

Effective prayers

JP Archer



To discover the real you, look at what you spend time thinking about when no one is looking, when nothing is forcing you to think about anything in particular. –
Timothy Keller

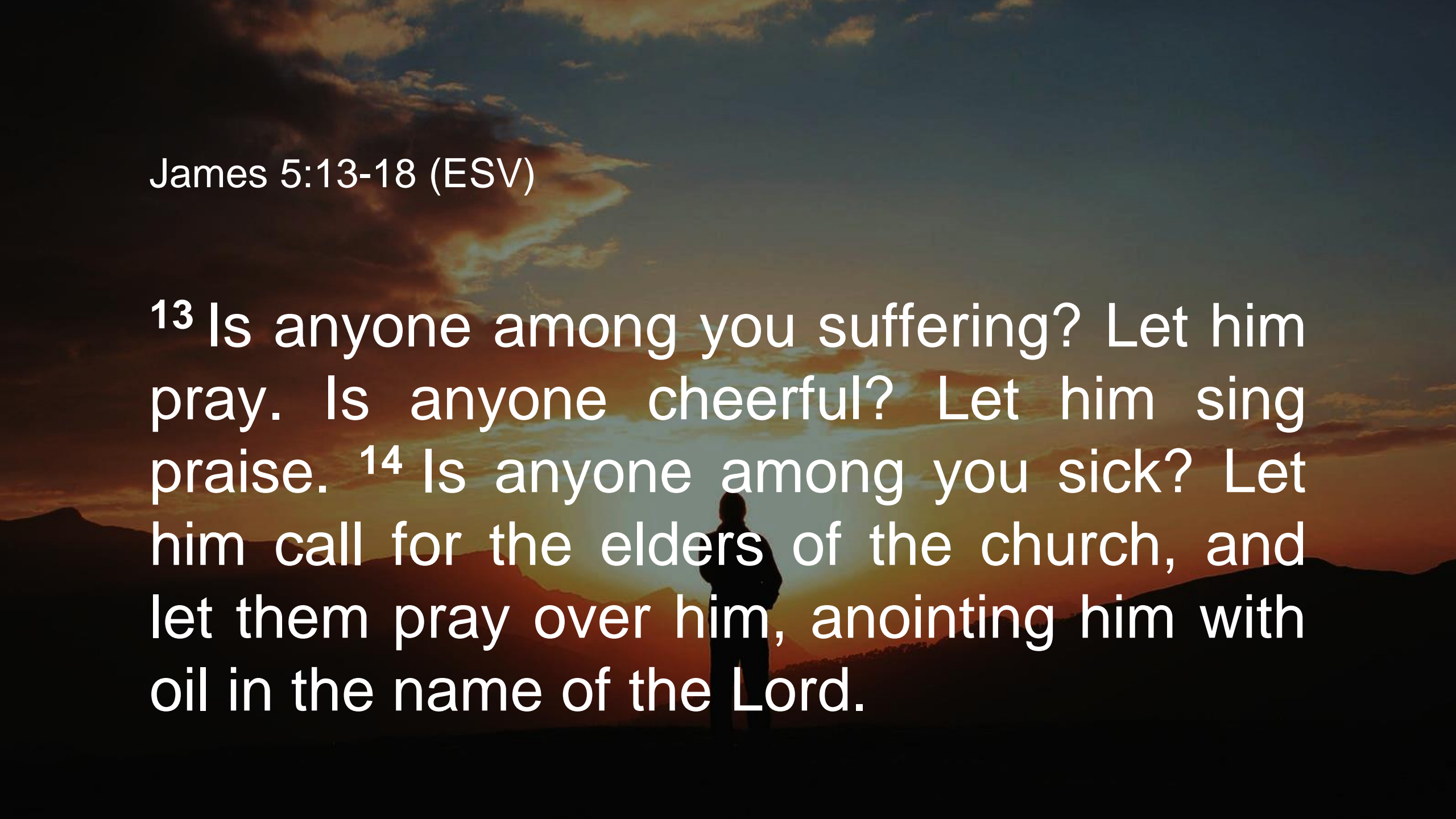


Biblically, the heart is the control center of the entire self. – Timothy Keller



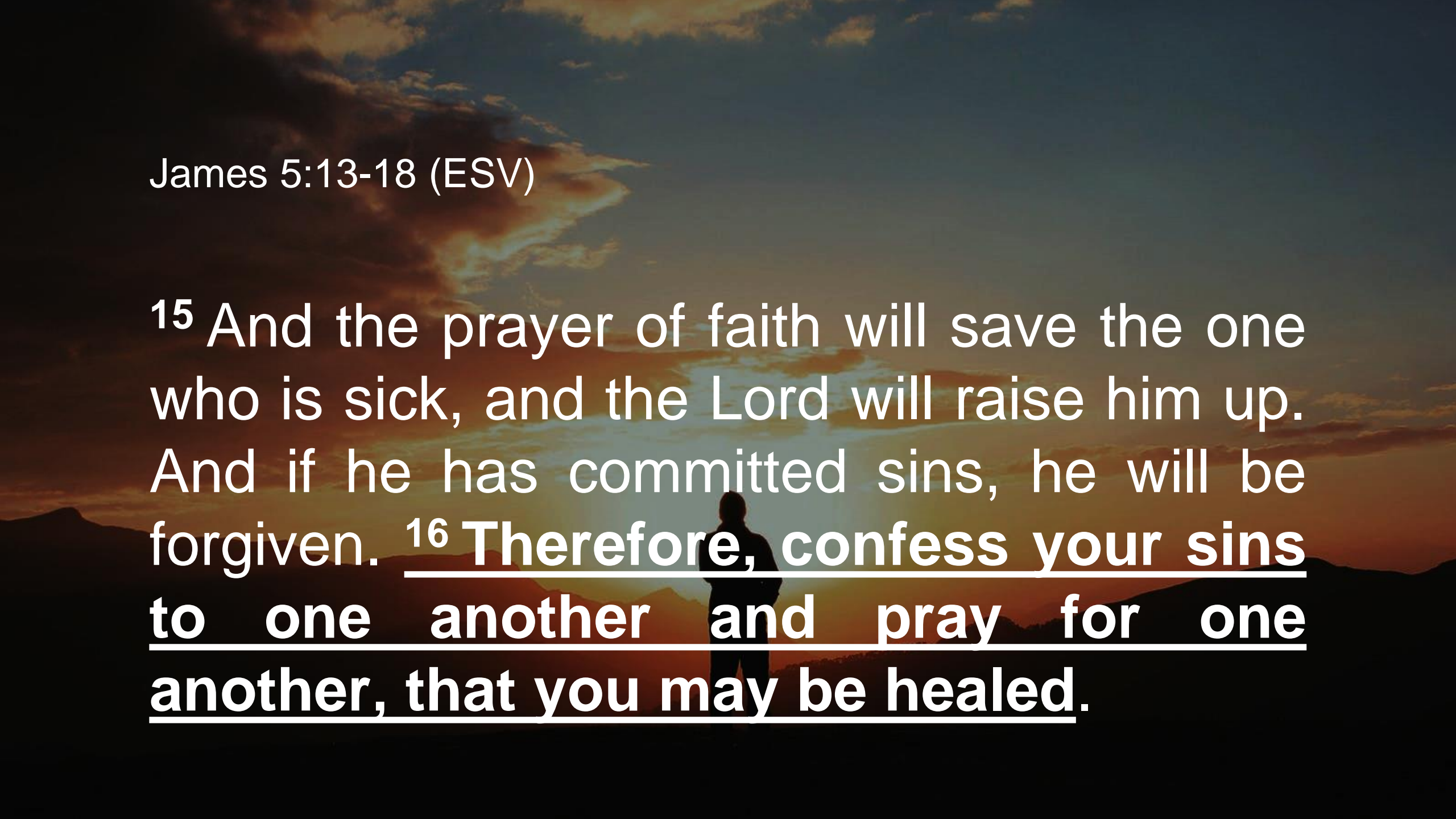
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A person is standing on a dark, silhouetted hill in the foreground, looking out over a vast landscape. The sky is a mix of deep blue and orange, with scattered clouds. In the distance, there are rolling hills and mountains under the same sky. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

James 5:13-18 (ESV)

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

A person is standing on a dark silhouette of a hill, looking out at a vast landscape under a dramatic sky. The sky is filled with large, dark clouds that are illuminated from below by a low sun, creating a warm, orange and yellow glow. The person's silhouette is centered in the lower half of the frame, facing away from the viewer towards the horizon.

James 5:13-18 (ESV)

¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

James 5:13-18 (ESV)

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

James 5:13-18 (ESV)

18 Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.



