

# THE POWER OF PRAYER

10 - Restoring the Soul

Glen Gerhauser | Church on the Park | Sunday, 16 April 2023



# Great Power

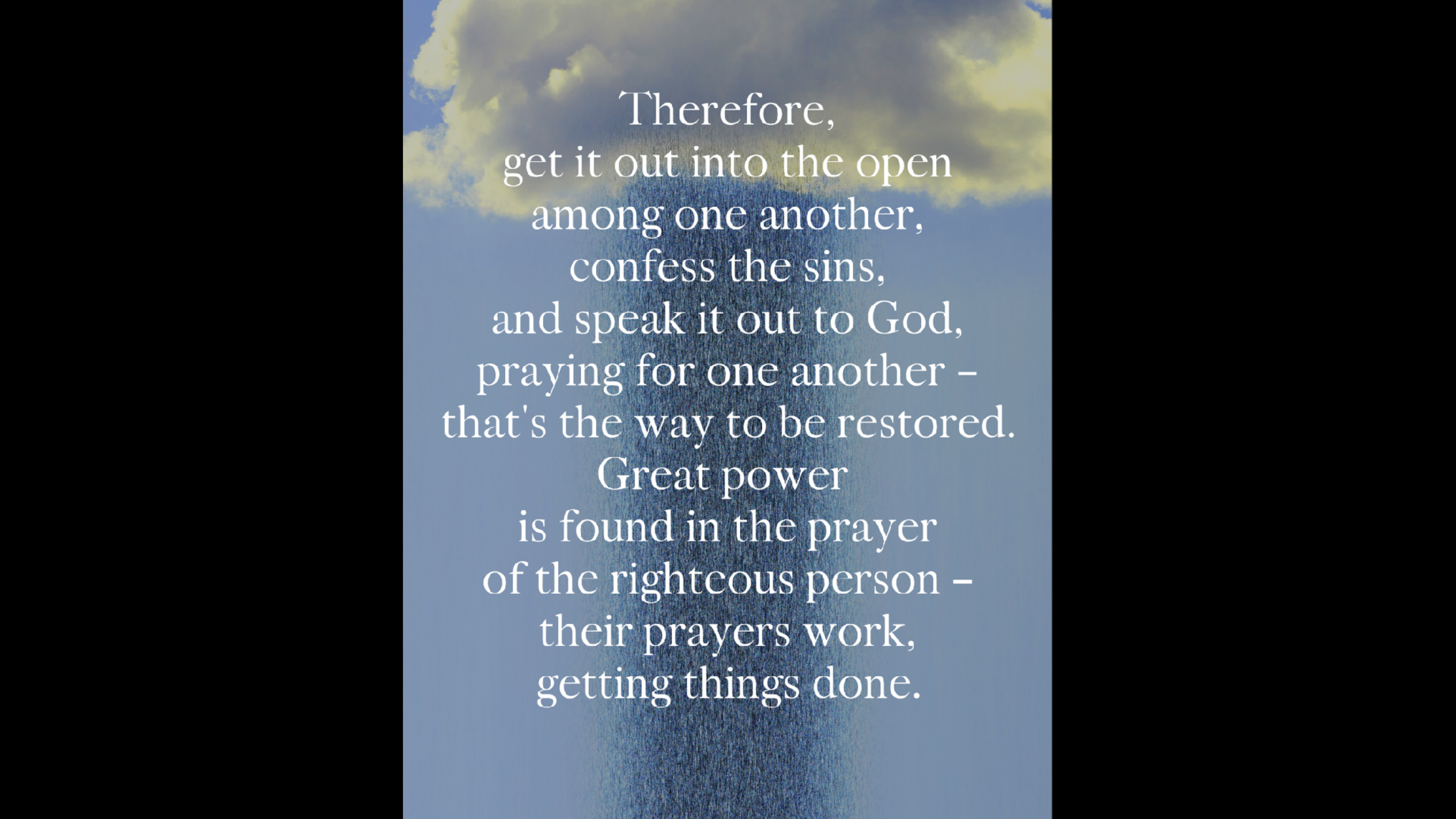
*Inspiration Translation by Glen Gerhauser*

## James 5:16

Therefore,  
get it out into the open  
among one another,  
confess the sins,  
and speak it out to God,  
praying for one another –  
that's the way to be restored.

