

FEBRUARY 12, 2019

Series Introduction: The
Generous Life



FEBRUARY 5, 2019

Boomers, are you
staying in the game?



FEBRUARY 3, 2019

=trending: race



JANUARY 27, 2019

=trending: =metoo



blog.blackhawkchurch.org



Feb. 10

We may have a problem.

Feb. 17

God owns everything.

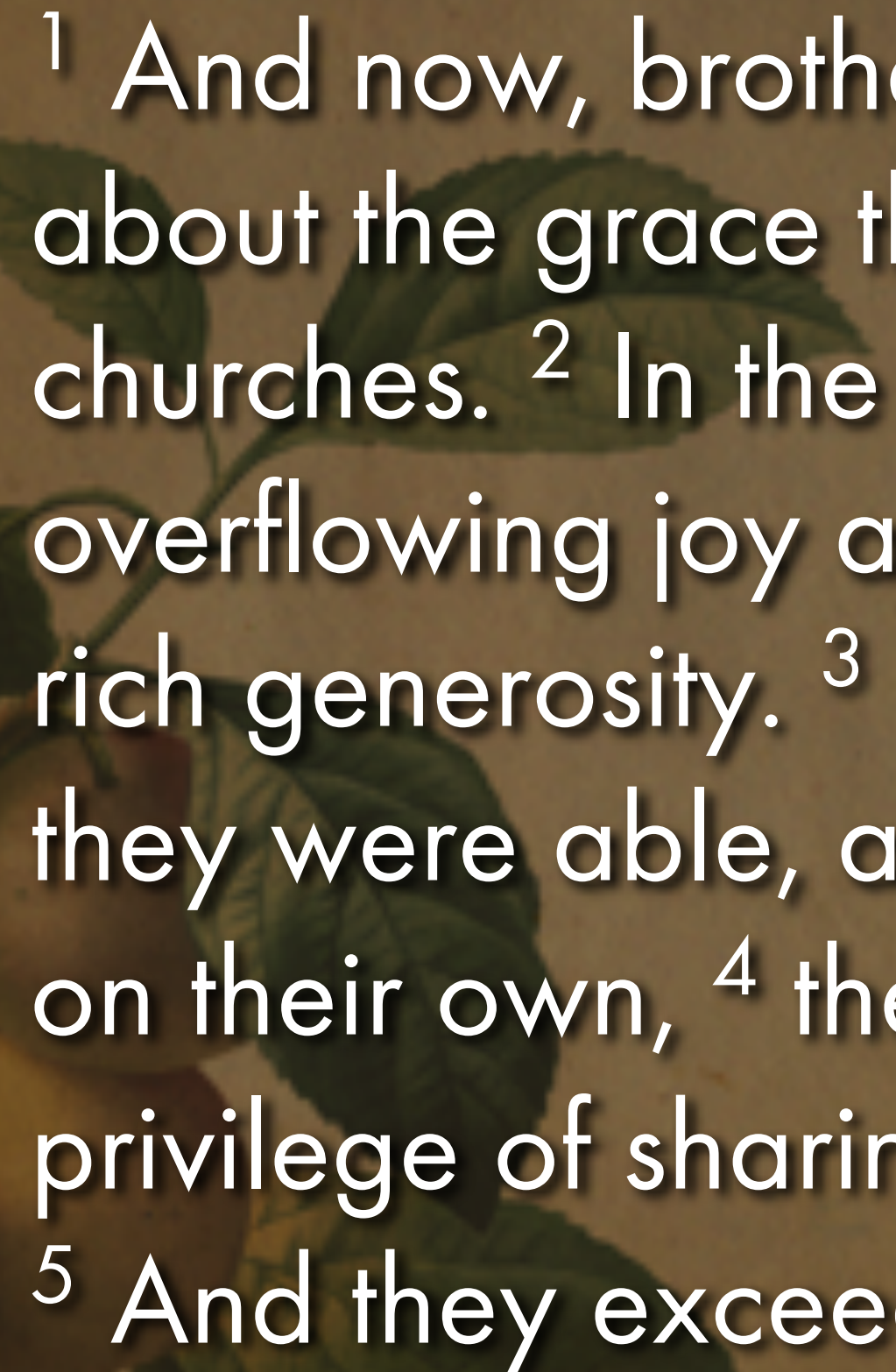
Feb. 24

Money can't satisfy our deepest longings.

Mar. 3

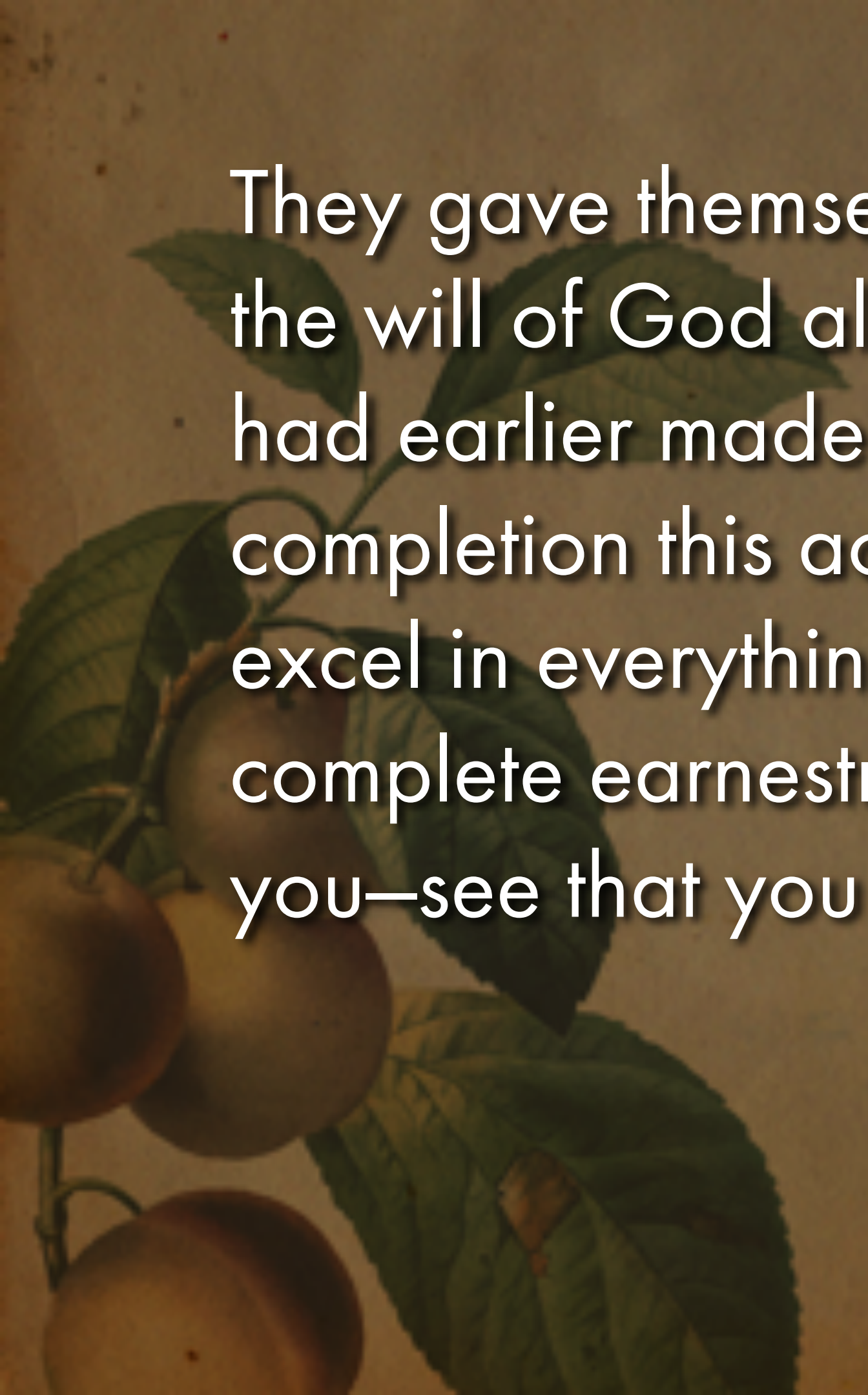
Understanding the gospel leads to generosity.





