



Welcome to Se'lah!

סלה

It's good you're here. We're glad you're here.
Sit down, relax, rest make yourself at home,
play a game, grab a drink, meet someone new,
Come in and start to breathe a little slower.
This is the house of God and the gate of Heaven. (Gen. 28)



Come and See...

-Jesus

Figuring out what *Living life with
God in this world* is all about.



Invitatory:

God is here in this place.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Loving Lord bless this place, bless this time.
Let your love be here *fill it with your peace*
Let your joy be here, *fill it with your hope.*
Let your light be here, *fill it with your power*
Let us know you are here, *fill us with your presence.*





CIRCLE US LORD, *KEEP EVIL OUT KEEP PEACE WITHIN*

CIRCLE US LORD, *KEEP DARKNESS OUT KEEP LIGHT WITHIN.*

CIRCLE US LORD, *KEEP THE STORMS OUT, KEEP CALM WITHIN*

CIRCLE US LORD, *KEEP FEAR OUT, KEEP FAITH WITHIN*

CIRCLE US LORD, *KEEP DOUBT OUT, KEEP HOPE WITHIN*

CIRCLE US LORD, *KEEP DISTRACTION OUT, KEEP ATTENTION WITHIN*

WE BELIEVE LIVING GOD, YOU ARE HERE IN US AND AMONG US. WE

BELIEVE YOU ARE PRESENT AND YOUR PRESENCE ENCIRCLES US.

**Open your mouth and taste,
open your eyes and see—
how good GOD is.
Blessed are you who run to him
·Psalm 34:8**



Right here, right now: Step out of the traffic.
Leave it outside. Leave the busyness. Leave the work.
Leave the distractions. Leave the worries. Step away from it.
Step into the awareness of the CIRCLE that always surrounds you

Step out of the traffic.

Step into this place.

Step out of the traffic

Step into this holy pause.

Step out of the traffic.



For the next two hours nothing else matters but you and God and us here
together remembering what life is really all about.

So, take this holy pause.
Close your eyes again and breathe deeply.
For the next two hours, everything – everything is ok.



Step out of the traffic, stop doing, stop moving, stop trying.
Just **BE STILL** and **KNOW GOD IS HERE**.
Just be still and know **GOD...**



THE LIGHTING
OF THE
CANDLES

The Phos Hilaron: *one of the earliest surviving Christian hymns,*



O' joyous light, pure
brightness of the ever
living father in heaven, O
Jesus christ holy and
blessed: Now as we come
to the setting of the sun
and our eyes behold the
vesper light, we sing your
praises O God, father, son
and holy spirit: you are
worthy at all times to be
praised by happy voices, O'
son of God, O' giver of life
and to be glorified
through all the worlds:

Praying with our friend, Francis of Assisi

A photograph of two young girls in red shirts and shorts playing on a grassy field. The girl on the left is wearing a red shirt and dark shorts, and the girl on the right is wearing a red shirt and light blue shorts. They are both barefoot and appear to be in the middle of a game or activity. The background is a bright, sunny outdoor setting with a grassy field and a building in the distance.

We are a thankful people.

Thankful for the food waiting for us

Thankful for the hands that prepared it.

Thankful for this time and place.

Thankful for each other.

LET'S

Eat

The Searching



“I got it on eBay.”

those who seek me diligently find me.

Proverbs 8:17

The background of the image is a reproduction of Michelangelo's famous fresco, "The Creation of Adam." It depicts the hand of God on the right, reaching towards the hand of Adam on the left. The two hands are positioned just inches apart, creating a sense of tension and divine spark. The background is a light, aged, and cracked surface, typical of the original fresco.

The Holy One, our God, is in our midst.
Come let us seek Him

"So long as we imagine it is we who have
To look for God, we must often lose heart.
But it is the other way about –
He is looking for us."

-Simon Tugwell.



Who is it that we seek?
We seek the Lord our God.

Open our eyes Lord,
so that we might see you.

