

A large, leafy tree stands in a field under a blue sky with clouds. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The background is a bright, slightly hazy sky. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Nothing Better Than Jesus

December 3, 2017

Advancing the Gospel



**Advancing
the Gospel**



Unity



**Advancing
the Gospel**



Unity



Humility



**Advancing
the Gospel**



Unity



Humility

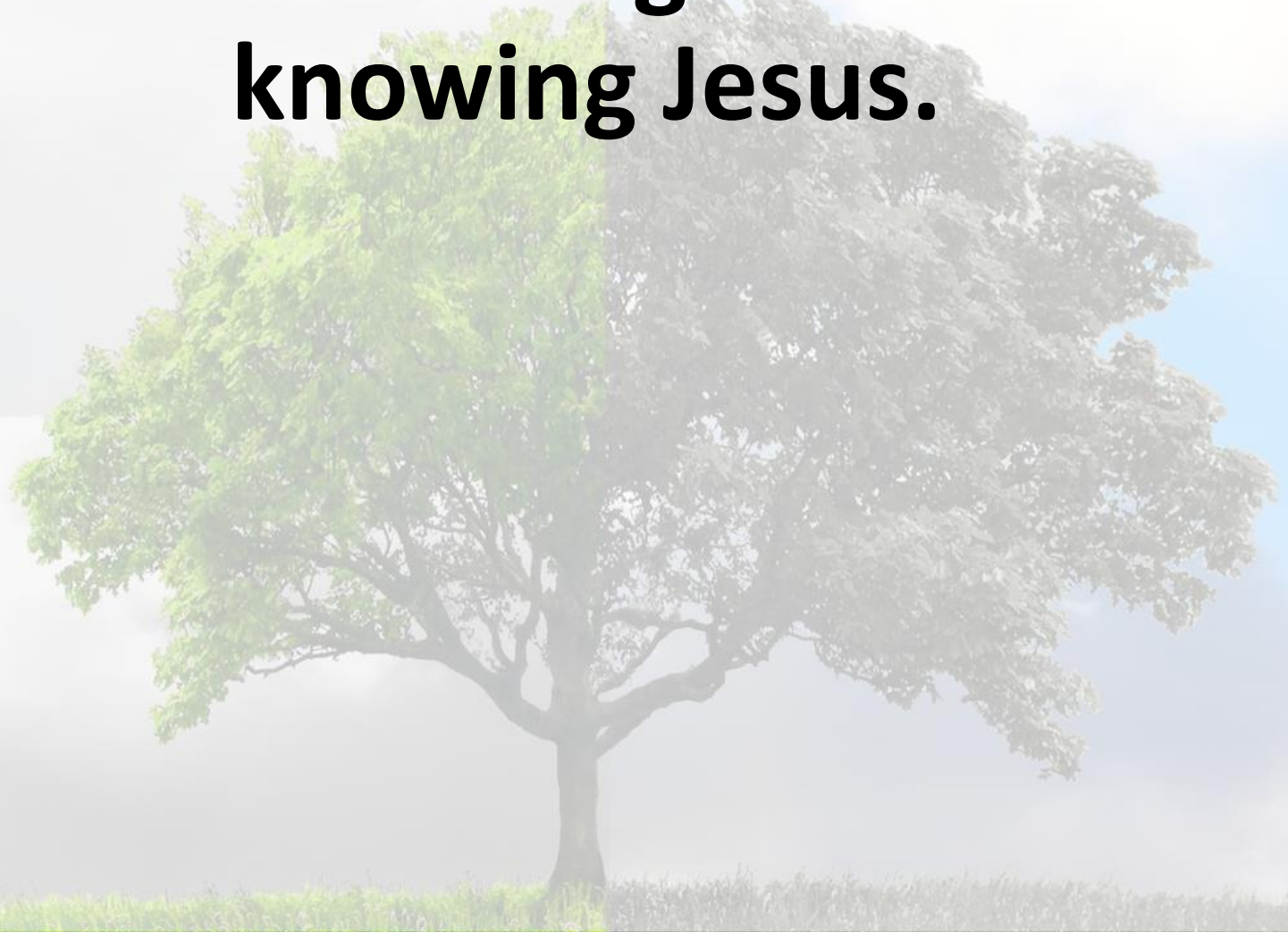
Jesus

Philippians 3:1-11



Philippians 3:1-11

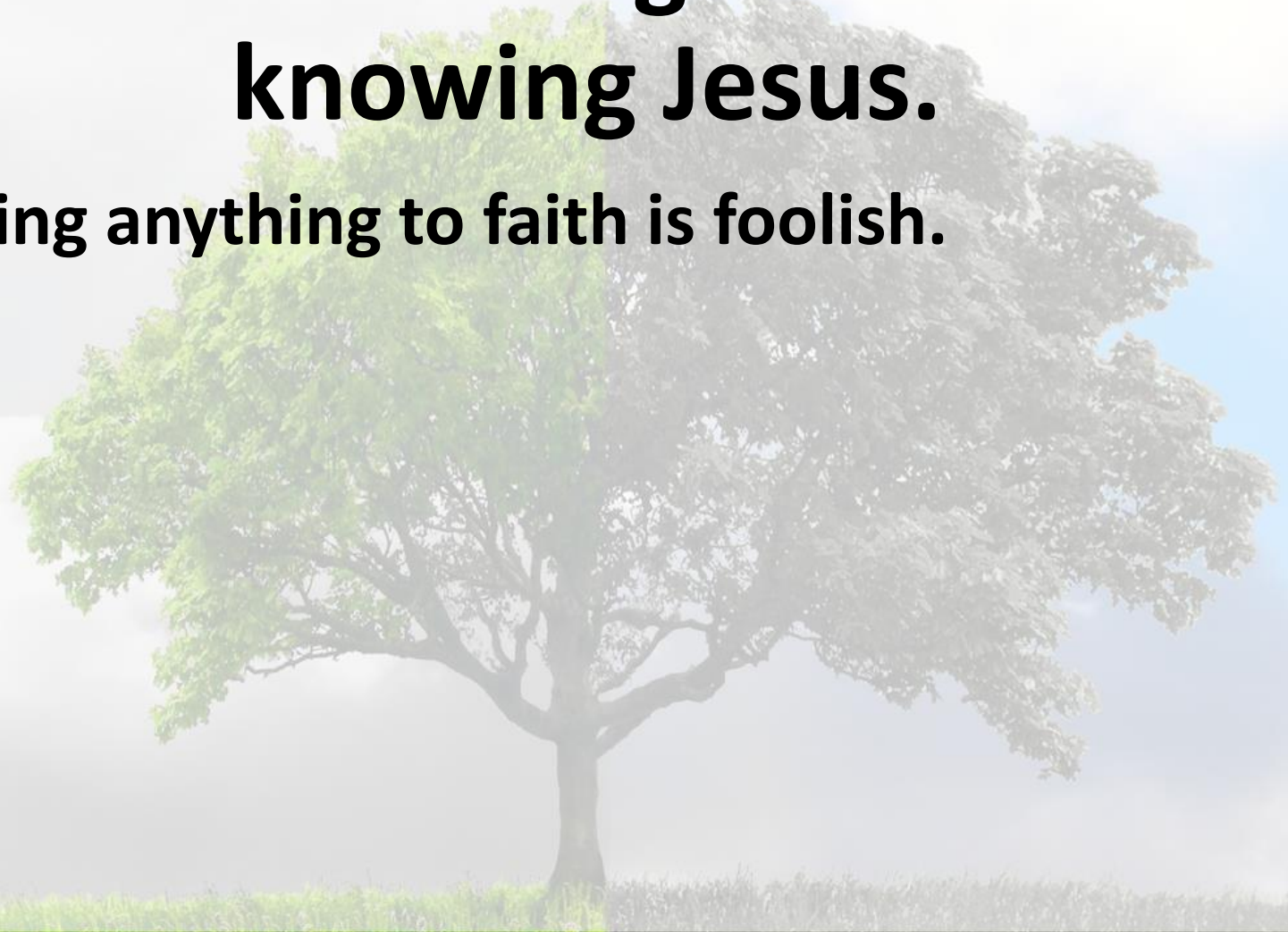
**There is nothing better than
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Philippians 3:1-11

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Adding anything to faith is foolish.

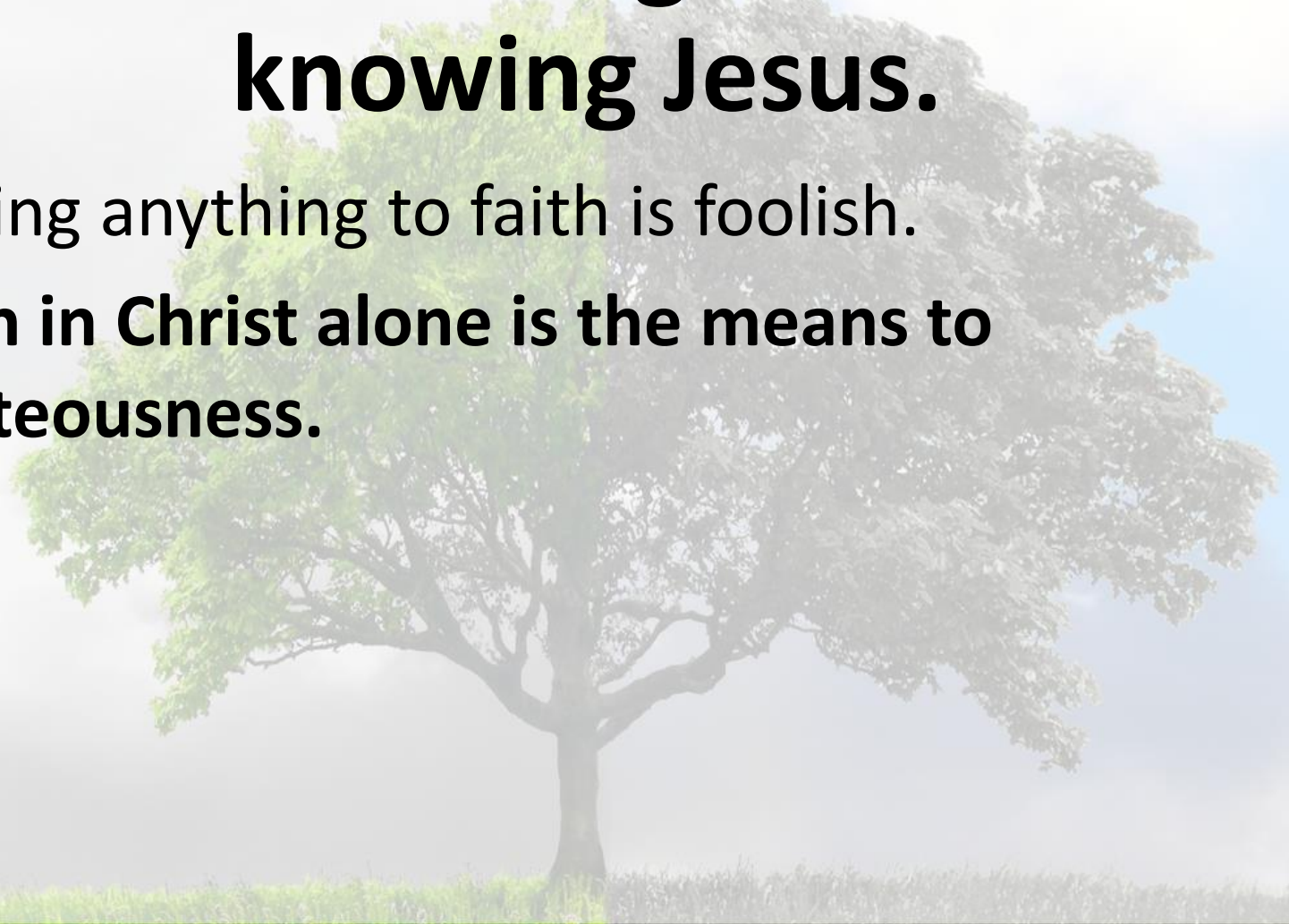


Philippians 3:1-11

There is nothing better than knowing Jesus.

Adding anything to faith is foolish.

**Faith in Christ alone is the means to
righteousness.**



Philippians 3:1-11

Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.

² Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh. ³ For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— ⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the

Philippians 3:1-11

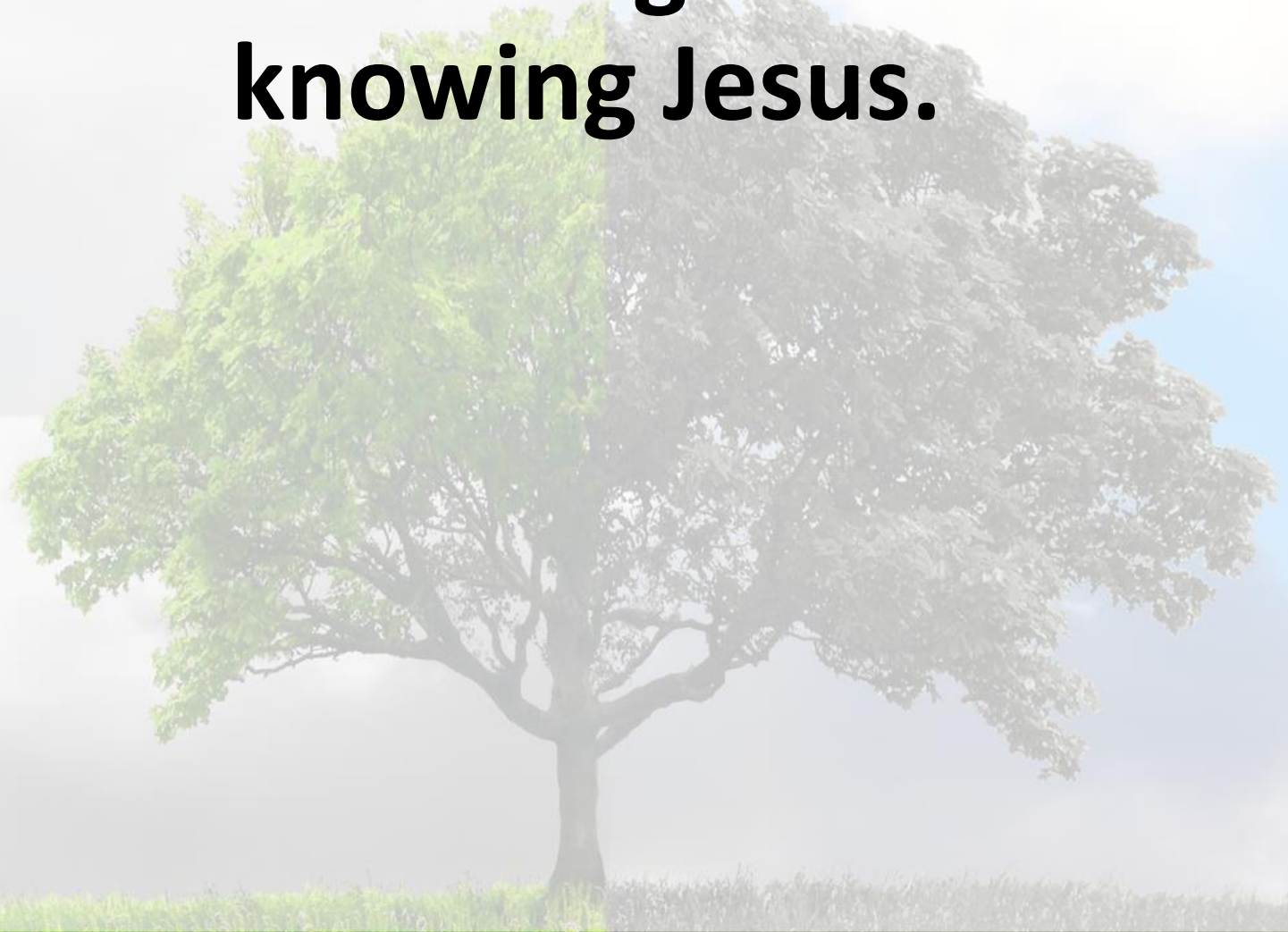
people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. ⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the **surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the

Philippians 3:1-11

law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ **I want to know Christ**—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:1-11

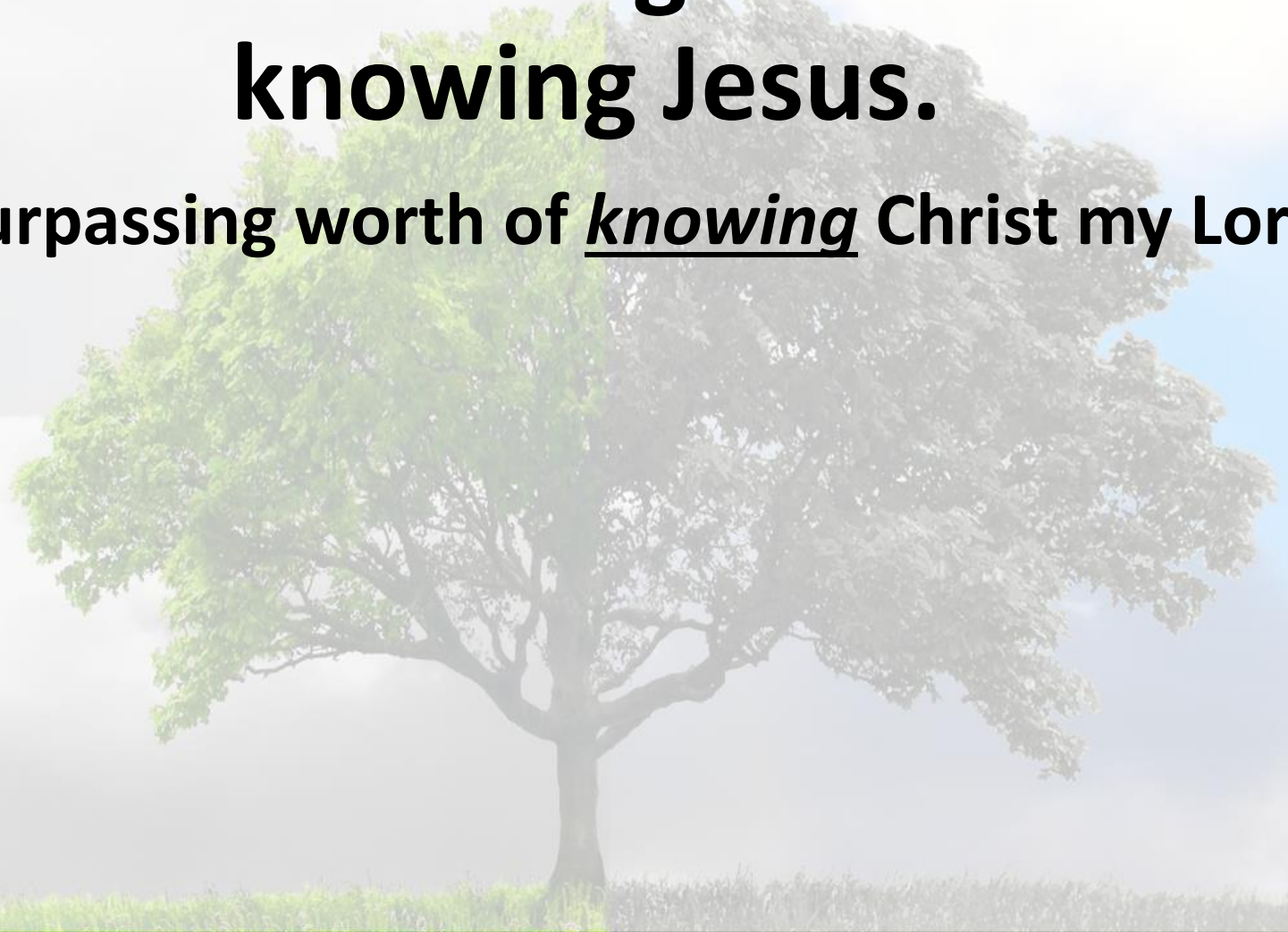
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Philippians 3:1-11

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“... surpassing worth of knowing Christ my Lord.”

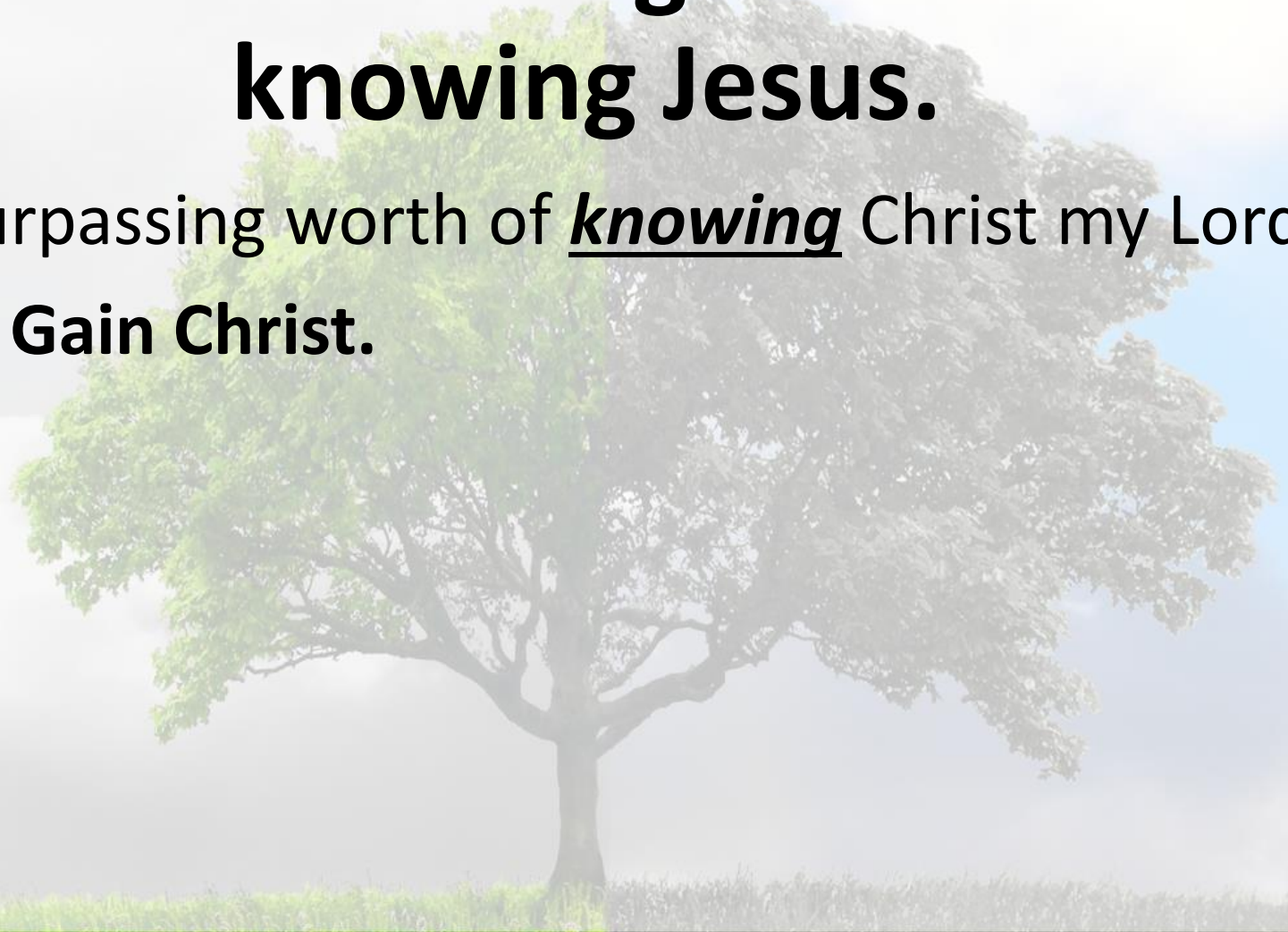


Philippians 3:1-11

There is nothing better than knowing Jesus.

“... surpassing worth of knowing Christ my Lord.”

- **Gain Christ.**

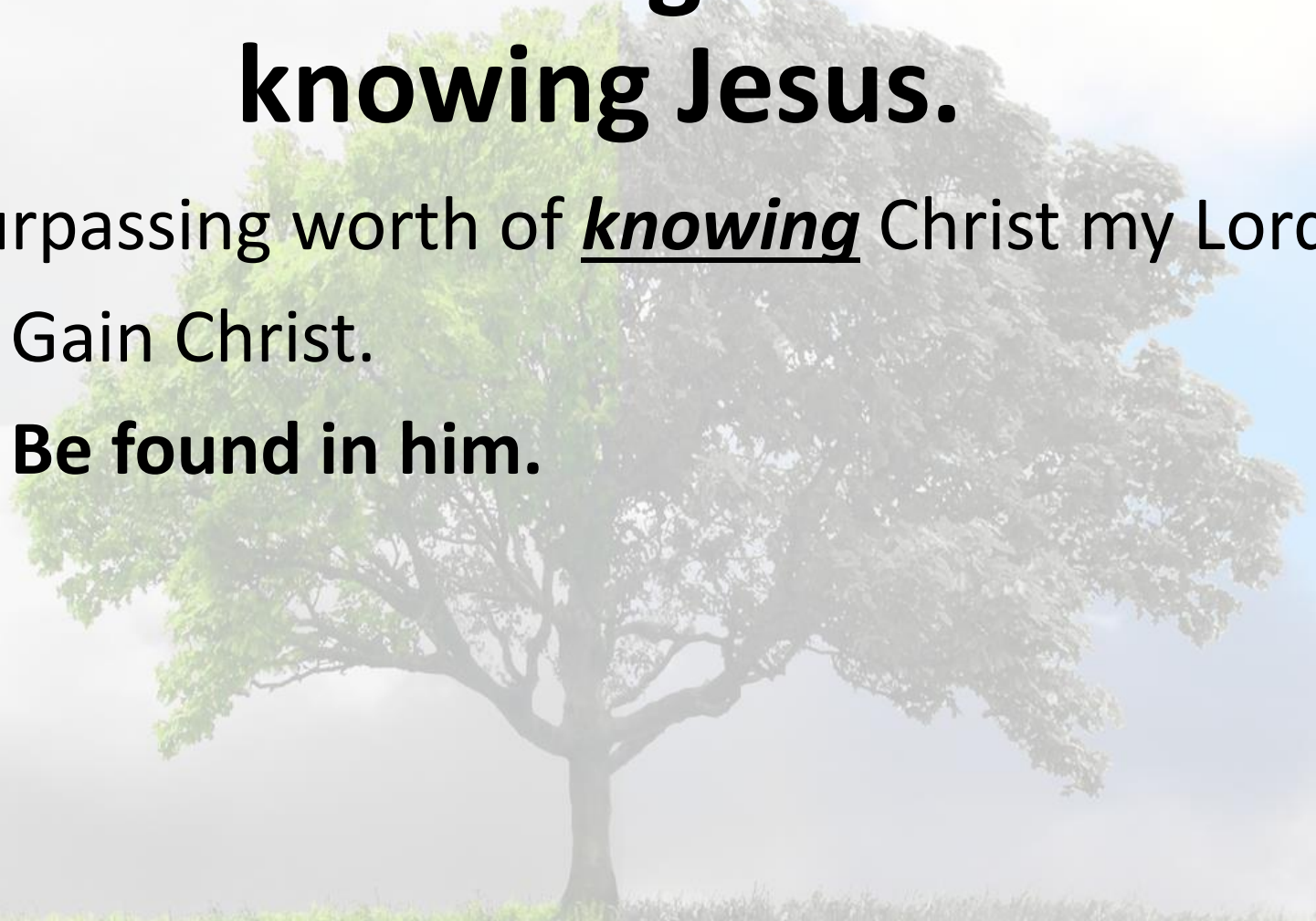


Philippians 3:1-11

There is nothing better than knowing Jesus.