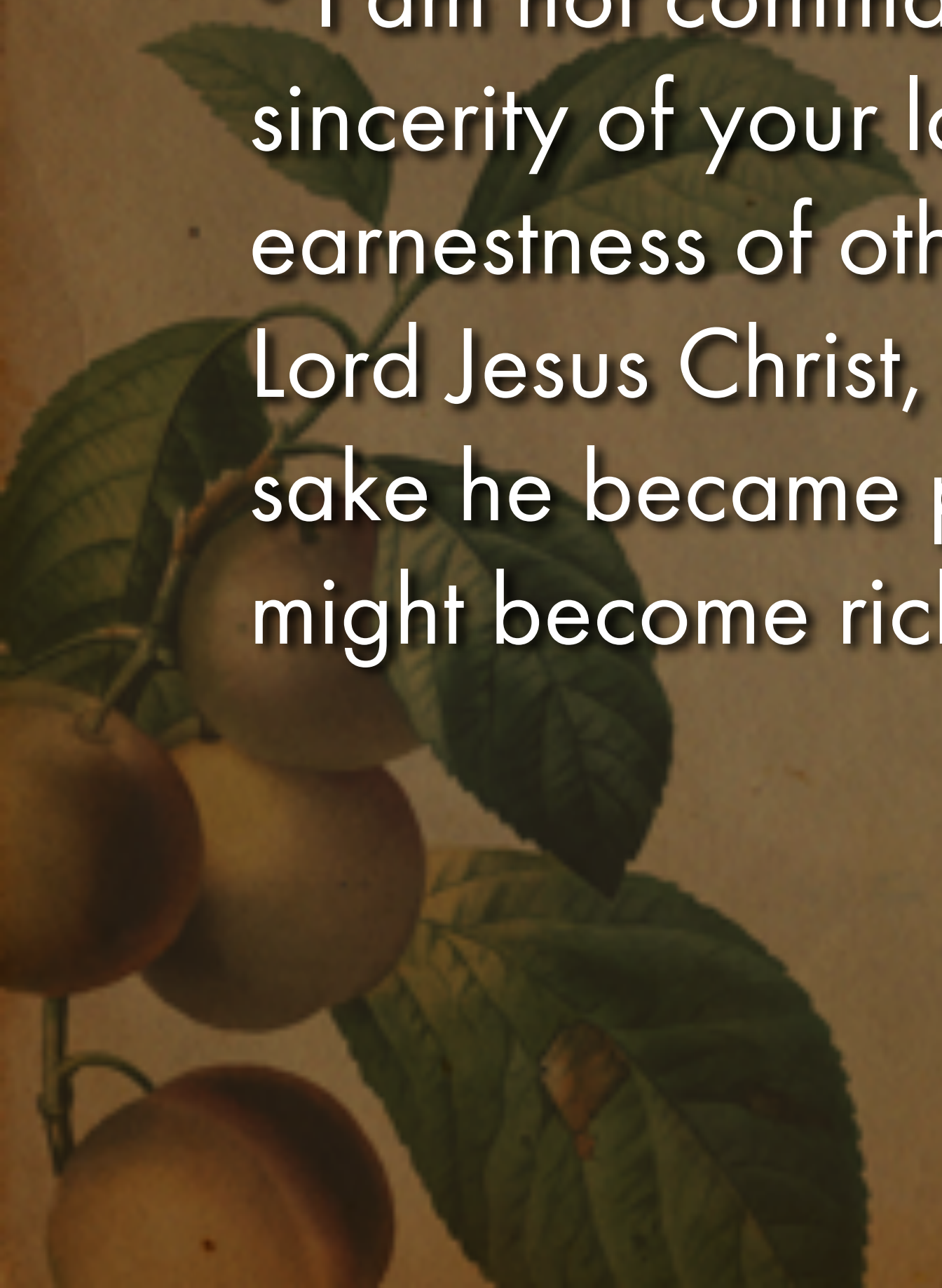
¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: ...

2 Corinthians 8:1–9



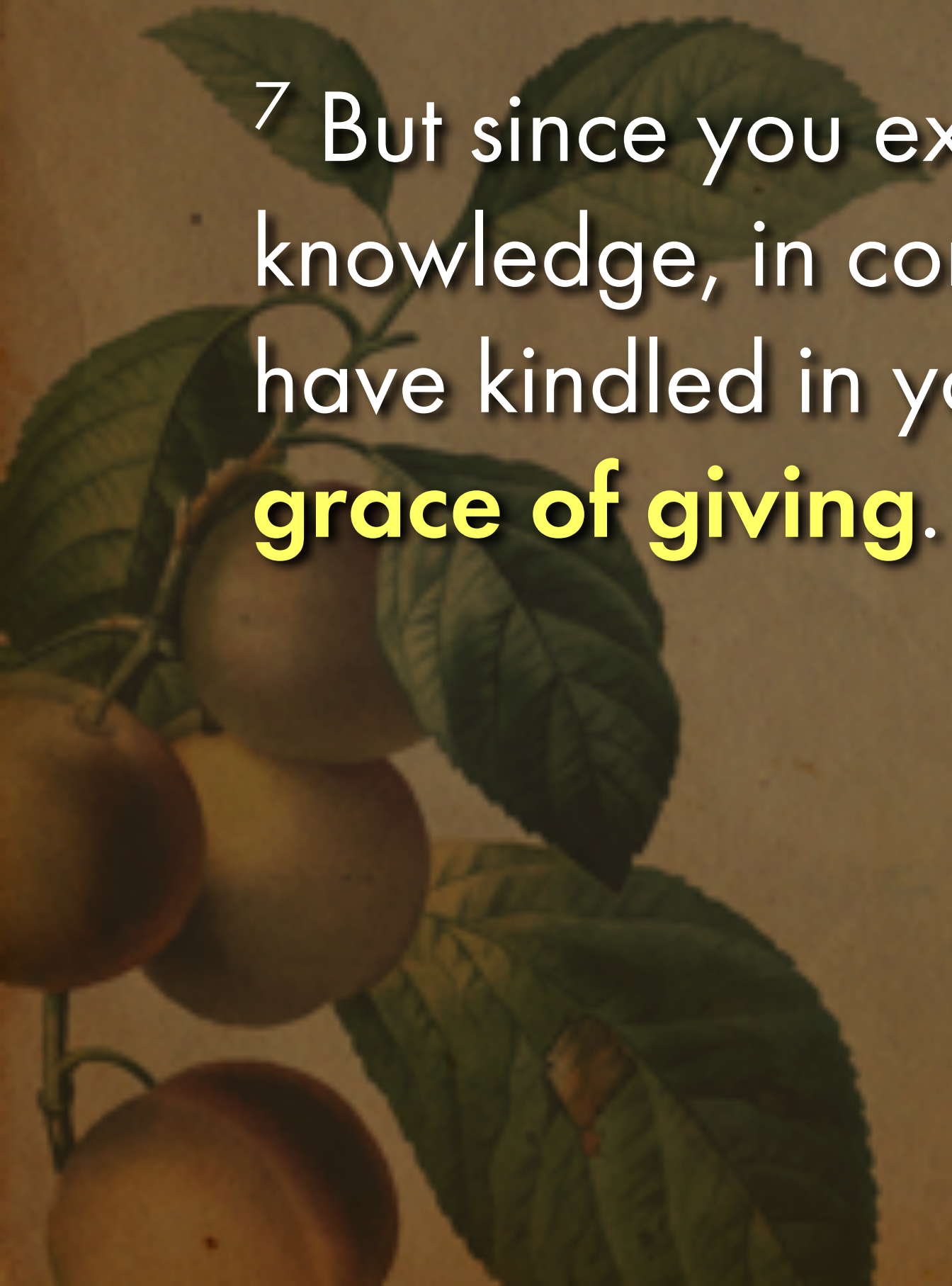
They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶ So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷ But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this **grace of giving**. ...

2 Corinthians 8:1–9



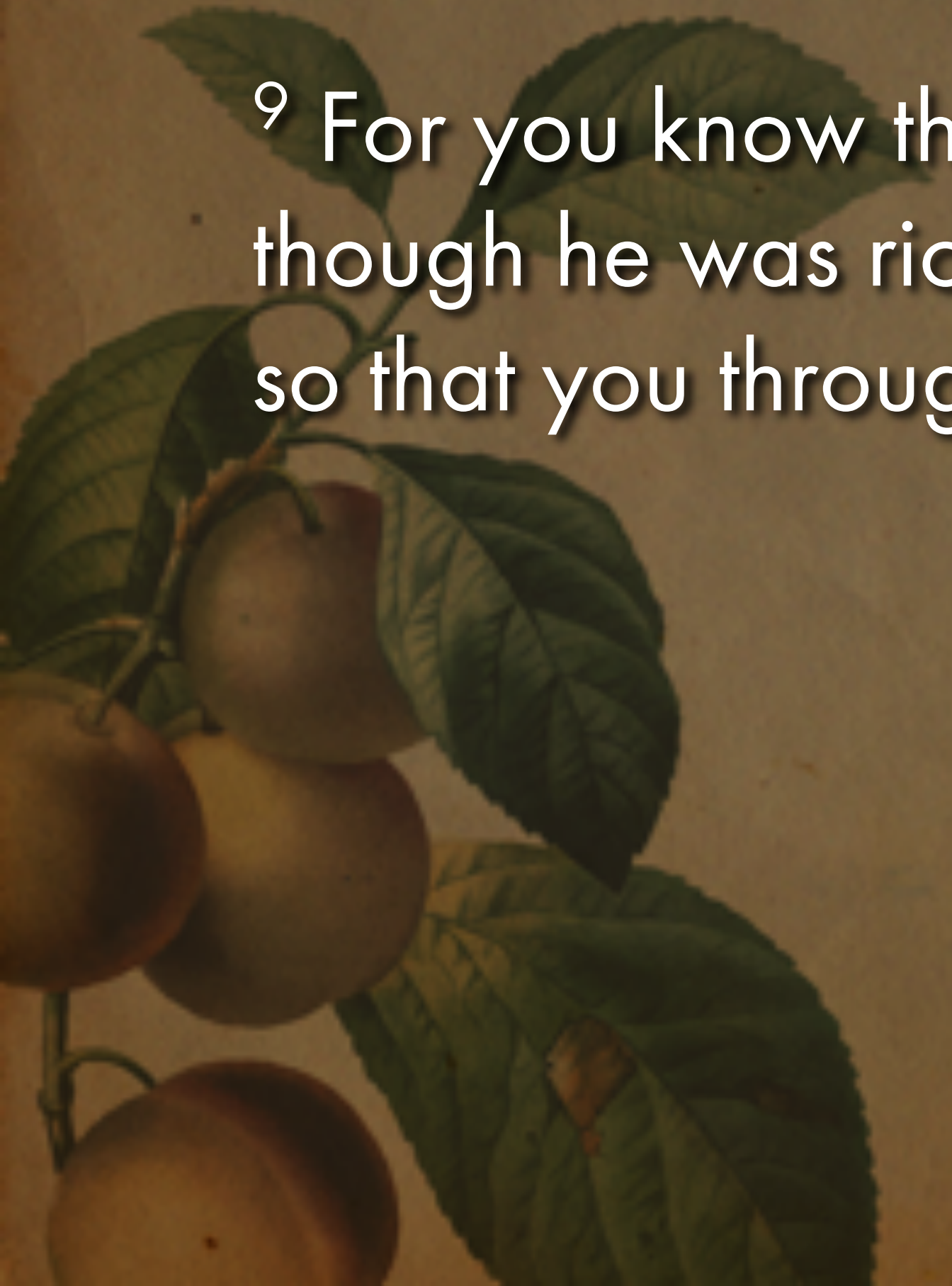
⁸ I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:1–9



