

# Acts.



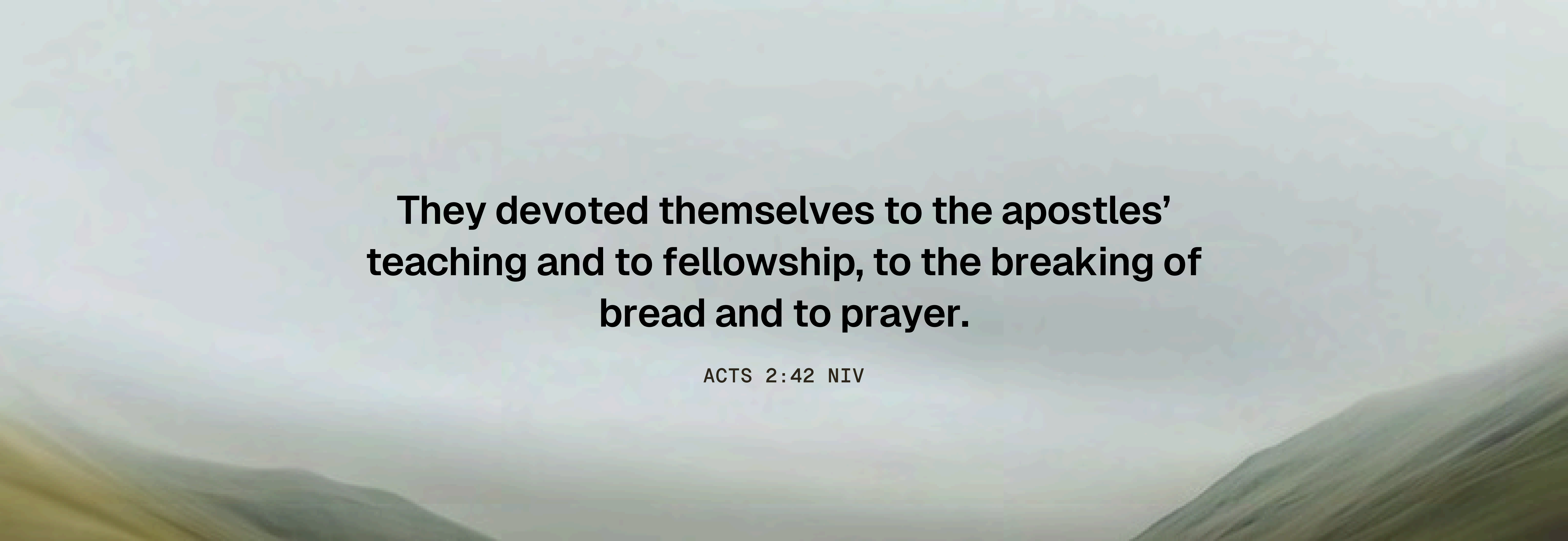
**Who are your favorite people  
to be around?**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.<sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.<sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common.<sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.<sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,<sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:42-47 NIV

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ACTS 2:42-47 NIV



**They devoted themselves to the apostles'  
teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of  
bread and to prayer.**

ACTS 2:42 NIV

**“They devoted themselves”**

**proskartereo**

from prós = implies motion, direction toward  
karteréo = be strong, steadfast, firm, endure

Continually devoting

It describes a steadfast single-minded fidelity to a certain course of action.

# Driven

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## SOURCE

Pressure — from ego, fear, comparison, ambition, insecurity, or the expectations of others.

## MOTIVATION

Achievement, recognition, proving oneself, or avoiding failure.

## FOCUS

Self-advancement and visible success.

## FRUIT

Restlessness, anxiety, burnout, strained relationships, lack of joy.

## EXAMPLE

Saul before David — consumed with protecting his throne, jealous, striving to control outcomes.



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# Called

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God's spirit and purpose.

