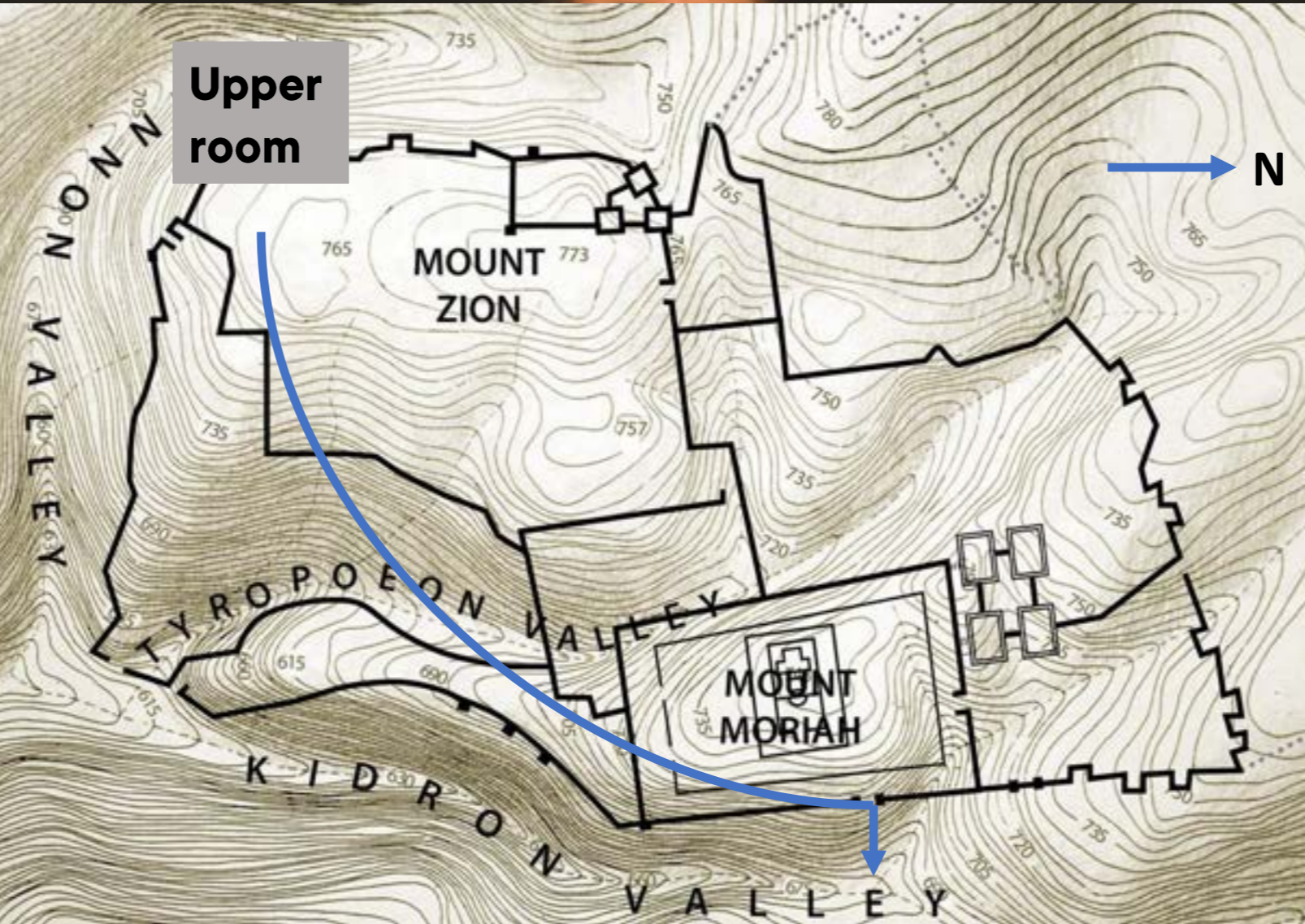
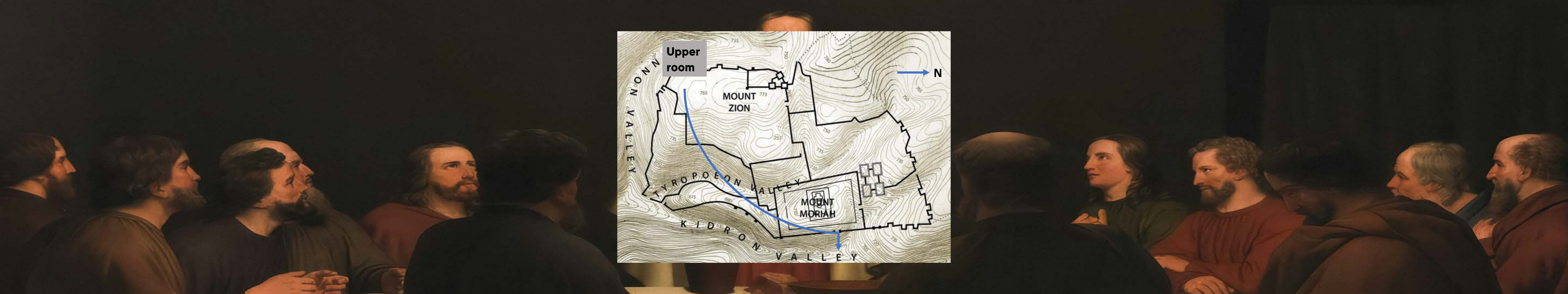




