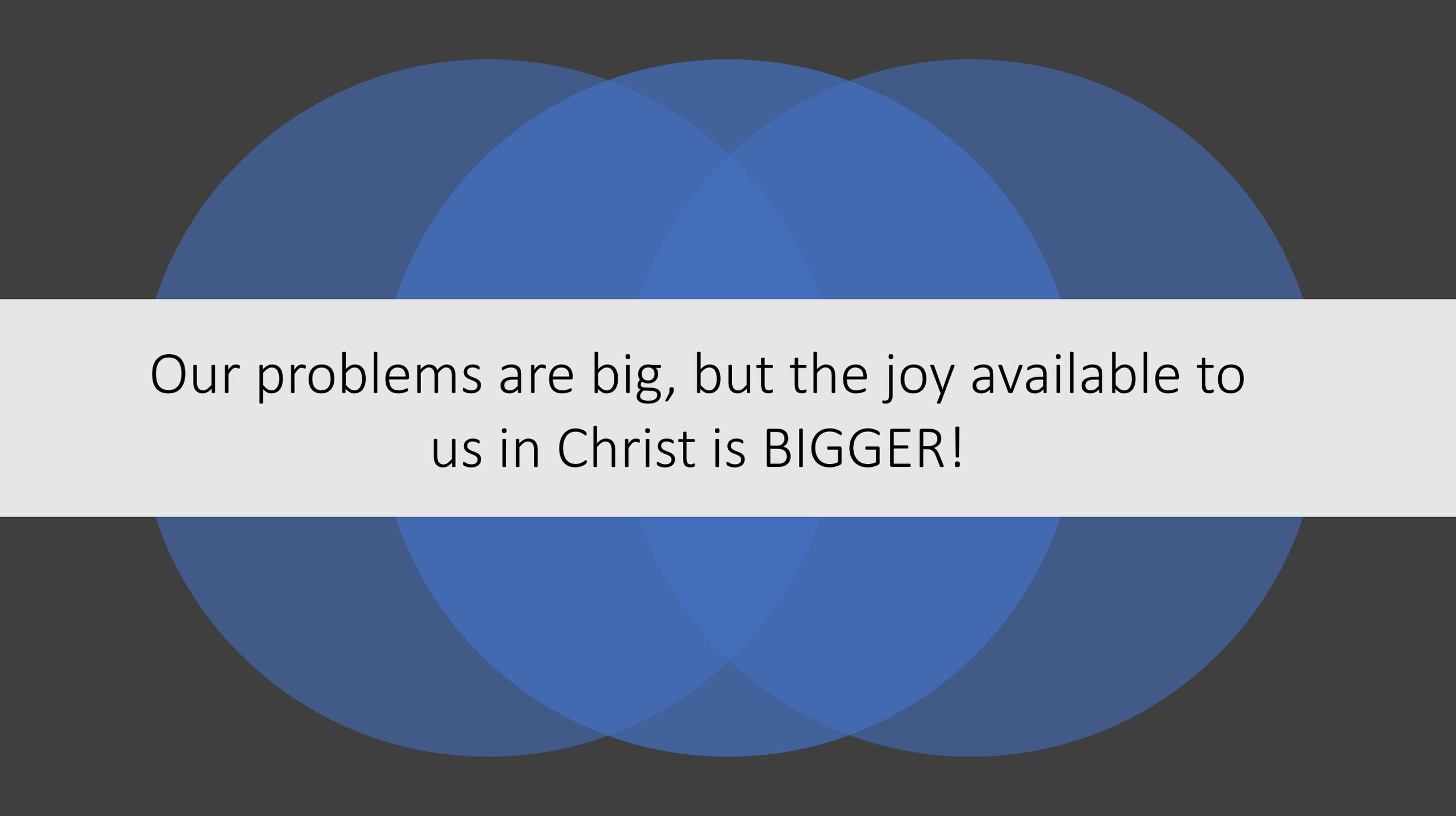


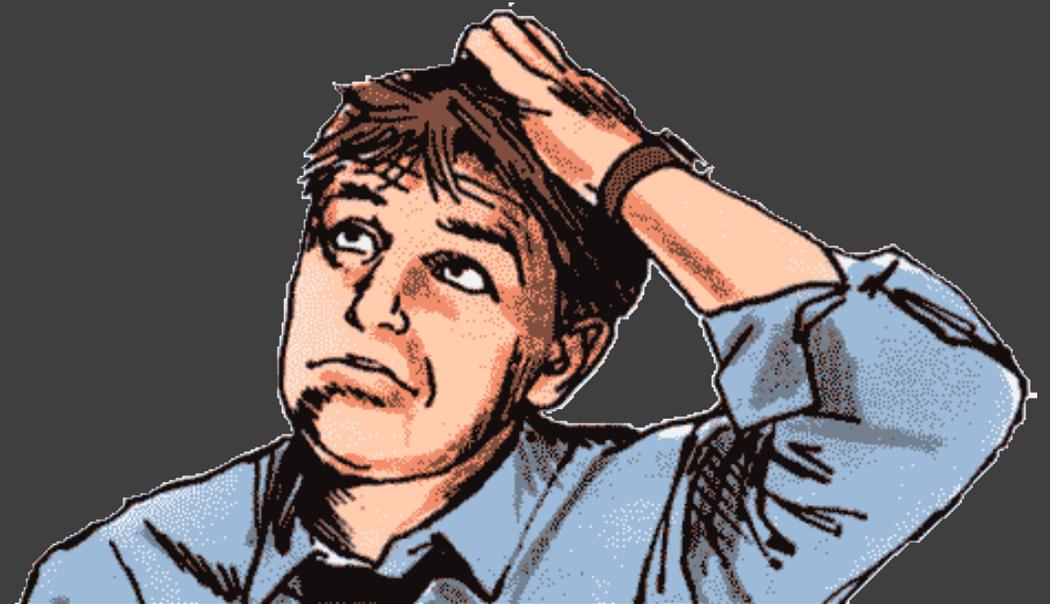
Joy Even
When



Our problems are big, but the joy available to
us in Christ is BIGGER!

Discouragement: a loss of confidence, enthusiasm, a state of dispiritedness.

What about
Spiritual Discouragement?



