

# THE IRREPRESSIBLE GOSPEL



**The Trip  
That Changed  
the World**





How do I discern the  
will of God in my life?

## Proverbs 16:9 NASB

The mind of man plans his way,  
but the Lord directs his steps.

## Proverbs 16:9 KJV

A man's heart deviseth his way:  
but the Lord directeth his steps.



**Proverbs 16:9 NIV**

**In their hearts humans  
plan their course,  
but the Lord  
establishes their steps.**



## Proverbs 16:9 MSG

We plan the way we want to live,  
but only God makes us  
able to live it.



## Proverbs 16:9 NLT

We can make our plans,  
but the Lord determines our steps.







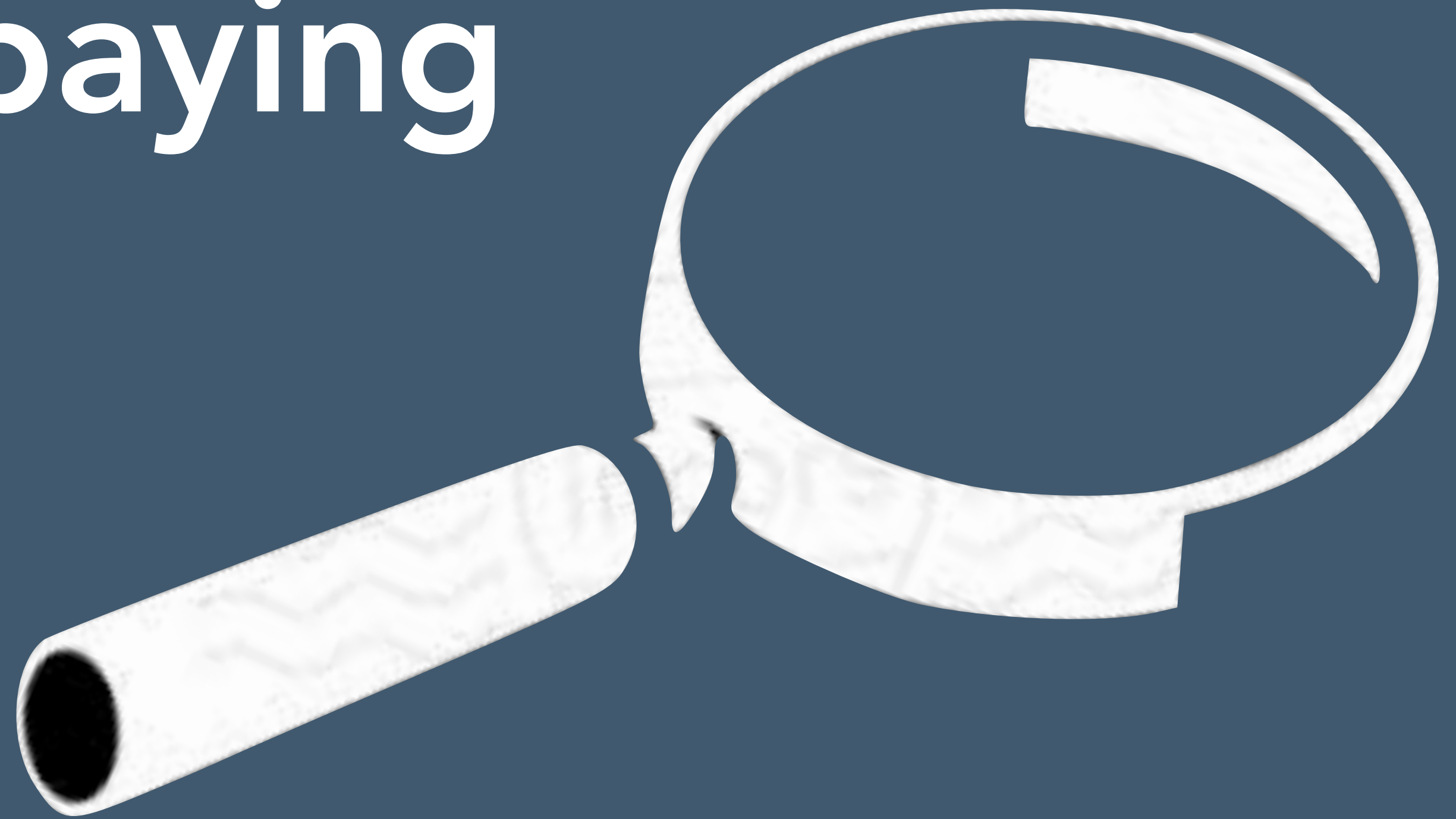
# THE IRREPRESSIBLE GOSPEL

A dramatic landscape photograph showing a winding dirt road through a valley. In the background, a bright sun is rising or setting behind a range of mountains, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the scene with a warm, golden light. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The overall mood is one of hope and journey.

