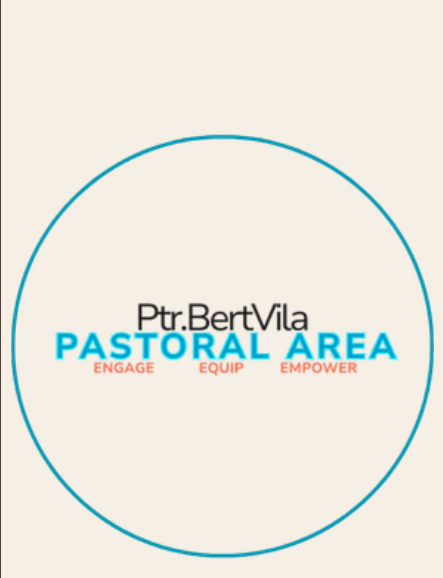




WAY OF THE SHEPHERD

11
JULY



3-DAY SERIES
2026

PASTORAL AREA
GATHERING

6

THE HEART OF THE SHEPHERD

John 10:11

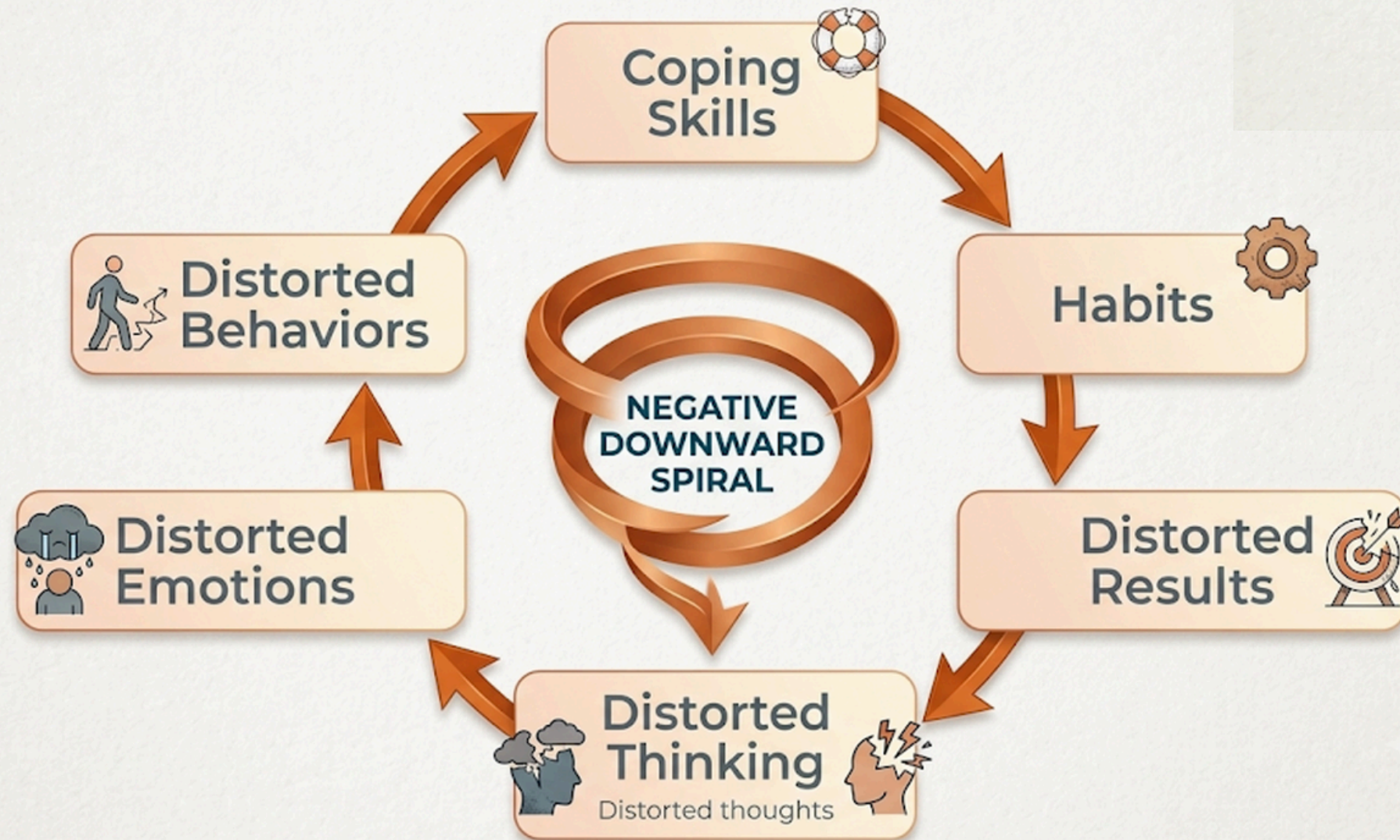
JOHN 10:11 (ESV)