Great power  
is found in the prayer  
of the righteous person –  
their prayers work,  
getting things done.



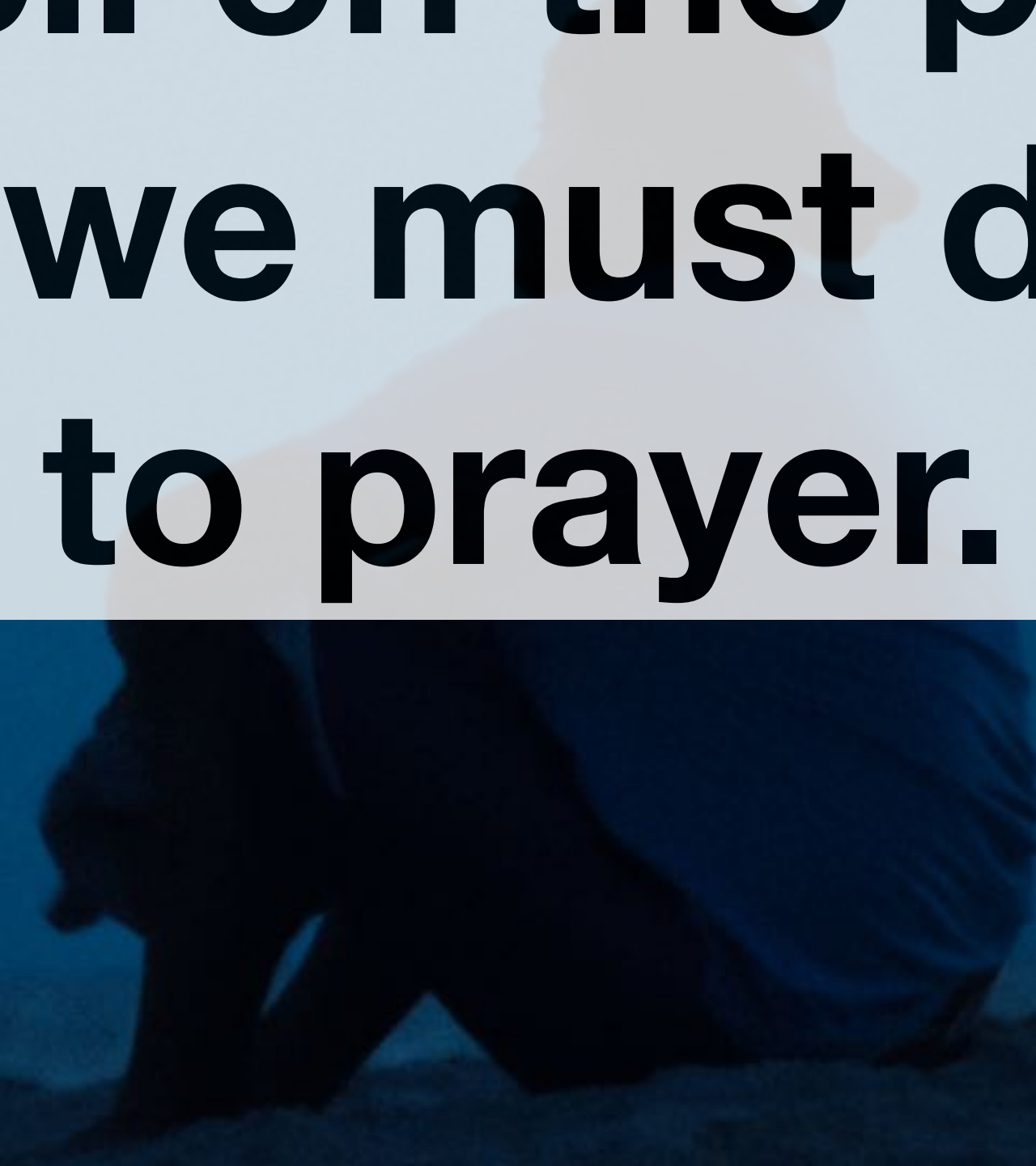


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**Today we will dwell on the power of  
prayer and why we must devote  
ourselves to prayer.**





**I want to be bold and say, “Get an hour alone with God each day.” When you close the door to the world and give the Father your undivided attention, you grow close to him (Matt. 6:6).**







**Close out the world to grow close to God.**



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**THE  
HOUR  
THAT  
CHANGES**

