

# NO MATTER WHAT

A Study in Philippians.  
A Challenge in Joy.





# A Challenge in Joy.

I think we would all agree that finding joy is a real challenge!  
It doesn't come easily.

# Philippians 1:3-6

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Paul's joy is rooted in the  
Philippians commitment to  
the Gospel.



# **NO MATTER WHAT:**

**It's All About  
The Gospel**

Philippians 1:12-30





## **Philippians 1:12**

Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the Gospel.

## **Philippians 1:14**

And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the Gospel without fear.



## **Philippians 1:15-16**

It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the Gospel.

## **Philippians 1:27**

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ.



## Philippians 1:27

Whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the Gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you.



The Gospel is good news.  
It's the Word of God.  
It's Truth. A right understanding.  
It's a message that we hear and believe.

Who is God?

Who am I?

Who is Jesus?

How must I respond?



The Gospel is good news.  
It's the Word of God.  
It's Truth. A right understanding.  
It's a message that we hear and believe.

But the Gospel more than this.  
It's more than a message or a belief.



The Gospel is more than knowing  
about God...

It's a relationship.

It's knowing God personally.



The background is a dark, moody scene. On the right side, several bright, ethereal light rays or beams of light descend from the top, creating a sense of divine illumination. In the lower foreground, there are long, dark, rectangular shadows cast across a dark surface, possibly a floor or a wall, adding depth and texture to the composition. The overall tone is contemplative and spiritual.

The Gospel is an intimate  
relationship with God.



The background of the image is a dark navy blue, filled with a dense, overlapping pattern of stylized, elongated leaf shapes. These leaves are rendered in two shades: a medium grey and a vibrant cyan. The leaves are oriented in various directions, creating a sense of movement and depth. The central text is positioned within a clear, dark space created by the arrangement of the leaves.

# The CHOSEN



**Jairus:**

**“I have heard, and I have read accounts  
from someone I trust.”**





**Jairus:**

**"I have heard, and I have read accounts from someone I trust."**

**Jesus:**

**"You never met me, yet you have this much faith—that I can heal your daughter."**



**Jesus:**

**"You never met me, yet you have this much faith—that I can heal your daughter."**



**Jairus:**

**"I know you."**



The Gospel is a Truth...a Message.

The Gospel is a belief...a faith.

The Gospel is a relationship...a knowing.

The Gospel is a witness...a testimony.



The Gospel is a witness...a testimony.

Philippians 1:27

“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ.”

What does this look like?



# What does this look like?

“Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the Gospel.”



What does this look like?

Unity.

Standing firm in one Spirit—  
striving together as one.



