



UB Global “Good Soil Community Center”

Chiang Rai, Thailand

Tentative Dates: June 17 – 29

Info meeting next Sunday the 25th
11:00 AM, Fellowship Room

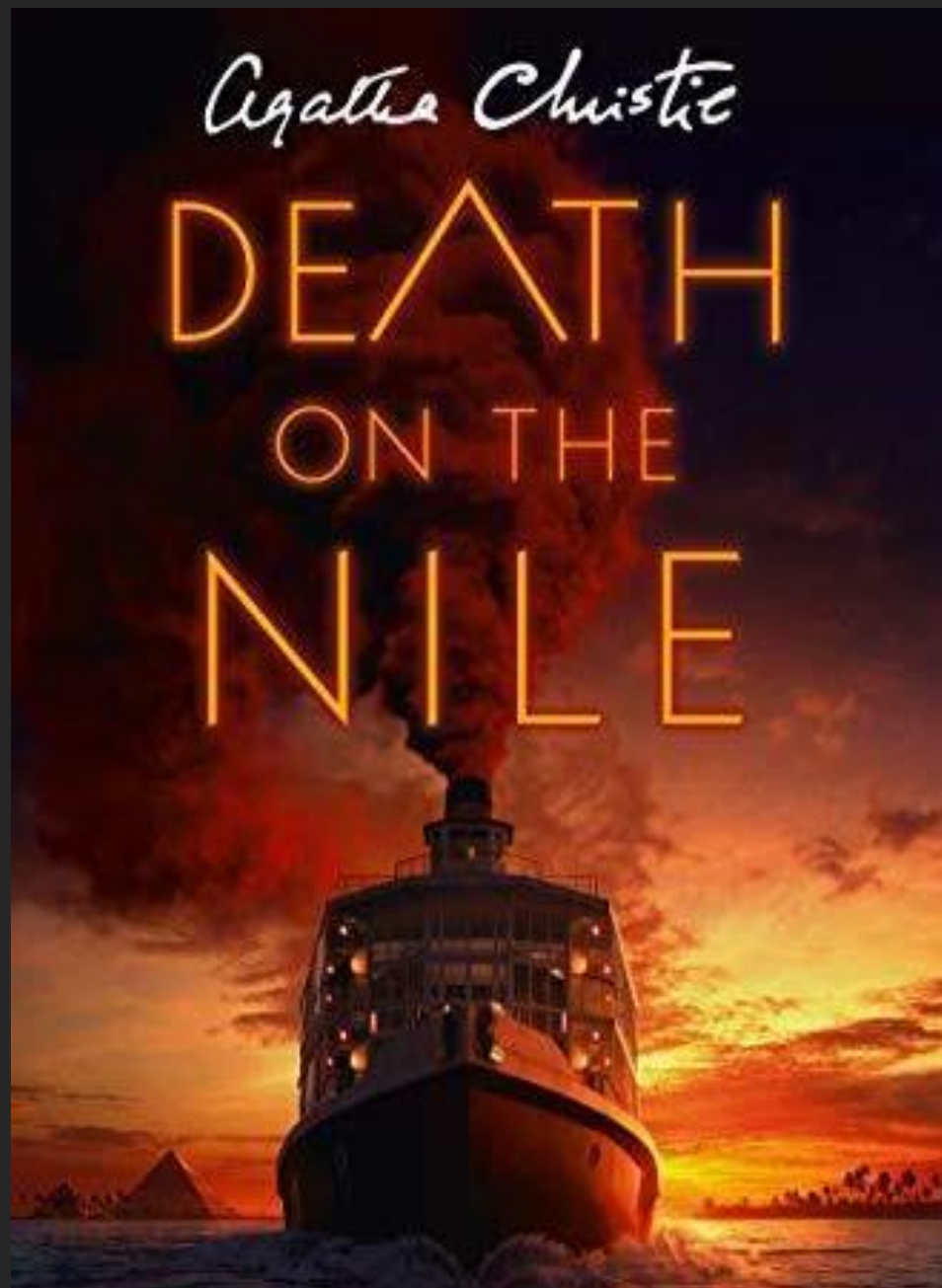
jbrown@kschurch.org



for Shattered Expectations?

