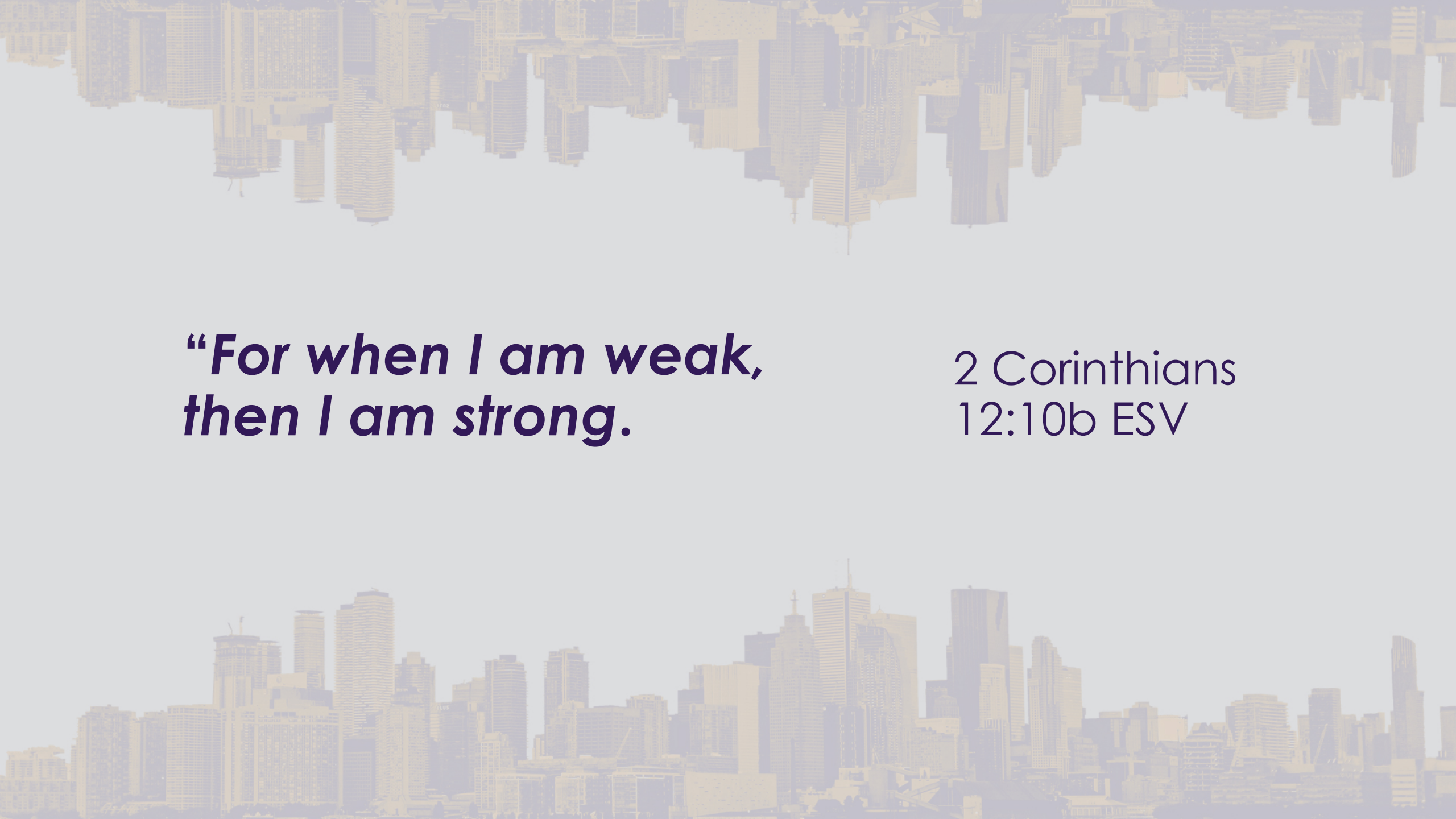
**#1 : FIRST VS LAST**  
**#2 : WEAKNESS VS**  
**STRENGTH**

**#3 : DEATH VS LIFE**  
**#4 : HEAVENLY VS**  
**EARTHLY TREASURES**



A landscape of jagged mountain peaks under a gradient sky transitioning from blue at the top to purple at the bottom. The mountains are rendered in shades of blue and purple, with some snow patches. The central text 'WEAKNESS VS STRENGTH' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and slightly above the vertical midpoint. The bottom of the image fades into a white background.

# WEAKNESS VS STRENGTH



***“For when I am weak,  
then I am strong.”***

2 Corinthians  
12:10b ESV







**PRECARIAT:** The poorest and most deprived class in Britain. With low levels of economic, cultural and social capital, everyday lives of members of this class are precarious.

**TRADITIONAL WORKING CLASS:** Contains more older members than other classes but also scores low on all forms of the three capitals. They are not the poorest group.

**EMERGENT SERVICE WORKERS:** Young and often found in urban areas, this new class has low economic capital but has high levels of 'emerging' cultural capital and high social capital.