# **NO MATTER WHAT:**

**The Mind of  
Christ**

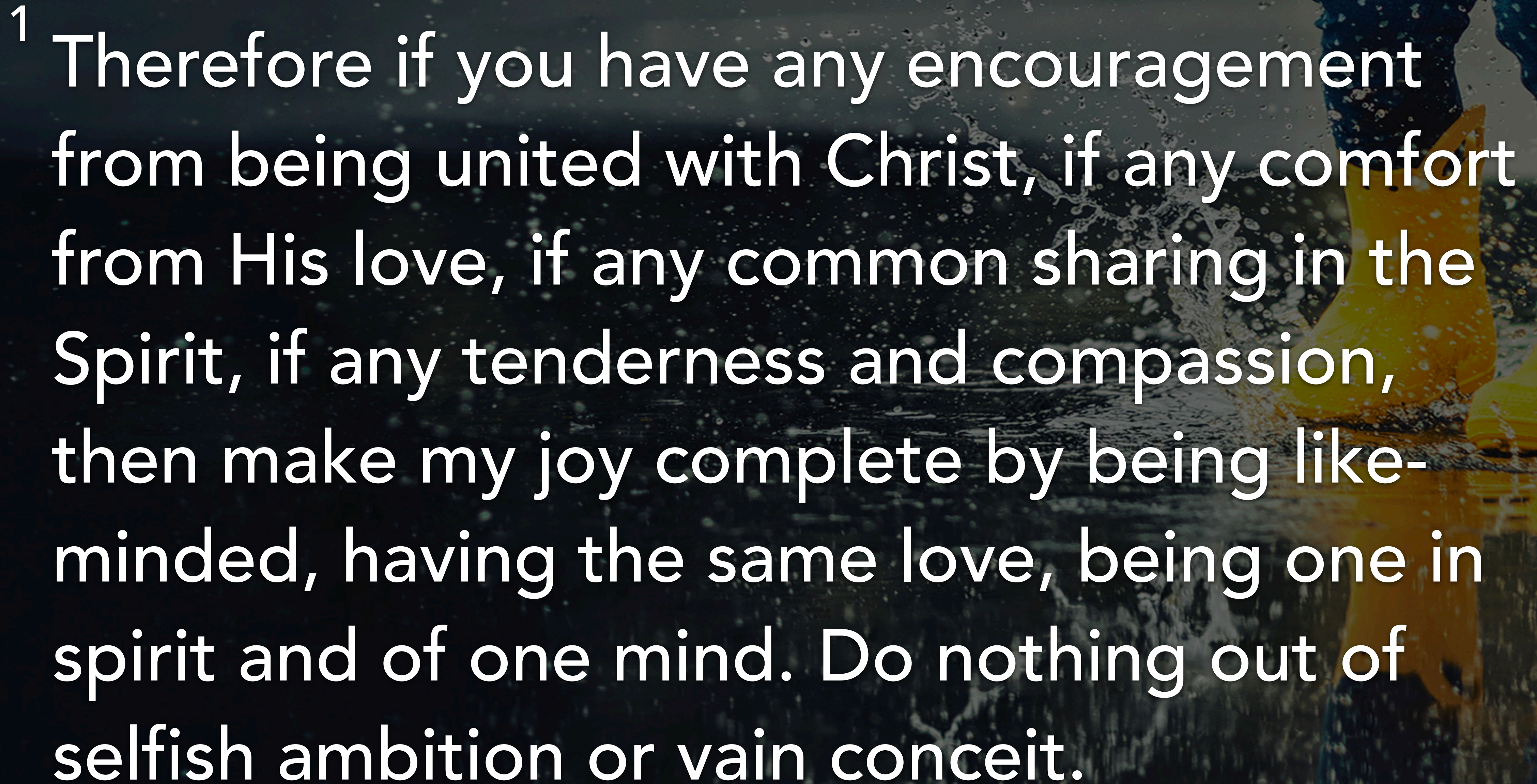
Philippians 2:1-11





## Philippians 2:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit.

A person wearing blue jeans and yellow rubber boots is walking through water, creating splashes. The background is dark and moody, with the water reflecting light. The person's legs and boots are visible on the right side of the frame.



## Philippians 2:1-11

<sup>3</sup> Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus; Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage;