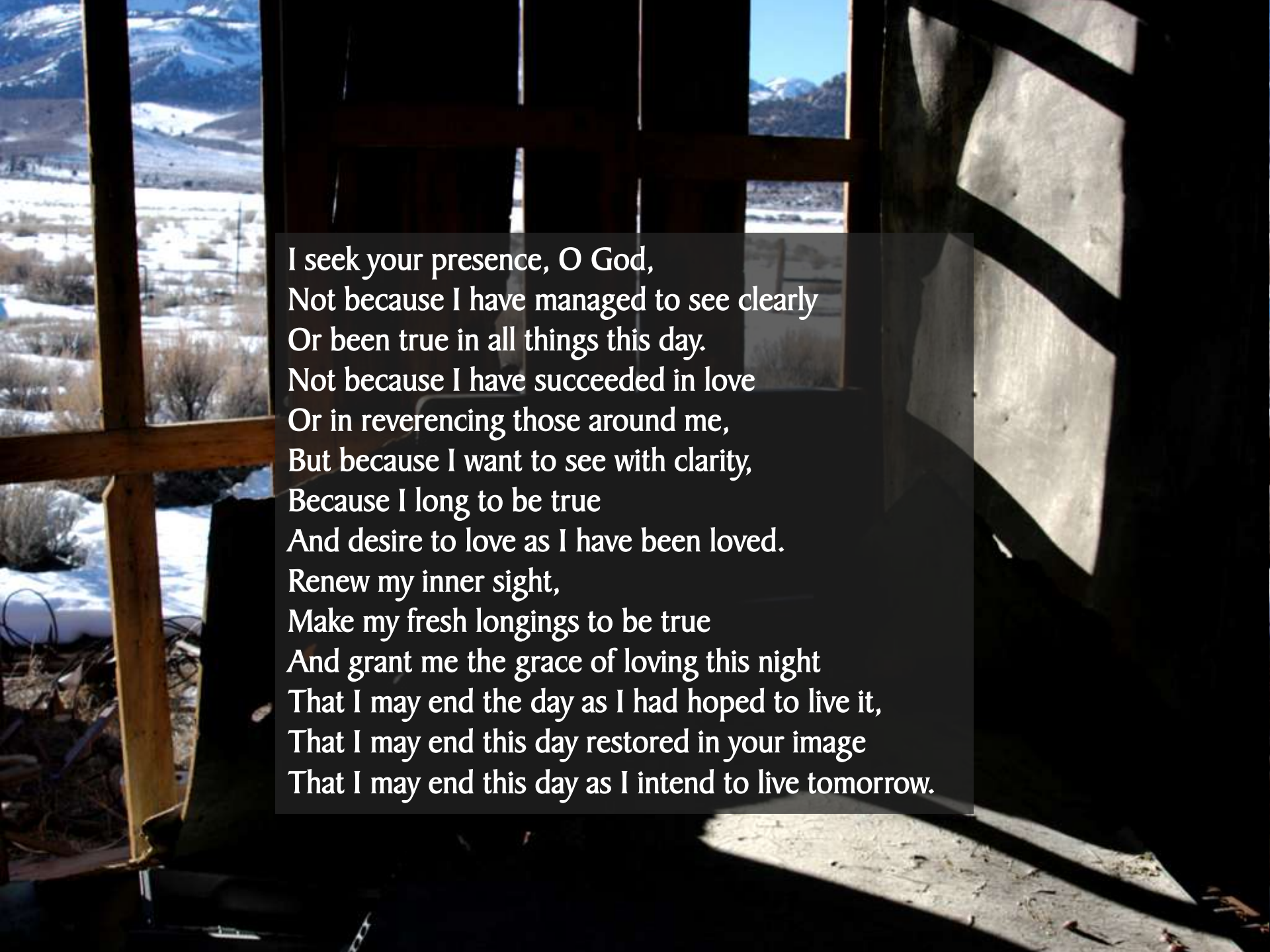
Open our ears Lord,
so that we might hear you.