**TECHNICAL MIDDLE CLASS:** A less culturally engaged new class with high economic capital. Small in numbers, they have relatively few social contacts.

**NEW AFFLUENT WORKERS:** Generally young and active, members have medium levels of economic capital and

**ESTABLISHED MIDDLE CLASS:** Not quite elite but members of this class have high levels of all three capitals. They are a gregarious and culturally engaged class.

**ELITE:** This is the most privileged class in Great Britain who have high levels of all three capitals. Their high amount of economic capital sets them apart from everyone else.



Focus



Powder

100Mesh

80Mesh

60Mesh

50Mesh

40Mesh

30Mesh

20Mesh

16Mesh



Grade B

Grade A



Grade A



Grade B

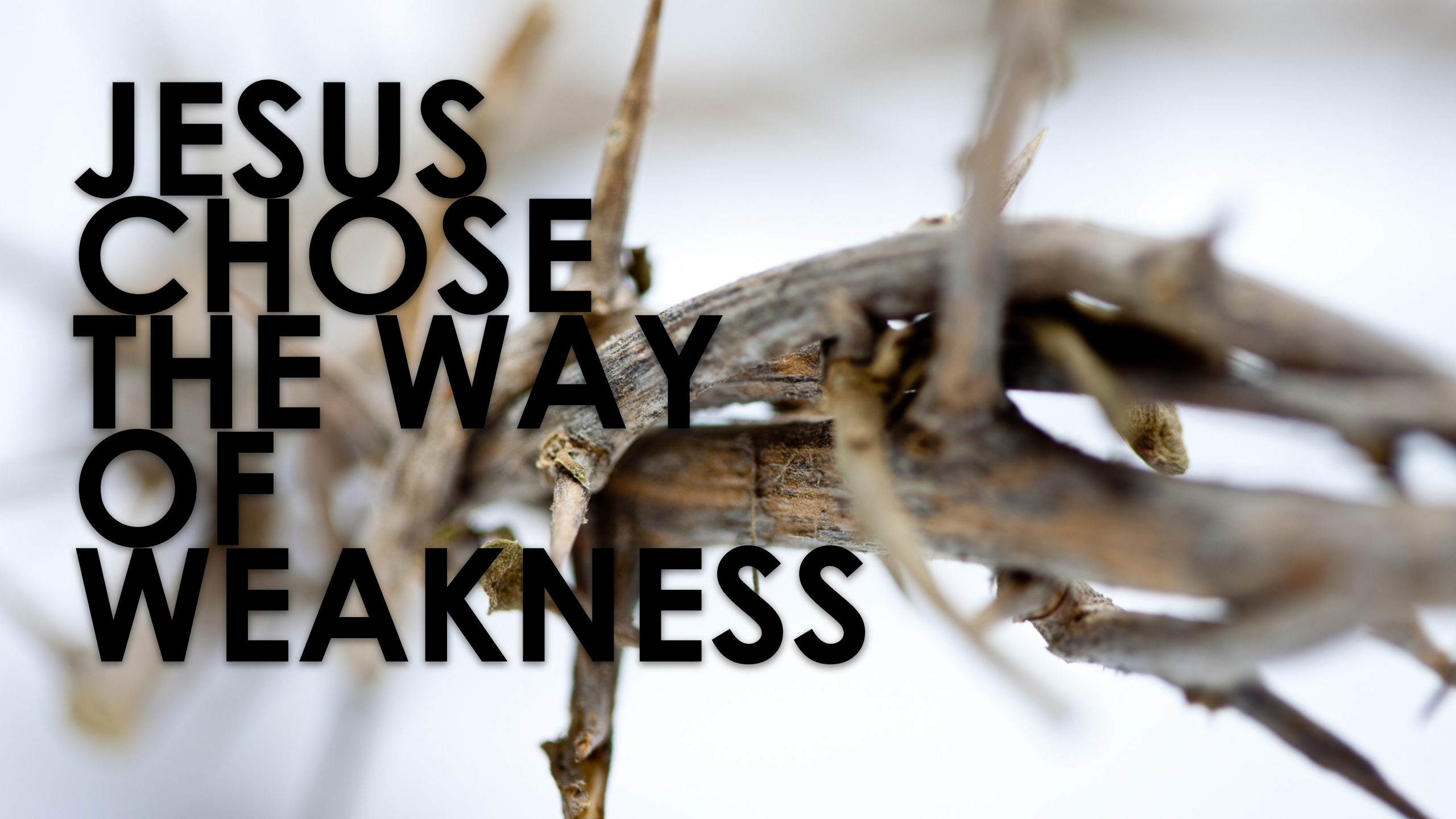


Grade B



Grade B





**JESUS  
CHOSE  
THE WAY  
OF  
WEAKNESS**

# #1 : HIS BIRTH



And **Joseph** also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with **Mary**, his betrothed, who was with **child**. And while they were there, the **time** came for her to **give birth**. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and **wrapped** him **in swaddling cloths** and **laid** him **in a manger**, because there was **no place** for them in the inn.

