

# “A Love That Proclaims Christ”

- ▶ Allowing the Holy Spirit to Speak Through Us

# The Simmons Family



# The Shema Prayer



Book of Acts  
“A Love That  
Perseveres”  
May 31



Book of Acts  
“A Love That  
Listens”  
May 24



**Diversity:** Being invited to the party.

**Inclusion:** Being asked to dance.

**Equity:** Being on the party planning committee.

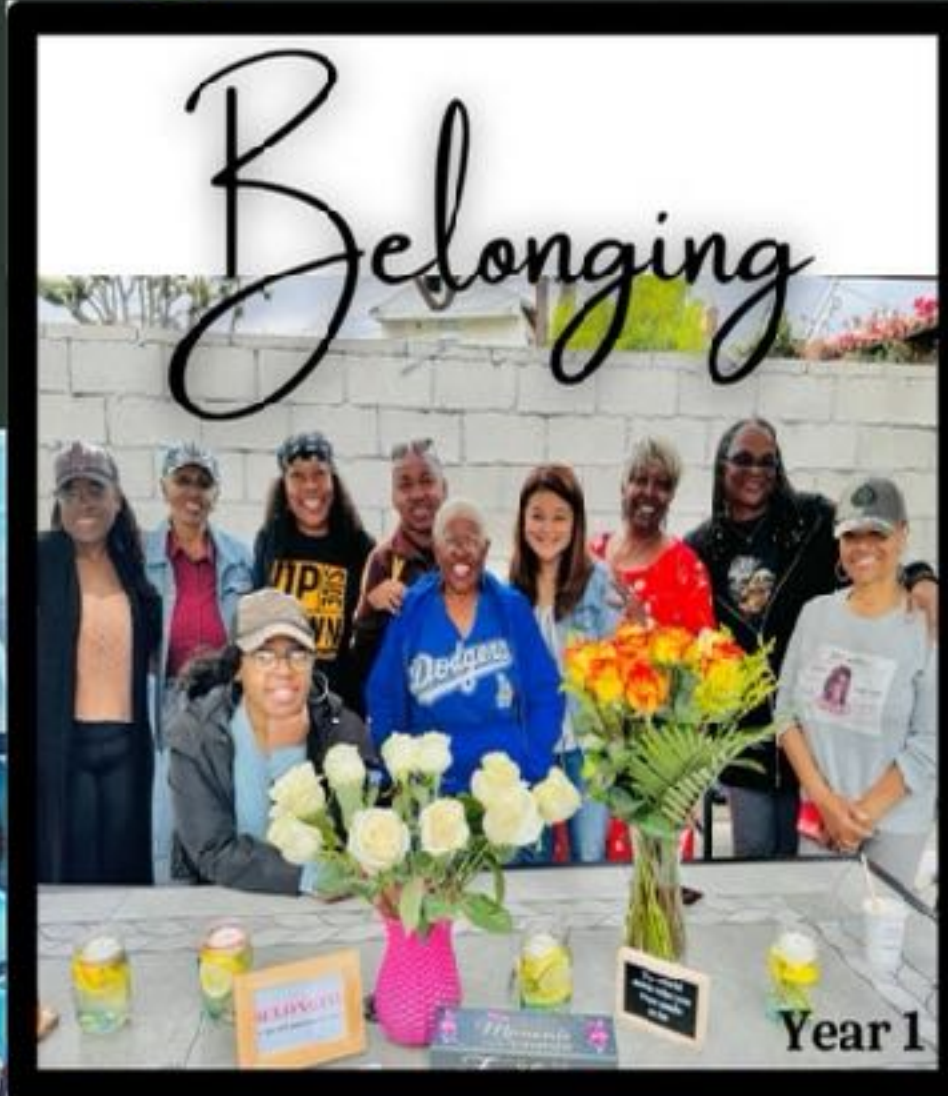
**Belonging:** Being able to dance like nobody is watching (or being able to choose the music).



