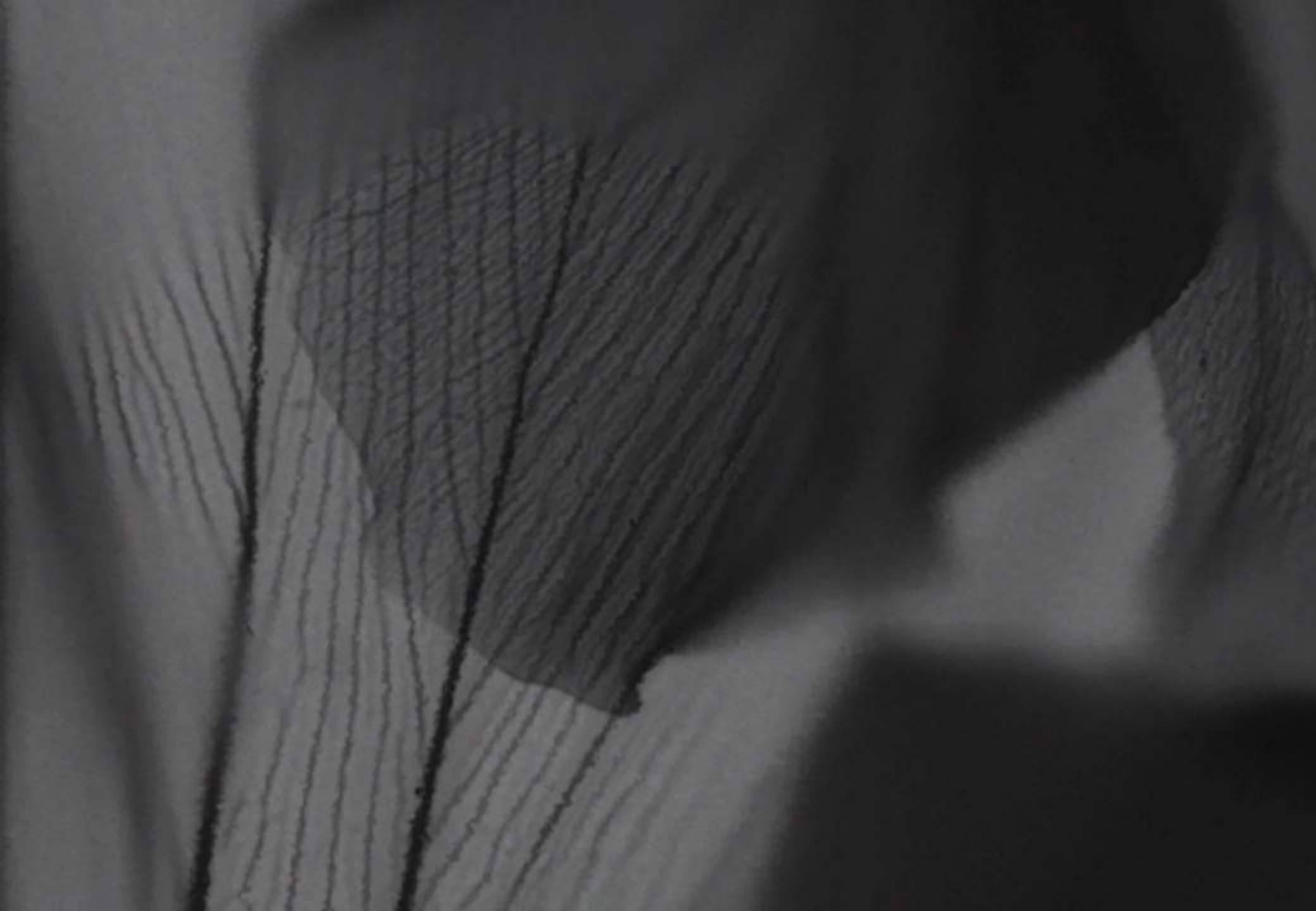


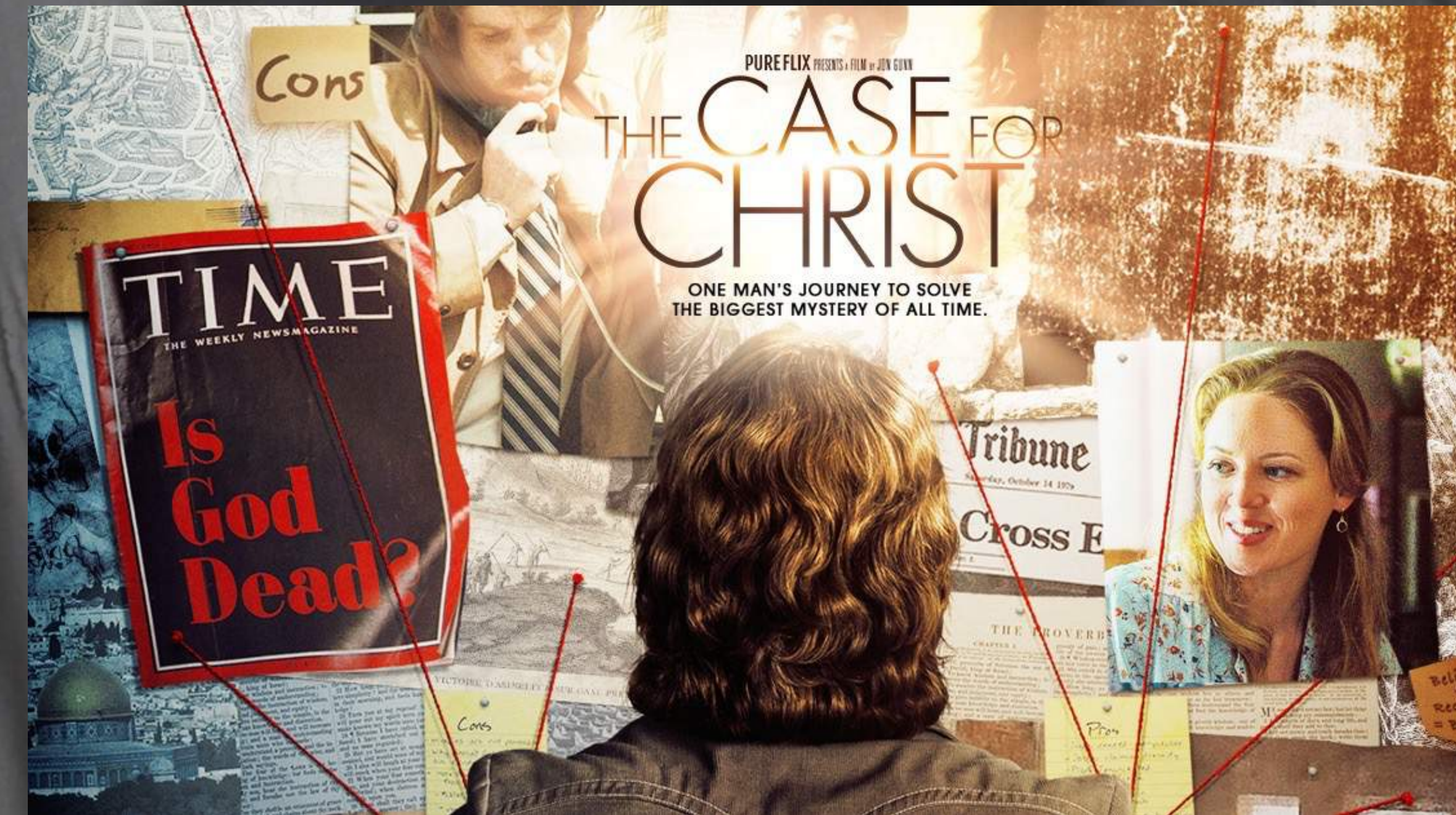
A black and white photograph of a person's face, heavily shadowed and looking down. The lighting is dramatic, with the right side of the face (viewer's left) in deep shadow and the left side (viewer's right) catching some light. The person's eyes are closed or looking down, and their expression is somber. The background is dark and indistinct. The text "When It Seems Impossible" is centered over the face in a white, serif font.

When It Seems Impossible

A black and white photograph of a person's face, heavily shadowed and looking down. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows on the right side of the face and highlights on the left. The person's eyes are closed or looking down, and their expression is somber. The background is dark and indistinct. The text "What seems impossible in your life right now?" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, serif font.

What seems impossible
in your life right now?