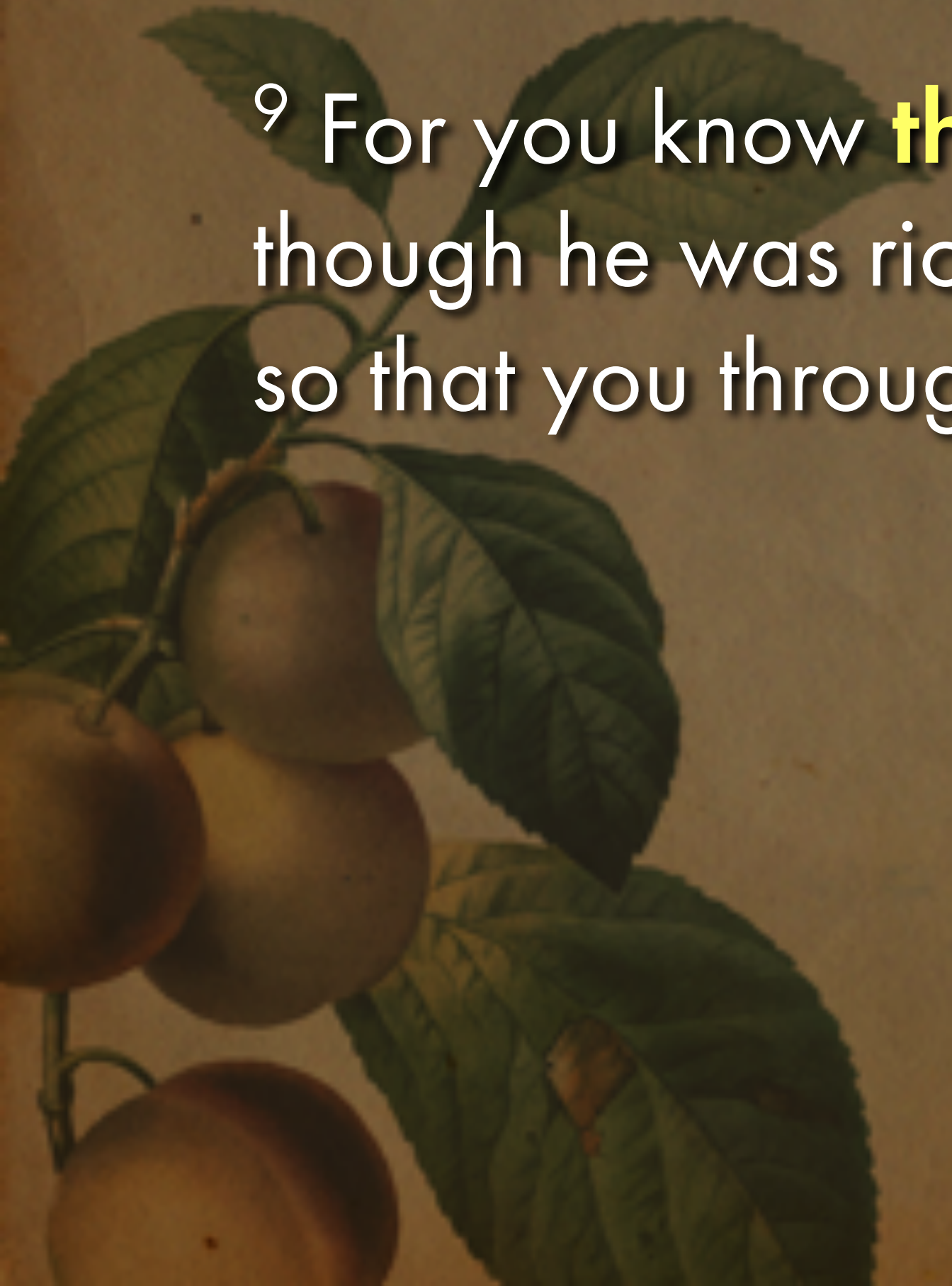
⁷ But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also **excel in this grace of giving.** ...

2 Corinthians 8:7



⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9



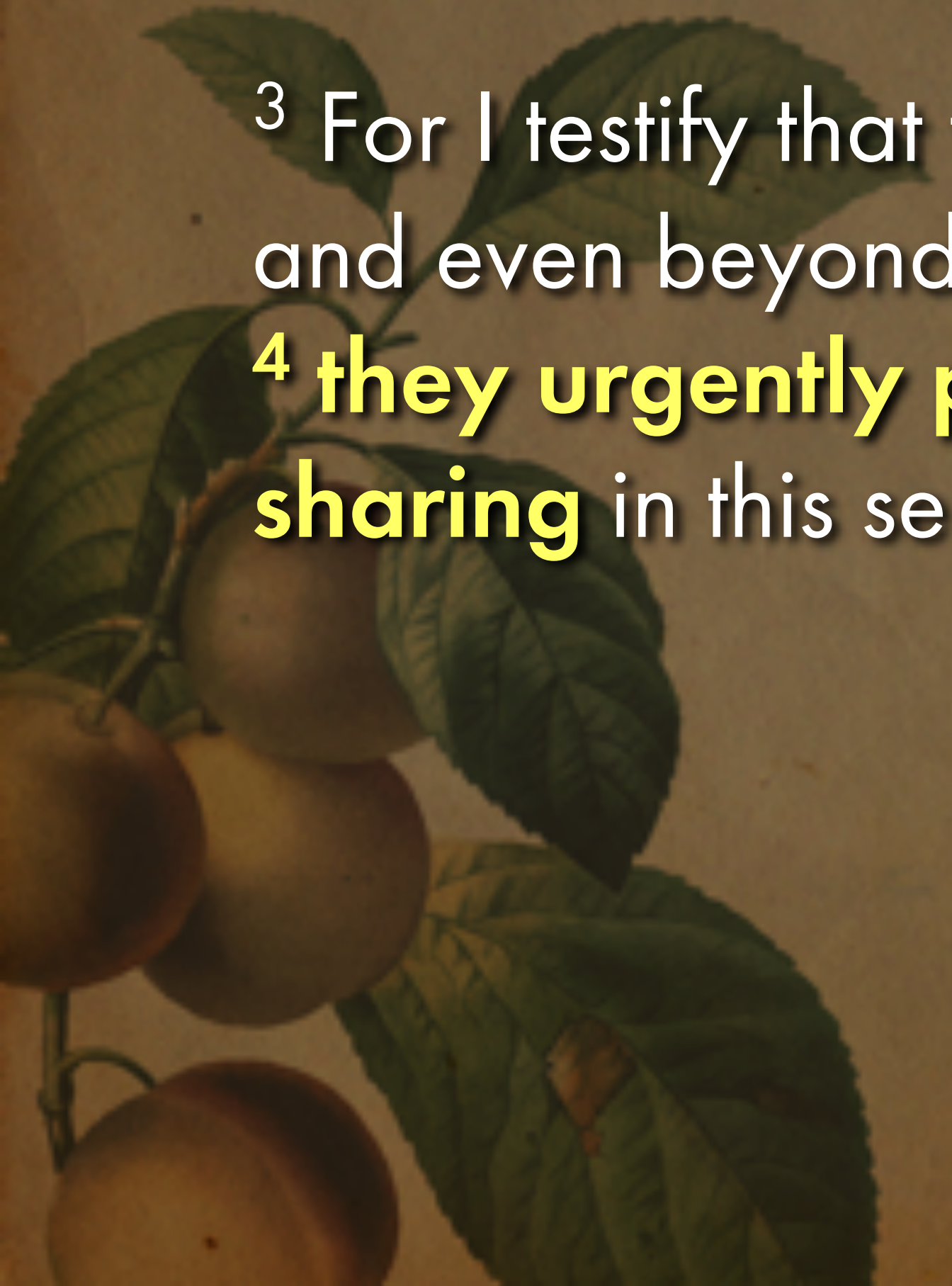
⁹ For you know **the grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9




“GRACE GIVING” is not...

- Giving because I feel forced.



³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able,
and even beyond their ability. **Entirely on their own,**
⁴ **they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of**
sharing in this service to the Lord's people.