Verna Myers



# Belonging is God's Desire for All



Book of Acts  
“A Love That  
Sends &  
Sacrifices”  
May 17



Paul in  
Thessalonica  
ACTS 17:1-3



Acts 17:1-3

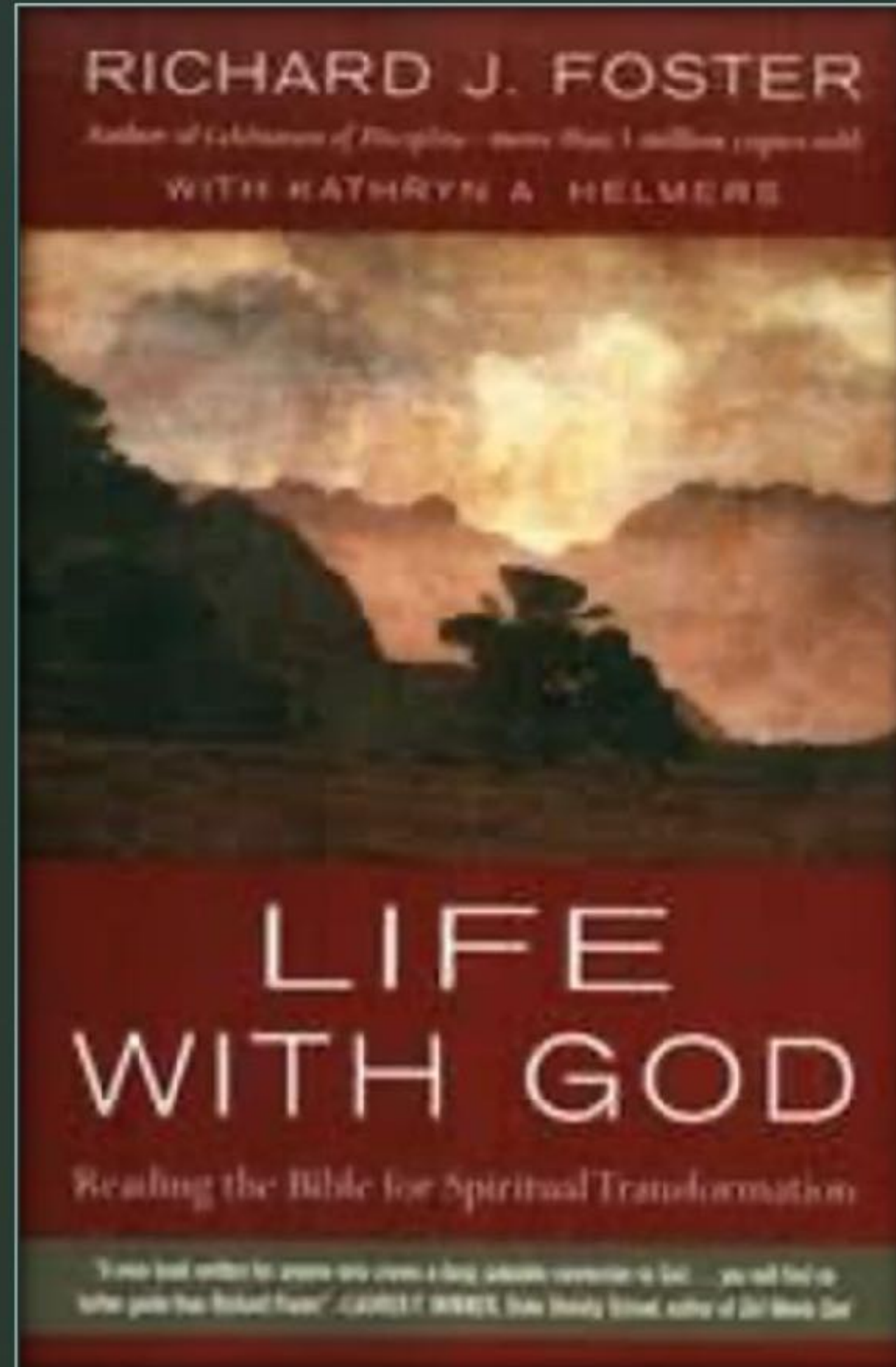
## Paul was Persistent and Bold

- “When they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. As his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. ‘This Jesus I am **proclaiming** to you is the Christ,’ he said.”

## A Question to Consider

- Why was Paul so bold and persistent in proclaiming Christ to others?

