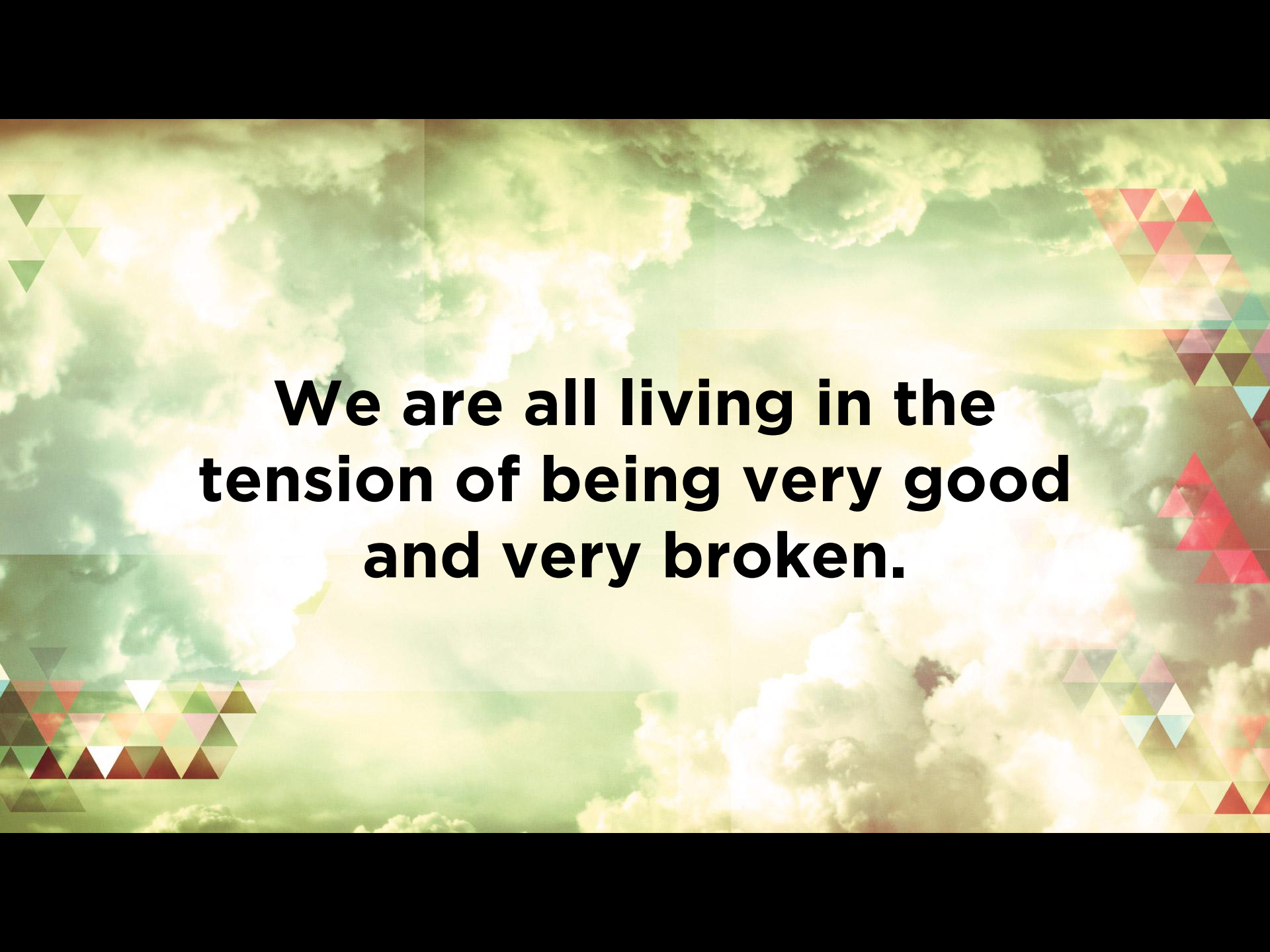




starting
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**We are all living in the
tension of being very good
and very broken.**



starting
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Genesis 2:16-17

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”



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Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