Open our minds,
so that we might learn your Way.

Open our hearts,
so that we might know you.

Open our hands,
so that we might receive you.

Open our lives,
so that we might reveal you.

The background of the image shows a snowy mountain landscape viewed through a window. The window has dark wooden frames and a white curtain on the right side. The text is centered in the window area.

I seek your presence, O God,
Not because I have managed to see clearly
Or been true in all things this day.
Not because I have succeeded in love
Or in reverencing those around me,
But because I want to see with clarity,
Because I long to be true
And desire to love as I have been loved.
Renew my inner sight,
Make my fresh longings to be true
And grant me the grace of loving this night
That I may end the day as I had hoped to live it,
That I may end this day restored in your image
That I may end this day as I intend to live tomorrow.

In search of *the circle*.



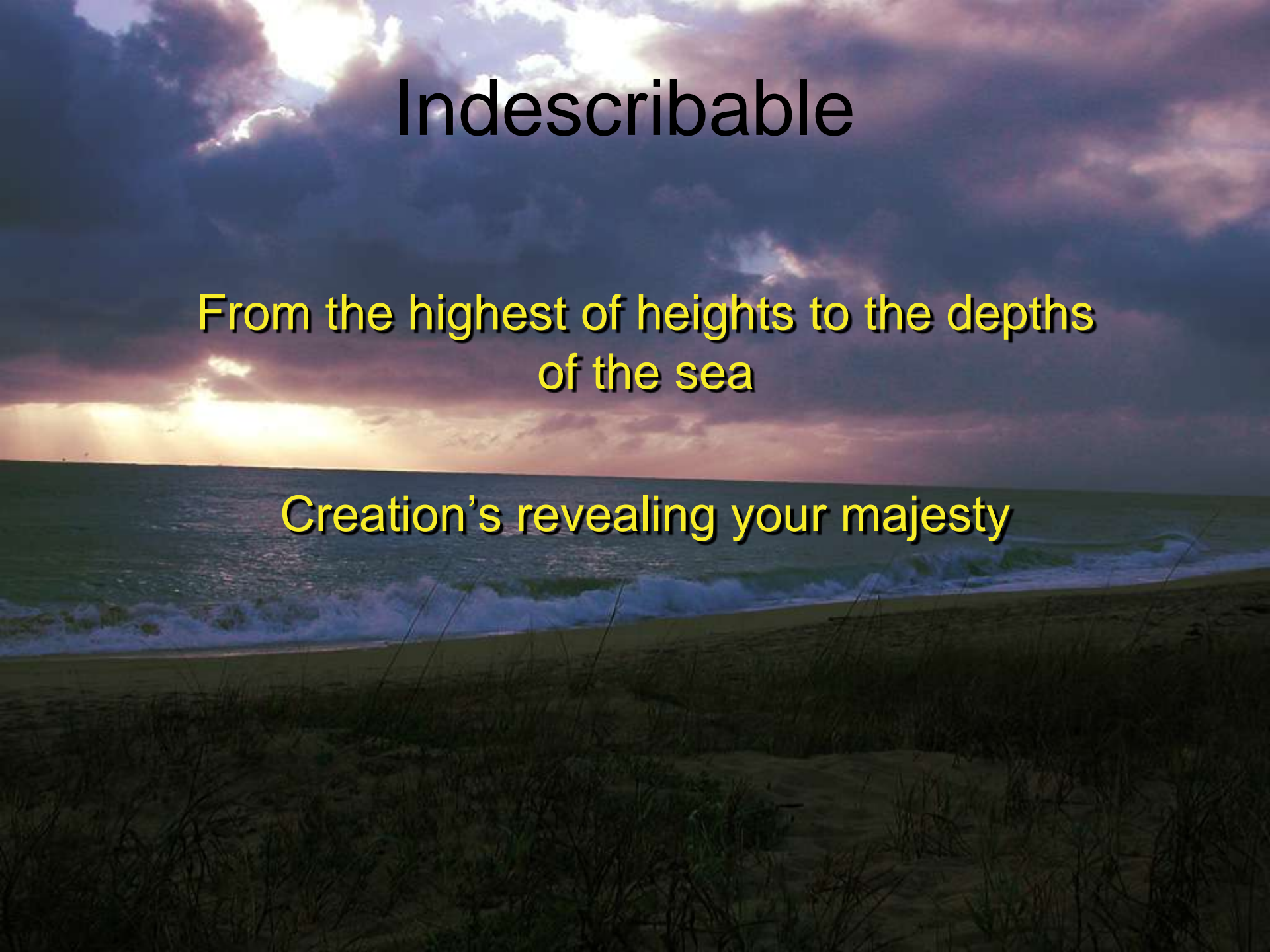
The Jesus Prayer.



