



**The Mustard Seed and the Leaven**  
*Matthew 13:30-33 ; Mark 4:30-32 ; Luke 13:18-21*

Four Voices, One  
Story

A HARMONY OF THE GOSPELS

## Step 1



Scan QR Code or Go To:  
<https://attend.wordly.ai/join/UUCZ-2933>

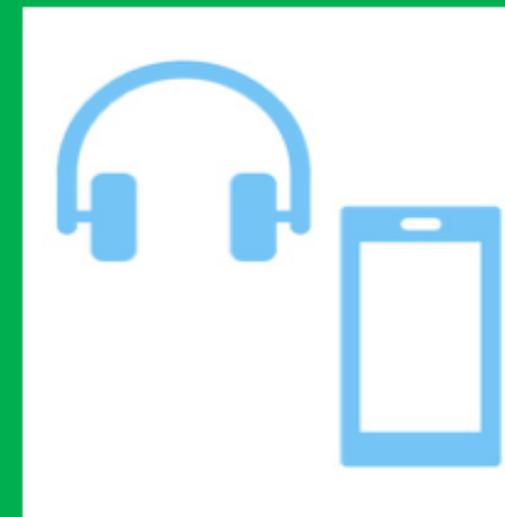
## Step 2

A screenshot of the Wordly web interface. At the top left is the Wordly logo (a blue speech bubble with 'W' and the word 'wordly' in blue). Below it, in red, is the text 'AI-POWERED INTERPRETATION'. There are two input fields: 'Choose language \*' with a dropdown menu showing 'English (US)', and 'Enter Session ID \*' with a text input field. Below these is a 'More options' link with a question mark icon. At the bottom center is a blue 'Attend' button.

Choose Language  
Click Attend



## Step 3



Read Captions on Device  
Use Headset for Audio

# The Word Without Borders



For Next Week:

Matt 13:44-52

Luke 5:1-11

Four Voices, One Story  
A HARMONY OF THE GOSPELS

*the*  
**branch**  
Calvary Chapel

# CALL TO THE WORD

**Matthew 13:31-33 (NKJV)**

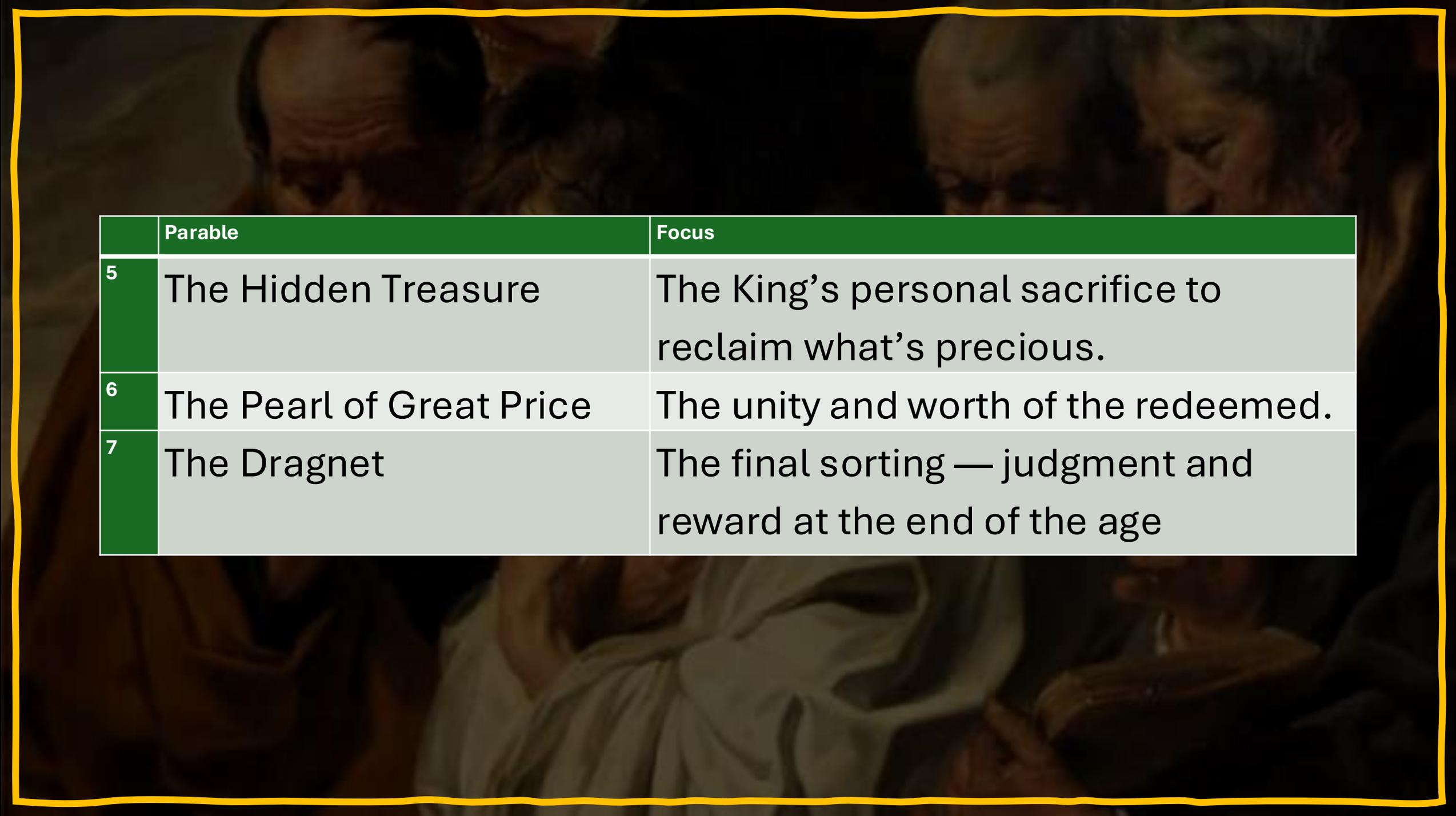




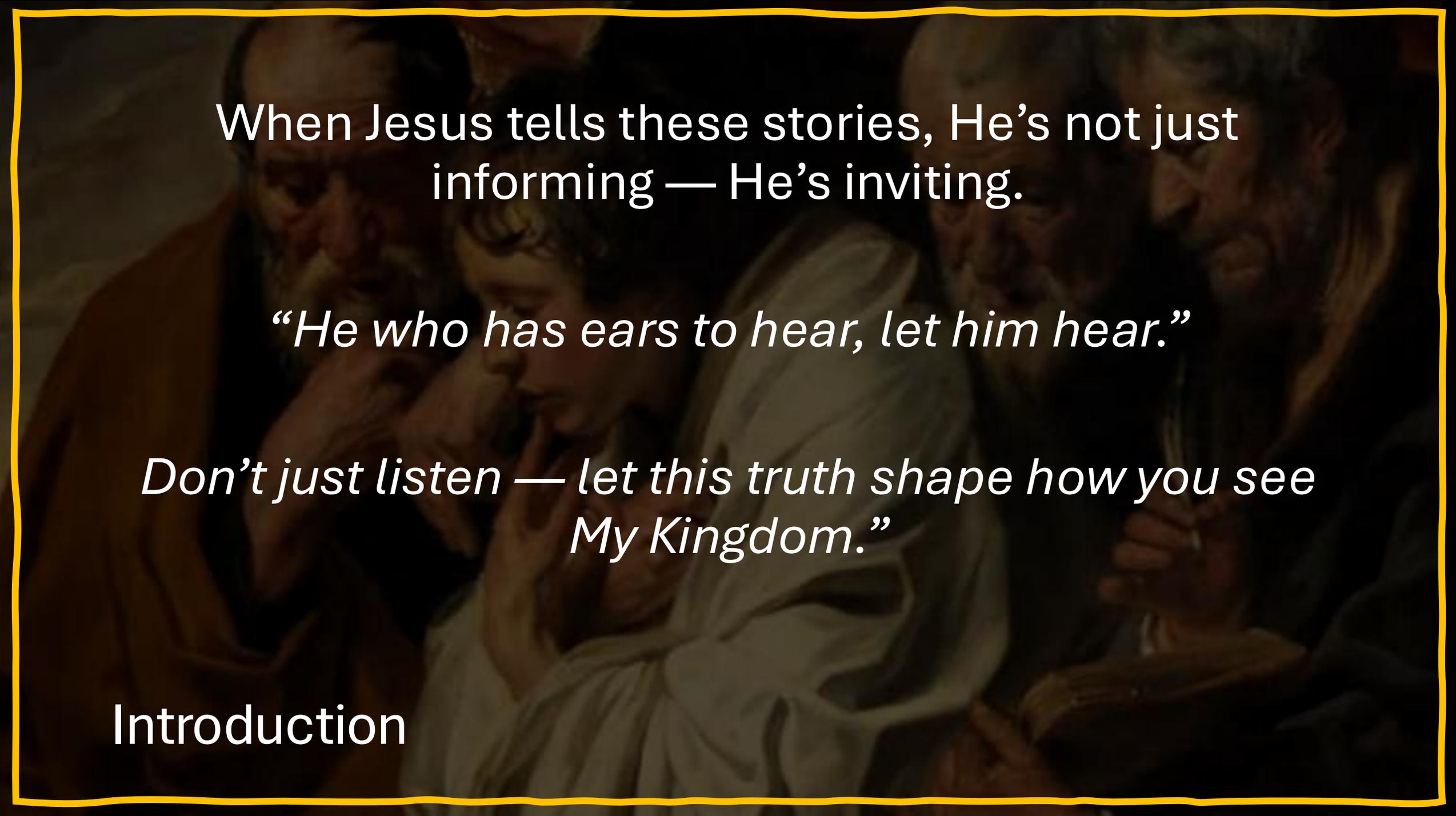
Intro

Small Beginnings, Big Results

	Parable	Focus
1	The Sower	The Word planted — how people respond to truth.
2	The Wheat and Tares	The mixture — good and evil growing together until the end.
3	The Mustard Seed	Outward growth — small beginnings that become vast and visible.
4	The Leaven	The Negative Inward influence — the hidden work that spreads quietly through everything.



	Parable	Focus
5	The Hidden Treasure	The King's personal sacrifice to reclaim what's precious.
6	The Pearl of Great Price	The unity and worth of the redeemed.
7	The Dragnet	The final sorting — judgment and reward at the end of the age



When Jesus tells these stories, He's not just informing — He's inviting.

