




COME BACK STRONGER

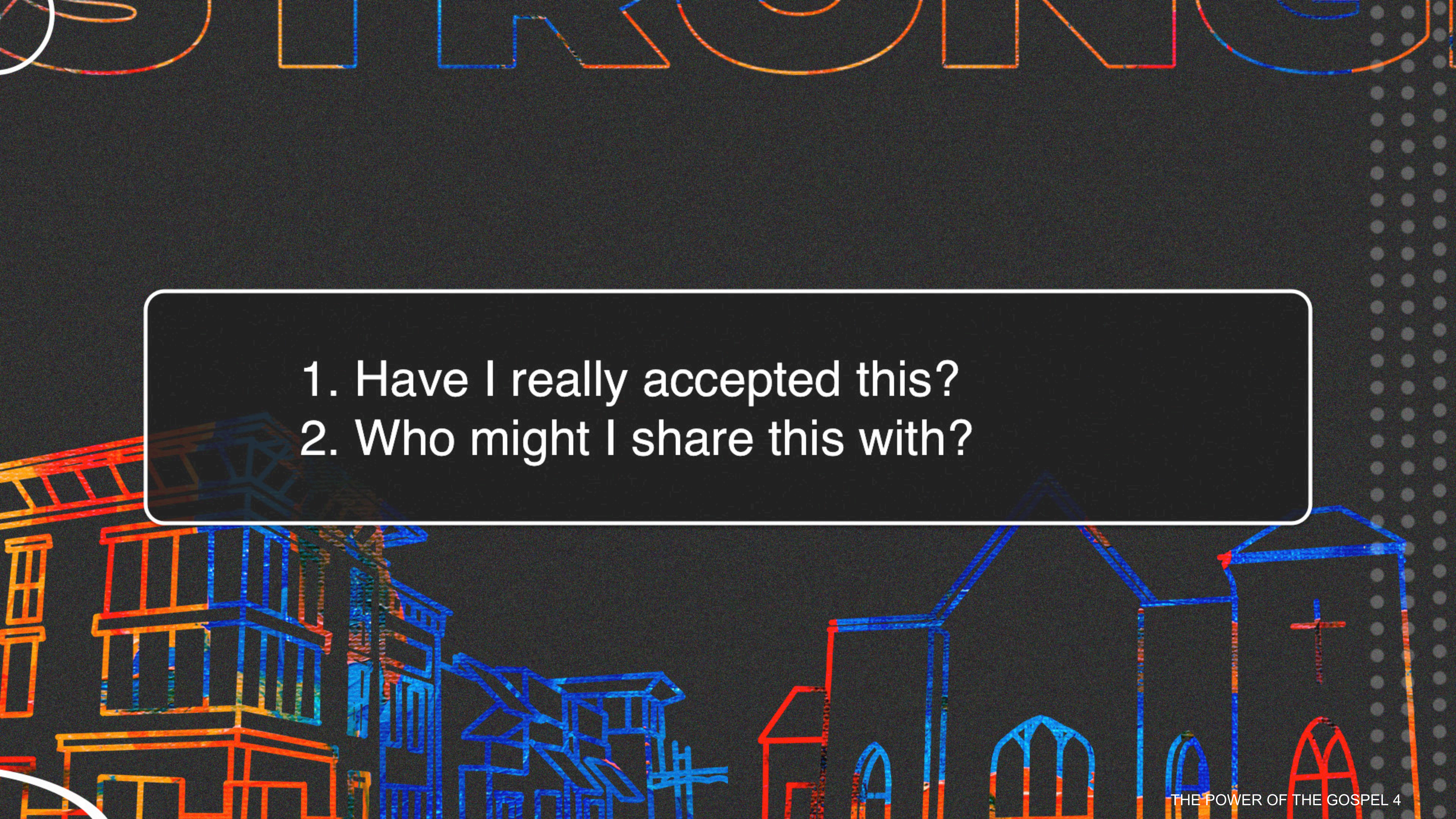
THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

A stylized, colorful line-art illustration of a city skyline at night. The buildings are drawn with thick, hand-drawn lines in various colors like orange, blue, and red. On the right side, a church with a tall steeple topped with a cross is visible. The background is dark with a pattern of small white dots on the right side.

A healthy church and a mature member think
more about who they're trying to reach than
who they're trying to keep.