2 Corinthians 8:3-4

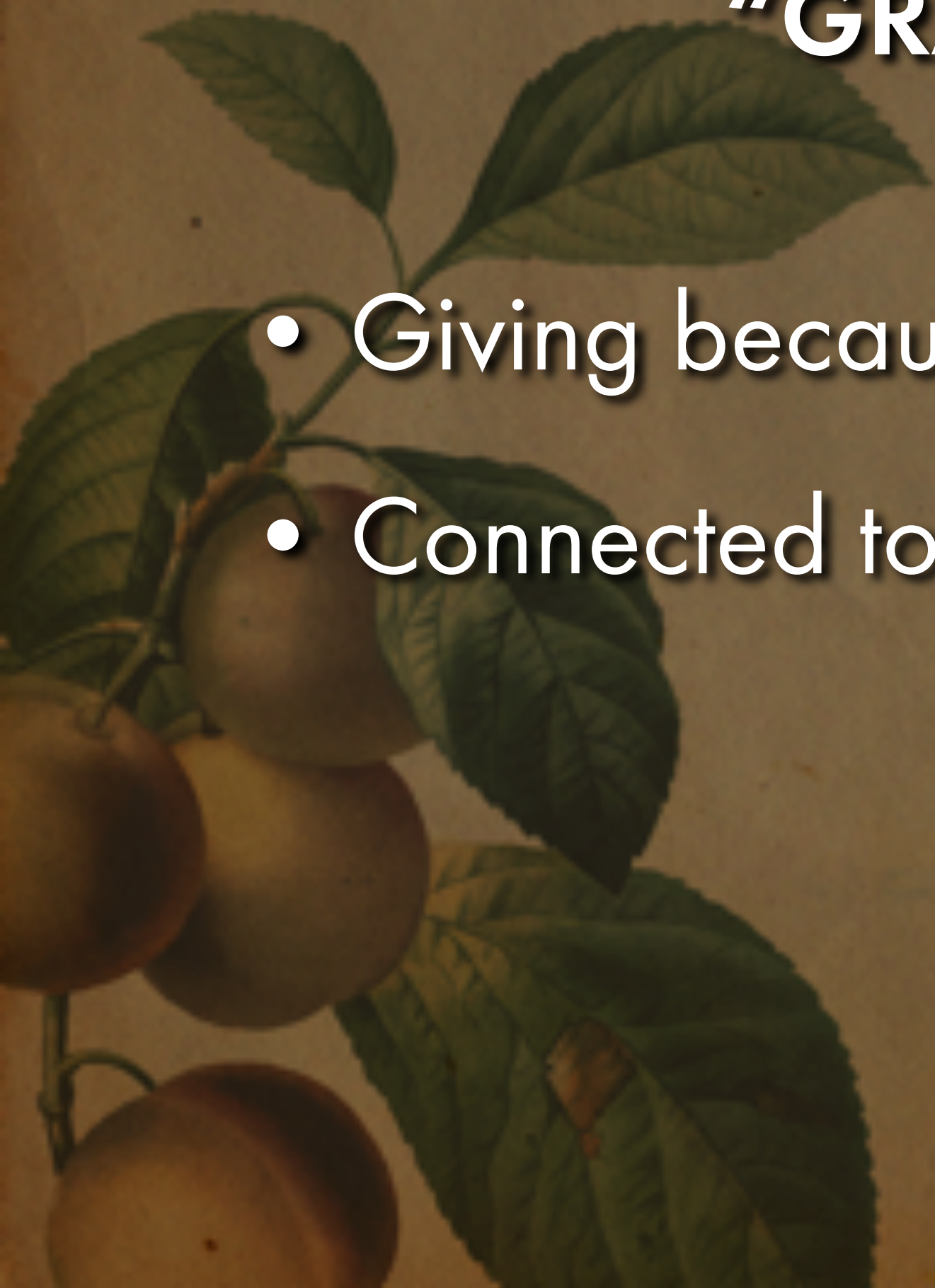


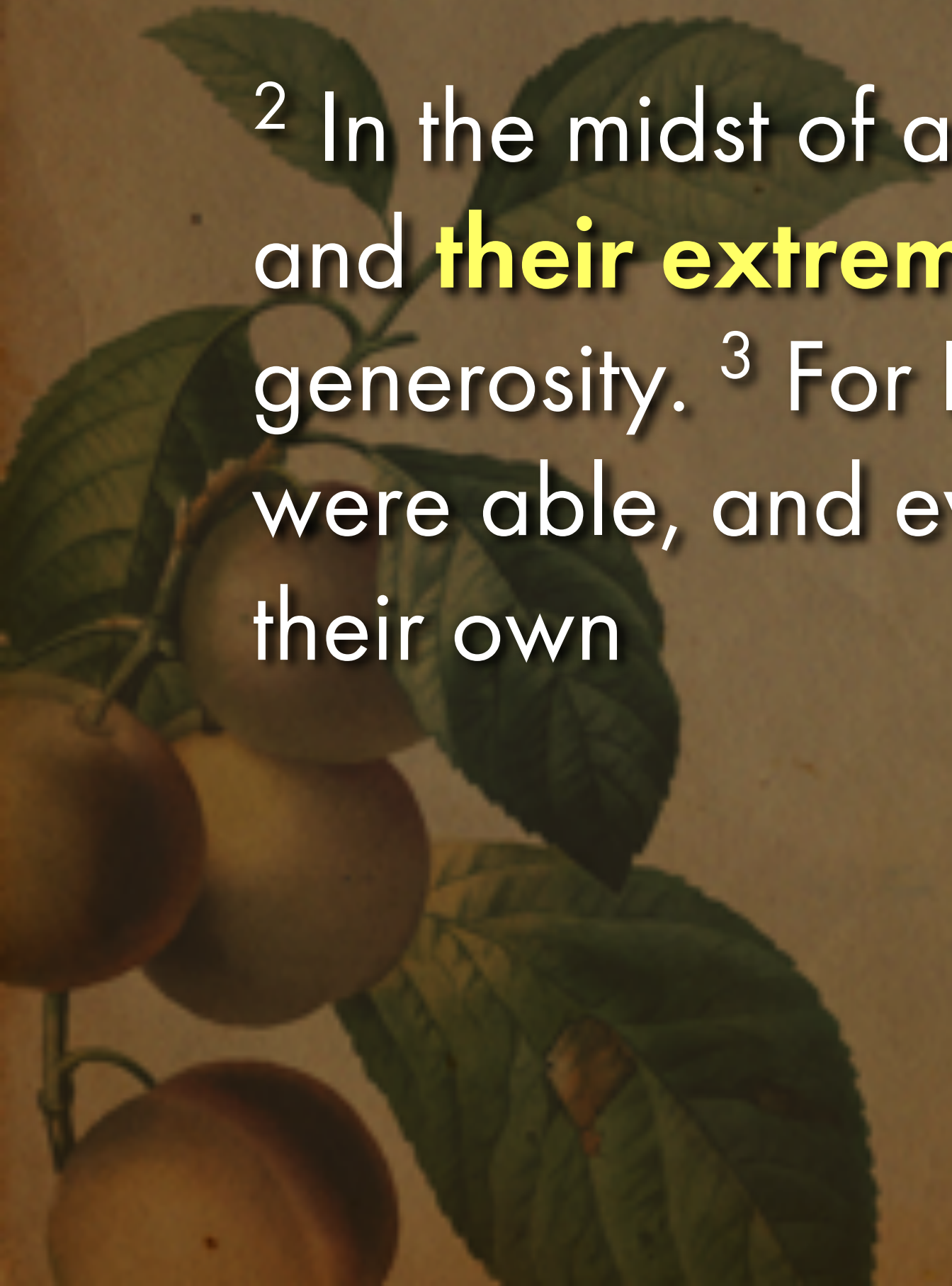
⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, **not reluctantly or under compulsion**, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

“GRACE GIVING” is not...

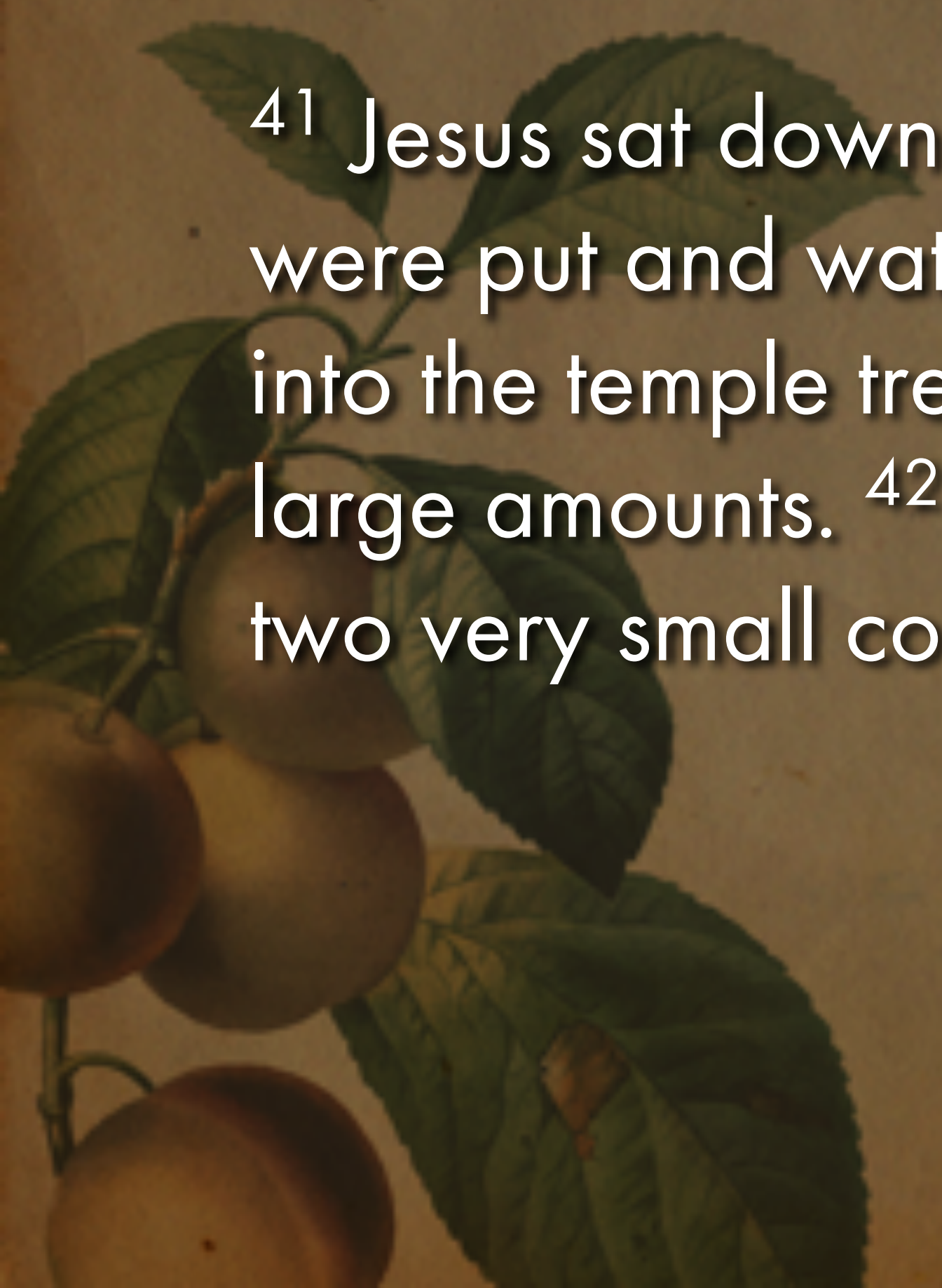
- Giving because I feel forced.
- Connected to income.