“... surpassing worth of knowing Christ my Lord.”

- Gain Christ.
- **Be found in him.**



Philippians 3:1-11

There is nothing better than knowing Jesus.

“... surpassing worth of knowing Christ my Lord.”

- Gain Christ.
- Be found in him.
- **All else is rubbish.**

Philippians 3:1-11

There is nothing better than knowing Jesus.

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- **Righteous through faith.**

Philippians 3:1-11

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“... that I may know him...”

Philippians 3:1-11

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“... that I may know him...”

- **Experiencing power of his resurrection**

Philippians 3:1-11

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- Experiencing power of his resurrection
- **Sharing in his sufferings.**

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- Experiencing power of his resurrection
- Sharing in his sufferings.
- **Becoming like him in his death.**

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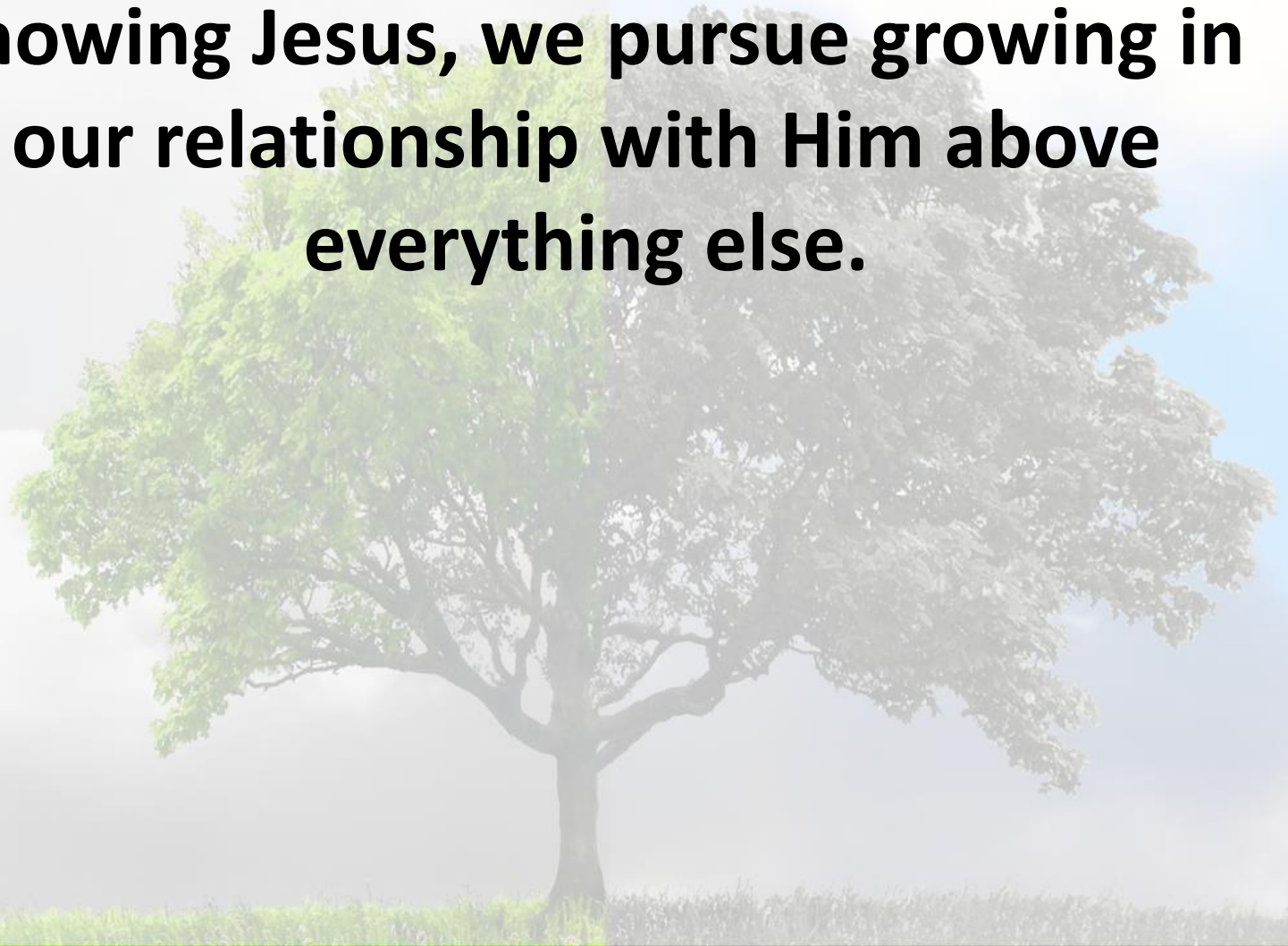
- Experiencing power of his resurrection
- Sharing in his sufferings.
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- **Attaining the resurrection of the dead.**

Philippians 3:12-16



Philippians 3:12-16

Since there is nothing better than knowing Jesus, we pursue growing in our relationship with Him above everything else.

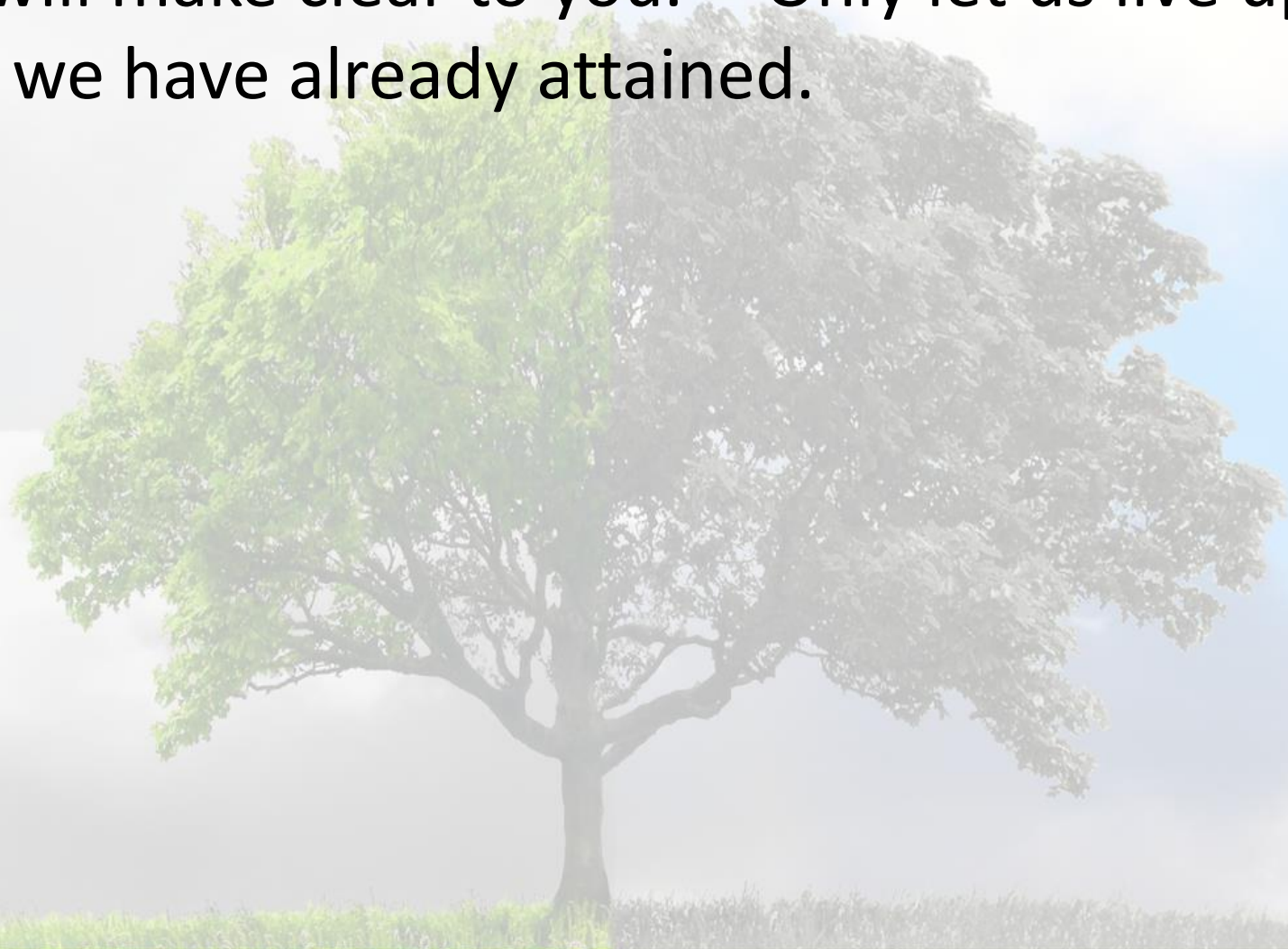


Philippians 3:12-16

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.¹⁵ All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too

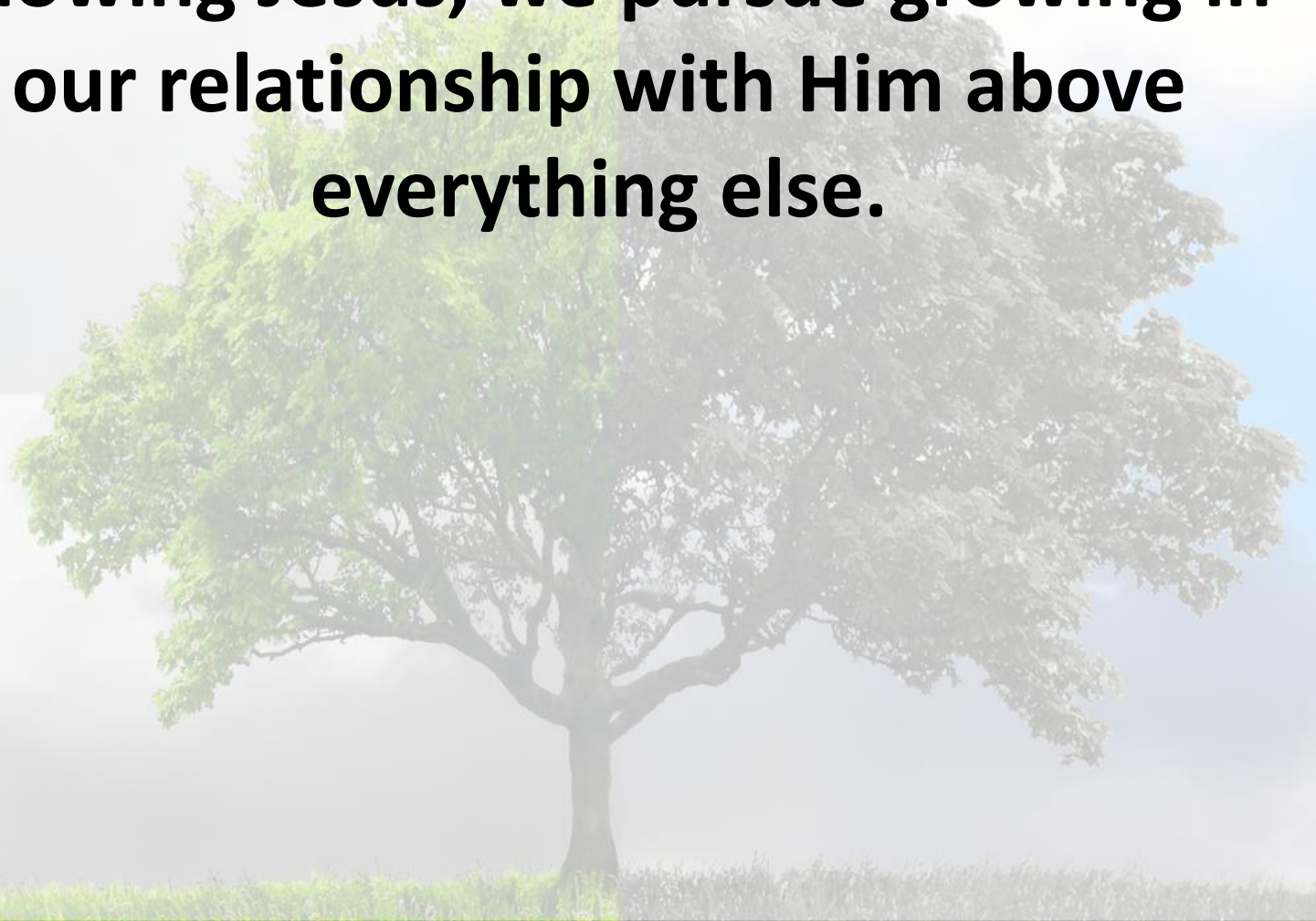
Philippians 3:12-16

God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.