Matthew 9:12-13

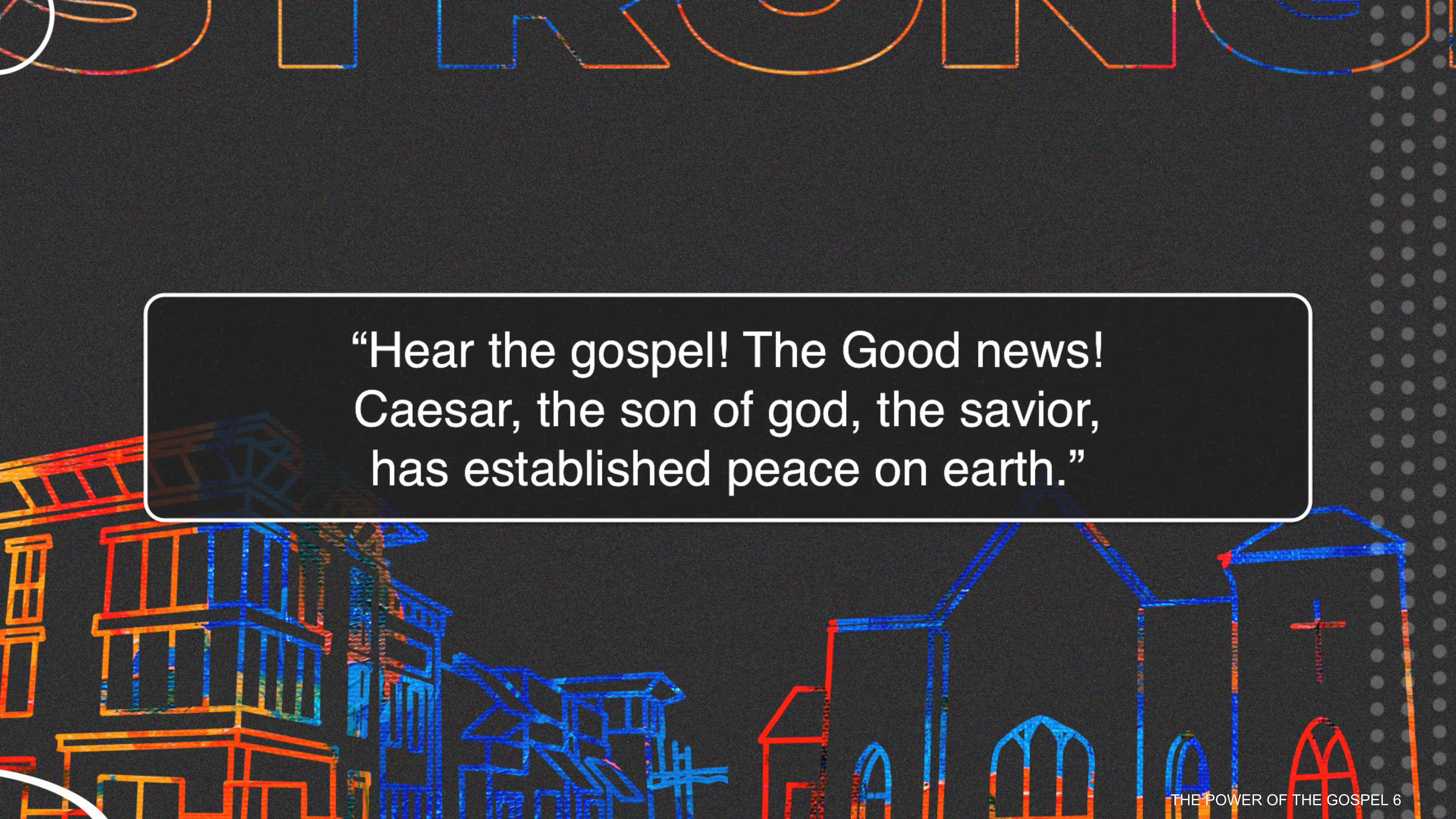
Jesus said [to the Pharisees], “It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,’ for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”



1. Have I really accepted this?
2. Who might I share this with?



"Gospel" - "Good News"
euangelion - εὐαγγέλιον



“Hear the gospel! The Good news!
Caesar, the son of god, the savior,
has established peace on earth.”



THERE IS NOT ONE GOSPEL TODAY...