*“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”*

*Don't just listen — let this truth shape how you see My Kingdom.”*

Introduction



Mat 13:31-32; Mark 4:30-32; Luke 13:18-19

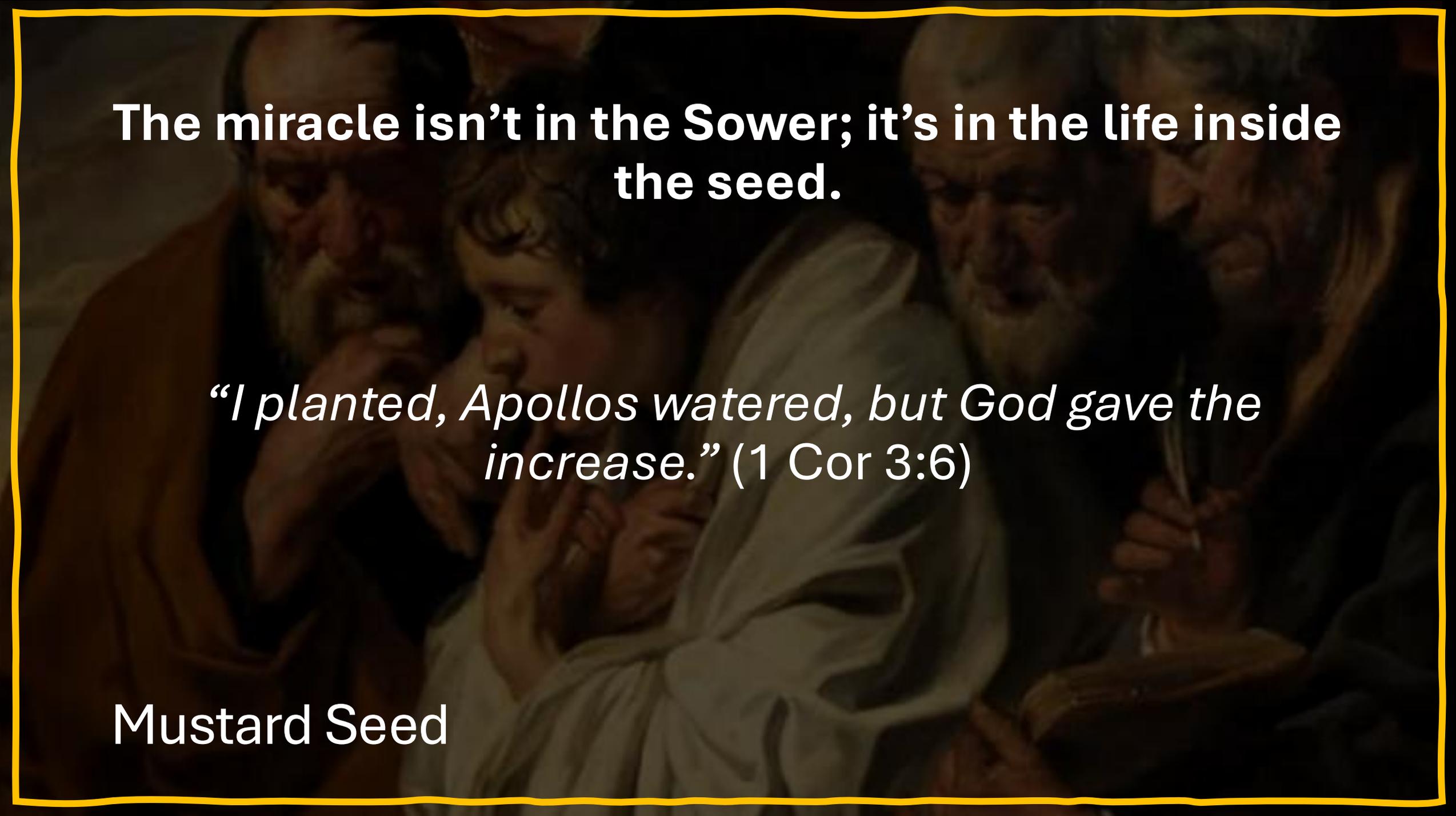


From the seed of one Carpenter, twelve followers, no budget, no social media strategy—the gospel has reached billions.

Out of 8 billion people in the world, 31%, 2.6 billion are Christian

***“These men have turned the world upside down!”***  
**(Acts 17:6)**

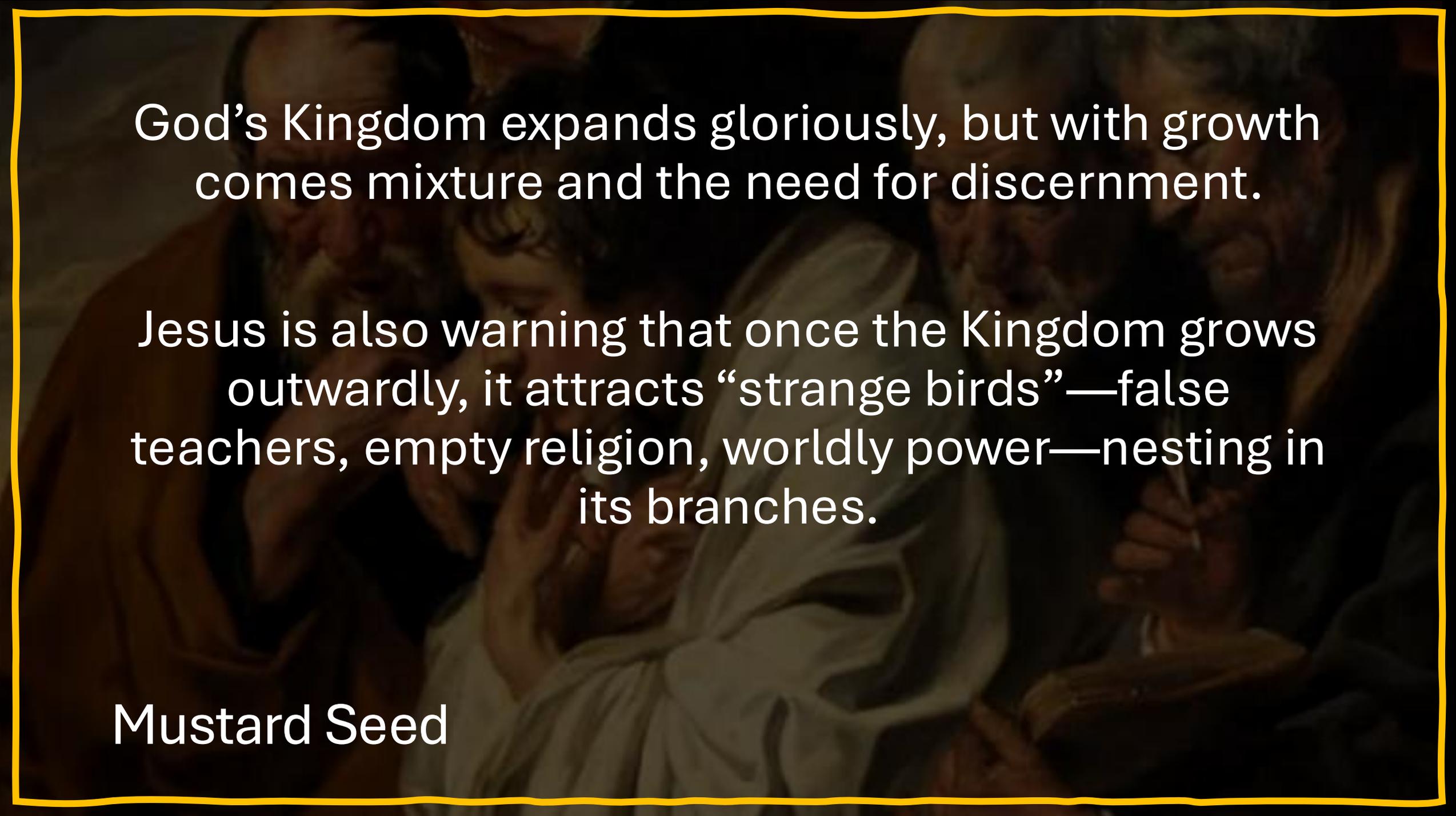
Mustard Seed

A group of people, including a man in a white robe, are gathered together, possibly in a church or a community setting. The man in the white robe is speaking to the group. The background is dark, and the overall atmosphere is one of a religious or spiritual gathering.

