# Lending a Hand

Ezra 7-8

- **“[W]hat he taught he had first lived, and what he lived he had first made sure of in the Scriptures. With study, conduct, and teaching put deliberately in this right order, each of these was able to function properly at its best: study was saved from unreality, conduct from uncertainty, and teaching from insincerity and shallowness.”**

- - Derek Kidner, *Ezra and Nehemiah*

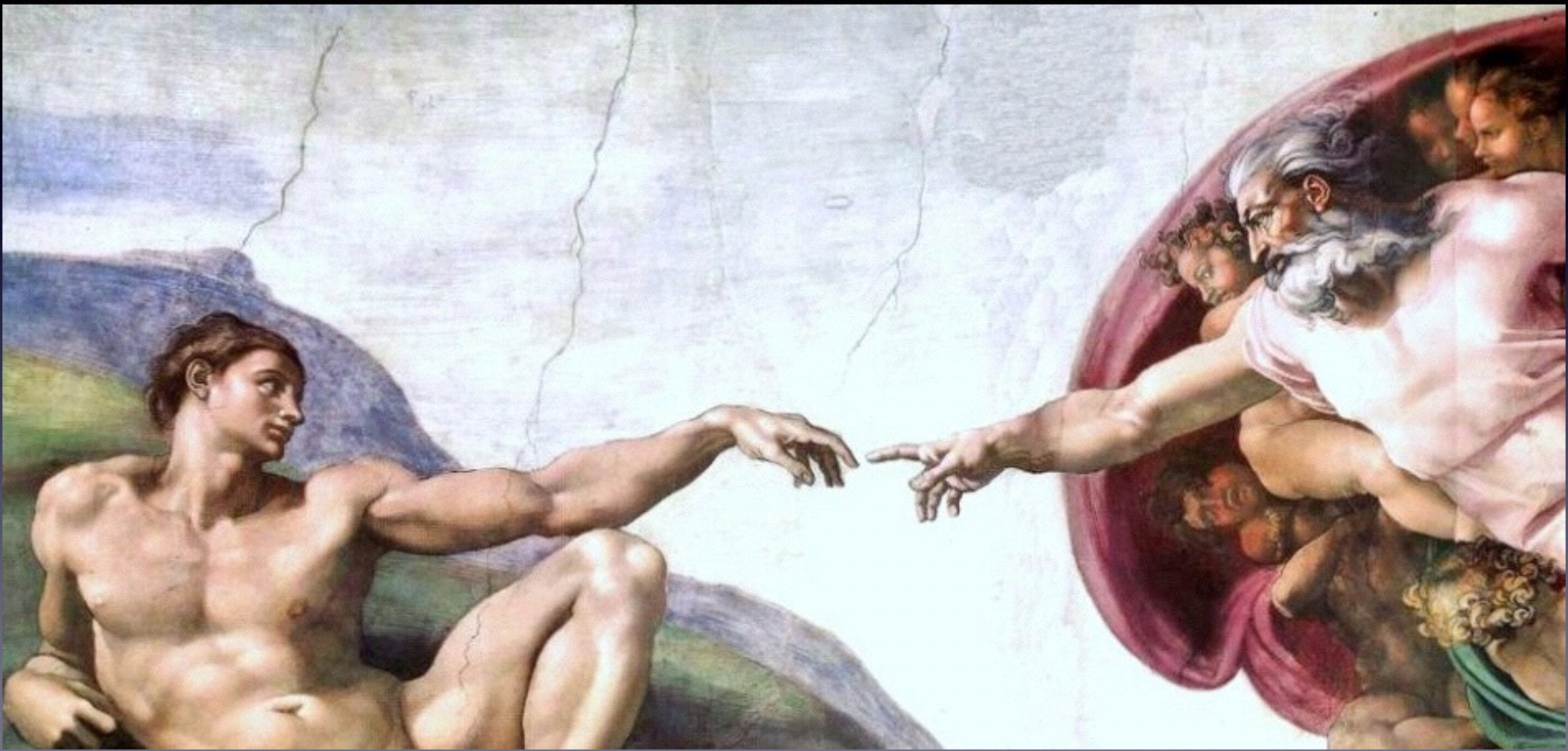
# Reading Tip:

- **Narrative is descriptive, not prescriptive**
  - **i.e., it describes what happened, but it’s not telling you to imitate**

# What’s your view of God?

“The gracious hand of our God
- Ezra 7:6, 9, 28; 8:18, 22, 31

Or this —>



- God’s hand is behind the scenes, but Ezra needs to act.
- God doesn’t work alone.
- Where is he at work here at Unity?

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