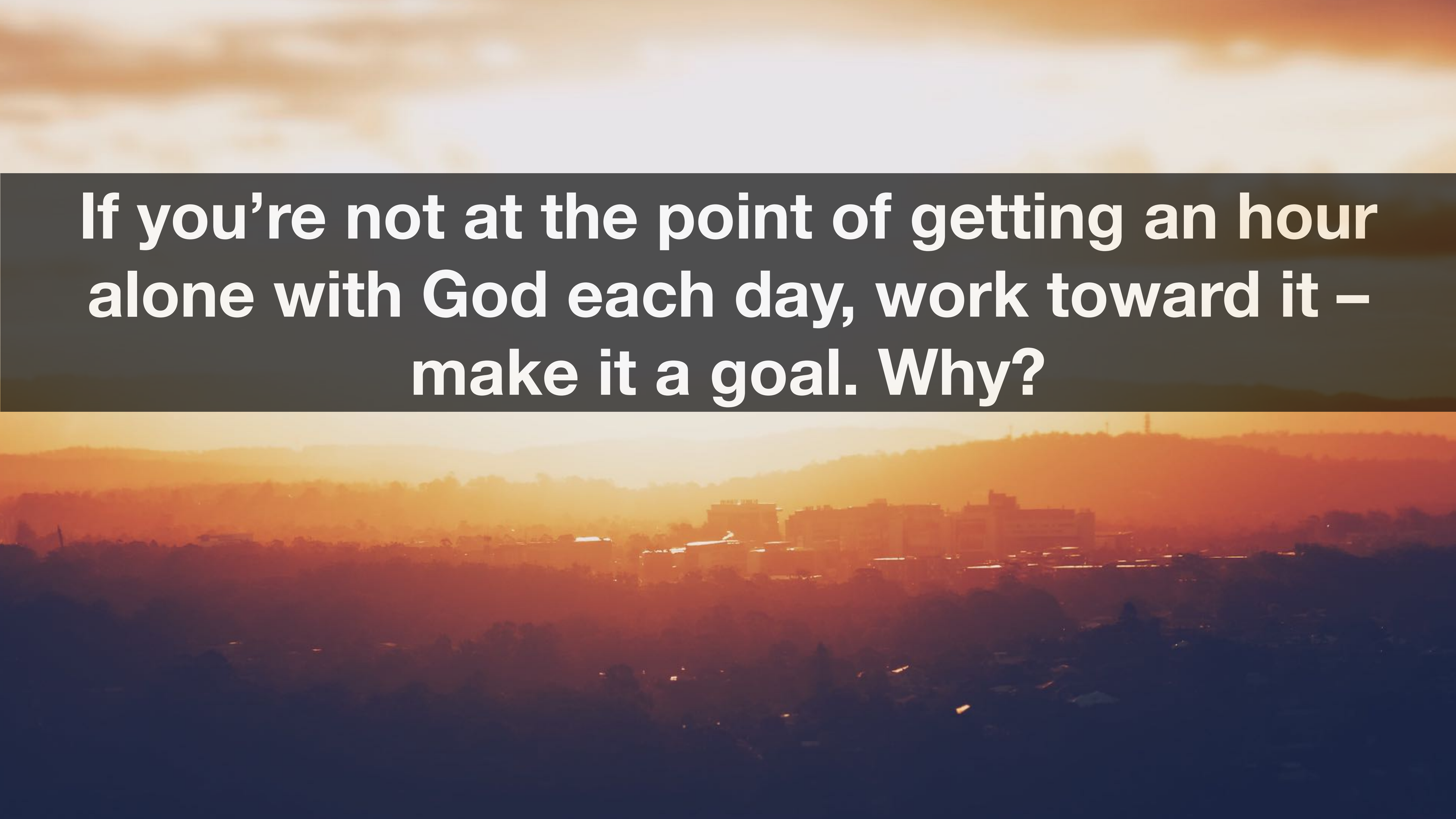
**THE  
WORLD**

A Practical Plan for Personal Prayer