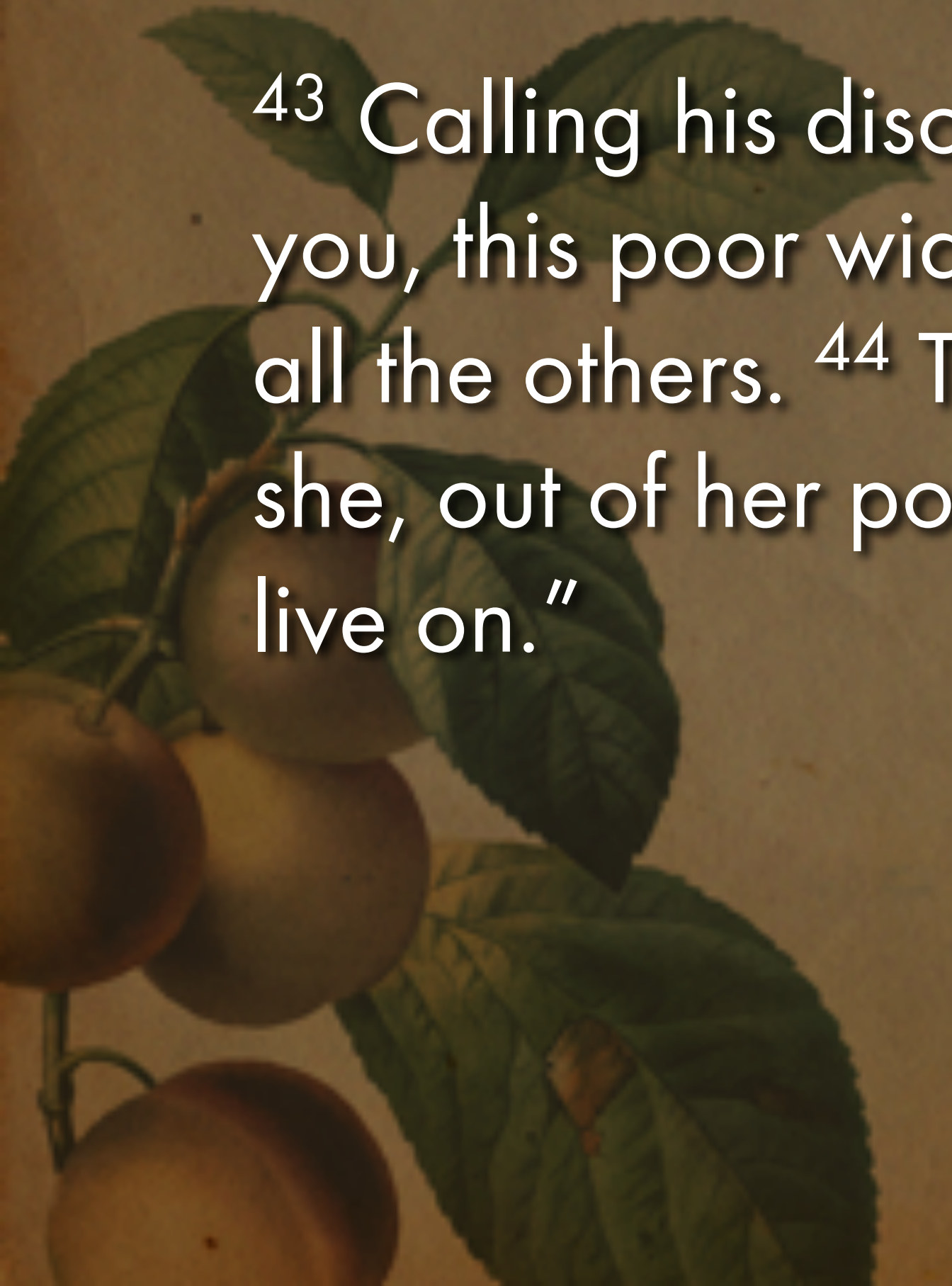
² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and **their extreme poverty** welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own

2 Corinthians 8:2-3



⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents....

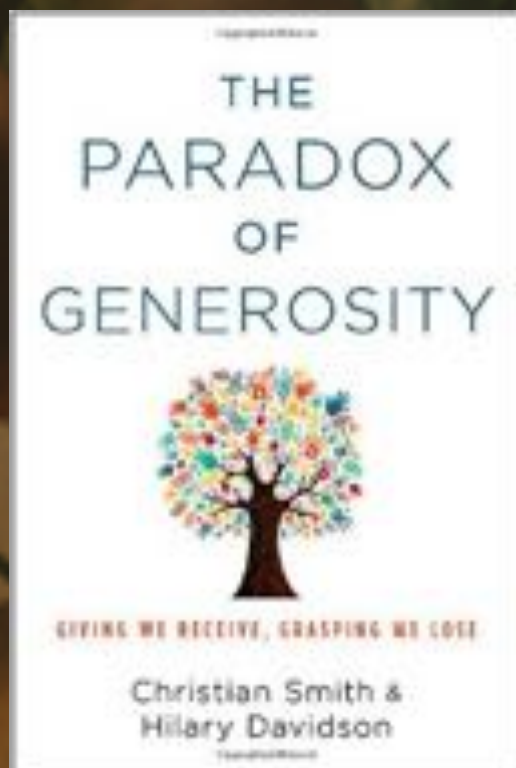
Mark 12:41-44



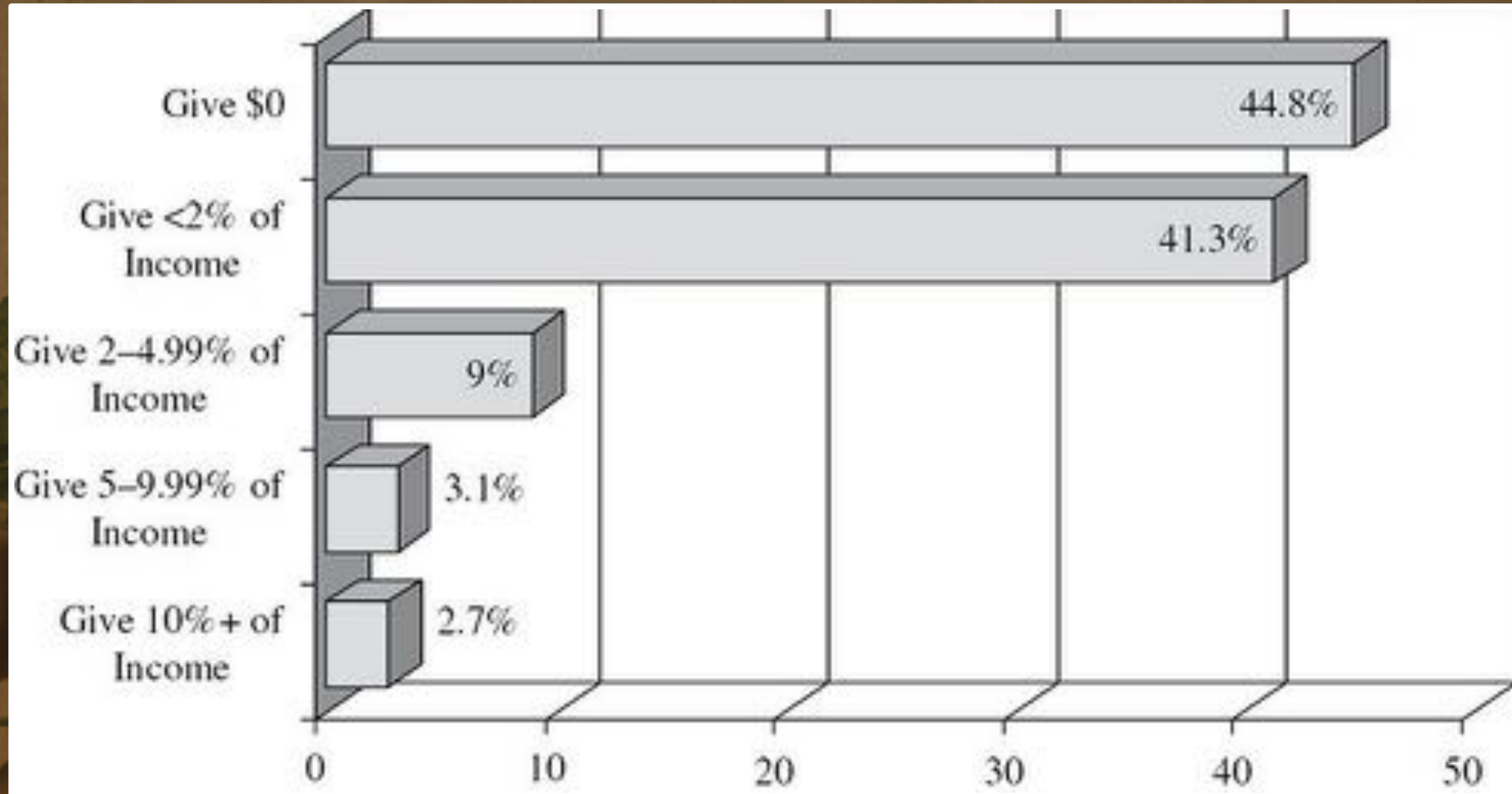
⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

