

A scenic landscape at sunset. The foreground shows a rocky outcrop on the left. The middle ground is a dense forest of green trees. In the background, there are rolling mountains under a sky with soft, orange and blue clouds. The sun is setting on the right side, creating a warm glow and lens flare.

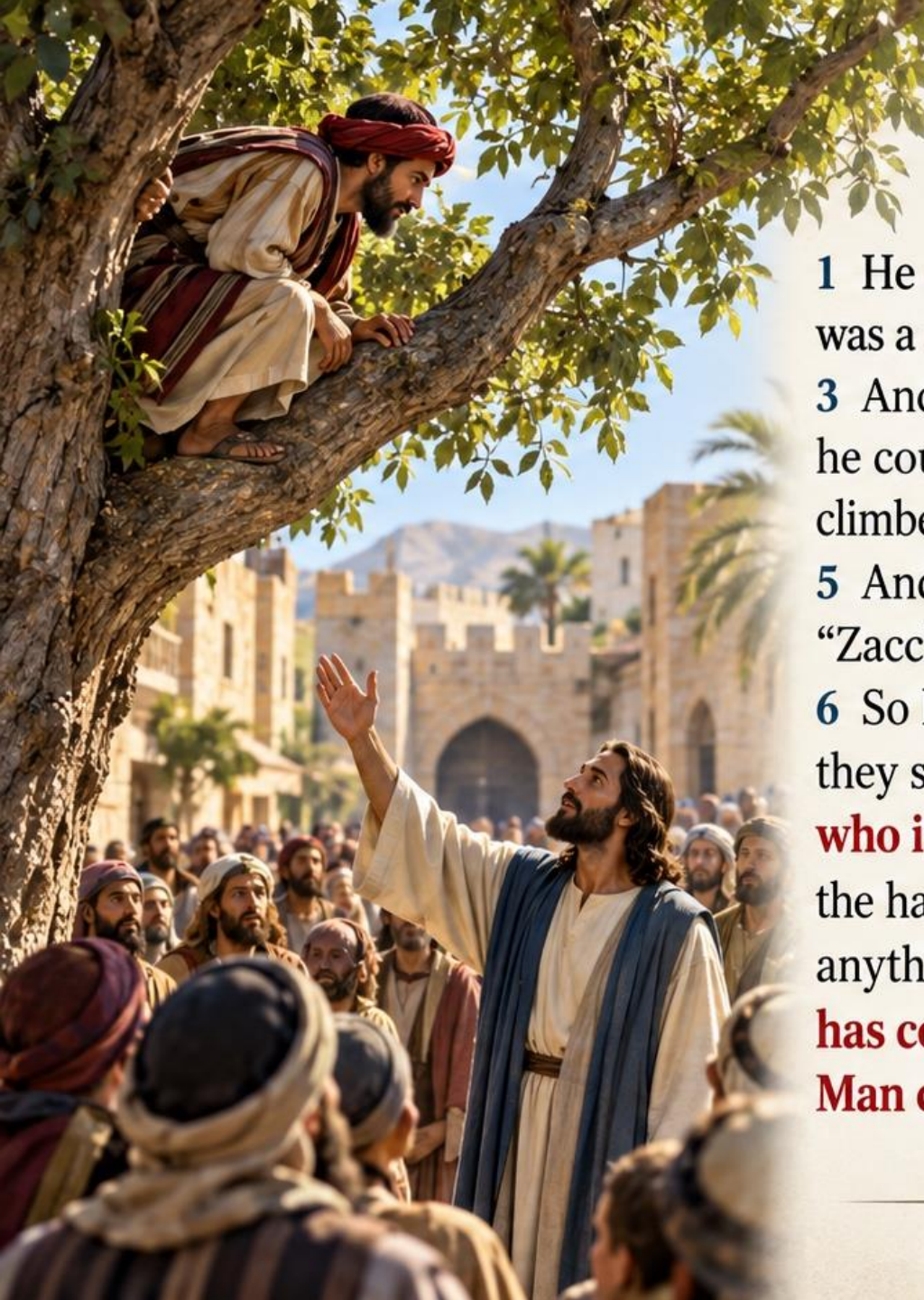
# Welcome

—— WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE ——

# When Someone Is Missing...

You Don't Just Wait.  
You Search.