**The miracle isn't in the Sower; it's in the life inside  
the seed.**

*“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the  
increase.” (1 Cor 3:6)*

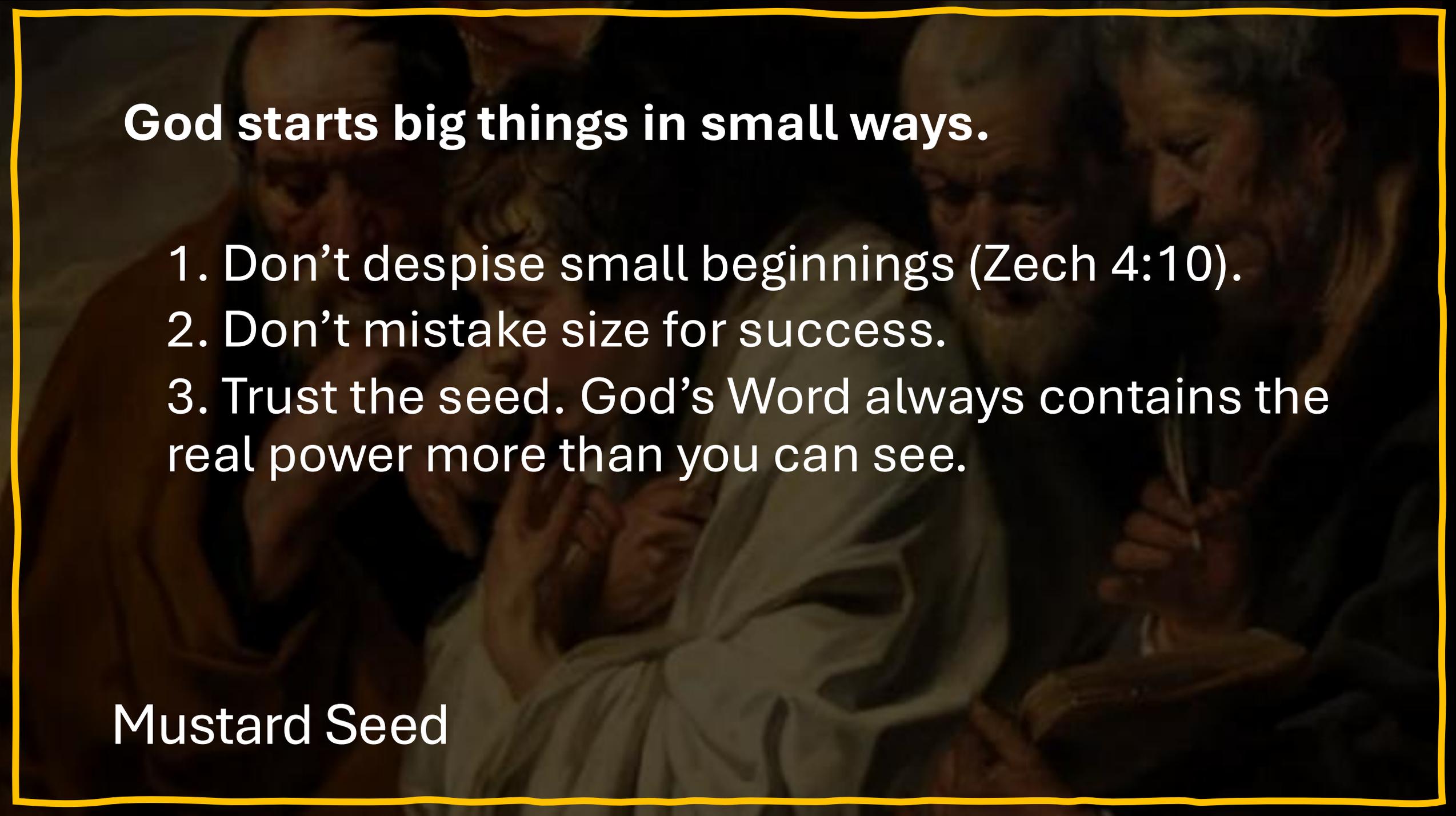
**Mustard Seed**



God's Kingdom expands gloriously, but with growth comes mixture and the need for discernment.

Jesus is also warning that once the Kingdom grows outwardly, it attracts “strange birds”—false teachers, empty religion, worldly power—nesting in its branches.

