



Who's in Charge?

John 6:30-31 So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

30 မလေးဒ်နုၤဒ်အဲၤသ့ၣ်တဖၣ်စးဘၣ်အဲၤ, နမၤတၢ်ပၣ်န့ၣ်လီၤလေးလၢပကထံၣ်ဘၣ်အဲၤ, ဒီးစၢ်က့ၣ်န့ၣ်က့ၣ်န့ၣ်, မ့ၢ်မနုၤတမံၤလဲၣ်. နမၤမ နုၤလဲၣ်.

31 ယၢ်သ့ၣ်အိၣ်မၤနုၤလၢပုၢ်မုၢ်ကနီၢ်, ဒ်တၢ်ကွဲးအသးအသိးန့ၣ်, တၢ်ဟ့ၣ်အိၣ်အဲၤလၢကံၣ်လၢမ့ၣ်လီၤ. \*

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

51 ယအံ့အံ၊ ယမိတ်မအံ့ကပလအဟလလအခလ၊ ပမိအံ့ကပအံ့ဒဲး ကမလလထလယာလ၊  
အံ့ကပလယဟံ့နံ့ မိယသံ့လယဟံ့လဟံ့နံ့အတိမအံ့ဂိလ၊

52 Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

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55 For my flesh is real food and my  
blood is real drink. 56 Whoever eats  
my flesh and drinks my blood  
remains in me, and I in him.

55 အာဝါဒအာ၊ ယဉ်ပုံဖျ တါဒာပိနိနိ၊ အယဉ်ပုံဖျတါဒာပိနိနိဝါ။

56 ပါဝါဒအာပဉ်ပုံဖျ၊ အအာယဉ်ပုံဖျ၊ အာဝါဒအာပဉ်ပုံဖျ၊ အယဉ်ပုံဖျတါဒာပိနိနိဝါ။

60 On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"

၆၀ မၤသးဒဲးနဲဒဲး အပျဲအတိုဝ်အခါတၢ် နၢ်ဟ့ၣ်ခါးသ့ၣ် တၢ်ကတိၣ်ဒါခါကံးသ့ၣ် မၤမတၢ်ဒါတၢ်နဲဒဲးဒါသ့ၣ်တၢ်

သ့ၣ်

66 From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

66

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# The crowd wanted to make Jesus King

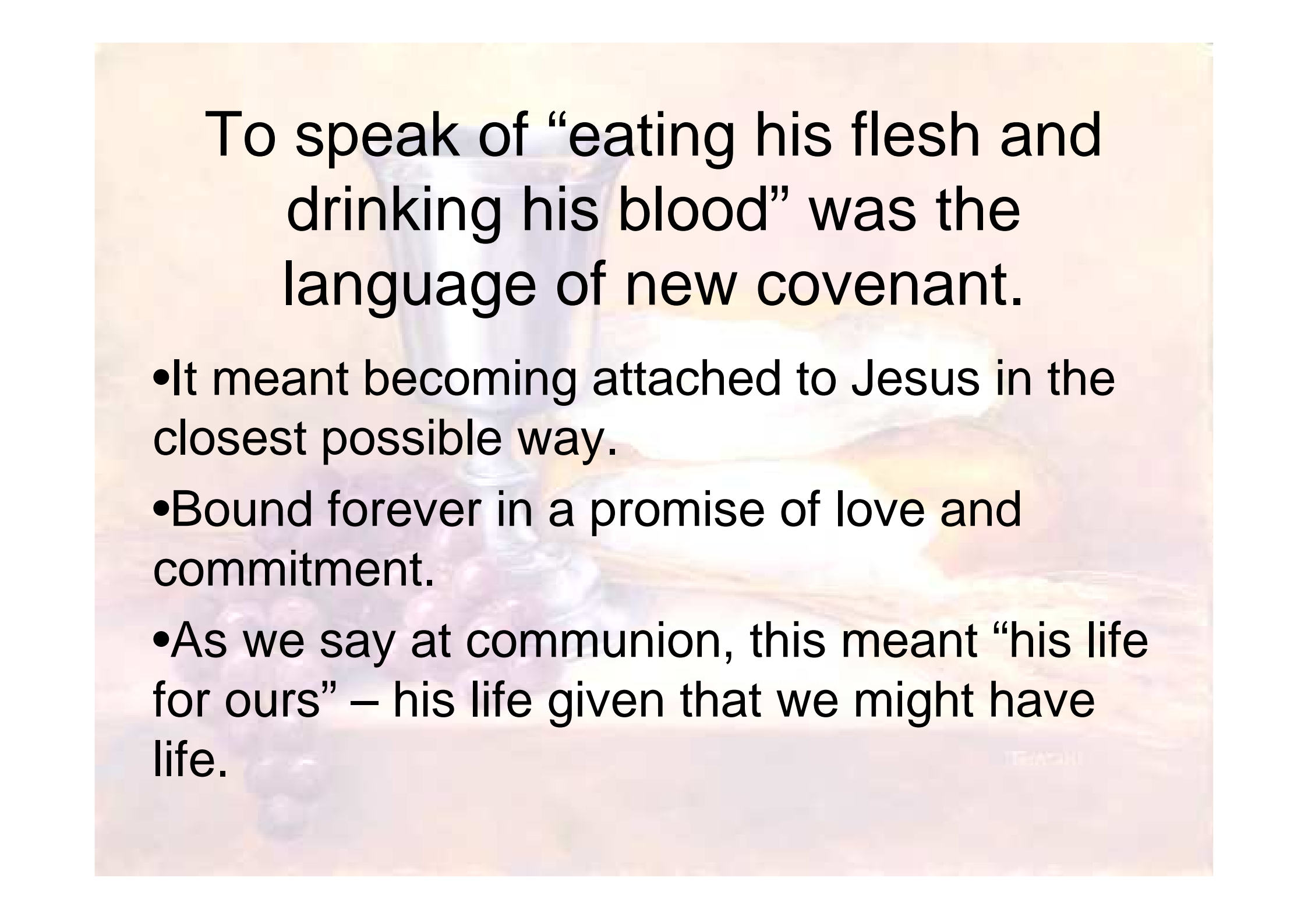
- Sounds good – why not?
- He didn't come to be the sort of king they wanted.
- They wanted Jesus as King to serve their purposes of overthrowing their enemies (Rome), making Israel first among nations, providing for all their needs (free fish and bread).



What's the problem here?

Jesus is still part of their  
plan.

Rather – we're made to  
be part of his.

A background image of a communion table. In the center, there is a silver chalice filled with red wine, and a white cloth-covered table with a loaf of bread. The scene is softly lit, creating a warm and reverent atmosphere.

To speak of “eating his flesh and drinking his blood” was the language of new covenant.

- It meant becoming attached to Jesus in the closest possible way.
- Bound forever in a promise of love and commitment.
- As we say at communion, this meant “his life for ours” – his life given that we might have life.

This was what caused so many of his followers to leave – to go away sorrowfully.

- They couldn't make Jesus the Lord of their lives, at the center of everything.
- He was asking that they re-orient their lives to His.
- He wouldn't become a part of their plans.

A still life painting featuring a silver chalice filled with red wine, a bunch of purple grapes, and a golden loaf of bread on a white surface. The background is a soft, warm glow. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

So What? That was then and  
this is now, right?

- Jesus confronts a key assumption about life.
- Who's in charge?



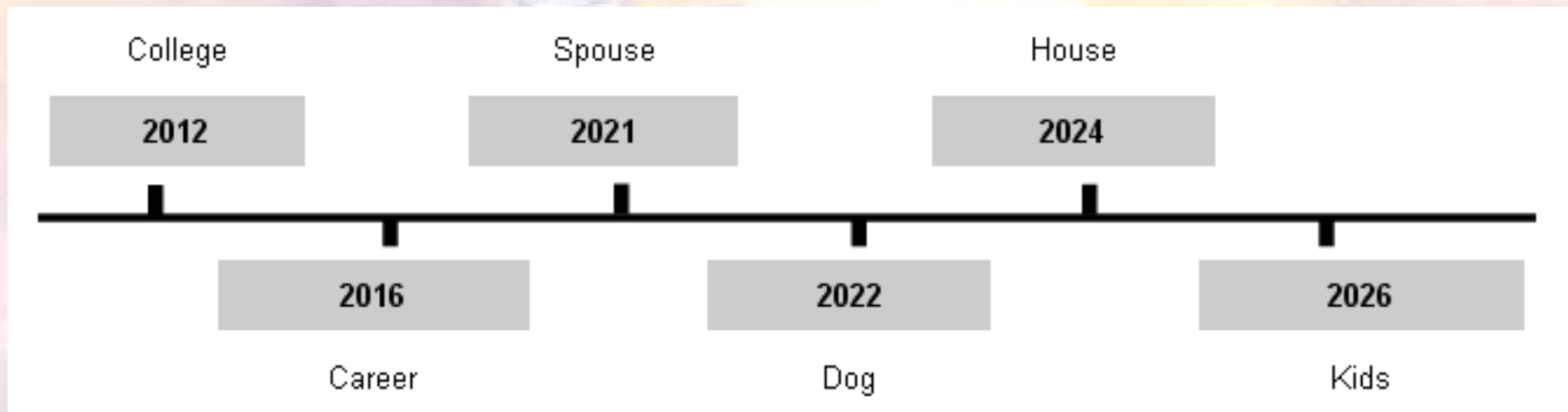
1. Our natural tendency is to assume we're in charge, and can arrange our life as we please.