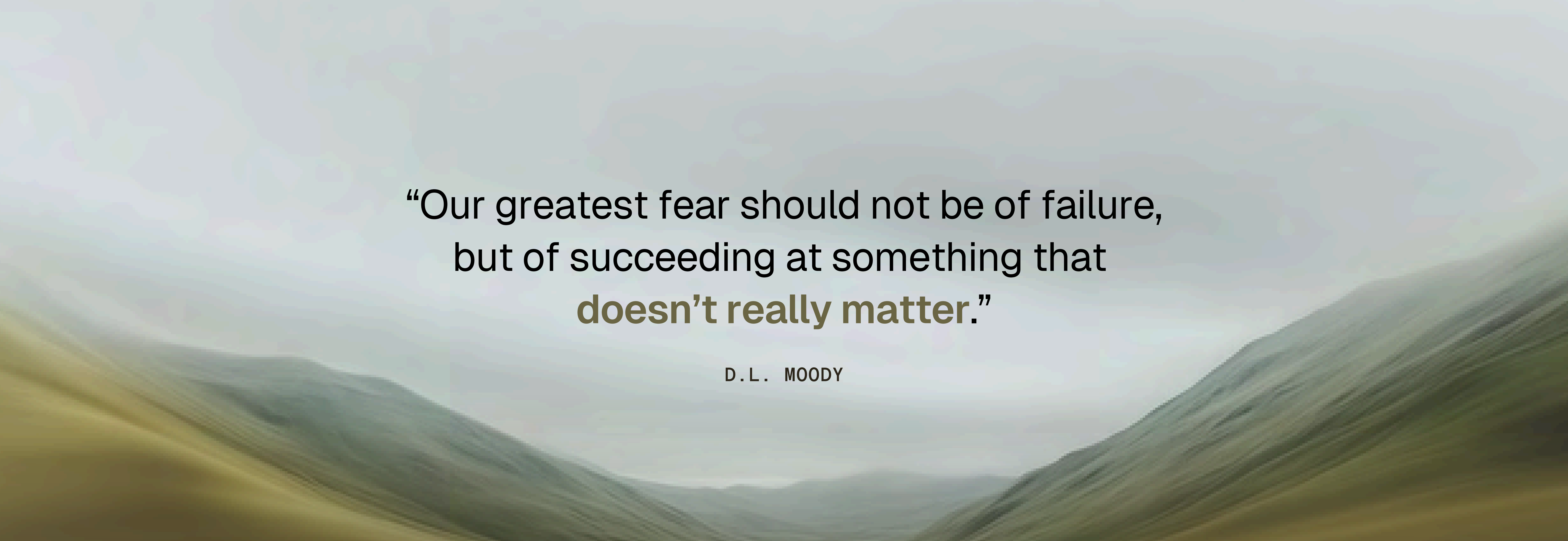
Obedience, faithfulness, love for God and others.

God's glory, others' good, and stewarding the gifts entrusted to them.

Peace, perseverance, humility, deep joy even in sacrifice, eternal impact.

David — anointed and called by God, patient to wait for God's timing, leading with a shepherd's heart.





“Our greatest fear should not be of failure,  
but of succeeding at something that  
**doesn't really matter.”**

D . L . MOODY

# Four Priorities

Apostles' Teaching

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

ACTS 2:42 NIV

# Apostles

- + 13 Men
- + Witnesses of Jesus' Resurrection
- + Given God's Word to Proclaim
- + Given the Gift of Healing
- + Given Authority in the Church



# Motivations to **Engage God's Word**

+ The God of the Universe has something to say to me.



# Motivations to Engage God's Word

- + The God of the Universe has something to say to me.
- + God's Word is eternal.