**From “They” to “We”**  
Acts 16:6-10



There are many things you  
can miss in this passage if  
you're not paying  
attention.





## Acts 16:6-10

<sup>6</sup> Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia.

<sup>7</sup> When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. <sup>8</sup> So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas.

## Acts 16:6-10

9 During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.





Black Sea

MACEDONIA

Philippi

Byzantium

BITHYNIA

PONTUS

TURKEY

MYSIA

Troas

PHYRIGIA

GALATIA

CAPPADOCIA

ASIA

Ephesus

Pisidian  
Antioch

Iconium

Derbe

Tarsus

Antioch

Perga

Lystra

CYPRUS

Salamis

Paphos

SYRIA

Damascus

Mediterranean Sea



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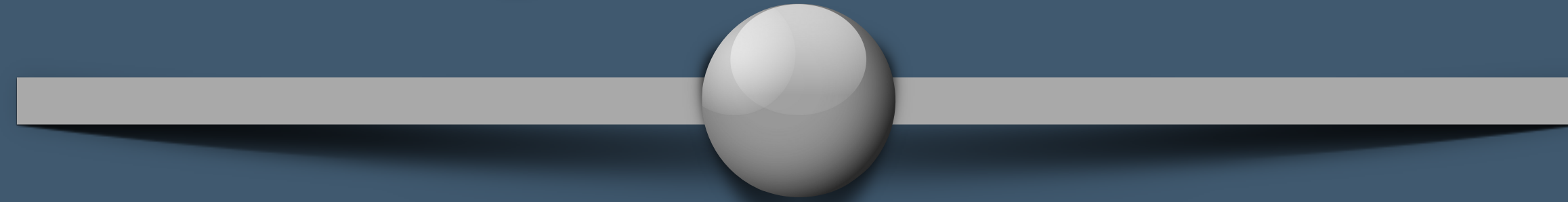
Proverbs 16:9 NLT

We can make our plans,  
but the Lord  
determines our steps.





# Why Troas?



1. God was ready to  
• take the Gospel  
to Europe



Black Sea

MACEDONIA

Philippi

Byzantium

BITHYNIA

PONTUS

TURKEY

EUROPE

ASIA

MYSIA

PHYRIGIA

GALATIA

CAPPADOCIA

ASIA

Pisidian  
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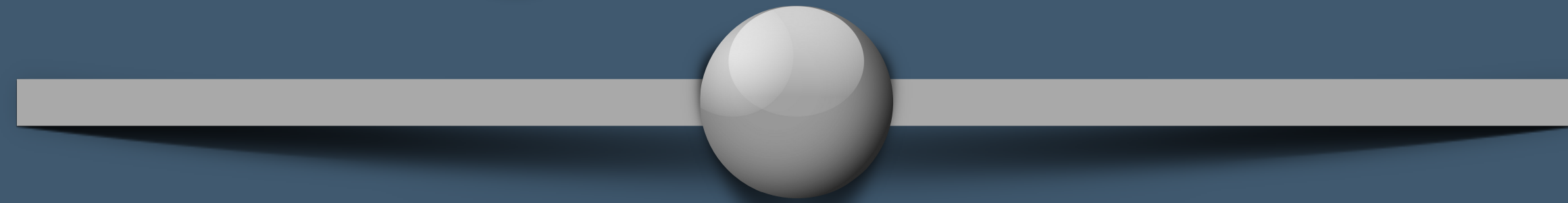
SYRIA

Damascus

Mediterranean Sea



# Why Troas?



2. God wasn't done  
putting together  
the "who"



*"You don't start with 'where,' but with 'who.' You get the right people on the bus, the wrong people off the bus, and the right people in the right seats."*



Jim Collins; Good to Great



Paul



Silas



Timothy





## Acts 16:6-10

9 During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 After Paul had seen the vision, **WE** got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called **US** to preach the gospel to them.