Romans 3:22-23 (ESV)

²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,



1 Corinthians 12:4-11(ESV)

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷ To each ...

1 Corinthians 12:4-11(ESV)

11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.



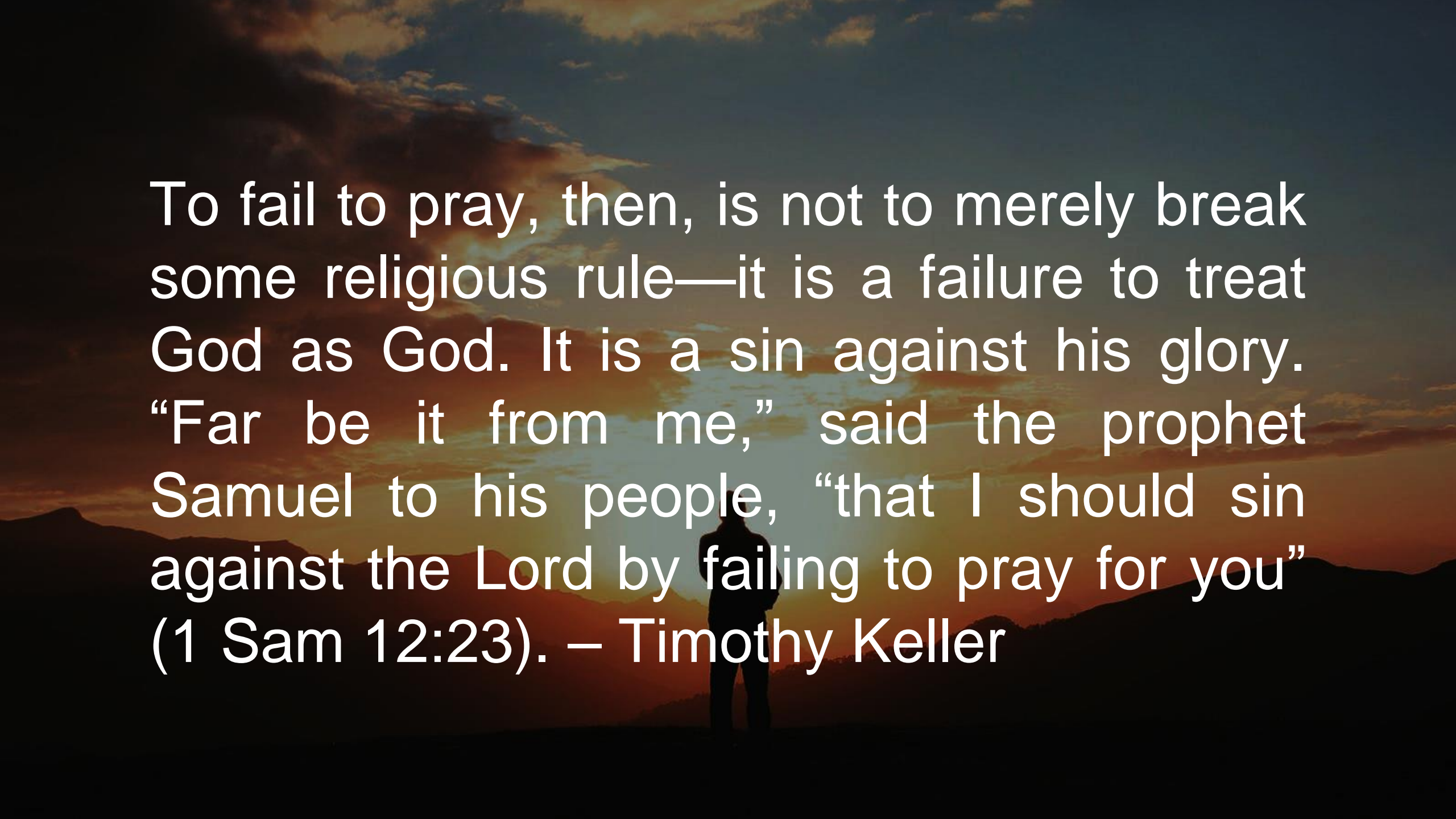
John 1:12(ESV)

¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

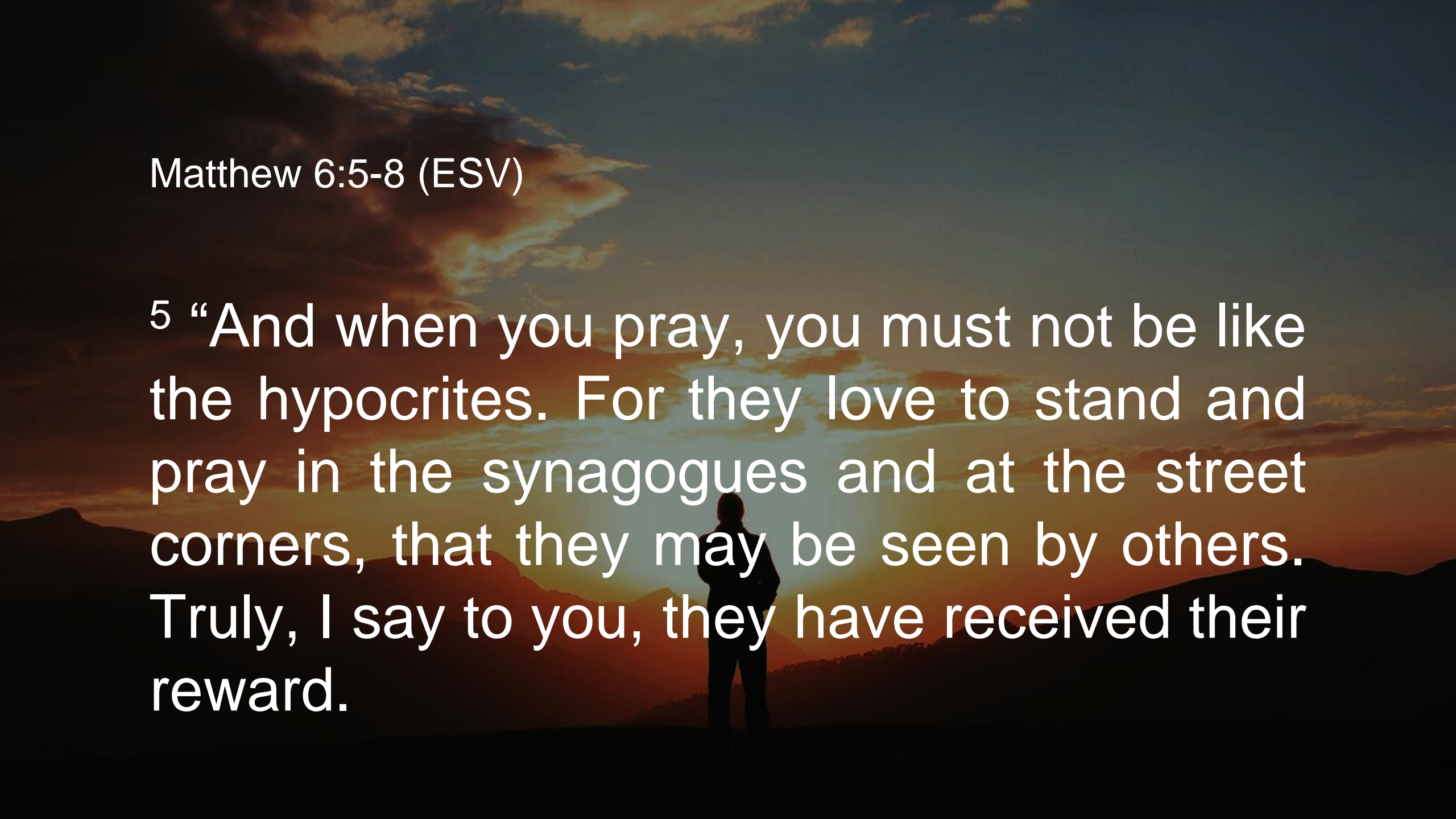


Prayer is continuing a conversation that God has started through his Word and his grace, which eventually becomes a full encounter with him. – Timothy Keller



