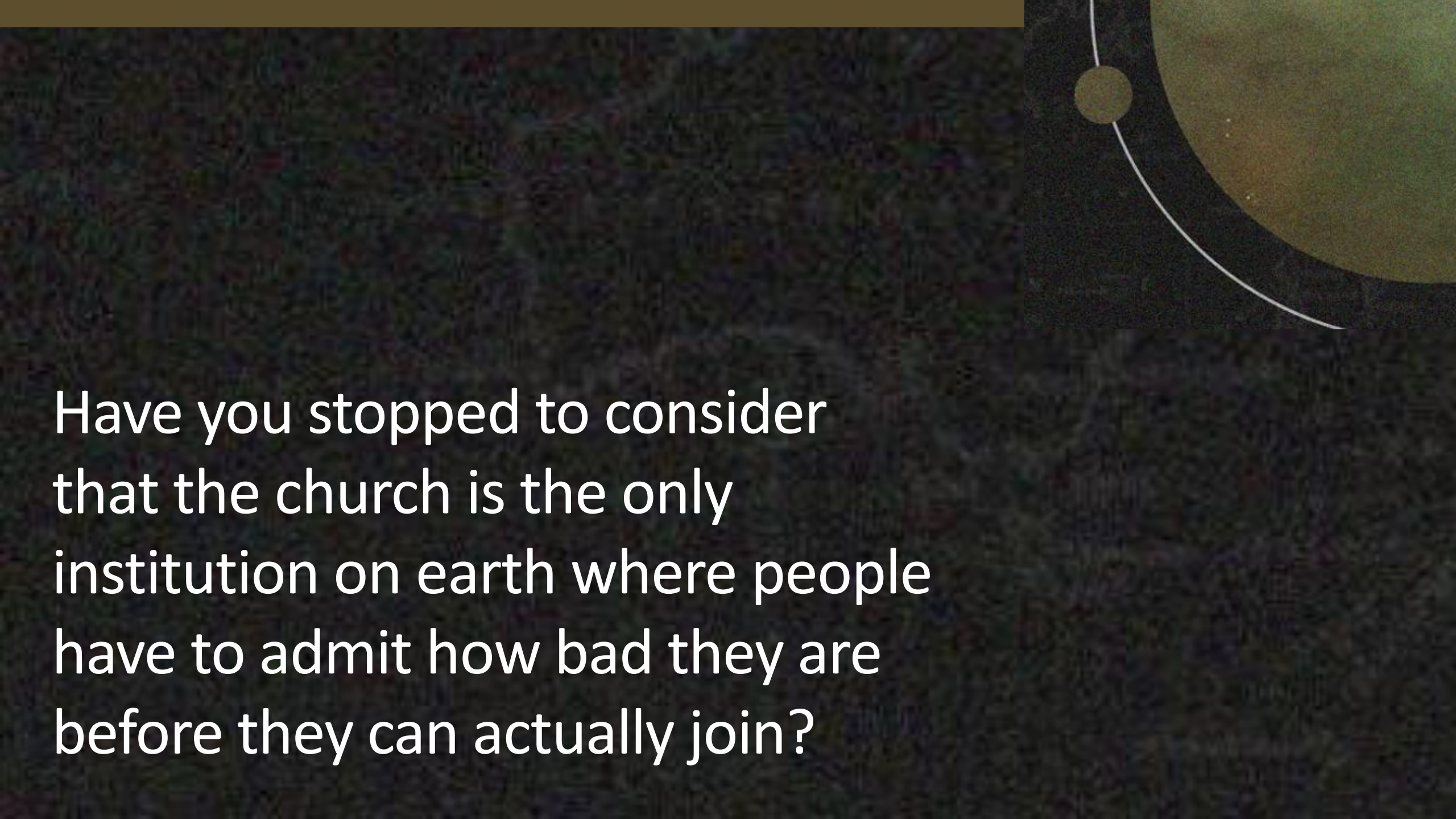




FIRST THESSALONIANS



Have you stopped to consider
that the church is the only
institution on earth where people
have to admit how bad they are
before they can actually join?

Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NIV)



And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NIV)



The Second Pledge - I will seek to be a source of unity in the church

I am a church member: I understand that Jesus said that the world needs to see that we are one so they will believe the message of the cross of Christ. We may have different preferences, but I am willing to focus on what we have in common instead of our differences.