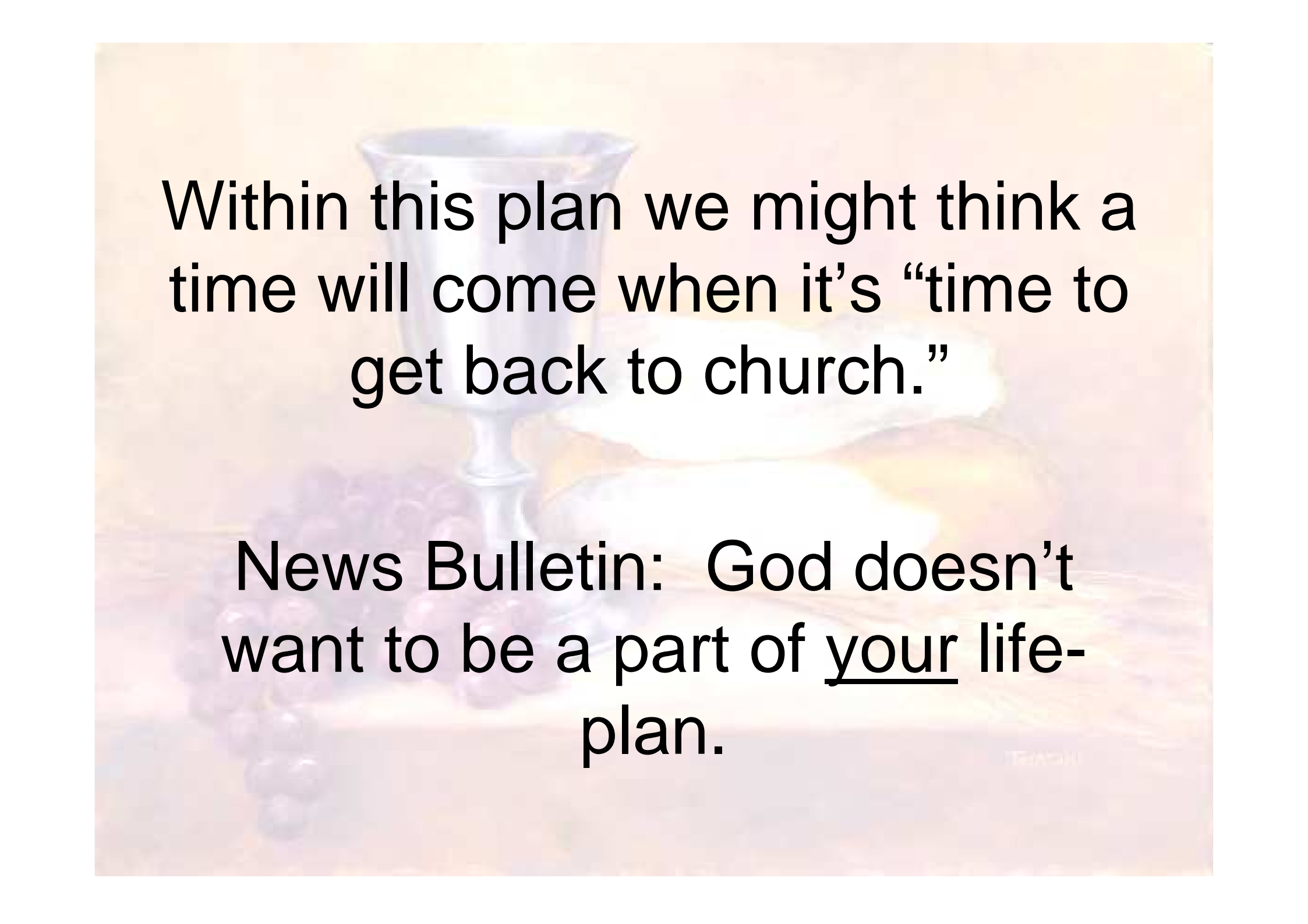
- This appeals to our independence and self-reliance, key values in our culture.
- Our theme song is, "I Did it My Way."

In the popular movie, “Marley and Me”, the wife talks about her life plan and the proper sequence of events for husband, house, dog, career, kids, etc.



We want to map out our  
5, 10, 15, 20, 30 year  
plan.





Within this plan we might think a time will come when it's "time to get back to church."

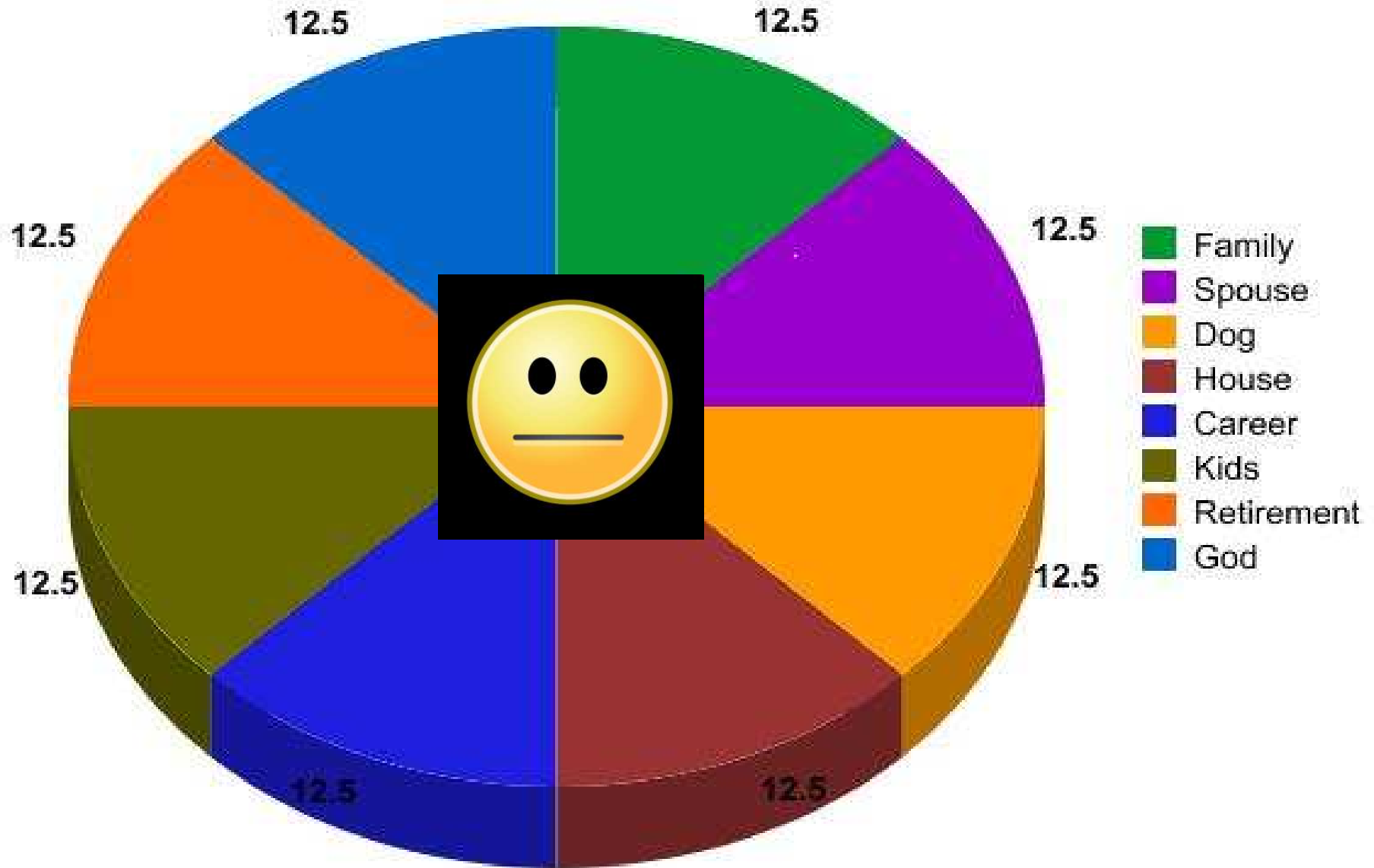
News Bulletin: God doesn't want to be a part of your life-plan.