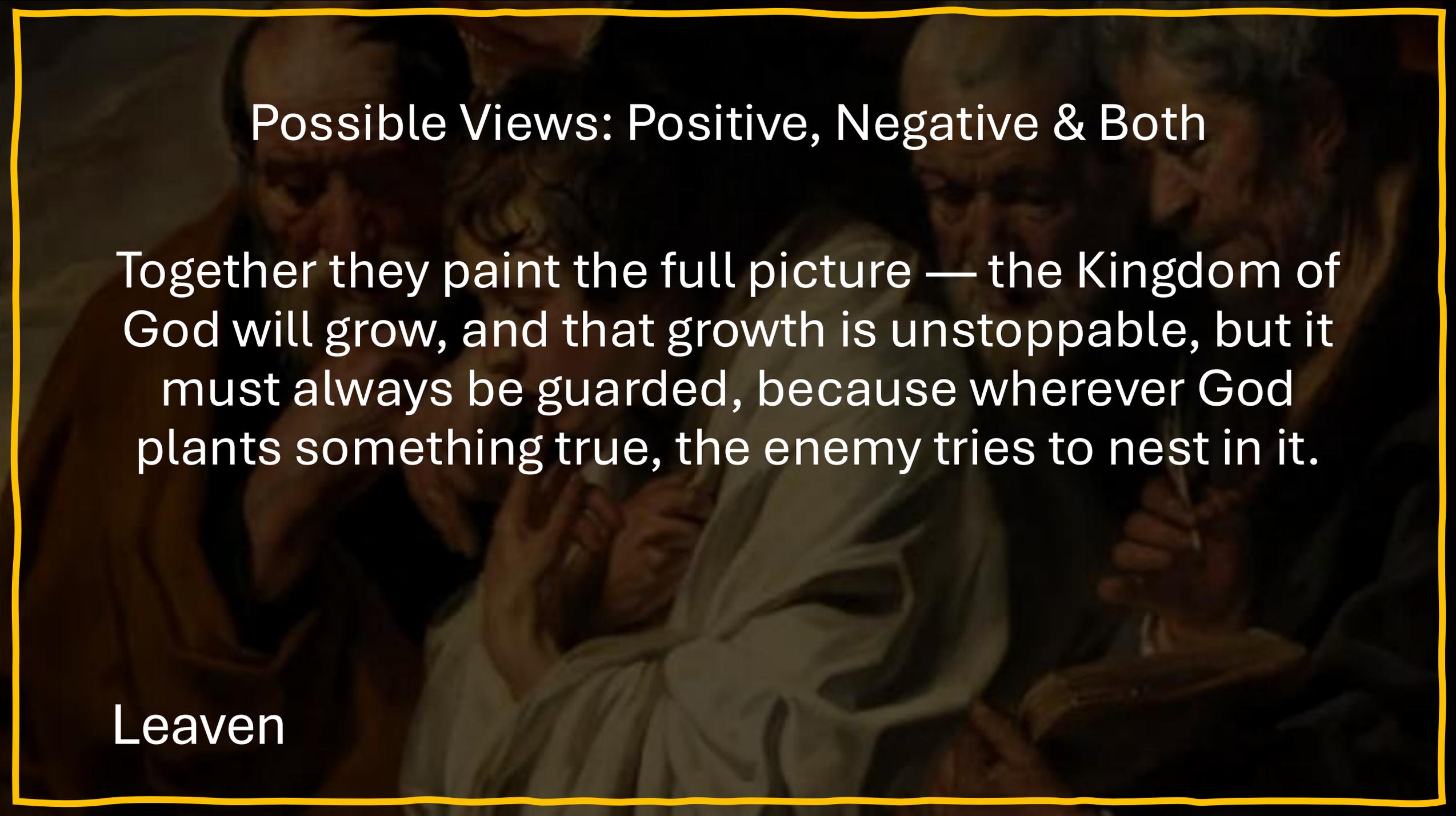
Mustard Seed



## God starts big things in small ways.

1. Don't despise small beginnings (Zech 4:10).
2. Don't mistake size for success.
3. Trust the seed. God's Word always contains the real power more than you can see.

Mustard Seed



## Possible Views: Positive, Negative & Both

Together they paint the full picture — the Kingdom of God will grow, and that growth is unstoppable, but it must always be guarded, because wherever God plants something true, the enemy tries to nest in it.

Leaven



(Luke) “To what shall I compare the kingdom of God?”

(Matthew) “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven,  
which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal  
— about a bushel of flour —

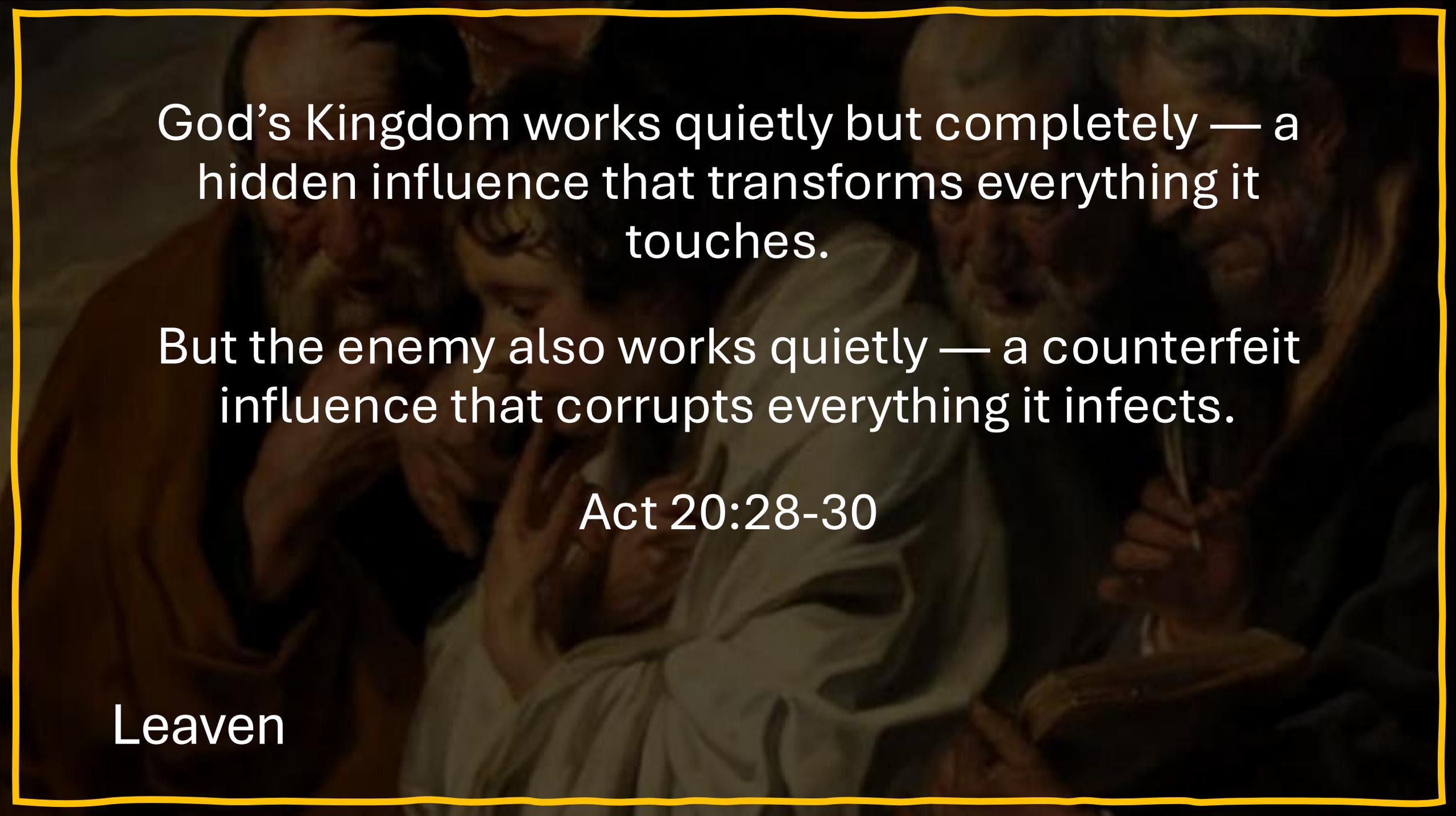
(Luke) and mixed into the dough,

(Matthew) until it was all leavened,

(Luke) till the whole was thoroughly leavened.”