Indescribable

From the highest of heights to the depths
of the sea

Creation's revealing your majesty



**From the colors of Fall to the Fragrance
of Spring**

**Every creature unique in the song that is
sings,**

All exclaiming





Indescribable Uncontainable

You placed the stars in the sky and you
know them by name

You are amazing, God

All powerful untamable

**Awestruck we fall to our knees as we
humbly proclaim**

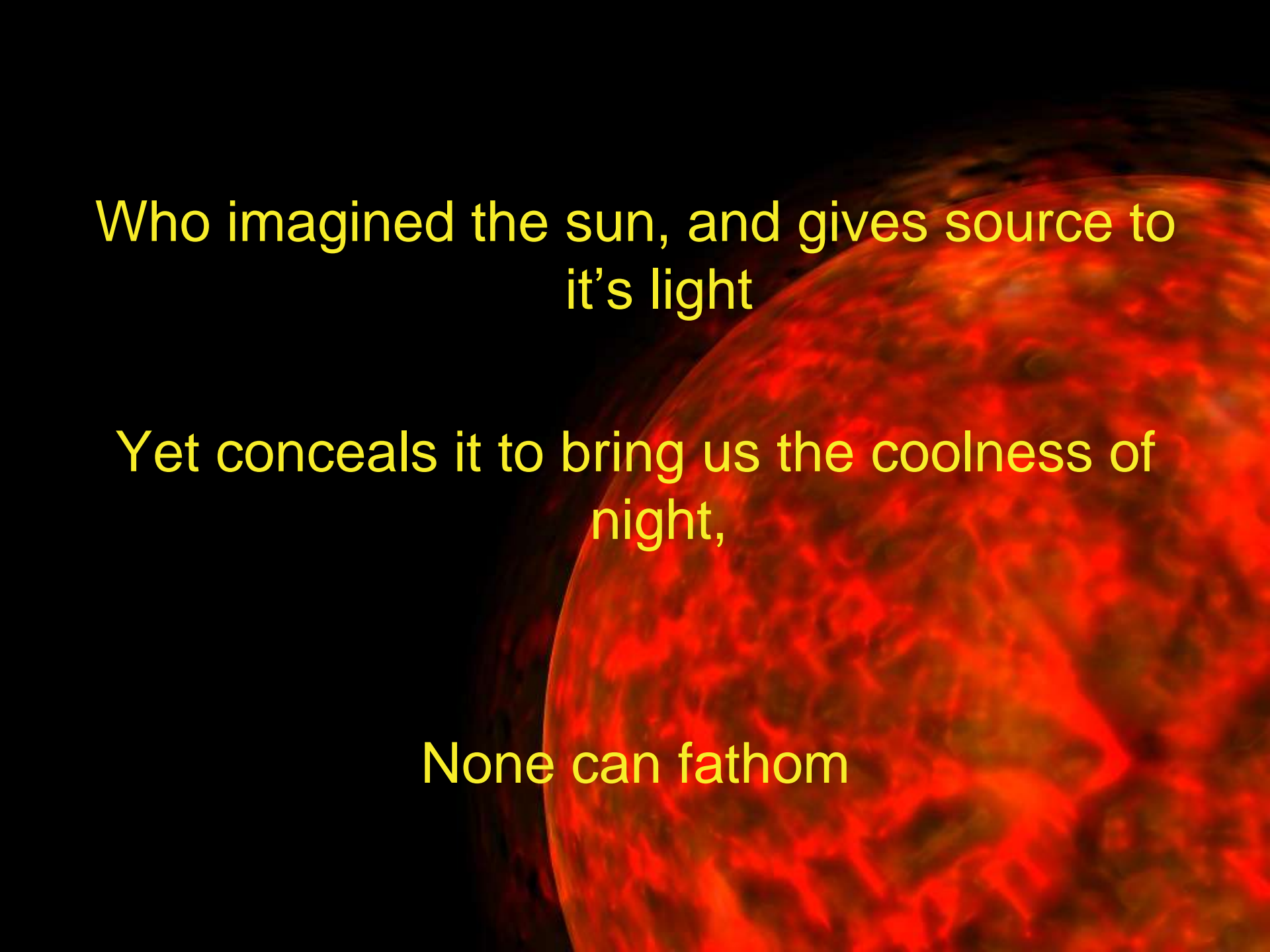
You are amazing God



A winter scene with a snow-covered ground and evergreen trees. The sun is shining from the top left, creating a bright glow and casting shadows. The text is overlaid in red with a black outline.

**Who has told every lightning bolt where
it should go.**

**Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with
snow.**



Who imagined the sun, and gives source to
it's light

Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of
night,

None can fathom



Indescribable Uncontainable

You placed the stars in the sky and you
know them by name

You are amazing, God

All powerful untamable

**Awestruck we fall to our knees as we
humbly proclaim**

You are amazing God

You are amazing God



Incomparable, unchangeable

**You see the depths of my heart and you
love me the same**

You are amazing God

You are amazing God

A butterfly with brown and white wings and red spots is perched on a green plant with purple flowers. The butterfly is the central focus, with its wings spread wide. The background is a lush green field of similar plants.

Sing Alleluia

All creatures of our God and King,

Lift up your voice and with us sing,

**Sun, moon, and stars rejoice on
high,**

Praise to the Lord of light divine!!!



**Sing Alleluia, Sing Alleluia
(Alleluia)**

