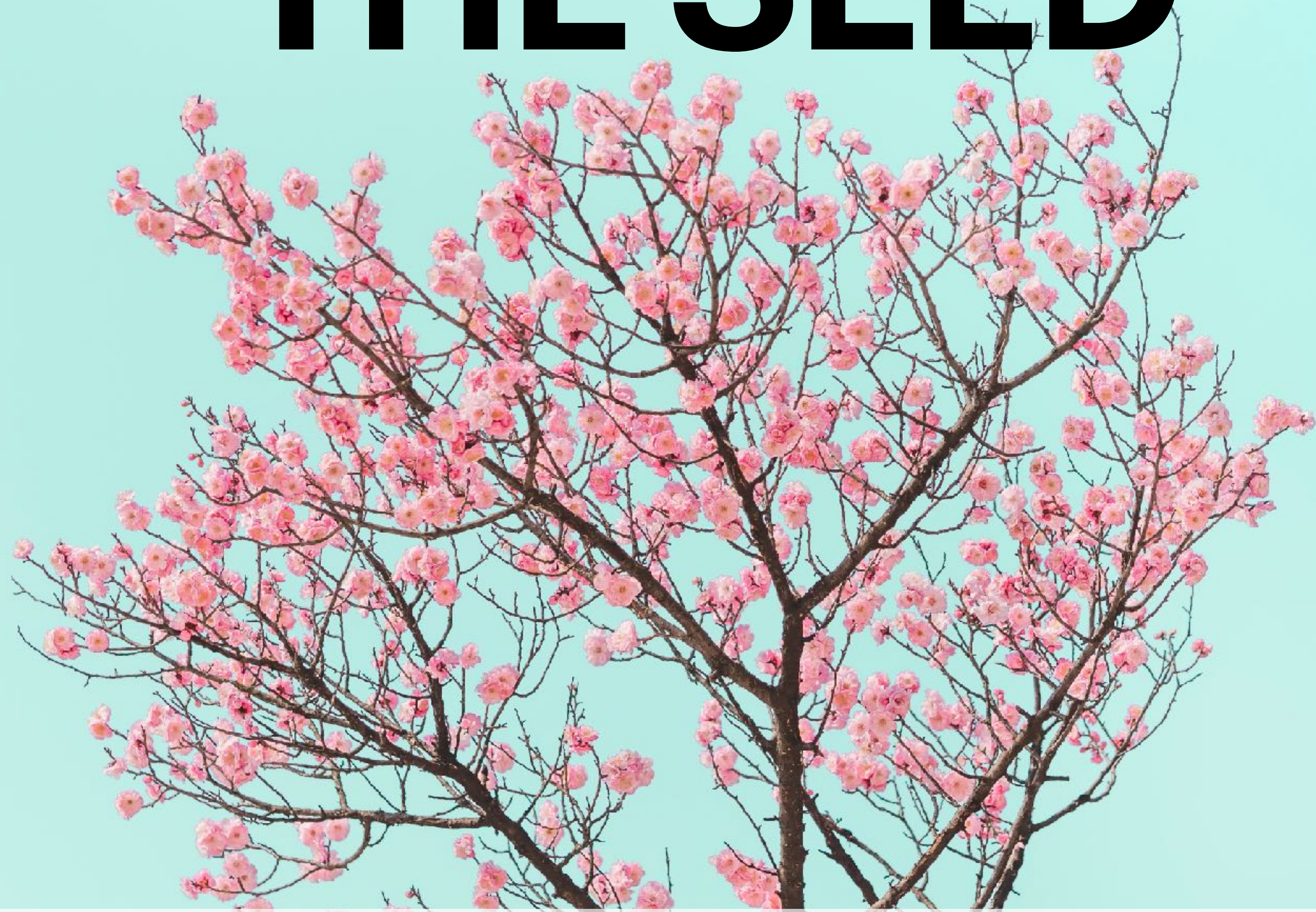


# THE SEED



Glen Gerhauser | Church on the Park | Sunday, 30 July 2023



*the* **OUTPOURING**  
*unit 7 August - 4 December 2023*

6:30pm Mondays @ Holy Fire Centre | Level 7, 117 Queen St Mall, Brisbane  
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JUST ONE WEEK AWAY