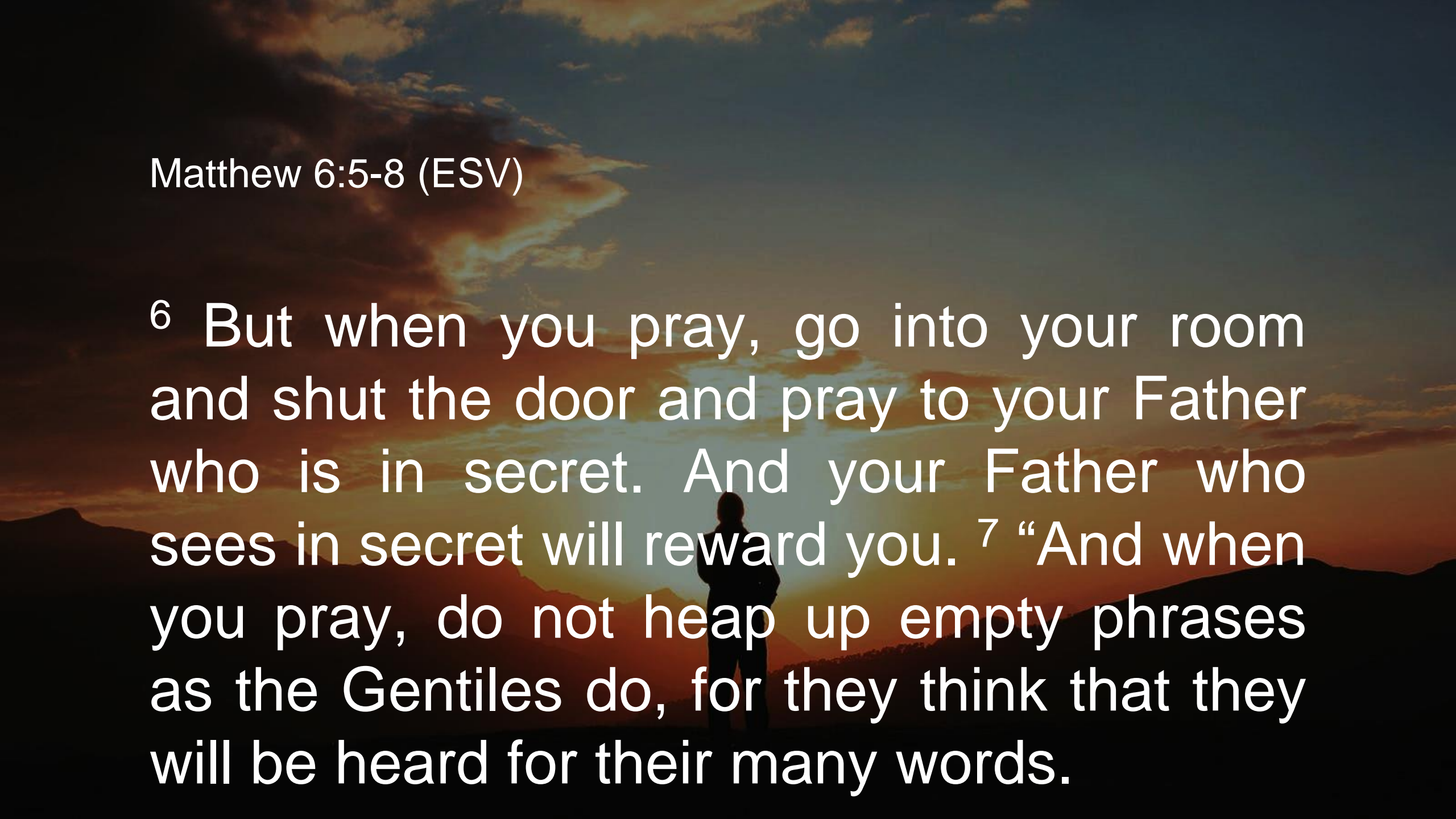


To fail to pray, then, is not to merely break some religious rule—it is a failure to treat God as God. It is a sin against his glory. “Far be it from me,” said the prophet Samuel to his people, “that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you” (1 Sam 12:23). – Timothy Keller

A person stands in silhouette on a dark, elevated position, looking out over a vast landscape. The sky is a mix of deep blues and oranges, with scattered clouds catching the low light of the sun. In the distance, the silhouettes of mountains or hills are visible against the horizon. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Matthew 6:5-8 (ESV)

⁵ “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

A person is standing on a hill, looking out over a landscape with mountains and a cloudy sky. The sky is filled with large, dark clouds, and the sun is setting, creating a warm, orange glow. The person is silhouetted against the bright sky.