**Luke 2:4-7** ESV

# #2 : HIS TEMPTATION

Jesus



And **Jesus**, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness<sup>2</sup> for forty days, being **tempted** by the devil. And **he ate nothing** during those days. And when they were ended, **he was hungry**.<sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”<sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’”

**Luke 4:1-4 ESV**



# #3 : HIS MINISTRY

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to **the poor**. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to **the captives** and recovering of sight to **the blind**, to set at liberty those who are **oppressed**, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." **20** And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. **21** And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

**Luke 4:18-21** ESV

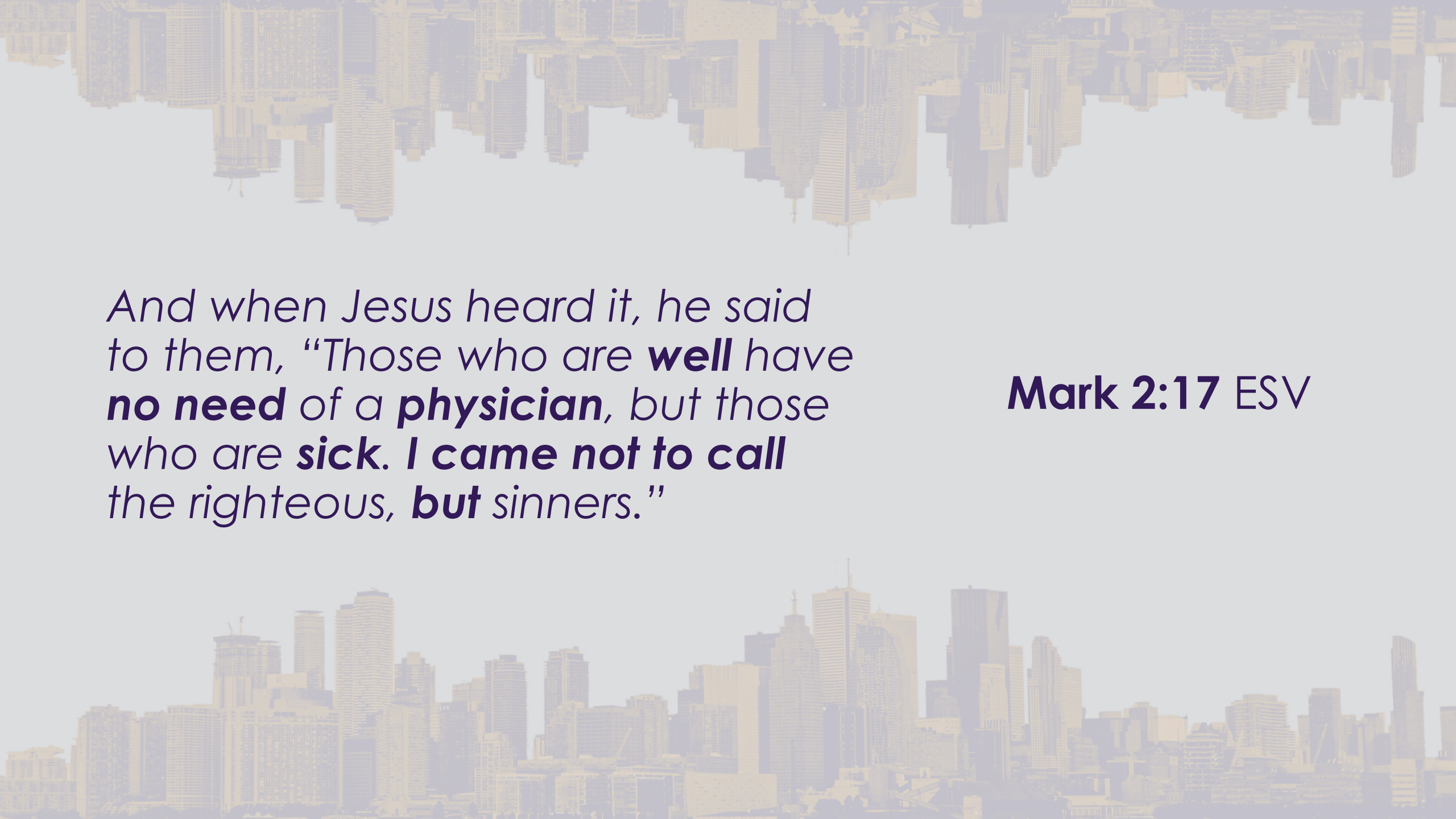


## #4 : His Disciples

**Peter** was impulsive and denied him 3x, **Judas** betrayed him, **Thomas** doubted him, **James** and **John** wanted to call down fire and fought for status; **the rest** abandoned Jesus except **John** the beloved.