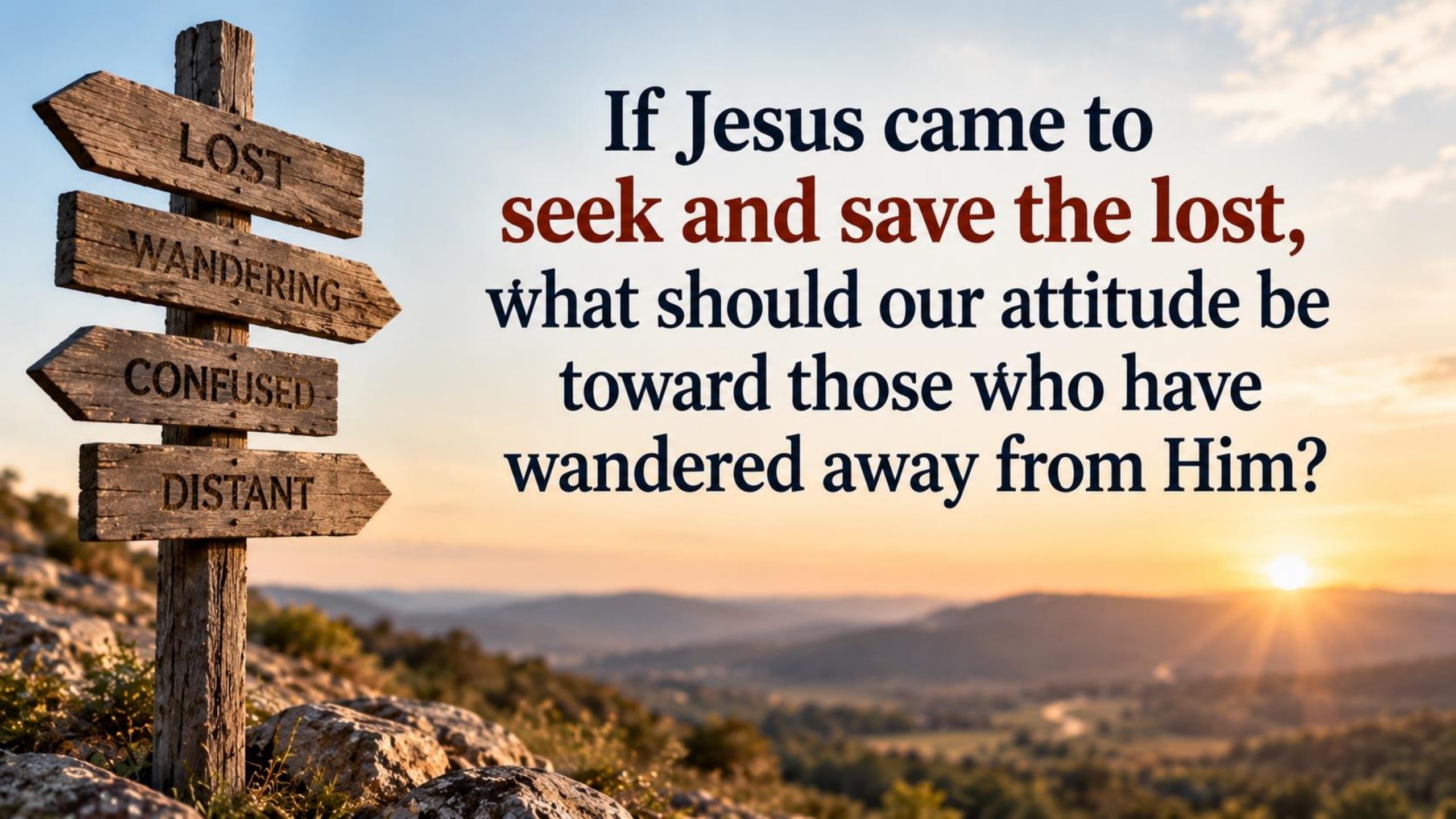




# Luke 19:1 – 10 (ESV)

1 He entered Jericho and was passing through. 2 And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. 3 And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. 4 So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” 6 So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. 7 And when they saw it, they all grumbled, “**He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.**” 8 And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” 9 And Jesus said to him, “**Today salvation has come to this house**, since he also is a son of Abraham. 10 **For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.**”





LOST

WANDERING

CONFUSED

DISTANT

If Jesus came to  
**seek and save the lost,**  
what should our attitude be  
toward those who have  
wandered away from Him?