Agatha Christie

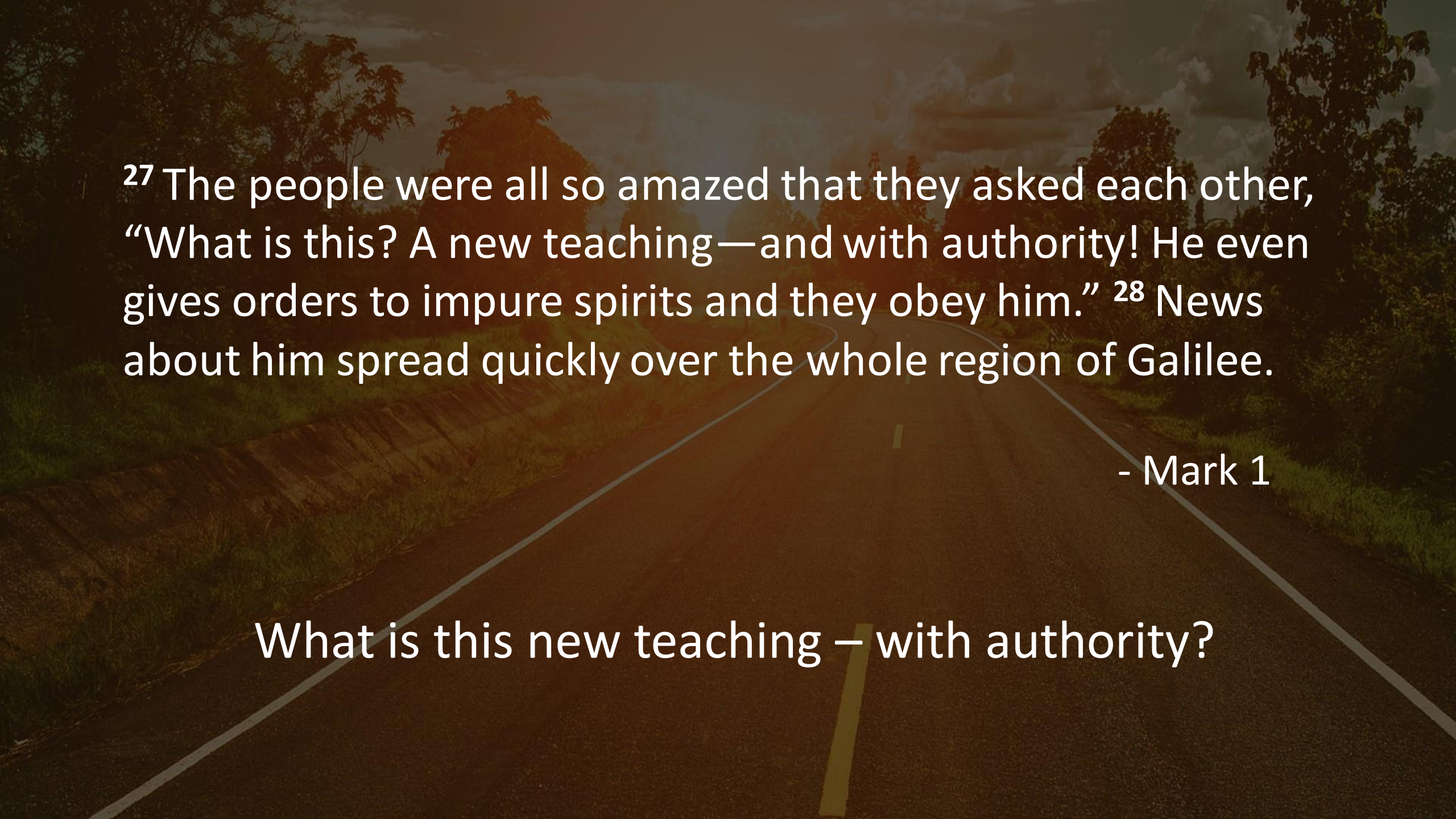
DEATH ON THE NILE



²¹ They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²² The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” ²⁵ “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” ²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