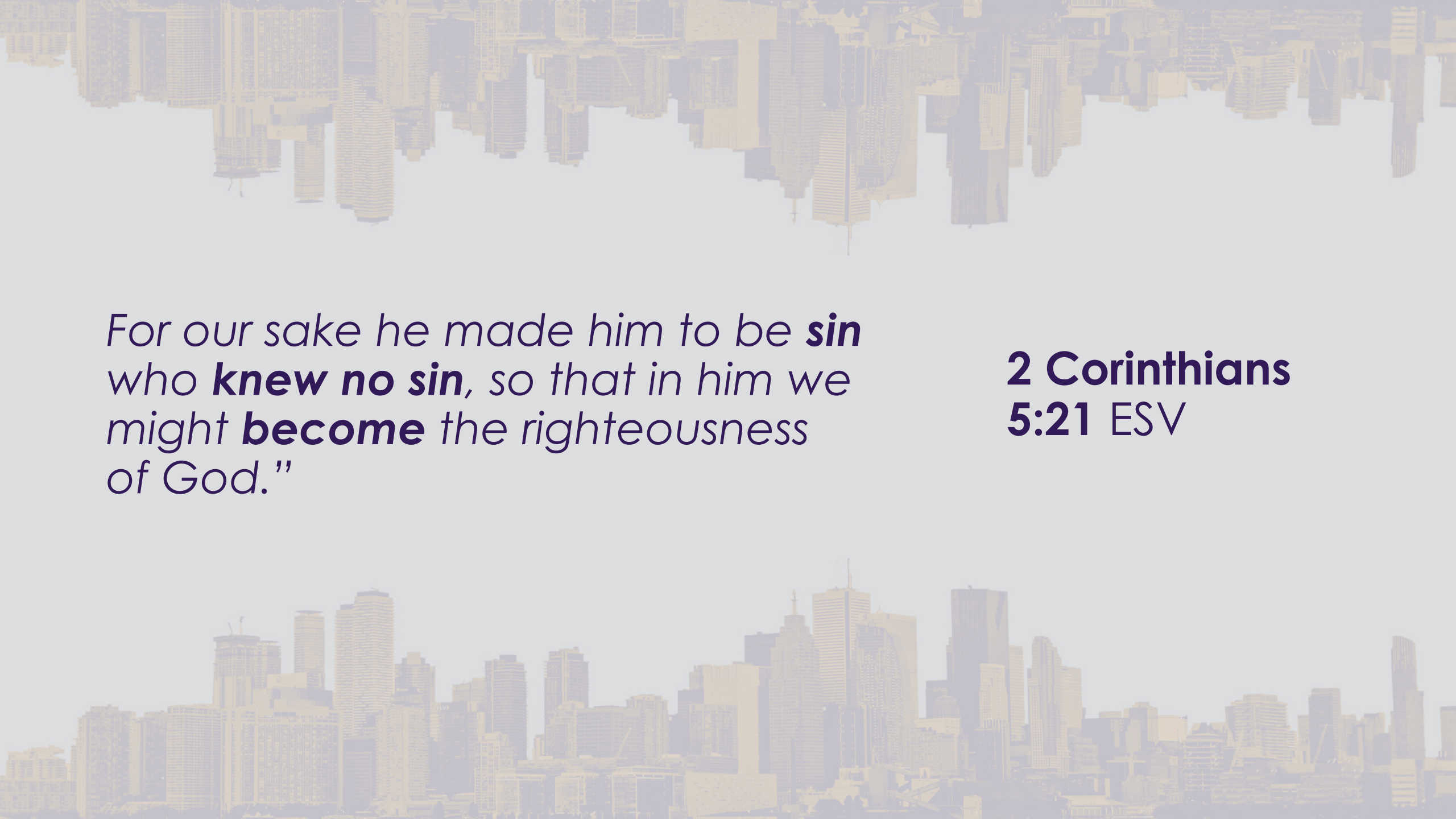
# #4 : HIS CROSS





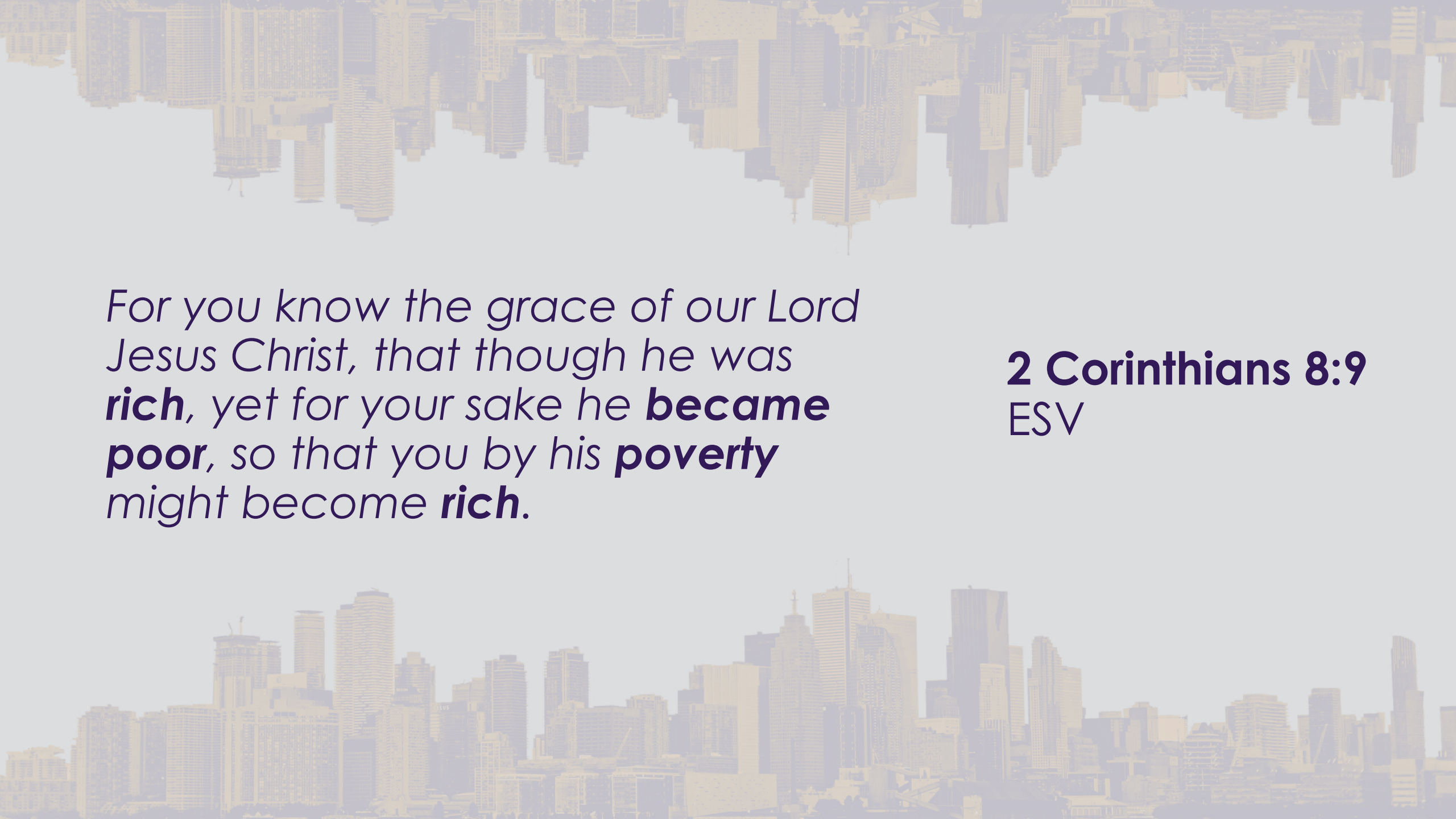
*And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are **well** have **no need** of a **physician**, but those who are **sick**. **I came not to call** the righteous, **but** sinners.”*

**Mark 2:17** ESV



*For our sake he made him to be **sin** who **knew no sin**, so that in him we might **become** the righteousness of God.”*

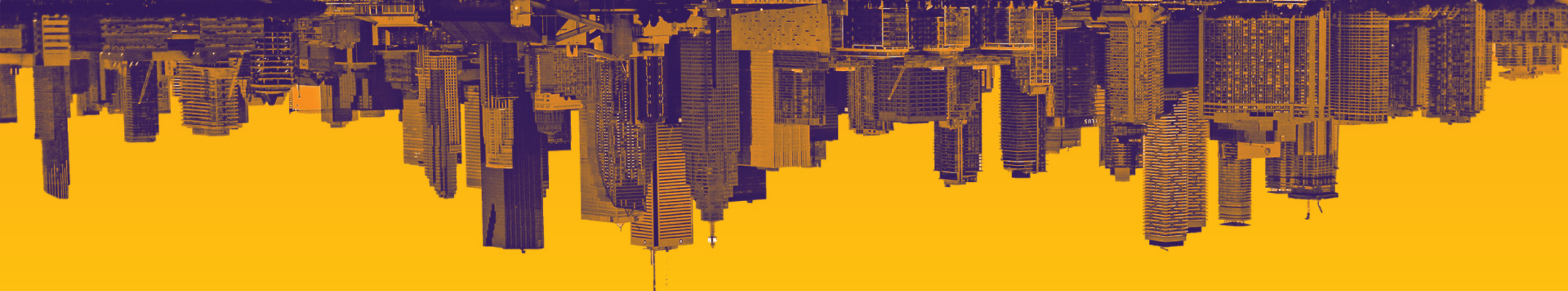
**2 Corinthians**  
**5:21** ESV



*For you know the grace of our Lord  
Jesus Christ, that though he was  
**rich**, yet for your sake he **became  
poor**, so that you by his **poverty**  
might become **rich**.*

