A wooden boardwalk path leads through a grassy field towards a bright sun on the horizon. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden glow. The path is made of wooden planks and curves slightly to the right. The grass is tall and green. In the background, there are rolling hills under a cloudy sky. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner of the image.

# It's Okay to Not Be Okay

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It's Okay to  
Not Be Okay

---



Foundational  
Truth  
#1

# God is love

God is love. Whoever lives  
in love lives in God, and  
God in them.

| 1 John 4:16

Foundational  
Truth  
#2

# God is good

The Lord is good to all;  
he has compassion on all  
he has made.

| Psalm 145:9

Foundational  
Truth  
#3

# God cares

Cast all your anxiety on  
him because he cares  
for you.

Don't you  
care?

| 1 Peter 5:7

**FOR DOING BAD**  
(consequences)

**Suffer**

**FOR DOING  
GOOD**

Matthew 5:45

He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good,  
and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.



# WHAT TO MAKE OF TRIALS AND SUFFERING?

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①

It chooses  
you

1 Peter 4:12

Dear friends, **do not be surprised** at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

# WHAT TO MAKE OF TRIALS AND SUFFERING?

---

①

It chooses  
you

James 1:2

Consider it pure joy, my  
brothers and sisters,  
**whenever** you face trials of  
many kinds...





# NOT IF, BUT WHEN.

不是万一，而是何时。BUKAN JIKA, TETAPI BILA.  
நடக்குமா என்பதல்ல, எப்போது நடக்கும் என்பதுதான்.



## OUR RESPONSE MATTERS.

如何应对是关键。RESPONS KITA PENTING.  
எப்படி எதிர்கொள்கிறோம் என்பதே முக்கியம்.



# Not If But *Whenever*

# SUFFERING IN THE EARLY CHURCH

---

1 Peter 1:6

However, if you  
**suffer** as a Christian,  
do not be ashamed

1 Peter 3:14

But even if you  
should **suffer** for  
what is right, you are  
blessed.



# SUFFERING IN THE EARLY CHURCH

---

1 Peter 4:16

...for a little while  
you may have had  
to **suffer** grief in all  
kinds of trials.

1 Peter 5:10

...after you have  
**suffered** a little  
while...

10:30 AM

Please pray for [REDACTED]! Yesterday in her class chat, the topic of LGBT support was raised and she was the only kid who stood up to say that she did not support the lifestyle as a Christian, although she has a gay uncle and loves him. After that she was bullied and called names on the chat, the kids were very vicious and told her to F\*\*off and go to hell, one particularly malicious girl reposted her stand on insta and threatened to circulate it. [REDACTED] was very worried about the bullying that will start when school reopens today. She said there are other christians kids but they don't dare to say anything for fear of backlash and some even supports LGBT due to pressure.

Please pray for her as she stands up for God's truth, for protection and safety, and the fear of God to be struck into the hearts of all these kids who probably don't know better nor the harm they're doing. Thank you!

10:31 AM

Please pray for her because [REDACTED] is a brave kid, and she's not afraid but she feels sad to be ostracized.

10:31 AM





# WHAT TO MAKE OF TRIALS AND SUFFERING?

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②

It reveals  
the real  
condition of  
our faith



## 1 Peter 1:7

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<sup>7</sup> These (trials) have come so that the proven **genuineness of your faith**—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