The Third Pledge - I will not expect my church to be perfect

I am a church member: I realize that the church is made up of people who are not perfect, so the church will not be perfect. I am a work in progress and so is the person sitting next to me. God is working in all our lives to make us more like Jesus, so I will be patient and show others the grace God has shown me.

The Fourth Pledge - I will see my church as a place to invest in others

I am a church member: I realize that the church is a family to belong to. I will be purposeful about building relationships, supporting my church family and praying for my church leadership so each member can grow in their walk with Jesus.

**FIRST
THESSALONIANS**

What should a pastor be doing?

Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

1 Thessalonians 5:12 (NIV)



Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you.

1 Thessalonians 2:9 (NIV)



... Throw yourself into your tasks so that everyone will see your progress.

1 Timothy 4:15 (NLT)



Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will
fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2 (NIV)



Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Romans 12:15 (NIV)



How should I treat my pastor?

- What should a pastor be doing?

Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you.

Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NIV)



Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account.

Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

Hebrews 13:17 (NIV)



The background is a dark, textured space with stylized celestial elements. In the top right, a large greenish-yellow planet is partially visible, with a small brown dot and a white orbital line nearby. In the bottom left, a large reddish-orange planet is partially visible, with a small red dot and a white orbital line nearby. The text is centered in a white rectangular box.

A NEW CHURCH
OFTEN SEEMS
BETTER BECAUSE
THE RELATIONSHIPS
ARE STILL SURFACE-
LEVEL AND
UNCOMPLICATED.

Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses.

But those elders who are sinning you are to reprove before everyone, so that the others may take warning.

1 Timothy 5:19–20 (NIV)



Wait—this is my responsibility too?

- What should a pastor be doing?
- How should I treat my pastor?

And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.

1 Thessalonians 5:14-15 (NIV)



Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many.

Hebrews 12:15 (NLT)



Living out my faith in the church

- What should a pastor be doing?
- How should I treat my pastor?
- Wait—this is my responsibility too?

Rejoice always

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)



Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord.

Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

Nehemiah 8:10 (NIV)



But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our
lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness,

Galatians 5:22 (NLT)



pray continually,

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NIV)



The image features a dark, textured background. In the bottom-left corner, there is a partial view of a reddish-orange celestial body, possibly Mars, with a thin white orbital line and a small red dot. Large, white, stylized quotation marks are positioned on the left side of the image.

“

We need to learn to
live with an awareness
of the presence of
God in our lives.

The more I realize God is
always with me, the more
awkward it becomes to not
acknowledge His presence.



Do not quench the Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 (NIV)



FIRST THESSALONIANS

Disobedience prevents the Holy Spirit
from working fully within us.

Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them
all; hold on to what is good,

1 Thessalonians 5:20–21 (NIV)



Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1 John 4:1 (NIV)



If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

1 John 1:6 (NIV)



Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Acts 17:11 (NIV)



If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does not take place or come true, that is a message the Lord has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.