Praise the Father above, sing Alleluia,

**Sing Alleluia, sing Alleluia,
(Alleluia)**

For His infinite love, sing Alleluia.



Praise to the giver of good things

Merciful Father, Holy King

Join with the angels sing out loud,

Praise Him who reigns above the clouds!



**Sing Alleluia, Sing Alleluia
(Alleluia)**

Praise the Father above, sing Alleluia,

**Sing Alleluia, sing Alleluia,
(Alleluia)**

For His infinite love, sing Alleluia.

I will praise Him

(when the morning comes)

Alleluia

(For the rising sun)

I will praise Him

(when the day is done)

Alleluia

(Praise the Lord above)

I will praise Him

(Alleluia)

Alleluia

(Alleluia)

All creatures of our God and King,



Lift up your voice and let us sing!!!



**Sing Alleluia, Sing Alleluia
(Alleluia)**

Praise the Father above, sing Alleluia,

**Sing Alleluia, sing Alleluia,
(Alleluia)**

For His infinite love, sing Alleluia.

From the Prophet Isaiah, to the people of God, chapter 55

Seek God while he's here to be found,
pray to him while he's close at hand.
Let the wicked abandon their way of life
and the evil their way of thinking.

Let them come back to God, who is merciful,
come back to our God, who is lavish with forgiveness.

I don't think the way you think. The way you work isn't the way I work."
God's Decree. "For as the sky soars high above earth, so the way I work
surpasses the way you work, and the way I think is beyond the way you think.
Just as rain and snow descend from the skies and don't go back until they've
watered the earth, Doing their work of making things grow and blossom,
producing seed for farmers and food for the hungry, So will the words that come
out of my mouth not come back empty-handed. They'll do the work I sent them
to do, they'll complete the assignment I gave them.