HOW CAN I SERVE GOD
EFFECTIVELY?





John 15:1-8

¹“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

John 15:1-8

⁵ “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.



HOW CAN I SERVE GOD EFFECTIVELY?

- 1. Remember:** We are the branches through which Jesus, the True Vine, bears fruit
- 2. Remain:** Our task is to abide in Him



Remember:

We are the branches through which
Jesus, the True Vine, bears fruit.

John 15: 1

¹“I am the true vine,
and My Father is the vinedresser.





Psalm 80:8

You transplanted a **vine** from Egypt;
You drove out the nations and planted it.



Hosea 10:1

Israel was a spreading **vine**;
he brought forth fruit for himself.
As his fruit increased,
he built more altars;
as his land prospered,
he adorned his sacred stones.

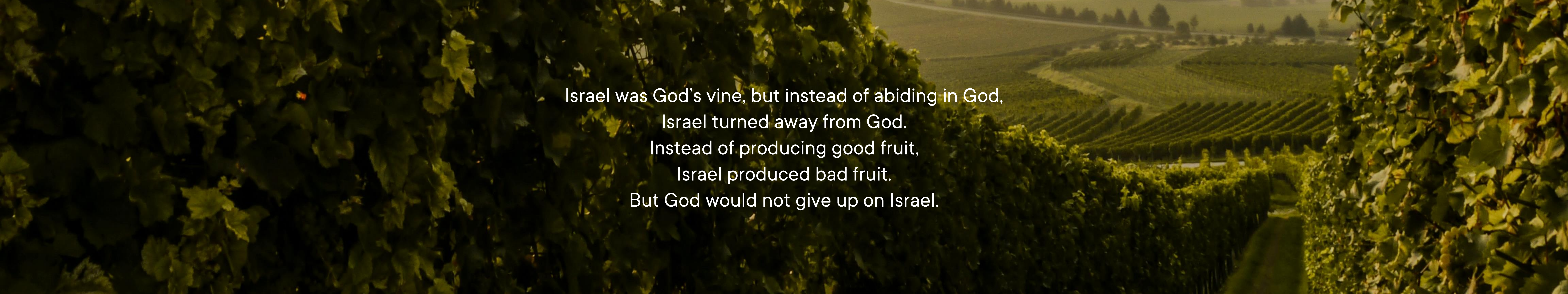


Jeremiah 2:21

I had planted you like a choice **vine**
of sound and reliable stock.
How then did you turn against me
into a corrupt, wild **vine**?

Ezekiel 15:6-7

⁶ “Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord says: As I have given the wood of the **vine** among the trees of the forest as fuel for the fire, so will I treat the people living in Jerusalem.
⁷ I will set my face against them ...



Israel was God's vine, but instead of abiding in God,
Israel turned away from God.
Instead of producing good fruit,
Israel produced bad fruit.
But God would not give up on Israel.



