



FIRST THESSALONIANS

**Following Jesus is absolutely
lifechanging!**

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one
who takes refuge in him.

Psalm 34:8 (NIV)



When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.

Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.

Ephesians 3:14–21 (NLT)

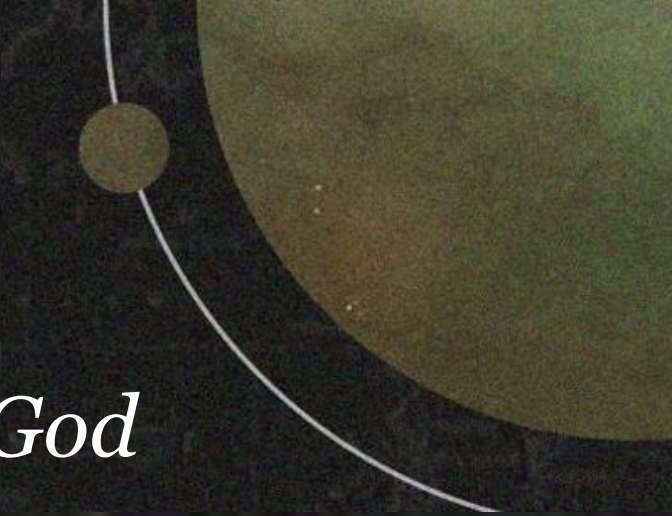


And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.

May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.

Ephesians 3:14–21 (NLT)





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There is a God we want, and there is a God who is—and they are not the same God. The turning point of our lives is when we stop seeking the God we want and start seeking the God who is.



Anytime I focus on just one attribute of
God, I will come away with a distorted
view of who God is.

God is the totality of all His attributes.

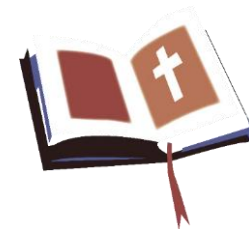
Jesus Is Returning —Am I Ready?

- Following Jesus is absolutely lifechanging!

The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere.

Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us.

1 Thessalonians 1:8–10 (NIV)



They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and **to wait for his Son from heaven**, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

1 Thessalonians 1:8–10 (NIV)



They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky?”

This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Acts 1:10–11 (NIV)



So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Matthew 24:44 (NIV)



Jesus came to rescue me from the coming wrath

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They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

1 Thessalonians 1:9–10 (NIV)



for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will
be **saved**.”

Romans 10:13 (NIV)



If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be **saved**.

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are **saved**.

Romans 10:9–10 (NIV)



I must accept that I need
to be rescued before I
can be saved.



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to **save** the world through him.