You'll go out in joy, you'll be led into a whole and complete life.
The mountains and hills will lead the parade, bursting with song.
All the trees of the forest will join the procession, exuberant with applause.
No more thistles, but giant sequoias, no more thornbushes, but stately pines
Monuments to me, to God, living and lasting evidence of God."

Step by Step

**Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise you.**

**Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise you.**

A photograph of a path lined with trees in autumn. The ground is covered in fallen leaves, and the trees have sparse foliage. The text is overlaid on the image.

And I will seek you in the morning

And I will learn to walk in your ways

And step by step you lead me

And I will follow you all of my days

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road winding through a forest. The road has a white shoulder line on the left and a double yellow line in the center. The trees on both sides are in various stages of autumn, with some showing vibrant orange and red leaves, while others are bare or still green. The sky is overcast and grey. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

I will follow you all of my days.

I will follow you all of my days.

And step by step you lead me.

And I will follow you all of my days.



And I will seek you in the morning

And I will learn to walk in your ways

And step by step you lead me

And I will follow you all of my days

Come let us reason together,
says the Lord.

-Isaiah 1:18





"BREATHE"



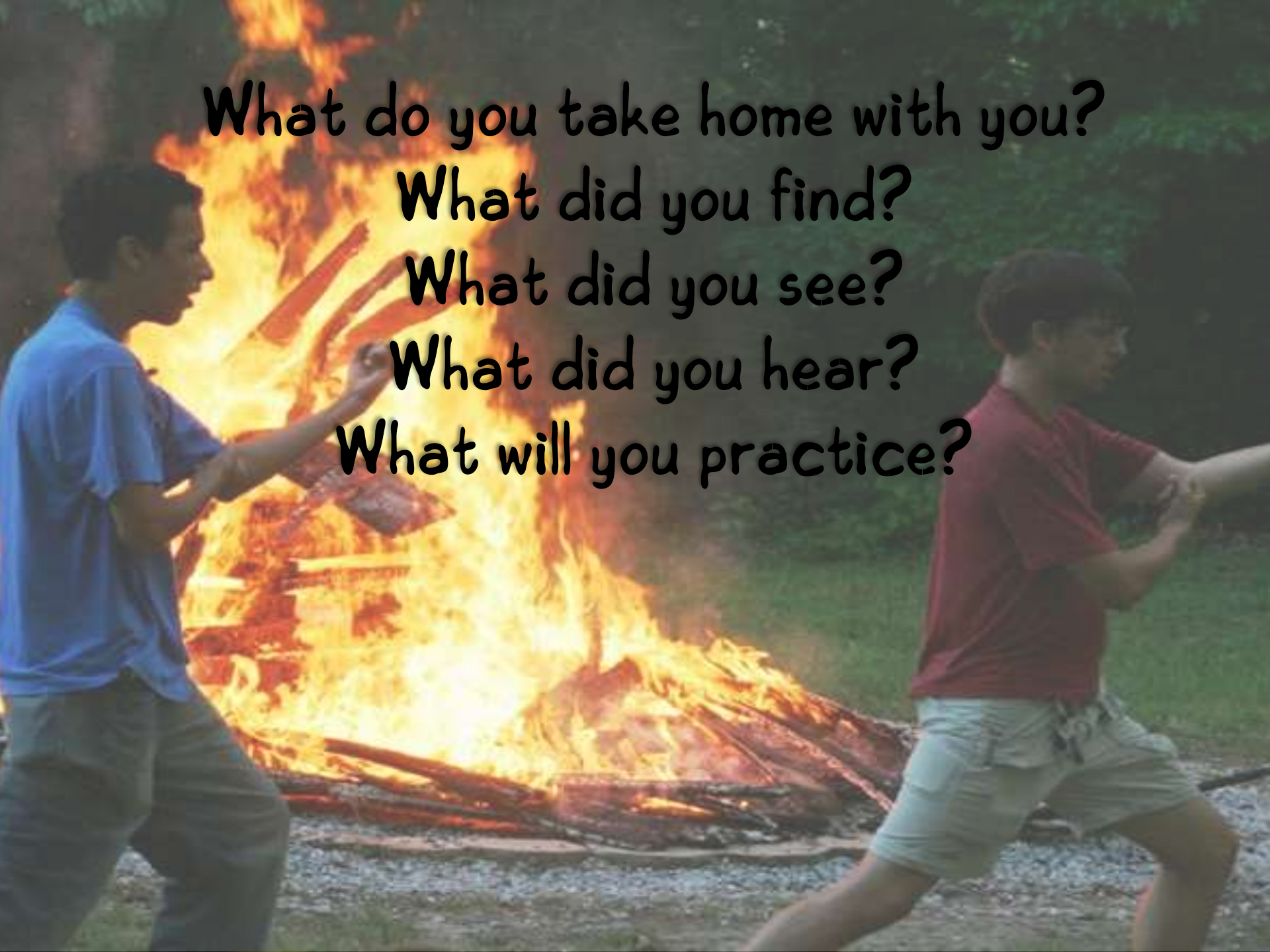
In search of *the circle.*

“The church is not a building. It’s not an event on Sunday. When the scriptures talk about it means community: a shared life. They worship together, eat together, pray for one another, They hand out together, in each other’s homes.”

Conversations*

Because we don’t want to just talk about it,
We want to work it into the details
of our everyday lives.
And because

WE’RE IN THIS THING TOGETHER.

A photograph of two young boys running towards a large, bright bonfire at night. The boy on the left is wearing a light blue shirt and dark pants, while the boy on the right is wearing a red shirt and light-colored shorts. The bonfire is made of logs and is burning brightly, illuminating the scene. The background is dark, suggesting it is nighttime.

What do you take home with you?

What did you find?

What did you see?

What did you hear?

What will you practice?



The Song of Simeon

Lord, you have now set your servant
free to go in peace as
For these eyes of mine have seen the
Savior, whom you have prepared for all
the world to see: A Light to enlighten
the nations, and the glory of your
people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
will be forever.
Amen.

The Benediction:

May you come to see that God encircles you whether you believe it or not; whether you recognize it or not. May you come to hear that God is constantly trying to speak to you and get your attention. And may you, this week, remember that every breath is the Spirit of God moving within you – may you remember that to breathe is to pray and to say the name of God.