Isaiah 11:1

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a **Branch** will bear fruit.

Jeremiah 23:5

“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will raise up for David a righteous **Branch**, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.”

Zechariah 6:12-13

Tell him this is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Here is the man whose name is the **Branch**, and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the Lord. It is he who will build the temple of the Lord, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And he will be a **priest on his throne**. And there will be harmony between the two.'

John 15: 1, 5a

¹ “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

^{5a} “I am the vine, you are the branches.

We are the branches through which
Jesus, the True Vine, bears fruit.



Jesus could have done everything Himself.

But in His sovereignty and wisdom,
God chose to give us a part to play in His plan.



To serve God effectively, we must:

1. Remember it is a privilege to serve

2. Remember it is God who brings the fruit



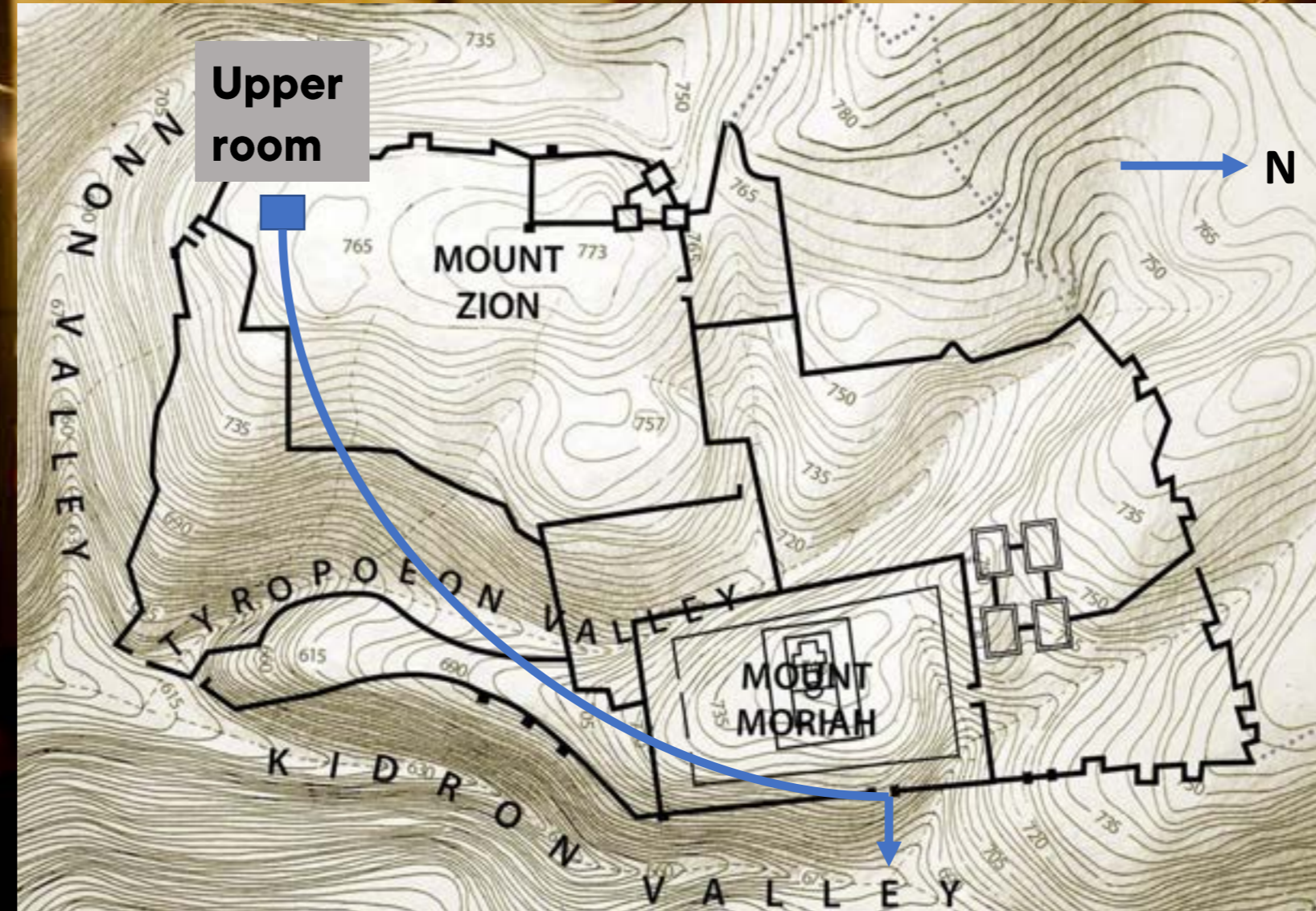
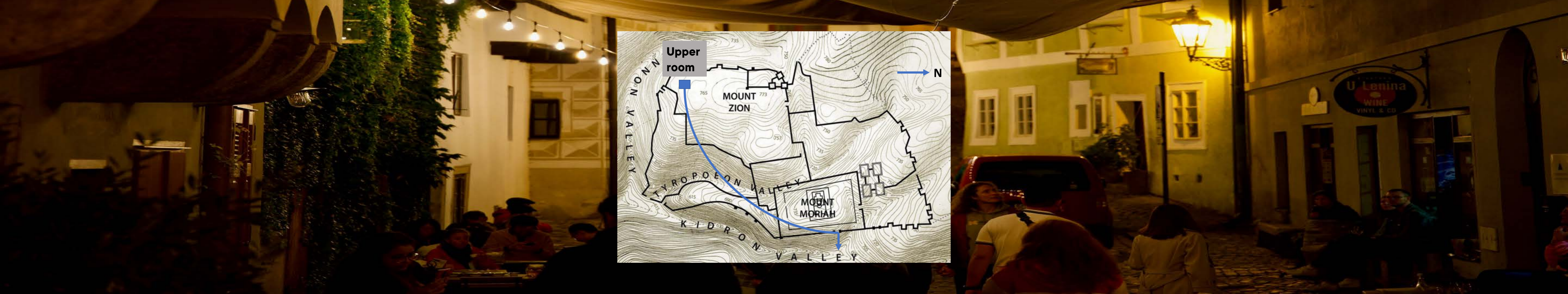
HOW CAN I SERVE GOD EFFECTIVELY?