**Today, we'll continue to develop the theme of trust and discover how God-given faith is like a seed.**

**“The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith [πίστις]!’  
And the Lord said, ‘If you had faith [πίστις] like a mustard seed,  
you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and be  
planted in the sea’; and it would obey you’” (Lk 17:5–6, NASB).**



A close-up photograph of a green plastic garden trowel filled with dark, rich soil. The trowel is positioned diagonally across the frame. In the foreground, a green plant stem with several small, bright yellow flowers is visible, partially obscuring the bottom right corner of the trowel. The background is a light-colored, textured surface, possibly a concrete or stone floor, with some scattered soil particles.

Faith that is like a mustard seed is humble.  
Our Father is the gardener (John 15:1), and we  
place ourselves in his hands – that's trust.

A close-up photograph of two hands held together, palms up, against a dark background. The hands are positioned symmetrically, with fingers slightly curled. The skin is a warm, light brown tone. A semi-transparent dark horizontal band is overlaid across the center of the image, containing the text "Trust gives." in a white, sans-serif font.

**Trust gives.**

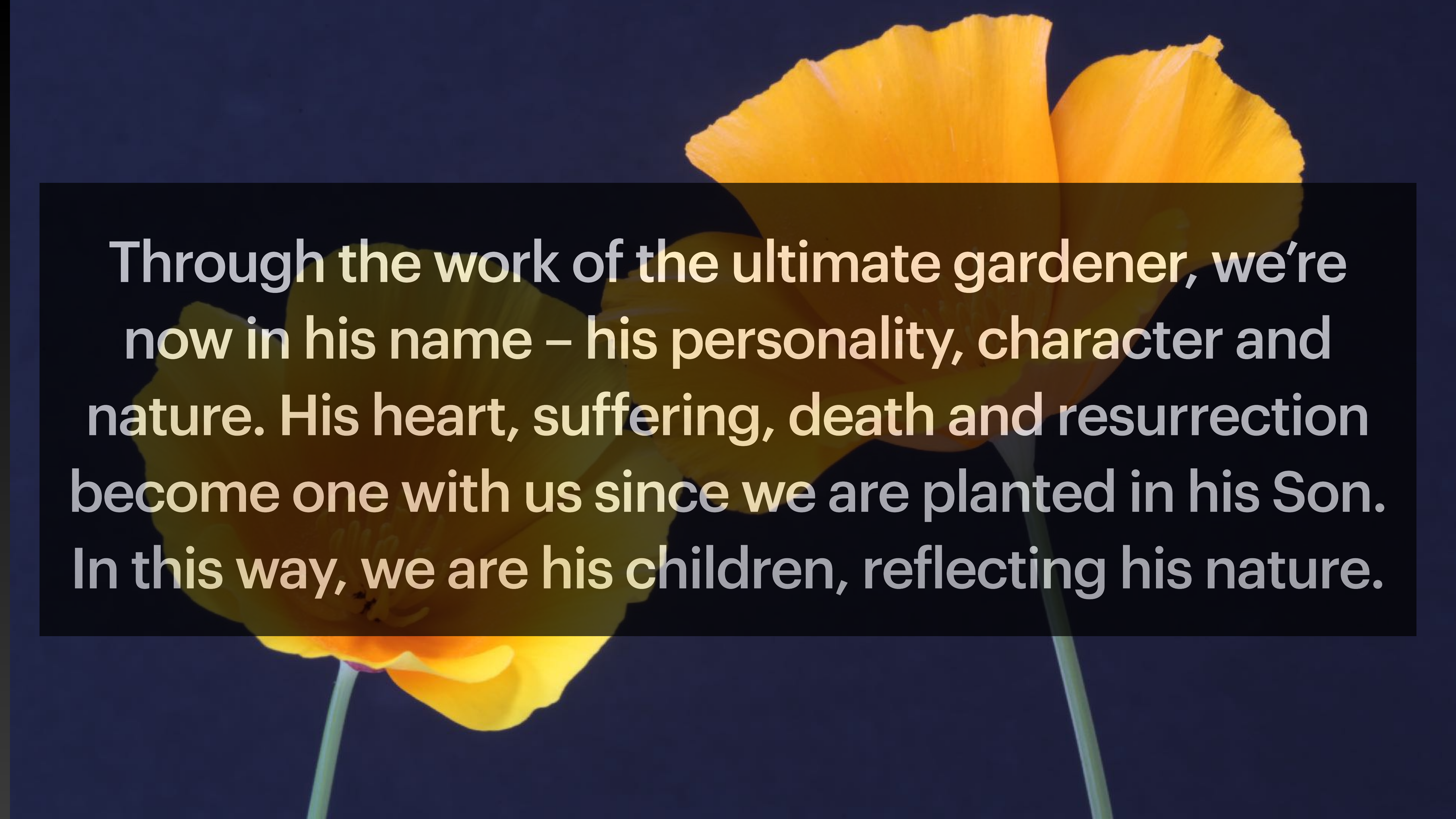
The Father plants us into the soil of Christ. Then, he covers us with dirt – the dust of our origins – and it seems we're lost (Gen 2:7; Luke 9:24).