Philippians 3:12-16

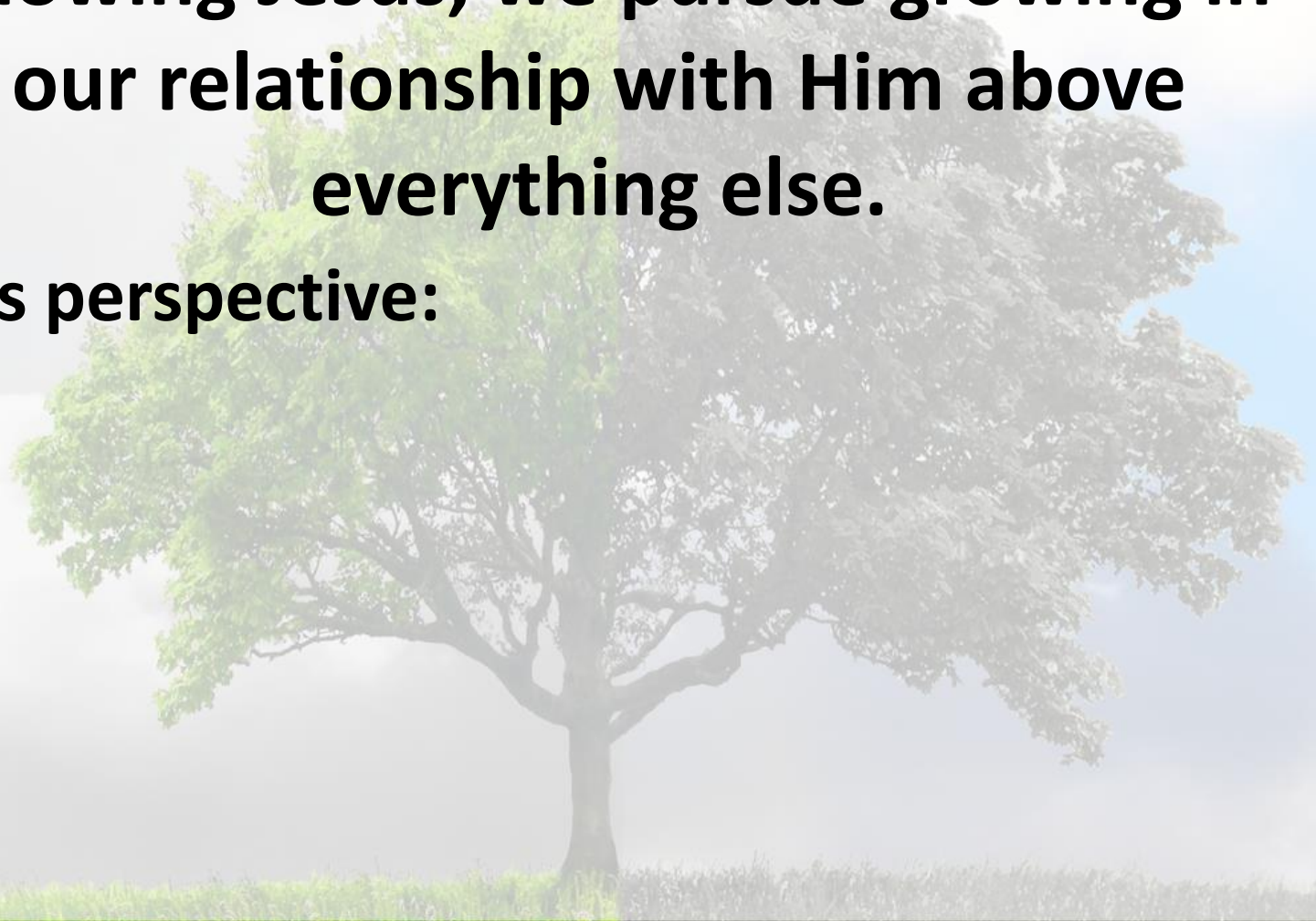
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Paul's perspective:

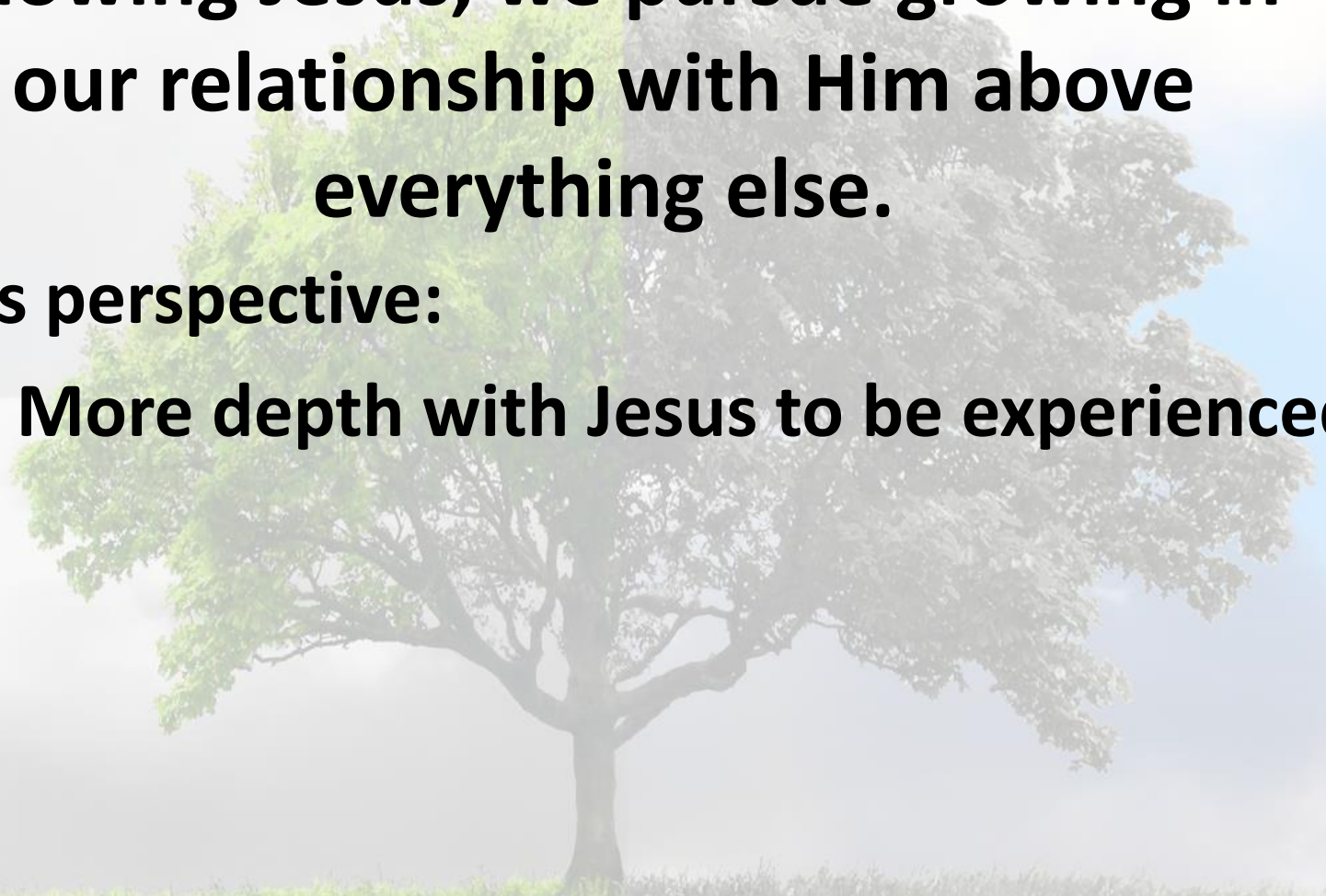


Philippians 3:12-16

Since there is nothing better than knowing Jesus, we pursue growing in our relationship with Him above everything else.

Paul's perspective:

- **More depth with Jesus to be experienced.**



Philippians 3:12-13

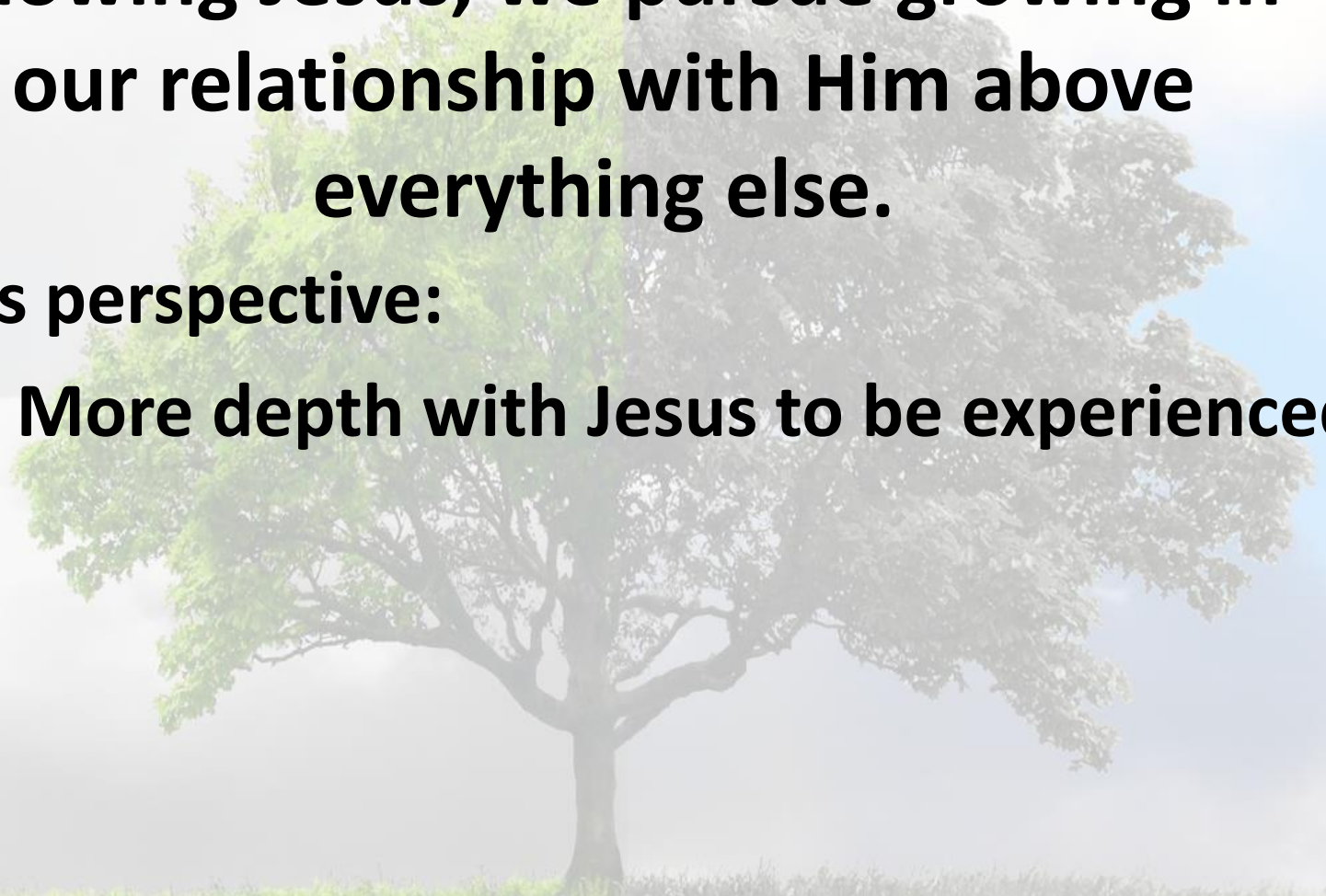
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Paul's perspective:

- More depth with Jesus to be experienced.
- **Paul presses forward.**

Philippians 3:12-14

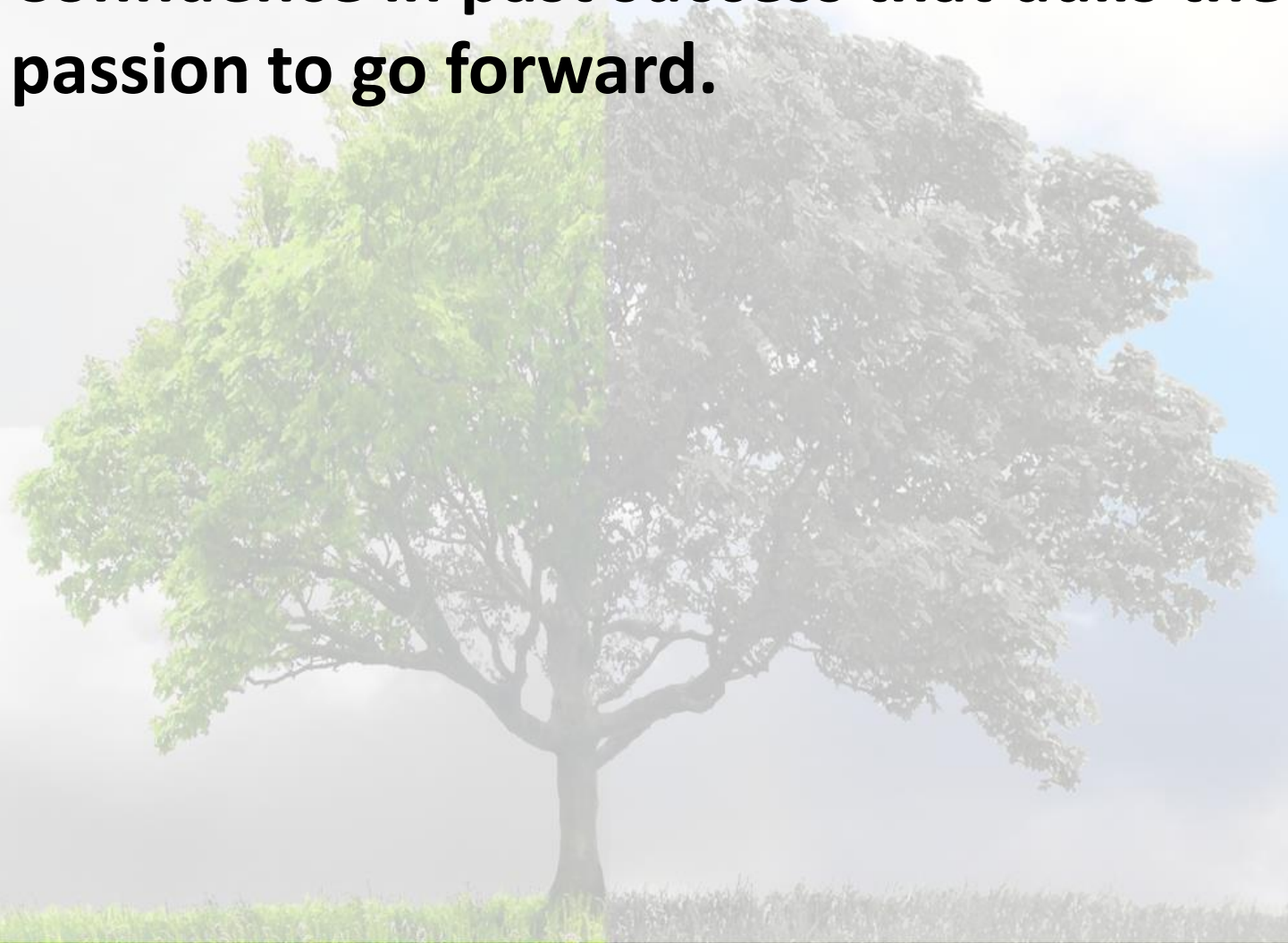
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Forgetting the past...



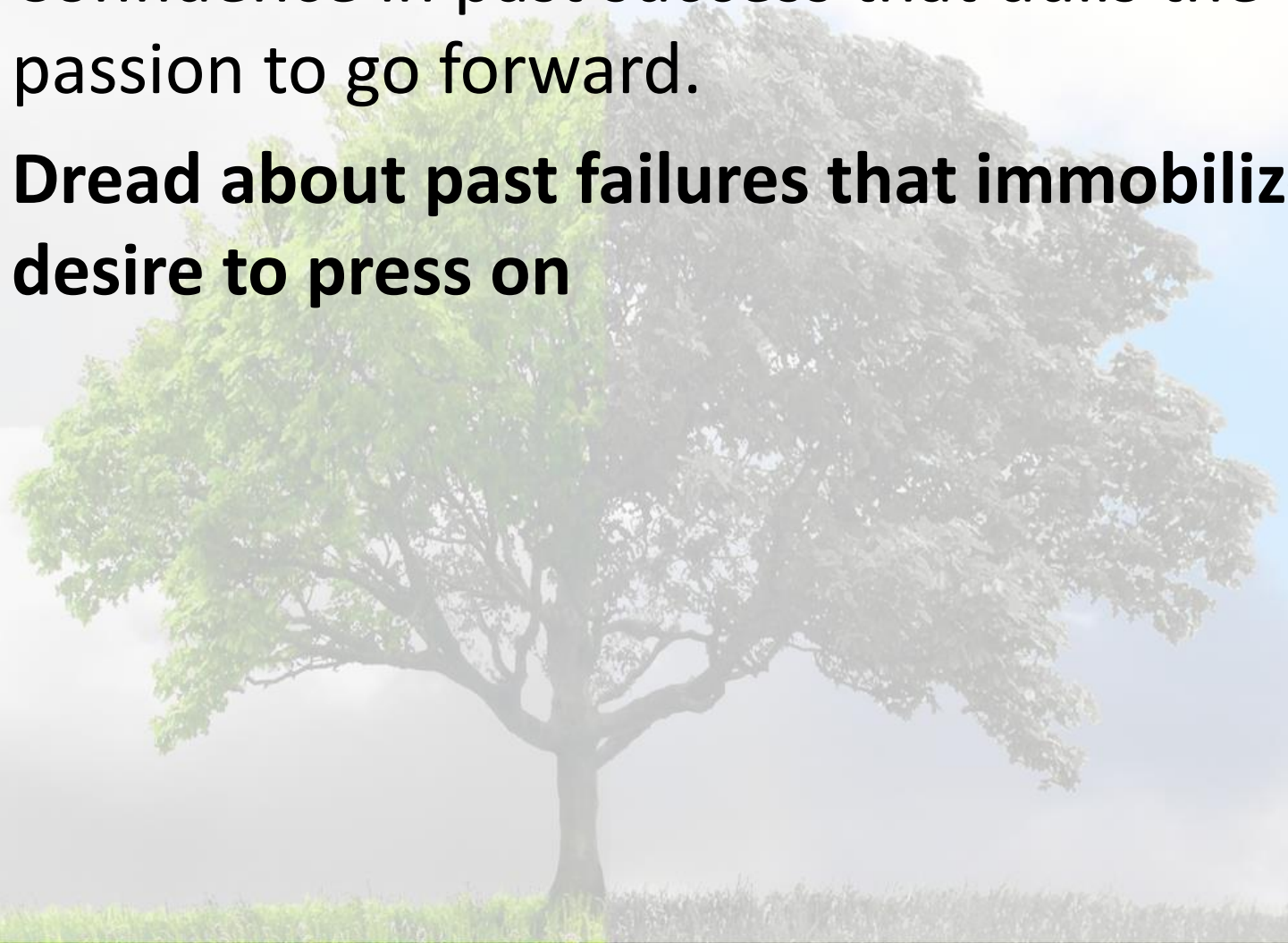
Forgetting the past...

- **Confidence in past success that dulls the passion to go forward.**



Forgetting the past...

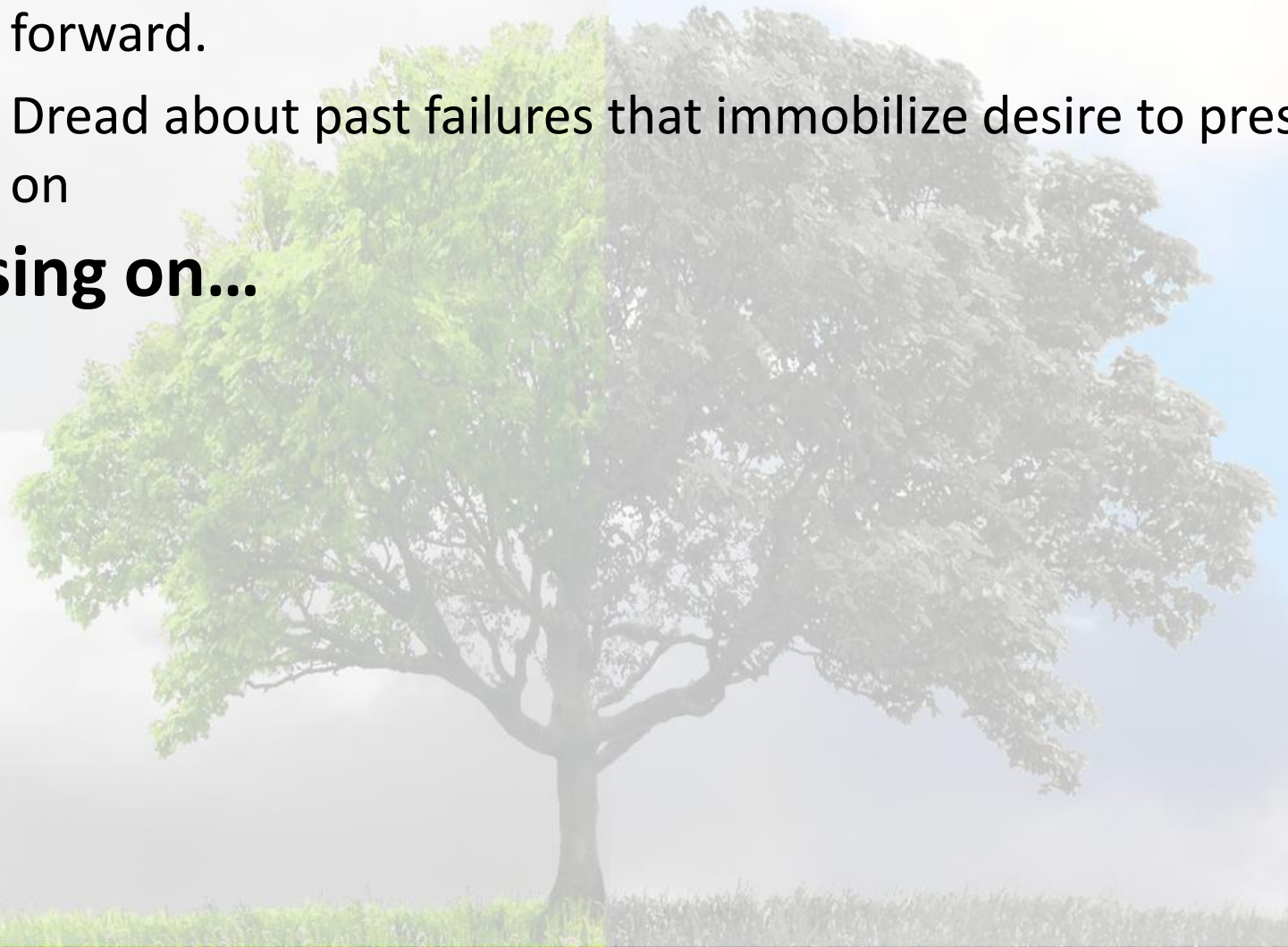
- Confidence in past success that dulls the passion to go forward.
- **Dread about past failures that immobilize desire to press on**



Forgetting the past...

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Pressing on...

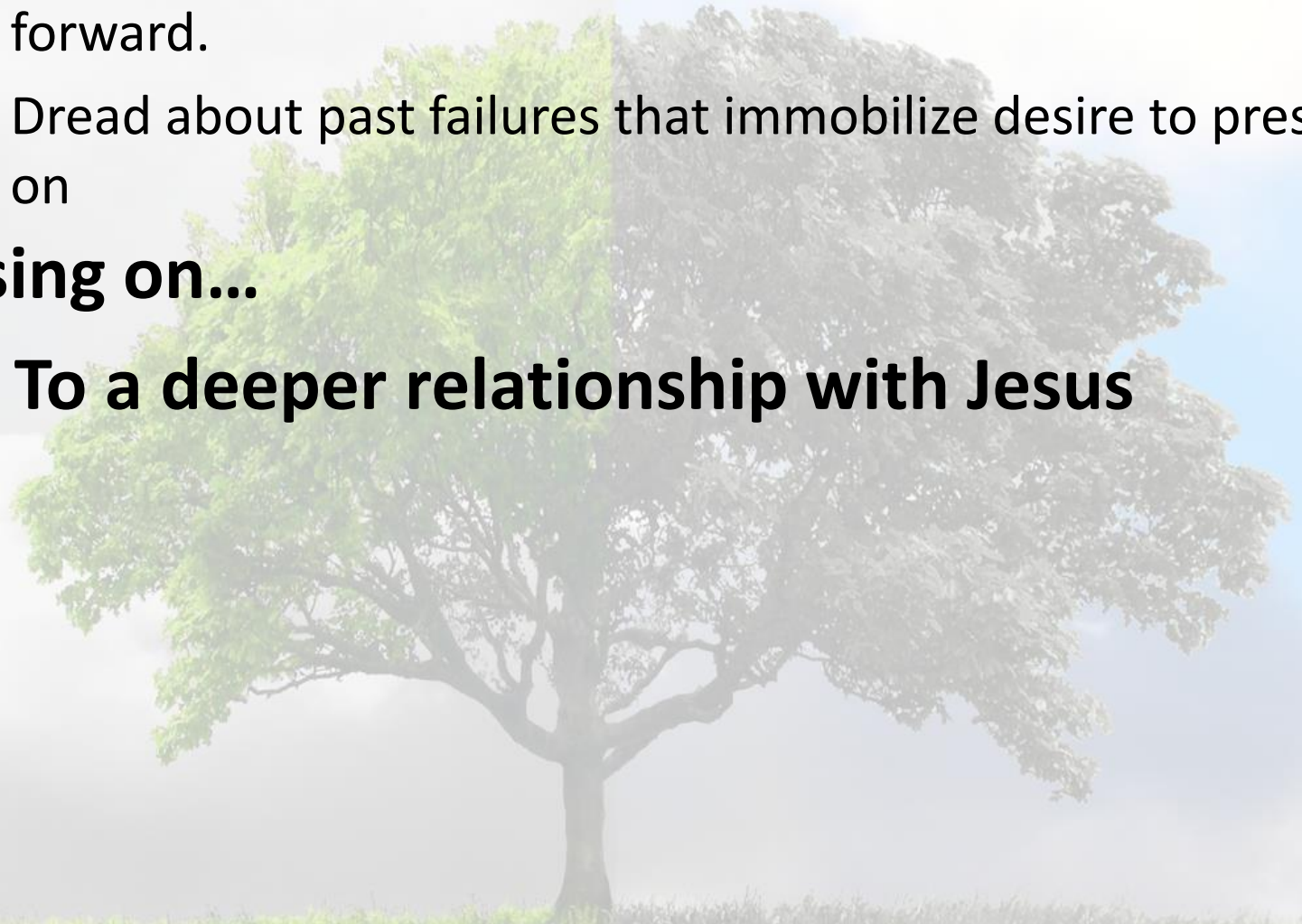


Forgetting the past...

