

A person is playing a yellow acoustic guitar. The guitar has a dark headstock with the 'Martin' logo. The person is wearing a white t-shirt and black pants. The background is a blurred, warm-toned indoor setting. A large, orange, brush-stroke style graphic is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text 'welcome home' in a white, cursive font. The person's legs are visible, and they appear to be sitting on a stool. A blue bag with a logo is partially visible in the bottom right corner.

*welcome home*

# Why?

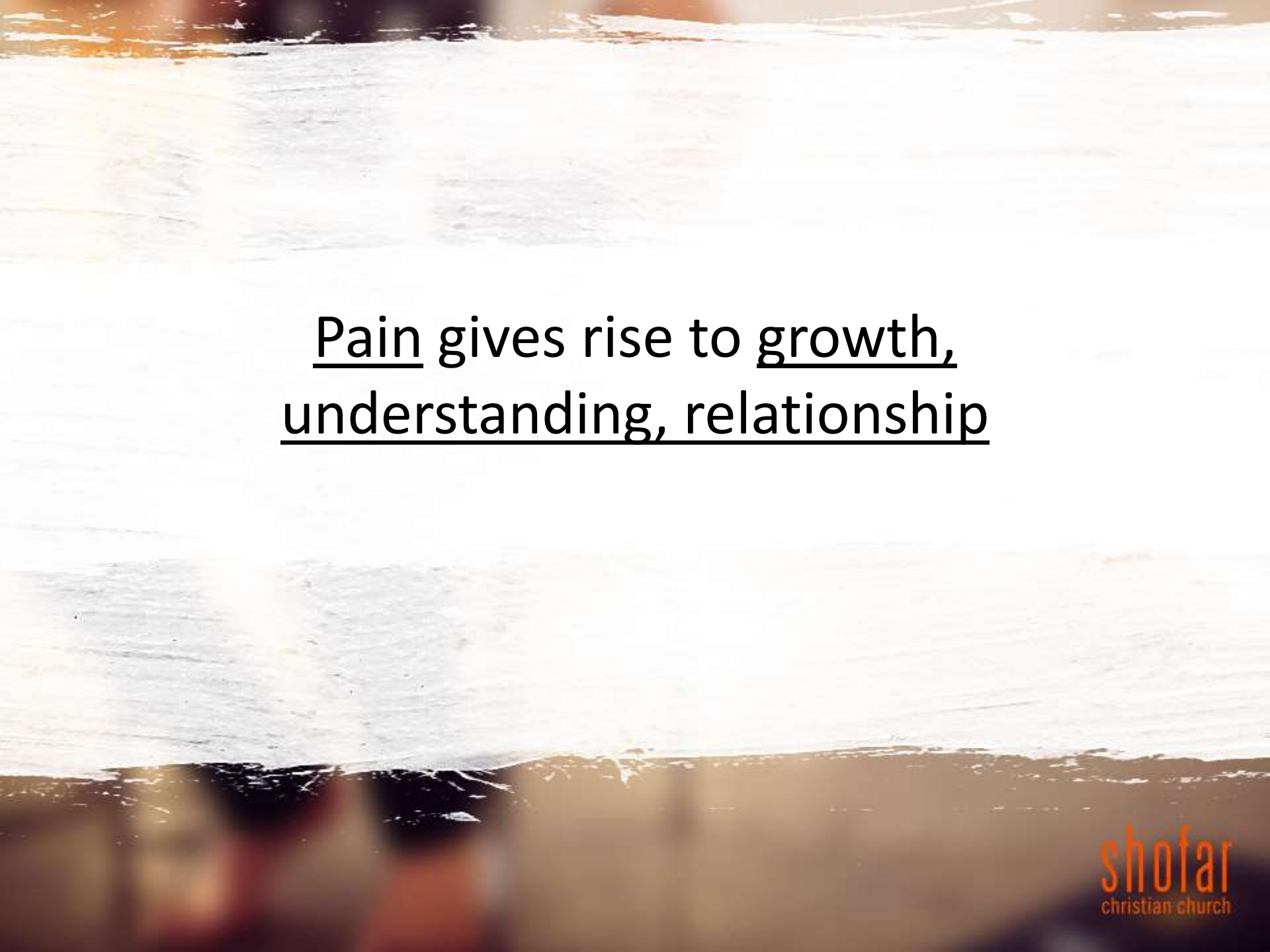
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## Romans 5:3-5 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