**Life With God**  
by Richard J.  
Foster



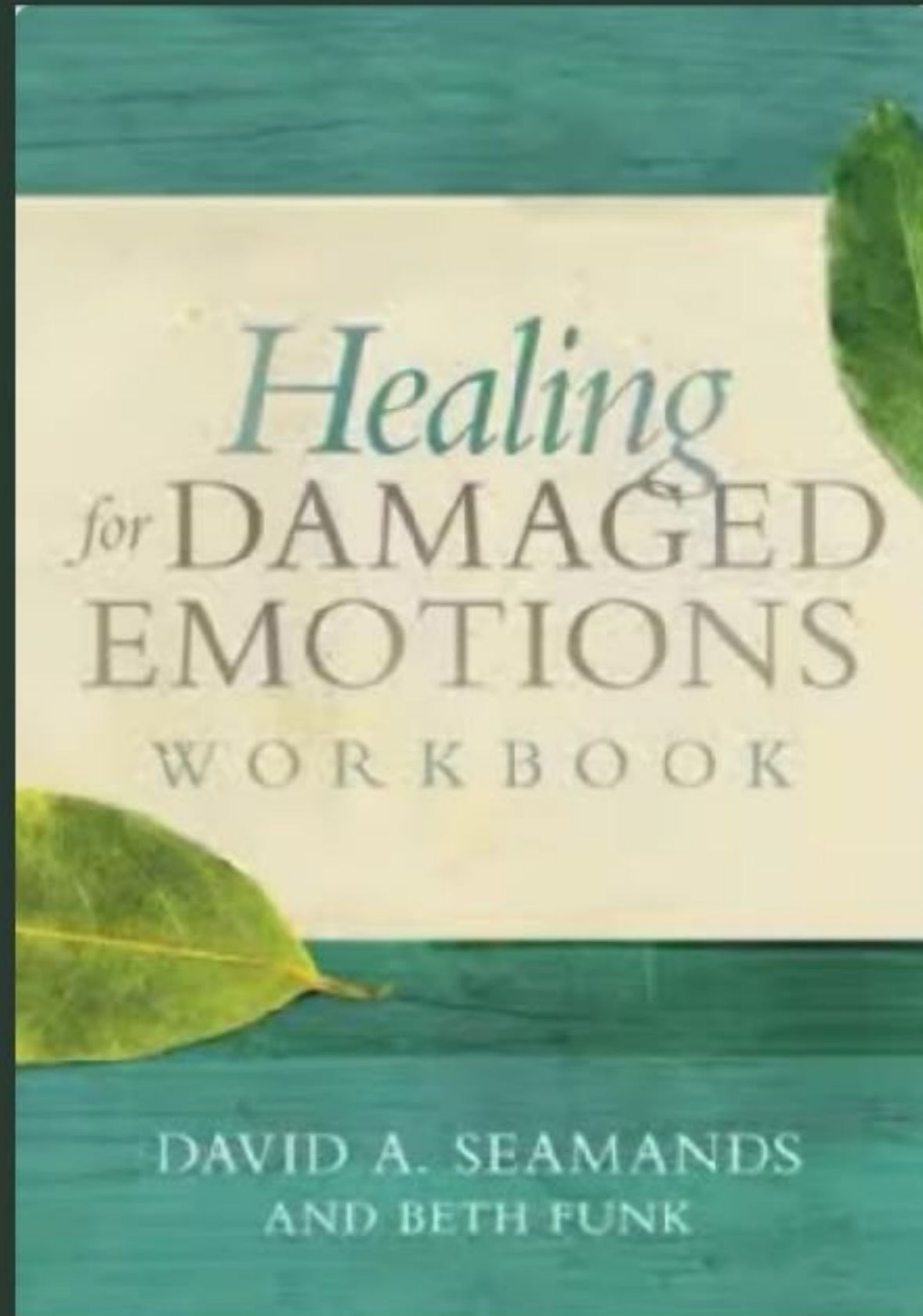
Quote from **Life With God** by Richard J. Foster

- “Now, the Spiritual Disciplines in and of themselves have **no merit** whatsoever. They possess no righteousness, contain no rectitude. Their purpose – their only purpose – **is to place us before God**. After that they have come to the end of their tether. But it is enough. Then the **grace of God** steps in and takes this simple offering of ourselves and creates out of it the kind of person who embodies the **goodness of God**; indeed, a person who can come to the place of truly loving even enemies.” (p. 17)

## How Do We Have A Love That Proclaims?

- #1 Our Reconciliation Leads Us To Proclaim Christ
- #2 Our Testimony Leads Us To Proclaim Christ

Healing for Damaged Emotions by  
David A. Seamands



# The Unmerciful Servant

- “The servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.” **Matthew 18:26-27**
- **Makrothumason** = a special kind of mercy. An extension of time/delay.