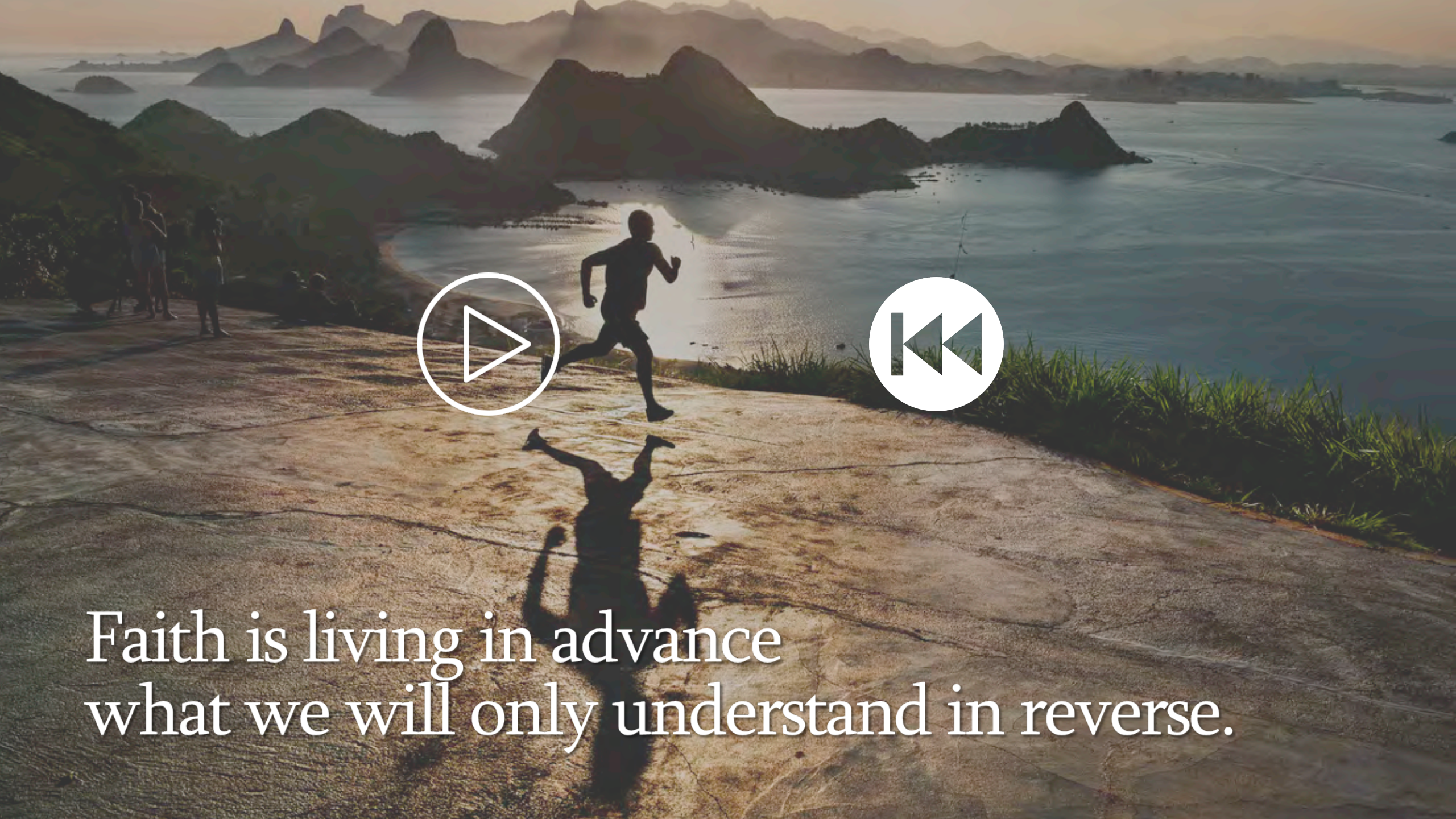
## James 1:3

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<sup>3</sup> because you know that the **testing of your faith** produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup> Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.