## Philippians 2:1-11

7

...rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name—



## Philippians 2:1-11

<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



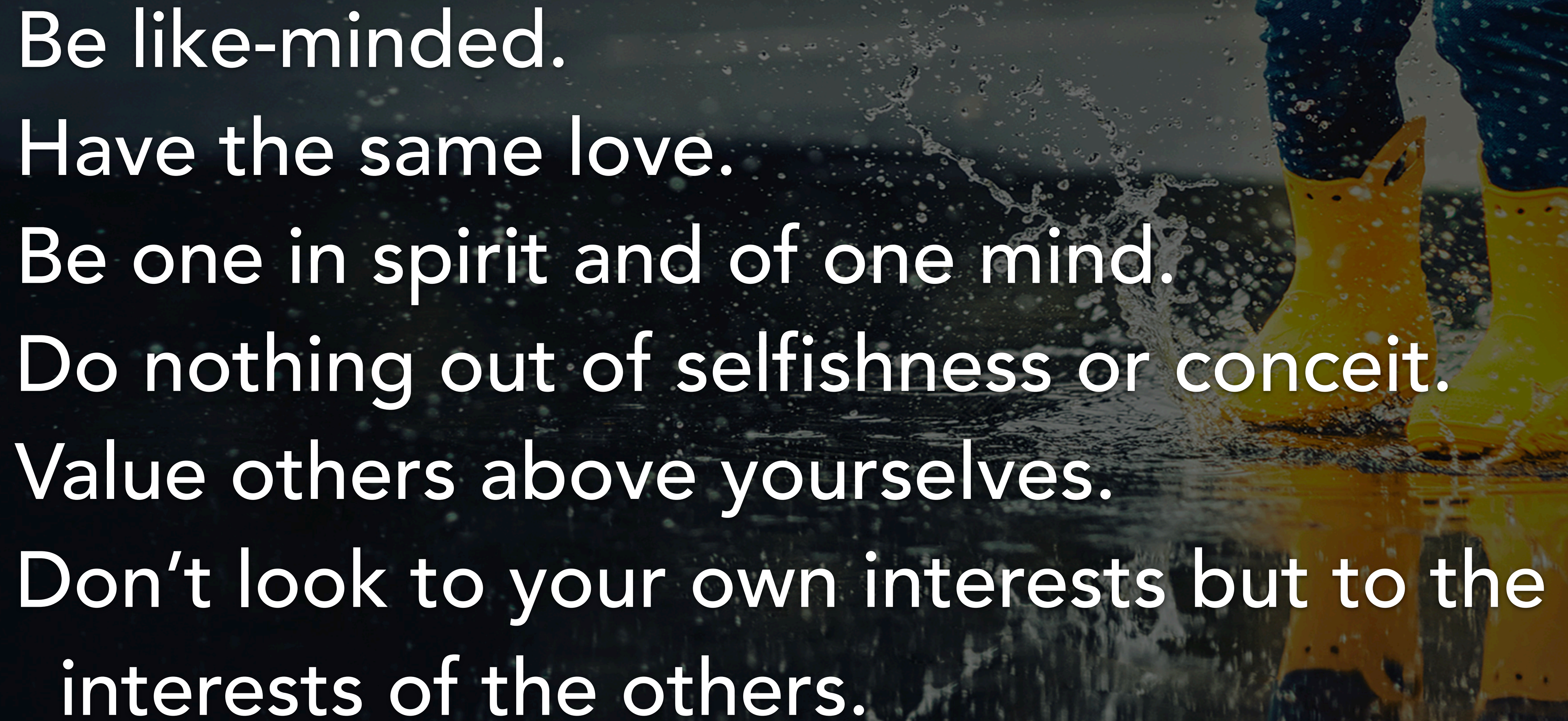




This passage points us to  
who Jesus is.

Paul wrote it to tell us  
how to live.



A person wearing blue polka-dot pants and yellow rain boots is stepping in a puddle, creating a splash. The background is dark and rainy.

Be like-minded.  
Have the same love.  
Be one in spirit and of one mind.  
Do nothing out of selfishness or conceit.  
Value others above yourselves.  
Don't look to your own interests but to the  
interests of the others.



A person wearing blue polka-dot pants and yellow rubber boots is stepping into a puddle, creating a large splash of water. The scene is captured in a dark, moody setting, possibly at night or in low light. The water is splashing upwards and outwards, creating a dynamic and energetic visual. The yellow boots are the most prominent feature, contrasting sharply with the dark background and the blue pants.

How is this even possible?



A person wearing blue jeans and yellow rain boots is stepping in water, creating a splash. The background is dark and rainy.

Have you gotten anything at all out of  
following Christ?

Has Christ's love made any difference  
in your life?

Does being in a community of the Spirit  
mean anything to you?