*(Matthew 13:33 ; Luke 13:20-21)*

Leaven



God's Kingdom works quietly but completely — a hidden influence that transforms everything it touches.

But the enemy also works quietly — a counterfeit influence that corrupts everything it infects.

Act 20:28-30

Leaven

# Lessons from Church History: Early Church

Act 20-28-30

Even while the apostles were still alive, the church was already battling legalism, Gnosticism, and compromise.

Acts 15; 1Cor 5; 1Jn

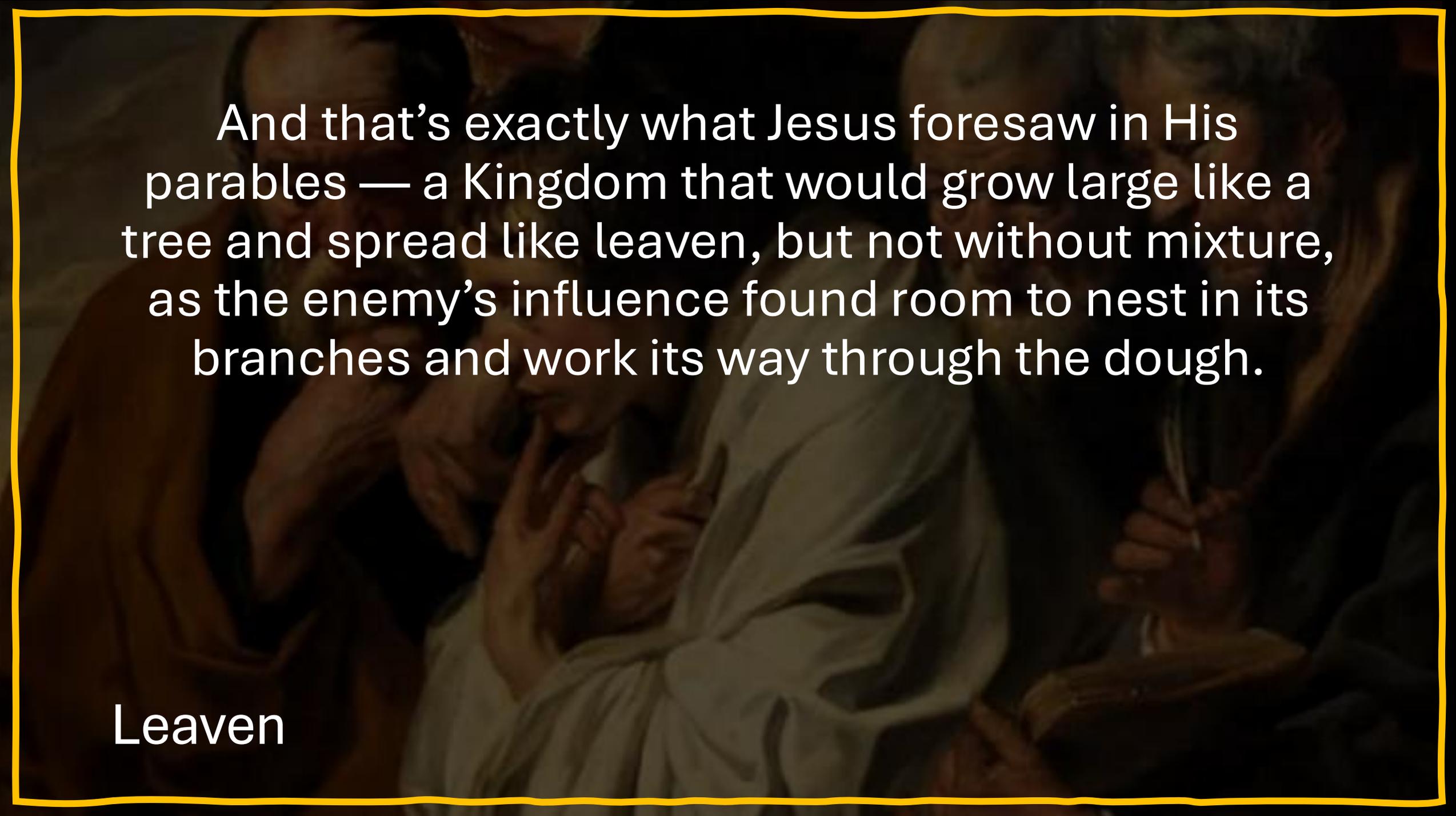
Leaven

## Lessons from Church History: God's Great Reset

The church had grown massive and powerful — a mighty tree with branches reaching across Europe — but the branches were full of “strange birds.”

