



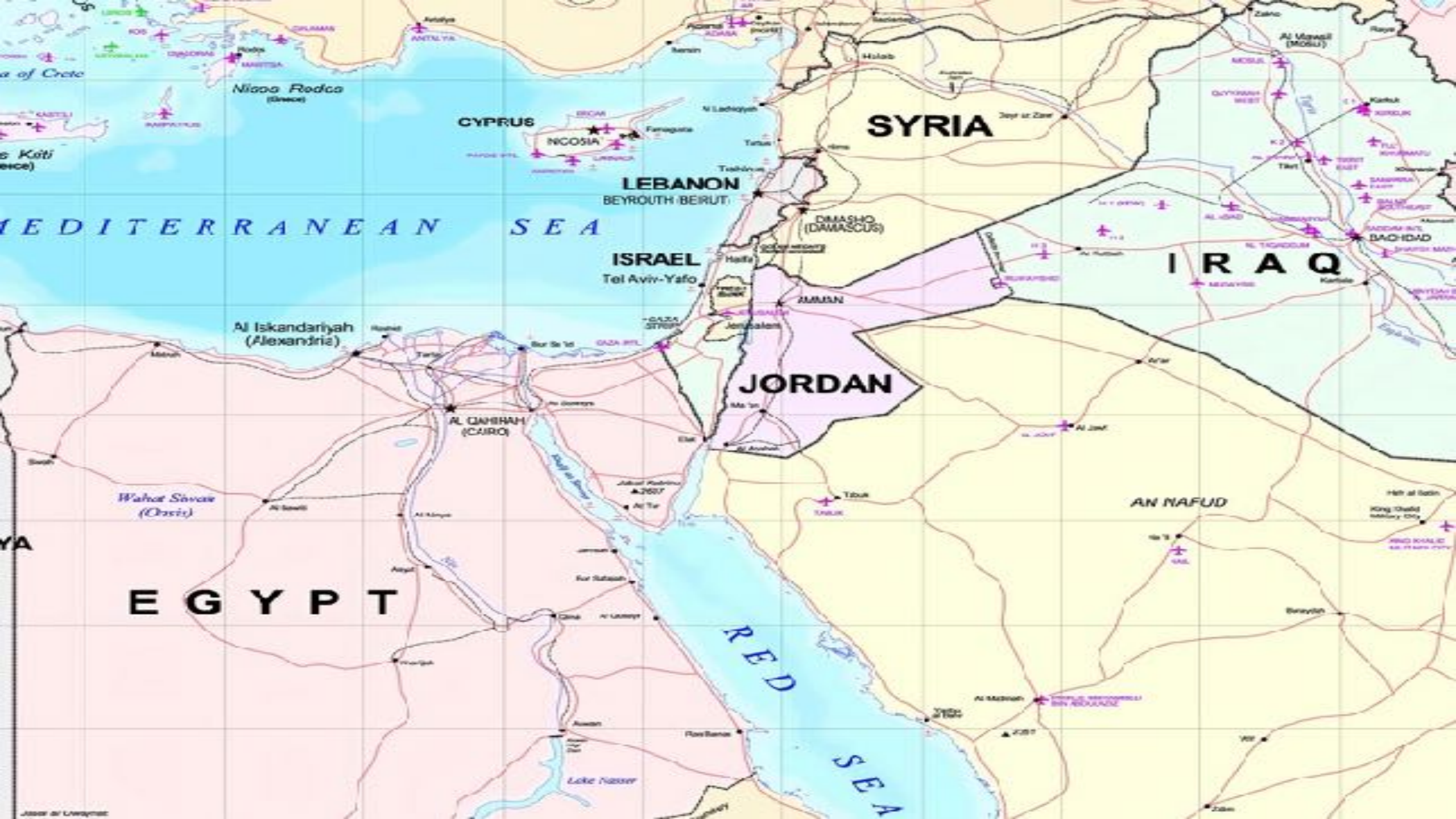
Unity

Ephesians 4:1-6













An Authentic Church

Ephesians 4

1 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, **beg** you to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and **humility**, with **patience**, bearing with one another in love; 3 being eager to keep the **unity** of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is **one** body, and **one** Spirit, even as you also were called in **one** hope of your calling; 5 **one** Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism, 6 **one** God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in us all.