“The Pursuit of Happiness”

“Make America Great Again”

“Living the Dream”

“The American Dream”

“Restore the Soul of America”

“The Good Life”

“Legacy”

“Success”

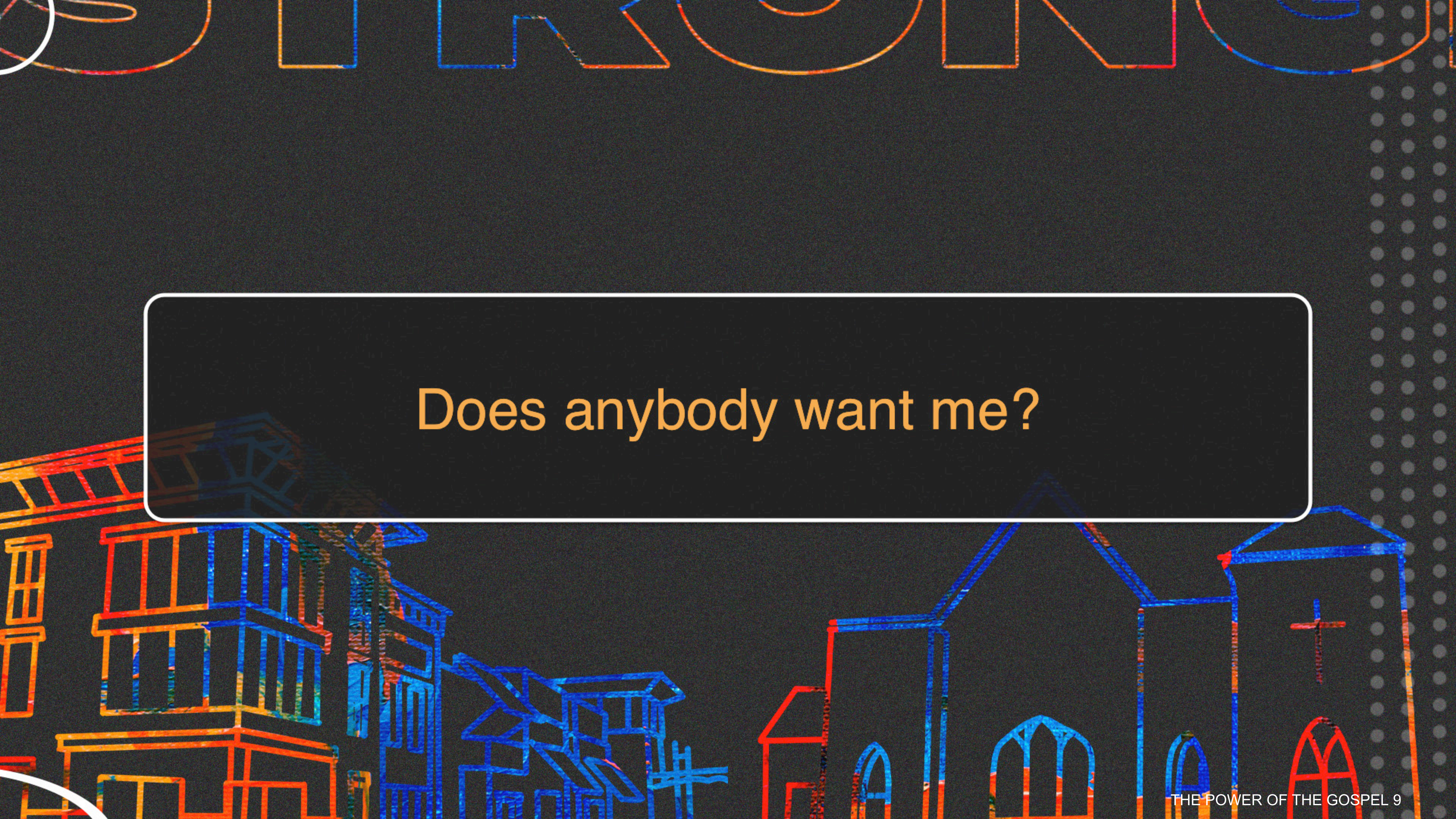
“Nirvana”

“Inner Peace”