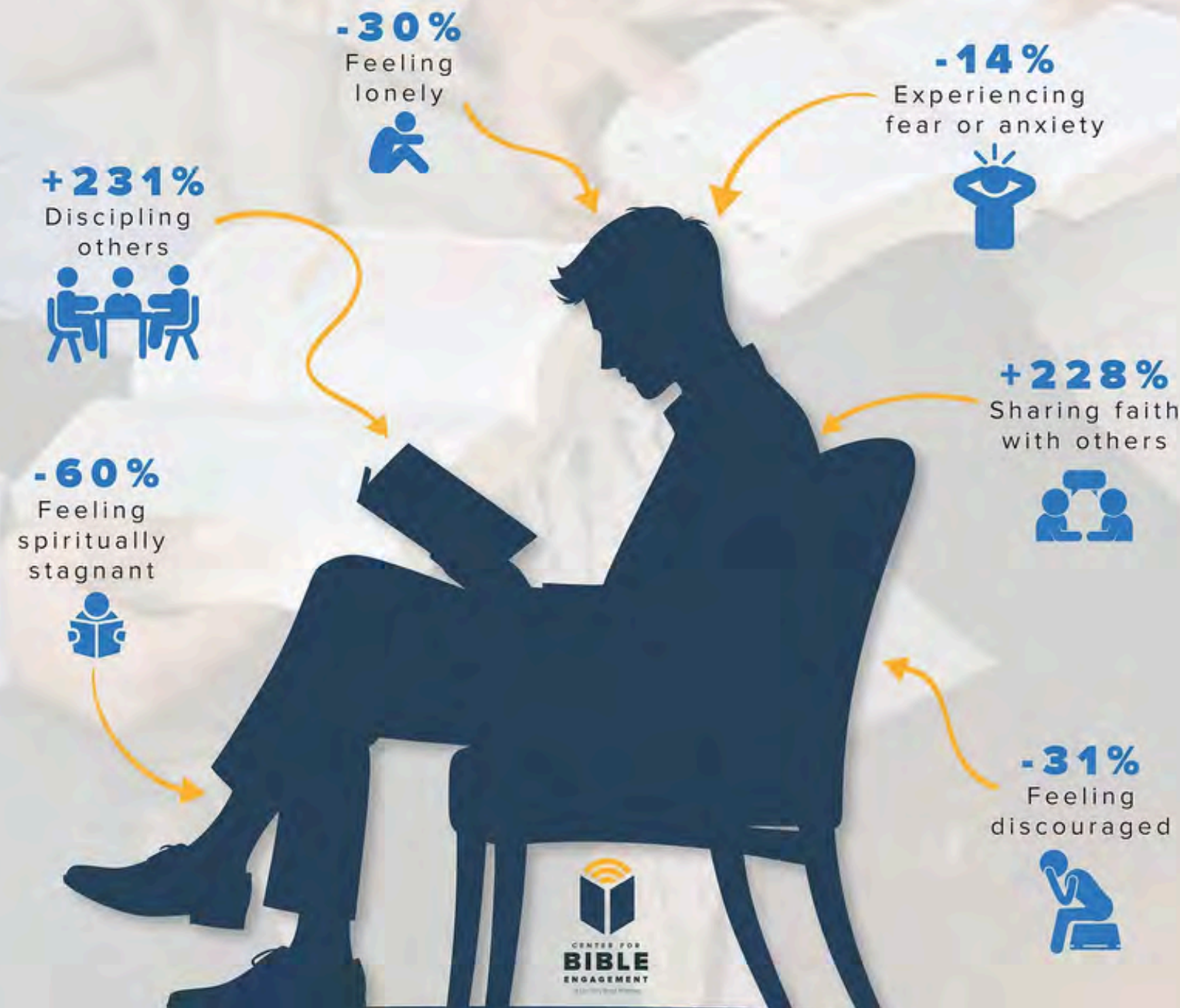


# Motivations to **Engage God's Word**

- + The God of the Universe has something to say to me.
- + God's Word is eternal.
- + **God's Word changes me.**

# DID YOU KNOW

Engaging in the Bible 4+ days per week is related to







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- + God's Word changes me.
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- + God's Word changes me.
- + Is the Lord worth 1% of my day?
- + I am in a spiritual battle and need His Word to fight.
- + I am not the captain of my own ship.

# Four Priorities

Apostles' Teaching

Fellowship

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

ACTS 2:42 NIV

**“fellowship”**

**koinonia from koinos**

that which is in common, belonging to several

It denotes the active, joint participation, cooperation and/or sharing in a common interest or activity.