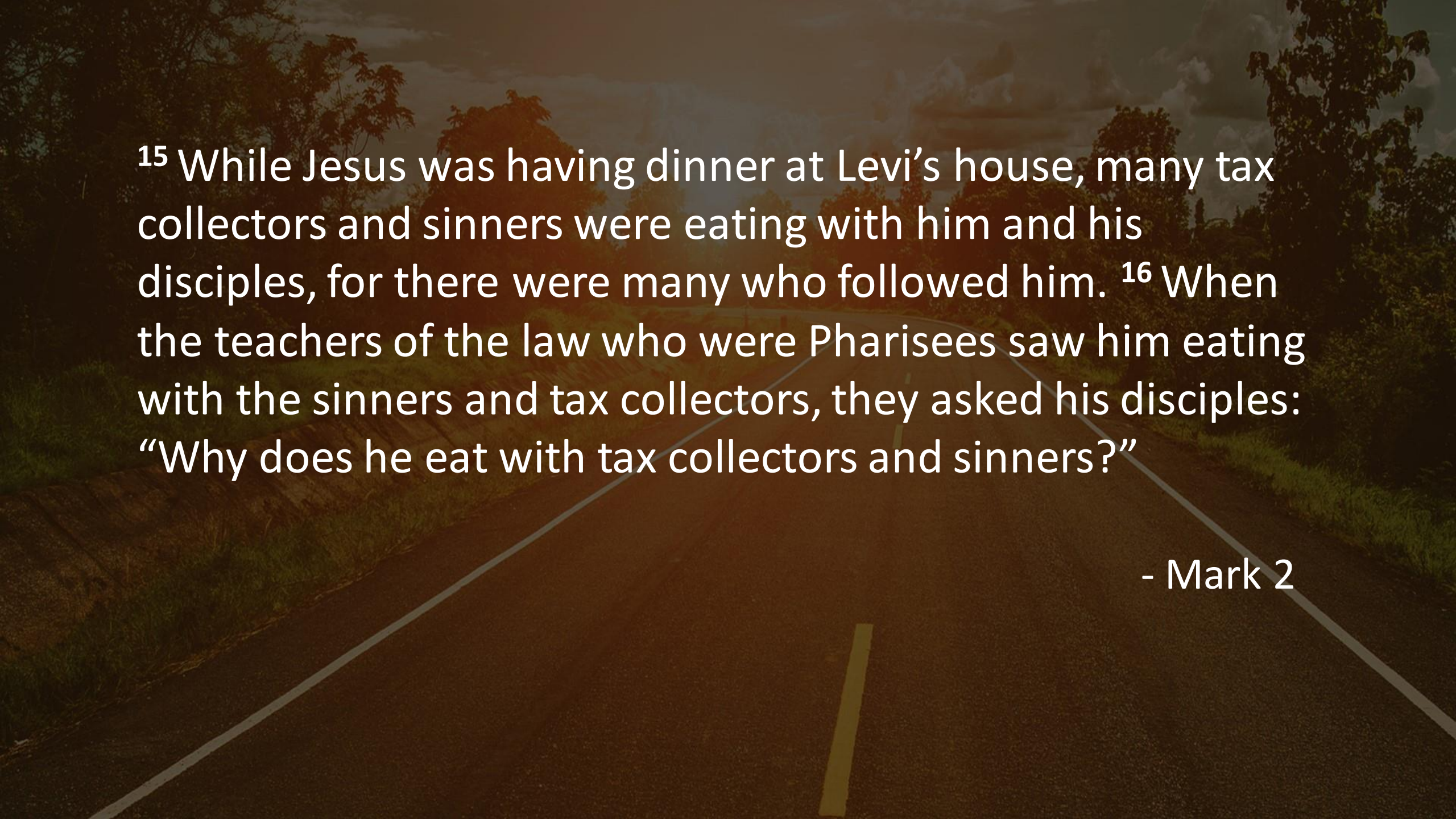
- Mark 1



²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.” ²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