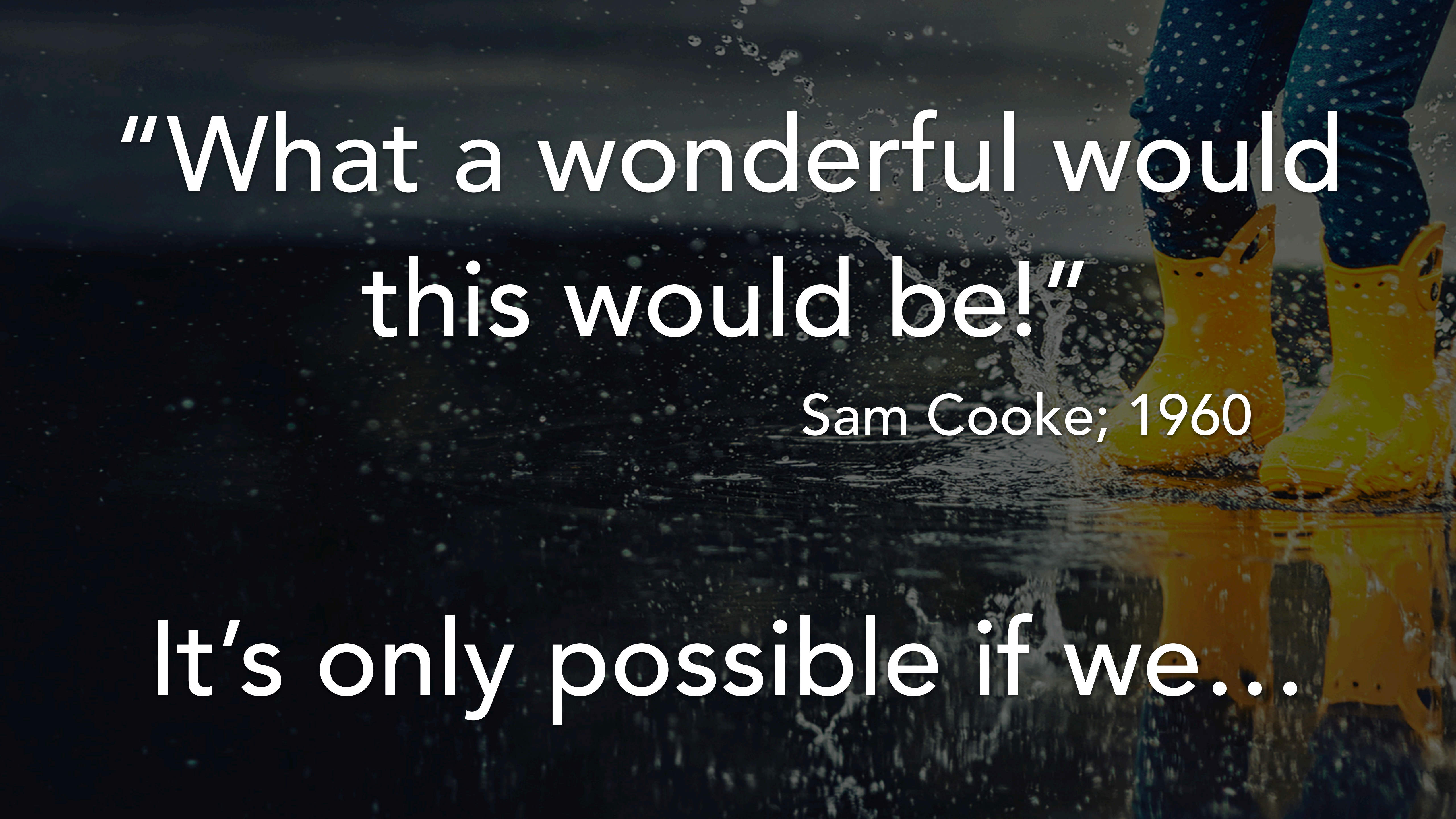
Do you have a heart—do you even care?



## Philippians 2:2-4MSG

“Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don’t push your way to the front; don’t sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don’t be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.”