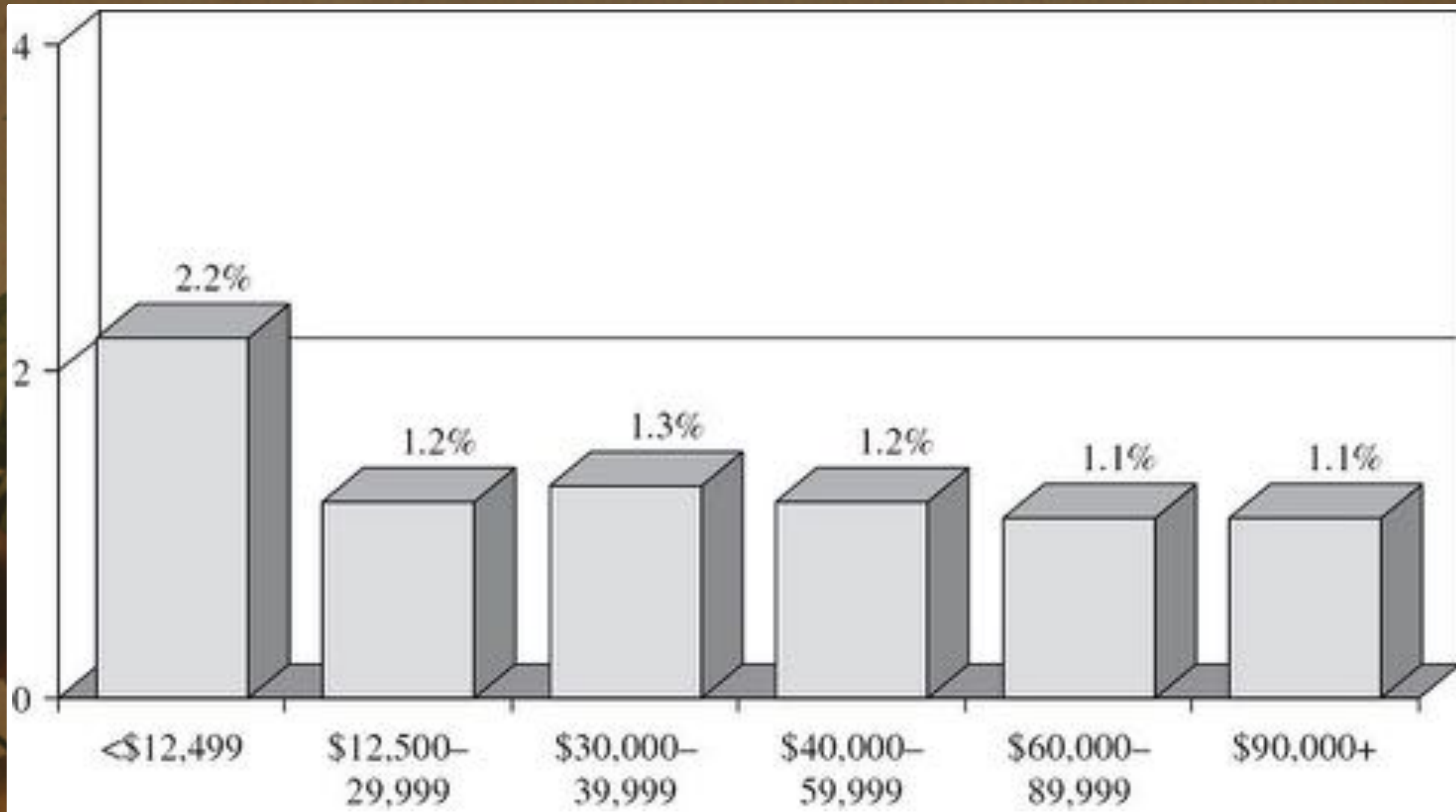
Mark 12:41-44

“Nearly half of all Americans (44.8 percent) give away not one dollar, by their own admission.”

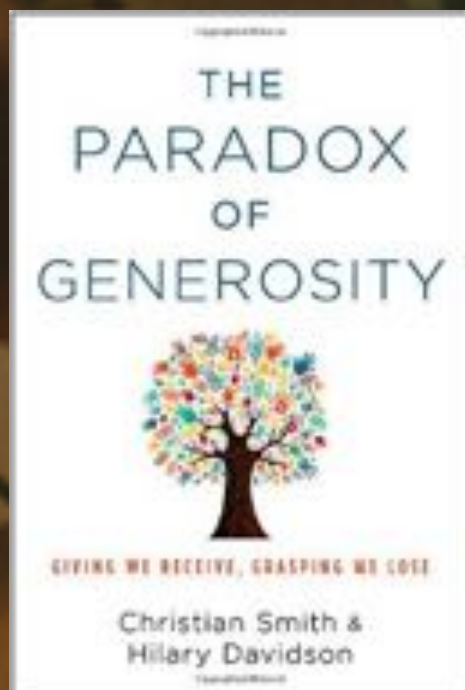


The Paradox of Generosity
Christian Smith & Hilary Davidson 2014



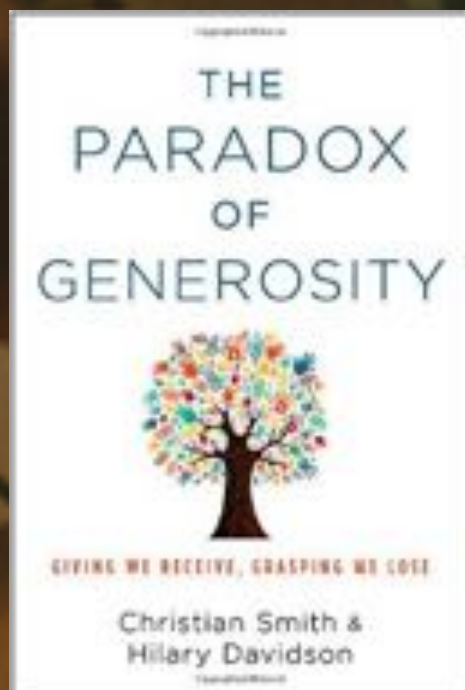


"It stands to reason that the more money people make, the greater the percentage of it they should be able to give away without cutting too much into their own basic needs and wants. But this is not the case. Making more money in America is not associated with giving money more generously...Earning a higher income in the US, in other words, does not translate into giving larger proportions of that income away...this is a well-established fact confirmed by many previous studies."



The Paradox of Generosity
Christian Smith & Hilary Davidson 2014

“In short, a quite small group of Americans gives away the vast majority of the money that is donated in voluntary financial giving in the US. Stated differently, while some Americans seem to be quite generous with their financial resources, the vast majority contribute very, very little to the overall giving that takes place in the US.”




The Paradox of Generosity
Christian Smith & Hilary Davidson 2014

“GRACE GIVING”

- Begins with grace.