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When It Seems Impossible



	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
WRITTEN	75AD	70-75AD	80-90AD	90-100AD
FOCUS	What Jesus Said	What Jesus Did	What Jesus Felt	Who Jesus Was
TOLD VIA	Sermons	Miracles	Parables	Relationships
JESUS IS ...	Saviour and King	Suffering Servant	Son of Man	Son of God
AUDIENCE	Jewish Christians	Gentile Christians	All Christians	All
REVEALS	Prophecies of God	Works of God	Compassion of God	Love of God



7 SIGNS IN THE BOOK OF JOHN

JOHN 2 | Jesus turns water into wine ✓

JOHN 4 | Jesus heals the official's son ✓

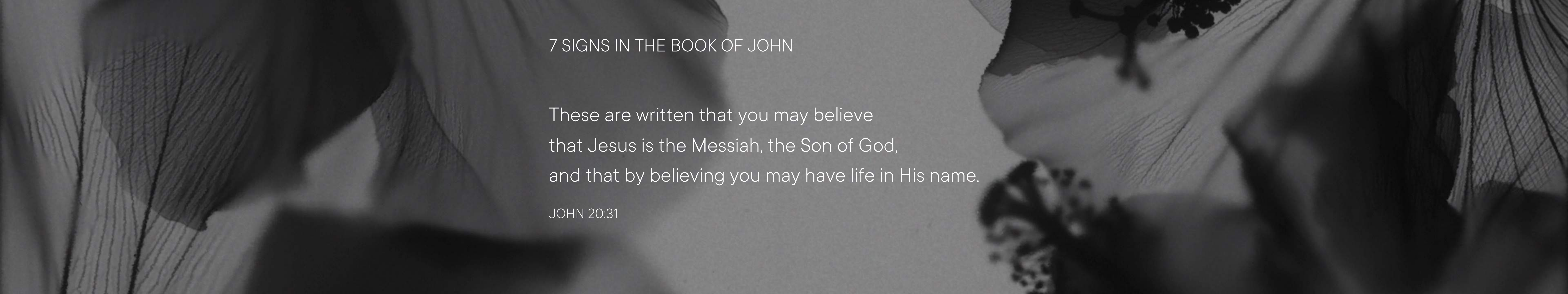
JOHN 5 | Jesus heals the invalid at Bethesda ✓

JOHN 6 | Jesus feeds the five thousand

JOHN 6 | Jesus walks on water ✓

JOHN 9 | Jesus heals the man born blind ✓

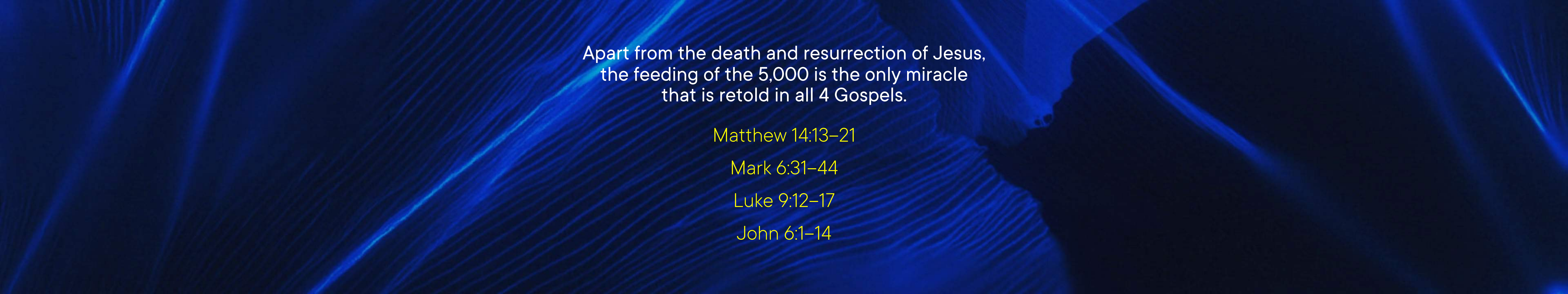
JOHN 11 | Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead (Apr 5)



7 SIGNS IN THE BOOK OF JOHN

These are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name.

JOHN 20:31



Apart from the death and resurrection of Jesus,
the feeding of the 5,000 is the only miracle
that is retold in all 4 Gospels.

Matthew 14:13–21

Mark 6:31–44

Luke 9:12–17

John 6:1–14

Matthew 14:13–21

Mark 6:31–44

Luke 9:12–17

John 6:1–14

John 6

1 After these things Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias, *[Luke] to a city called Bethsaida.*

2 And a great crowd followed Him, because they saw His signs which He did for the sick.

[Matt, Mark, Luke] When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and welcoming them, He began to teach them many things, and healed their sick.

3 Then Jesus went up on a mountain, and He sat there with His disciples.

4 Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was near.

Matthew 14:13–21

Mark 6:31–44

Luke 9:12–17

John 6:1–14

John 6

[Matt, Mark & Luke] The disciples came to Him and said, “This place is desolate and the hour is already late; so send the crowds away, that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

But He said to them, “You give them something to eat!”

5 When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming to Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread that these may eat?”

6 He said this to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.

7 Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for each of them to receive but a little.”

(NIV: “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!”)

Matthew 14:13–21

Mark 6:31–44

Luke 9:12–17

John 6:1–14

John 6

[Mark] He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go look!”

8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him,

9 “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two small fish. But what are they among so many?”

10 Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, numbering about 5,000.

[Mark] They sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties.

Matthew 14:13–21

Mark 6:31–44

Luke 9:12–17

John 6:1–14

John 6

- 11 Jesus then took the loaves, and when He had given thanks ...
[Matt, Mark, Luke] and looking up to heaven, He blessed them
... He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those
who were sitting down; and likewise, they distributed the fish,
as much as they wanted.
- 12 When they were filled, He told His disciples,
“Collect the fragments that remain, that nothing may be lost.”

Matthew 14:13–21

Mark 6:31–44

Luke 9:12–17

John 6:1–14

John 6

13 So they collected them and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten.

[Matt] There were about five thousand men who ate, besides women and children.

14 When those men saw the sign which He had done, they then said, “This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

15 Knowing that they would come and take Him by force to make Him king, Jesus departed again to a mountain by Himself alone.

Same situation | *Different perspectives*

Philip

“Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.”

JOHN 1:44



(Jesus) said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread that these may eat?”

JOHN 6:5

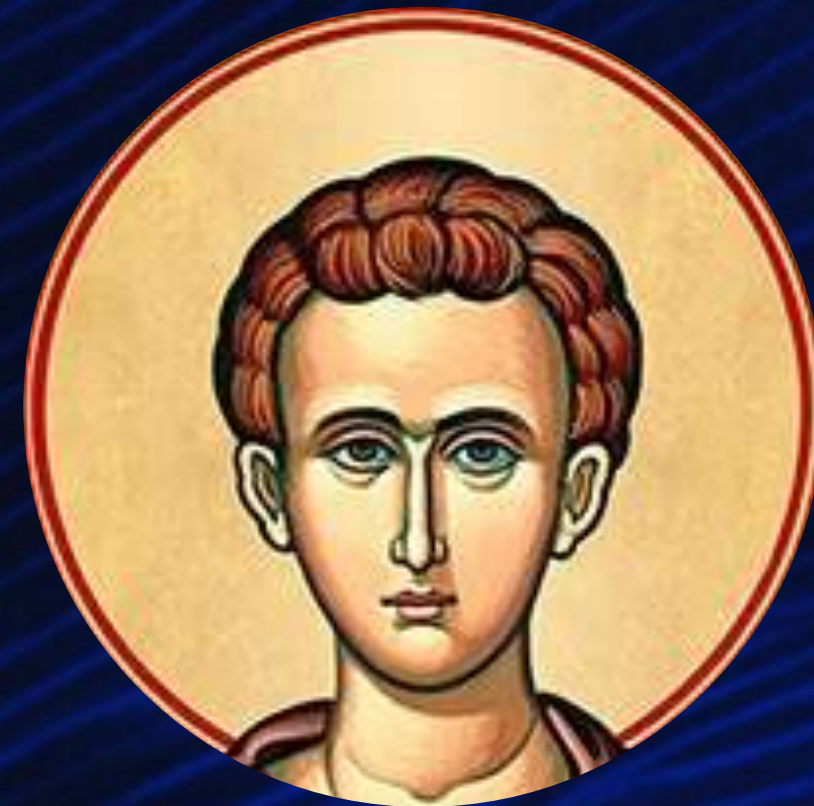
In his hometown, Philip only saw things *the way he always had*.

Same situation | *Different perspectives*

Philip

Saw what
they *lacked*

What is
impossible



Same situation | *Different perspectives*



Philip

Saw what they *lacked*

What is impossible

Andrew

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus.