# Four Priorities

Apostles' Teaching

Fellowship

Breaking of Bread

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ACTS 2:42 NIV

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Apostles' Teaching

Fellowship

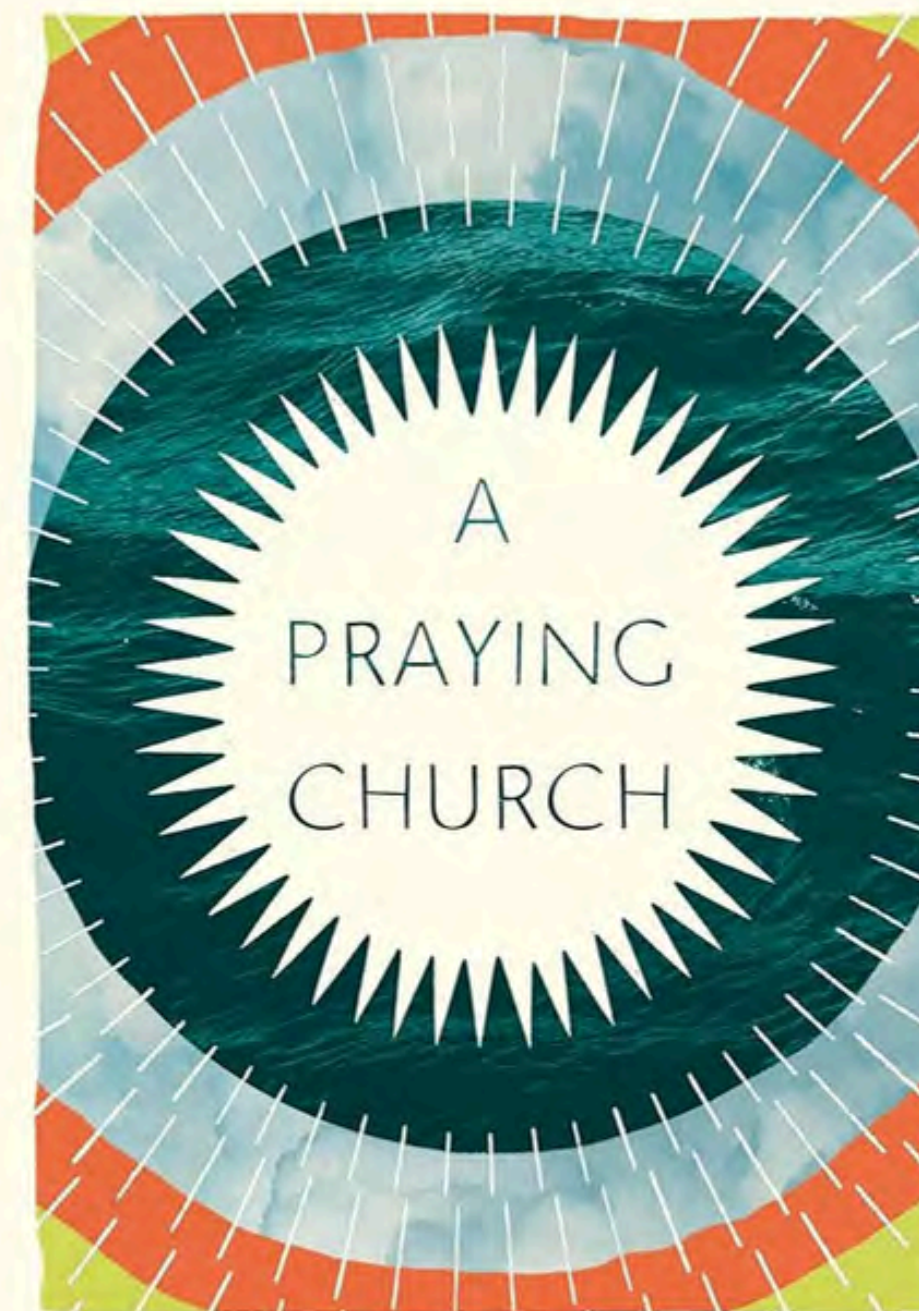
Breaking of Bread

Prayer

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ACTS 2:42 NIV