I am the good Shepherd.

The good shepherd lays
his life for the sheep.



WAY OF THE SHEPHERD



*I am the
good Shepherd.*



Each of our paths will differ because God values personal relationships over a uniform approach.

Hebrews 12:1 (ESV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded
by so great a cloud of witnesses,
lay aside every weight, and sin,
which clings so closely,
and let us run with endurance
the race that is set before us,

ENDURANCE: Physical Limitation



PERSEVERANCE: Mental and Emotional Challenge

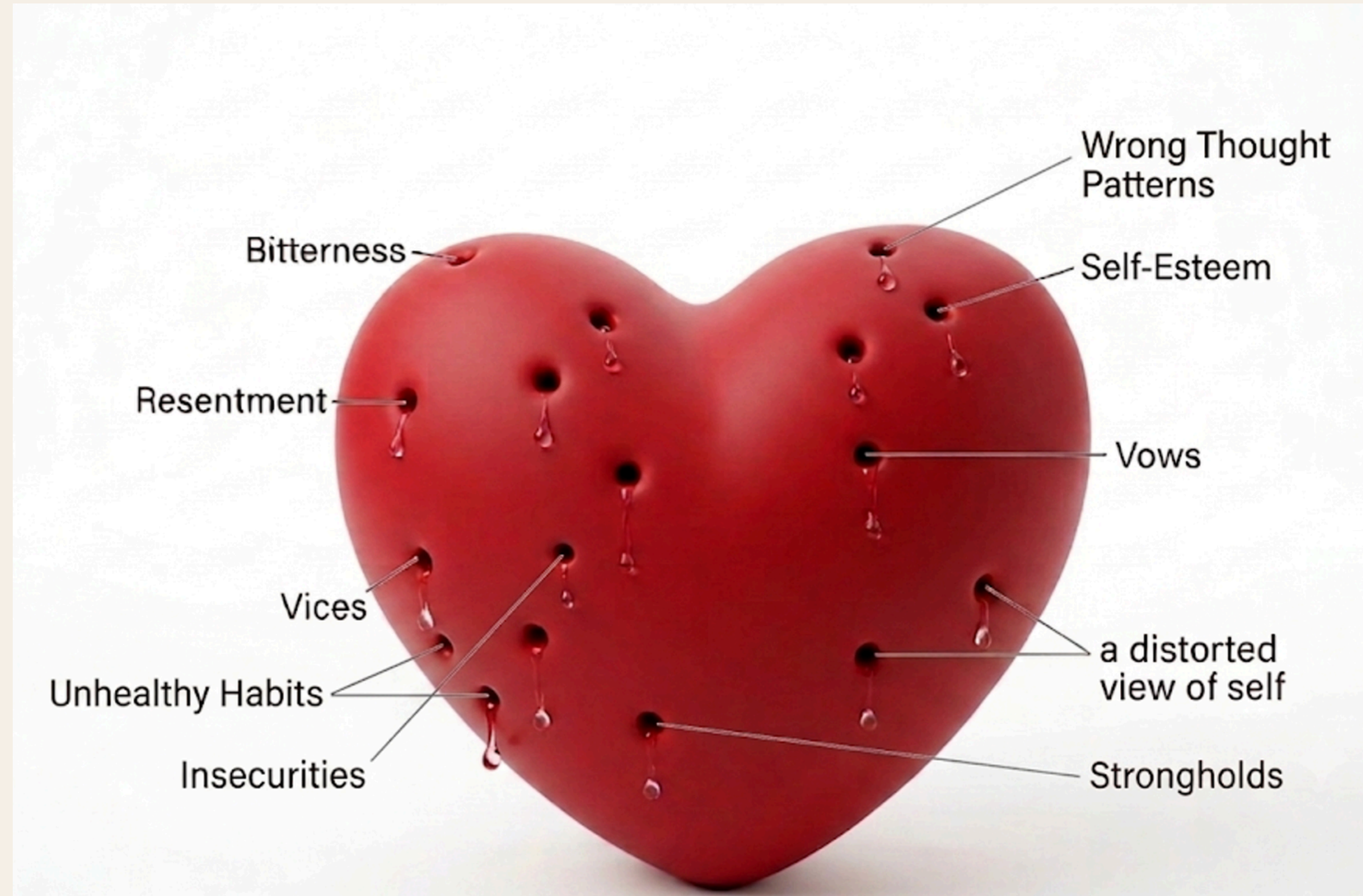


**UNADDRESSED PERSONAL ISSUES
AND EMOTIONAL PAIN**

HIDE OUR PAIN TO APPEAR STRONG

UNRESOLVED PAIN

UNHEALED TRAUMA



Jeremiah 17:9-10 (ESV)

*The heart is deceitful above all things,
and desperately sick; who can understand it?*

*“I the Lord search the heart
and test the mind, to give
every man according to his ways,
according to the fruit of his deeds.”*