Paul



Silas



Timothy



Dr.  
Luke



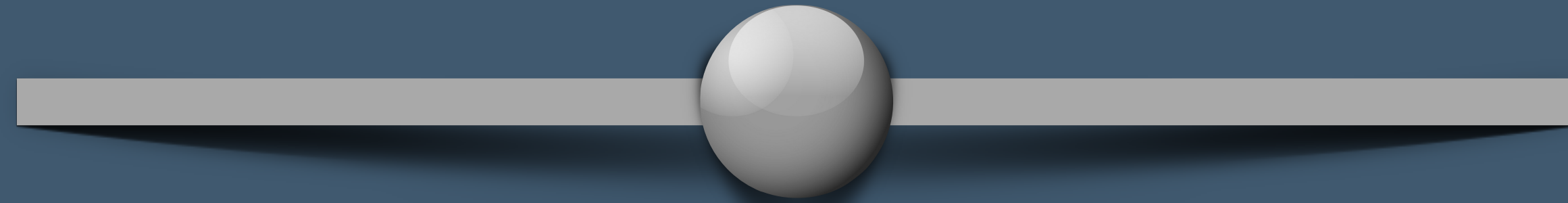




How do I discern the  
will of God in my life?



# 5 Questions to Know if We're Hearing from God:

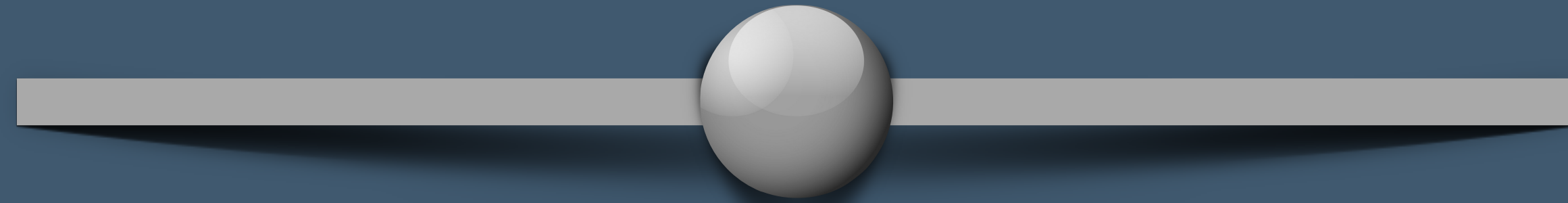


1. Does what I'm hearing  
● line up with Scripture?

God will never speak to us or tell us to do something that's contrary to His Word. But unless we know Scripture, we won't be able to discern whether what we hear is consistent or not with the Word. We know the will of God when we read and pray the Word of God.



# 5 Questions to Know if We're Hearing from God:

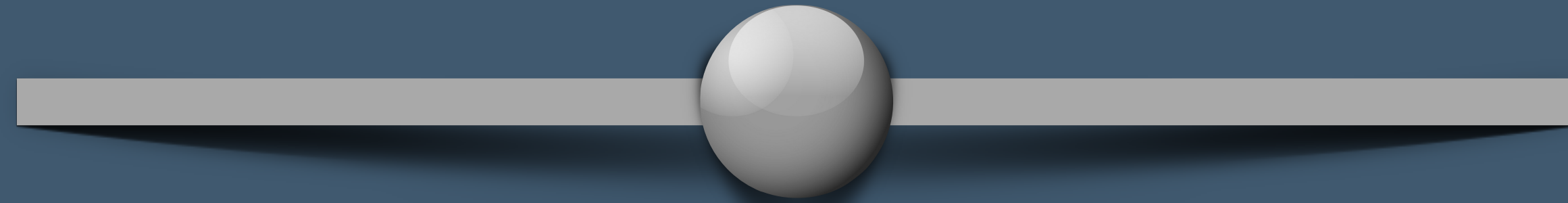


**2.** Is what I'm hearing  
consistent with God's  
character??

God's Word also provides rich information regarding His character. Just as God always speaks in accordance with His Word, He speaks in accordance with His character. God will not say anything inconsistent with who He is. The longer we know Him and the more we experience Him personally, the more we learn about His character.