BECOMING A PEOPLE OF HOPE  
IN A DISCOURAGING WORLD

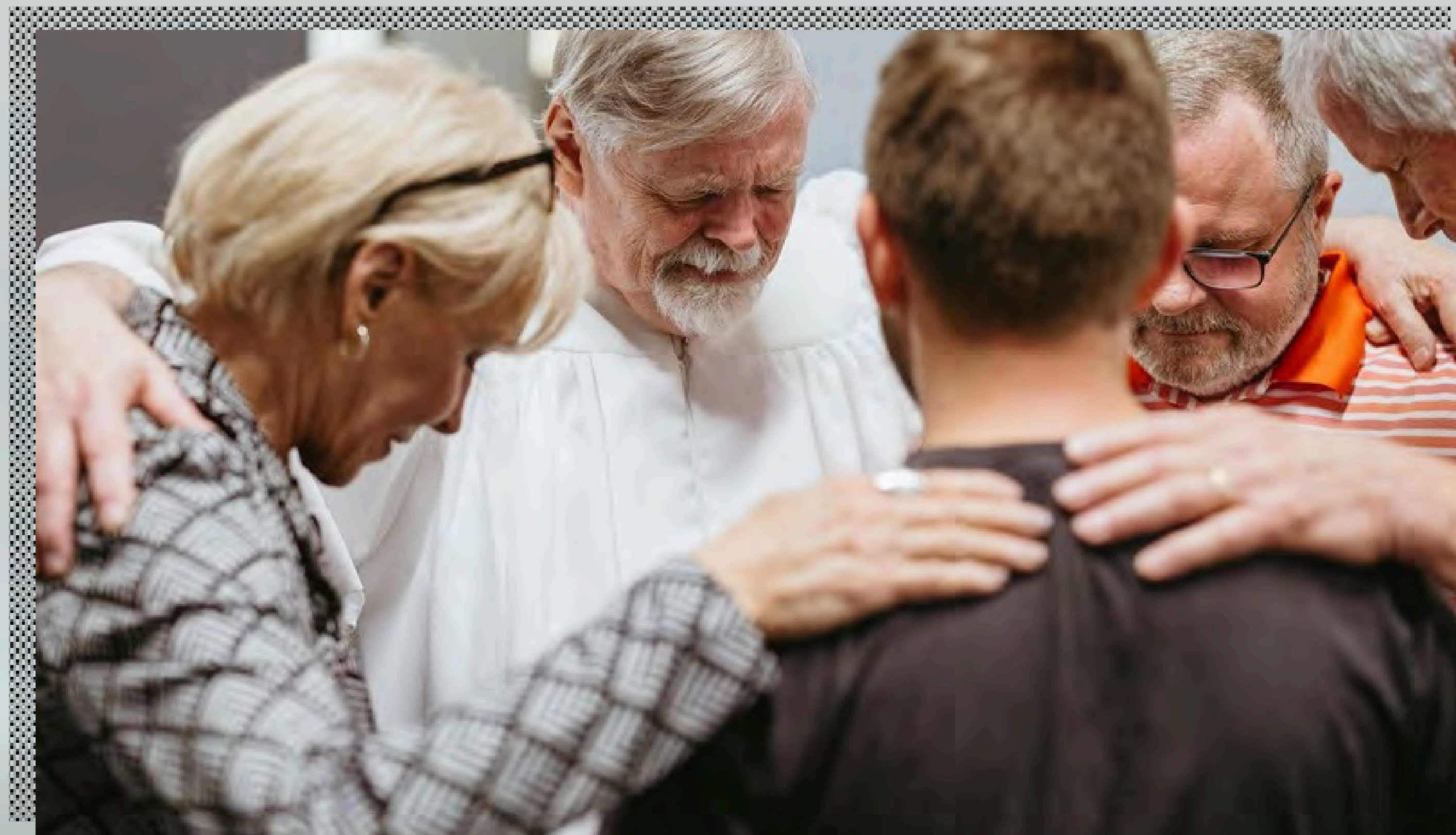
PAUL E. MILLER

FOREWORD BY DANE C. ORTLUND

“I am constant in corporate prayer because the Jesus communities I’m in are **constant in need**. I have no interest in doing anything that hasn’t been prayed for and prayed over. What I pray over lasts, and what I don’t pray over doesn’t last.