JOHN 1:41-42

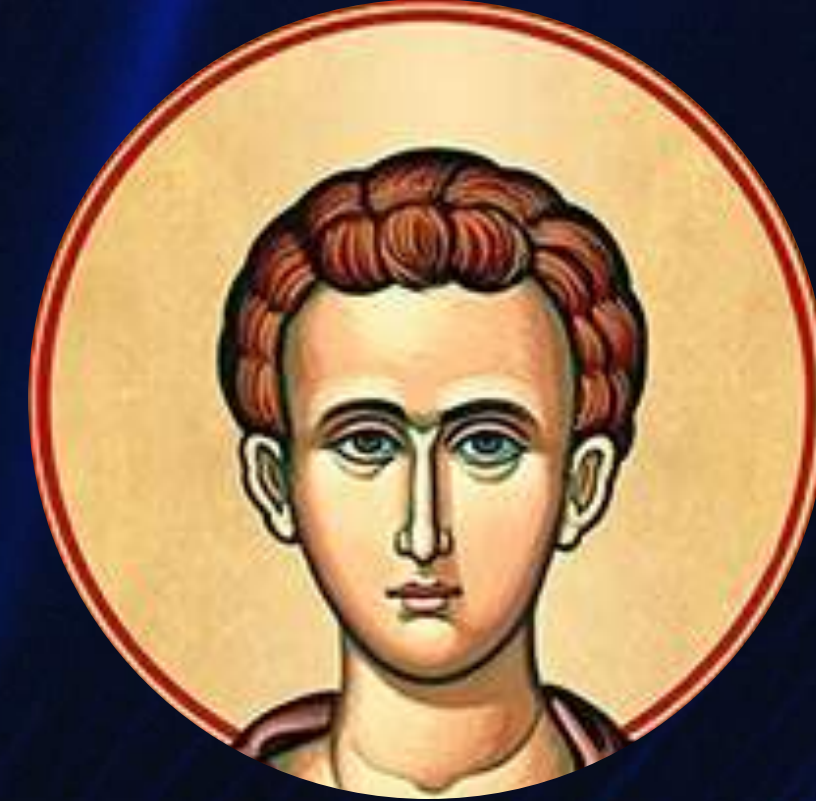


"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two small fish. But what are they among so many?"

JOHN 6:9

Despite being in his hometown, Andrew could see things *others couldn't see*.

Same situation | *Different perspectives*



Philip

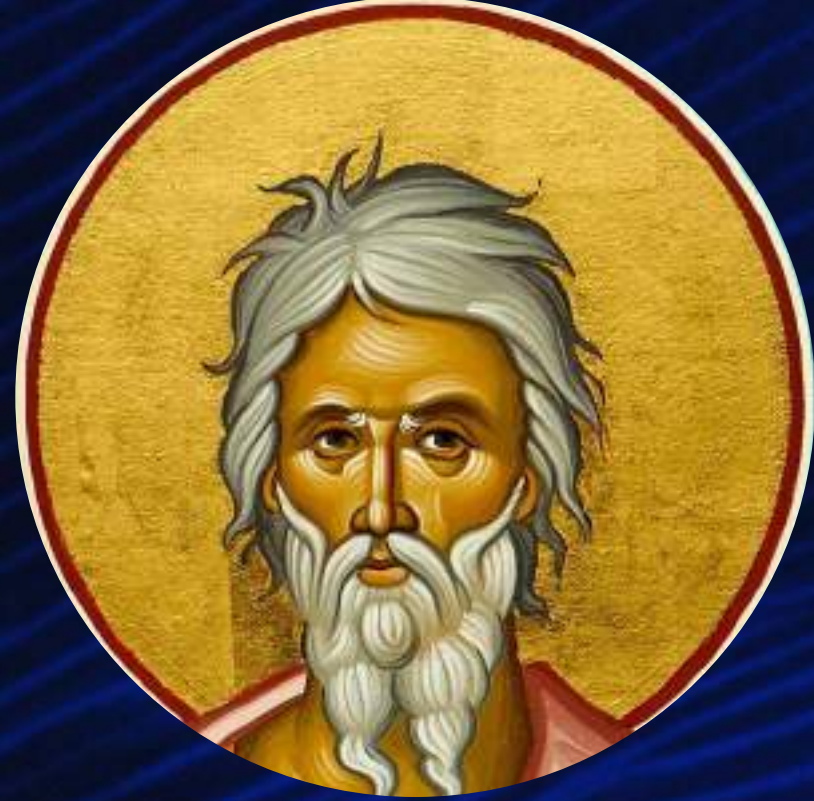
Saw what they *lacked*

What is impossible

Andrew

Saw what they *had*

What might be possible



The world says:
"It's not possible."

Faith says ...

**BRING ...
SOMETHING!**

**BELIEVE ...
SOMEHOW!**

**BLESS ...
SOMEONE!**

Same situation | *Different perspectives*



Philip

Saw what they *lacked*

What is impossible

Andrew

Saw what they *had*

What might be possible

Jesus

Saw what *the boy gave* and what the *people needed*

What faith makes possible

Same situation | *Different perspectives*

Philip

Saw what they *lacked*

What is impossible

Andrew

Saw what they *had*

What might be possible

Jesus

Saw what *the boy gave* and what the *people needed*

What faith makes possible

Where are our eyes focused on?

- *On the problem?*
Or on the people in need?
- *On our shortfalls and failings?*
Or on stirring up our faith?
- *On our lack?*
Or on the Lord?

Philip

Saw what they *lacked*

What is impossible

Andrew

Saw what they *had*

What might be possible

Jesus

Saw what *the boy gave* and what the *people needed*

What faith makes possible

JUST LIKE IN THESE STORIES ...

Jesus turns water into wine

Jesus heals the official's son

Jesus heals the invalid at Bethesda

Jesus feeds the five thousand

Jesus walks on water

Jesus heals the man born blind

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead

ARE OUR EYES ON ...

Our paucity or the provider?

Our hopelessness or the Healer?

Our past or His promise?

Our lack or the Lord?

Our storm or the Saviour?

Our problem or His power?

Our grief or on God?

Where are our eyes focused on?

- *On the problem?*
Or on the people in need?
- *On our shortfalls and failings?*
Or on stirring up our faith?
- *On our lack?*
Or on the Lord?



PRINCIPLE 1

To see God make the impossible *possible*,
we must change our *perspective*.

Will we turn to Jesus,
in whom all things are possible?

**Will we turn to Jesus,
in whom all things are possible?**

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us ...” **EPH 3:20**

“I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.” **PHIL 4:13**

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” **MATT 19:26**

All things have been created through Him and for Him ... For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the Cross. **COL 1:15-20**

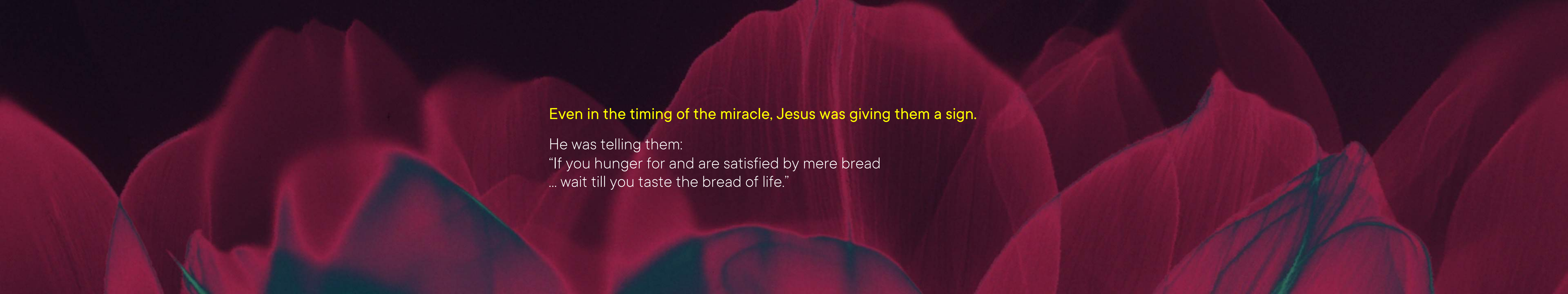
by making peace through His blood, shed on the Cross. [COL 1:15-20](#)

Next weekend we celebrate Good Friday, when Jesus died on the Cross to atone for all our sin, taking the role of the Passover Lamb.

For the feeding of the 5,000, only the account in the Gospel of John makes the connection to the Passover.

- [6:4](#) “The Passover festival was near”
- [6:9](#) “Barley loaves” – barley harvest at start of spring (March/April)
- [6:10](#) “Much green grass” – springtime, nearing the Passover

Even in the timing of the miracle, Jesus was giving them a sign.



Even in the timing of the miracle, Jesus was giving them a sign.

He was telling them:

“If you hunger for and are satisfied by mere bread
... wait till you taste the bread of life.”

John 6

- 26 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill."
- 27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on Him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."
- 28 They asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"
- 29 Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one He has sent."