# The Unmerciful Servant



## Questions to Ponder

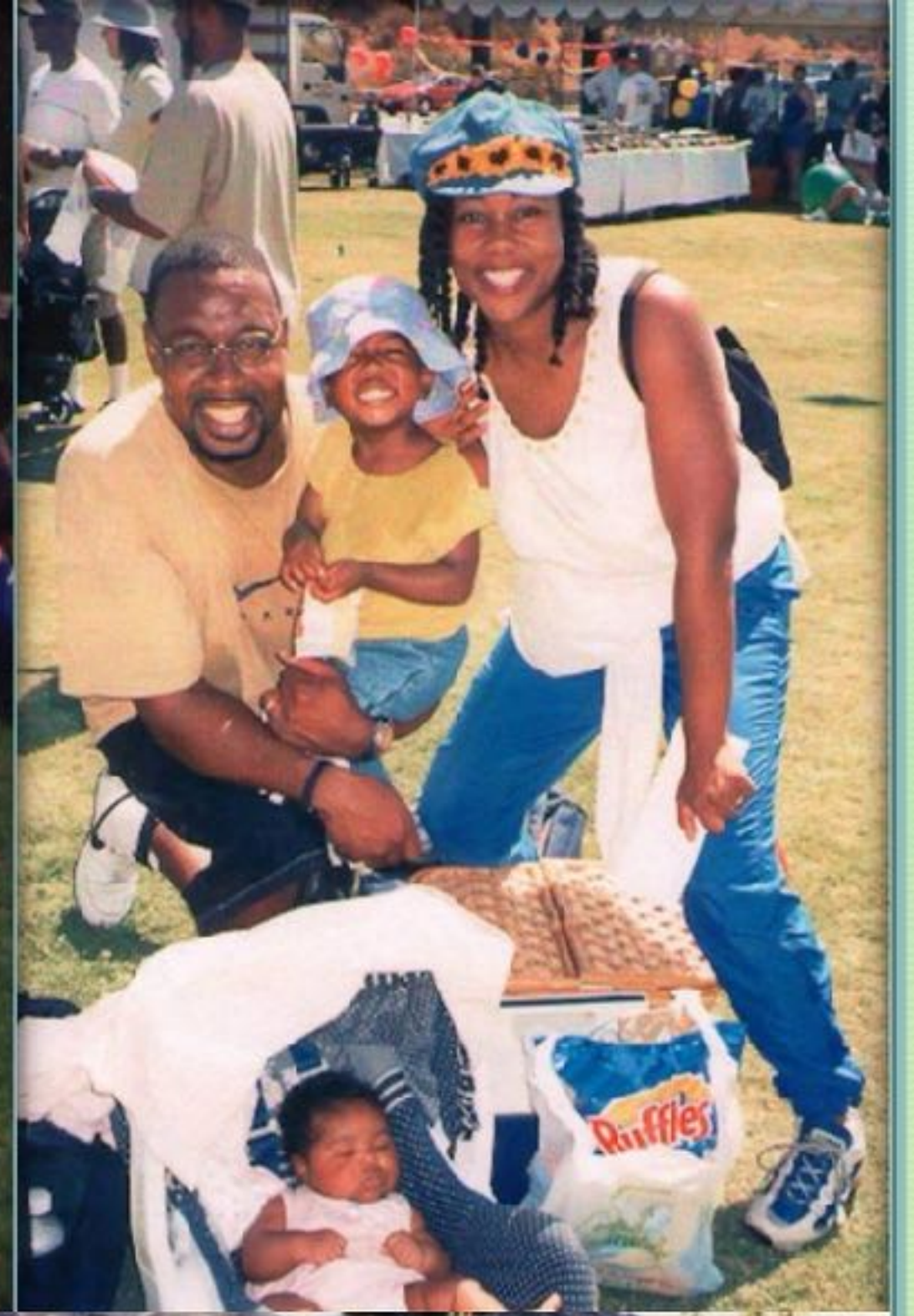
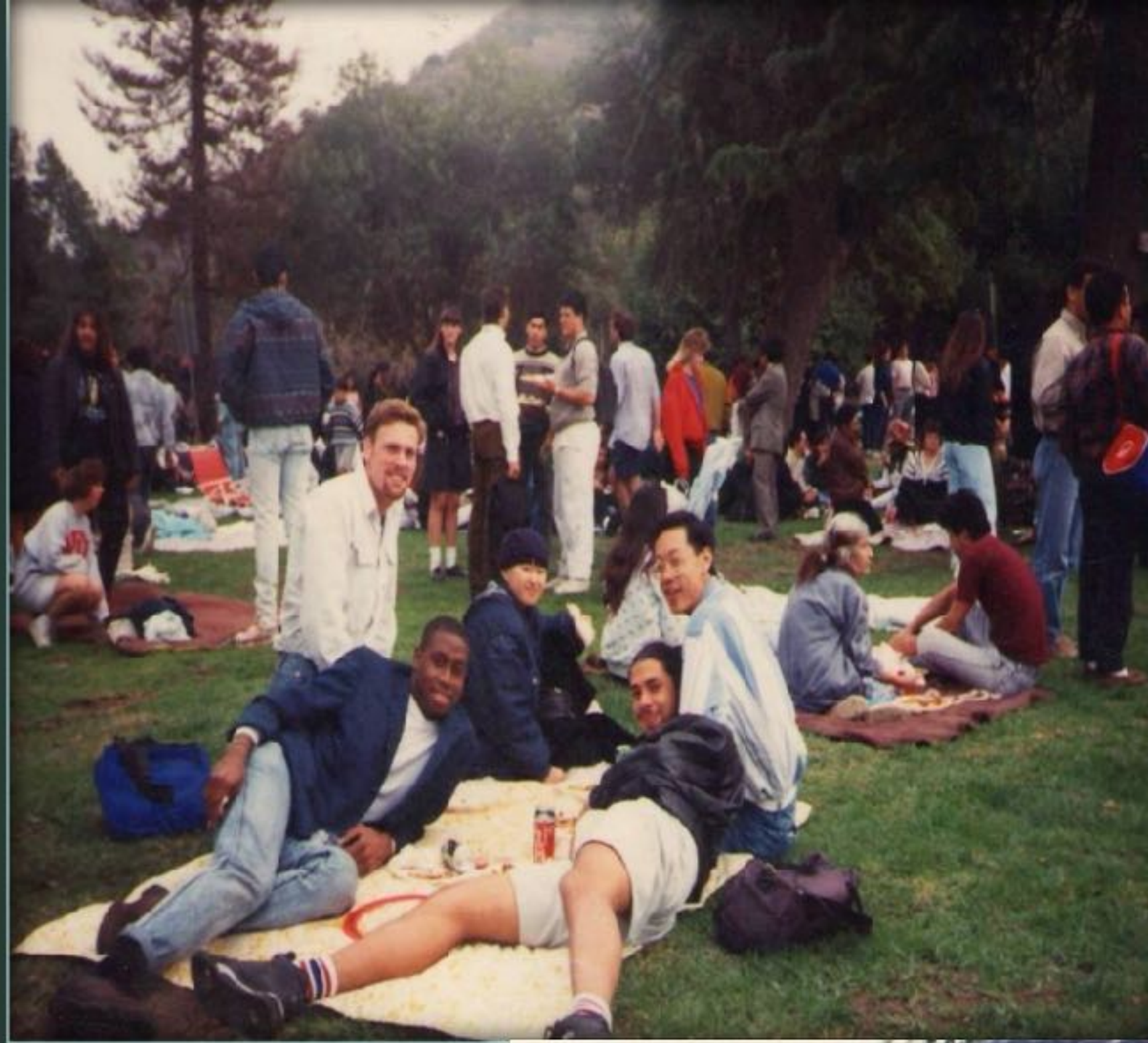
- How willing are we to do the work of **reconciliation**?
- Do we realize that our debt to God has **completely** been forgiven?
- Are we “saving” our **16 cents/ day** to pay off the 10 million?
- Do we have **unresolved conflict** with anyone?
- If so, **when** are we going to reconcile?
- **We need reconciliation to have A love That Proclaims**