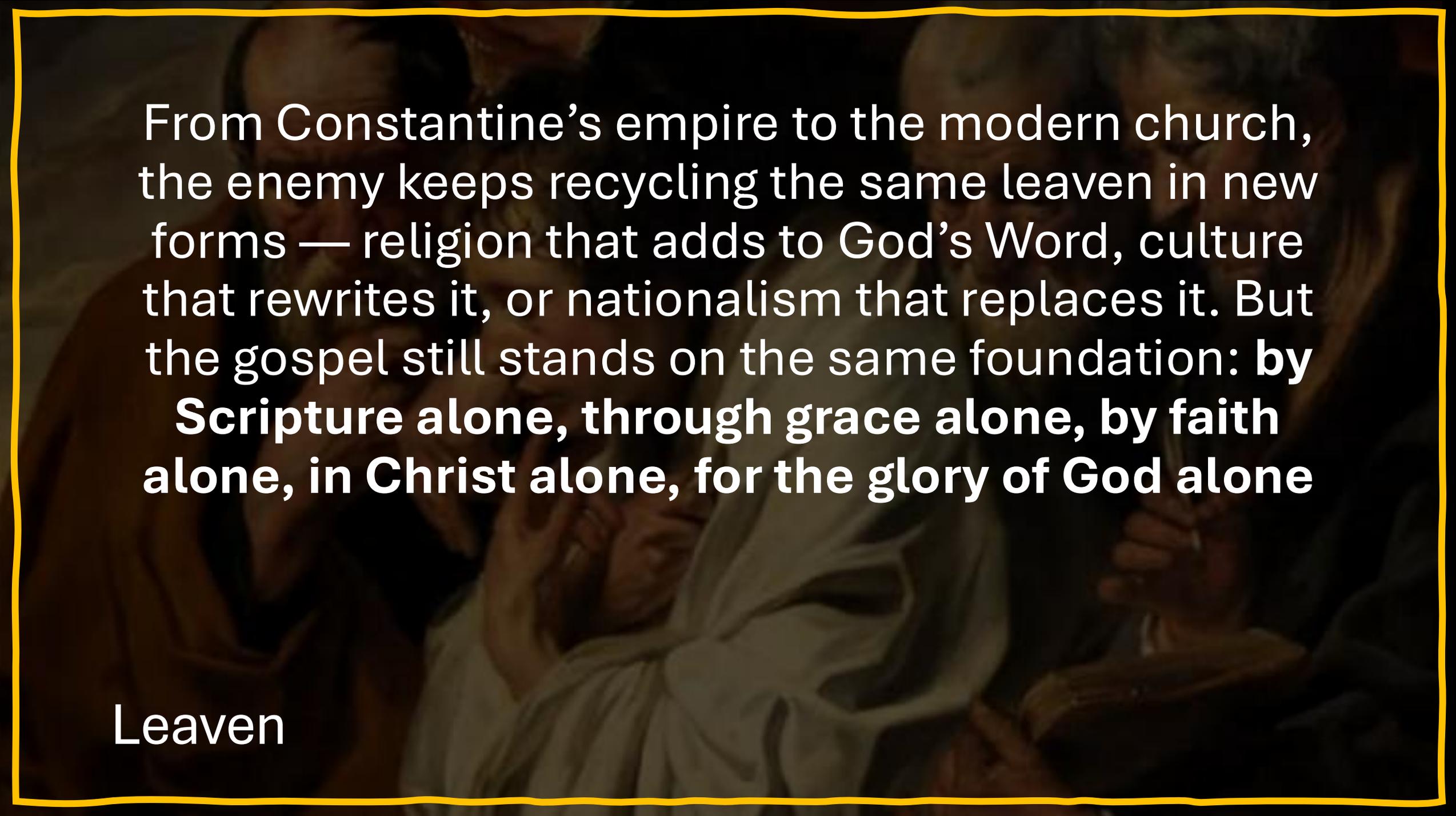
This led to the Reformation of Luther, Calvin & Knox and the Five Solas: **Scripture alone, faith alone, grace alone, Christ alone, to the Glory of God alone.**

Leaven

A group of people, likely a religious or cultural gathering, is shown in a dark setting. The image is framed by a yellow border. The text is overlaid on the image.

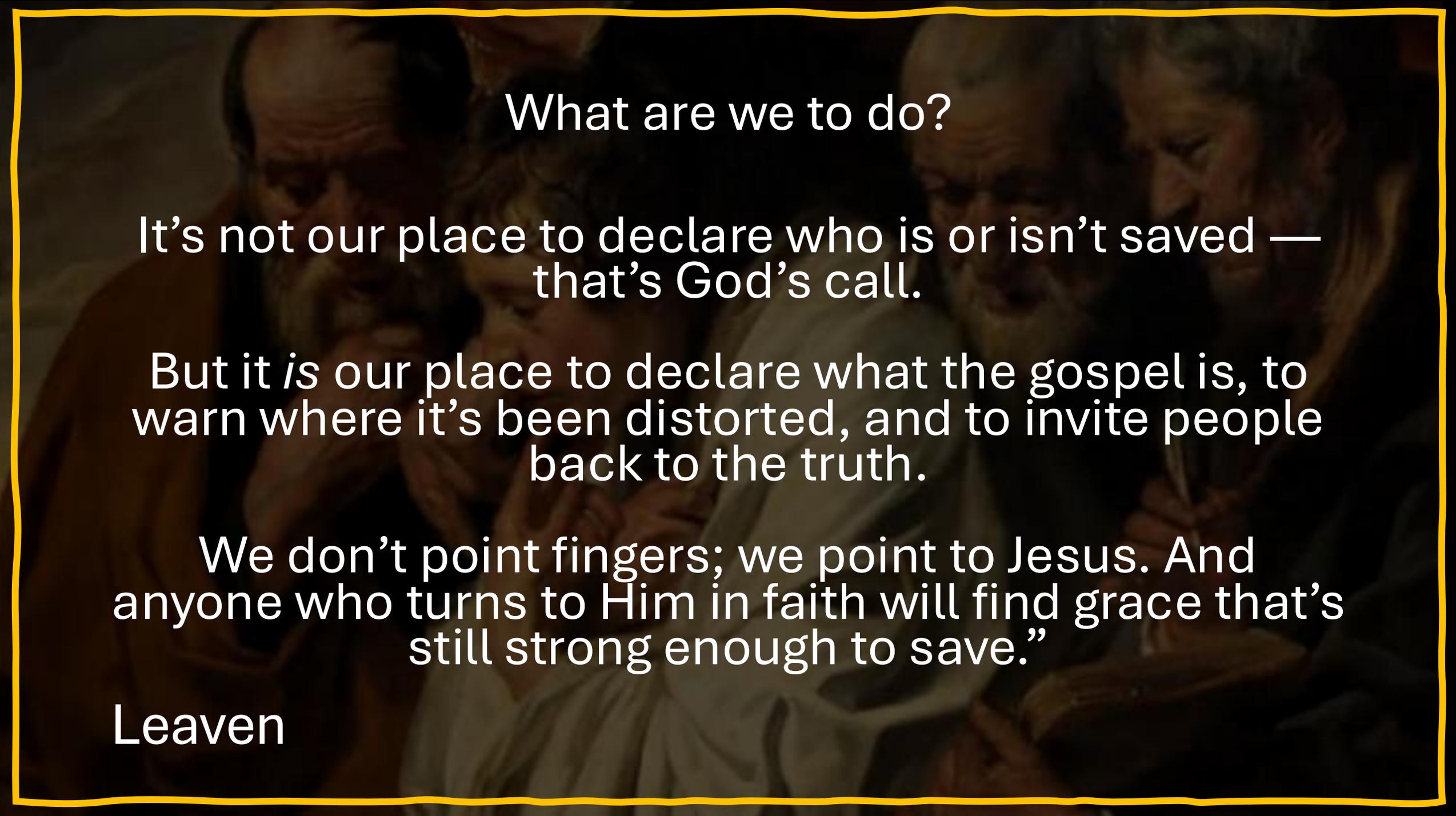
And that's exactly what Jesus foresaw in His parables — a Kingdom that would grow large like a tree and spread like leaven, but not without mixture, as the enemy's influence found room to nest in its branches and work its way through the dough.