John 6

30 So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?"

31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

32 Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

33 For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

34 "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

John 6

35 Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

40 ... For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.

47 ... Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life.

48 I am the bread of life. 50 Here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die.

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

THE FIRST OF 7 “I AM” STATEMENTS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

- **JOHN 6:35** *“I am the Bread of Life”*
- JOHN 8:12 “I am the Light of the World”
- JOHN 10:7 “I am the Gate/Door for the Sheep”
- JOHN 10:14 “I am the Good Shepherd”
- JOHN 11:25 “I am the Resurrection and the Life”
- JOHN 14:6 “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life”
- JOHN 15:5 “I am the True Vine”

Egō eimi (Greek) means I AM.

Exodus 3:14

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”;
and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

THE FIRST OF 7 “I AM” STATEMENTS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

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Through the signs, Jesus paved the way to reveal His divine identity.

The signs are not the *point*. They are there to *point* to the Saviour.

These are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God
and that by believing you may have life in His name.

JOHN 20:31

PRINCIPLE 1

To see God make the impossible *possible*,
we must change our *perspective*.

Will we turn to Jesus?

PRINCIPLE 2

When we see God make the impossible *possible*,
we must consider our *response*.

Will we trust in Jesus?

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**And if you're wondering,
how can I find the faith to trust Him?**

... Fixing our eyes on Jesus,
the author and perfecter of our faith..

HEBREWS 12:2

In other translations:

Founder • Finisher • Champion • Source of our faith



IMPOSSIBLE STORY #1

PRINCIPLE 1

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PRINCIPLE 2

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Will we trust in Jesus?

H and *N* had been married for about five years, when *H* encountered Jesus through a friend.

He shared the Gospel with *N*, his beloved wife.

“You can follow the Christian religion, but I will remain (in our old religion)”, she told him.

They loved each other deeply, even while walking different spiritual paths.

He would occasionally share the faith, but she always said no.

PRINCIPLE 1

To see God make the impossible ***possible***, we must change our ***perspective***.

Will we turn to Jesus?

PRINCIPLE 2

When we see God make the impossible ***possible***, we must consider our ***response***.

Will we trust in Jesus?

A few years into their marriage, *N* became pregnant.

Eight months in, *N* suddenly began to bleed.

They rushed to the doctor. The diagnosis was *placenta previa*, a serious condition where the placenta covers the cervix.

The doctor gave strict instructions: Complete bed rest. She even had to wear diapers so she did not have to get up.

It was humiliating. Exhausting. Painful.

Then one night, everything changed.

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Will we turn to Jesus?

PRINCIPLE 2

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Will we trust in Jesus?

N had a dream.

In the dream, she saw a man dressed in a white robe. His presence was calm, strong, and full of compassion.

He spoke gently: “Your baby is going to be alright. I will help. You should name her *Gia*.”

She woke up. Later, they discovered the meaning of the name: “God, the Most Compassionate”, or “God, the Gracious”.

They had known a *god* all their life, but did not know Him as a *god of compassion and grace*.

PRINCIPLE 1

To see God make the impossible ***possible***, we must change our ***perspective***.

Will we turn to Jesus?

PRINCIPLE 2

When we see God make the impossible ***possible***, we must consider our ***response***.

Will we trust in Jesus?

As the day of delivery approached,
N's body was weak and her heart trembled.
When labour pains began, they rushed to the emergency room.

The situation was critical. Knowing her condition, the doctors
prepared five bags of blood for emergency transfusions.

In that desperate moment, N prayed a simple prayer.

"God, if You help me and my baby ... I will believe in Jesus."

PRINCIPLE 1

To see God make the impossible **possible**,
we must change our **perspective**.

Will we turn to Jesus?

PRINCIPLE 2

When we see God make the impossible **possible**,
we must consider our **response**.

Will we trust in Jesus?

N felt ... peace.

A deep, unexplainable calm filled her heart.
Her fears disappeared.

The doctors waited for the bleeding to begin, but it never came.
There was minimal blood loss. The bags of blood were not used.

The medical team was shocked. They asked:
“What have you been eating? What have you been doing?”

They could not explain it medically.

But N knew. God had heard her prayer.

PRINCIPLE 1

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Will we turn to Jesus?

PRINCIPLE 2

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Will we trust in Jesus?

Baby Gia was born with no issues.

From that moment, *N* surrendered her life to Jesus.
The One she once rejected became the Saviour she trusted.

Since then, she has followed Jesus with all her heart.
Her daughter, Gia, whose birth seemed impossible, is now
two years old, a living reminder of God's love and faithfulness.

Today, *H* and *N* serve Jesus together. As a family, they carry
a calling: to bring the good news of Jesus to their people.

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IMPOSSIBLE STORY #2

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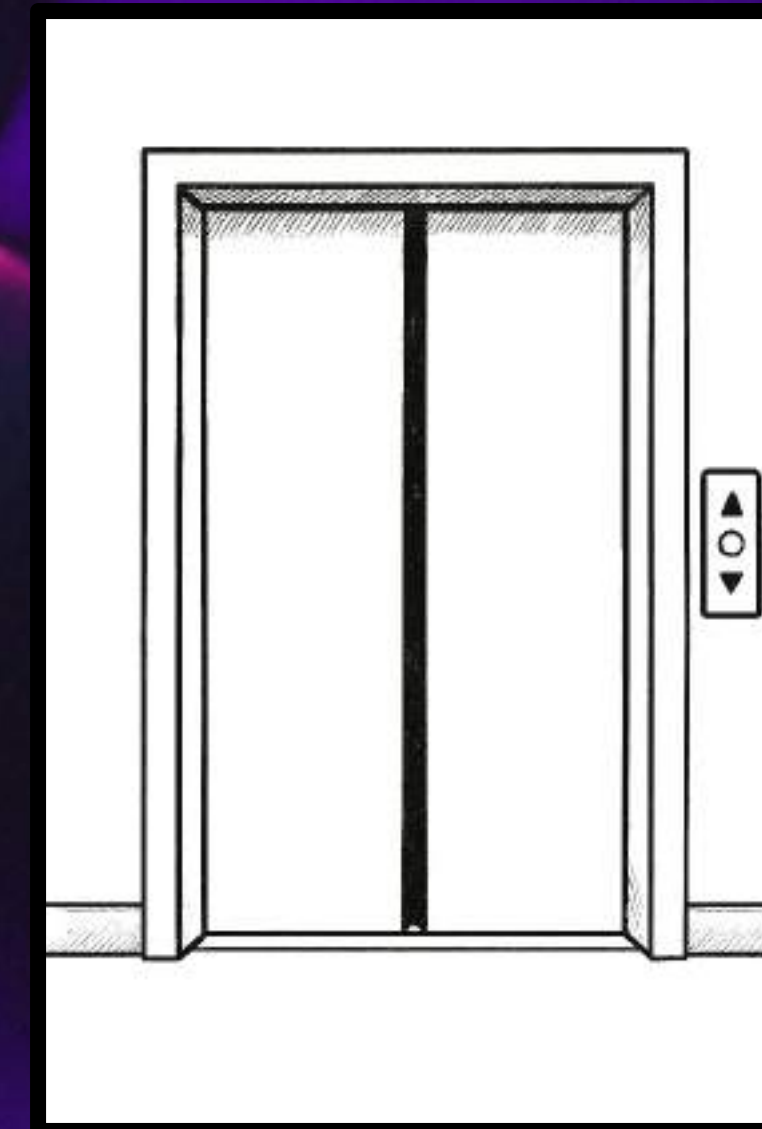
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PRINCIPLE 1