**2 Corinthians 8:9**  
ESV





The CHOICE we Make  
**KINGDOM**

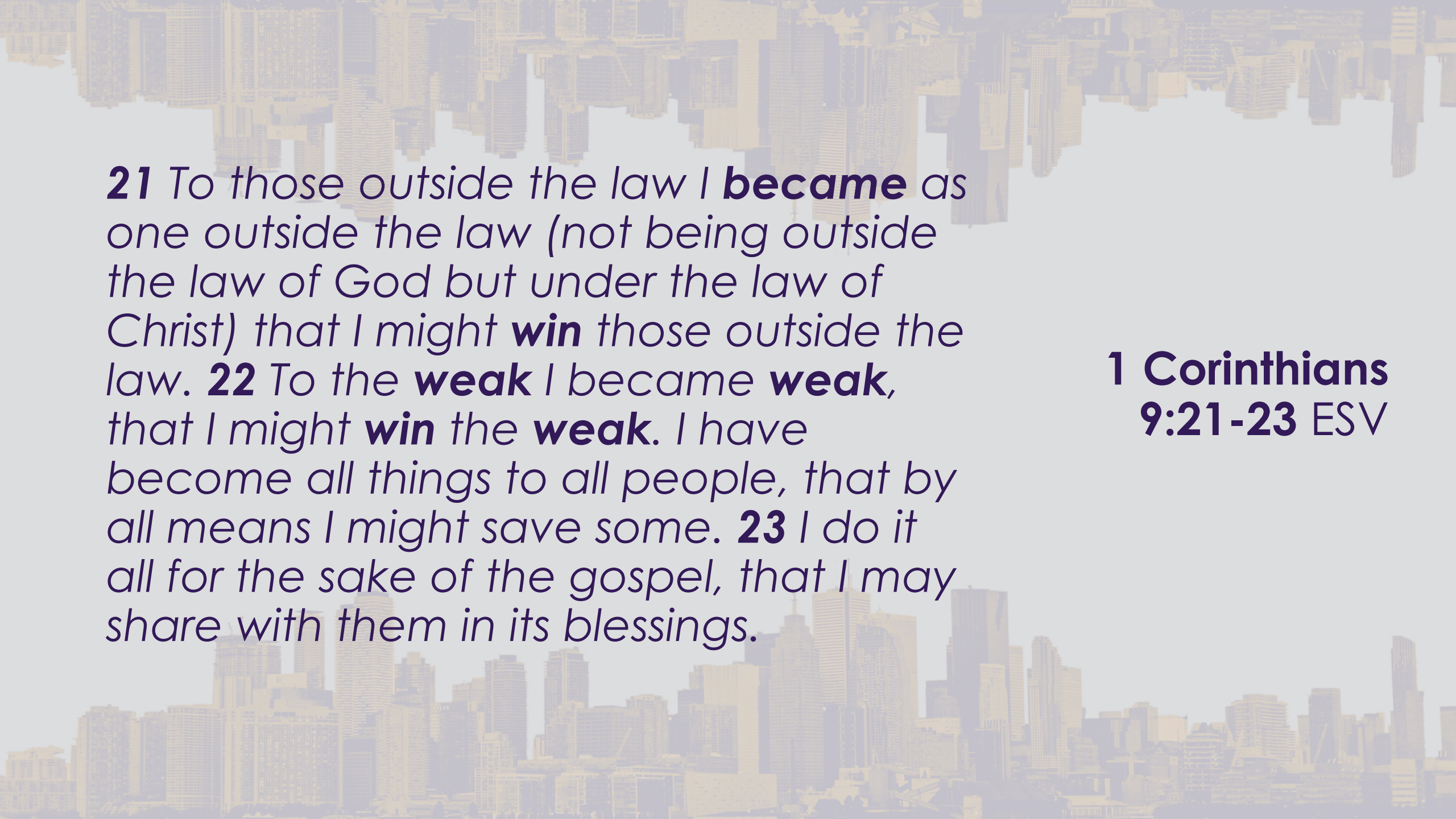
**OF GOD**  
**VS**  
**OF THIS WORLD**





# HOW DO WE EMBRACE OUR **WEAKNESS** AS OUR STRENGTH?

5 Questions to Reflect



**21** To those outside the law I **became** as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might **win** those outside the law. **22** To the **weak** I became **weak**, that I might **win** the **weak**. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. **23** I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

**1 Corinthians**  
**9:21-23** ESV



# #1 : DO WE HAVE THE SPACE IN OUR LIFE **TO WIN THE WEAK?**

*21 To those outside the law  
I became as one outside the law  
(not being outside the law of  
God but under the law of Christ)  
that I might win those outside the  
law.*

**1 Corinthians 9:21** ESV



**#2 : ARE YOU  
WILLING TO  
BECOME WEAK TO  
WIN THE WEAK?**

**22** To the **weak** I became **weak**, that I might **win** the weak. I have **become** all things to all people, that by all means I might **save** some. **23** I do it all **for the sake** of the gospel, that I may **share** with them in its blessings.