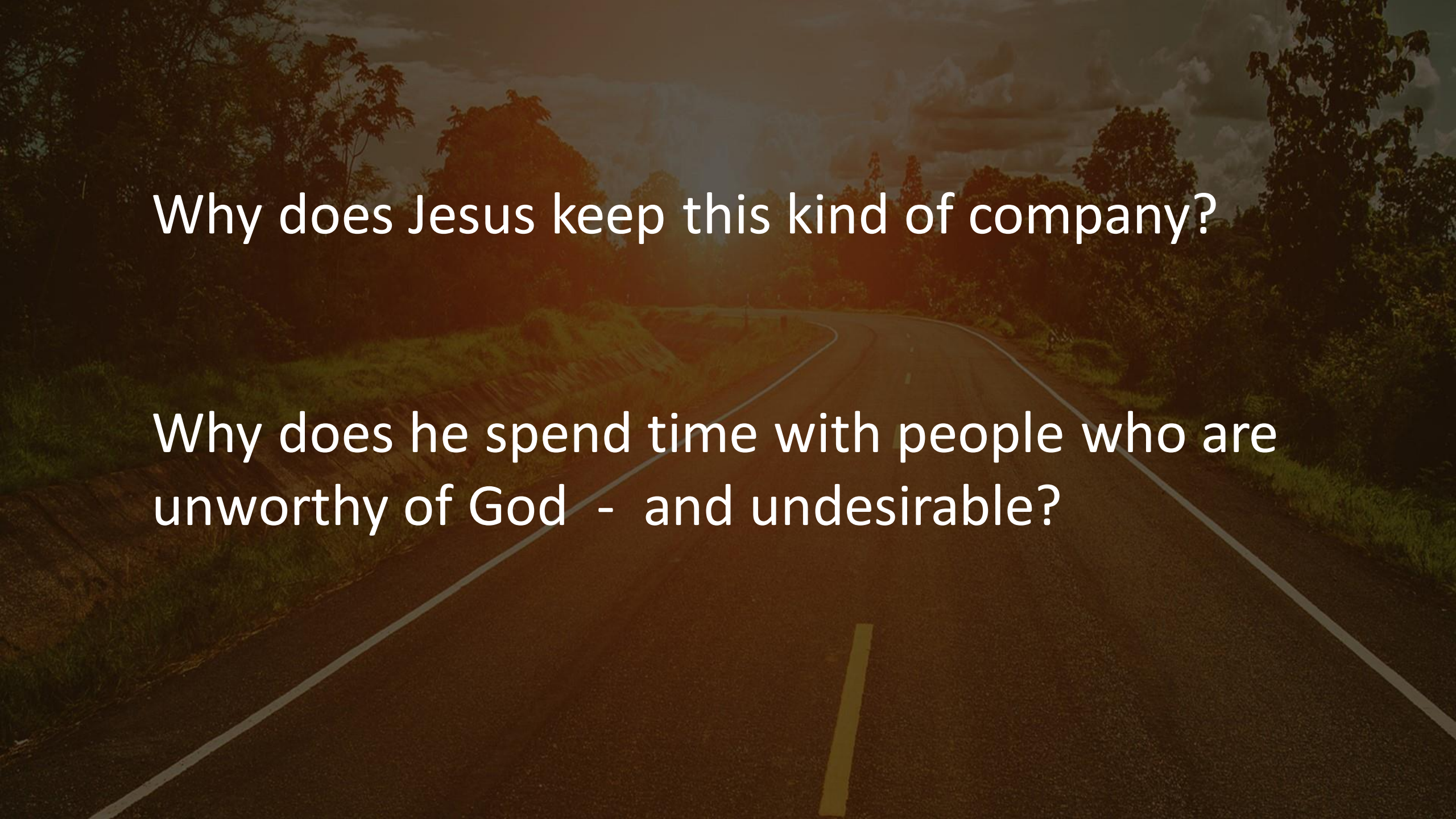
- Mark 1

What is this new teaching – with authority?