**DICK EASTMAN**

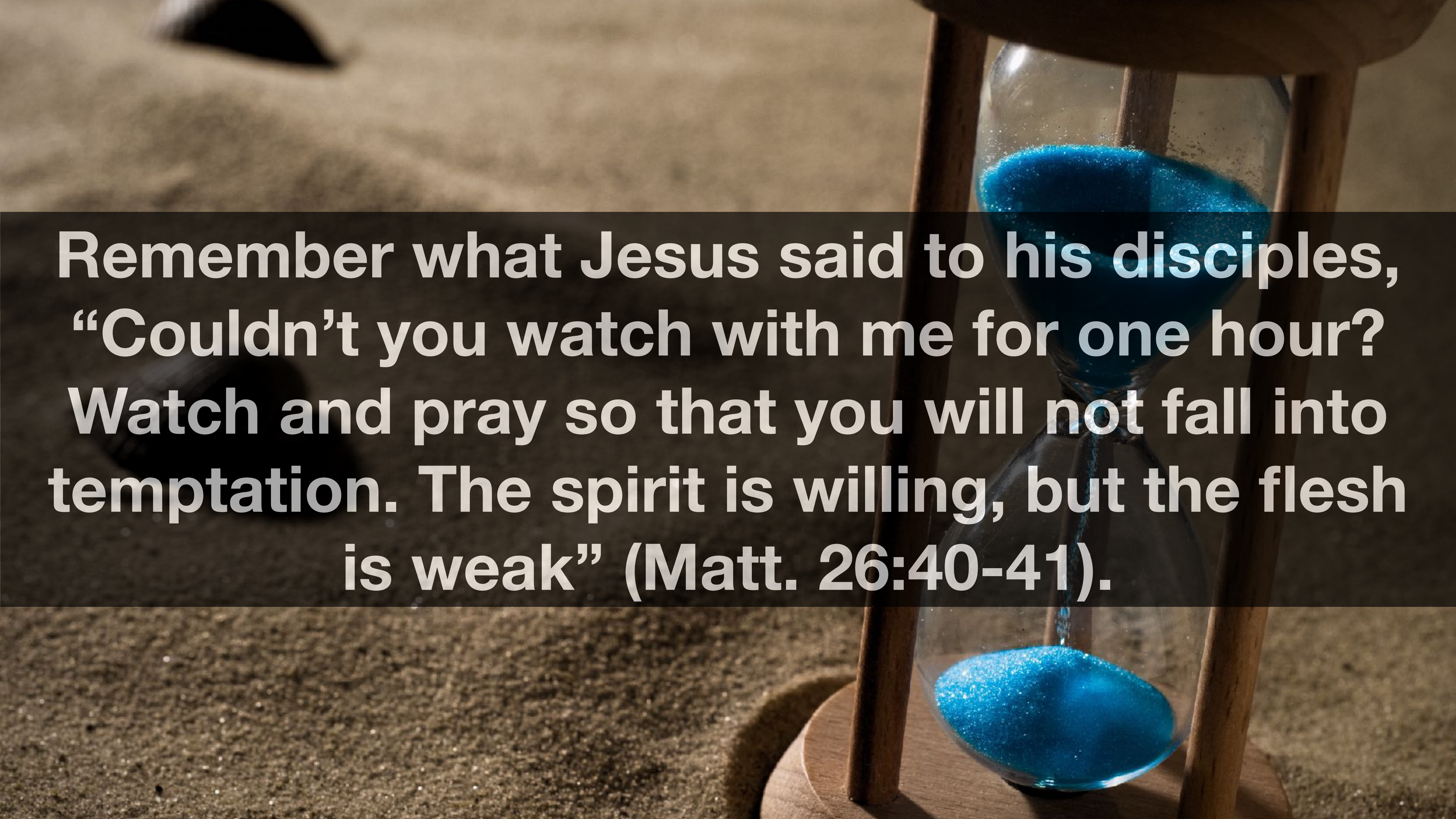
Author of the best-selling "NO EASY ROAD"