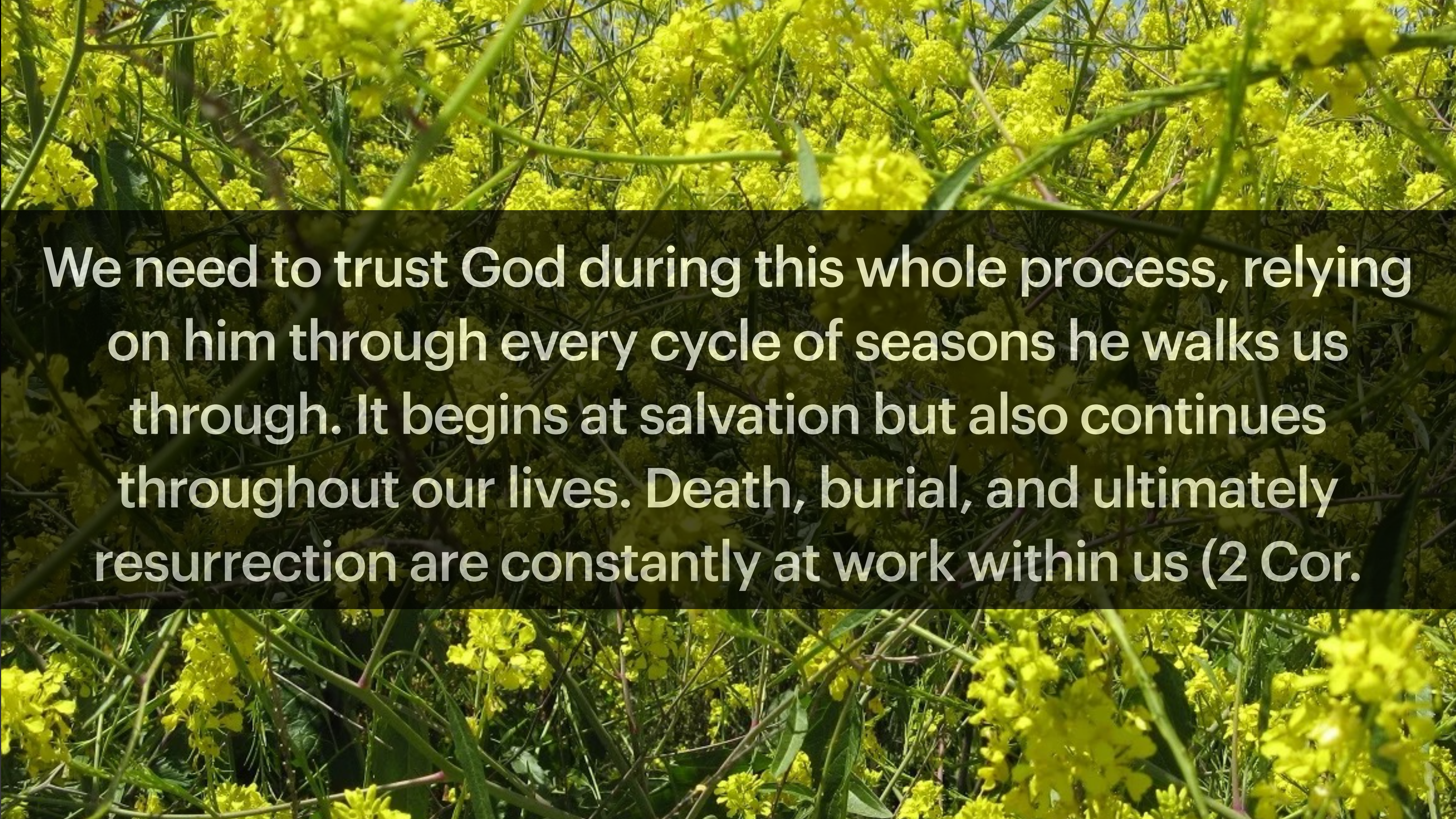
Out of this place  
of hiddenness  
and darkness,  
new life springs.  
It's a new life  
that's rooted in  
him rather than  
ourselves.