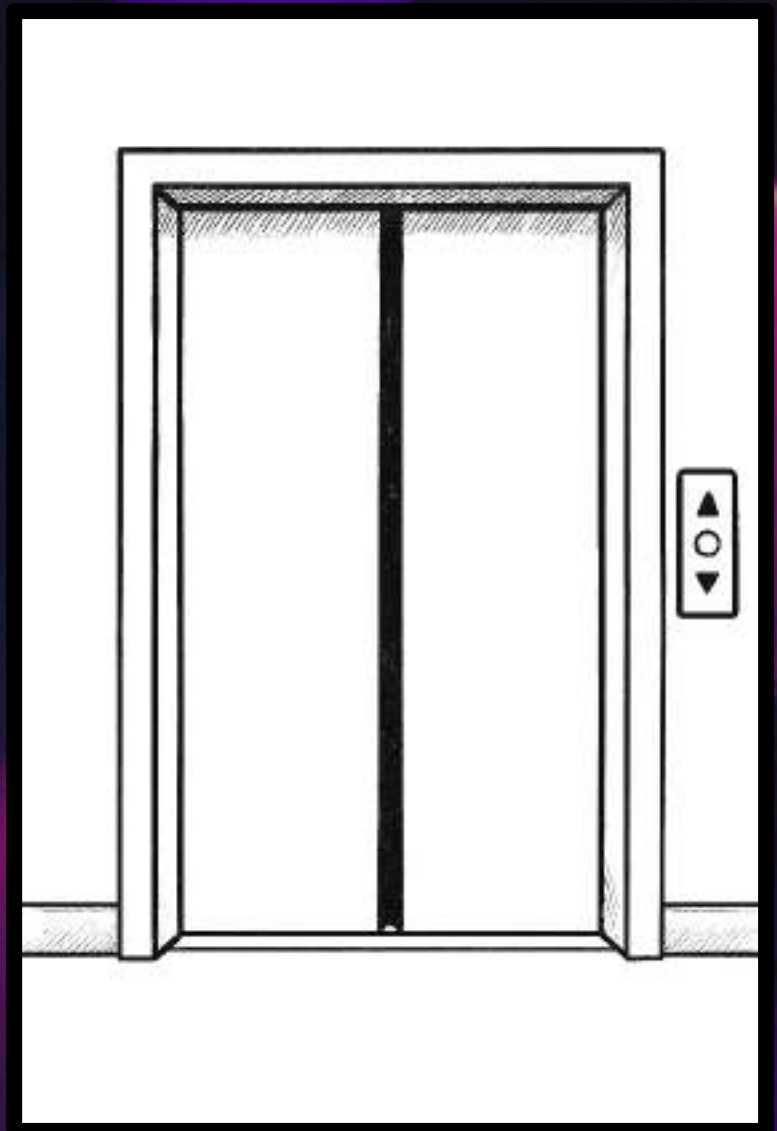
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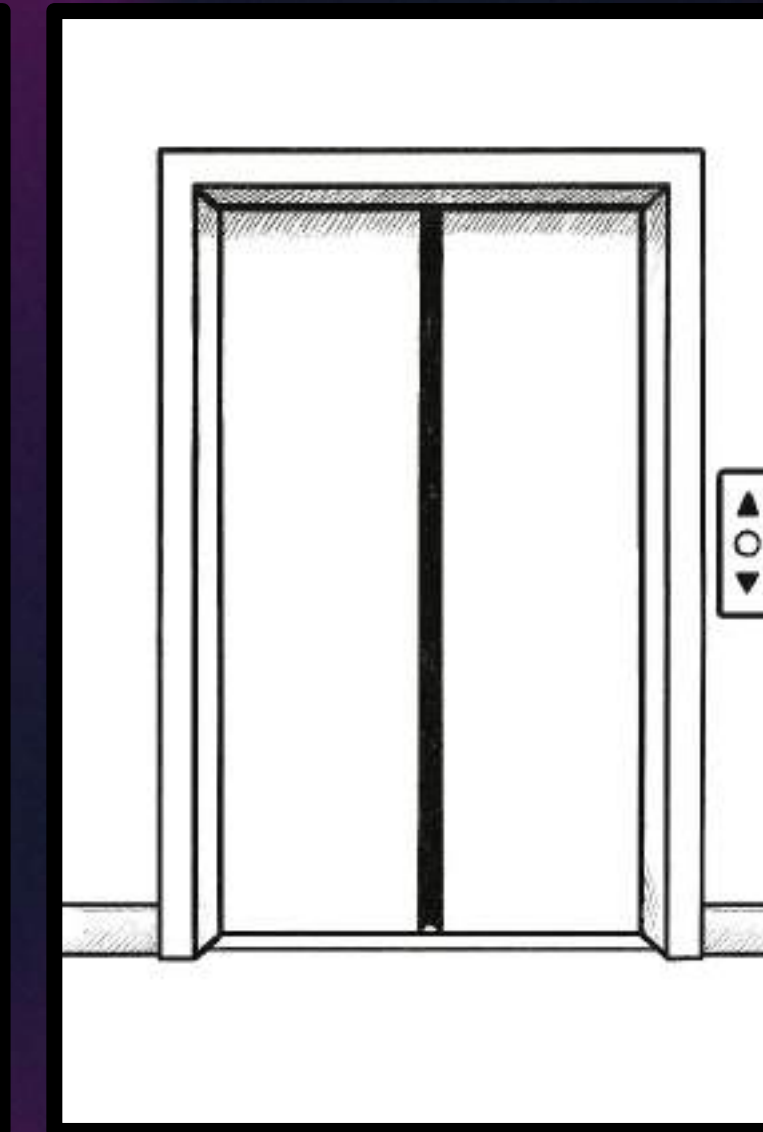
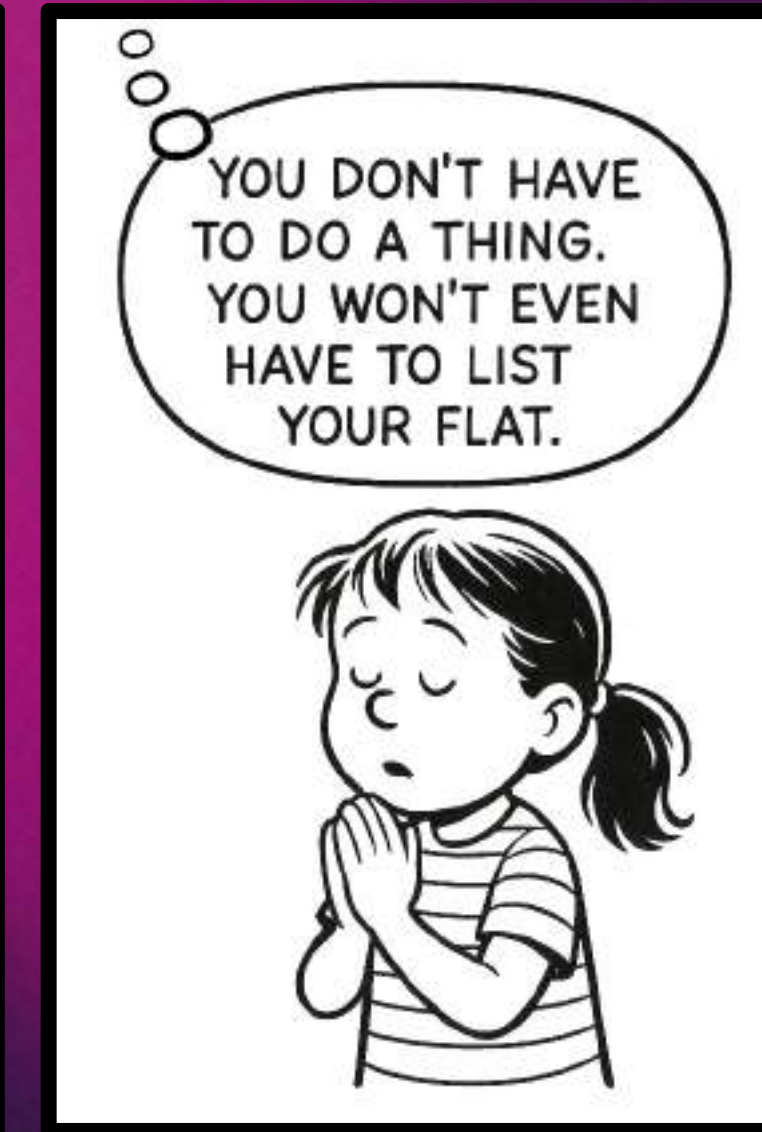