“Spiritual discouragement comes from sustained experiences of fear, fatigue, failure and futility. In the Christian community, spiritual discouragement is experienced by everyone and talked about by almost no one.”

-Rick Warren



How do you overcome Spiritual
Discouragement?

Today...

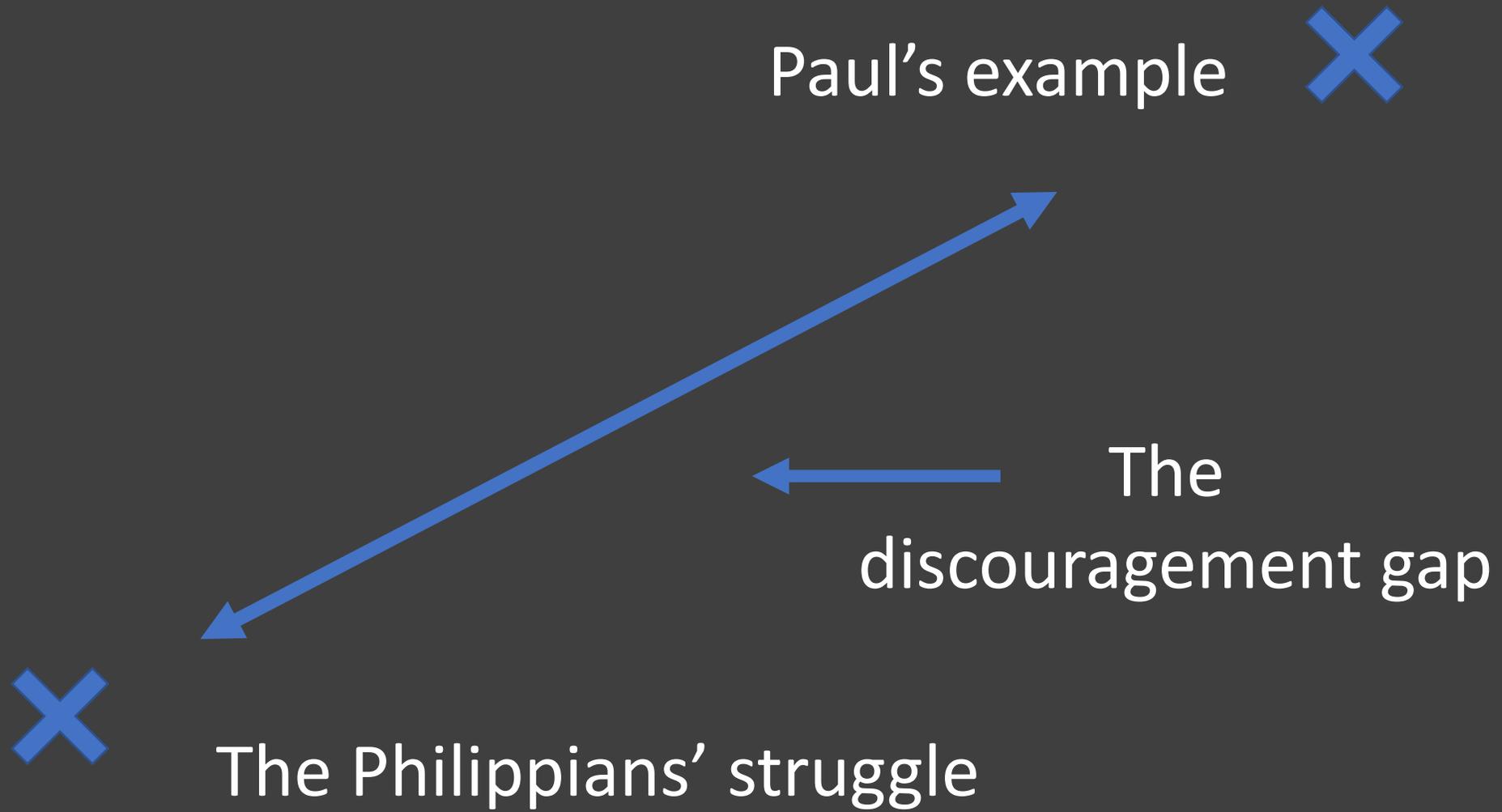
Joy even when you are
Spiritually Discouraged