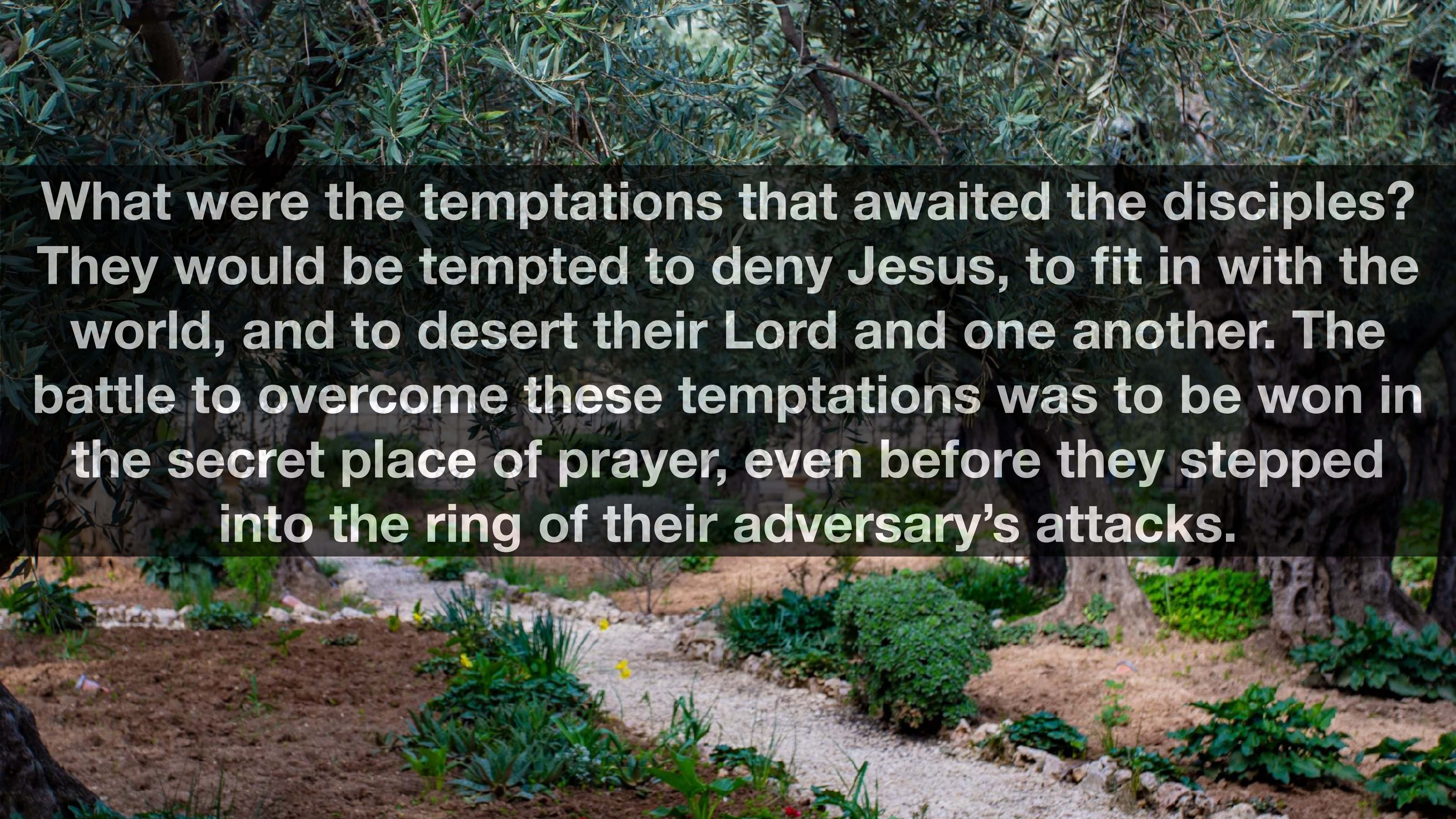
**If you're not at the point of getting an hour  
alone with God each day, work toward it –  
make it a goal. Why?**