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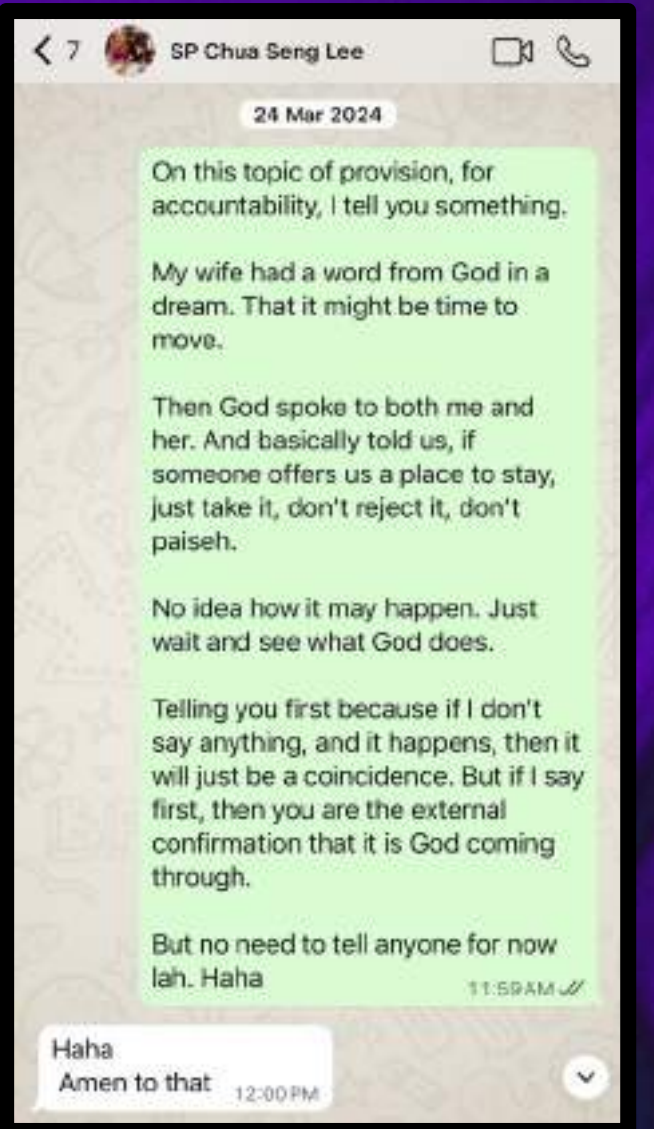
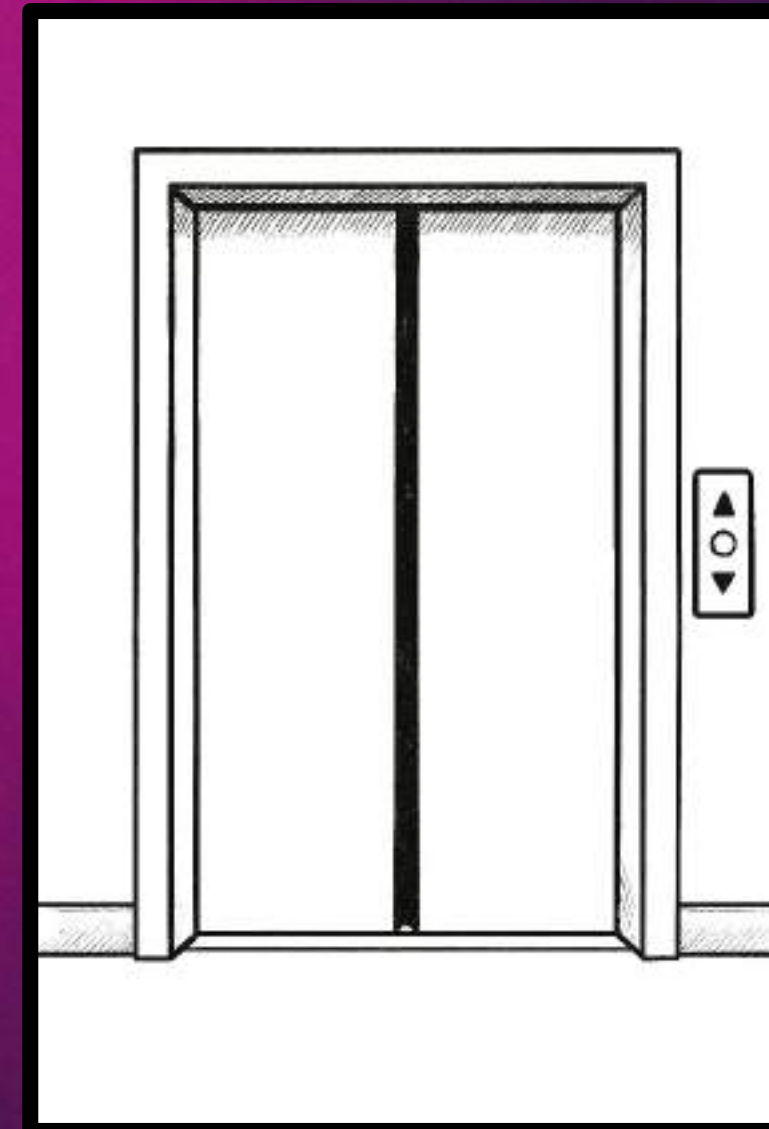
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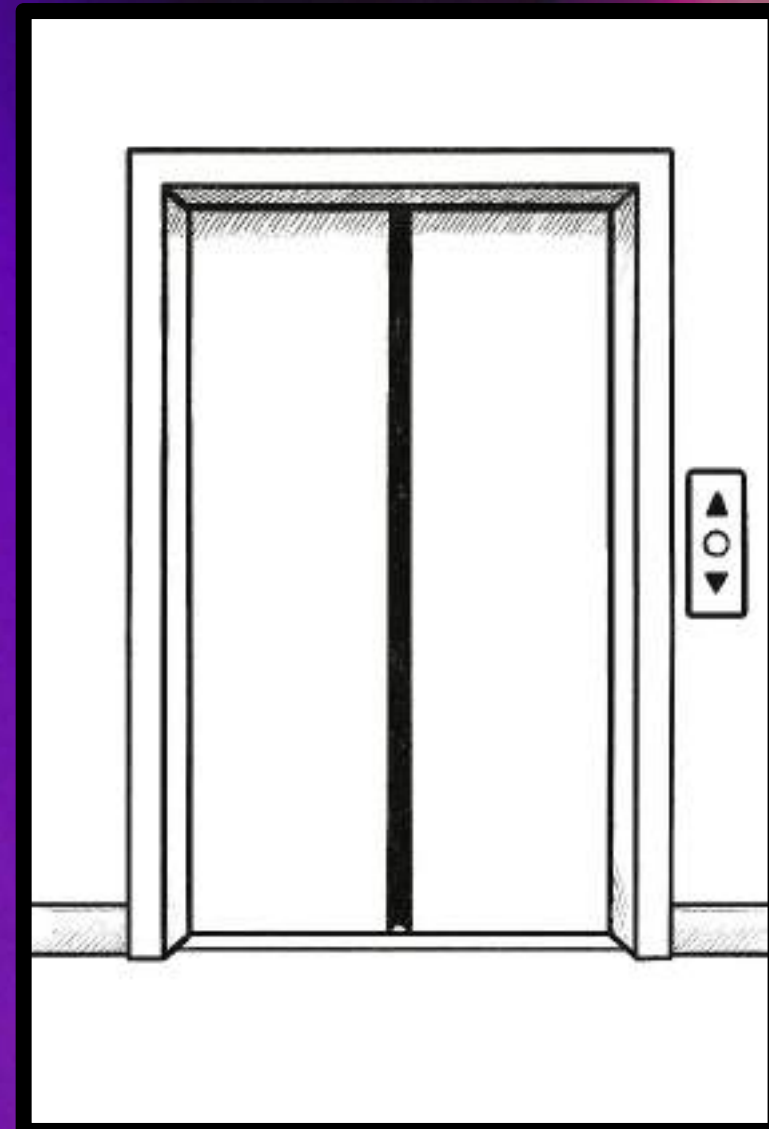