Good News...

Because of the Gospel, our disappointments can be fuel for fresh encounters with the living Christ.

But what ever was my profit I now consider loss for the sake of knowing Christ...to know Christ... to gain Christ, to be found in him. Not having a righteousness that comes through law, but righteousness that comes from God through faith. I want to know the power of His resurrection, the fellowship in sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, and somehow attain the resurrection from the dead.

-Phil. 3: 7-11

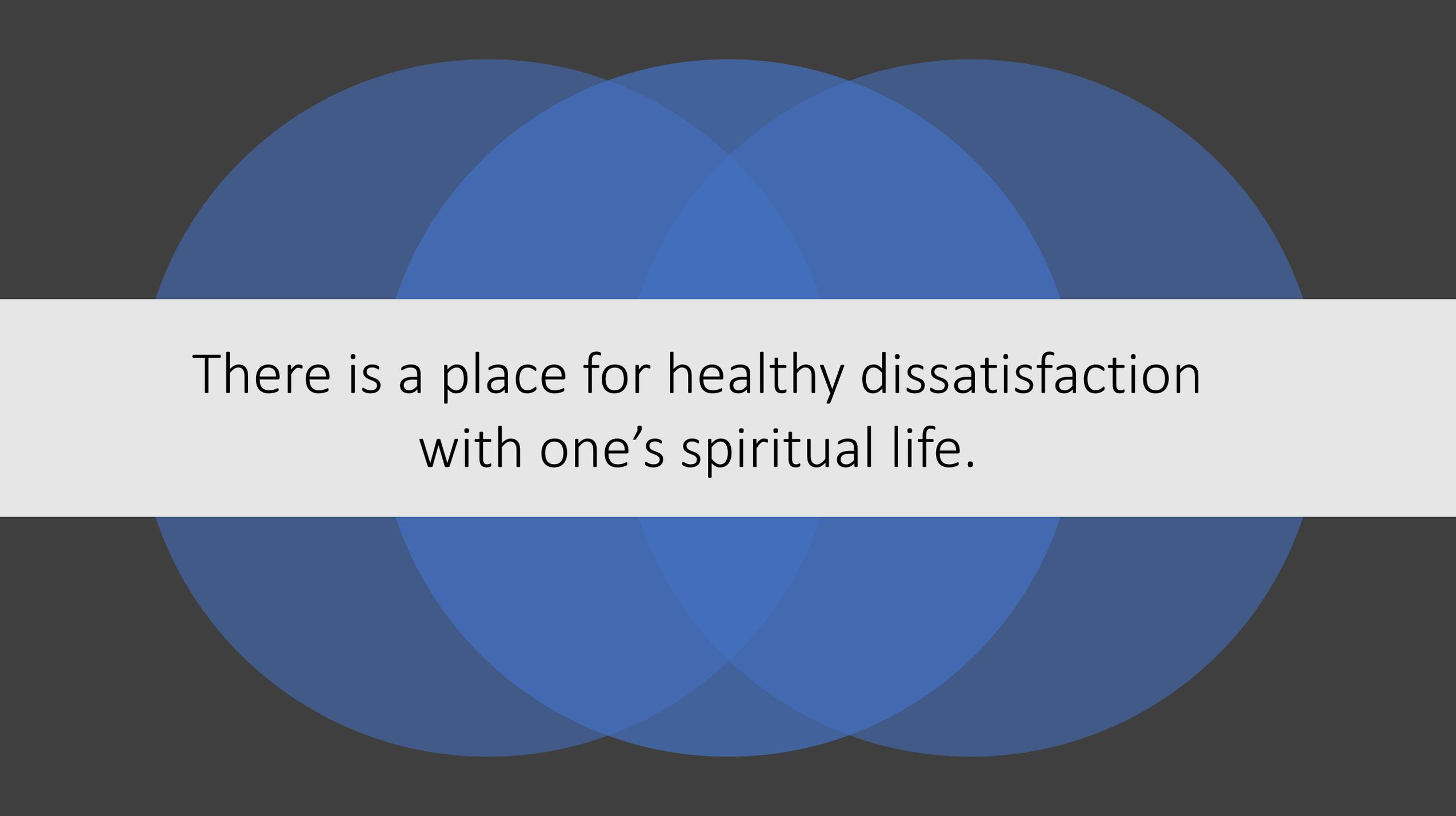




How do you overcome
Spiritual Discouragement?

“Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,”

-Phil. 3: 12-13a