The image features two vibrant yellow flowers, possibly poppies, set against a dark blue background. The flowers are positioned in the upper right and lower left areas. A semi-transparent black rectangular box is centered over the image, containing white text. The text is a religious or philosophical statement about the relationship between the divine and humanity, using the metaphor of being planted in the Son of God.

Through the work of the ultimate gardener, we're now in his name – his personality, character and nature. His heart, suffering, death and resurrection become one with us since we are planted in his Son. In this way, we are his children, reflecting his nature.



**We need to trust God during this whole process, relying on him through every cycle of seasons he walks us through. It begins at salvation but also continues throughout our lives. Death, burial, and ultimately resurrection are constantly at work within us (2 Cor.**



# THE SEED

"Then Jesus asked, 'What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to? It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches'"  
(Luke 13:18-19, NIV).

## *the seed is...*

S

### SMALL & SIMPLE

The seed is God's secret weapon. It's unassuming and overlooked, yet able to break through concrete because of the power residing within (Mark 4:30-32; 1 Sam. 17:20-54; 2 Cor. 12:9-10).

e

### EMBEDDED

The seed's power is unleashed when embedded. If you don't plant a seed into the soil, it's vulnerable. However, you'll discover the secret of its identity when you hide it in the right spot. The Father is the gardener that plants you like a seed into Christ. In him, you flourish (Col. 3:3; Matt. 17:20; Luke 17:6).

e

### ENCODED

God encodes every seed with DNA. The DNA instructs the seed on its identity, response to the environment and purpose. God's Word is also like a seed within your heart, guiding you to become like Jesus (Luke 8:11; 1 Pet. 1:23; 1 John 3:9).