## **Romans 5:3-5 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.



Pain gives rise to growth,  
understanding, relationship

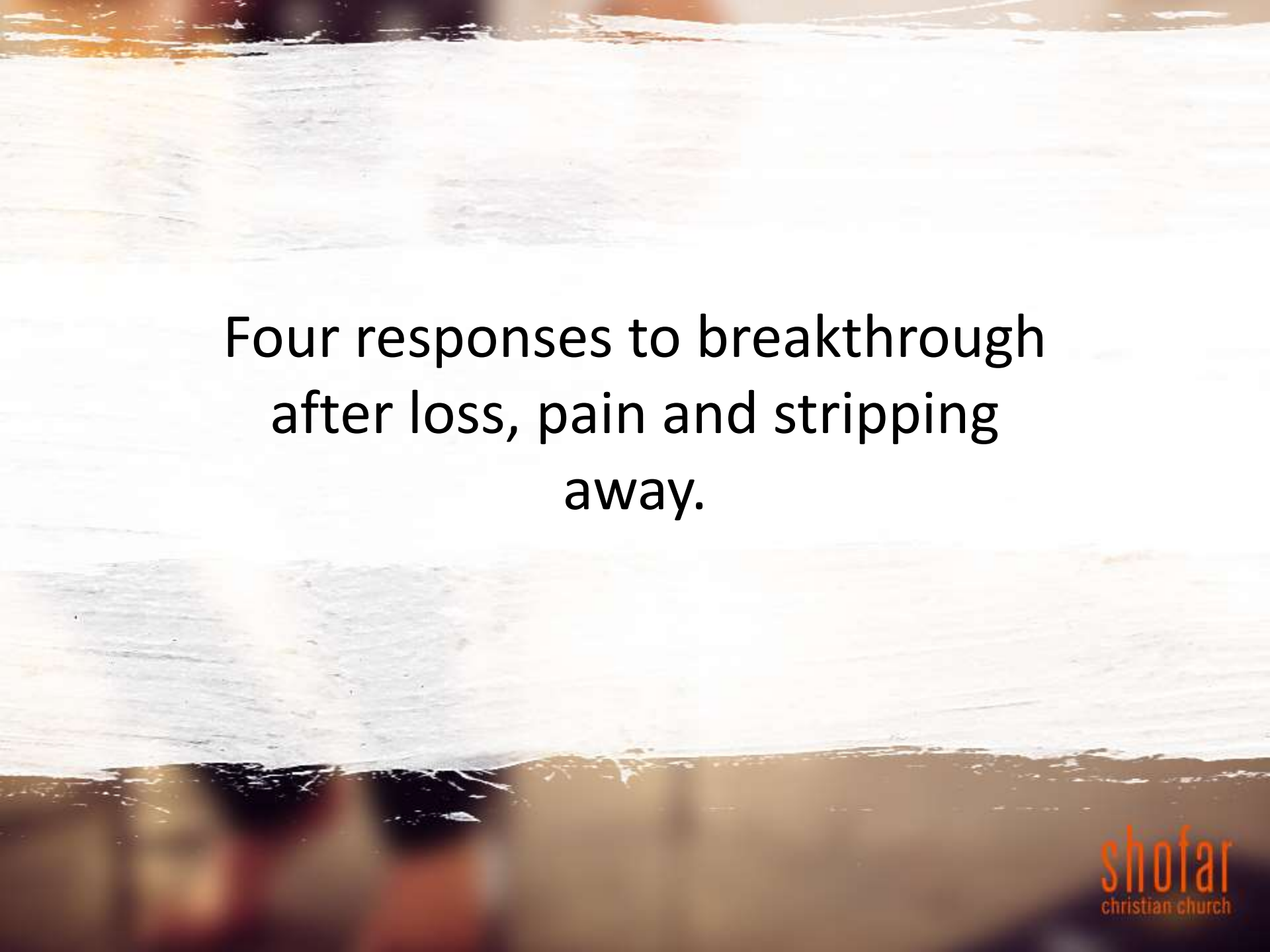
Clutter and crutches removed  
leads to God becoming my all in  
all



Doubt changing to Faith

Stripped to being clothed by Him





Four responses to breakthrough  
after loss, pain and stripping  
away.

## John 12:1-2 (NKJV)

Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, [\[a\]](#) whom He had raised from the dead.<sup>2</sup> There they made Him a supper;

## John 12:1-2 (NKJV)

and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.

A) Serving

## John 12:1-2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.



## B) Receiving and enjoying fellowship

## John 12:3 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

C) Giving all



## John 12:4-6 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, who would betray Him, said, <sup>5</sup> “Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii<sup>[a]</sup> and given to the poor?”

## John 12:4-6 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

D) Taking