An hourglass with blue sand is shown on a wooden stand. The sand is flowing from the top bulb to the bottom bulb. The background is a close-up of sand, with a dark shadow cast by the hourglass. The text is overlaid on a dark horizontal band across the middle of the image.

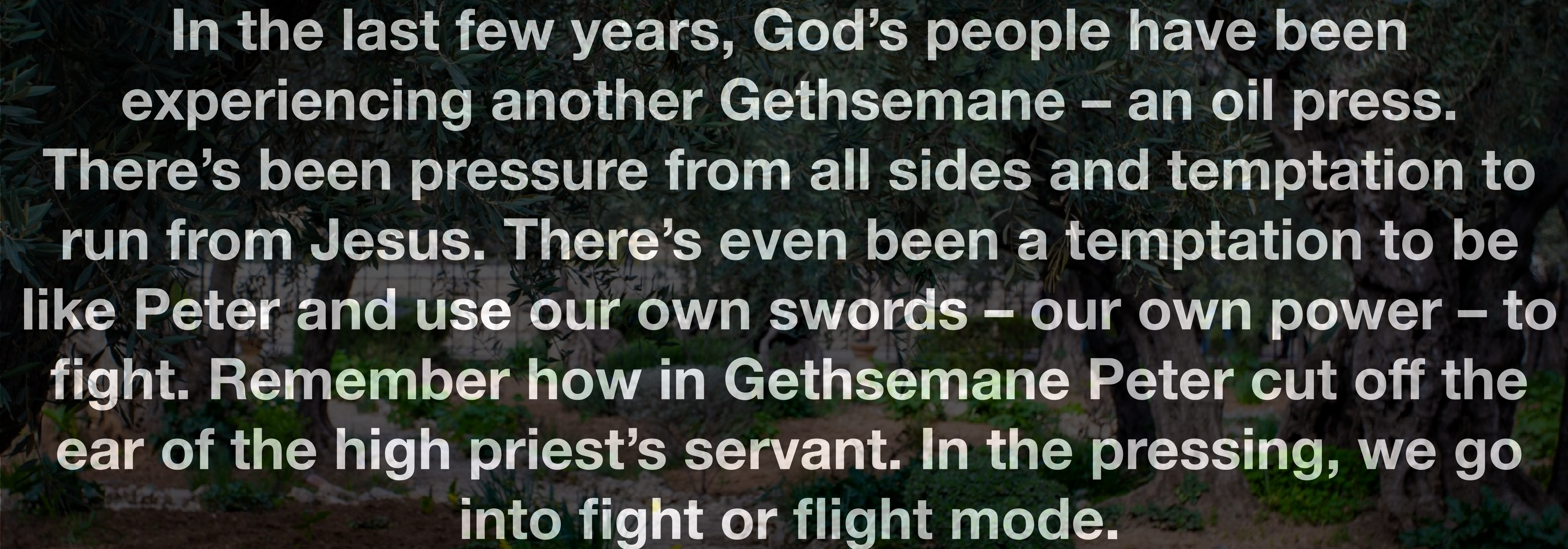
**Remember what Jesus said to his disciples,  
“Couldn’t you watch with me for one hour?  
Watch and pray so that you will not fall into  
temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh  
is weak” (Matt. 26:40-41).**