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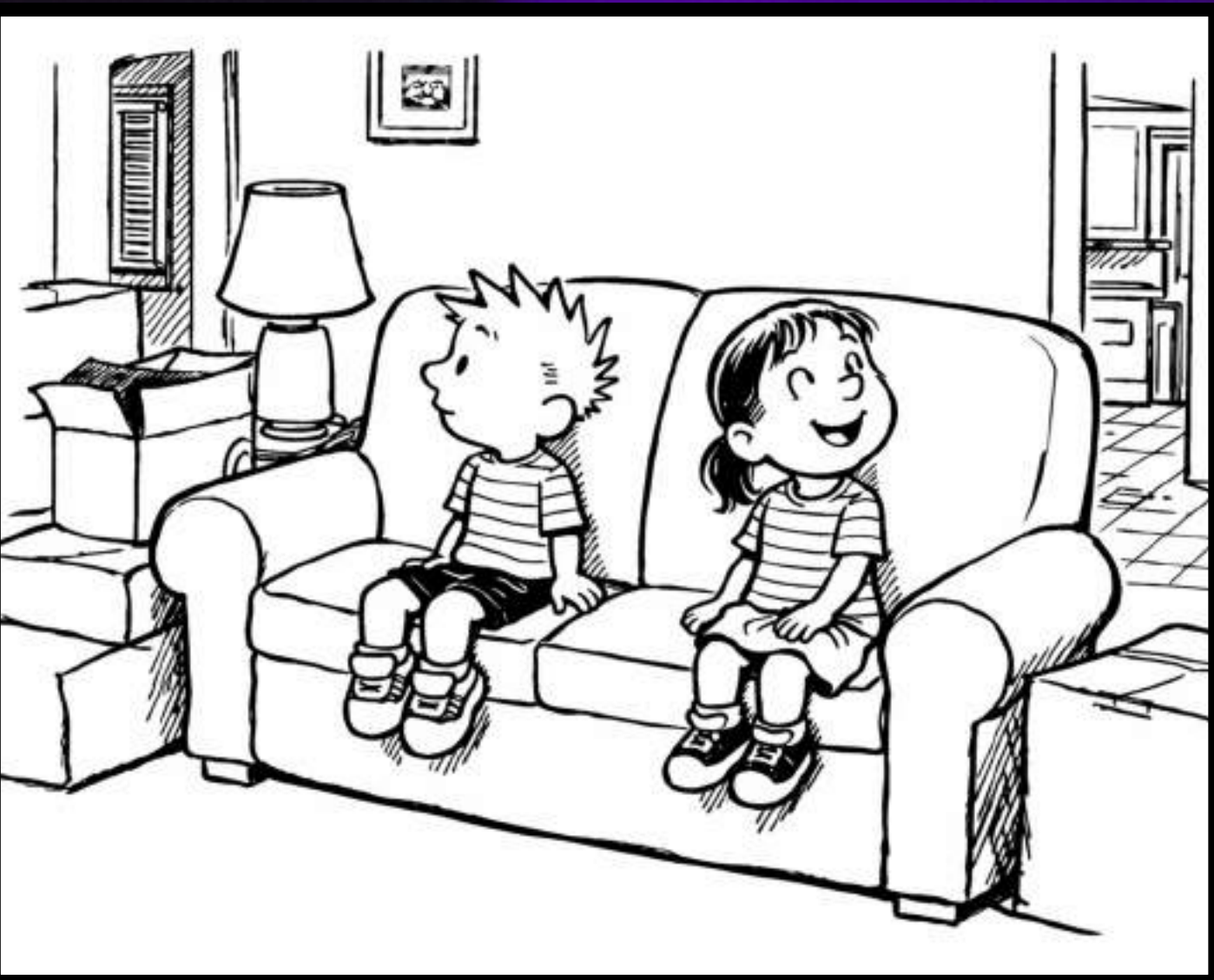
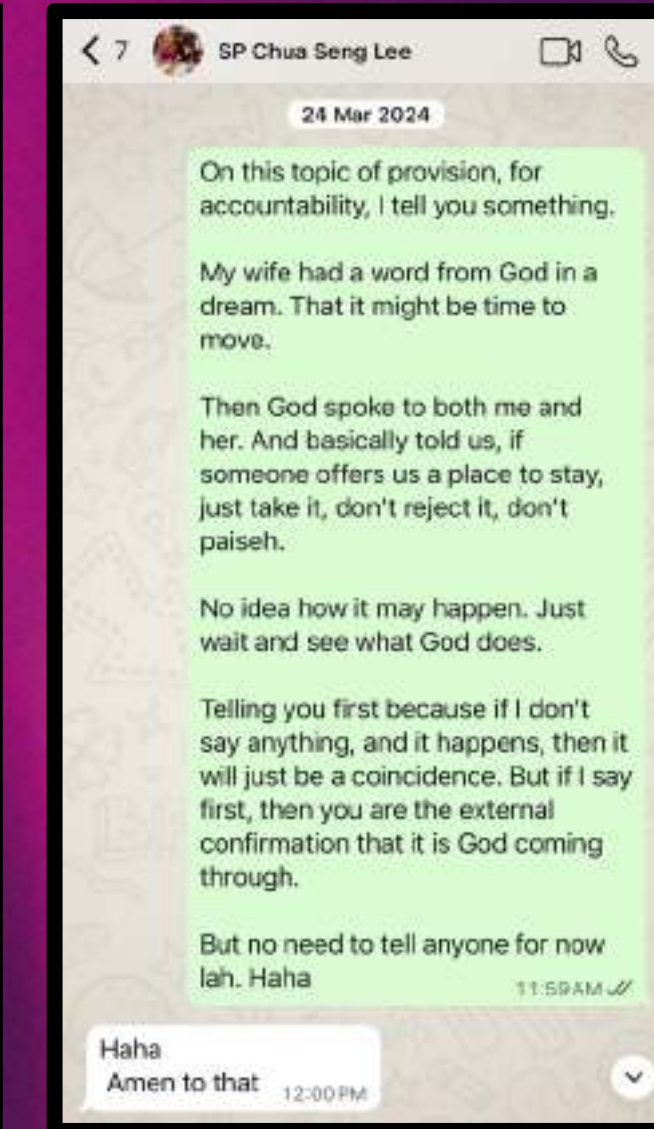
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Will we trust in Jesus?