ACTIONS

Feelings

MIND

Thoughts

DECISION

IDENTITY

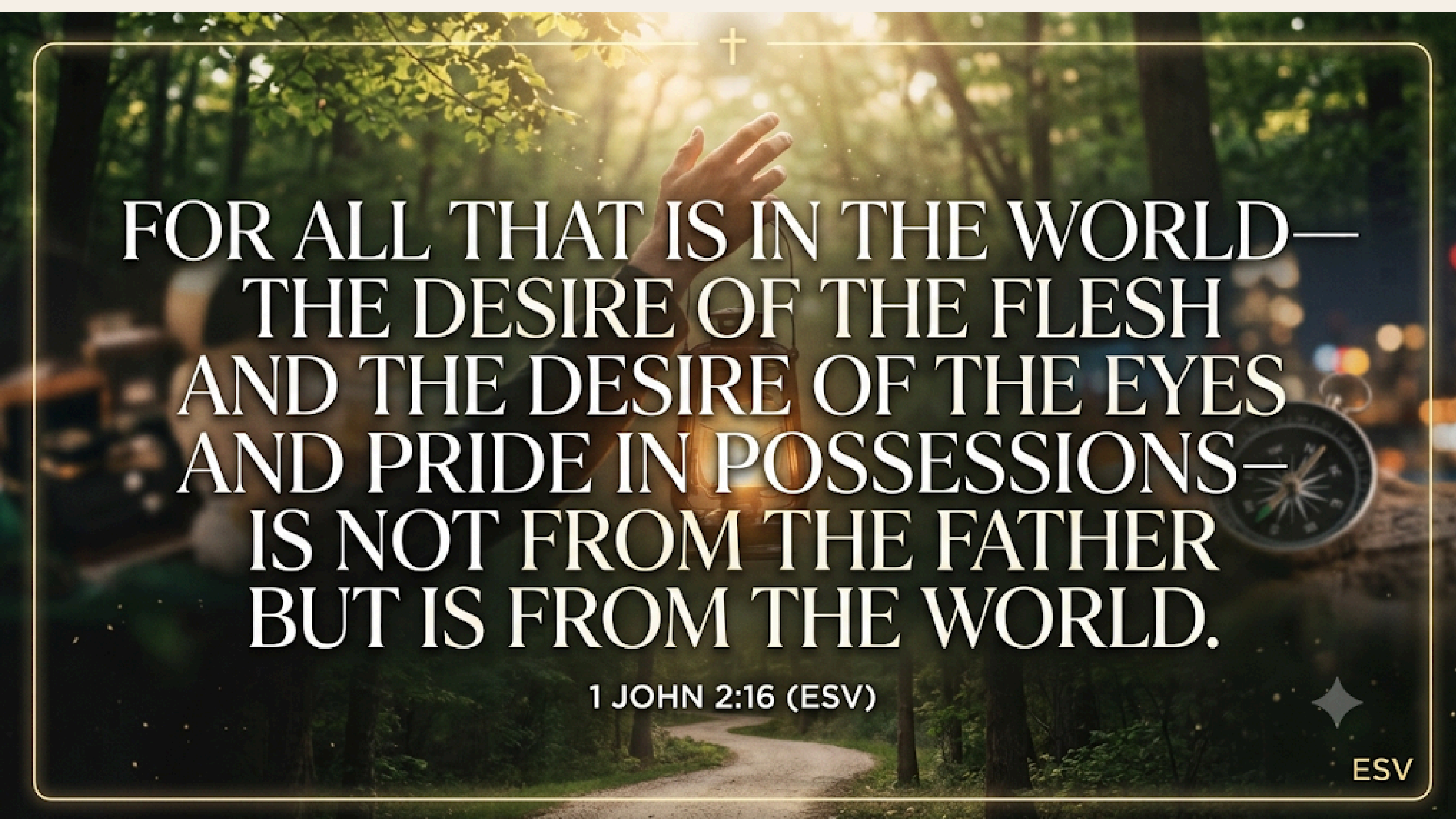
Beliefs, Memories,
Vows, Strongholds

DESIRE

Passions,
Drives,
Needs

John 15:4-7

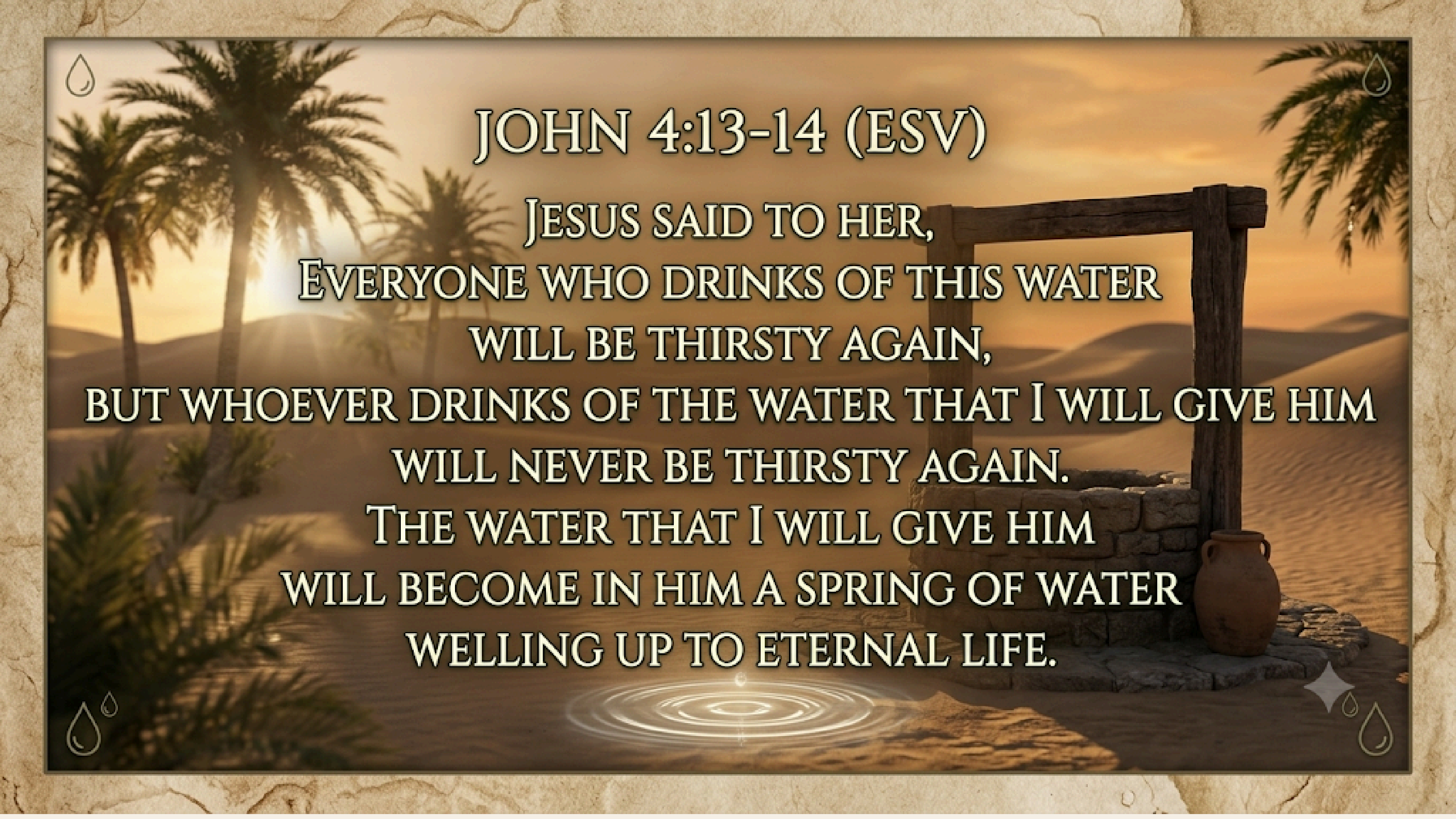
⁴ **Abide** in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it **abides** in the vine, neither can you, unless you **abide** in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever **abides** in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not **abide** in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you **abide** in me, and my words **abide** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