A man in a white robe with a brown fringed sash stands on a rocky cliff, reaching out his hand. Below him, a man with a beard and long hair, wearing a brown cloak, looks up and reaches out his hand towards the man above. The background shows a sunset over a valley with a winding road and distant mountains.

# Rescuing *the* Wayward





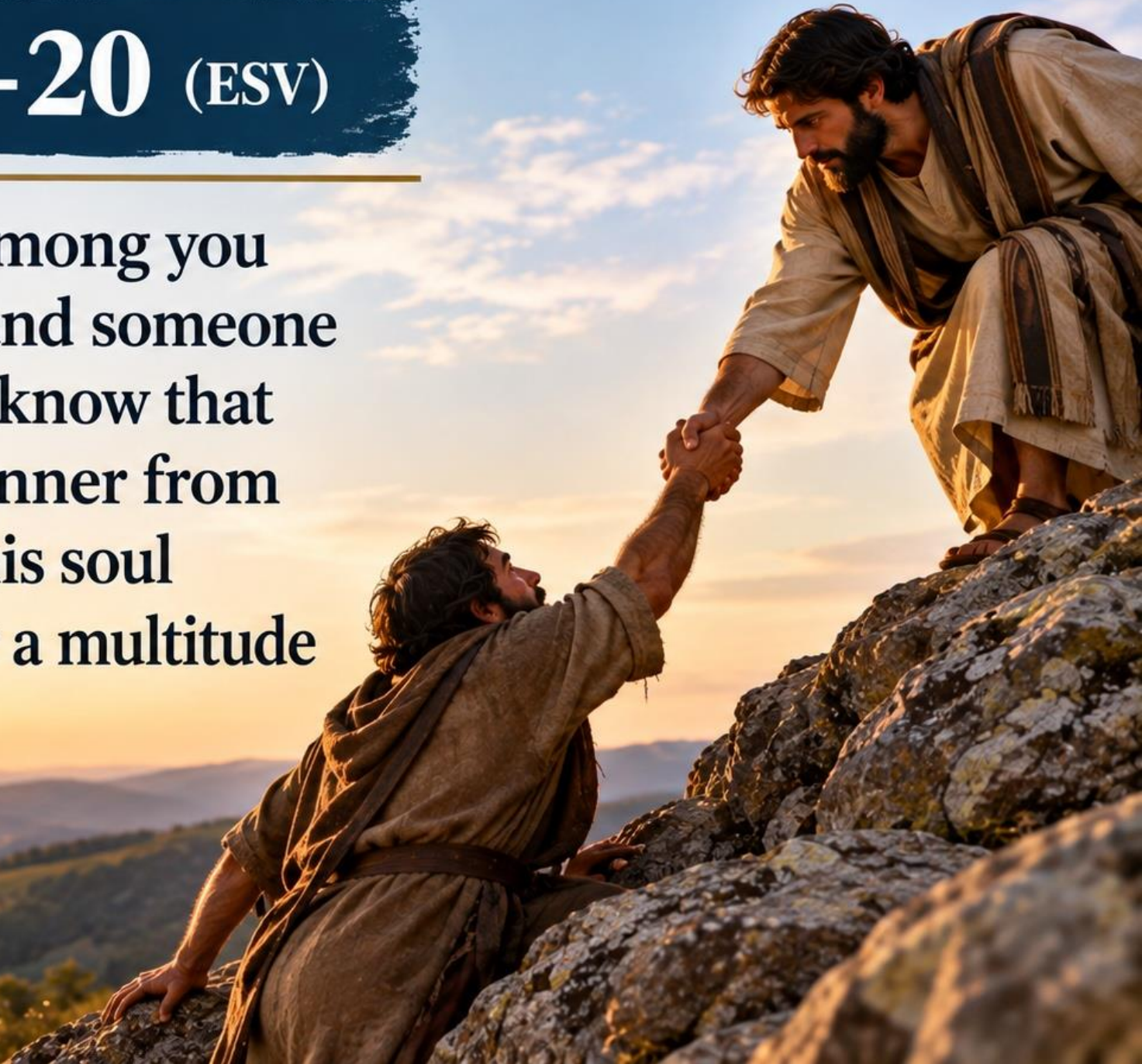
# We Must Care About Those Who Wander Away

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# James 5:19–20 (ESV)

“My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.”



# Galatians 6:1 (ESV)

“Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should **restore him** in a spirit of gentleness.”