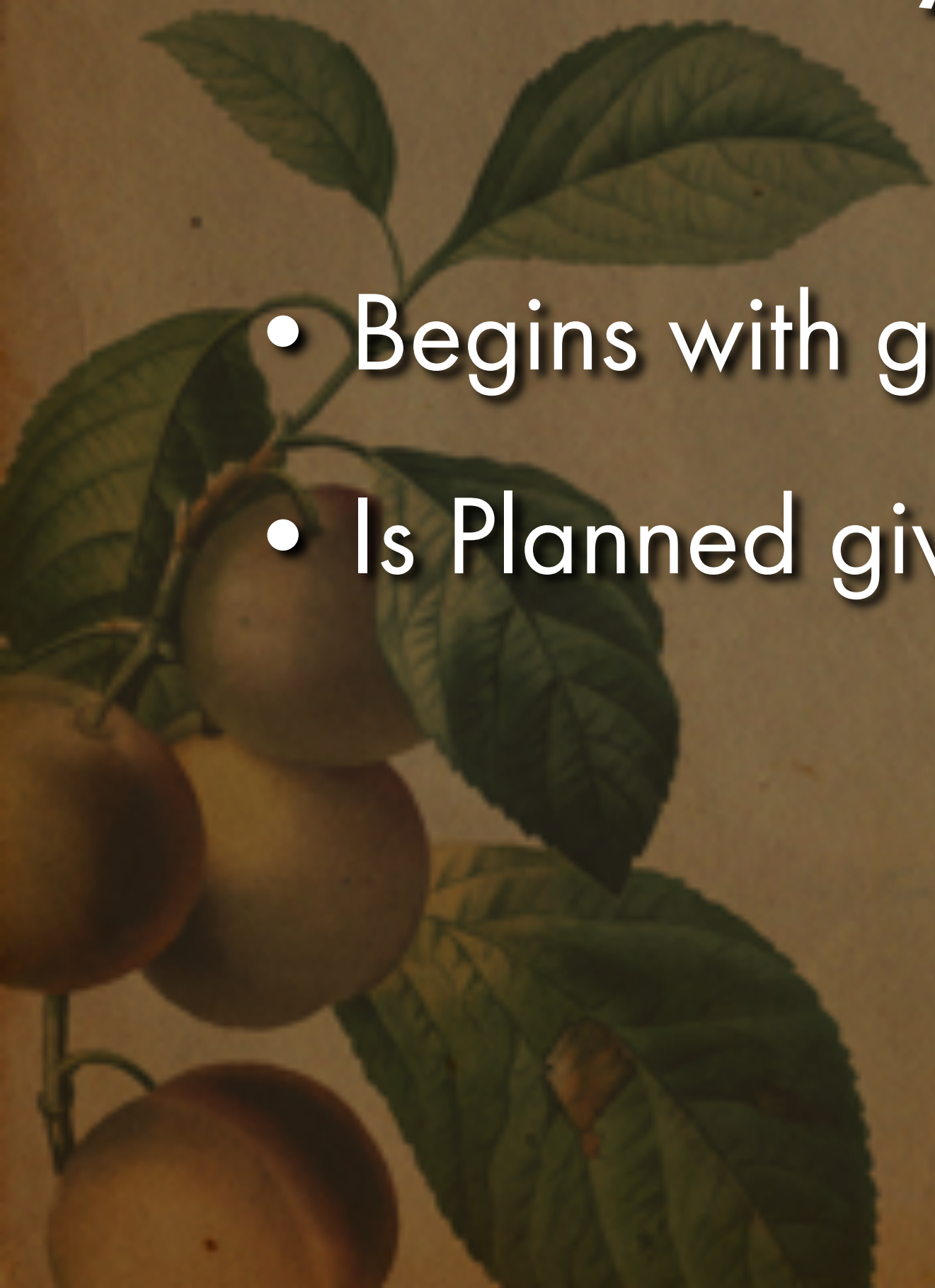


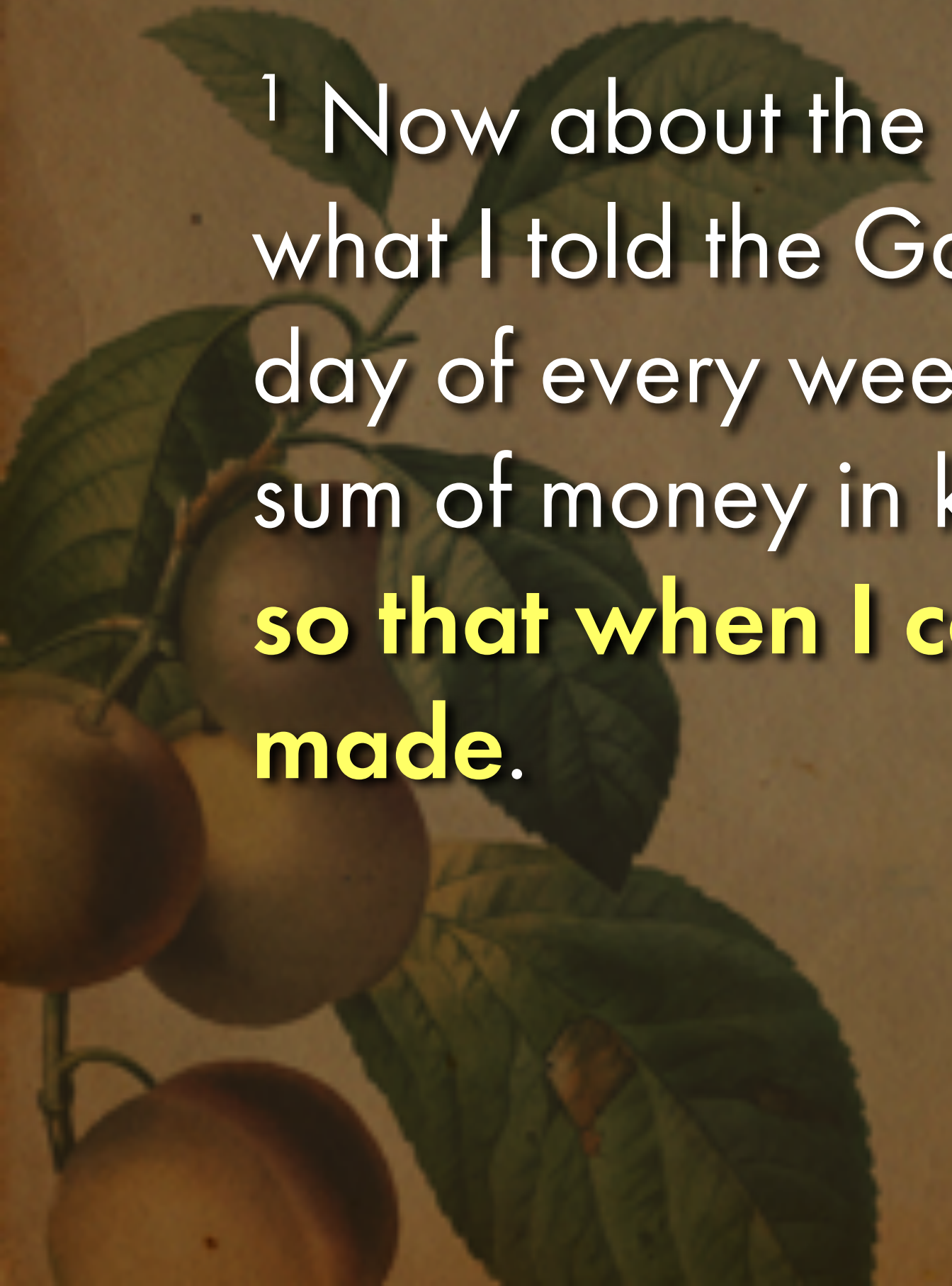
¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about **the grace that God has given** the Macedonian churches.

2 Corinthians 8:1

“GRACE GIVING”

- Begins with grace.
- Is Planned giving.





¹ Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. ² On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, **so that when I come no collections will have to be made.**