- 1. Remember:** We are the branches through which Jesus, the True Vine, bears fruit
- 2. Remain:** Our task is to abide in Him



John 15:4

⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.





What does it mean to abide?

Μένων (*menōn*)

To remain, abide, stay, wait

A primary verb; to stay.

A dark, atmospheric forest scene with a path leading into the distance, illuminated by a warm, golden light. The path is the central focus, winding through tall, dark trees. The lighting is dramatic, with the path and some foliage highlighted in a warm, golden glow, while the rest of the forest is in deep shadow. The overall mood is mysterious and somber.

Stay with me as I navigate the dark path.

Stay with me as I go down into the valley.

*Stay with me as we approach the end
and trouble comes.*

No matter what happens, stay close to me,



Abiding is Continuous Connection

- Actively staying close to God as He moves
- “Praying without ceasing”
- “In all your ways acknowledge Him”
- Talking to God and listening to Him



Various ways to listen to God

- **Ps Nicky Raiborde:** Pray in tongues, then ask God for the interpretation.
- **Ps Sam Wallston:** Pray and invite God to speak before reading the Bible
- **Ps Jamie Winship:** Ask God, then be still and listen

Abiding is Continuous Connection

- James 4:8a – Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.
- Listening prayer is a spiritual discipline that requires practice
- Like *manna*, we need God's Word daily.