But there’s more: A Jesus community is characterized by wonder and the conduit to that is prayer. I’ve seen what happens when the Spirit of Jesus inhabits a community – everything starts to sparkle. Praying together is not a luxury, nor it is something just for the “spiritual” Christians; **it’s the very breath of the church.**”

PAUL MILLER, A PRAYING CHURCH



### Sundays

#### **Prayer Team for our congregation & individual needs**

- + During church • Larry Parker
- + [laparker@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:laparker@fellowshipnwa.org)

### Mondays

#### **Prayer for community groups & community group leaders**

- + 10:30am & 1pm • Abel Schafer
- + [abschafer@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:abschafer@fellowshipnwa.org)

### Tuesdays

#### **Prayer for revival & gospel movement in our community**

- + 7-8pm • Sarah Ernst
- + [saernst@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:saernst@fellowshipnwa.org)

### Wednesdays

#### **Prayer for global workers & international missions**

- + 10:00am • Jeff Gross
- + [jsg144@gmail.com](mailto:jsg144@gmail.com)

### Thursdays

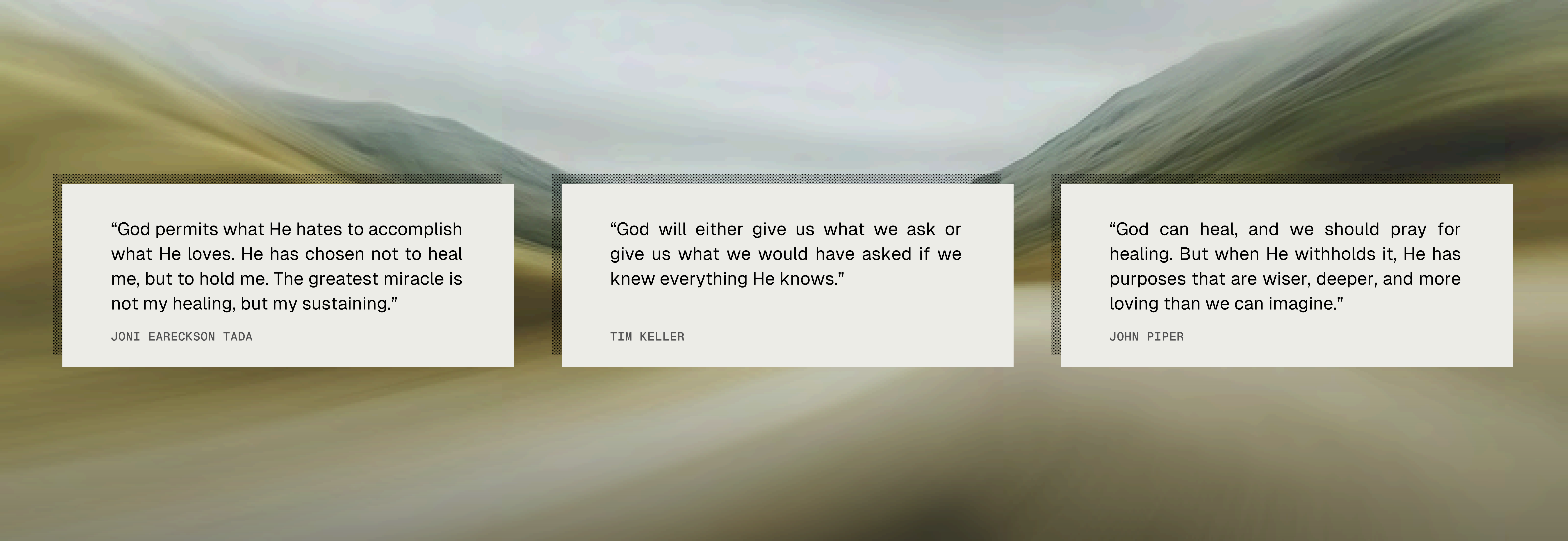
#### **Prayer for ministry areas within our local church, other churches & across the globe**

