THE RIGHT WAY TO **PLANT & GROW** A HEALTHY CHURCH

Church on the Park | Sunday, 25 September 2022 | Glen Gerhauser

PRICELESS

Not for sale, and will never be. This tree has been trained into a Bonsai for almost 400 years, the result of 6 generations of hard work and patience by the Yamaki family. But what makes it really special is that it was in Hiroshima when the atomic bomb fell in 1945; the tree survived and was later donated to the National Bonsai & Penjing Museum in Washington (read more about the Yamaki Pine).

www.bonsaiempire.com

WHY THE CHURCH?

“And God placed all things under his [Jesus’] feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.”

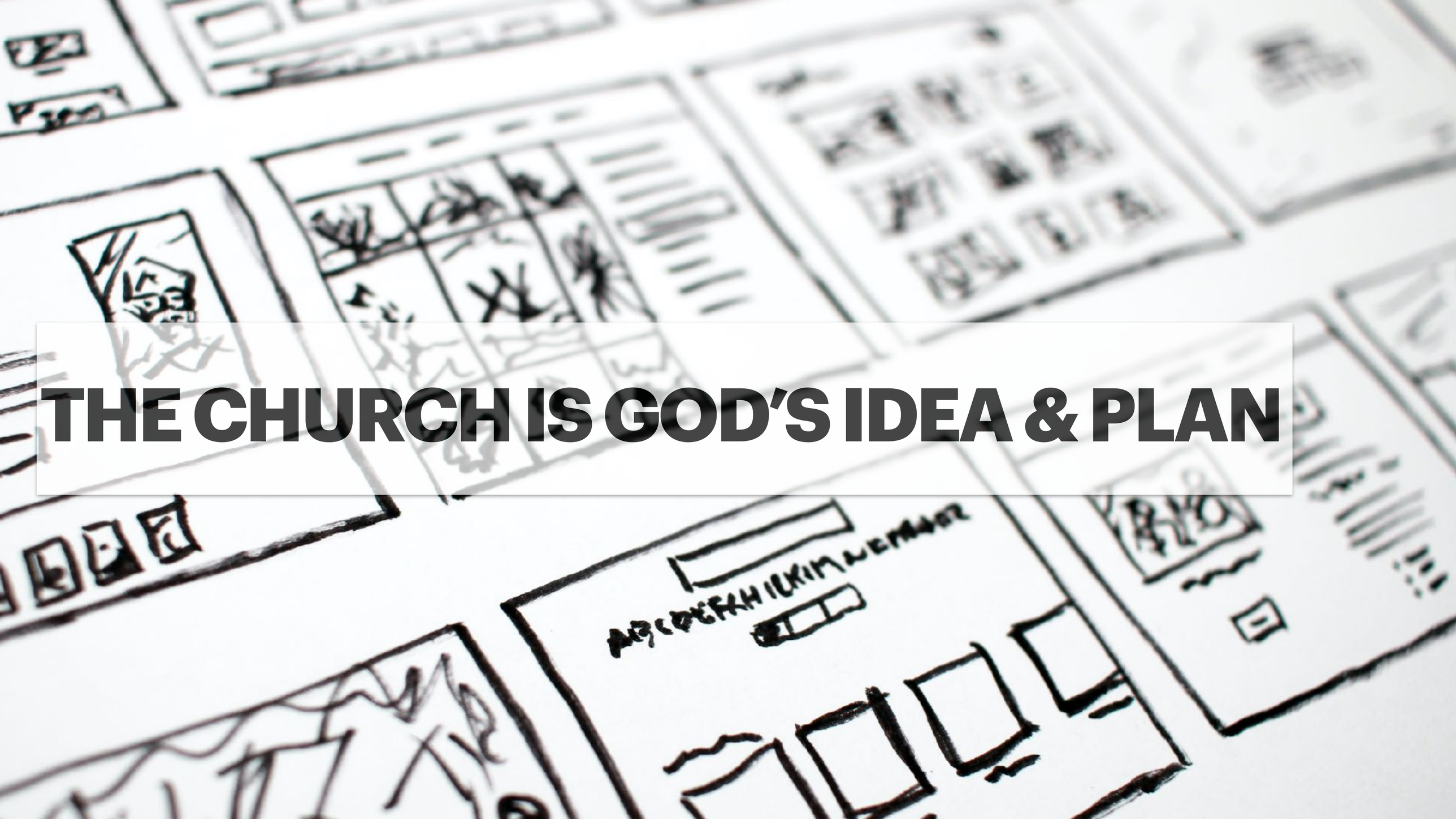
– Ephesians 1:22-23

THE CHURCH IS GOD'S STRATEGY,

HIS BRIDE,

THE CHURCH IS NOT AN ‘IT.’

THE CHURCH IS YOU AND ME – EVERYONE SAVED BY HIS GRACE – CALLED TOGETHER FOR A PURPOSE.



THE CHURCH IS GOD'S IDEA & PLAN

TO HOST & CARRY HIS PRESENCE
ON EARTH,

TO SAVE LOST SOULS,

TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS,

TO SPREAD THE HOLY SPIRIT'S FIRE,

TO LIGHT UP THE WORLD,

TO SALT THE CULTURE,

TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE COMING OF
THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

DO YOU NOW UNDERSTAND WHY THE DEVIL IS TRYING TO KEEP YOU FROM CHURCH, GET YOU OFFENDED AT GOD'S PEOPLE AND POISON YOUR HEART TOWARD THE CHURCH'S PASTORS & LEADERS?