Abiding is Following God

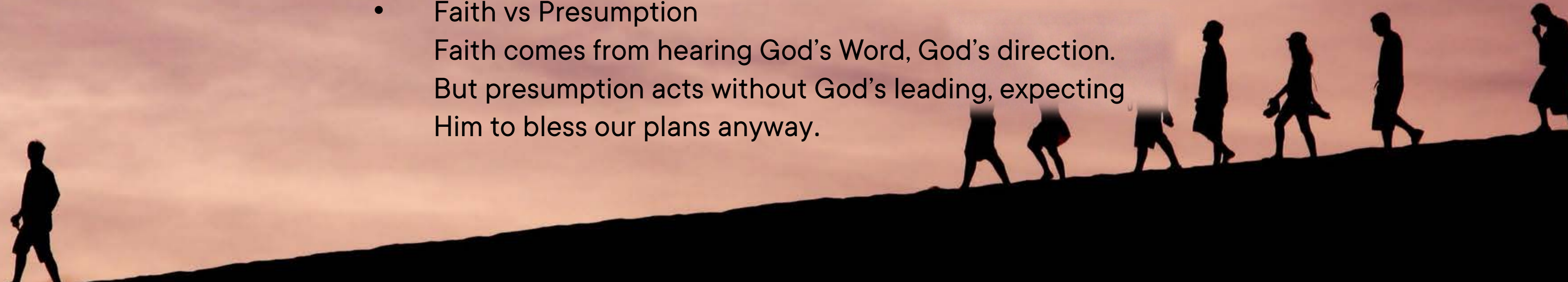
- His Will
- His Timing



Abiding is Following *His Will*

- God is not a means to our ends
- Faith vs Presumption

Faith comes from hearing God's Word, God's direction. But presumption acts without God's leading, expecting Him to bless our plans anyway.



Abiding is Following *His Will*

It is good to go to God in prayer with our wants.

But it is better to go to God *to ask Him what He wants.*



Abiding is Following *His Timing*

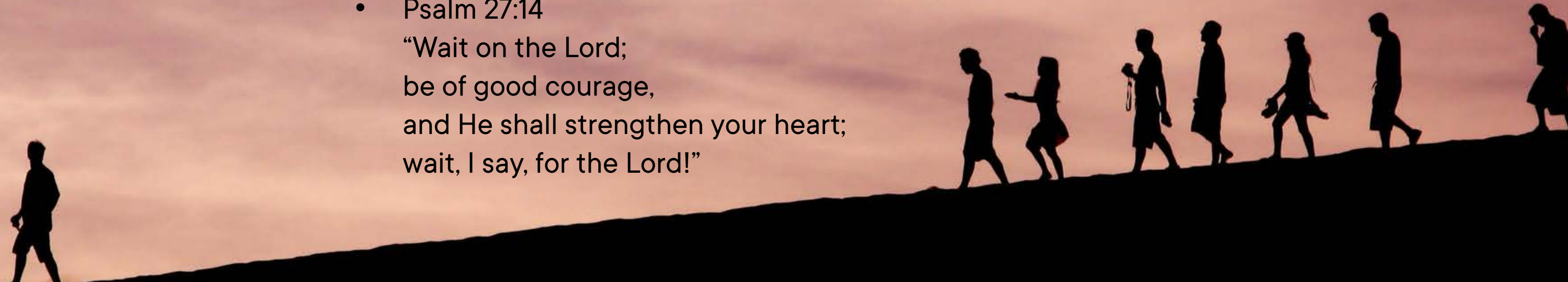
- Avoid taking matters into your own hands
- Avoid shortcuts
- Trust God's timing





Abiding is Following *His Timing*

- “*God is never late, but He is seldom early*”
- Psalm 27:14
“Wait on the Lord;
be of good courage,
and He shall strengthen your heart;
wait, I say, for the Lord!”



Abiding is Following God

- Do His will, not use Him for our ends
- Wait for His timing, not force our own



Abiding is obedience

John 15: 5

“I am the vine, you are the branches.
He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit;
for without Me you can do nothing.

Abiding is a two-way relationship.

Abiding is obedience

John 14:23

Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”

God abides in us – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit –
when we obey Him.



Abiding is obedience

John 15: 10

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

We abide in God when we obey His commandments.



How can we abide in Christ?

Only when we *listen* to God can we *know* His will.

Only when we *know* His will can we *obey* Him.

Only when we *obey* Him
do we truly *abide* in Him and Him in us.

HOW CAN I SERVE GOD EFFECTIVELY?