- + 8:30-9:30am • Art Alderson
- + [art.alderson@cox.net](mailto:art.alderson@cox.net)



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“God permits what He hates to accomplish what He loves. He has chosen not to heal me, but to hold me. The greatest miracle is not my healing, but my sustaining.”

JONI EARECKSON TADA

“God will either give us what we ask or give us what we would have asked if we knew everything He knows.”

TIM KELLER

“God can heal, and we should pray for healing. But when He withholds it, He has purposes that are wiser, deeper, and more loving than we can imagine.”

JOHN PIPER

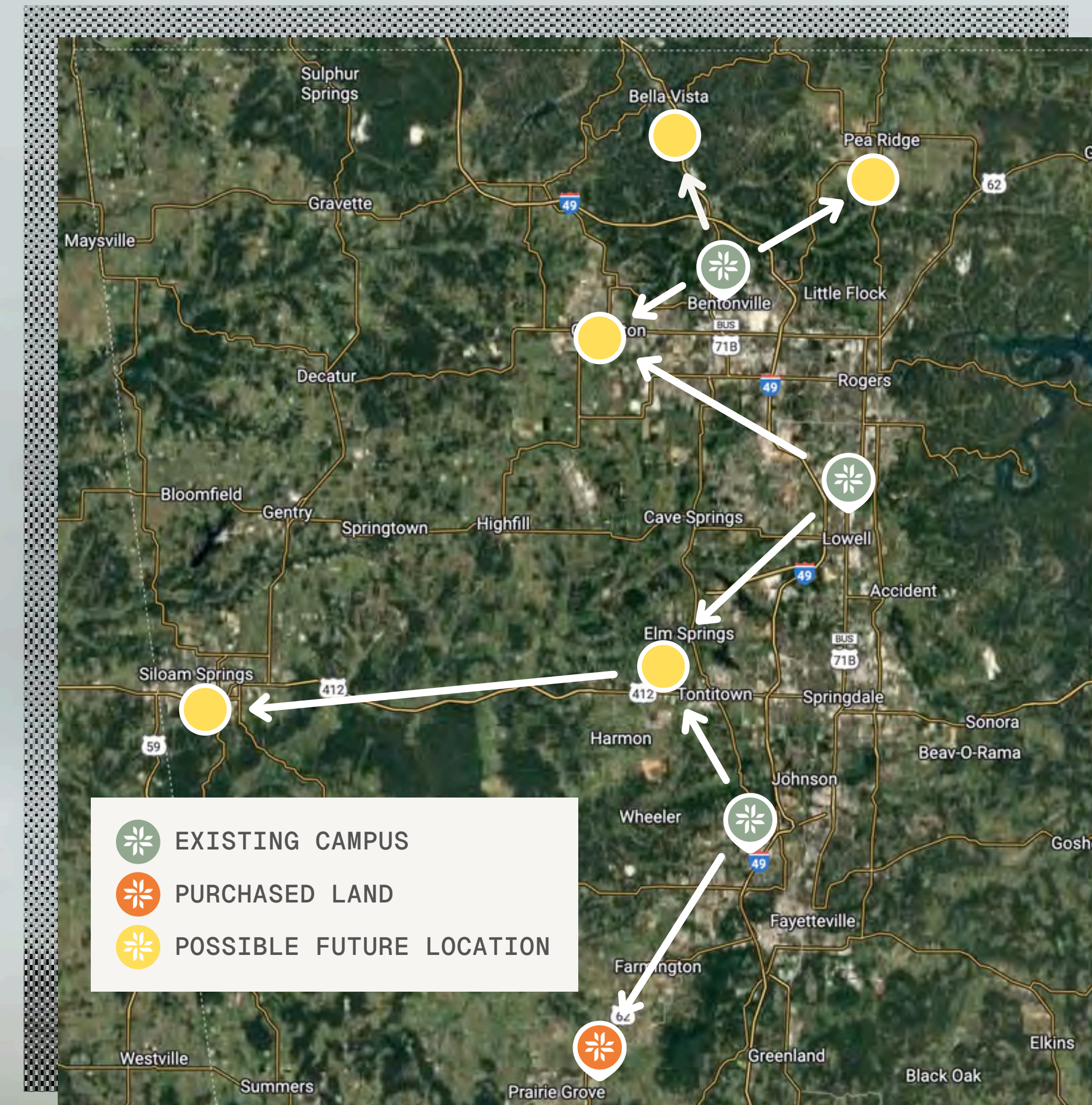
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# 50<sup>BY</sup>