A photograph of an olive grove with a semi-transparent text overlay. The background shows the dense green foliage of olive trees and a dirt path with some low-lying plants. The text is centered and reads: 

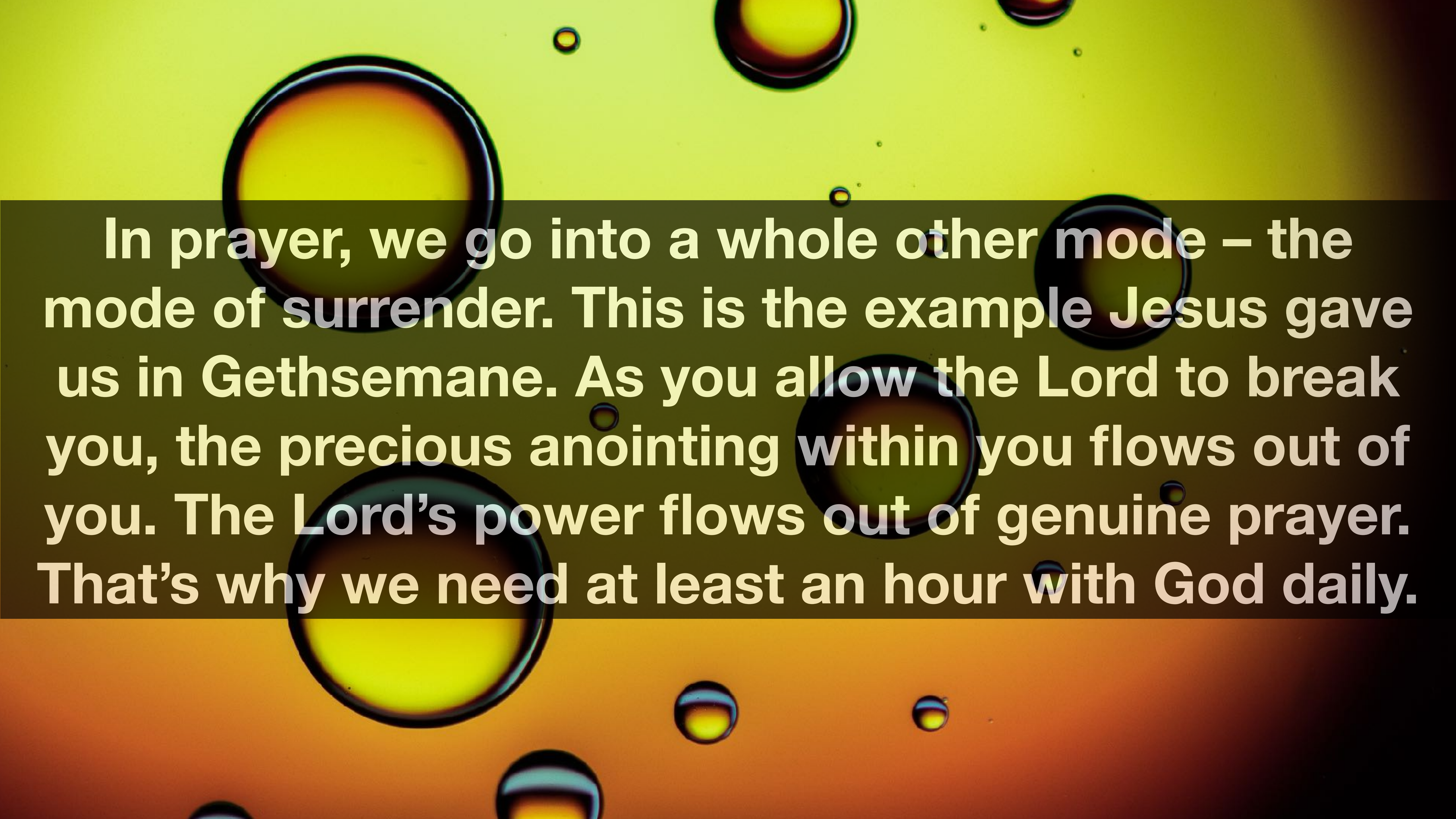
**What were the temptations that awaited the disciples? They would be tempted to deny Jesus, to fit in with the world, and to desert their Lord and one another. The battle to overcome these temptations was to be won in the secret place of prayer, even before they stepped into the ring of their adversary's attacks.**