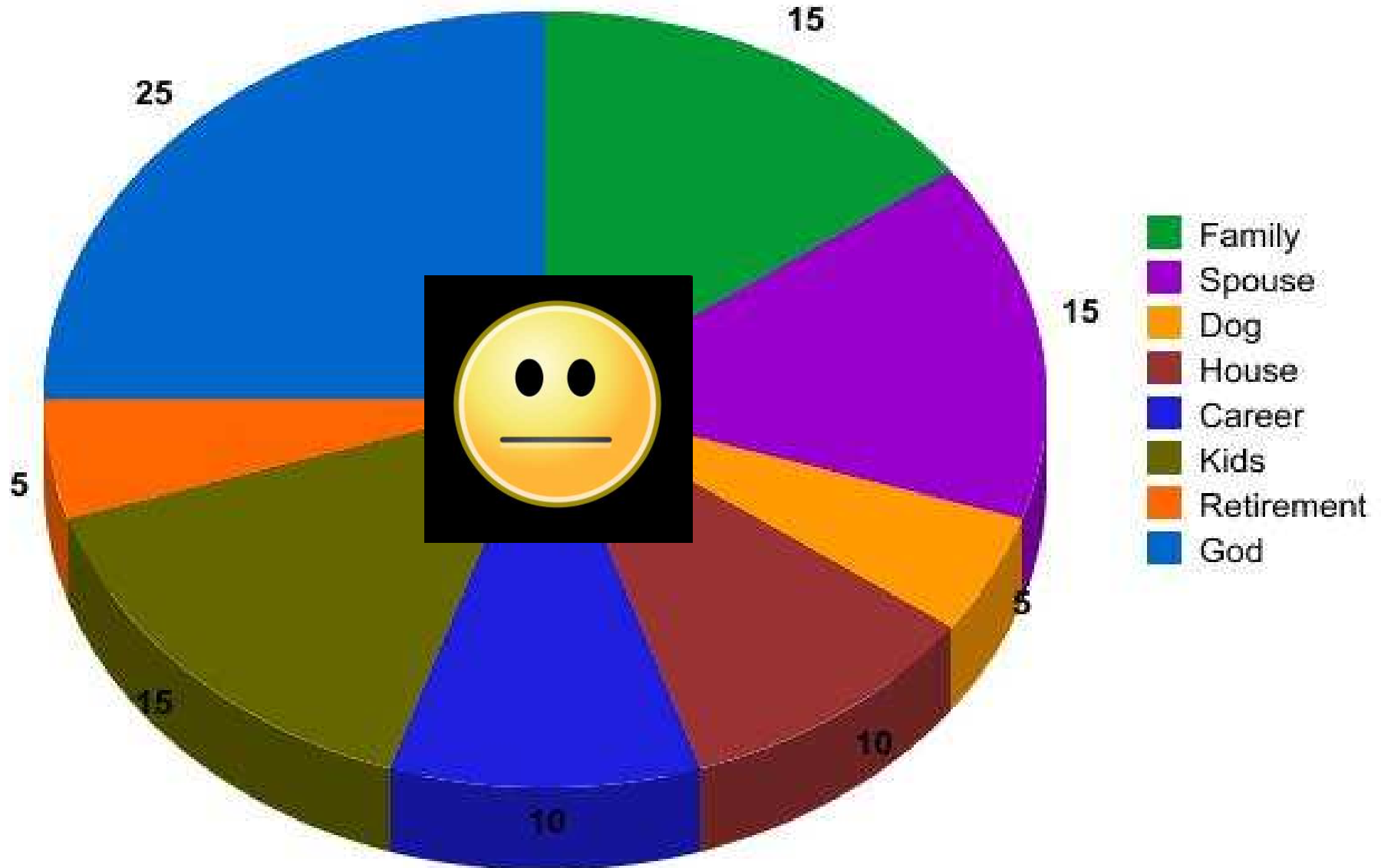
Some of us might think of life  
like slices in a pie chart

- We've got family, career, hobbies, kids, house, car, travel, retirement, etc. – to which we add God.