Leaven



From Constantine's empire to the modern church, the enemy keeps recycling the same leaven in new forms — religion that adds to God's Word, culture that rewrites it, or nationalism that replaces it. But the gospel still stands on the same foundation: **by Scripture alone, through grace alone, by faith alone, in Christ alone, for the glory of God alone**

Leaven



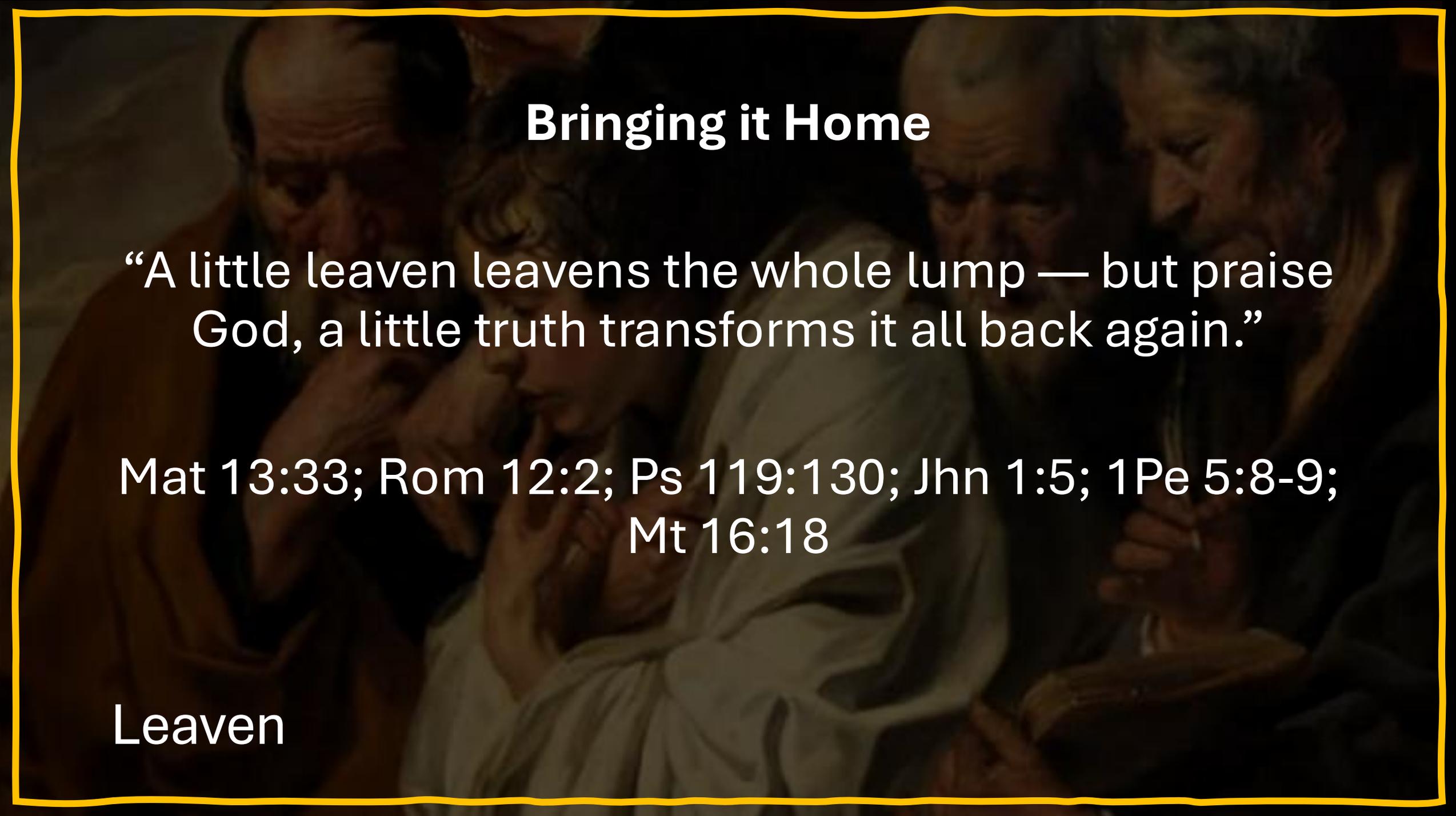
What are we to do?

It's not our place to declare who is or isn't saved — that's God's call.

But it *is* our place to declare what the gospel is, to warn where it's been distorted, and to invite people back to the truth.

We don't point fingers; we point to Jesus. And anyone who turns to Him in faith will find grace that's still strong enough to save.”

Leaven



## Bringing it Home

“A little leaven leavens the whole lump — but praise God, a little truth transforms it all back again.”

Mat 13:33; Rom 12:2; Ps 119:130; Jhn 1:5; 1Pe 5:8-9;  
Mt 16:18

Leaven



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