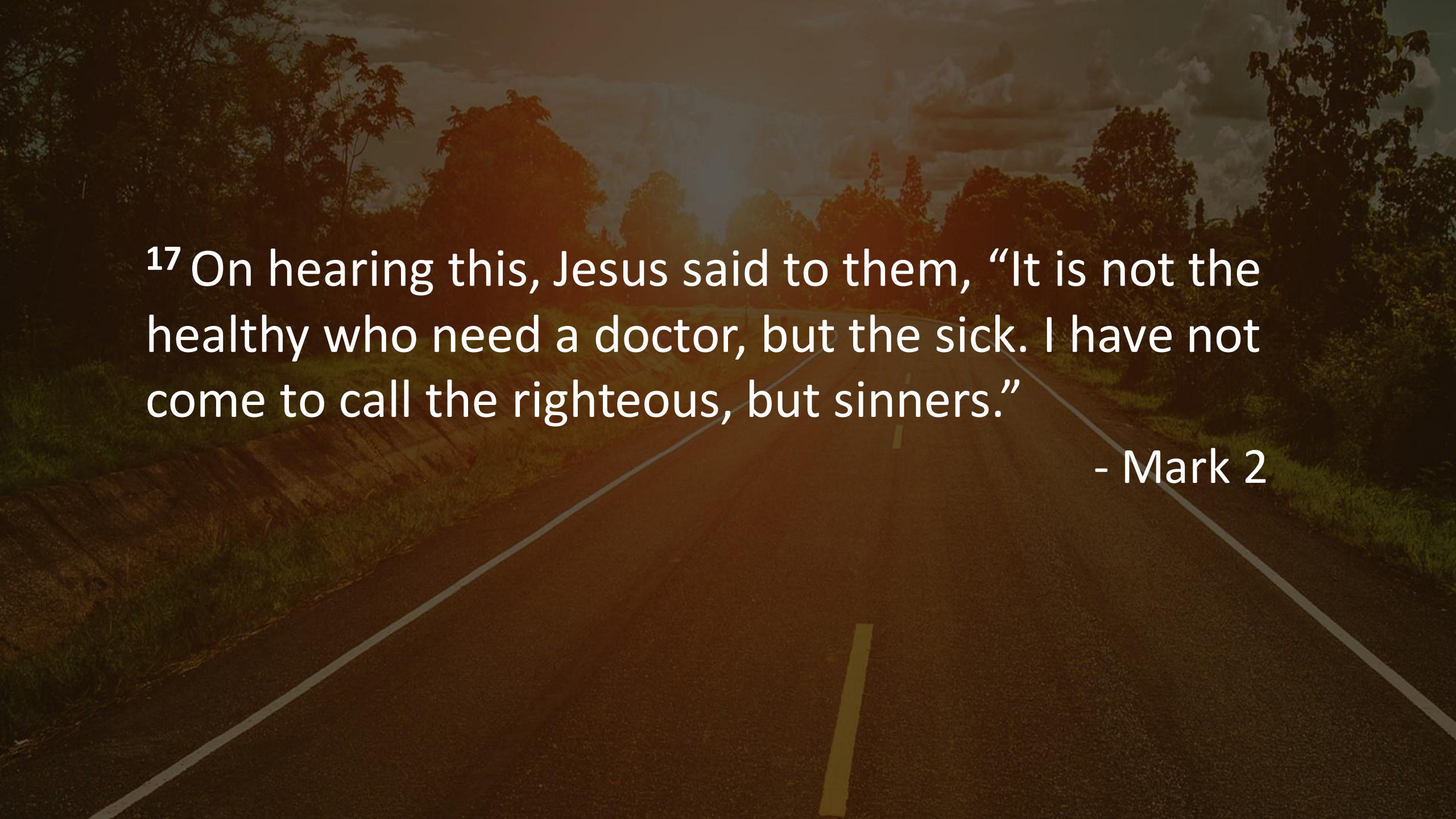
¹⁵ While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. ¹⁶ When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

- Mark 2

A photograph of a paved road winding through a lush, green forest. The road has white dashed lines and a solid white line on the right. The sky is overcast with dark, heavy clouds. The overall tone is somber and contemplative, with a dark brown overlay.