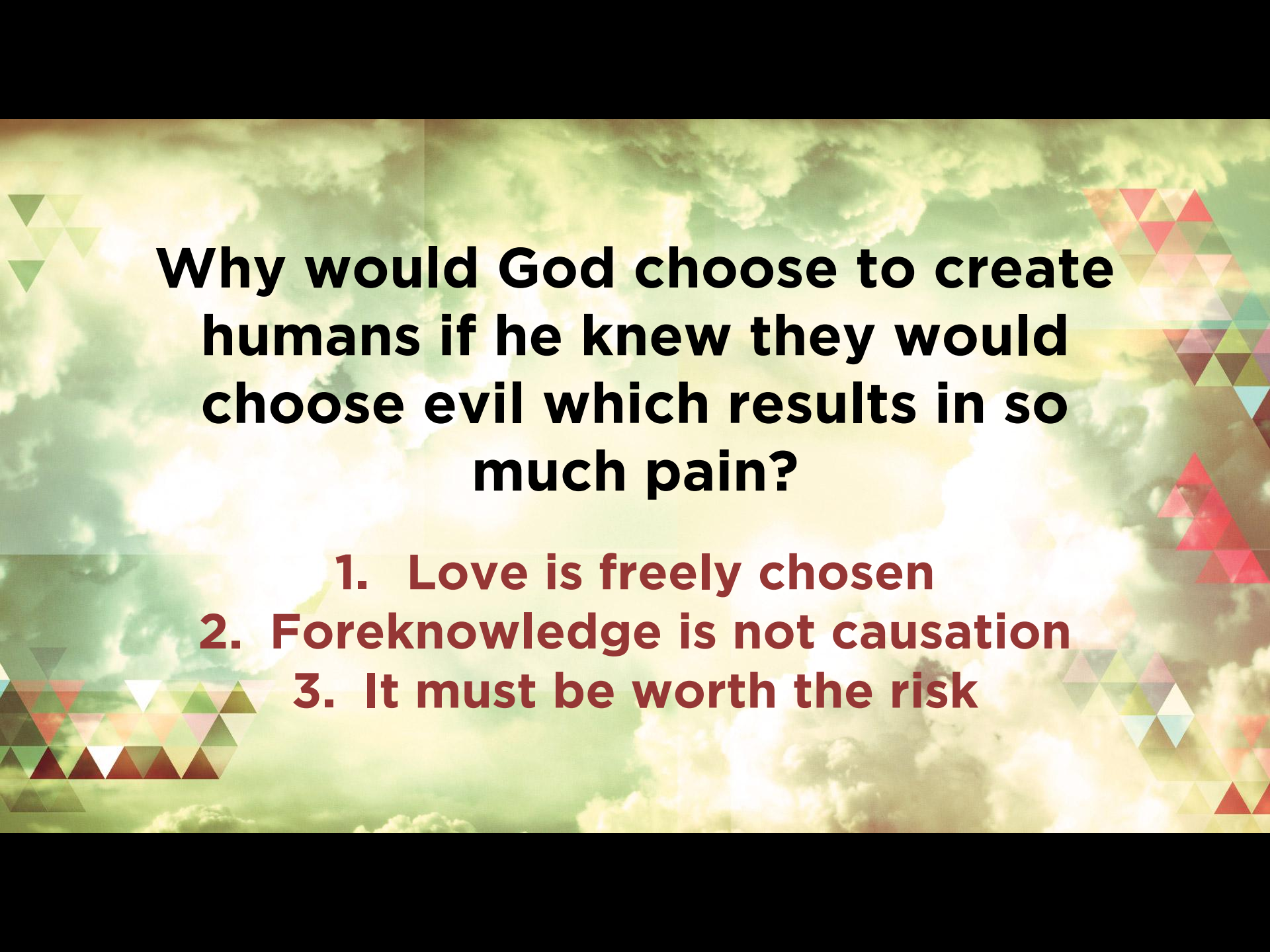
Genesis 3:2-3

And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”



Genesis 3:4-5

But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”



Why would God choose to create humans if he knew they would choose evil which results in so much pain?