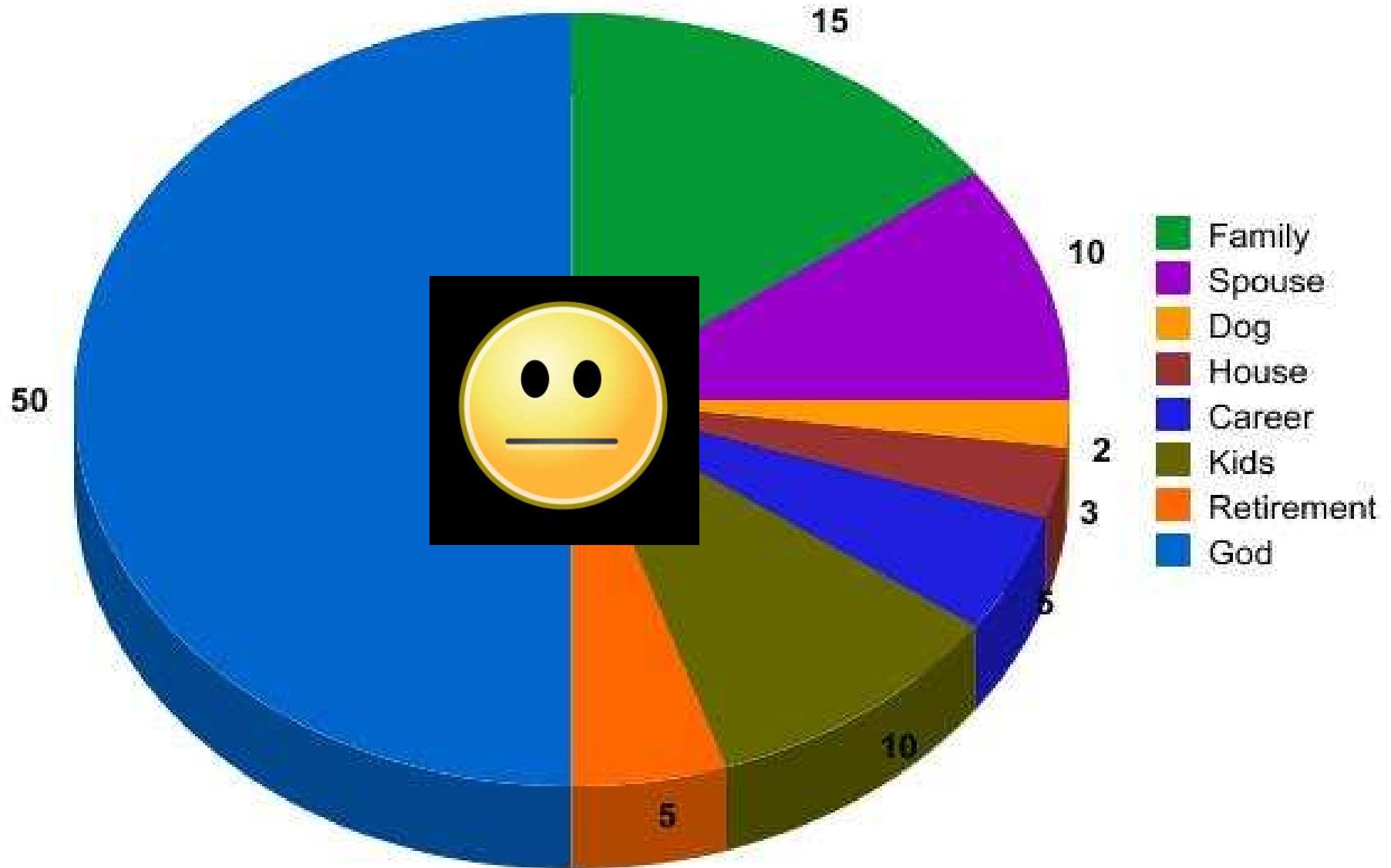
# My Life



# My Life

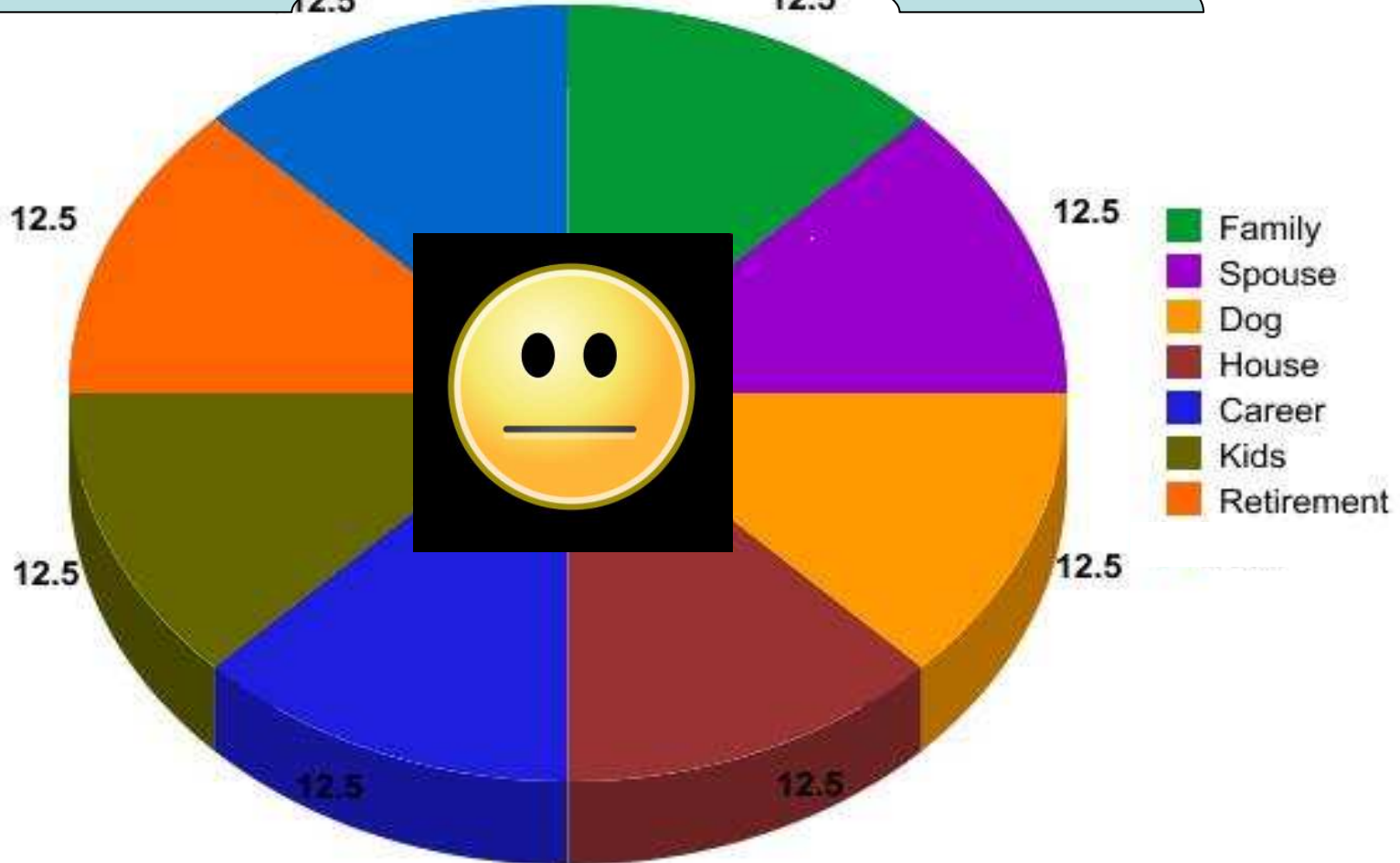
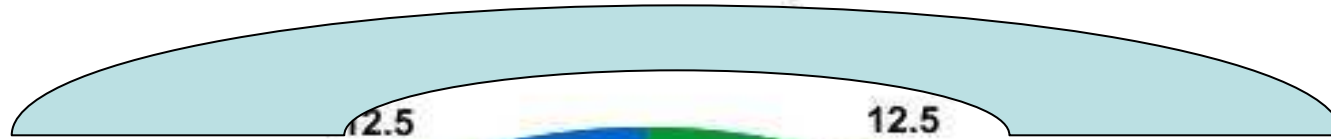



# My Life





My Life





**News Bulletin:  
God is nobody's pie  
slice.**



Or some people  
think of life like a  
house.

A nice, cozy place.

They pick and choose furniture.

They remodel this or that.

They may even make a little altar for God  
there.



# News Bulletin:

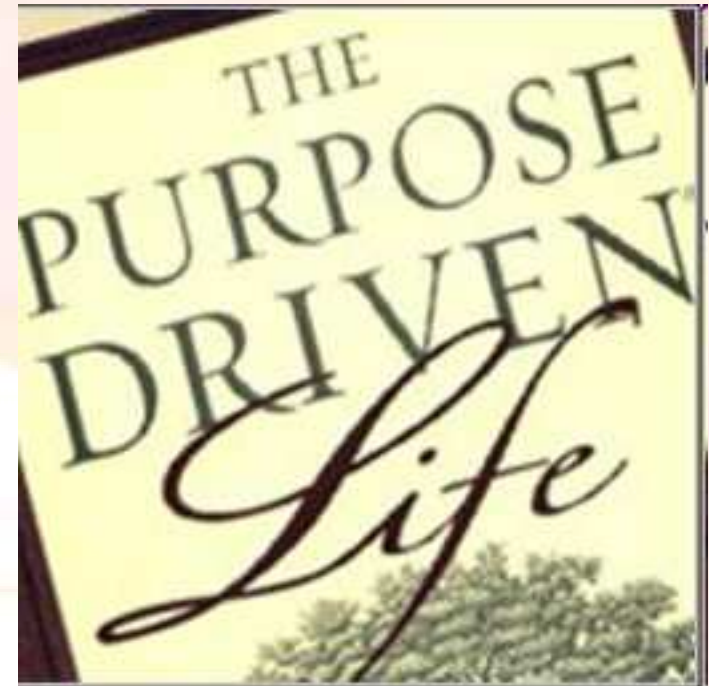
God won't be a little altar in  
your house.

He wants the whole house!



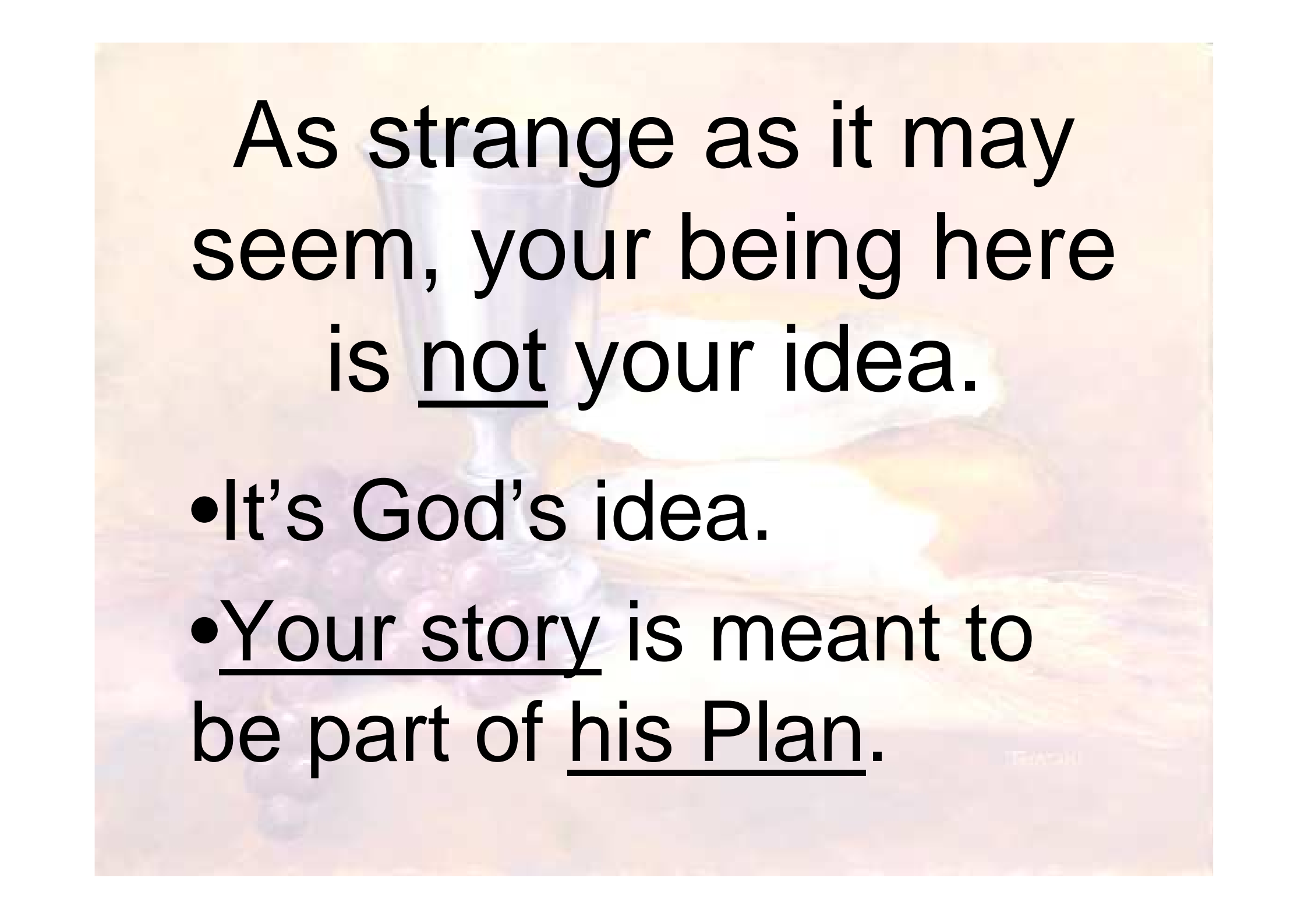
TRINITY

God is not  
there to serve  
your plans.