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A HEALTHY CHURCH

By Glen Gerhauser

1. Put Intimacy Above Ministry

No matter how close your phone is to the outlet, it will not charge unless connected. Intimacy with God is connecting with him. It's the power behind authentic ministry (John 15:5).

www.brisbanefire.com

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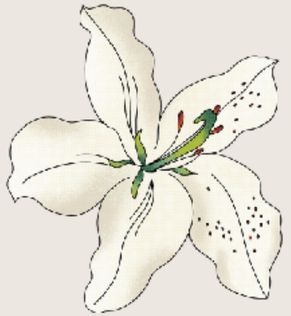

Dwell with Me

Inspiration Translation by Glen Gerhauser

John 15:1-8

I am the real grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he lifts up, caring for it. On the other hand, he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, making it more fruitful. Already you've been pruned – cleansed through the word I've spoken to you.

Dwell with me – intimately – and I will intimately dwell with you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit alone – it must be intimately connected to the vine – so you cannot bear fruit unless you are intimate with me.

I am the grapevine; you are the branches. Those who dwell with me – intimately – are those I intimately dwell with. The ones closely connected to me bear much fruit. Realize that without me, you have no power to produce anything.

If someone does not stay intimate with me, they dry out, wither away and fall off the vine. The gardener gathers these dry, dead branches and throws them into the fire – they're useless.

If you remain intimate with me – letting my solid sayings dwell within you – you may ask what you desire, and it will become a part of you. This is how you glorify my Father: bearing much fruit and becoming my disciples.

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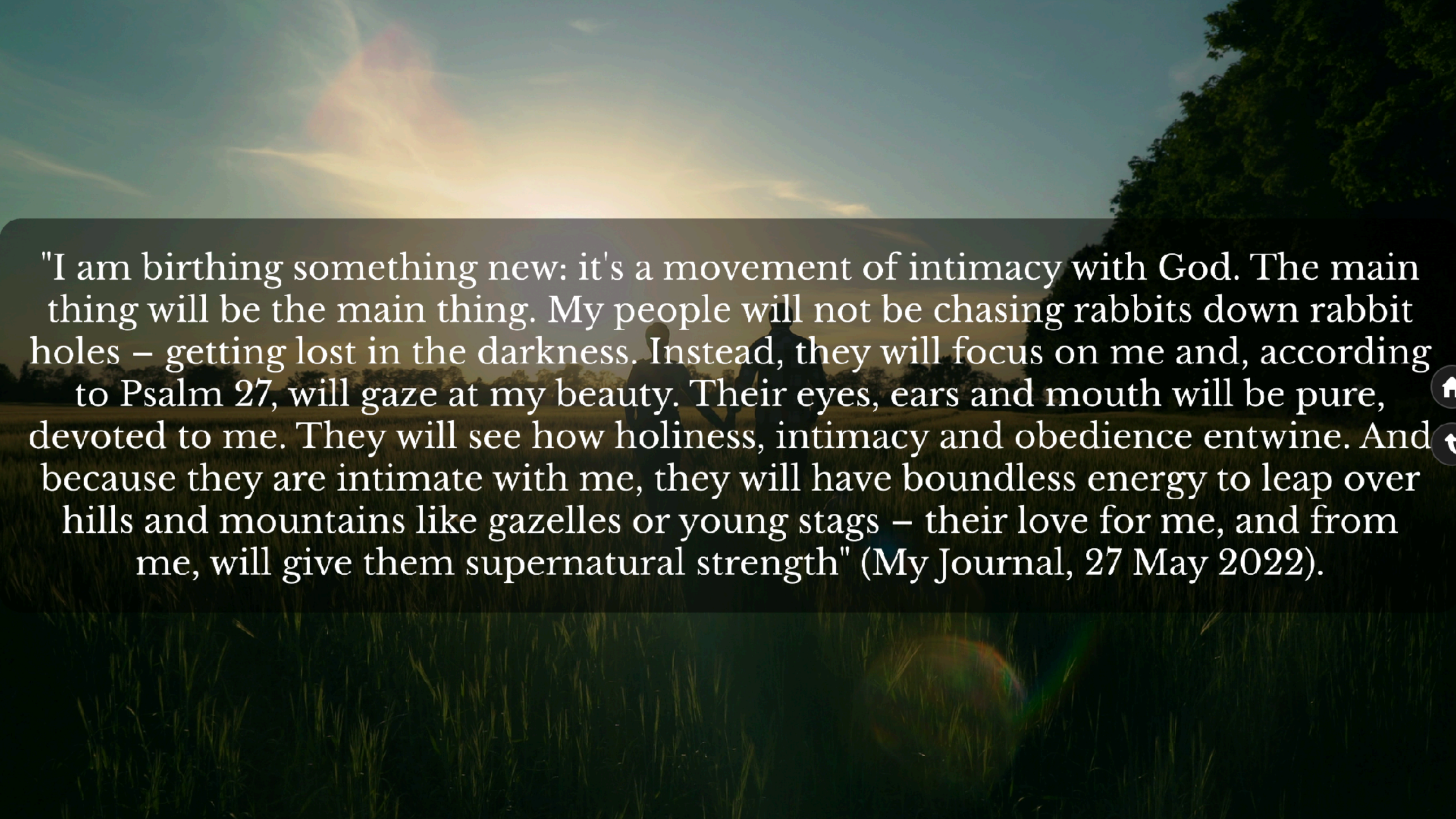
"I am birthing something new: it's a movement of intimacy with God. The main thing will be the main thing. My people will not be chasing rabbits down rabbit holes – getting lost in the darkness. Instead, they will focus on me and, according to Psalm 27, will gaze at my beauty. Their eyes, ears and mouth will be pure, devoted to me. They will see how holiness, intimacy and obedience entwine. And because they are intimate with me, they will have boundless energy to leap over hills and mountains like gazelles or young stags – their love for me, and from me, will give them supernatural strength" (My Journal, 27 May 2022).