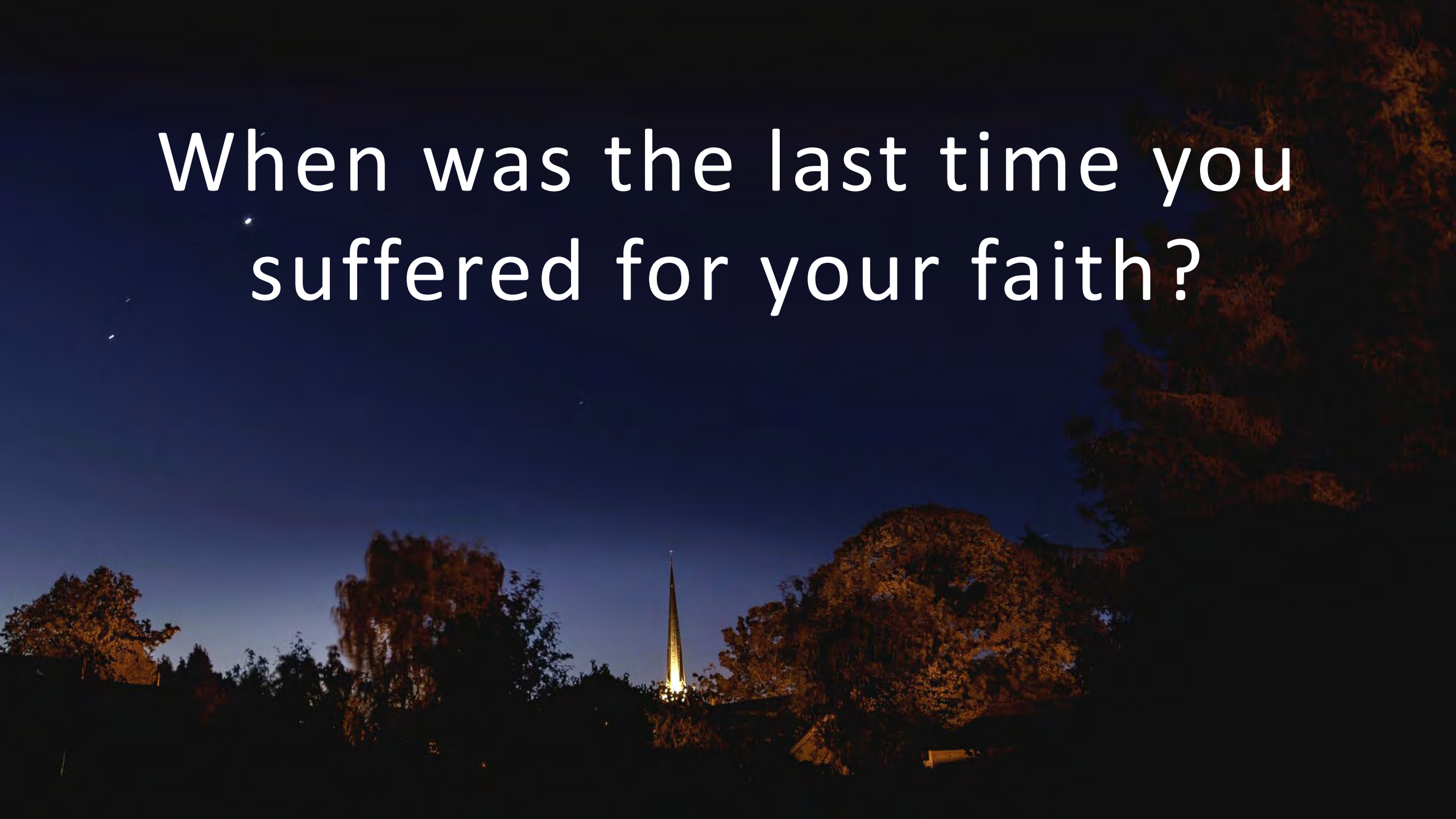
Faith is living in advance  
what we will only understand in reverse.





# The Persecuted Church & the Beatitudes

When was the last time you  
suffered for your faith?