You are here to be part of His.

Or as Rick Warren, began his international best seller, *The Purpose Driven Life*, “It’s not about you.”



As strange as it may seem, your being here is not your idea.

- It's God's idea.
- Your story is meant to be part of his Plan.



So God has to be –

- not a slice of your pie,

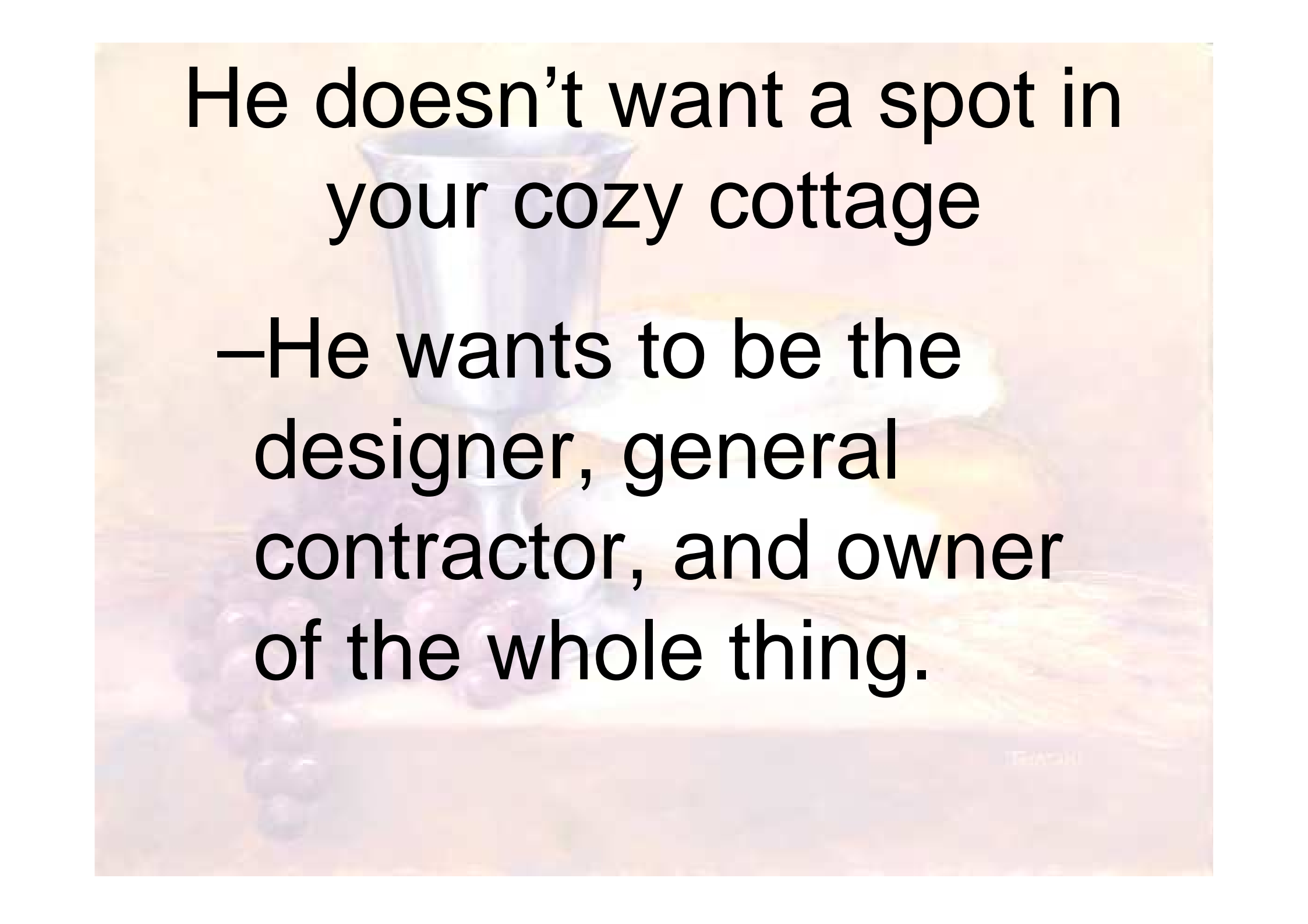
- or a spot in your house,

- or a step in your 50-year plan.

A still life painting with a soft, warm color palette. In the center, a silver chalice stands on a wooden surface. To its right, a whole pie sits on a wooden board. In the foreground, a bunch of purple grapes is visible. The background is a light, textured wash of colors.

He doesn't want a slice  
of your pie.

–He wants the whole pie!



He doesn't want a spot in  
your cozy cottage

–He wants to be the  
designer, general  
contractor, and owner  
of the whole thing.