We cannot rescue  
people if we have  
already decided  
they are **beyond**  
**rescuing.**

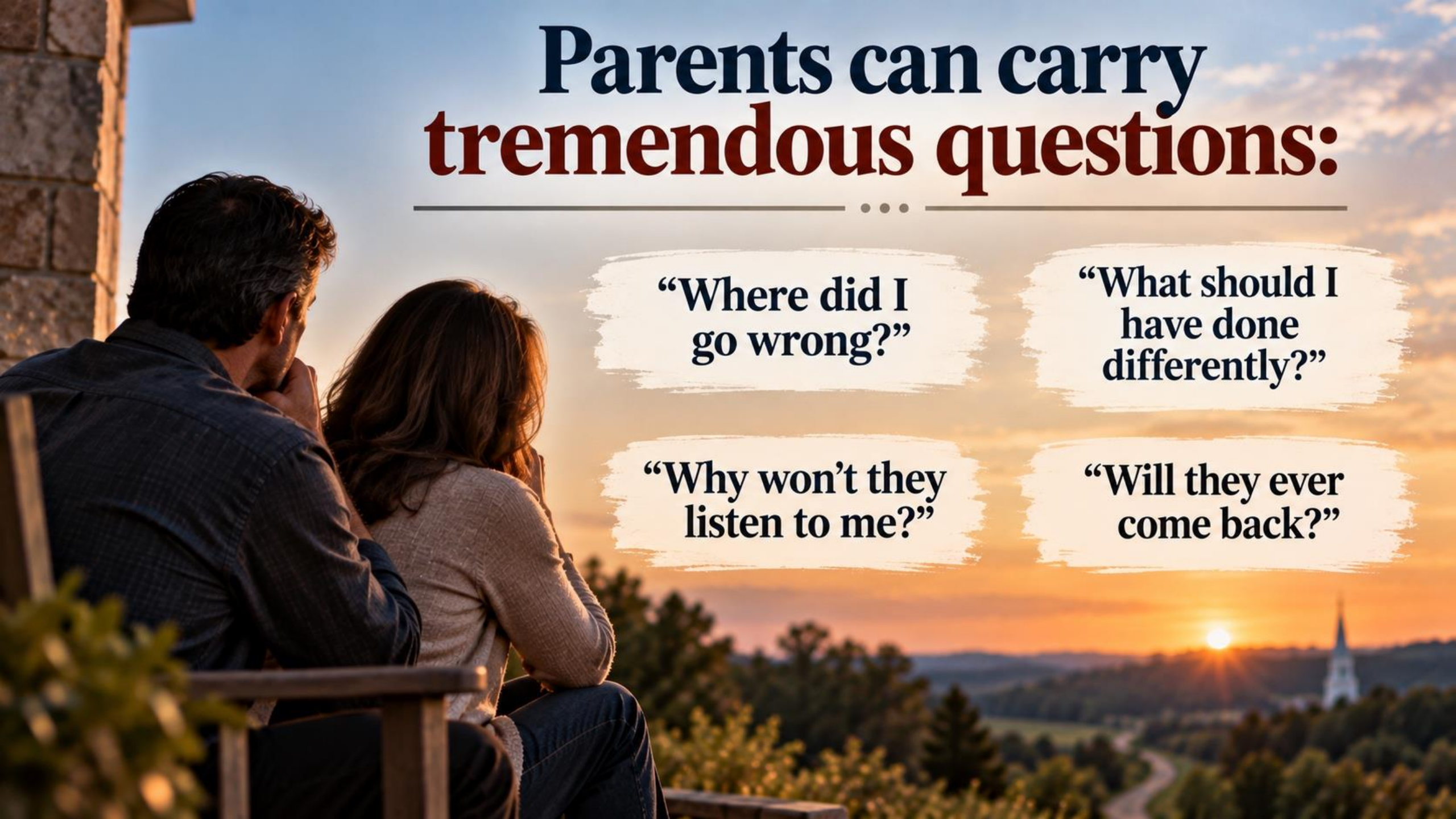
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# What About Parents Who Have Seen a Child Leave the Church?

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# Parents can carry tremendous questions:

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**“Where did I  
go wrong?”**

**“What should I  
have done  
differently?”**

**“Why won’t they  
listen to me?”**

**“Will they ever  
come back?”**

# You can continue to:

- 1  Love them.
- 2  Pray for them.
- 3  Live faithfully before them.
- 4  Speak the truth when opportunities arise.
- 5  Keep the door open for honest spiritual conversations.
- 6  Make it clear that returning to God is always possible.