The image features a dark gray background with a decorative pattern of overlapping, semi-transparent blue circles. A horizontal white band is centered across the image, containing the text. The text is in a clean, black, sans-serif font.

There is a place for healthy dissatisfaction
with one's spiritual life.



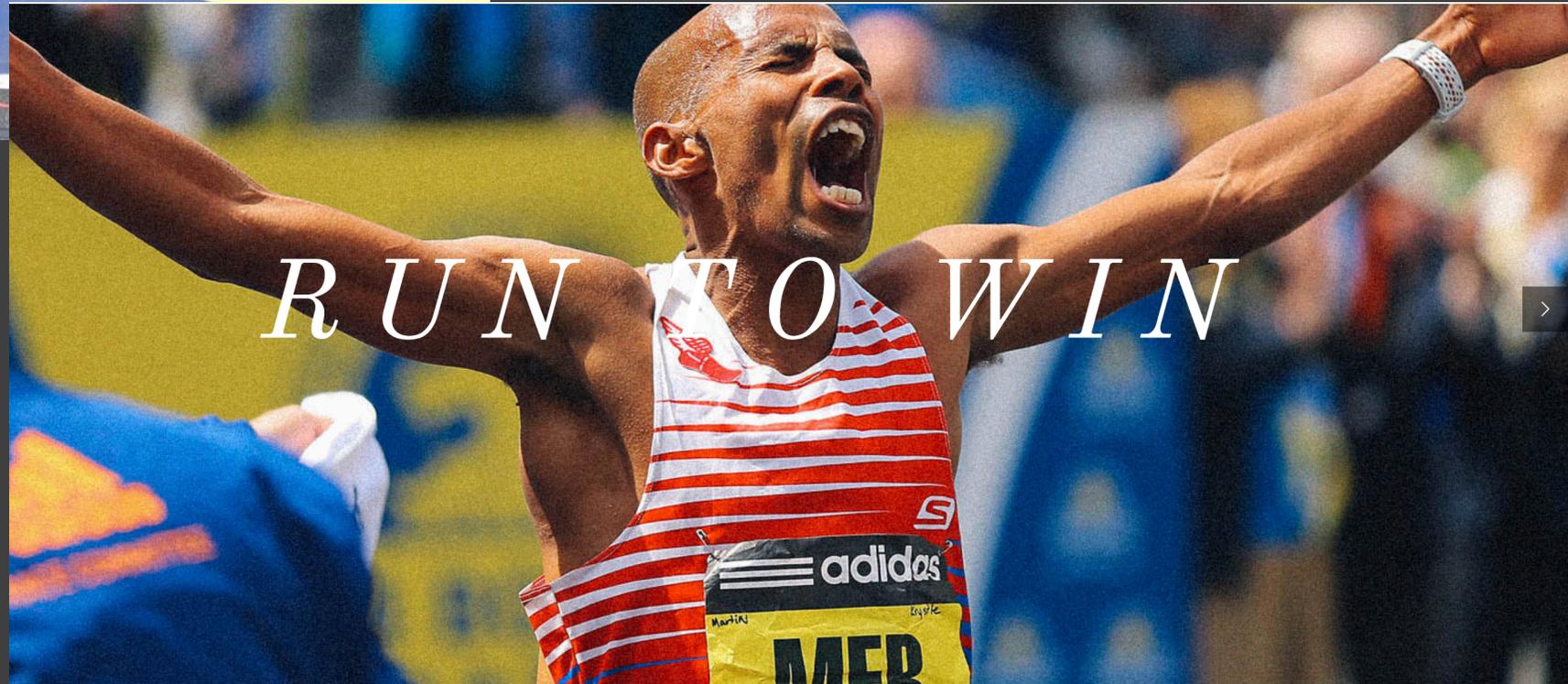
I **press on** to take hold of that which Christ took hold of me.... Forgetting what is behind and **straining toward** what is ahead.

vs. 12-13

The image features a dark gray background with a decorative pattern of overlapping blue circles. A horizontal white band runs across the middle of the image, containing the text. The circles are arranged in a row, overlapping each other, and are split horizontally by the white band. The text is centered within the white band.