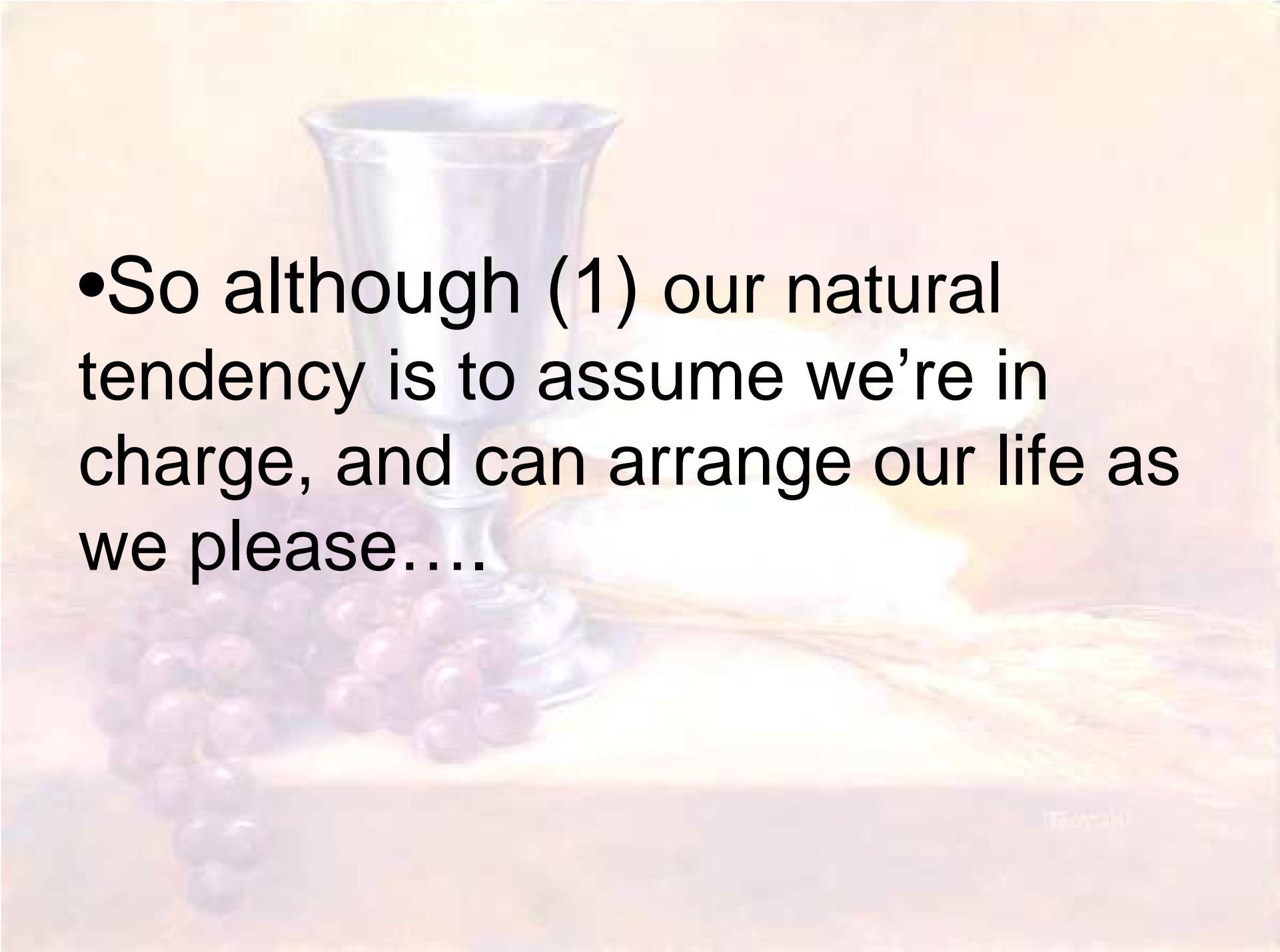


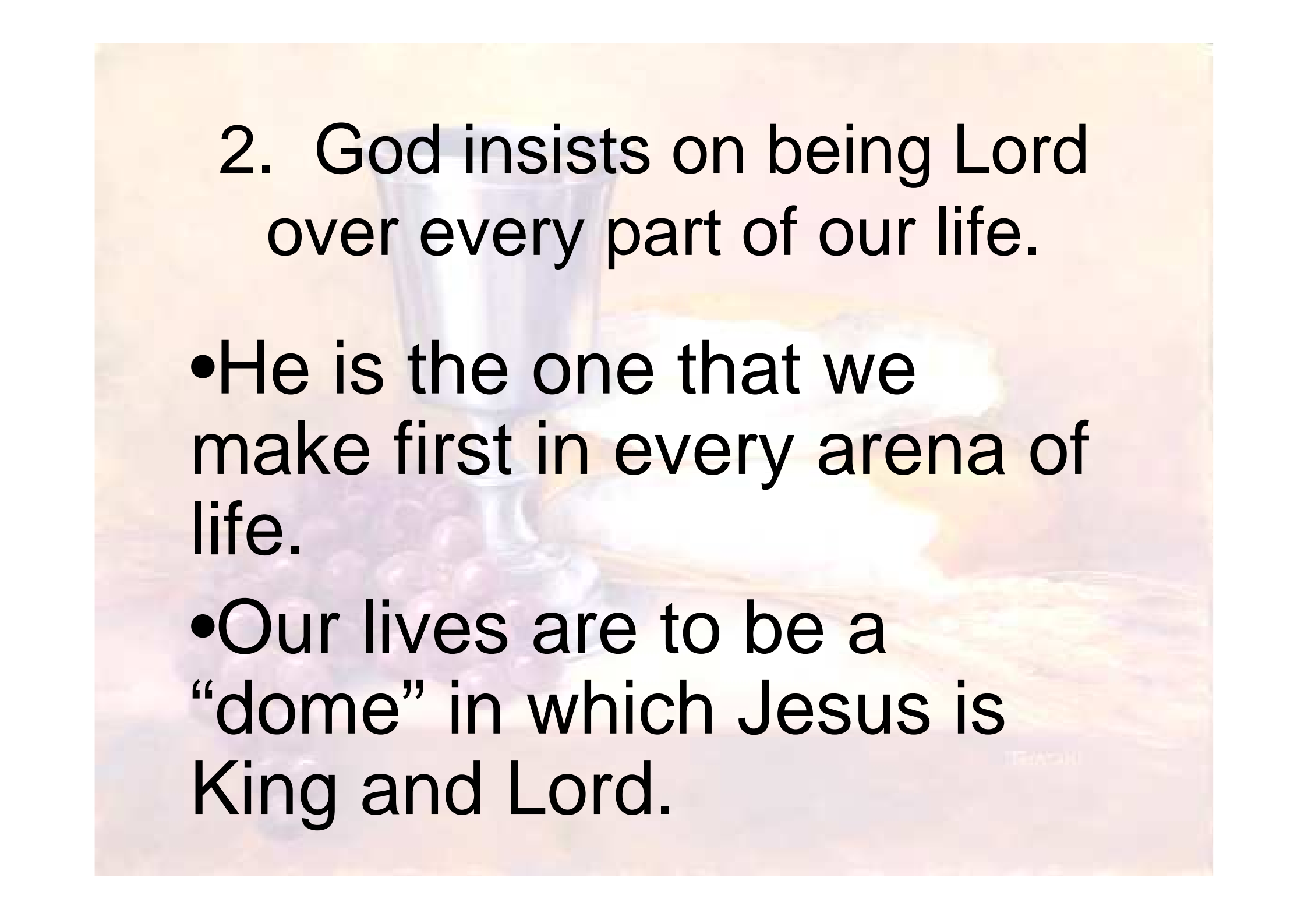
He's not step 4,5, or 6 in  
your 40 year plan.

–He reserves the right to  
redesign the whole  
thing, turn it upside  
down, add parts you  
would have never  
dreamed.

So this is the point of  
repentance for Lent.

- We must all come to a point of saying to God and then living: “You are God, and I’m Not.”
- As C.S. Lewis put it, we must all come to a point of saying to God, “Thy Will be Done” ...
- Or God will one day sorrowfully say to us, “Thy will be done” as we willfully continue down the path of destruction.

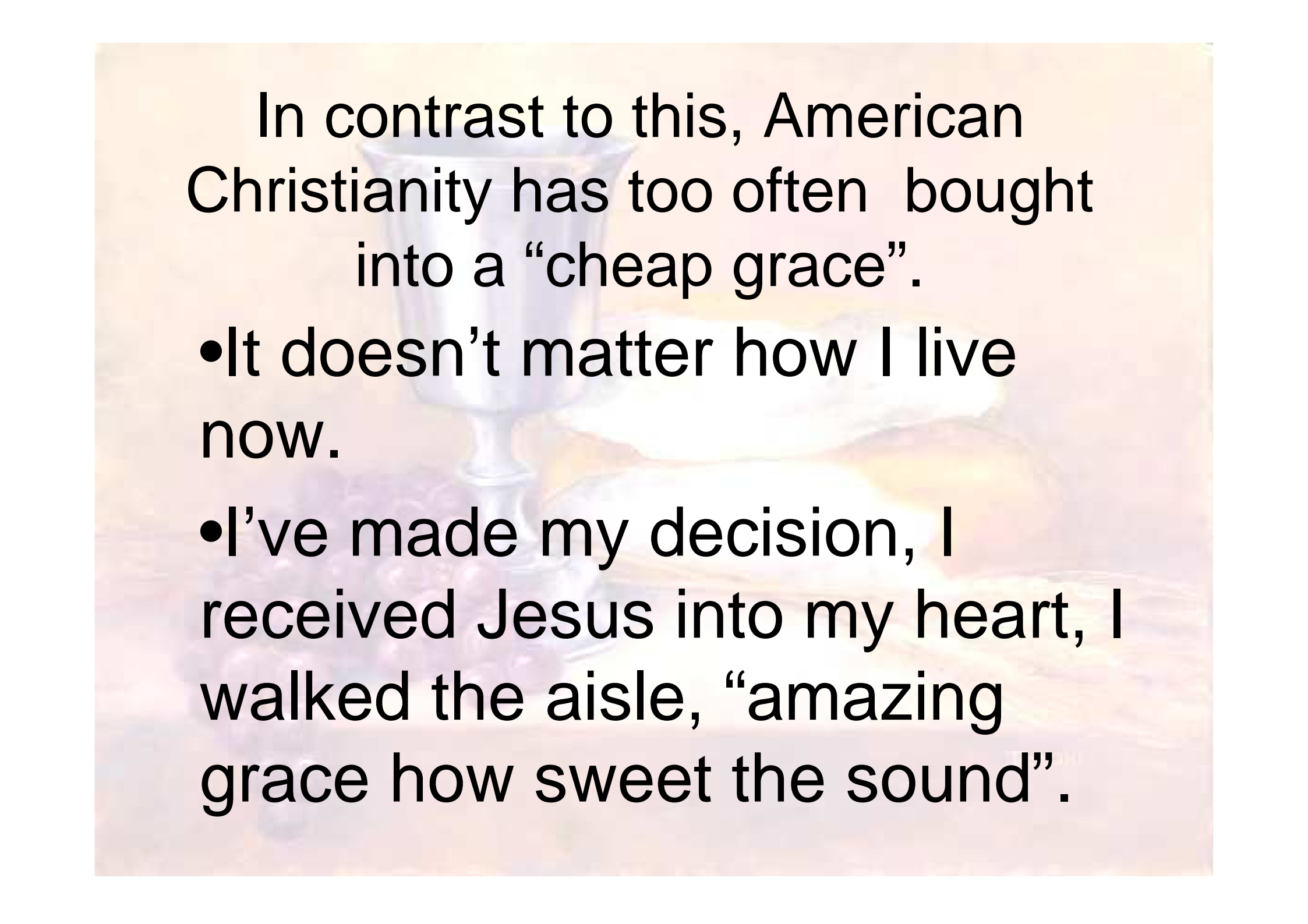
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- A still life painting with a soft, warm light. In the center, a silver chalice stands on a wooden surface. To its left is a bunch of purple grapes. To its right is a golden chalice. The background is a light, textured wall. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.
- So although (1) our natural tendency is to assume we're in charge, and can arrange our life as we please.....