**1 Corinthians 9:22-23** ESV



**#3 : ARE YOU ABLE  
TO BOAST OF YOUR  
WEAKNESS?**

**30** *If I must boast, I will boast of the things that **show my weakness.*** **31** *The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.*

**32** *At **Damascus**, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of **Damascus** in order to seize me, **33** but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.*

**2 Corinthians 11:30-33** ESV



**#4 : ARE WE WILLING  
TO ALLOW GOD TO  
WORK THROUGH  
OUR WEAKNESS?**

*7 So to keep me from becoming **conceited** because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, **a thorn was given me in the flesh**, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.*

**2 Corinthians 12:7-10** ESV



**#4 : ARE WE WILLING  
TO ALLOW GOD TO  
WORK THROUGH  
OUR WEAKNESS?**

**8** *Three times I pleaded* with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. **9** *But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

**2 Corinthians 12:7-9** ESV

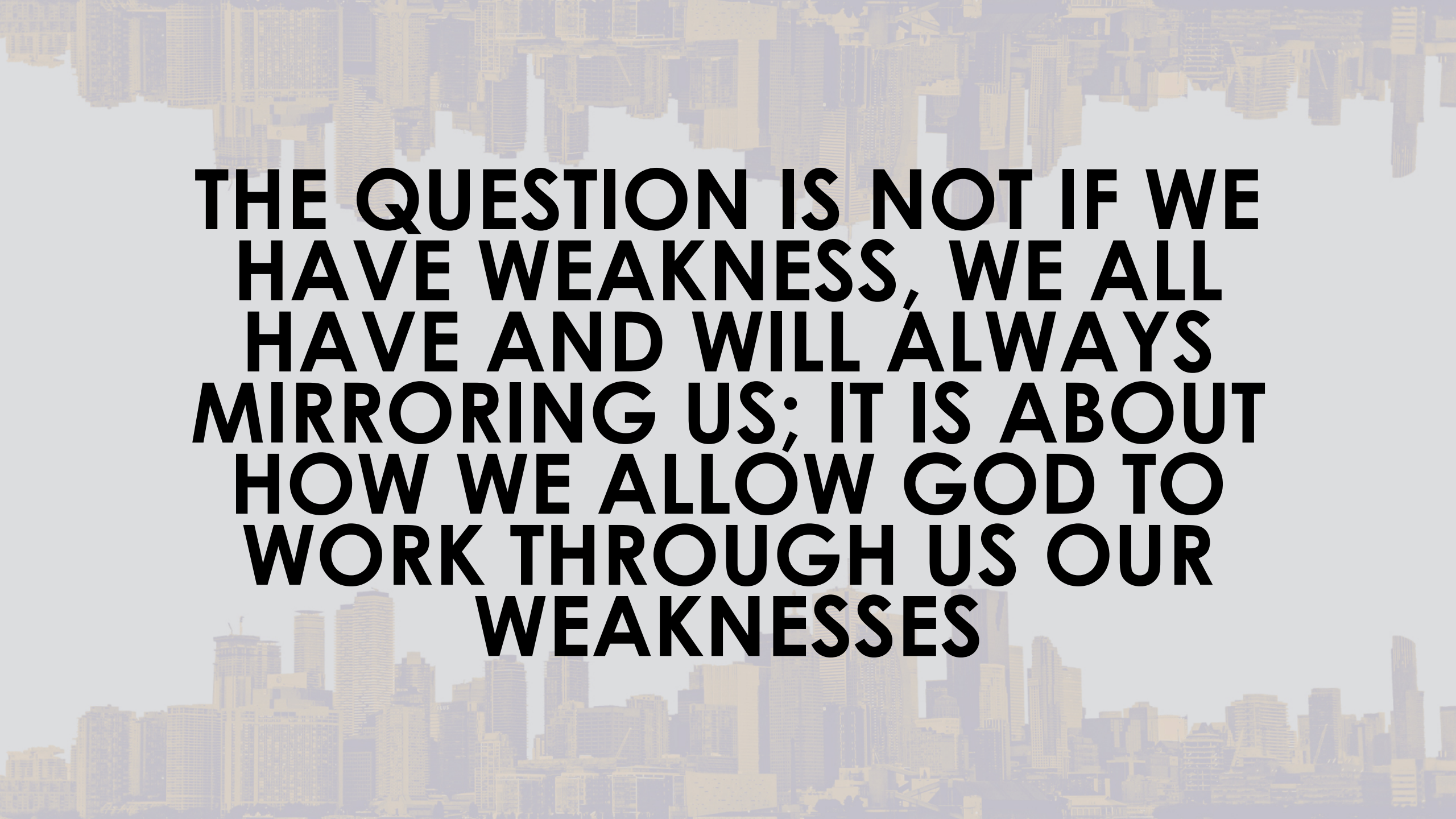




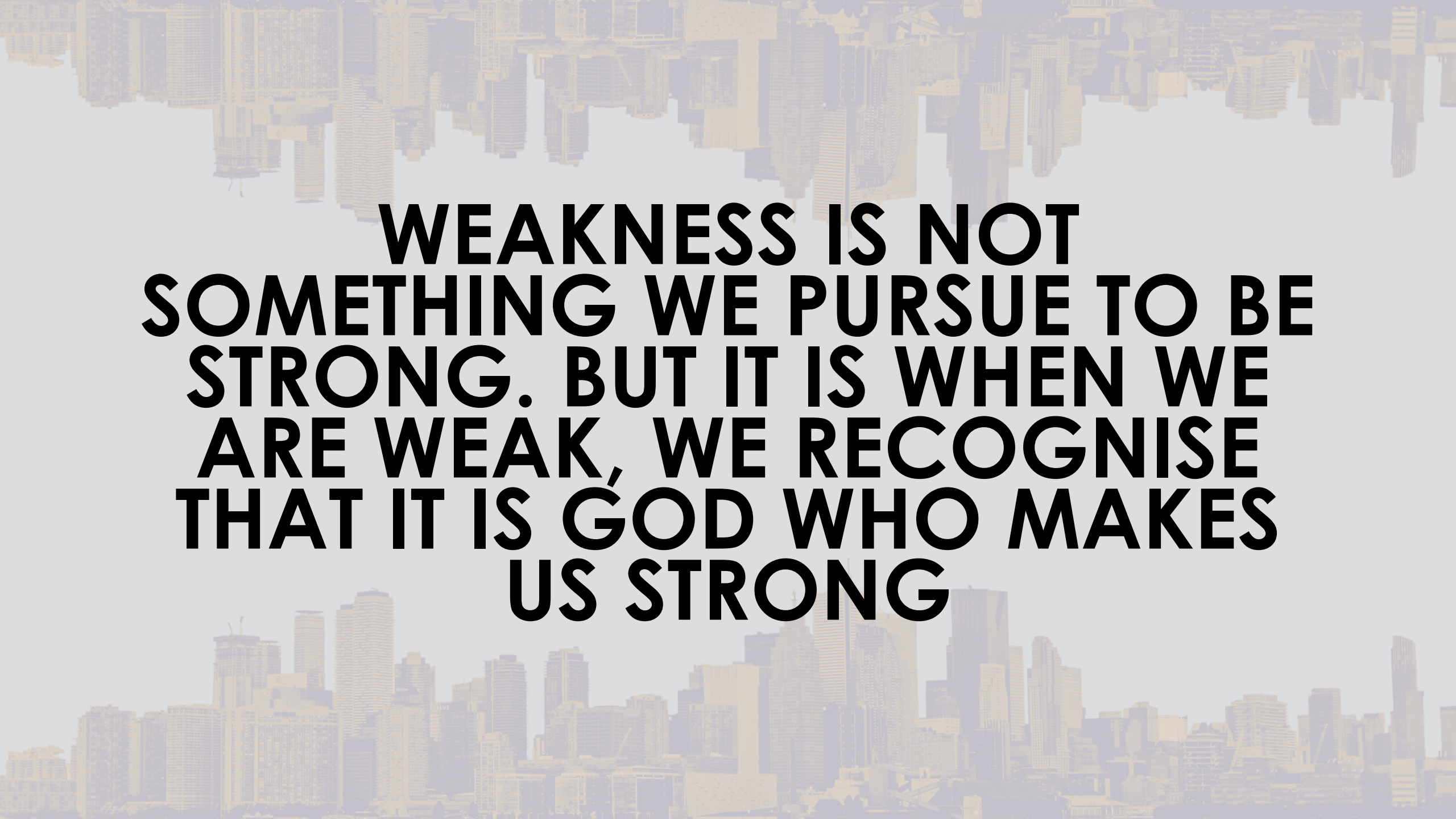
**#5 : WILL WE BE  
CONTENTED TO SAY  
“WHEN I AM WEAK  
THEN I AM STRONG?”**

*10 For the sake of Christ, then,  
**I am content with weaknesses,**  
insults, hardships, persecutions,  
and calamities.  
**For when I am weak, then I am  
strong.***