1 Corinthians 16:1-2



Save

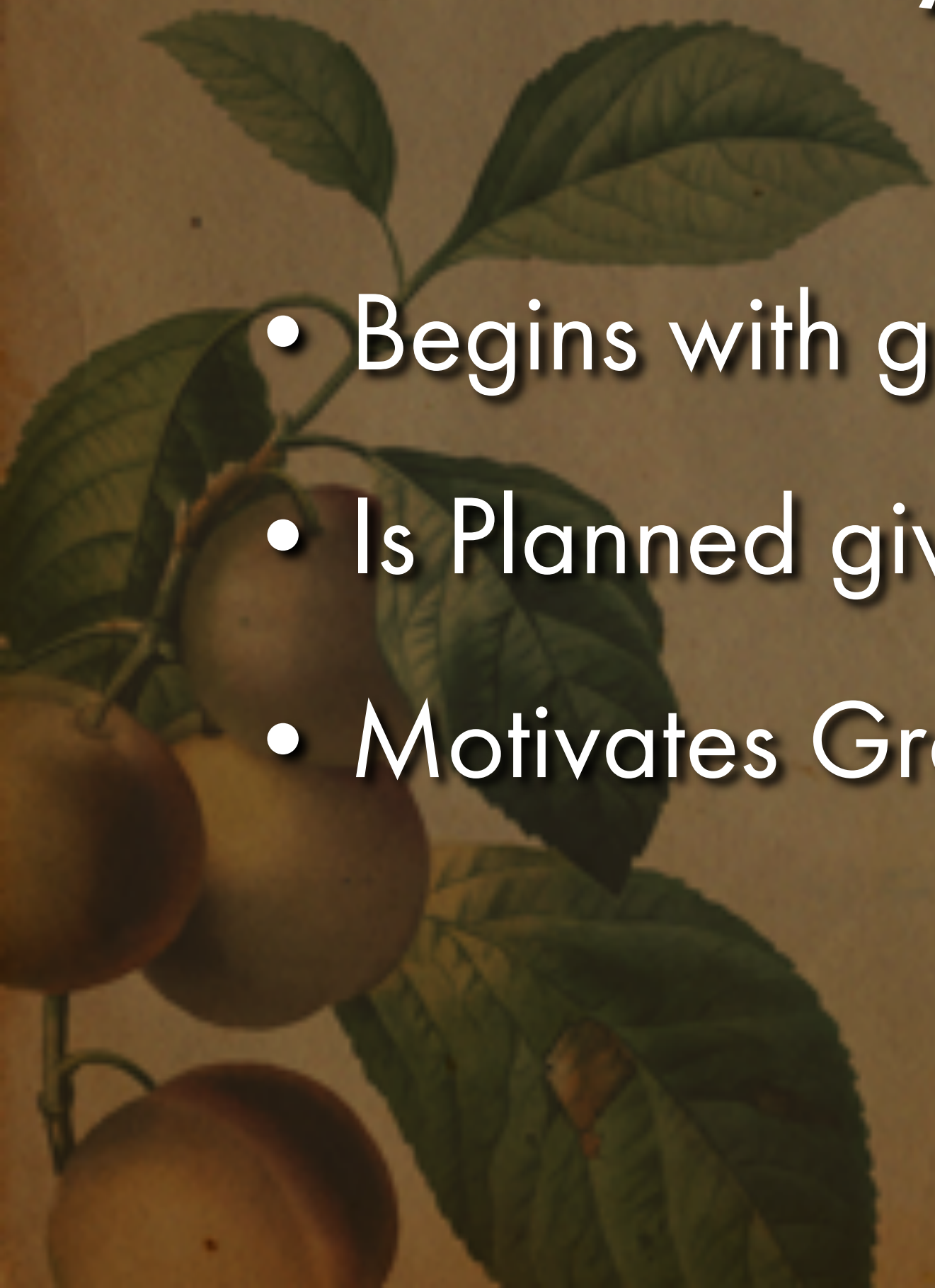


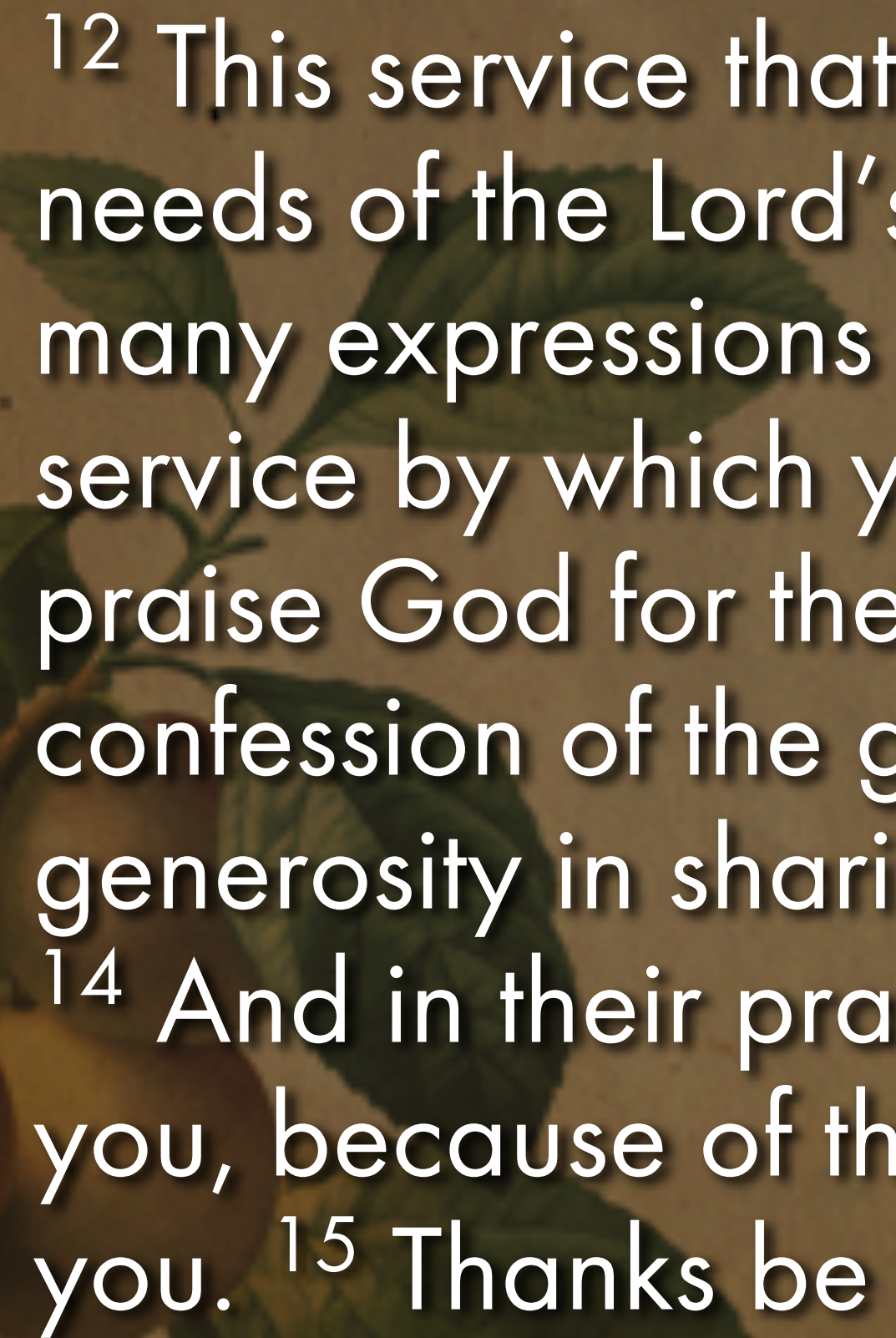
Spend



“GRACE GIVING”

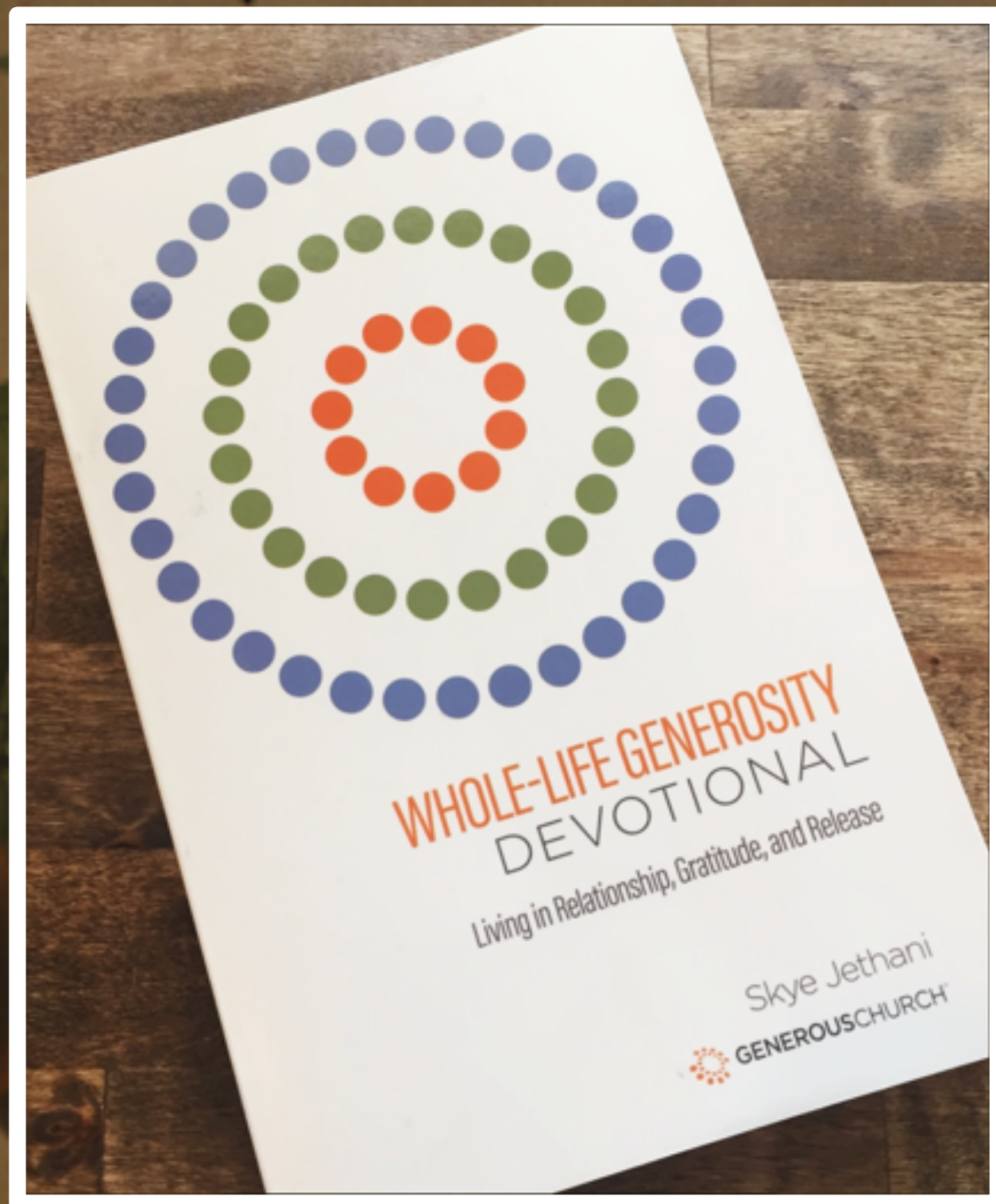
- Begins with grace.
- Is Planned giving.
- Motivates Gratitude.



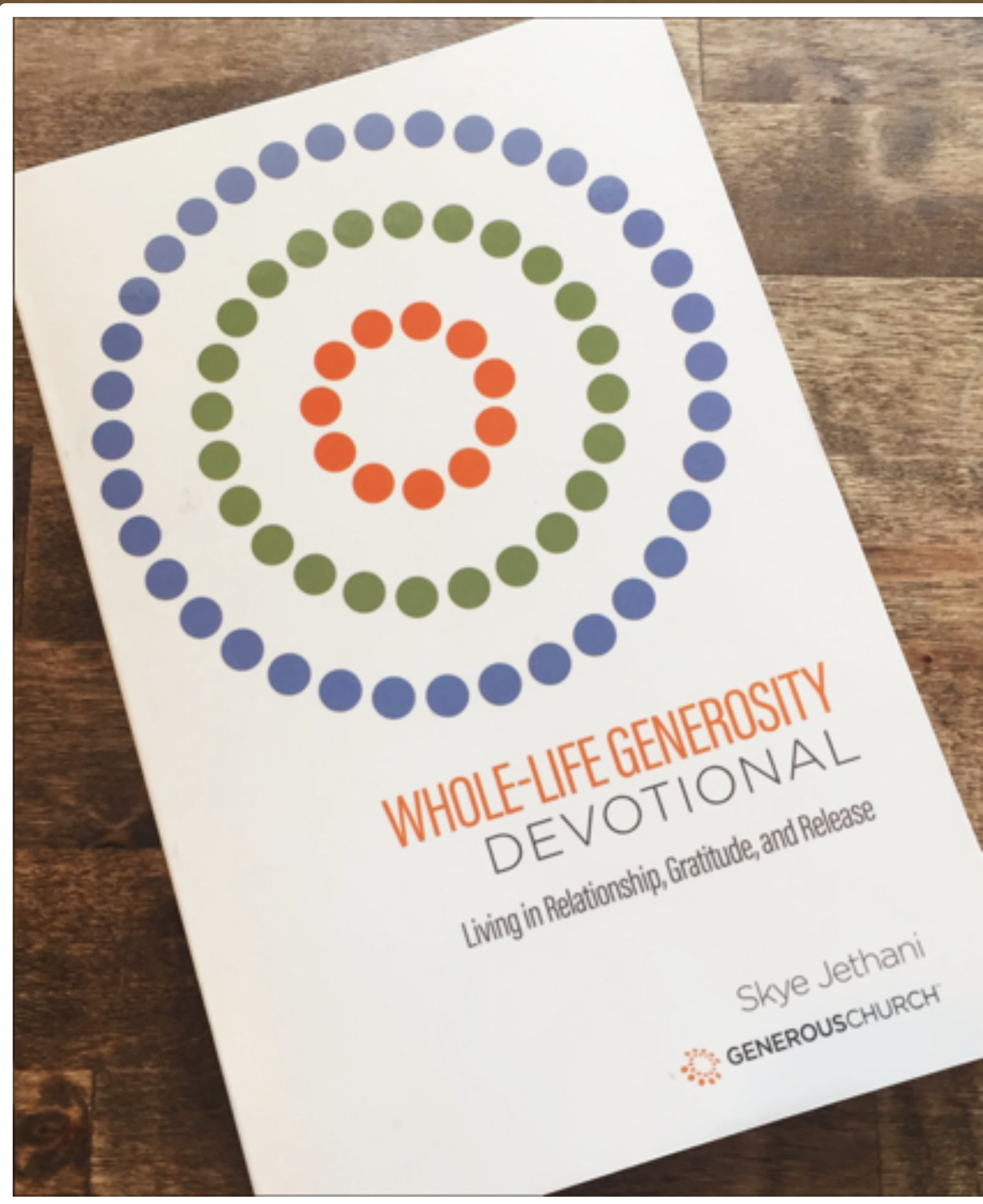


¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

2 Corinthians 9:12-15



"Jesus gave of Himself in every way imaginable—His time, attention, love, compassion and power. He even shared his table with sinners and gave up His life for His enemies." Jesus invites us into this life – a wholly generous life that seeks the wellbeing of others ahead of our own. When we walk out this life with Jesus we find freedom, contentment and joy."



Whole-Life Generosity

By Skye Jethani