2. God insists on being Lord over every part of our life.

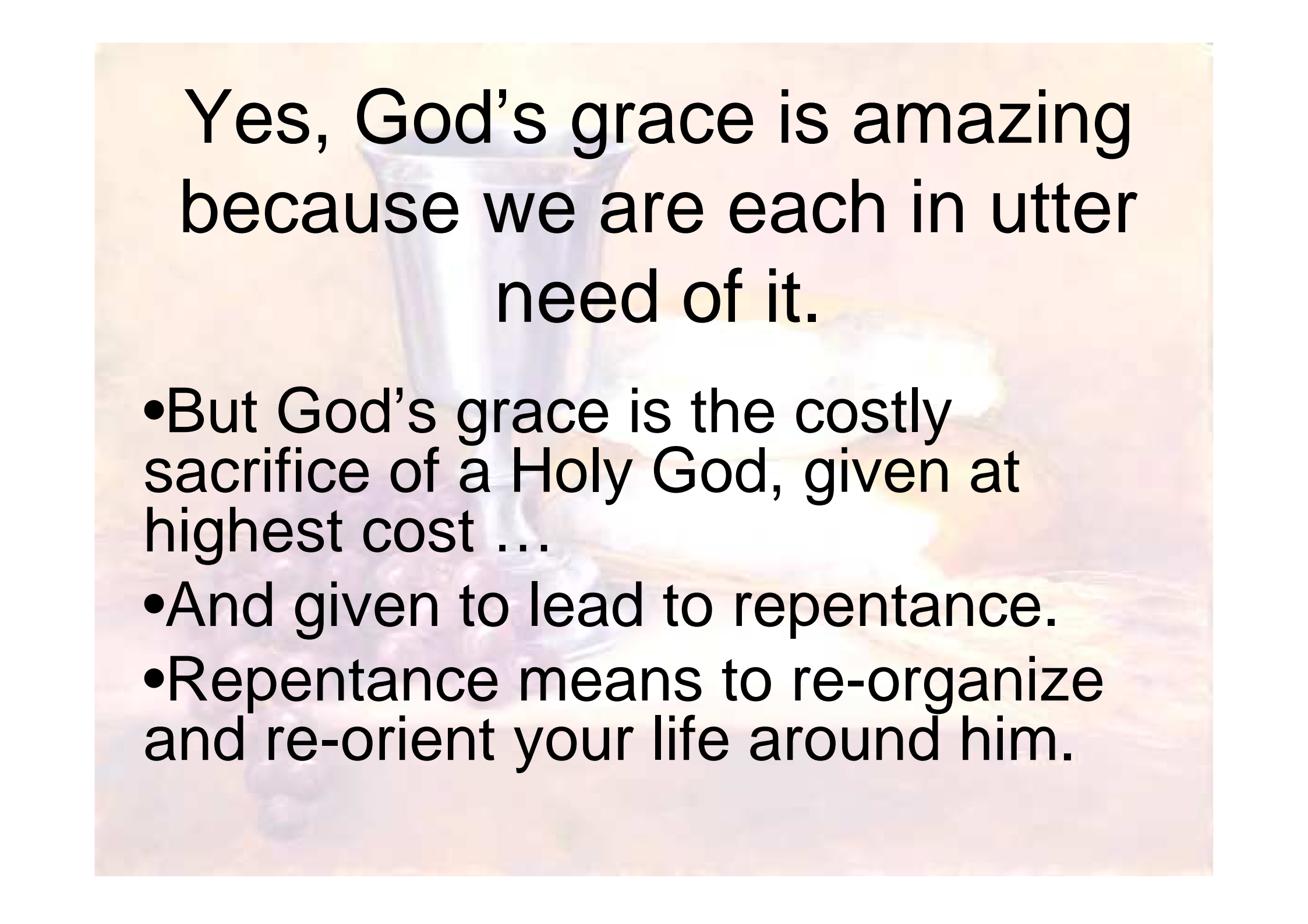
- He is the one that we make first in every arena of life.

- Our lives are to be a “dome” in which Jesus is King and Lord.



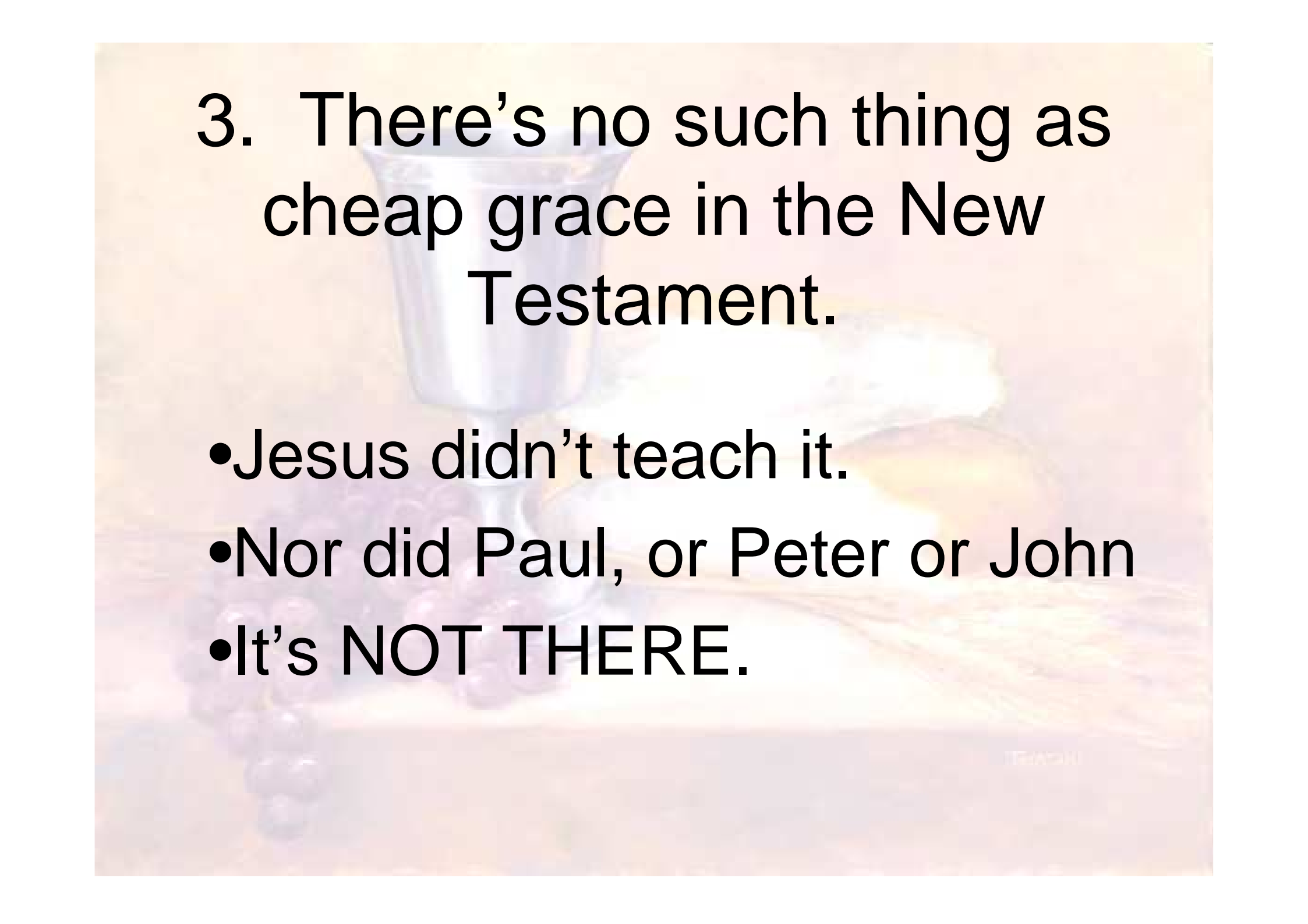
In contrast to this, American Christianity has too often bought into a “cheap grace”.

- It doesn't matter how I live now.
- I've made my decision, I received Jesus into my heart, I walked the aisle, “amazing grace how sweet the sound”.

A background image of a communion table with a chalice and bread. The chalice is a silver cup with a stem, and the bread is a round loaf on a white cloth. The background is a warm, golden-brown color.

Yes, God's grace is amazing  
because we are each in utter  
need of it.

- But God's grace is the costly sacrifice of a Holy God, given at highest cost ...
- And given to lead to repentance.
- Repentance means to re-organize and re-orient your life around him.