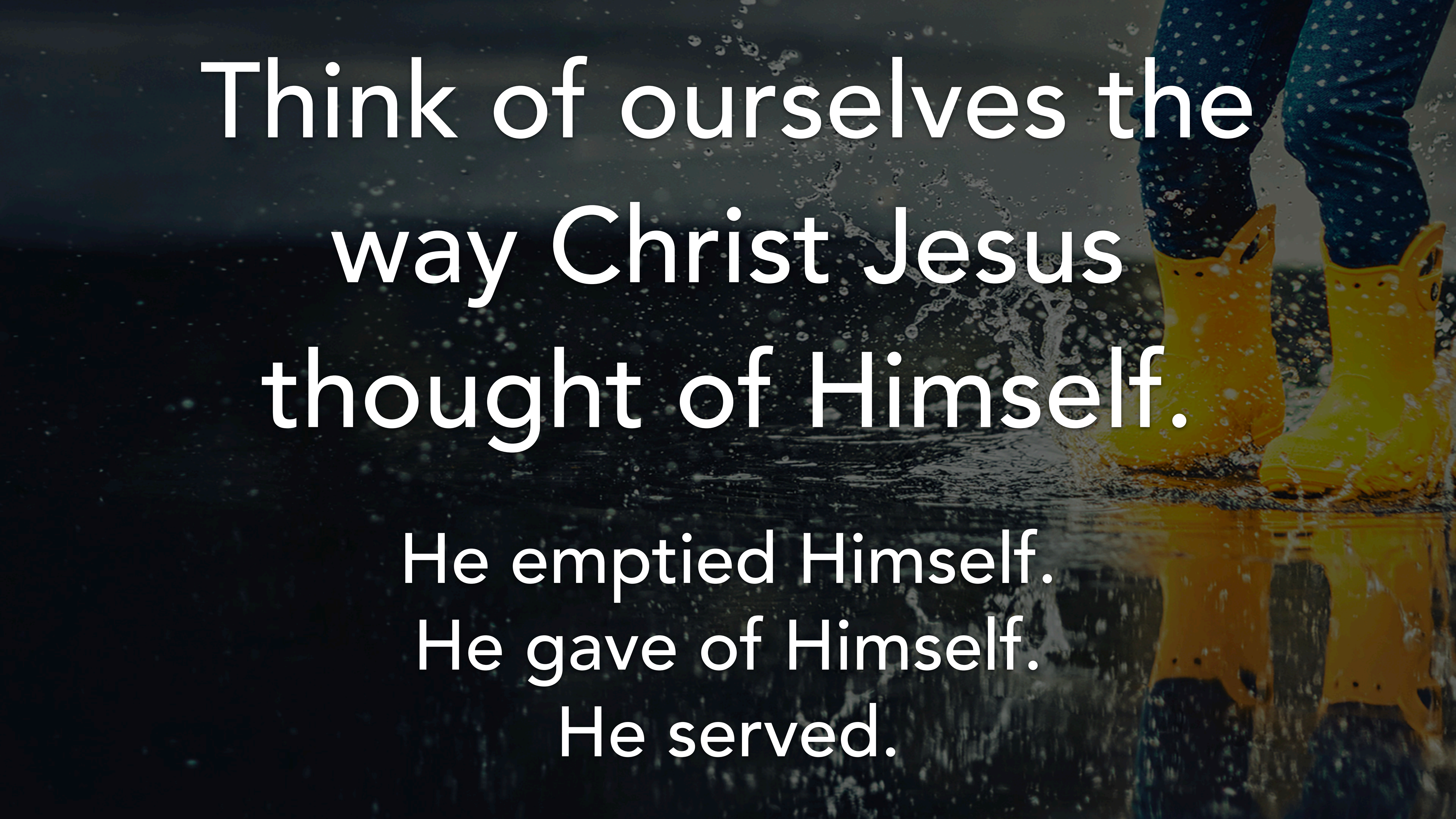


“What a wonderful world  
this would be!”

Sam Cooke; 1960

It's only possible if we....