**As it was,
As it is,
As it shall
be evermore**

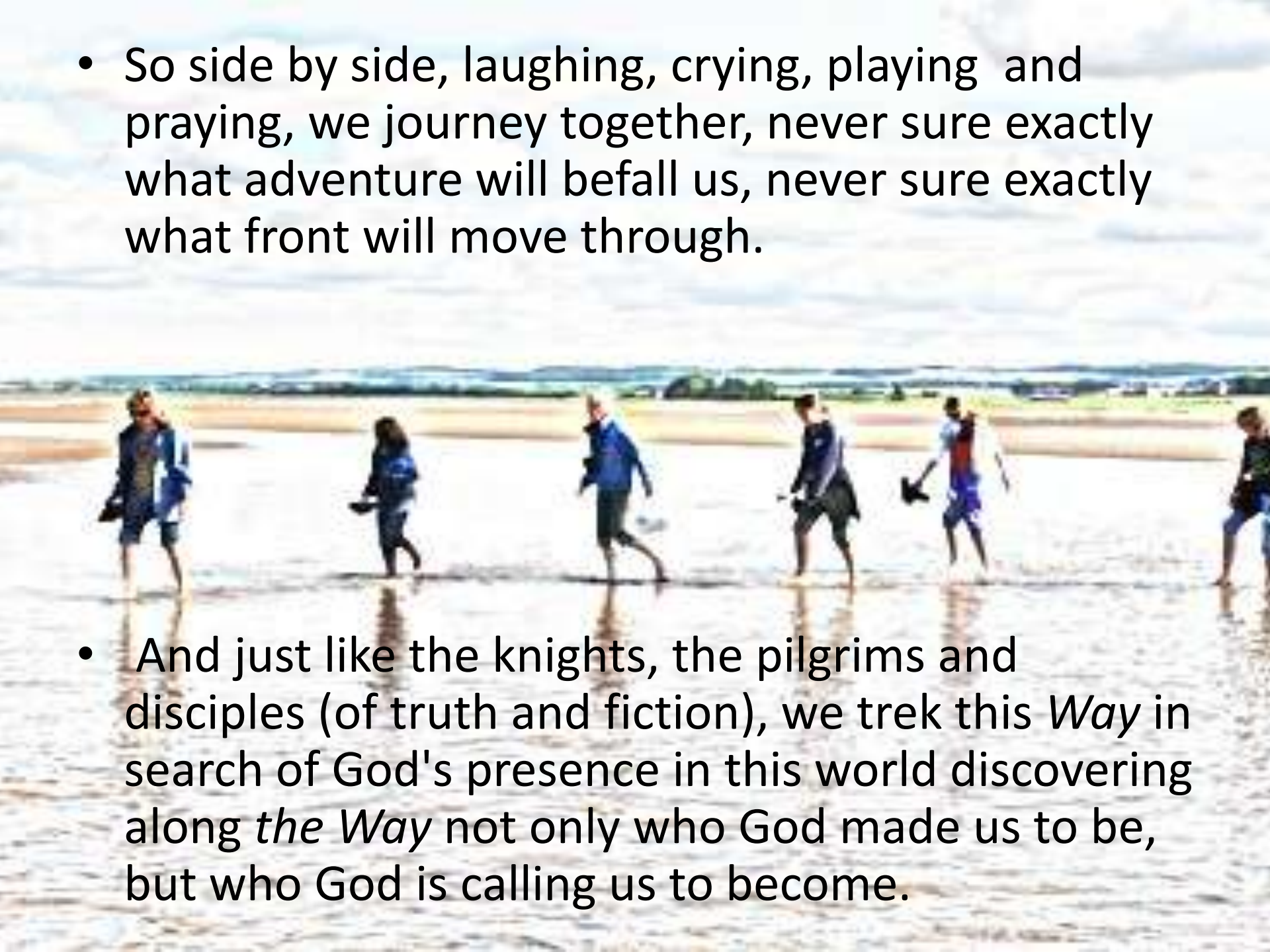
**O God of
Grace,**

**O God in
Trinity.**

What are we about?

- *being* a community of young people and adults who are trying to shape their lives around following Jesus.
- Together we aim not just simply to *go to church* but to actually *be the church*: participating in the hope that God brings to this world.
- And *together* we try to create a sanctuary in which to take refuge from the chaos of life allowing God to form us as *Followers of the Way*.
- Living a life *with God in* this world.

- So side by side, laughing, crying, playing and praying, we journey together, never sure exactly what adventure will befall us, never sure exactly what front will move through.

- 
- And just like the knights, the pilgrims and disciples (of truth and fiction), we trek this *Way* in search of God's presence in this world discovering along *the Way* not only who God made us to be, but who God is calling us to become.

The EARLY CHRISTIAN Age





Conversations:

Is your foot in?

As I go I will welcome any companion who wishes to journey with me, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will never cease to pray, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will not be corrupted, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will not be tempted to predict outcomes, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will relish the surprises, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will take great risks, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go, I will hold tight the hands with which I share this way

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go, I will live this life *with* God *in* this world

Jesus calls me and He is with me





As I go I will not be bound by self-doubt or restricted by my weaknesses, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will not be limited by my strengths, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will see each struggle as a place of learning, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will not question the journey, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me.

As I go I will not refuse any destination, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will embrace all that crosses my way, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will open my heart to the good in all creation, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

As I go I will hold close to the Word of God, for:

Jesus calls me and He is with me

Jesus calls me and He is with me