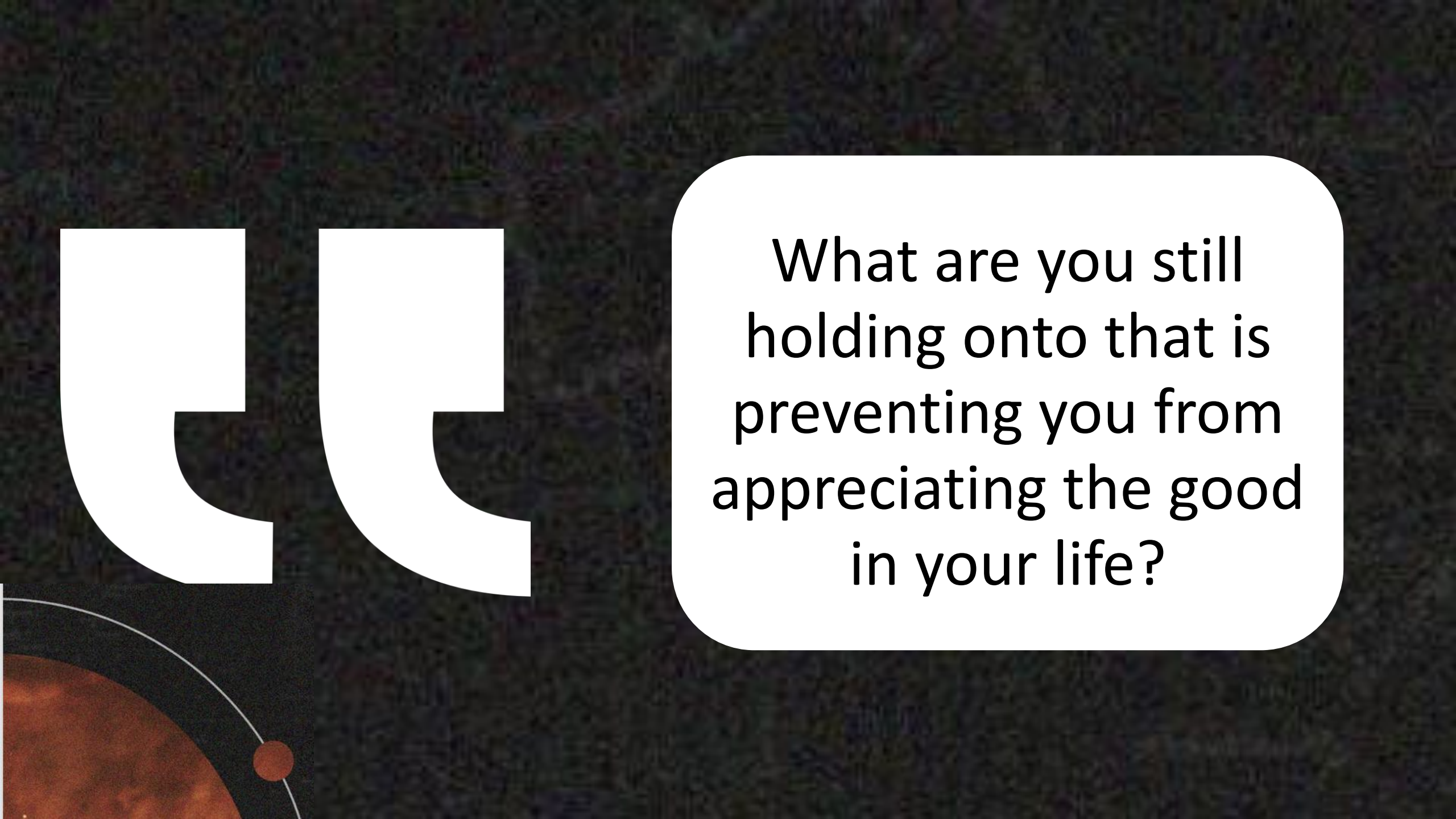
Deuteronomy 18:22 (NIV)



Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he
will never let the righteous be shaken.

Psalm 55:22 (NIV)





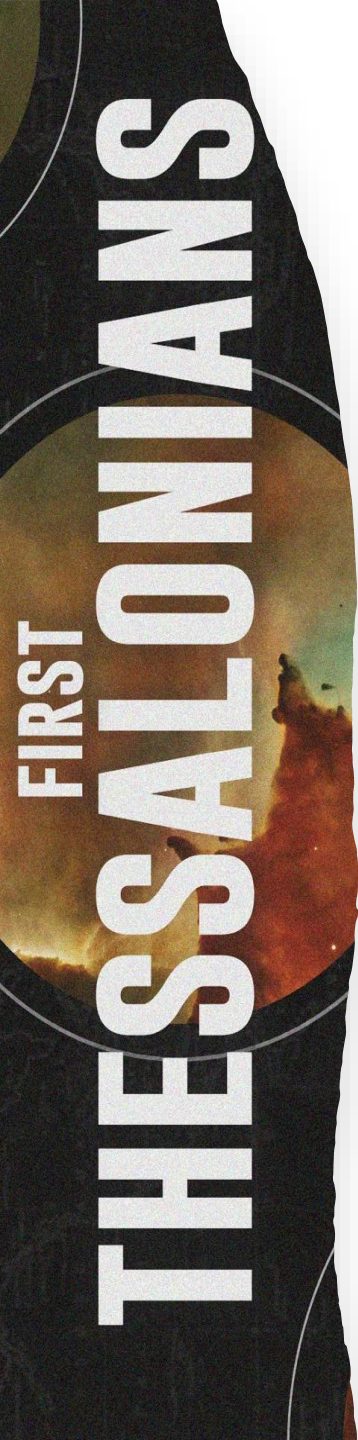
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What are you still
holding onto that is
preventing you from
appreciating the good
in your life?

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NIV)





FIRST THESSALONIANS

- What should a pastor be doing?
- How should I treat my pastor?
- Wait—this is my responsibility too?
- Living out my faith in the church

FIRST
THESSALONIANS