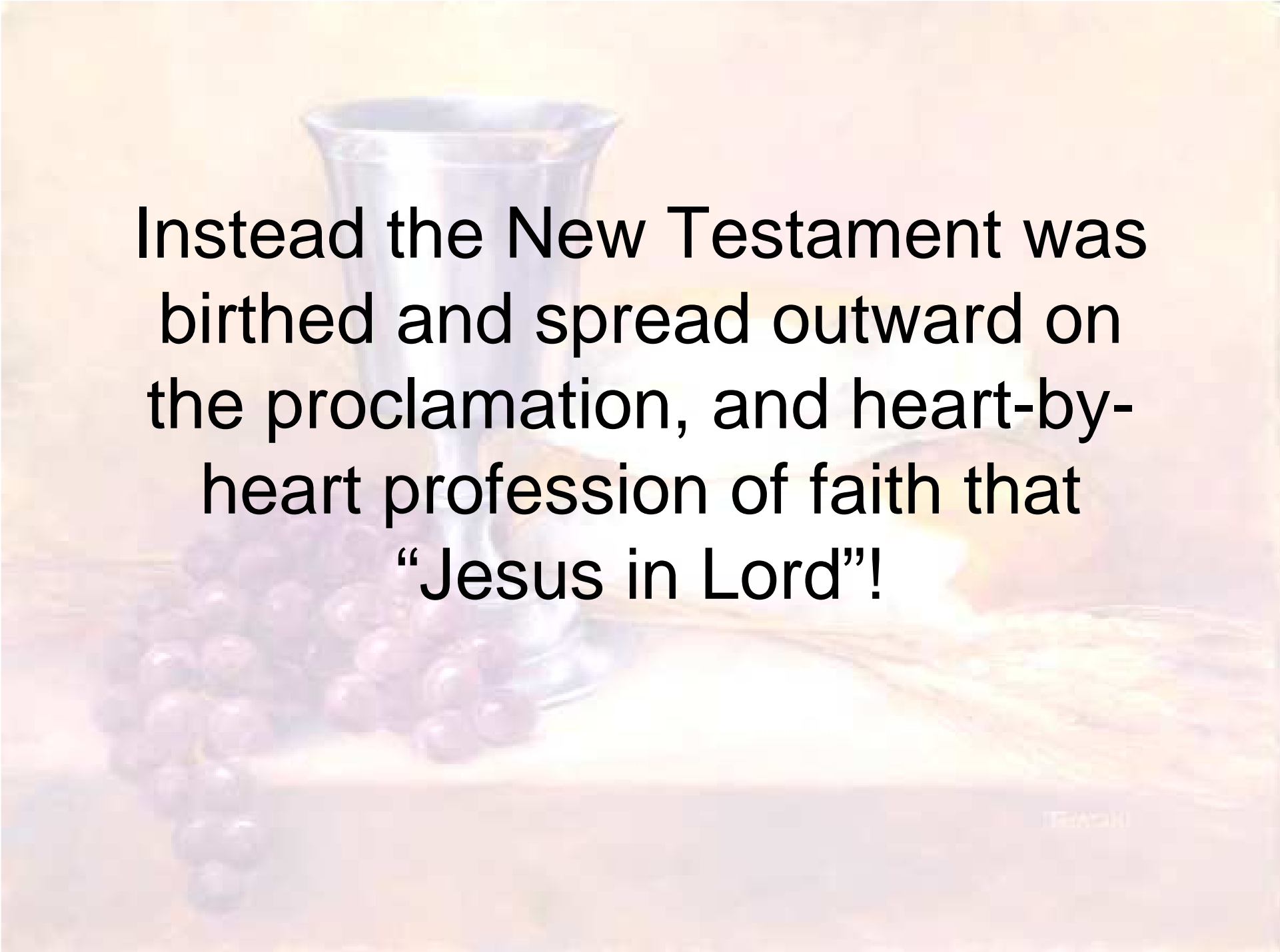
A still life image of a communion table. In the center is a silver chalice filled with red wine. To its right is a white plate with a piece of bread. In the foreground, there is a basket of purple grapes. The background is a soft, warm light.

### 3. There's no such thing as cheap grace in the New Testament.

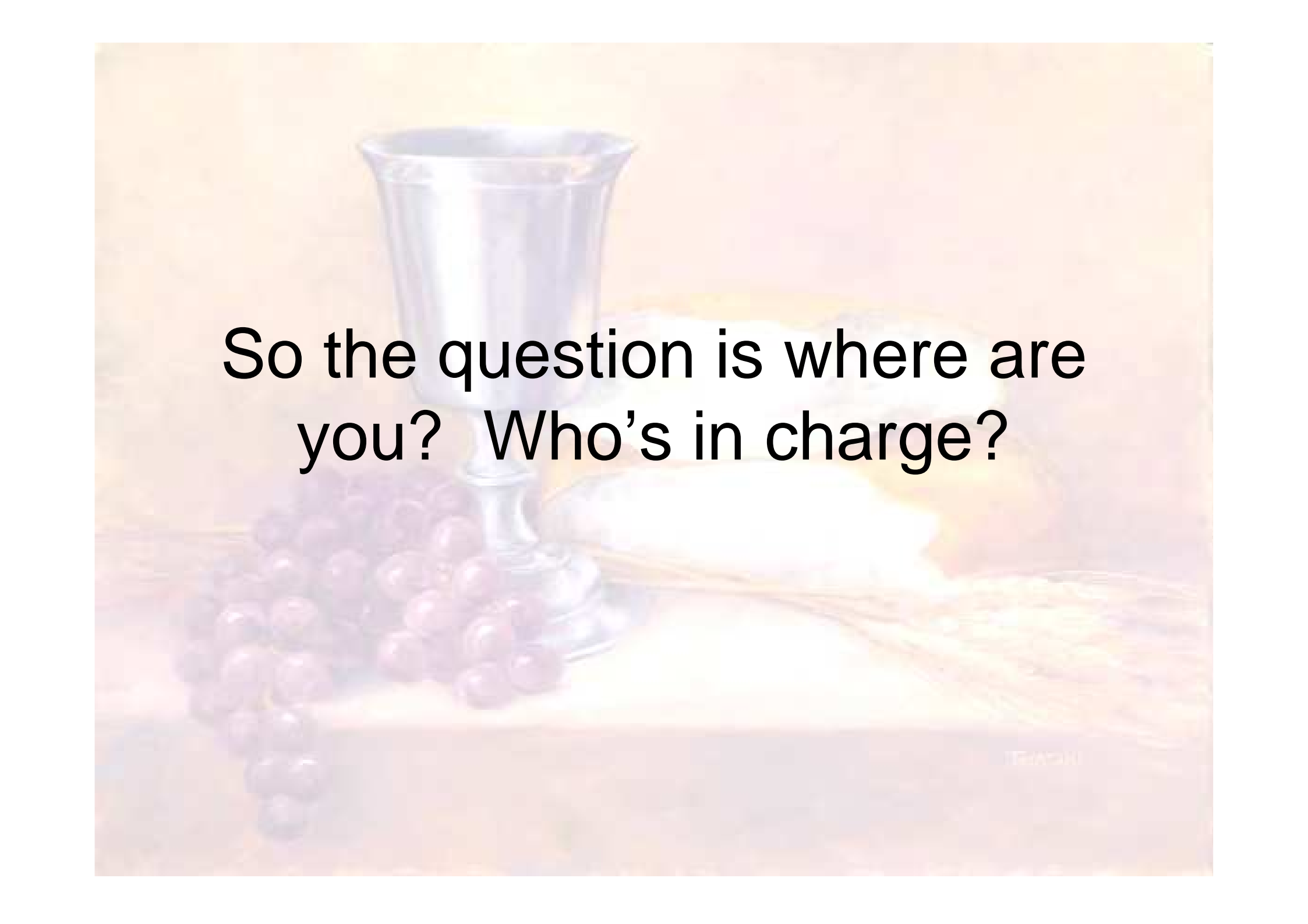
- Jesus didn't teach it.
- Nor did Paul, or Peter or John
- It's NOT THERE.

# God's grace is not cheap.

- It cost the ultimate sacrifice – the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross
- “Love so amazing, so divine, demands my life, my heart, my all.”



Instead the New Testament was  
birthed and spread outward on  
the proclamation, and heart-by-  
heart profession of faith that  
“Jesus in Lord”!

A still life painting with a soft, warm color palette. In the center, a silver chalice stands on a wooden surface. To its left is a bunch of purple grapes. To its right, a white cloth is draped over a wooden object, possibly a loaf of bread. The background is a light, textured wash of colors. The text "So the question is where are you? Who's in charge?" is overlaid in the center in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**So the question is where are you? Who's in charge?**



TRUSTON