[fellowshipbentonville.org/50by50](http://fellowshipbentonville.org/50by50)





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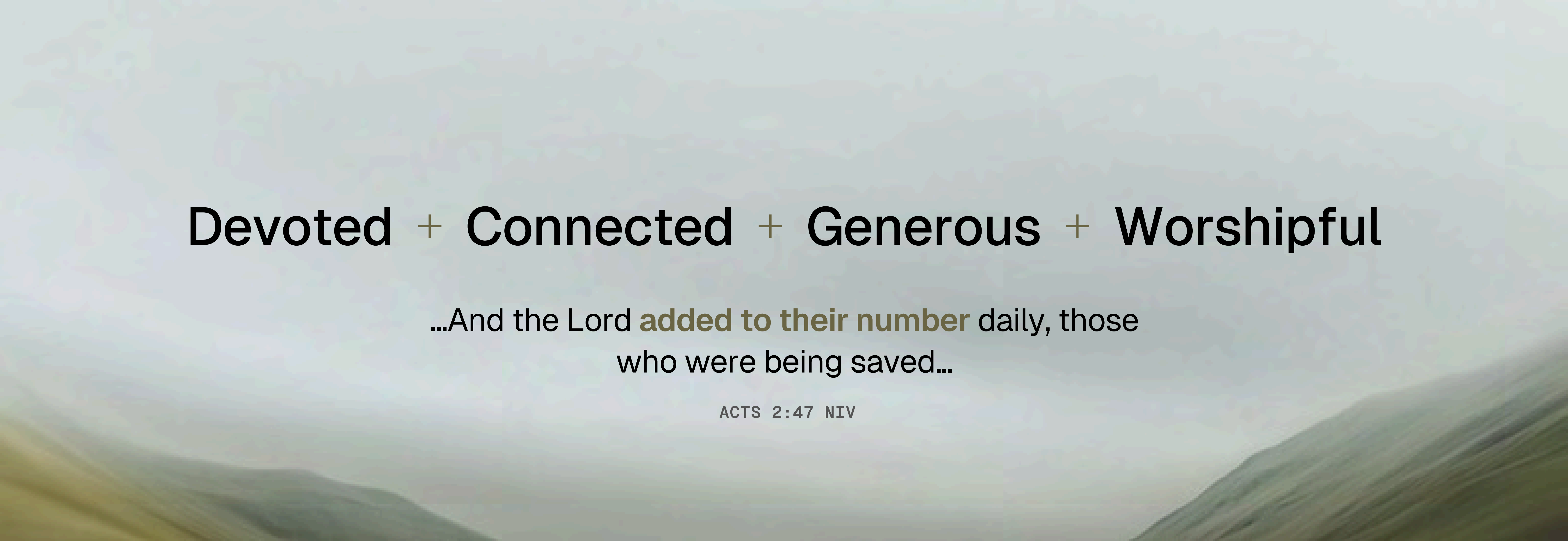
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Devoted + Connected + Generous + Worshipful

...And the Lord **added to their number** daily, those  
who were being saved...

ACTS 2:47 NIV