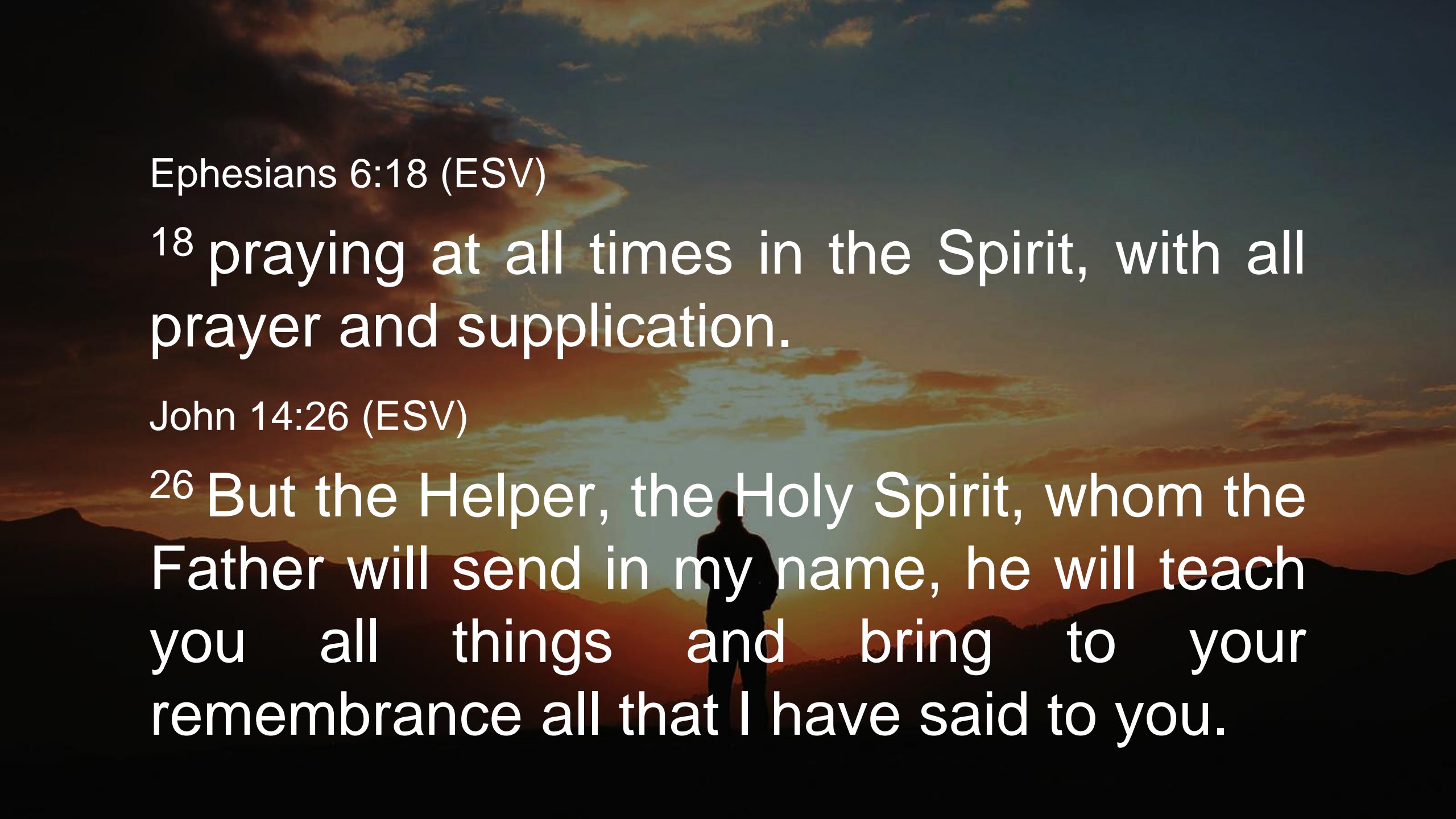
Matthew 6:5-8 (ESV)

⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷ “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words.

Matthew 6:5-8 (ESV)

⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.