**2 Corinthians 12:10 ESV**



**THE QUESTION IS NOT IF WE  
HAVE WEAKNESS, WE ALL  
HAVE AND WILL ALWAYS  
MIRRORING US; IT IS ABOUT  
HOW WE ALLOW GOD TO  
WORK THROUGH US OUR  
WEAKNESSES**



**WEAKNESS IS NOT  
SOMETHING WE PURSUE TO BE  
STRONG. BUT IT IS WHEN WE  
ARE WEAK, WE RECOGNISE  
THAT IT IS GOD WHO MAKES  
US STRONG**



**AT OUR WEAKEST, GOD'S  
POWER IS MOST AT WORK  
WITHIN US. THEN WE ARE AT  
OUR STRONGEST.**

A city skyline, likely New York City, is shown upside down against a bright yellow background. The buildings are dark and their reflections are visible in the white space below. The text 'THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM' is overlaid in the center in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

# THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM



# APPLICATION

*Jesus chose the path of “weakness” and not “strength” to bring salvation to his people.*

**Q1-Share a story in your life where you experienced ‘weakness’ and yet it helped you to draw closer to Him & grow stronger?**

Paul understood that in his weakness, he was most dependent on God, and that made him strong.

**Q2 : If you are feeling vulnerable and weak today, this is an opportunity to lean and depend on Him. What one area/ situation do you want to depend on God today?**