6 **one** God and Father of **all**, who is over **all**, and through **all**, and in us **all**. 7 But to each one of us was the grace given according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

- **Acts** - Expansion of the Church around the world, and the challenges faced. They remained **UNITED**
- **Epistles** - Instructions given to the Church, leadership, discipline, discipleship, public worship, etc.. To remain **UNITED**

Body of Christ, the Flock of God, the Pillar and Ground of Truth, the Bride of Christ, the Household of God, the Temple of the Holy Spirit

- **Revelation** - The church gathered around the throne of God. To get to heaven **UNITED**

The base is John 17



EPCOT

**Experimental Prototype Community Of
Tomorrow**



**Christianity is 3,000 miles wide
and half an inch deep**

Theologian J.I. Packer

John 17

⁶ “I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word.

Speak the Truth



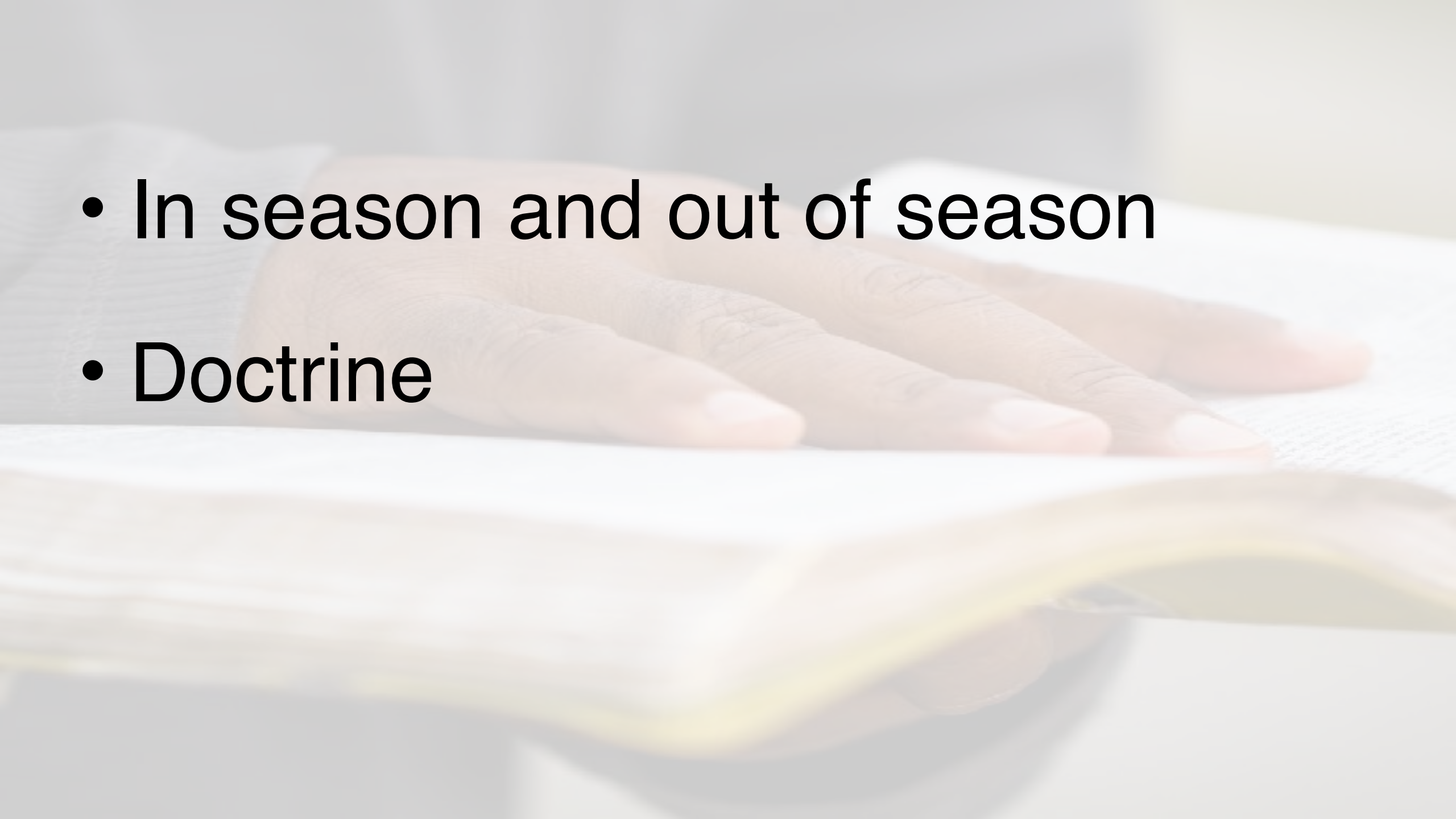
The two greatest days of your life

The day you were born

The day you discover what you were born for

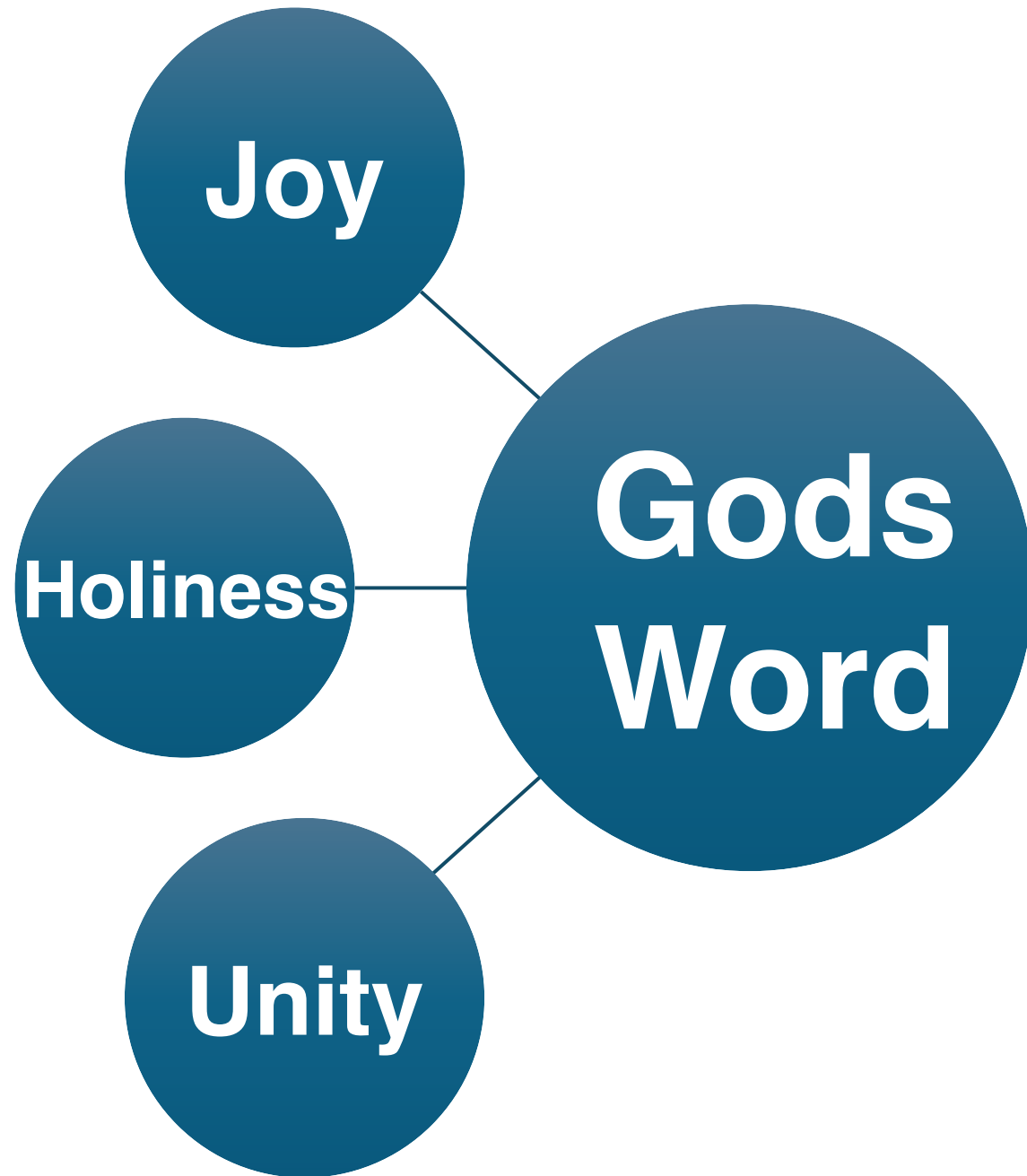
• **Mathew 28 – Acts 2**

⁴² They **devoted** themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

- 
- In season and out of season
 - Doctrine



How?



Psalm 119

1 Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. 2 Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart—