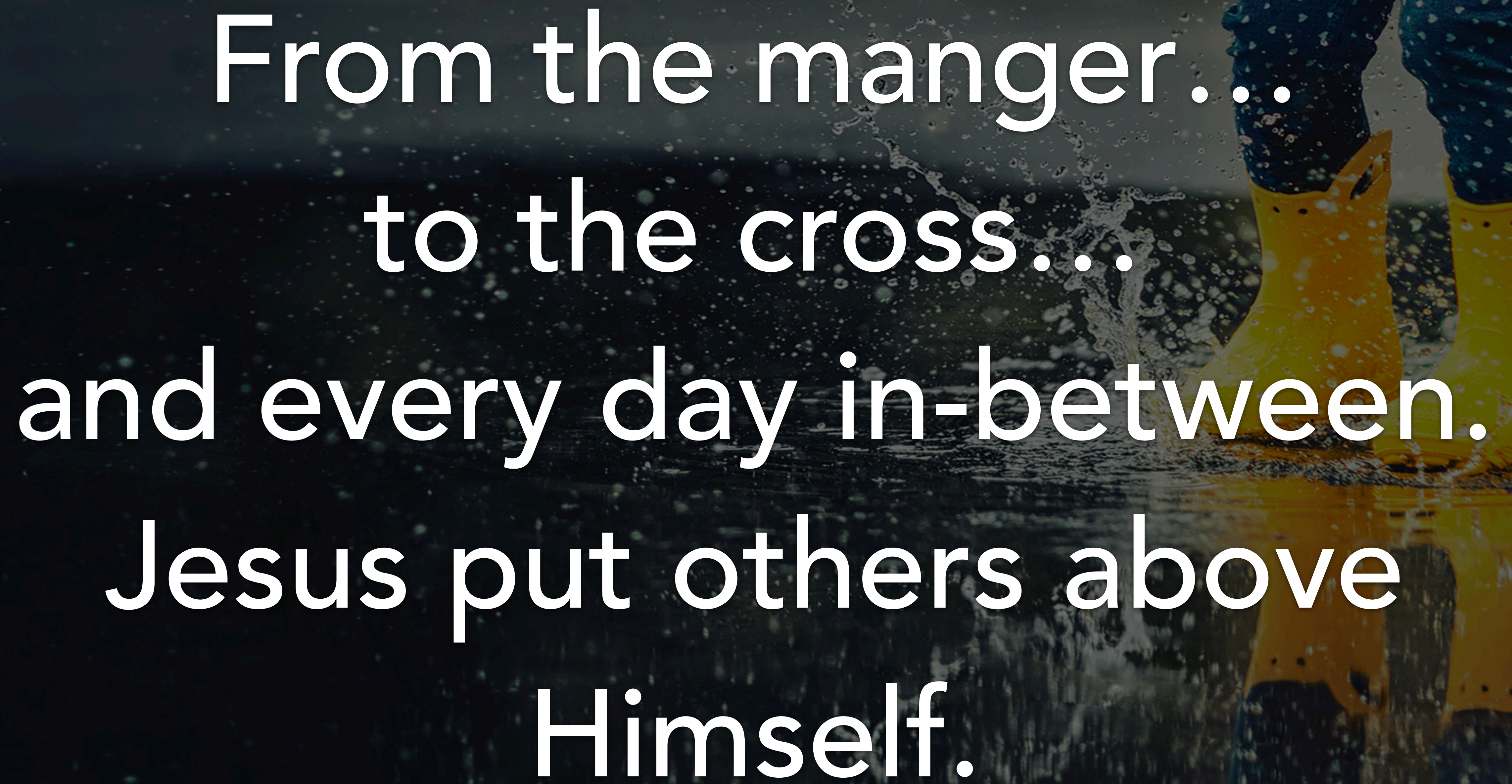
Think of ourselves the  
way Christ Jesus  
thought of Himself.

He emptied Himself.

He gave of Himself.

He served.





From the manger....  
to the cross....  
and every day in-between.  
Jesus put others above  
Himself.





This poem is the Gospel.

More than that....

this poem shows us how  
to live the Gospel.



But let's not lose sight of  
the ultimate reason that  
we're to live humbly—  
with tenderness and  
compassion...







To lead others to Jesus.

Philippians 1:27

“Whatever happens, conduct  
yourselves in a manner worthy of  
the Gospel of Christ.”







## Matthew 24:36-42

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."