*"With God all things are possible."* Matthew 19:26 (ESV)



**You cannot repent  
for your child,  
but you can make sure  
your child always knows  
**the way home.****

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# Rescue Requires Both Truth and Love

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# Ephesians 4:15

calls us to be

*“speaking the  
truth in love.”*



A photograph of two men sitting on a large, dark rock in the foreground. The man on the left is wearing a dark green button-down shirt and blue jeans, with his arm around the shoulder of the man on the right. The man on the right is wearing a grey hoodie and blue jeans, looking out over a landscape. In the background, there are rolling hills, a body of water, and a bright sunset sky with orange and yellow hues. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*Galatians 6:1* says  
restoration should occur

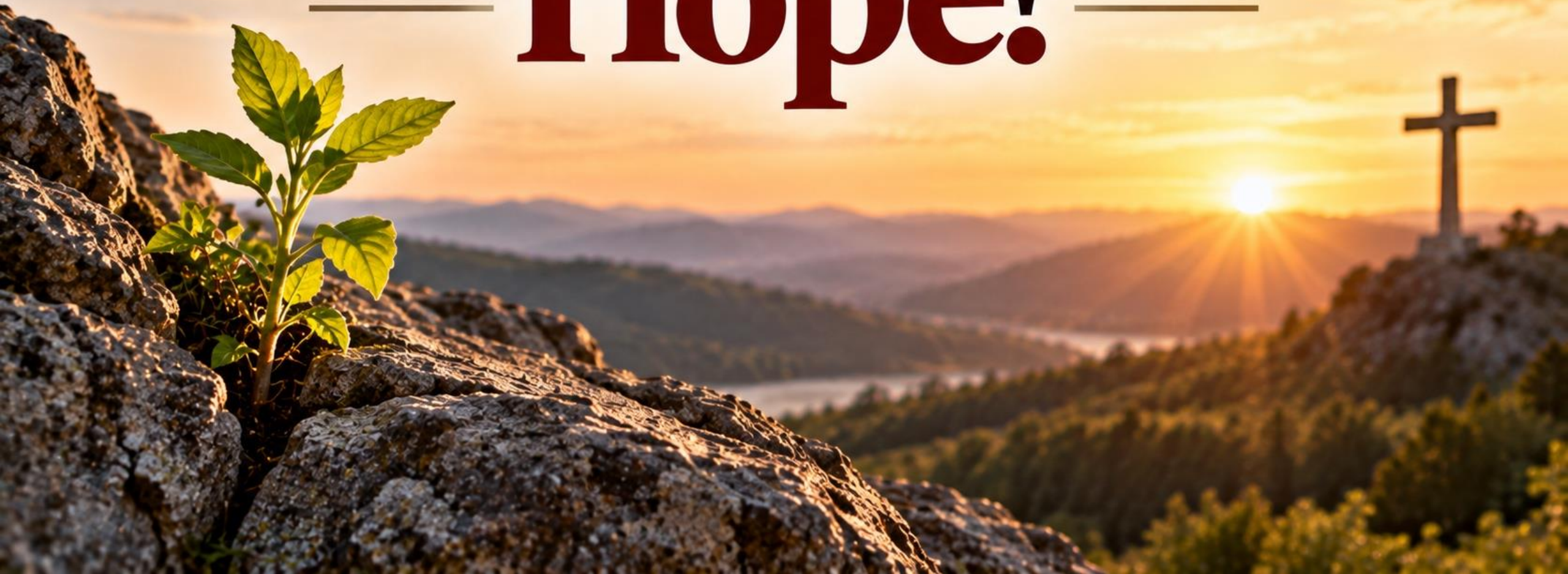


**“in a spirit  
of gentleness.”**

# We want them to return to the Lord



**Don't Lose  
— Hope! —**

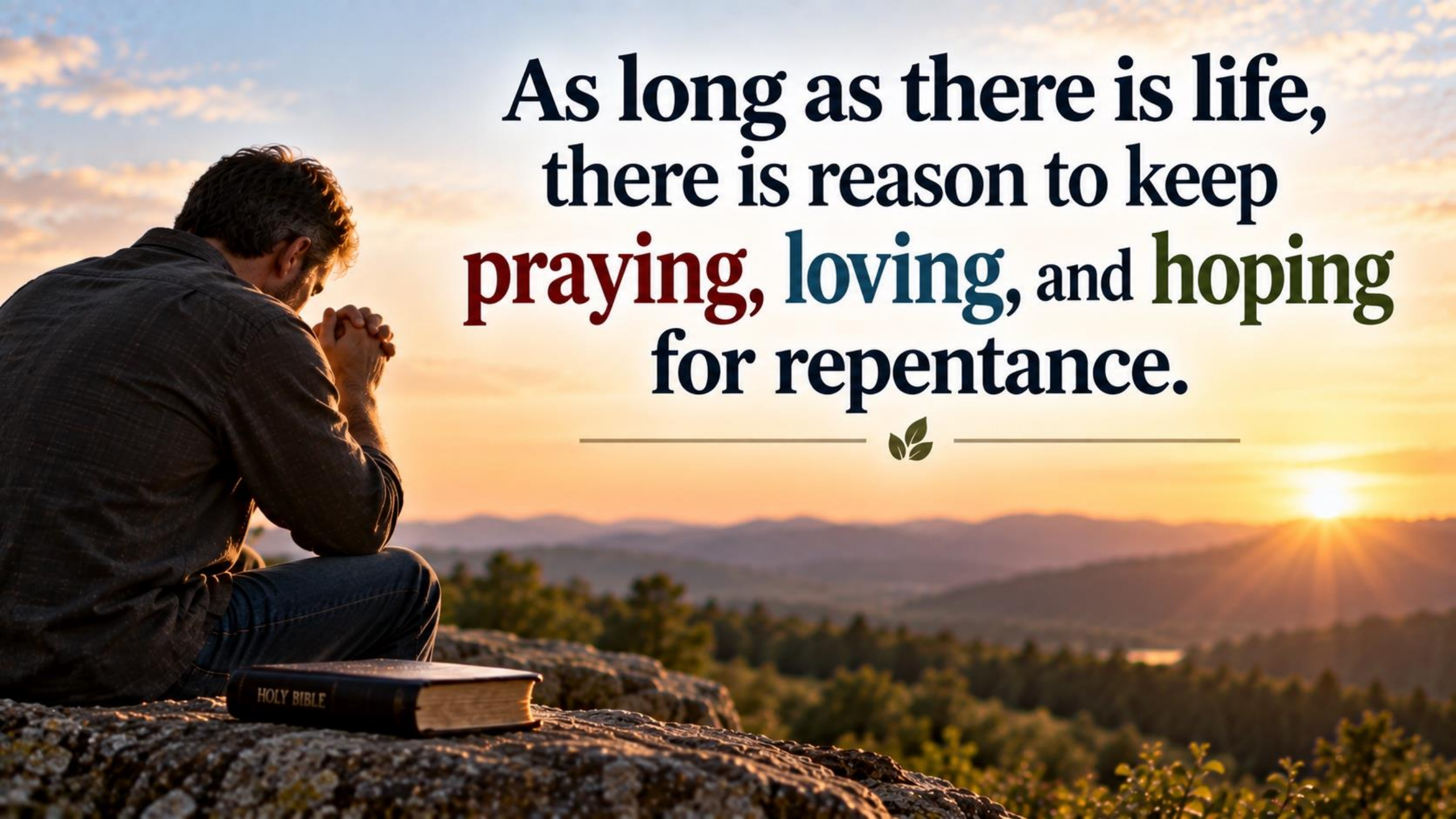


A man with dark, curly hair and a beard, wearing a tattered, brown, torn robe, sits on the ground under a large tree. He is looking down with his hand on his head, appearing distressed. A broken, dark, earthenware pot lies on the ground next to him. In the background, a town with a church spire is visible against a sunset sky. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of the setting sun.

Luke 15:17

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**“But when he  
came to himself...”**



As long as there is life,  
there is reason to keep  
**praying**, **loving**, and **hoping**  
for repentance.



A man in a turban and robe is seen from behind, standing on a rocky hillside. He is holding a long wooden staff and looking out over a vast landscape towards a sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the hills and a small town in the distance. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and scattered clouds. The man's attire consists of a light-colored tunic with a dark sash and a red and white striped shawl draped over his shoulders. He is barefoot.

# Sometimes We Need to Go Looking





Jesus said:



**“The Son of Man came  
to seek and to save  
the lost.”**

Luke 19:10

**Hebrews 2:1 warns:**

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**“Therefore we must pay much  
closer attention to what we have heard,  
lest we drift away from it.”**



**If you have wandered  
from the Lord,  
why not come home today?**