9 How can a young person stay on the path of purity?
By living according to your word.

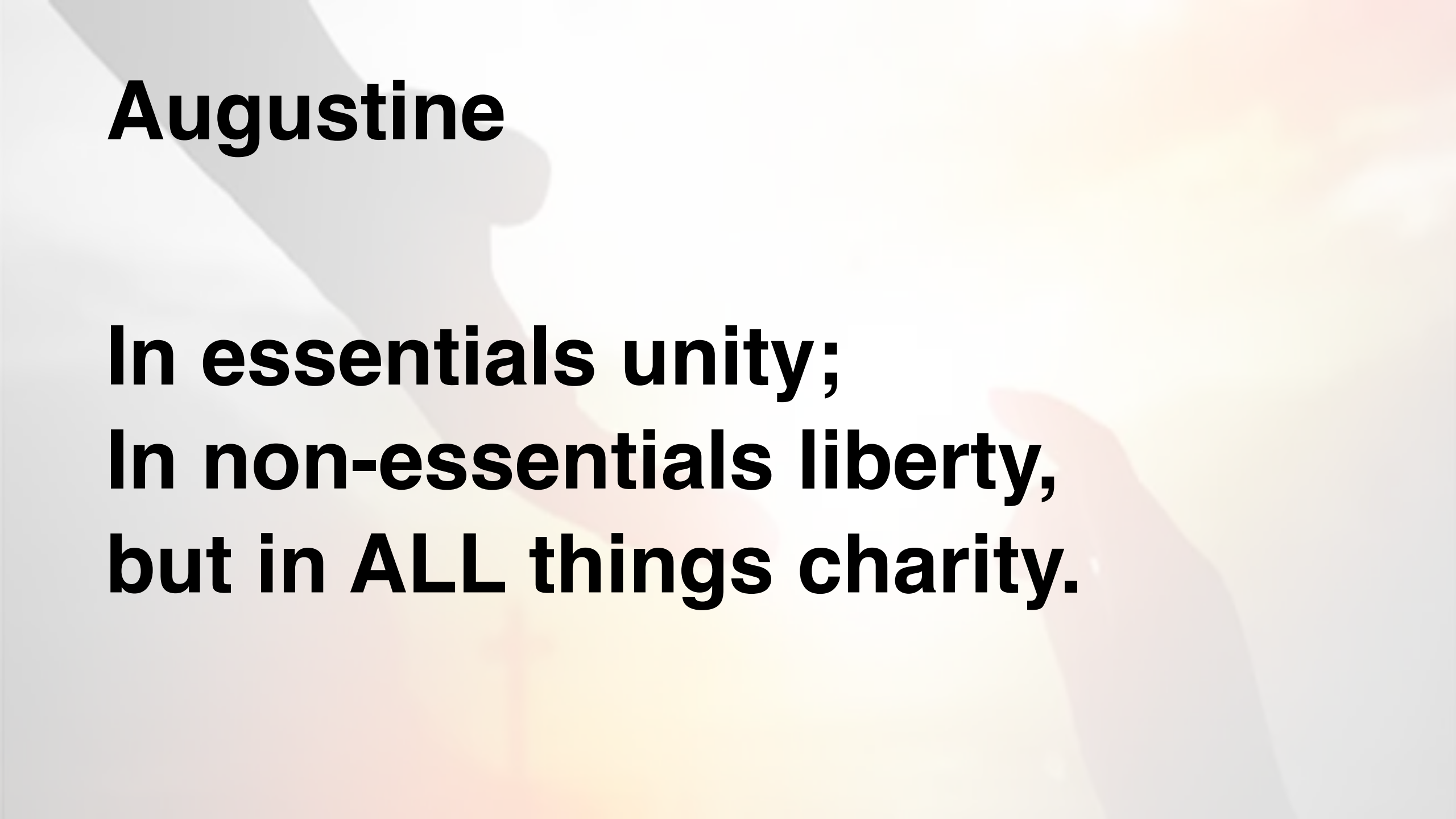
15 I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.
16 I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

Unity

- **Unity is not unanimity, not uniformity**
- **Argument among the apostles as to who would be the greatest in the kingdom**
- **Two of the apostles were asking Jesus to sit in the kingdom, one on the right hand, one on the left hand**
- **Peter and Paul argued about the law in relationship to the Galatian Christians**
- **The Jerusalem council in acts 15 had had a quarrel, as to the requirements of salvation**

Unity based on truth

⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, **so that they may be one as we are one.**

The background of the slide features a soft-focus image of several hands of different skin tones (light, medium, and dark) reaching out and holding each other in a supportive grip. The lighting is warm and gentle, creating a sense of unity and care.

Augustine

**In essentials unity;
In non-essentials liberty,
but in ALL things charity.**

Paul Billheimer wrote

“ The continuous and widespread fragmentation of the Church has been the scandal of the ages. It has been Satan's master strategy.

The sin of disunity probably has caused more souls to be lost than all other sins combined. ”

The Word of God

Am I still learning to respond to God's word?

Am I still being shaped to produce

Joy,

Holiness,

Unity?

Am I allowing Gods word to give me **purpose**?

The 6 C's Test

Criticism

Complaining

Comparing

Comprehension

Compatibility

Continuity



An Authentic Church



Know

Grow

Go