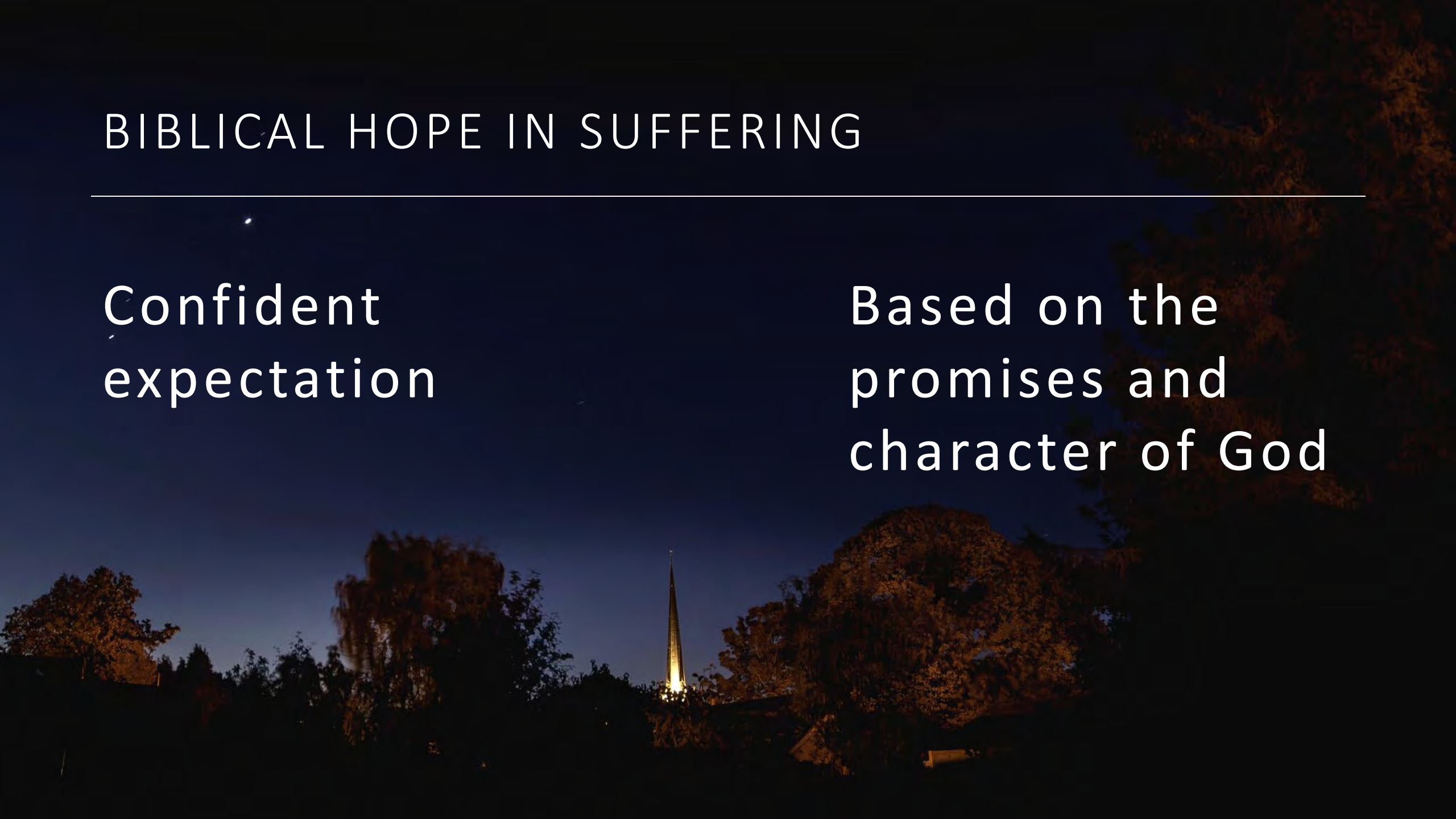


# BIBLICAL HOPE IN SUFFERING

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Confident  
expectation

Based on the  
promises and  
character of God





Application #1

# Revere Christ as Lord

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1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.





Application #2

Recall the  
promises of God

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A wooden boardwalk made of planks winds through a field of tall, dark grass. The scene is captured at sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden glow from the sun low on the horizon, creating a soft, hazy atmosphere. The sky is a mix of dark and light tones, and the overall mood is serene and contemplative.

1 Peter 1:24-25

<sup>24</sup> ...the grass withers and the flowers fall,

<sup>25</sup> but **the word of the Lord endures forever.**”

A wooden boardwalk path leads from the foreground into a field, receding towards a range of hills under a sunset sky. The path is made of wooden planks and is flanked by tall grass. The hills in the background are silhouetted against the bright, low sun, which creates a warm, golden glow. The overall scene is peaceful and contemplative.

1 Samuel 30:6

David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But **David found strength in the LORD his God.**



Psalm 42:11

**11** Why, my soul, are you downcast?  
Why so disturbed within me?

**Put your hope in God**, for I will yet praise him,  
my Saviour and my God.





Application #3

Respond in the  
opposite spirit

---



A wooden boardwalk leads through a field of tall grass towards a sunset over hills. The sky is a mix of orange and grey, and the overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting dusk or dawn.

1 Peter 3:9

Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, **repay evil with blessing**, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

## 1 Peter 3:15-16

<sup>15</sup> ....Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But **do this with gentleness and respect,** <sup>16</sup> keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.





Application #4

Remember the  
ultimate prize

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Learn to fast forward  
your life

A wooden boardwalk path leads through a field of tall grass towards a sunset over hills. The path is made of wooden planks and curves slightly to the right. The grass is dark and dense. In the background, there are rolling hills under a sky with a warm, golden glow from the setting sun. The overall scene is peaceful and contemplative.

1 Peter 5:4

<sup>4</sup> And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the **crown of glory** that will never fade away.



A wooden boardwalk leads through a field of tall grass towards a sunset over hills. The scene is dimly lit, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a soft glow. The boardwalk is made of wooden planks and leads the eye from the foreground into the distance.


James 1:12

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the **crown of life** that the Lord has promised to those who love him.



~~Plan A~~  
Plan B

When your Plan B  
is actually God's Plan A



It's Okay to  
Not Be Okay

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1. Revere Christ as Lord
2. Recall the promises of God
3. Respond in the opposite spirit
4. Remember the ultimate prize



YOU  
DO  
EW  
LD  
L?

everything will be okay  
in the end.

if it's not okay,  
it's not the end.

(unknown)

YO  
NOON  
THE J  
HO  
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IN MY  
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