A hand holding a lantern in a forest with a cross in the sky and a compass on the right.

FOR ALL THAT IS IN THE WORLD—
THE DESIRE OF THE FLESH
AND THE DESIRE OF THE EYES
AND PRIDE IN POSSESSIONS—
IS NOT FROM THE FATHER
BUT IS FROM THE WORLD.

1 JOHN 2:16 (ESV)

ESV

The background of the image is a desert landscape at sunset. On the left, there are several palm trees. In the center-right, there is a stone well with a wooden frame and a large earthenware jar sitting next to it. The sky is a warm orange color, and the ground is sandy. The text is overlaid on this scene.

JOHN 4:13-14 (ESV)

JESUS SAID TO HER,
EVERYONE WHO DRINKS OF THIS WATER
WILL BE THIRSTY AGAIN,
BUT WHOEVER DRINKS OF THE WATER THAT I WILL GIVE HIM
WILL NEVER BE THIRSTY AGAIN.
THE WATER THAT I WILL GIVE HIM
WILL BECOME IN HIM A SPRING OF WATER
WELLING UP TO ETERNAL LIFE.

**Tools of
the Heart**

Discipline

Different
Experience

Filled

ACTIONS

Feelings

Thoughts

MIND
DECISION

IDENTITY

Beliefs, Memories,
Vows, Strongholds

DESIRE

Passions,
Drives,
Needs

ABIDE

GOD





For the eyes
of the **LORD**
run to and *fro*
throughout the whole earth,
to give *strong support*
to those whose *heart* is
blameless toward him.