D

### DESTINED TO DIE TO PRODUCE LIFE

After the seed is 'lost' in the ground, it undergoes the process of decay. This causes it to produce roots, life and harvest. Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

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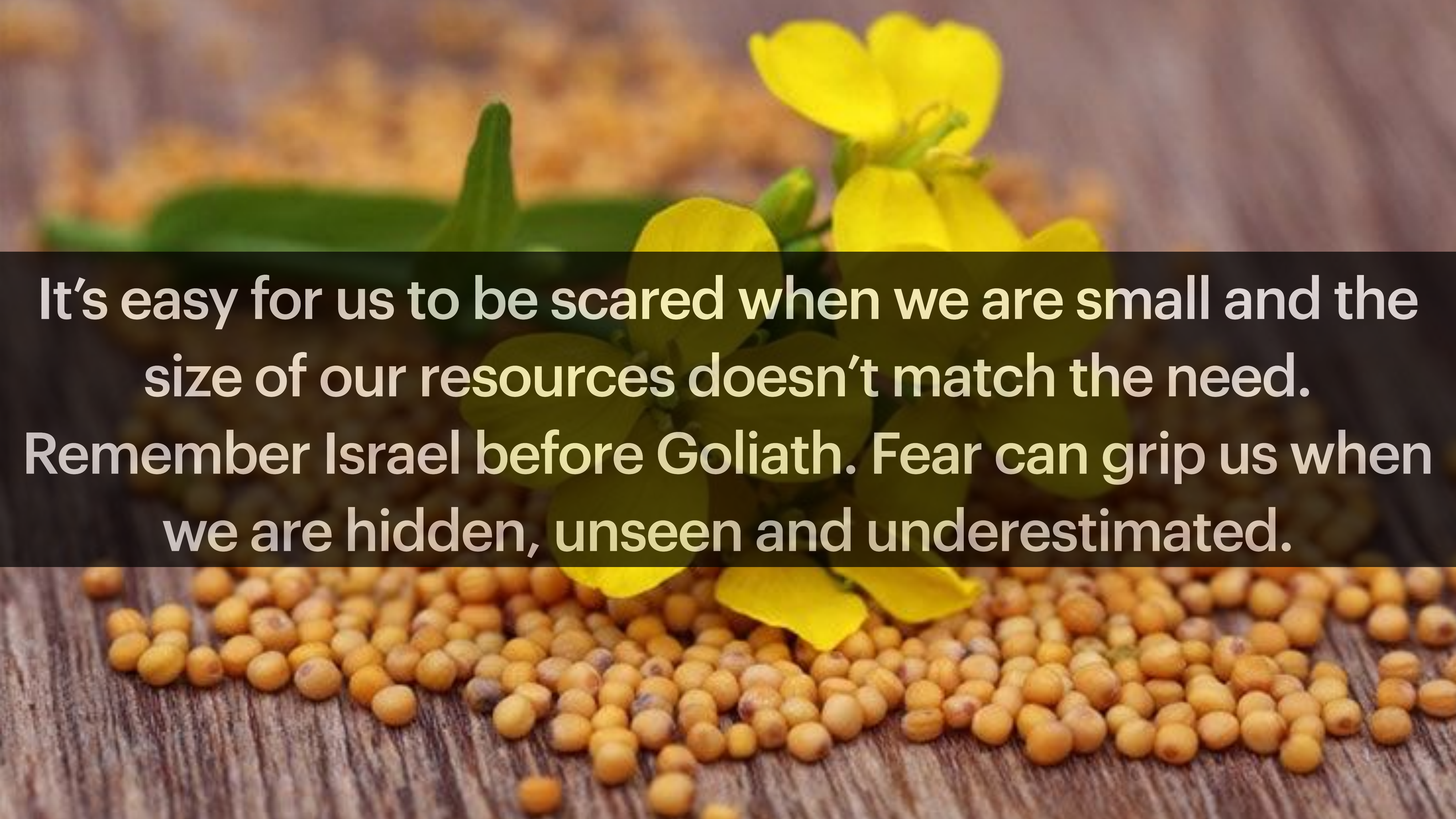
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**It's easy for us to be scared when we are small and the size of our resources doesn't match the need. Remember Israel before Goliath. Fear can grip us when we are hidden, unseen and underestimated.**



Losing yourself in God takes trust. It's in these times that we need to remember the seed. The seed of your life in the Father's hands will advance God's Kingdom, causing the Kingdom to take over like the mustard seed.