A person stands on a mountain peak, silhouetted against a dramatic sunset sky. The sky is filled with soft, glowing clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue. The person is looking out over a vast, hazy landscape of rolling hills and valleys. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

John 14:26 (ESV)

²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Ephesians 1:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts
enlightened, that you may know what is
the hope to which he has called you, what
are the riches of his glorious inheritance in
the saints,



Psalm 10: 1;12;16-18 (ESV)

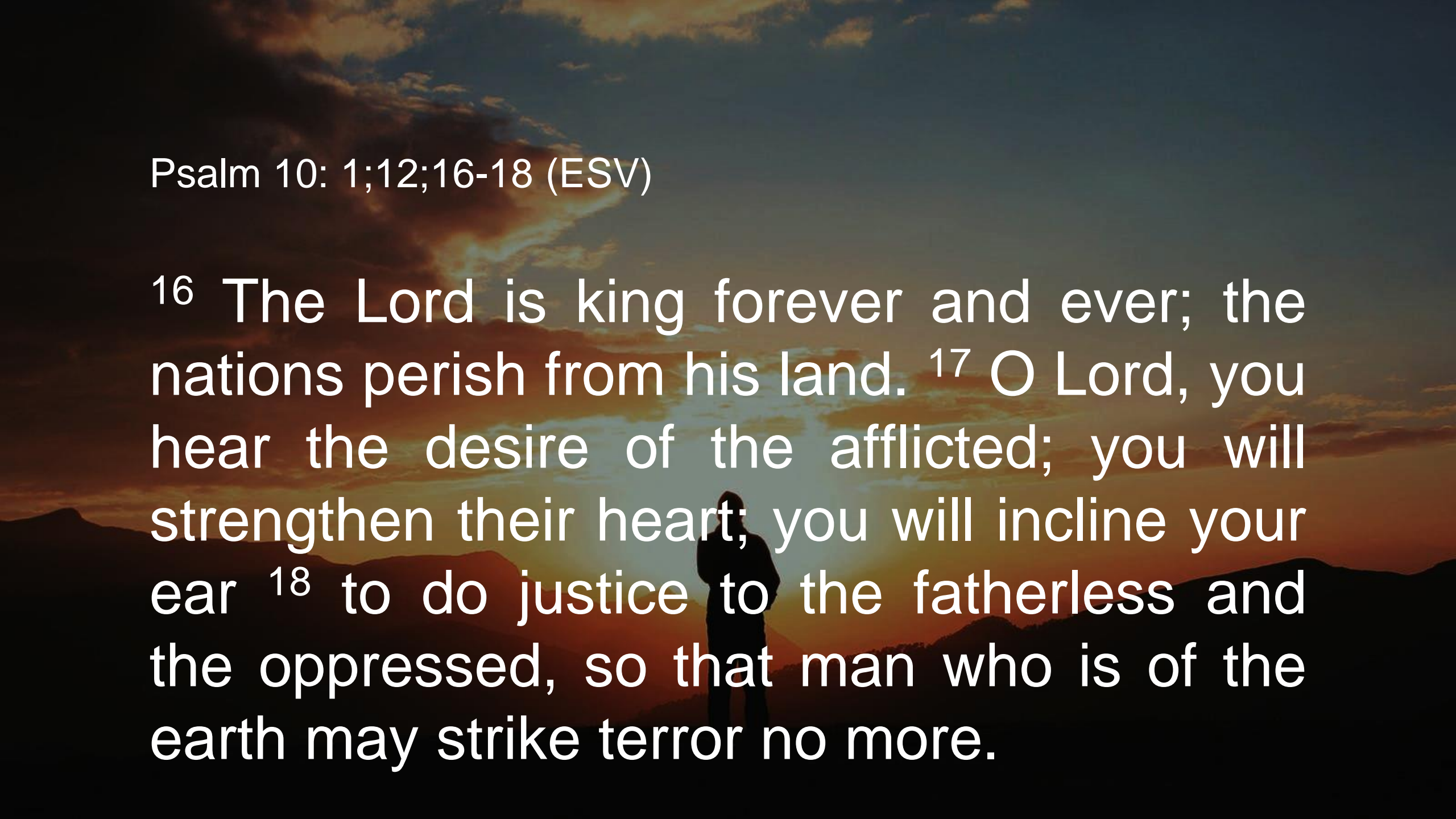
¹Why, O Lord, do you stand far away?
Why do you hide yourself in times of
trouble?



Psalm 10: 1;12;16-18 (ESV)

¹²Arise, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand;
forget not the afflicted.