Pray for a great passion to pursue Christ.

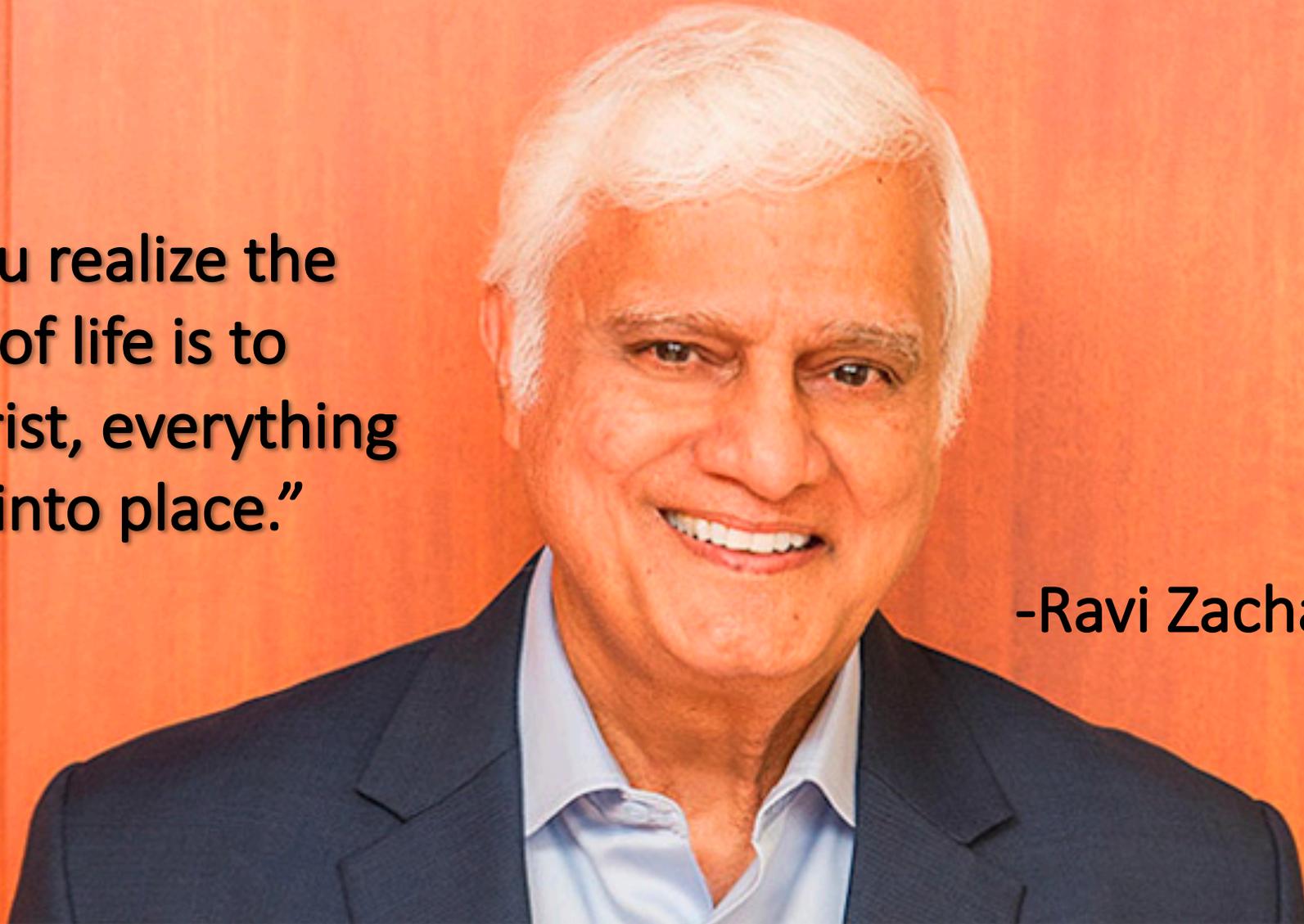
‘One of the great tragedies of the modern Christian area is that so much is put on the initial act of ‘accepting Christ’ that the ongoing joyful pursuit of him thereafter is often ignored.’