- Confidence in past success that dulls the passion to go forward.
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Pressing on...

- **To a deeper relationship with Jesus**



Philippians 3:12-16

Since there is nothing better than knowing Jesus, we pursue growing in our relationship with Him above everything else.

Paul's perspective:

- More depth with Jesus to be experienced.
- **Paul presses forward.**

Philippians 3:12-16

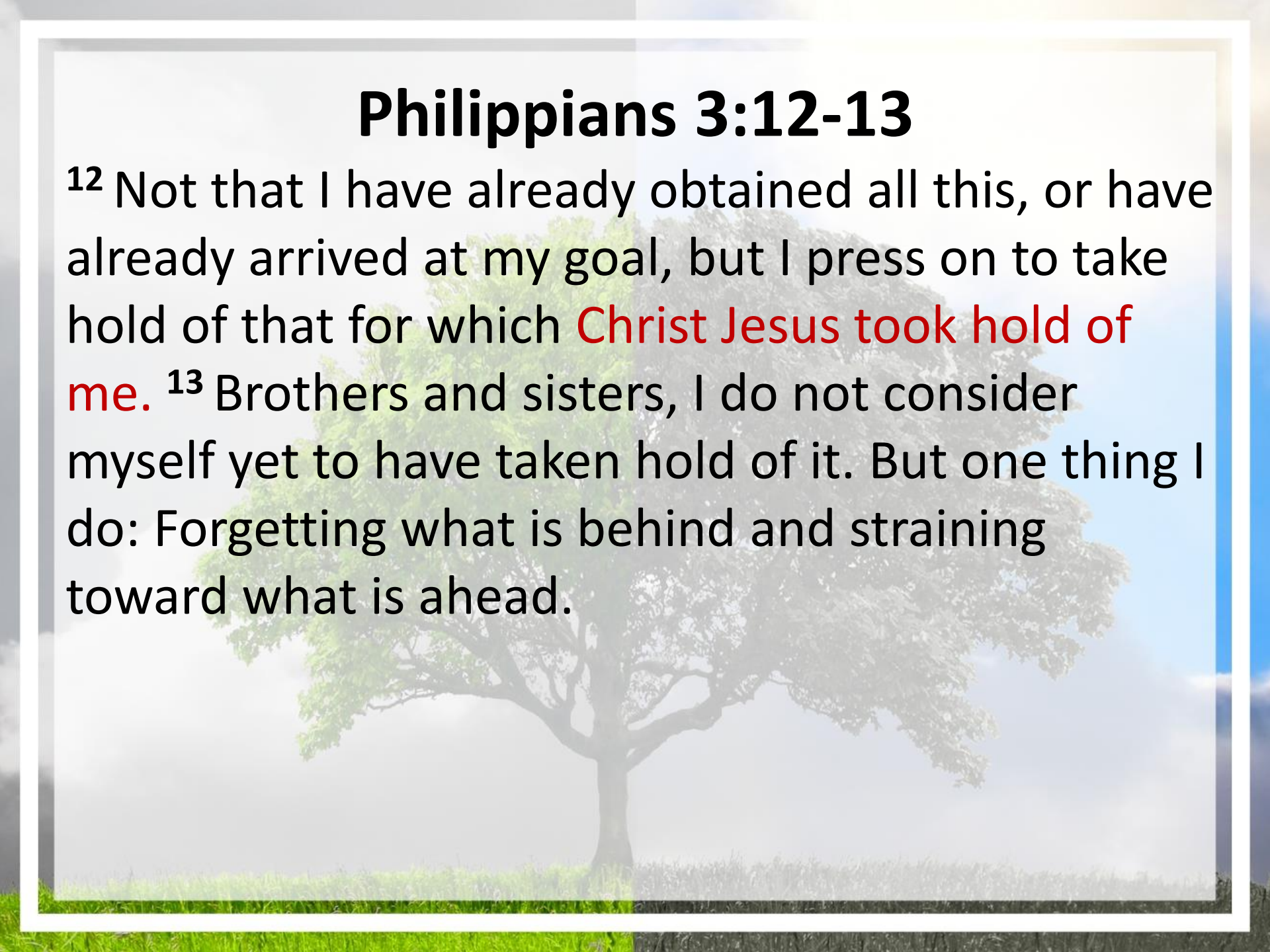
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Paul's perspective:

- More depth with Jesus to be experienced.
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 - **Because Jesus took hold of him.**

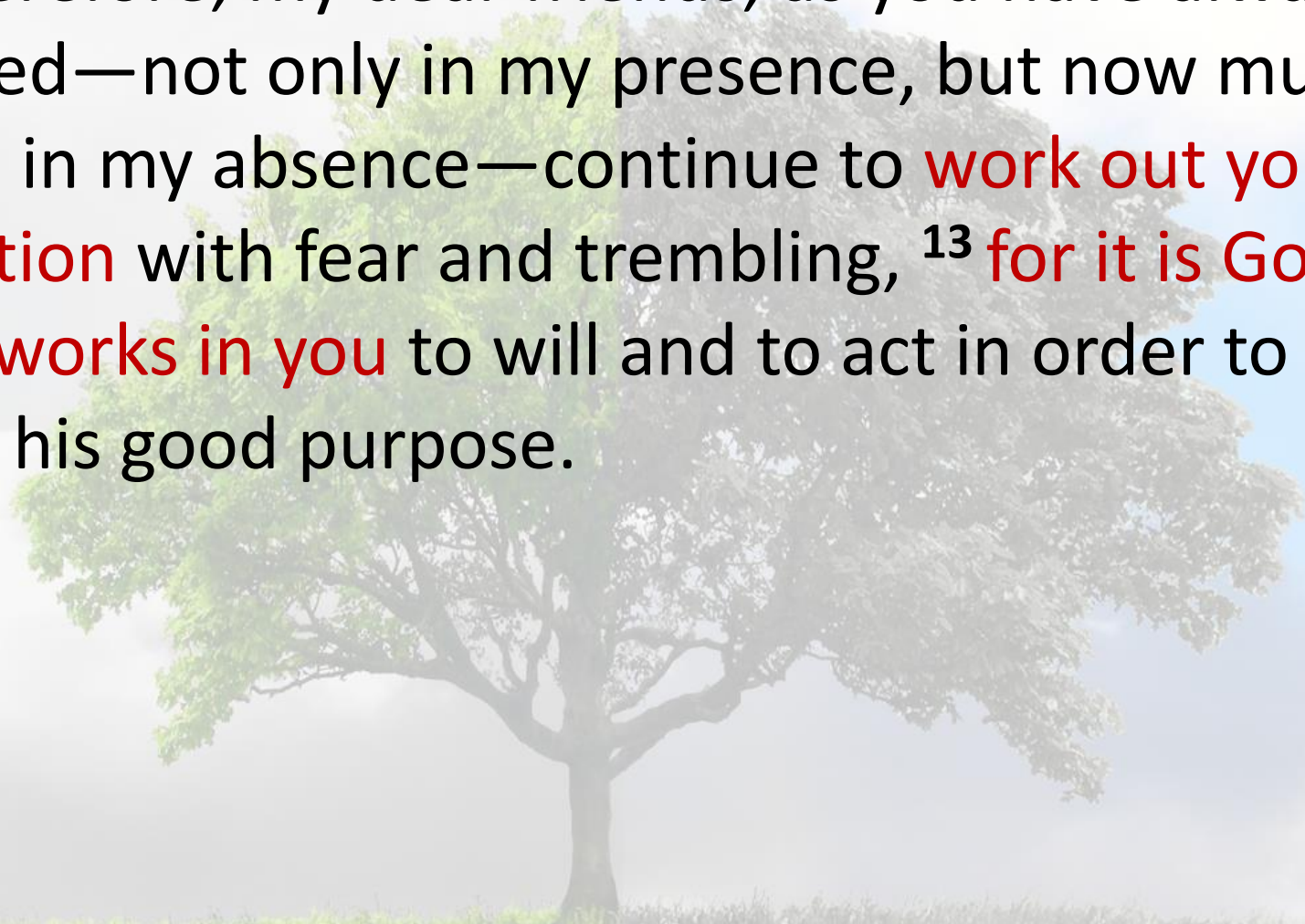
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Philippians 2:12-13

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to **work out your salvation** with fear and trembling, ¹³ **for it is God who works in you** to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.



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Paul's perspective:

- More depth with Jesus to be experienced.
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- **Paul presses on toward the ultimate prize**

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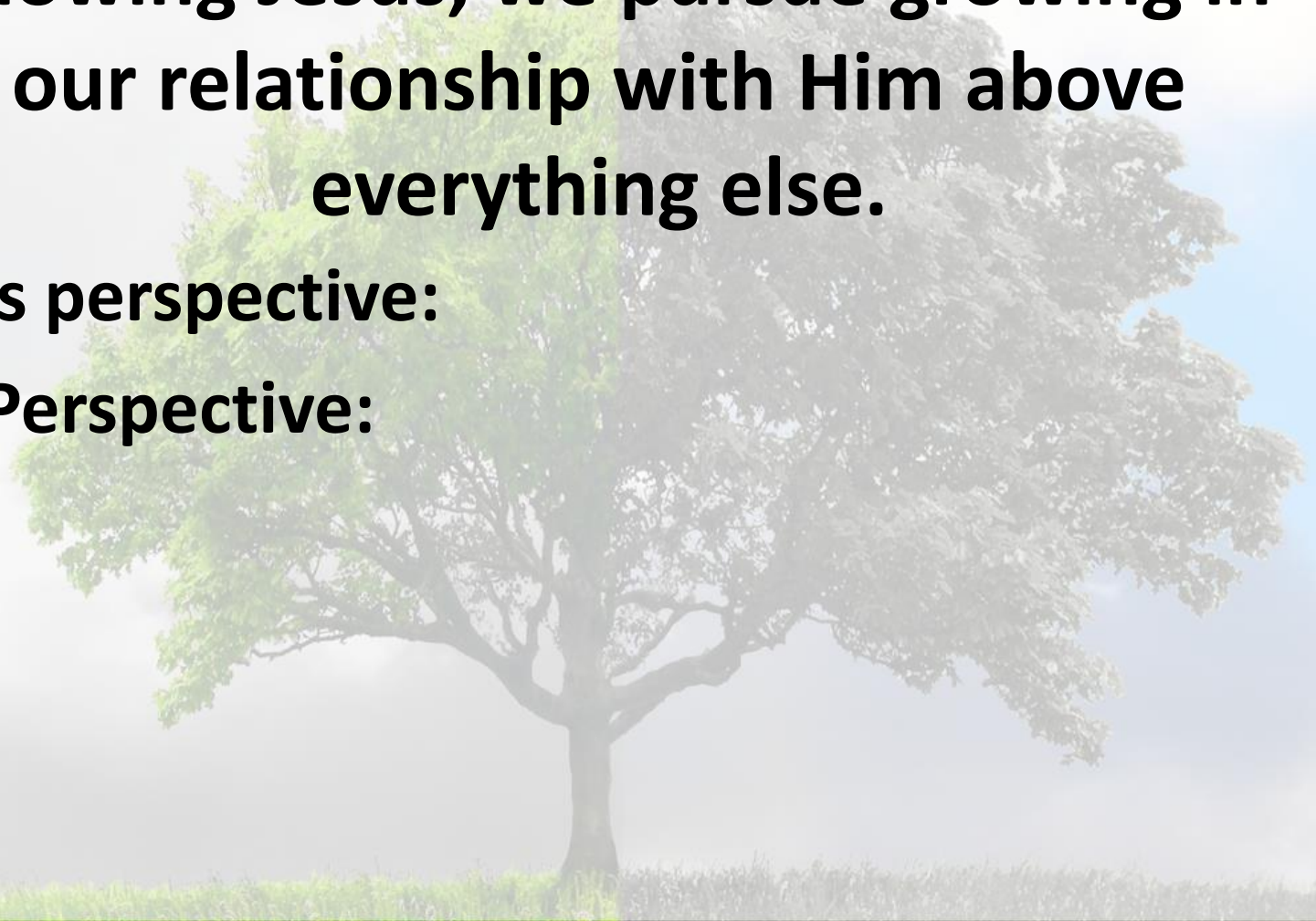
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Paul's perspective:

Our Perspective:



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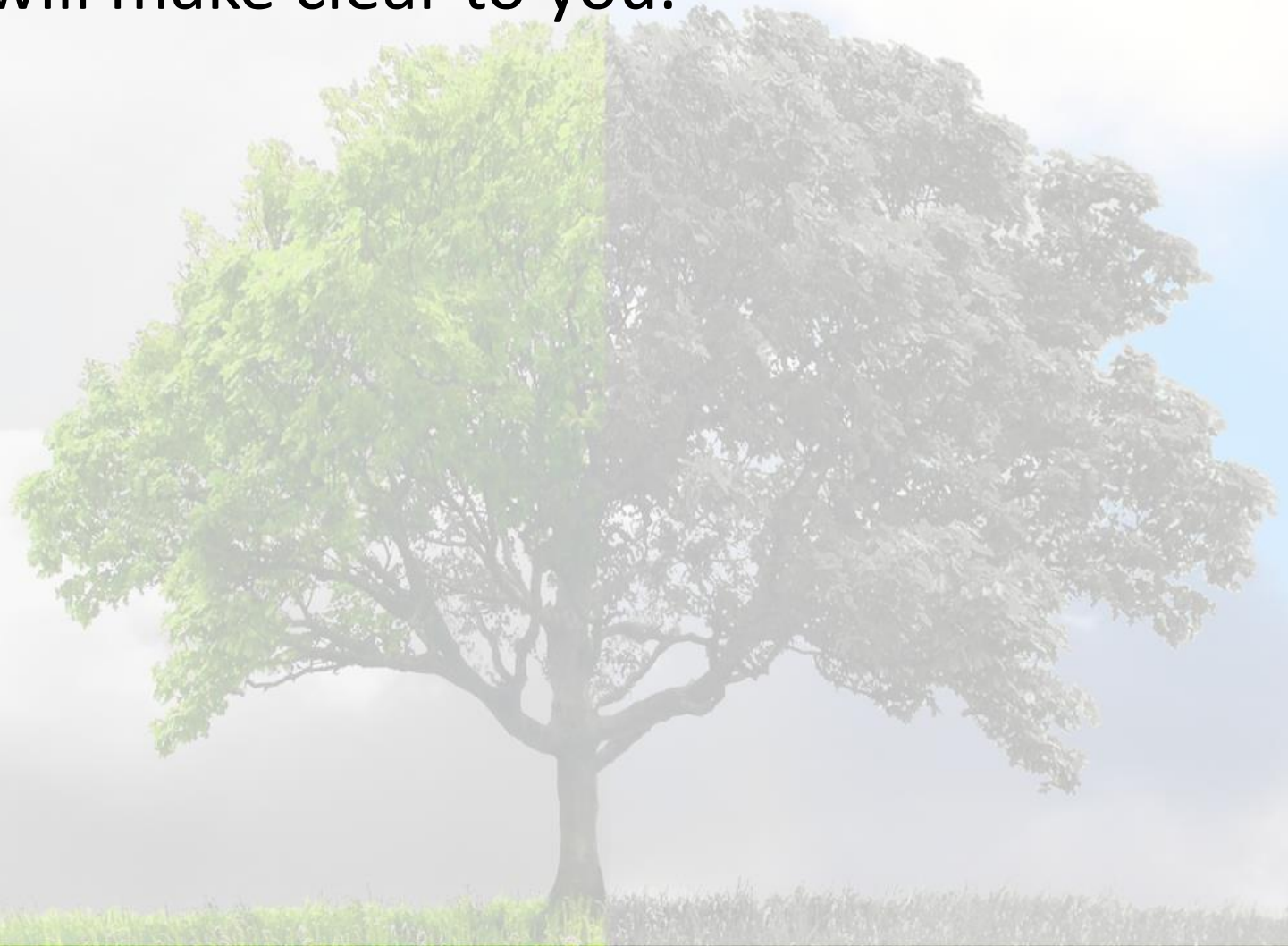
- **More relational depth with Jesus to be experienced.**

Philippians 3:12-15

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Philippians 3:12-15

God will make clear to you.



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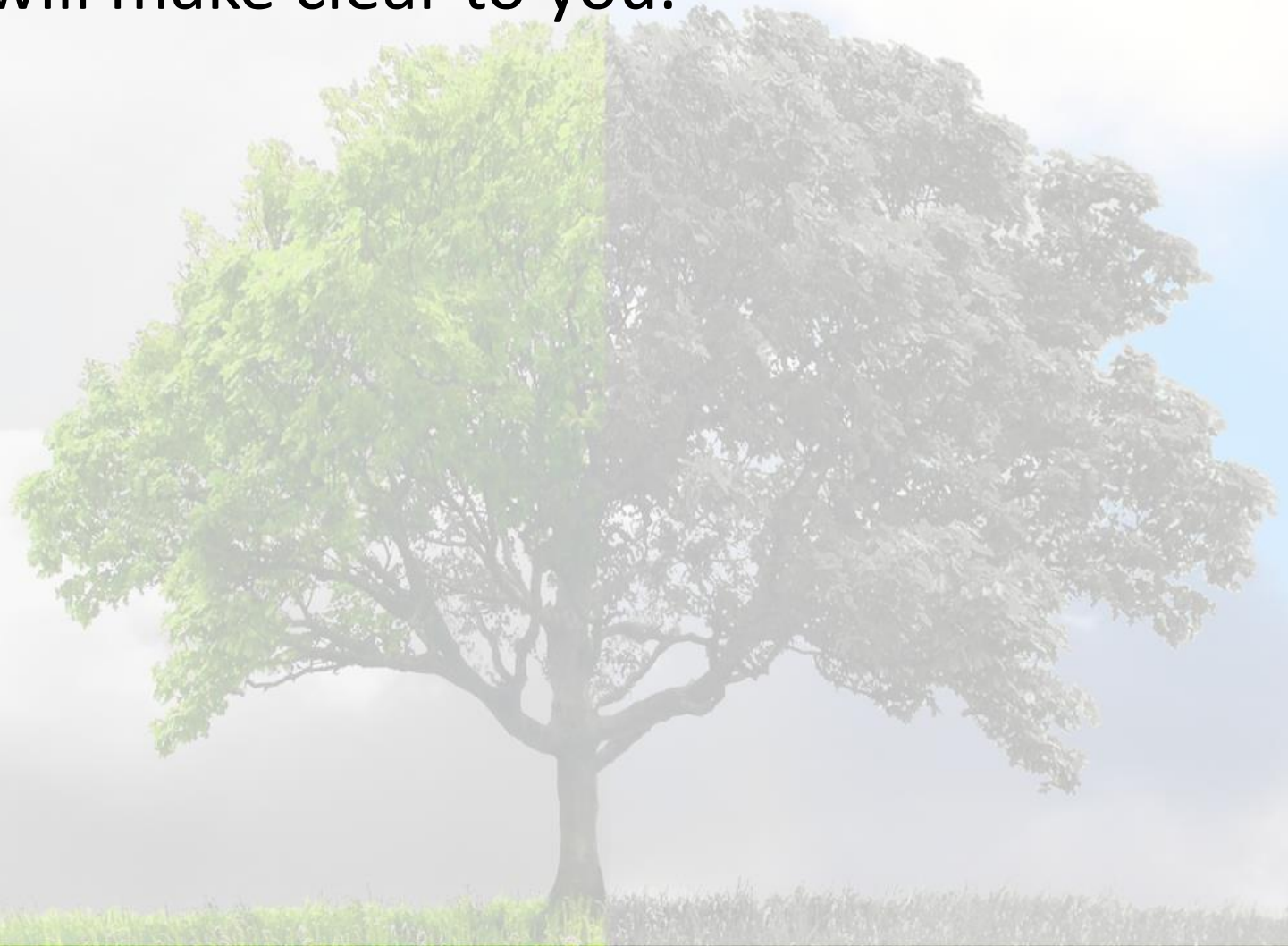
- More relational depth with Jesus to be experienced.
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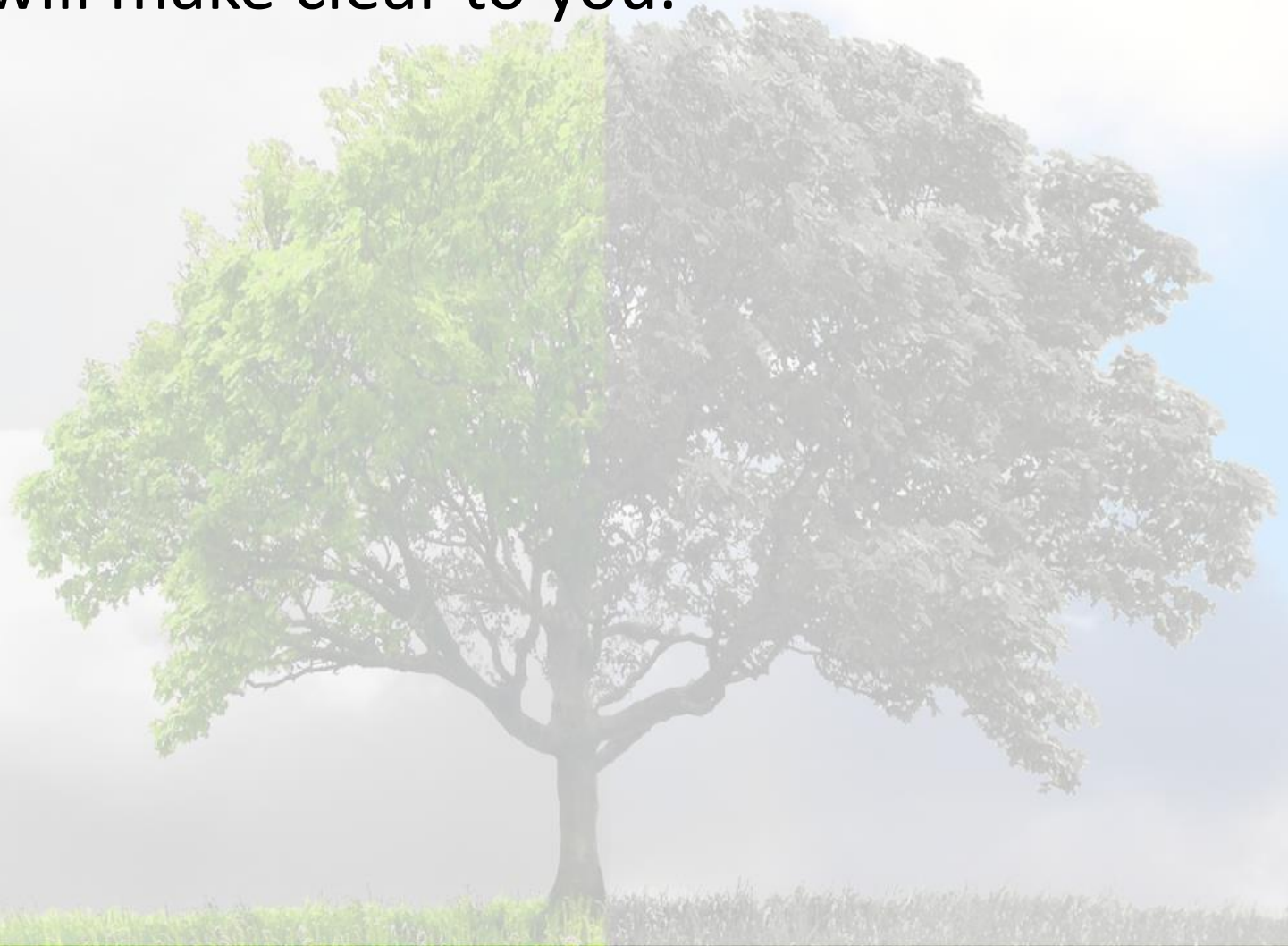
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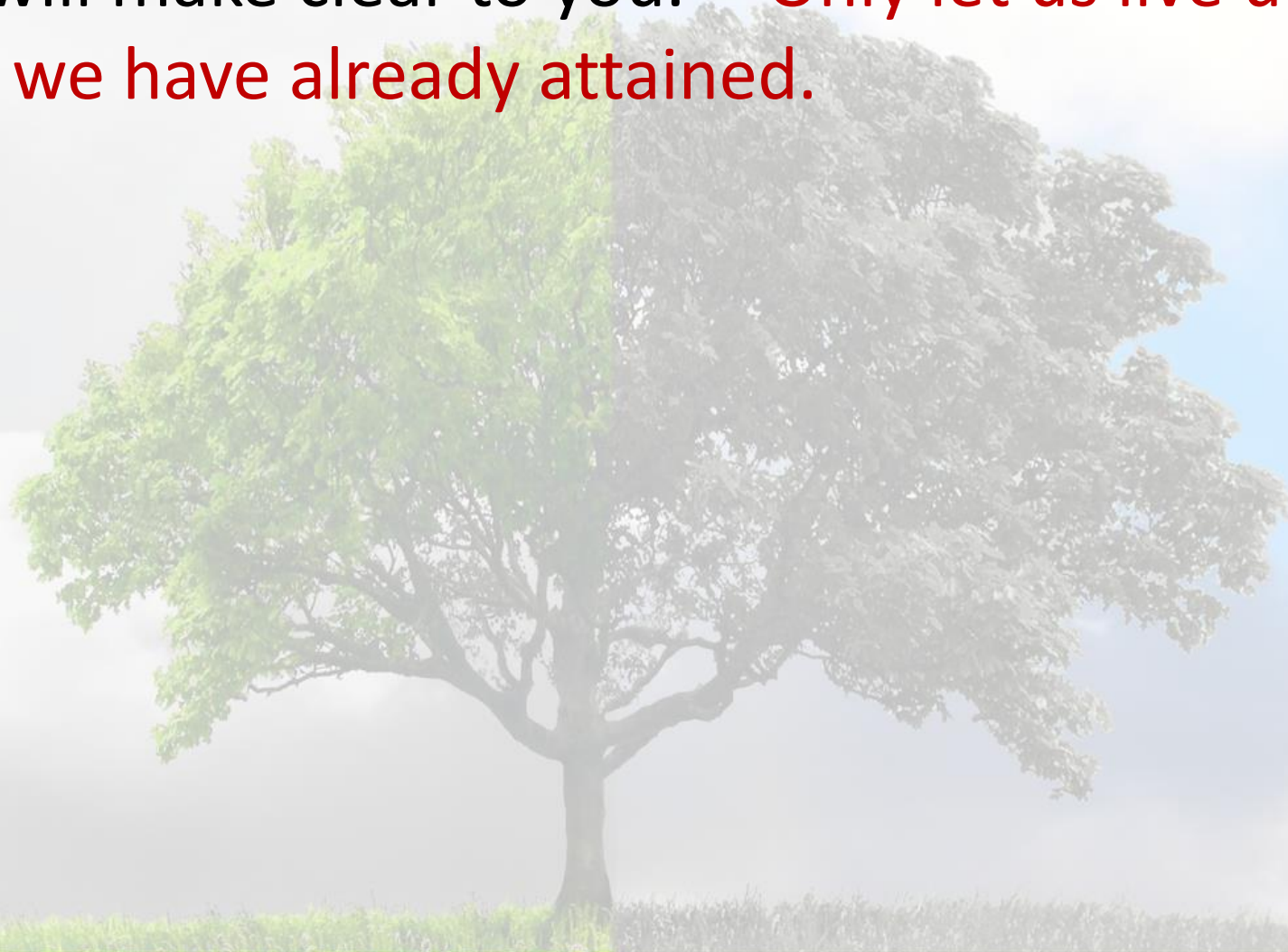
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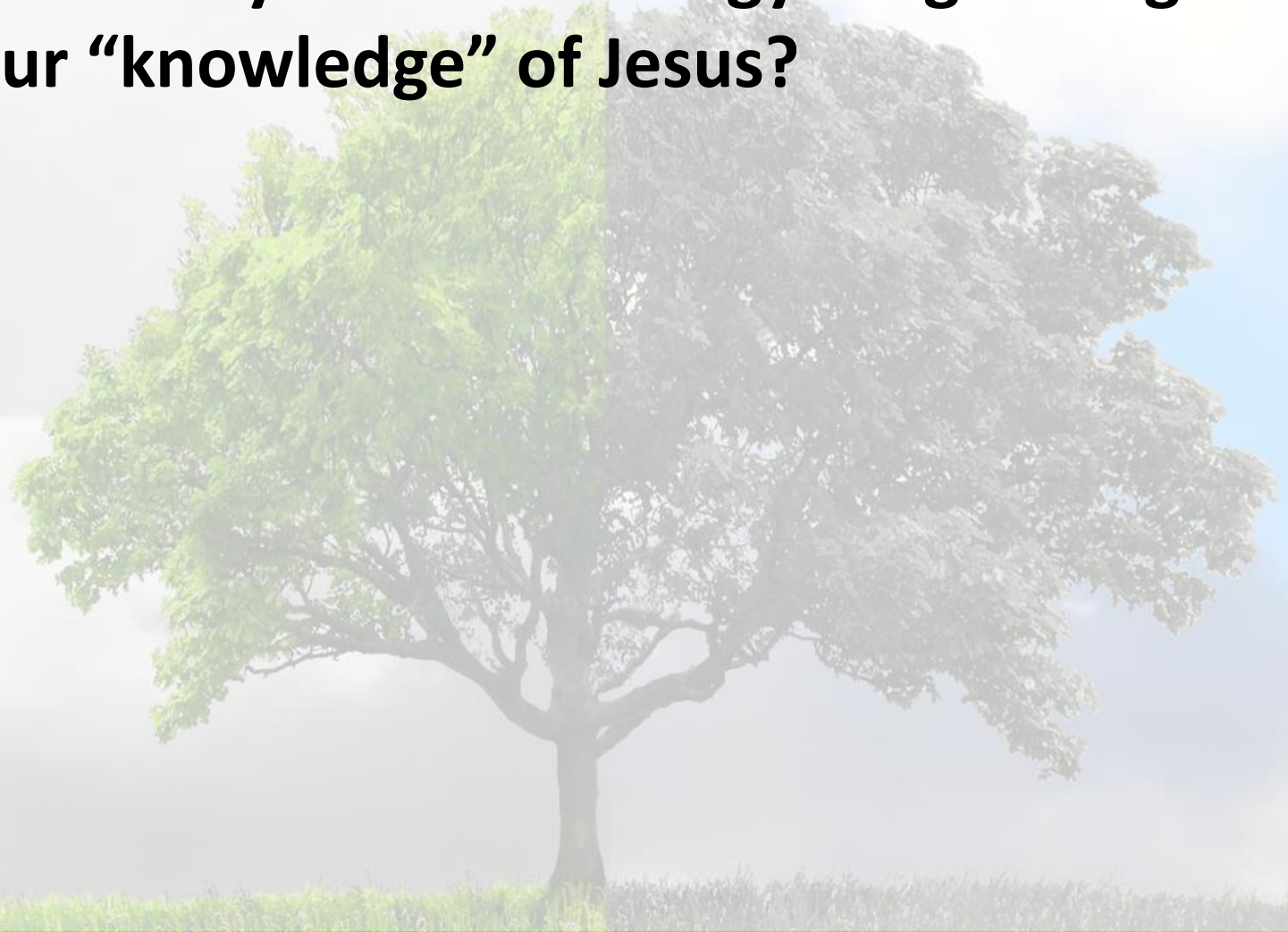