# 5 Questions to Know if We're Hearing from God:

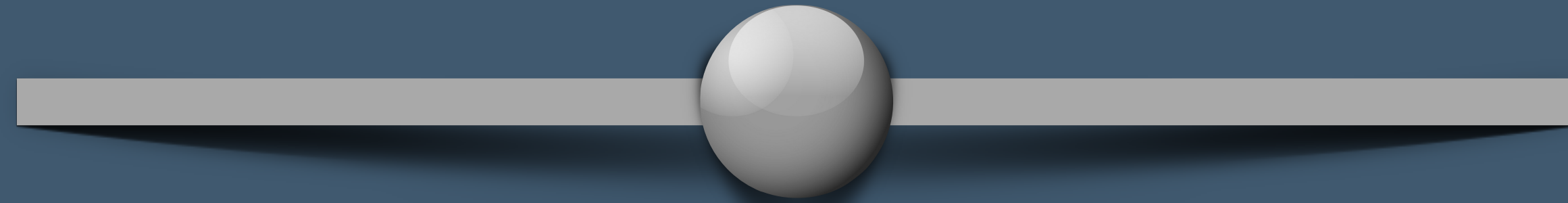


**3.** Is what I'm hearing confirmed  
through messages at church  
or in my quiet times?

When God speaks to me about a particular issue, I cannot escape it. Around every corner there's a sermon or Bible study lesson or speaker's topic or conversation with a friend that's consistent with what I've been hearing from God in my time alone with Him. When we invest in spending time alone with God, He will speak to us. Listen for His voice, and then look for the message to be confirmed.



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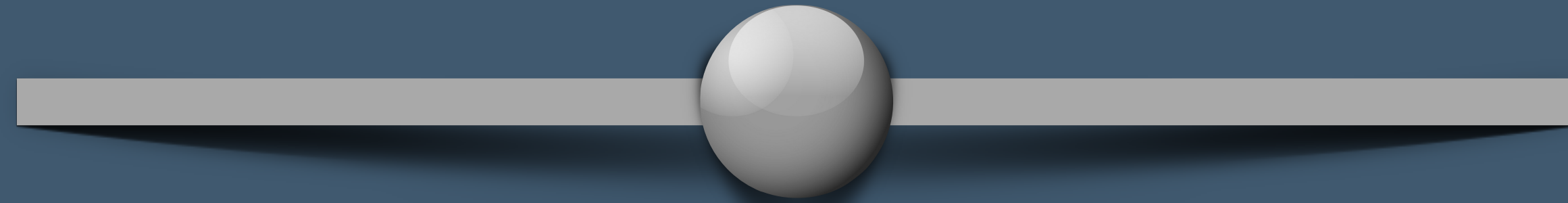
**4.** Is what I'm hearing  
beyond me?

Sometimes God calls us to do something big that we can't do in our own strength — either it's beyond our ability or beyond our natural human desire. It's not something we can strategize and manipulate into being in and of ourselves. It can only happen through God's divine intervention.

Don't look at your inabilities and dwell in insecurities. Look at the Almighty God. See this call as your opportunity to watch Him work in you and through you. If you answer "yes" to the question, *'Is this beyond me?'* chances are, God is speaking.



# 5 Questions to Know if We're Hearing from God:



**5.** Is what I'm hearing  
pleasing to God?

It's easy to talk ourselves out of thinking we've heard from God. I think we'll pretty much use any excuse to convince ourselves it's not His voice so we don't need to act. If what you're doing pleases God, then even if what you thought you heard from Him *wasn't* His voice, you still please Him. We should always seek to err on the side of pleasing God.



- 1. Does what I'm hearing line up with Scripture?**
- 2. Is what I'm hearing consistent with God's character??**
- 3. Is what I'm hearing confirmed through messages at church or in my quiet times?**
- 4. Is what I'm hearing beyond me?**
- 5. Is what I'm hearing pleasing to God?**

**Jeremiah 29:13**

**"You will seek me and  
find me when you seek  
me with all your heart."**



# *Communion*

Remembering His sacrifice.