PRINCIPLE 1

PRINCIPLE 2



PRINCIPLE 1

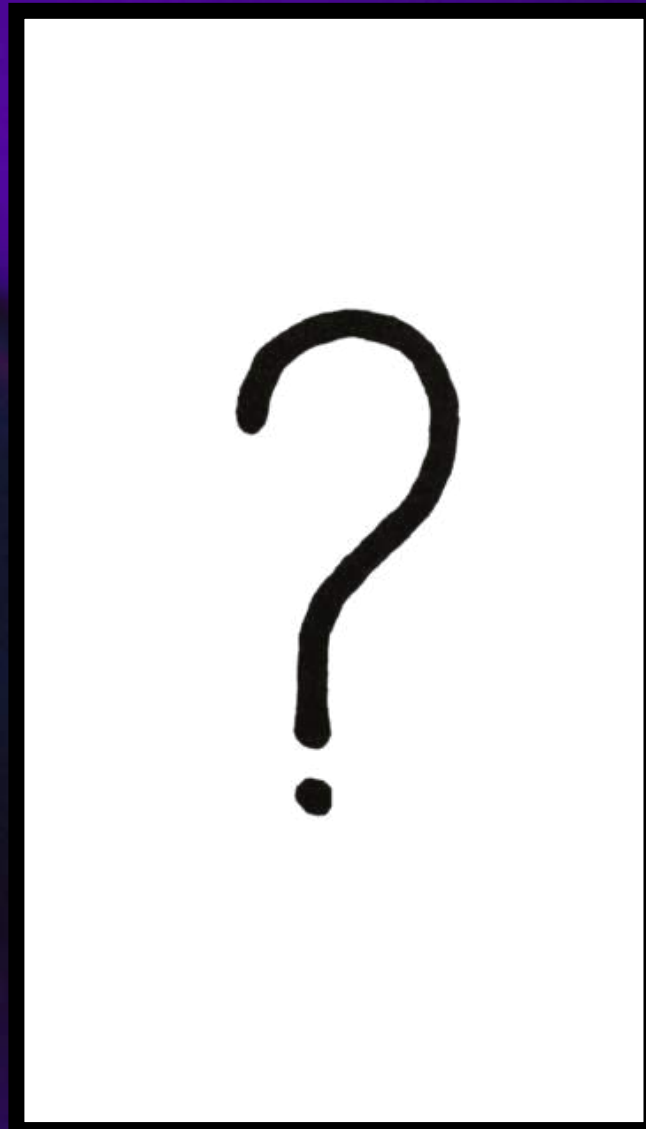
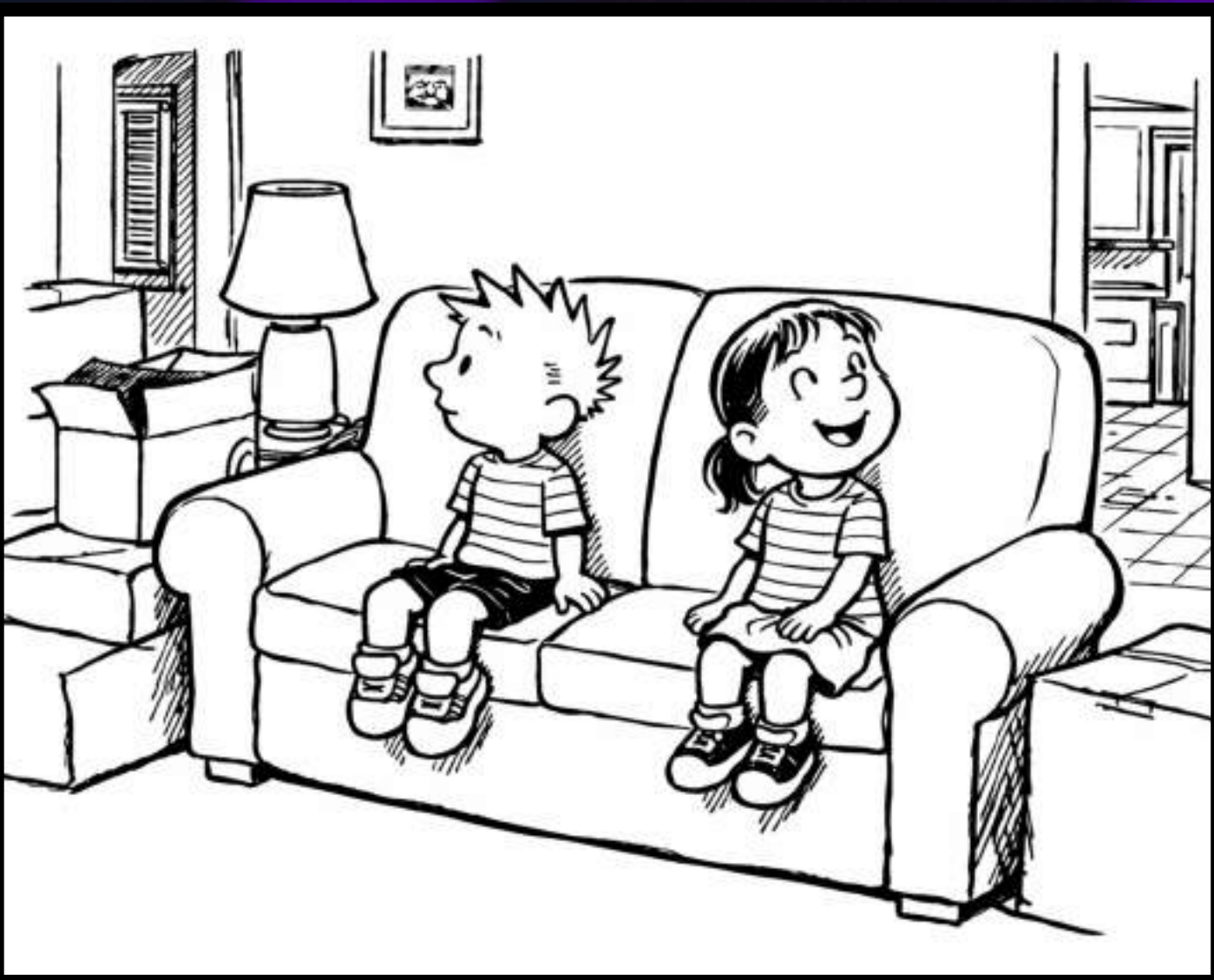
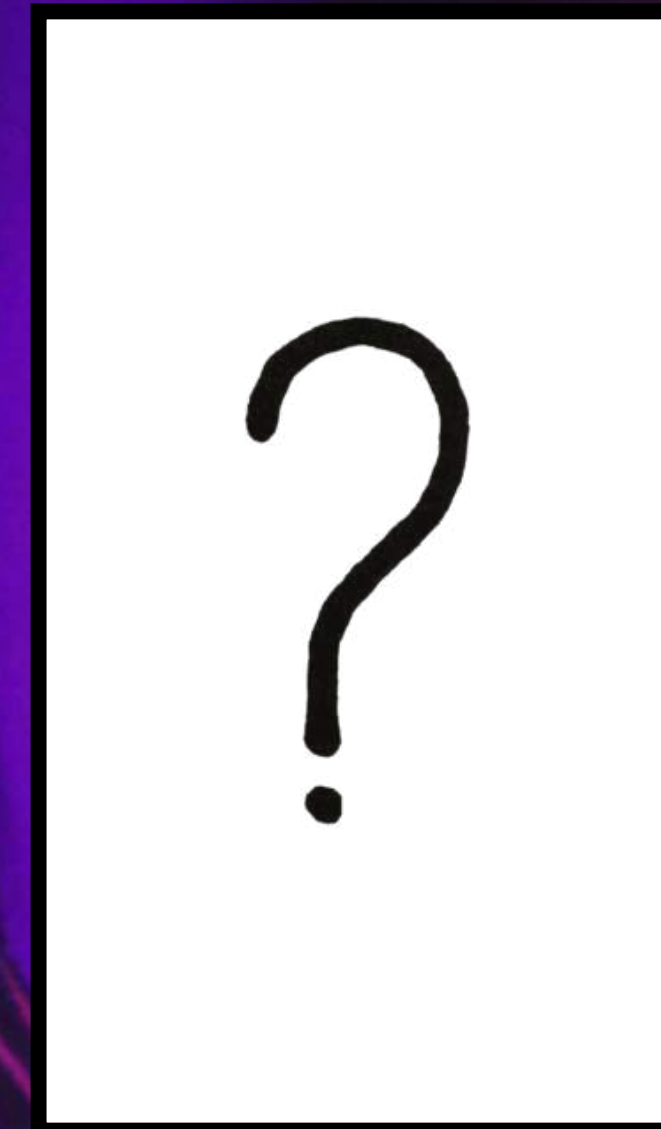
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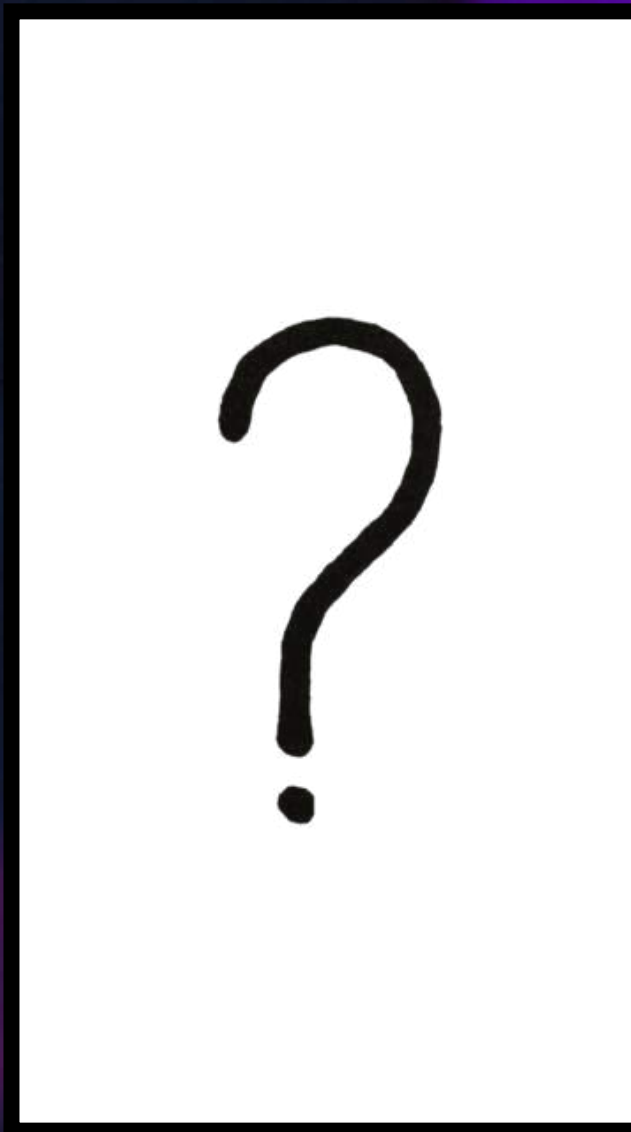
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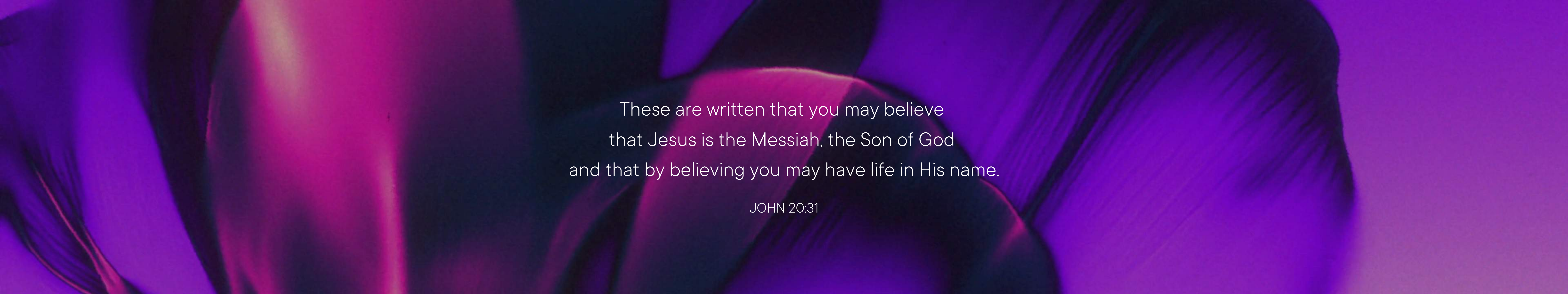
I don't know what God is going to do next in this housing journey.

What I do know is:
With God, nothing is impossible!

What about you?
What is that *impossible* obstacle in your life?

Will you turn to Jesus?

Will you trust in Jesus?



These are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God
and that by believing you may have life in His name.

JOHN 20:31