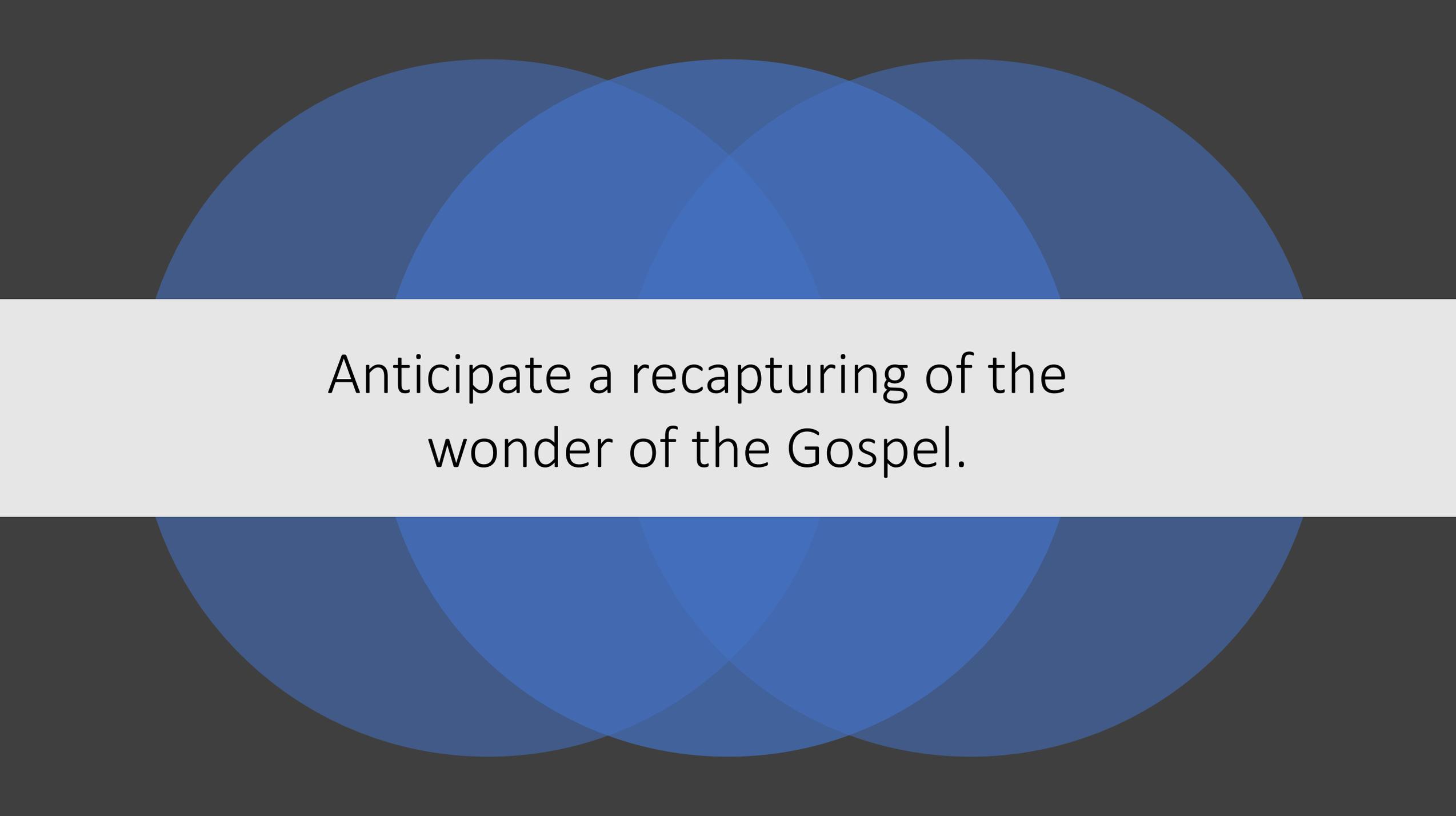
RUN TO WIN

“Once you realize the meaning of life is to know Christ, everything else falls into place.”