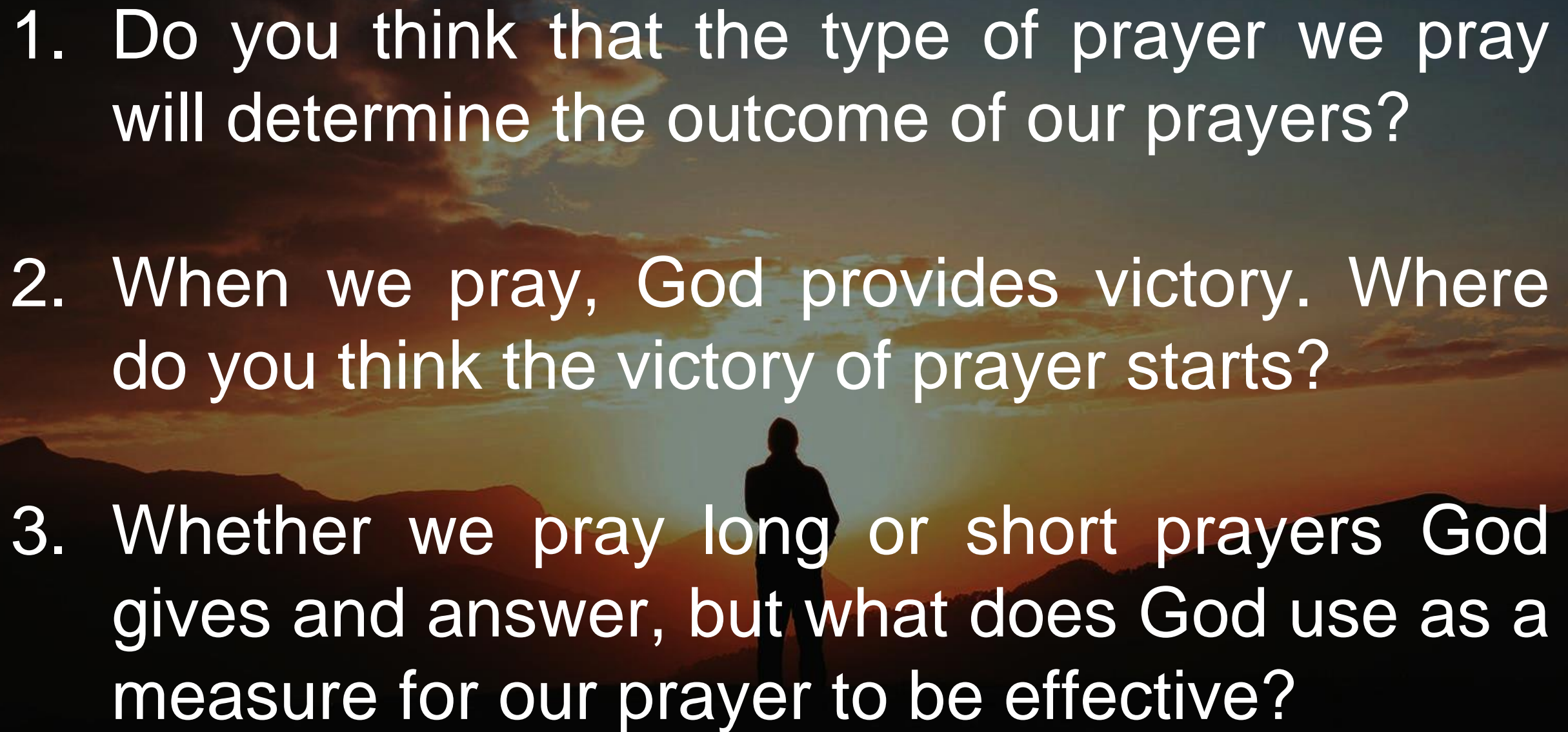
A person stands in silhouette on a hill, looking out over a vast landscape under a dramatic sunset sky. The sky is filled with clouds, some of which are illuminated by the low sun, creating a warm orange and yellow glow. The horizon shows the silhouettes of distant mountains or hills. The overall mood is contemplative and majestic.

Psalm 10: 1;12;16-18 (ESV)

¹⁶ The Lord is king forever and ever; the nations perish from his land. ¹⁷ O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear ¹⁸ to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

What prayer then is more effective?

1. The prayer of a righteous person (James 5:16)
2. Communion seeking (desiring God's presence) (Psalm 10:1)
3. Kingdom seeking (Declaring God as King and advancing His Kingdom) (Matt:28)
4. Praying the Word of God (John 1:1-5)

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1. Do you think that the type of prayer we pray will determine the outcome of our prayers?
 2. When we pray, God provides victory. Where do you think the victory of prayer starts?
 3. Whether we pray long or short prayers God gives and answer, but what does God use as a measure for our prayer to be effective?