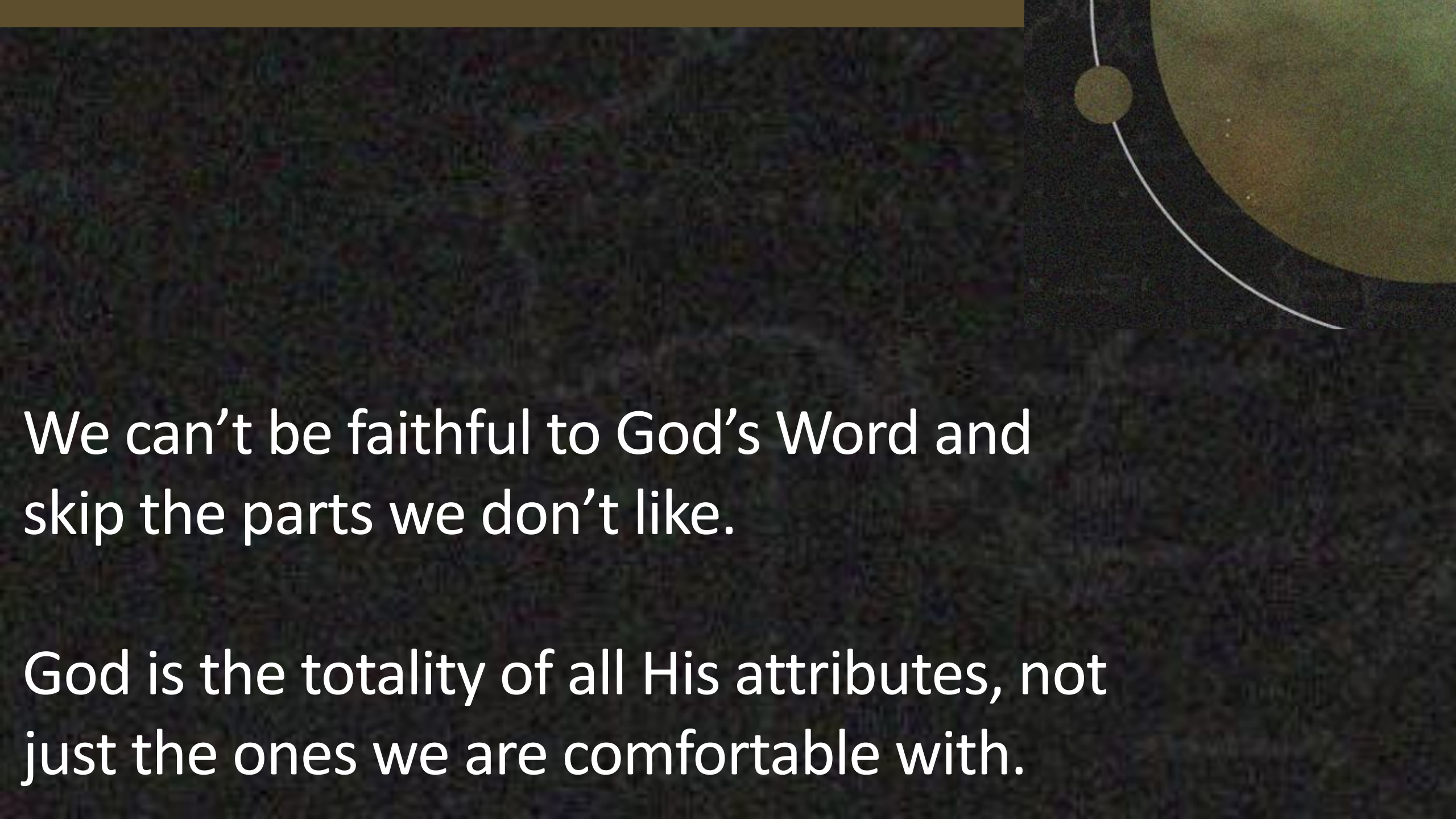
John 3:16–18 (NIV)



Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

John 3:16–18 (NIV)





We can't be faithful to God's Word and
skip the parts we don't like.

God is the totality of all His attributes, not
just the ones we are comfortable with.

**When I truly understand Christ's love, I
want others to know Him too.**

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- Jesus came to rescue me from the coming wrath

You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition.

1 Thessalonians 2:1–20 (NIV)



The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

Acts 16:16–40 (NIV)



For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

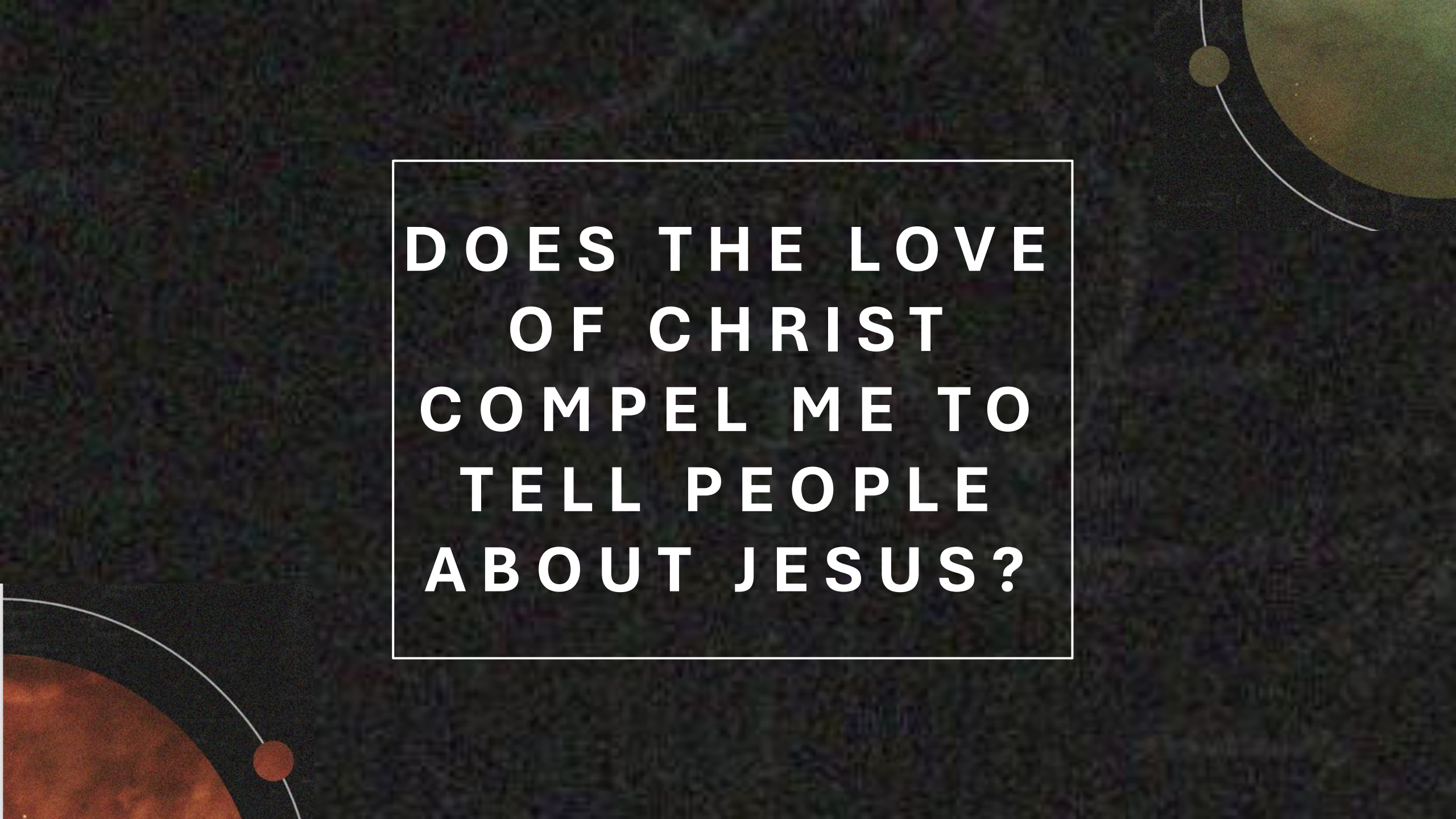
2 Corinthians 5:14–15 (NIV)