**In the last few years, God's people have been experiencing another Gethsemane – an oil press. There's been pressure from all sides and temptation to run from Jesus. There's even been a temptation to be like Peter and use our own swords – our own power – to fight. Remember how in Gethsemane Peter cut off the ear of the high priest's servant. In the pressing, we go into fight or flight mode.**



The background features a gradient from light yellow at the top to dark orange at the bottom. Numerous colorful, iridescent bubbles of various sizes are scattered across the scene. A solid dark horizontal band runs across the middle, containing the text.

**In prayer, we go into a whole other mode – the mode of surrender. This is the example Jesus gave us in Gethsemane. As you allow the Lord to break you, the precious anointing within you flows out of you. The Lord’s power flows out of genuine prayer. That’s why we need at least an hour with God daily.**



# WHY PRAY?



Why should you set aside time to pray every day? And why should you pray with God's family? Here are a few important reasons.



## PRAYER DRAWS YOU CLOSER TO GOD

How can you know God more? How can you become one with the Father's heart? Through prayer. Prayer is not about getting stuff from God - it's about becoming intimate with him (James 4:8).



## PRAYER UNITES HEAVEN WITH EARTH

Prayer is all about God's Kingdom, not our own desires divorced from his will. Authentic prayer discovers the Father's will. Then you ask the Father's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven (1 John 5:14-15; Matt. 6:9-10).



## PRAYER EMPOWERS

Jesus said, "Watch and pray so that you fall not into temptation" (Matt. 26:41; Mark 14:38). Prayer empowers you with the Holy Spirit so that you can live right. Through the constant prayer of the early church, the Holy Spirit filled them and his fire fell (Acts 1:14; 2 Chron. 7:1-3).



## PRAYER RECEIVES

James says, "You do not have because you do not ask God" (James 4:2c). In Christ, we have every spiritual blessing (Eph 1:3). Yet, to access our heavenly riches, we need to withdraw them through asking God (Matt. 7:7-12). Prayer actively takes hold of God's promises.



## PRAYER RESTORES

Prayer is powerful turning things around. Through prayer, God heals and makes things whole; he revives and restores. Look at how God used Elijah's prayers (James 5:16-18; 1 Kings 18:36-46). And don't forget the promise of 2 Chronicles 7:14.



## PRAYER HUMBLER YOU AND HELPS YOU HEAR GOD

Prayer acknowledges that you need God - it's humility in action. Prayer is also much more than asking God for things. Instead, it's stilling your soul to listen to God. When you pray, read the Bible and ask your Father to speak to you (James 4:10; Ps. 119:18; Ps. 143:8).





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**The Chief Shepherd restores our souls and the environment around us through prayer. Prayer connects us with God, and God is the one who restores us, making us whole.**