Remember:

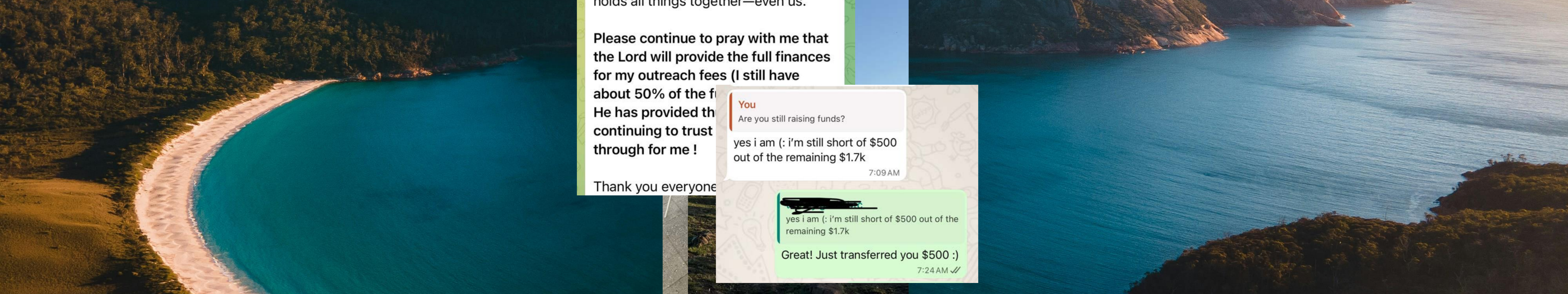
We are the branches through which Jesus, the True Vine, bears fruit

- Serving God is a privilege
- God is the one who brings the fruit

Remain:

Our task is to abide in the Vine

- Through continuous connection
- Through following God
- Through obedience



holds all things together—even us.

Please continue to pray with me that the Lord will provide the full finances for my outreach fees (I still have about 50% of the f
He has provided th
continuing to trust
through for me !

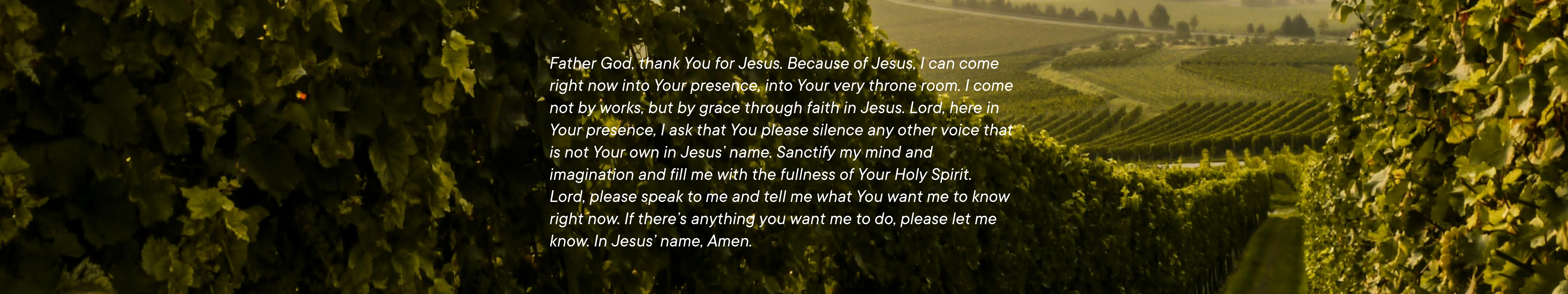
Thank you everyone

You
Are you still raising funds?

yes i am (: i'm still short of \$500 out of the remaining \$1.7k
7:09 AM

~~██████████~~
yes i am (: i'm still short of \$500 out of the remaining \$1.7k

Great! Just transferred you \$500 :)
7:24 AM ✓✓



Father God, thank You for Jesus. Because of Jesus, I can come right now into Your presence, into Your very throne room. I come not by works, but by grace through faith in Jesus. Lord, here in Your presence, I ask that You please silence any other voice that is not Your own in Jesus' name. Sanctify my mind and imagination and fill me with the fullness of Your Holy Spirit. Lord, please speak to me and tell me what You want me to know right now. If there's anything you want me to do, please let me know. In Jesus' name, Amen.