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When we really understand how deeply we have been loved by Jesus we can no longer live only for ourselves.

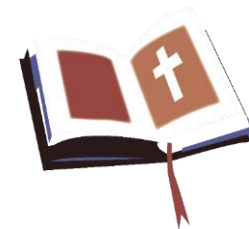
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**DOES THE LOVE
OF CHRIST
COMPEL ME TO
TELL PEOPLE
ABOUT JESUS?**

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ.

And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

2 Corinthians 5:17–21 (NLT)



For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

2 Corinthians 5:17–21 (NLT)



For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

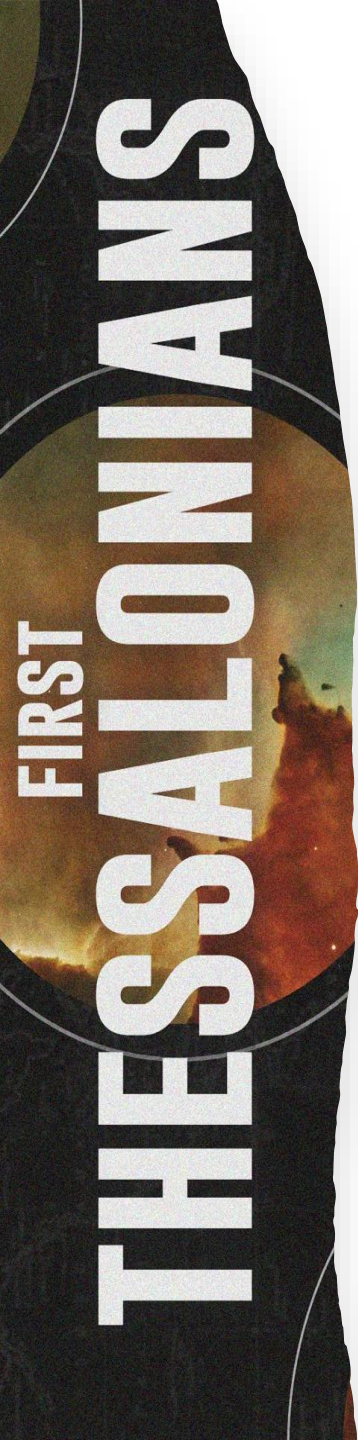
2 Corinthians 5:17–21 (NLT)



Though I am the least deserving of all God's people,
he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the
Gentiles about the endless treasures available to
them in Christ.

Ephesians 3:8 (NLT)





FIRST THESSALONIANS

- Following Jesus is absolutely lifechanging!
- Jesus Is Returning—Am I Ready?
- Jesus came to rescue me from the coming wrath
- Sharing Christ is not always easy, but it is always worth it.

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THESSALONIANS