- 1. Love is freely chosen**
- 2. Foreknowledge is not causation**
- 3. It must be worth the risk**



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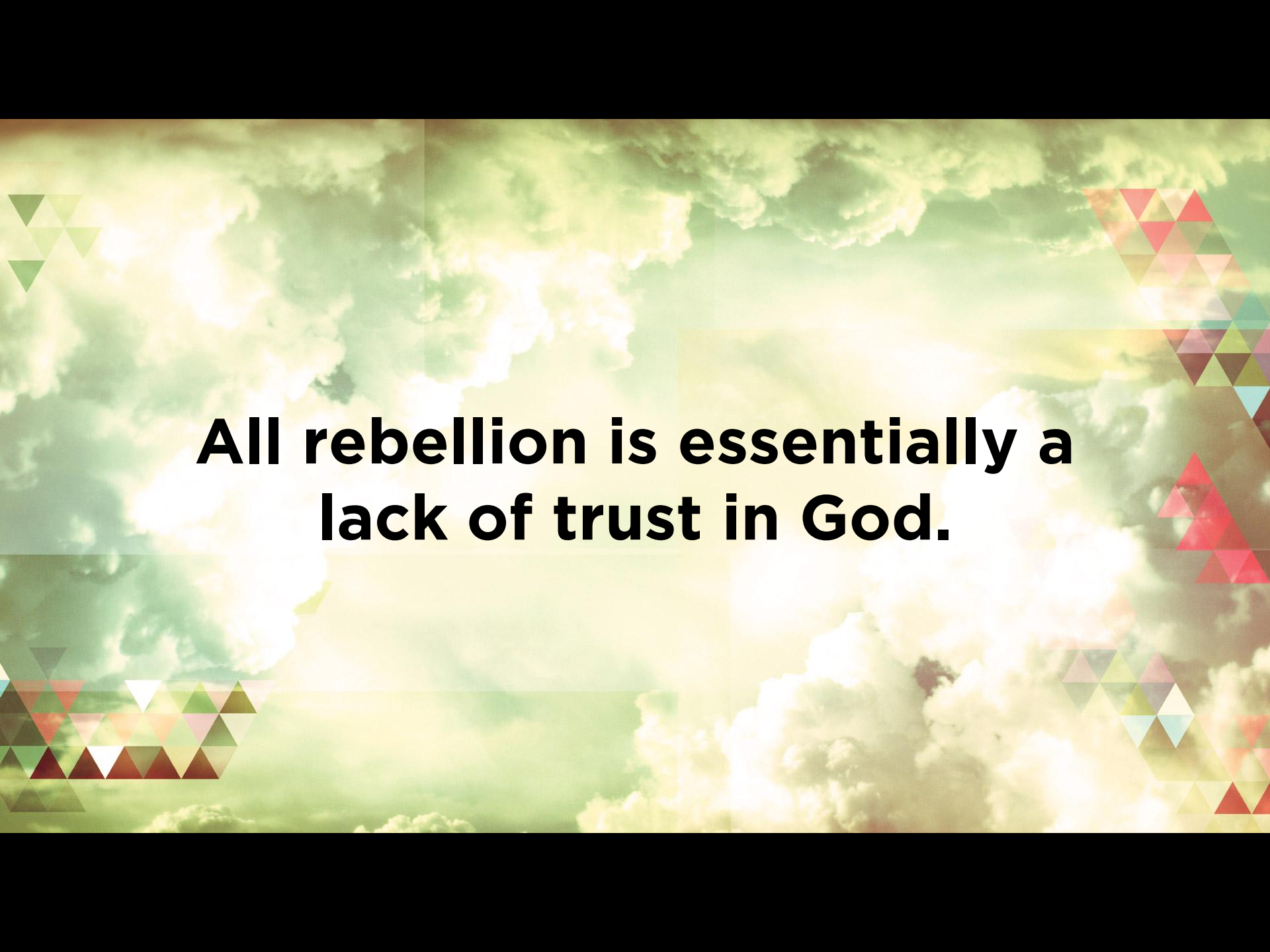
Genesis 3:6

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.



Genesis 3:7

**Then the eyes of both were opened,
and they knew that they were naked.
And they sewed fig leaves together and
made themselves loincloths.**



**All rebellion is essentially a
lack of trust in God.**



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Some responses to our mistakes that will not work:

1. Hiding

- a. By ignoring our mistakes**
- b. By rationalizing our mistakes**



Genesis 3:8

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Genesis 3:9-10

But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”

Genesis 3:11-12

**He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”
The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”**




Genesis 3:13

Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”



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**Don't be more afraid of good
than you are of evil!**

**Don't be more afraid of God than
you are of sin!**



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Some responses to our mistakes that will not work:

2. Blaming

- a. By denying our responsibility**
- b. By alienating those who can help us**



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Genesis 3:15

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”



Romans 6:14

For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.



The principle on which everything hinges:

**Sin is not your master. Live under grace.
(Genesis 3:15, Romans 6:14)**



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