# Ted Talk: The Happiness Advantage

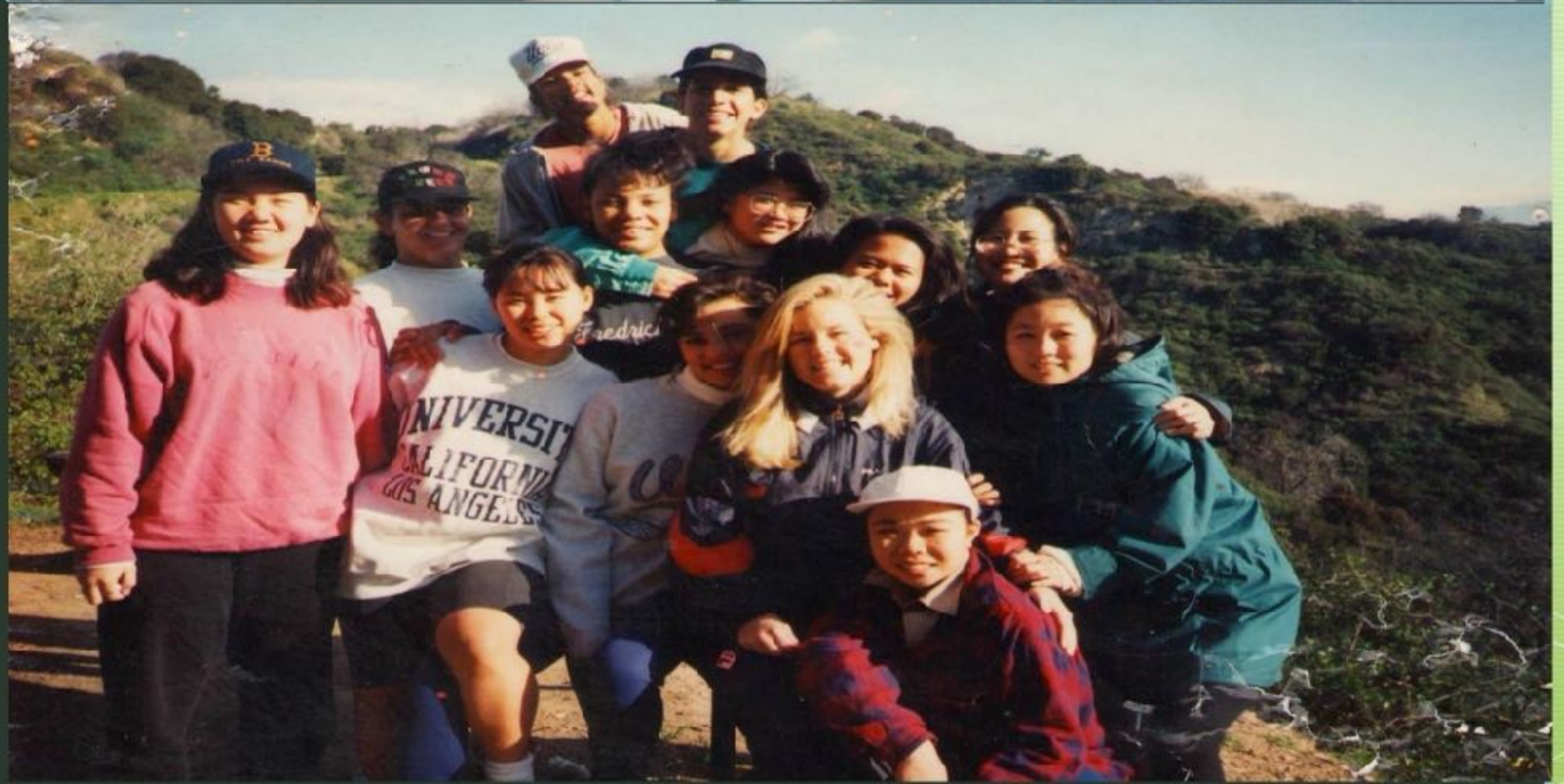
Shawn Achor



# The UCLA Campus Ministry



# The UCLA Campus Ministry



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The UCLA  
Campus  
Ministry



## Acts 9:3-6

- As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” “Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked. “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.” he replied. “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”

# Paul Was Blinded by the Light



## A Question to Consider

- Which is easier... to humble yourself before God or to be humbled by Him?

## Acts 17:4-5

- “Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and not a few prominent women. But the Jews were **jealous**; so they rounded up some **bad characters** from the marketplace, formed **a mob** and started **a riot** in the city.”

“Whether they listen or fail to listen.”  
Ezekiel 3:7-9,11



## Paul Proclaimed Christ Daily

Acts 17:10-11

- “As soon as it was night, the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. **On arriving there**, they went to the Jewish synagogue. Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.”

## Paul Proclaimed Christ Daily Acts 17:16-17

- “While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So, he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.”

## Paul Proclaimed Christ Daily

Acts 17:19-20

- “Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, ‘May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? **You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears**, and we want to know what they mean.’”

## Paul Proclaimed Christ Daily

Acts 17:22-23

- “Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: ‘Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: **TO AN UNKNOWN GOD**. Now what you worship as something unknown, **I am going to proclaim to you.**’”

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