-Ravi Zacharias



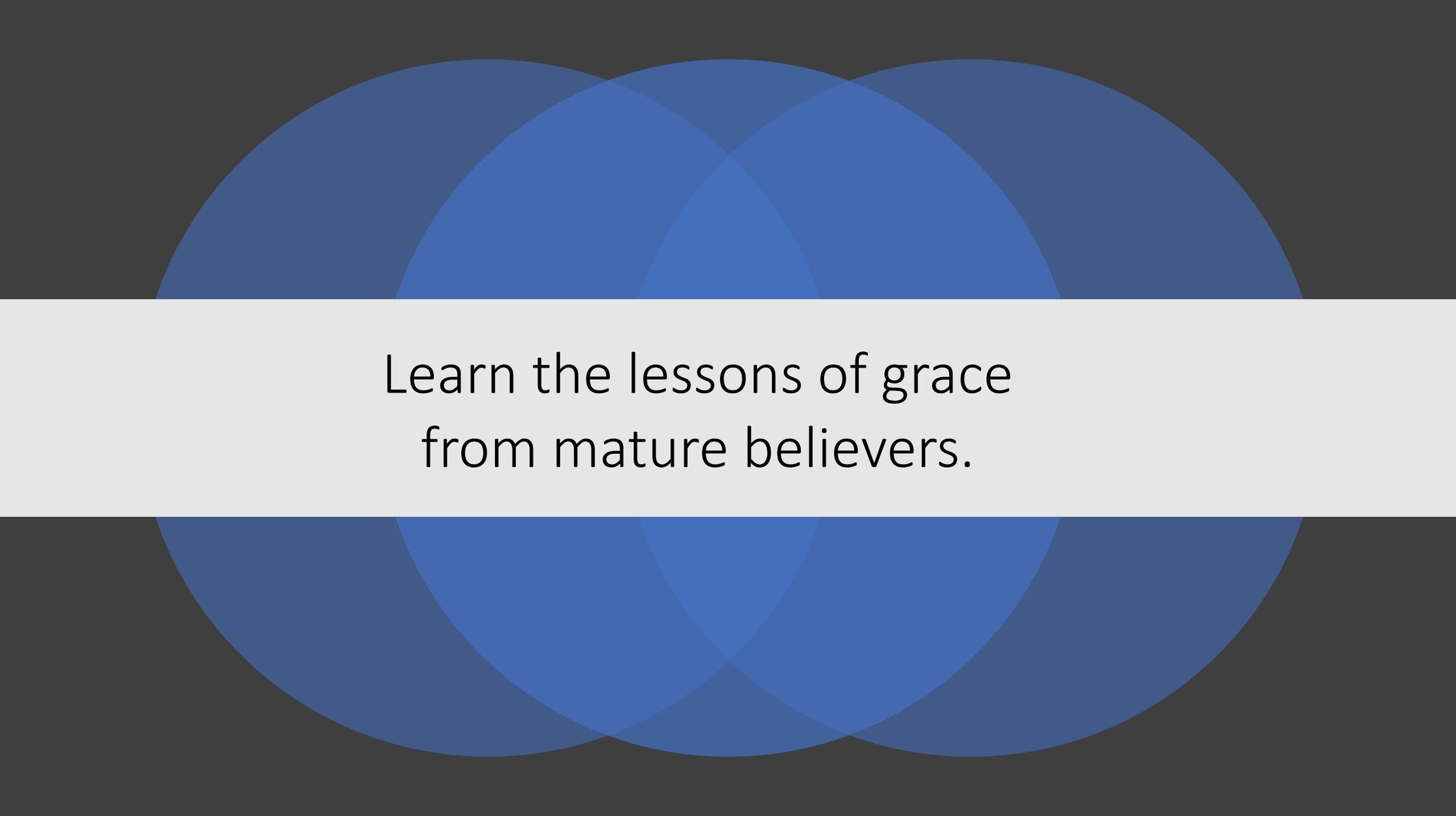
I press on to take hold of that which Christ took hold of me.... Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead.



Anticipate a recapturing of the
wonder of the Gospel.

To KNOW Christ -To GAIN Christ –
to be FOUND in Christ!





Learn the lessons of grace
from mature believers.

“All of us who are **mature** should take such a view...join with others in following my **example**.”