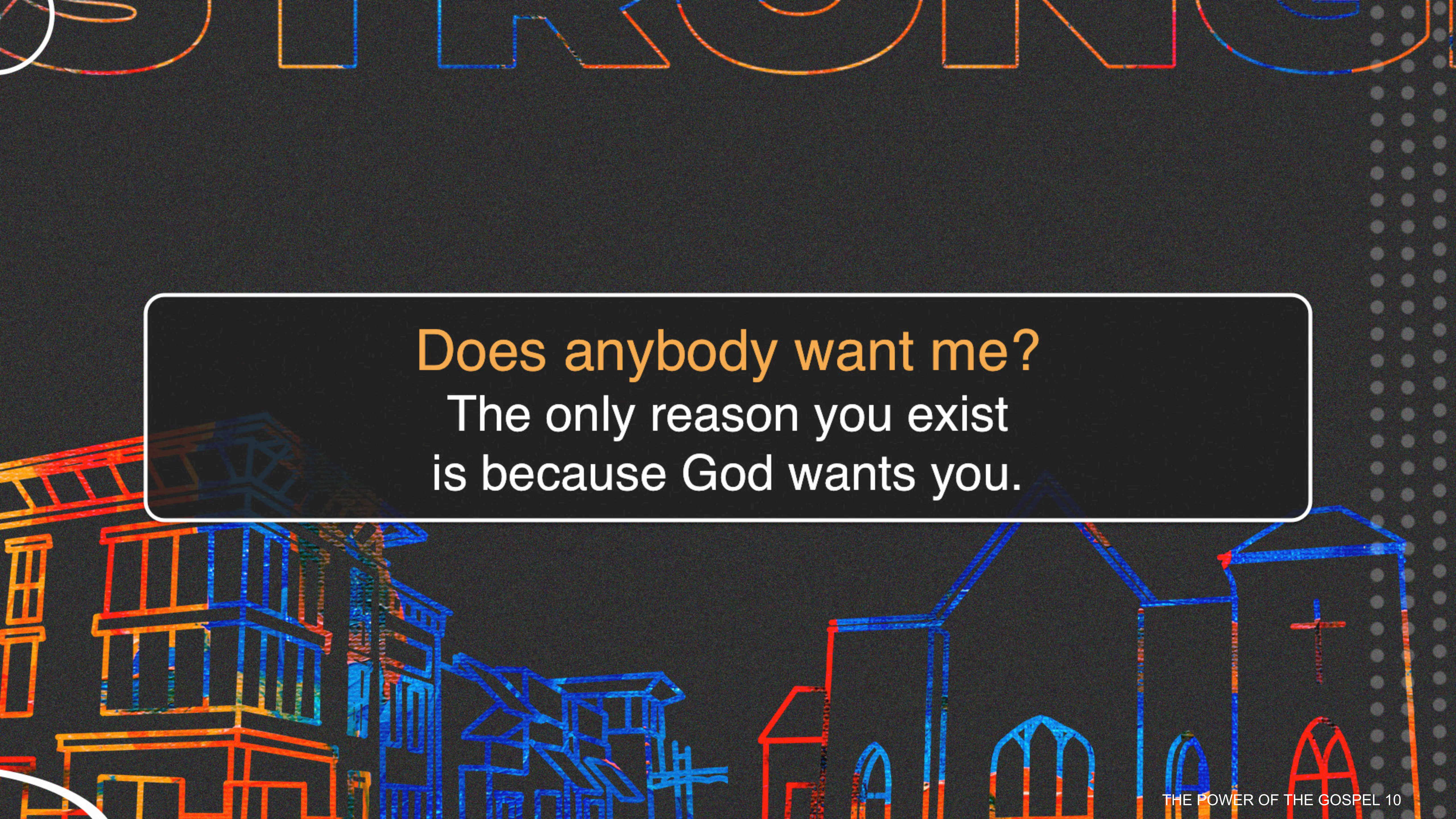
...THERE ARE THOUSANDS!

The gospel you embrace determines:

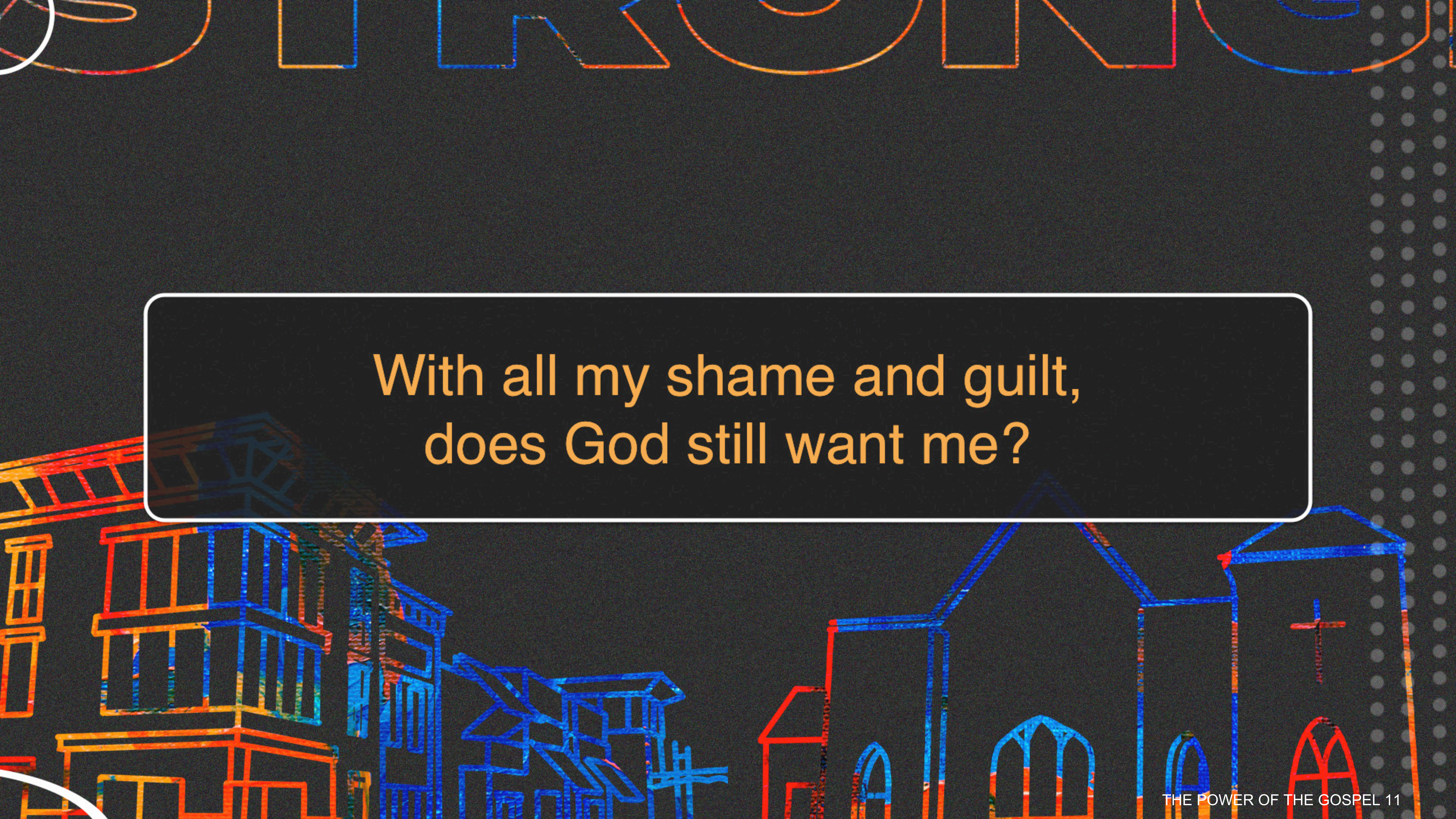
- What you think you need to be happy
- Where you go to find peace
- How lasting that happiness & peace is
- Your sense of self-worth
- How you spend your time & money
- What you believe about life after-death
- Where you give your love
- Who or what you value most
- Your moral compass
- How you treat loved ones
- How you treat enemies
- Your emotional stability
- Your purpose in life
- Who you worship



Does anybody want me?



Does anybody want me?
The only reason you exist
is because God wants you.



With all my shame and guilt,
does God still want me?