2 Chronicles 16:9 (ESV)

**QUESTION OR
POINT HERE**

Title

Text

Activity No. 1

Shepherding Reflection

WHEN PEOPLE
DISAPPOINT OR
STRUGGLE,
WHAT IS
USUALLY MY
FIRST
RESPONSE?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ☐ FRUSTRATION | ☐ COMPASSION |
| ☐ WITHDRAWAL | ☐ PRAYER |
| ☐ AVOIDANCE | ☐ CURIOSITY |
| ☐ LECTURING | |

WHAT DOES MY
REACTION
REVEAL ABOUT
MY HEART AND
LEADERSHIP
STYLE?

DO PEOPLE FEEL
SAFE BEING
HONEST WITH
ME ABOUT
THEIR
STRUGGLES?
WHY/WHY NOT?

WHAT
ATMOSPHERE DO
I CREATE:

HOW WOULD
PEOPLE
DESCRIBE ME?

Activity No. 1

Shepherding Reflection

DO I SHEPHERD
PRIMARILY
THROUGH:

☐

CONTROL

☐

INFLUENCE

☐

FEAR

☐

EXAMPLE

☐

EXPECTATIONS

☐

RELATIONSHIP

AM I MODELING
THE HEART OF
JESUS AS A
SHEPHERD?

WHEN I
CORRECT
PEOPLE, WHAT
IS MY TRUE
GOAL?

DO I CORRECT
TO CONTROL,
OR DO I
CORRECT TO
RESTORE?

Activity No. 2

Looking Beneath Behavior

WHAT BEHAVIORS IN PEOPLE TRIGGER STRONG REACTIONS IN ME?

- Disrespect?
- Laziness?
- Rebellion?
- Inconsistency?
- Dishonesty?

Reflection: Why do these behaviors affect me so deeply?

WHAT DEEPER STRUGGLES OR DESIRES MAY BE INFLUENCING THESE BEHAVIORS?

AM I PATIENT WITH THE PROCESS OF GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION?

HOW HAS GOD SHOWN PATIENCE AND GRACE TOWARD ME?

Activity No. 3

My Own Downward & Upward Spiral

IN STRESSFUL SITUATIONS, WHAT DOWNWARD SPIRAL PATTERNS USUALLY APPEAR IN MY LIFE?

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| • Control? | • Perfectionism? | Reflection: What unmet desires may be driving these patterns? |
| • Anger? | • Avoidance? | |
| • Withdrawal? | • People-pleasing? | |
| • Anxiety? | | |

WHAT LIES OR DISTORTED BELIEFS DO I TEND TO BELIEVE WHEN SHEPHERDING BECOMES DIFFICULT?

- | | |
|---|--|
| Examples: | Reflection: What truth from God's Word confronts these lies? |
| "Everything depends on me." | |
| "People will reject me if I confront them." | |
| "Failure means I am ineffective." | |
| "I need everyone's approval." | |

WHICH PART OF THE UPWARD SPIRAL DO I MOST NEED TO GROW IN?

Seeking God
Accepting responsibility
Practicing new ways
Investing time
Trusting God
Yielding fully to God

WHAT PRACTICAL STEP CAN I TAKE THIS WEEK?

Application & Commitment

WHAT IS ONE MAJOR SHEPHERDING INSIGHT
GOD IS REVEALING TO ME?

WHAT IS ONE UNHEALTHY SHEPHERDING
PATTERN I NEED TO SURRENDER TO GOD?

WHO HAS GOD ENTRUSTED ME TO SHEPHERD
BETTER?

Child?	Volunteer?
Spouse?	Team member?
Dgroup member?	

WHAT SPECIFIC CONVERSATION DO I NEED TO
HAVE THIS WEEK?

Application & Commitment

WHAT PRACTICAL CHANGE WILL I BEGIN
APPLYING IMMEDIATELY IN:

MY HOME

MY
LEADERSHIP

MY
DISCIPLESHIP
RELATIONSHIPS