Takeaways:



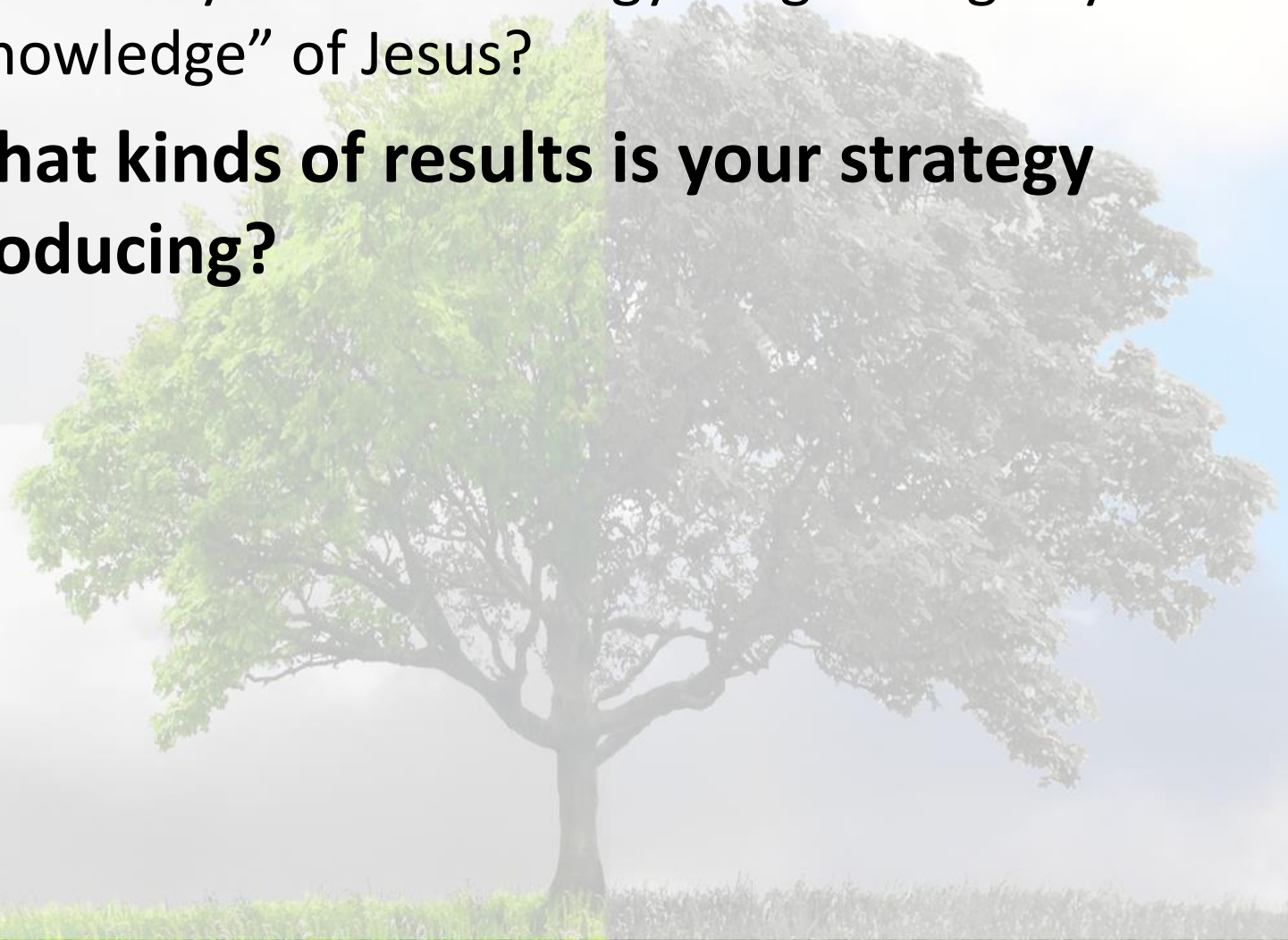
Takeaways:

- **What is my current strategy for growing in your “knowledge” of Jesus?**



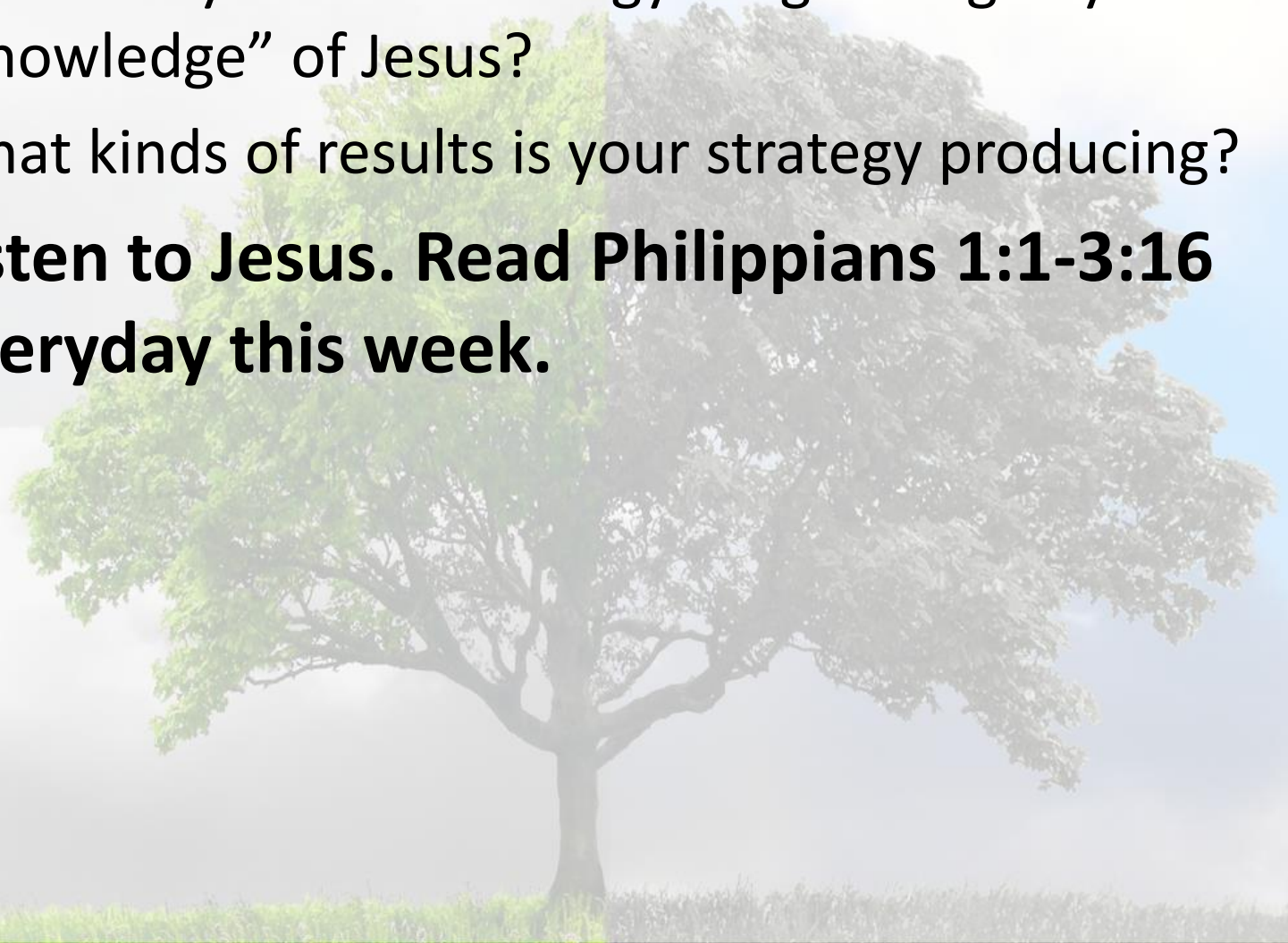
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- **What kinds of results is your strategy producing?**



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 - **Reminder of how empty their lives are, how full ours are.**

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 - **Sharing Jesus’ love increases our awareness of His presence.**

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 - Sharing Jesus’ love increases our awareness of His presence.
 - **Witnessing others respond to Jesus enhances our appreciation of His power.**