How Our Culture Distorts Sin

Negligible

Sin is not a sin

Blamable

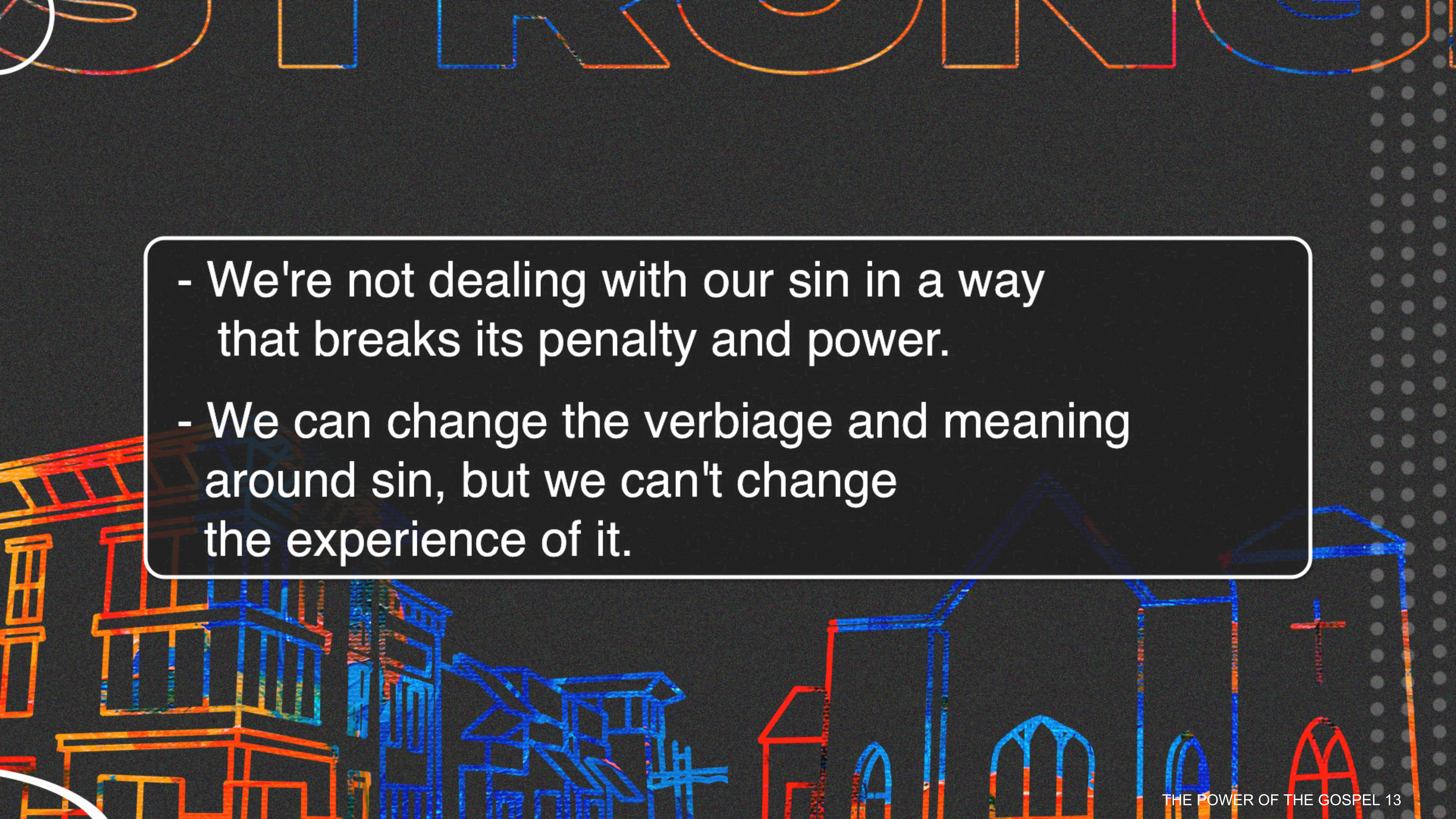
Sin is not your fault

Justifiable

Sin is necessary for
the greater good

Unforgivable

Sin is inhuman and
you are cancelled

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- The background features a dark, textured surface. At the top, the word "SUNDAY" is written in large, colorful, outlined letters. Below this, there's a stylized city skyline with various buildings and structures in orange, blue, and red. A cross is visible on the right side of the skyline. A white dotted pattern runs vertically on the right side of the image.
- We're not dealing with our sin in a way that breaks its penalty and power.
 - We can change the verbiage and meaning around sin, but we can't change the experience of it.

**“Does anyone
want me?”**

Yes

**God &
Creation**

Yes

**“Does God
still want me?”**

**Humanity
& Sin**

**Jesus &
Redemption**

**Does this
have the power
to change me?**

Yes

The Holy Spirit & Sanctification

2 Timothy 1:9-10

For God saved us and called us to live a holy life. He did this, not because we deserved it, but because that was His plan from before the beginning of time—to show us His grace through Christ Jesus. And now He has made all of this plain to us by the appearing of Christ Jesus, our Savior. He broke the power of death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the Good News [the Gospel].

Colossians 1:15-23

...All the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of Jesus' death, His blood that poured down from the cross. You yourselves are a case study of what He does. At one time you all had your backs turned to God, thinking rebellious thoughts of Him, giving Him trouble every chance you got.

Colossians 1:15-23

But now, by giving Himself completely at the Cross, actually dying for you, Christ brought you over to God's side and put your lives together, whole and holy in His presence. You don't walk away from a gift like that! You stay grounded and steady in that bond of trust, constantly tuned in to the Gospel, careful not to be distracted or diverted. There is no other Gospel—just this one.