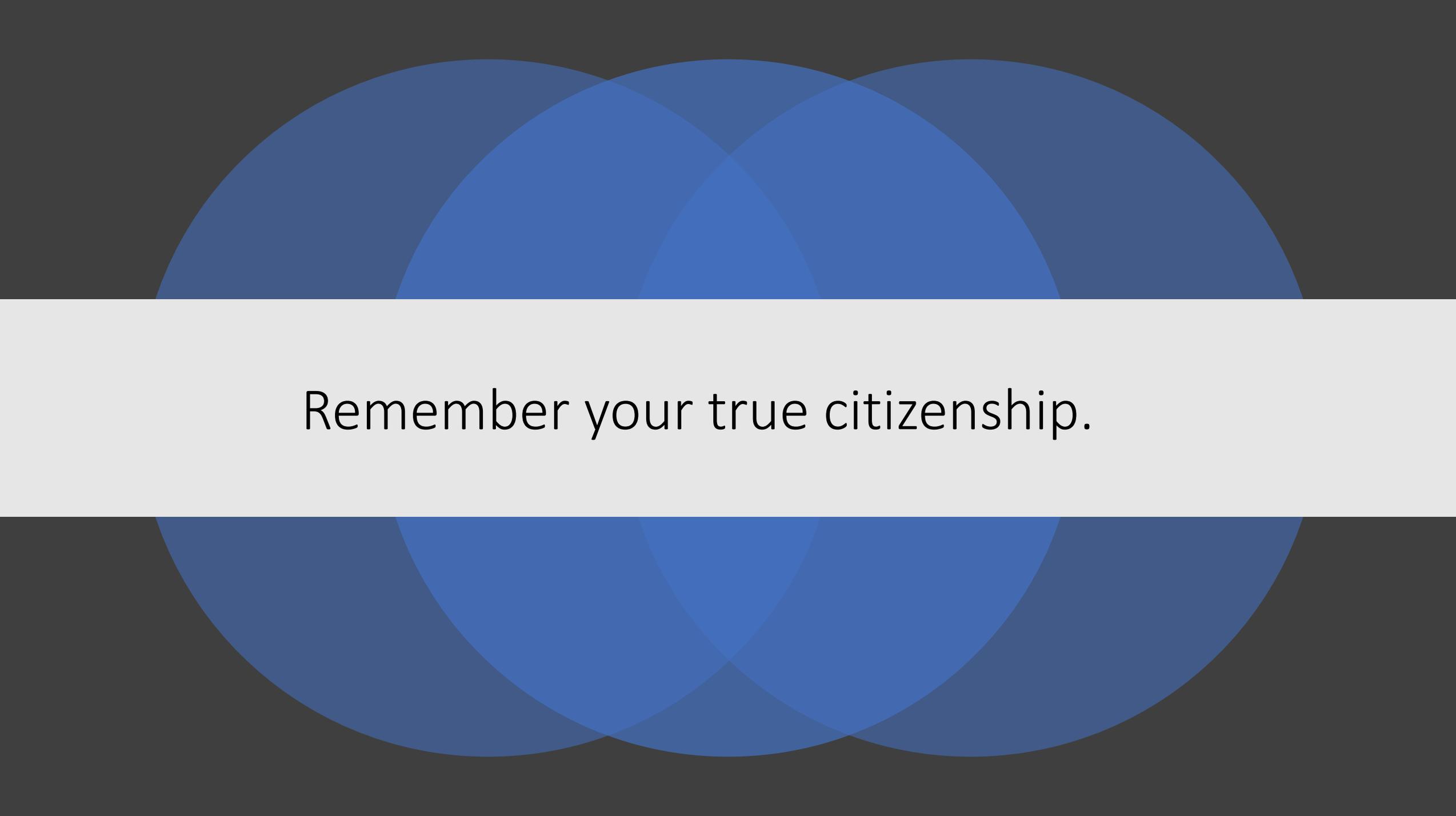
-Phil. 3:15;17



Don Bubna

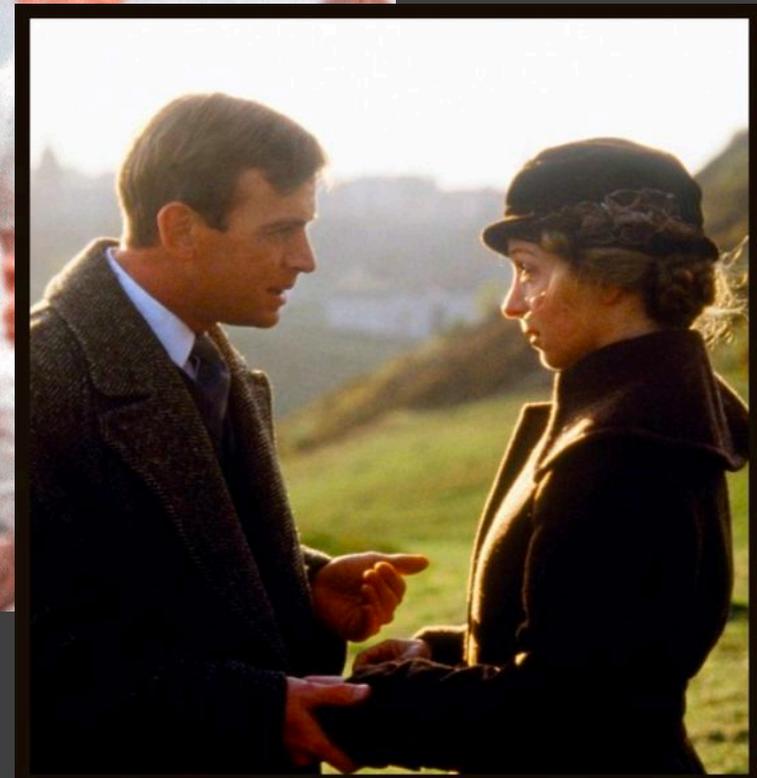
“But our **citizenship** is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will **transform** our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.”

Phil. 3: 20-21



Remember your true citizenship.





“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Heb. 12:1-2