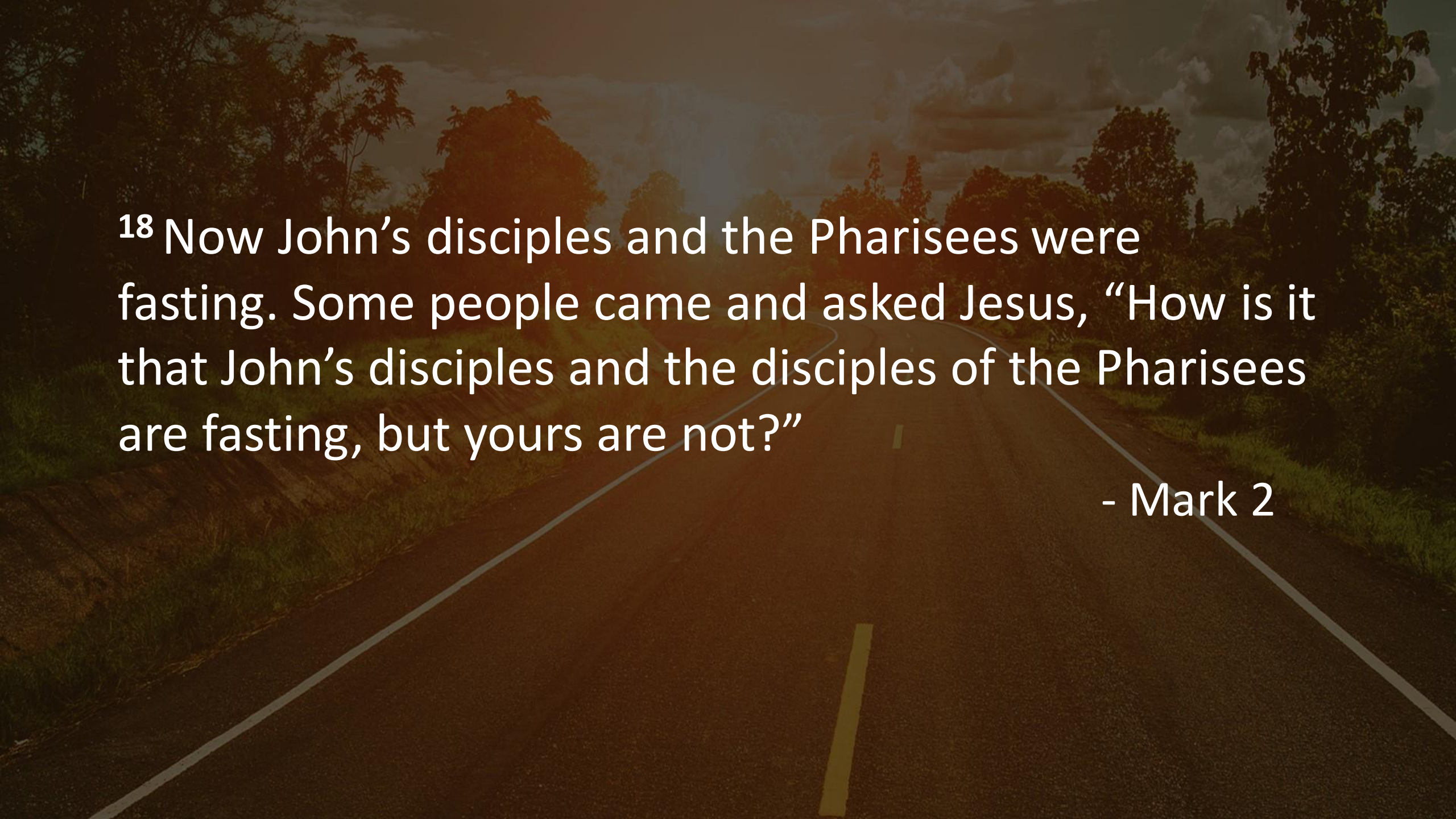
Why does Jesus keep this kind of company?

Why does he spend time with people who are unworthy of God - and undesirable?



¹⁷ On hearing this, Jesus said to them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

- Mark 2

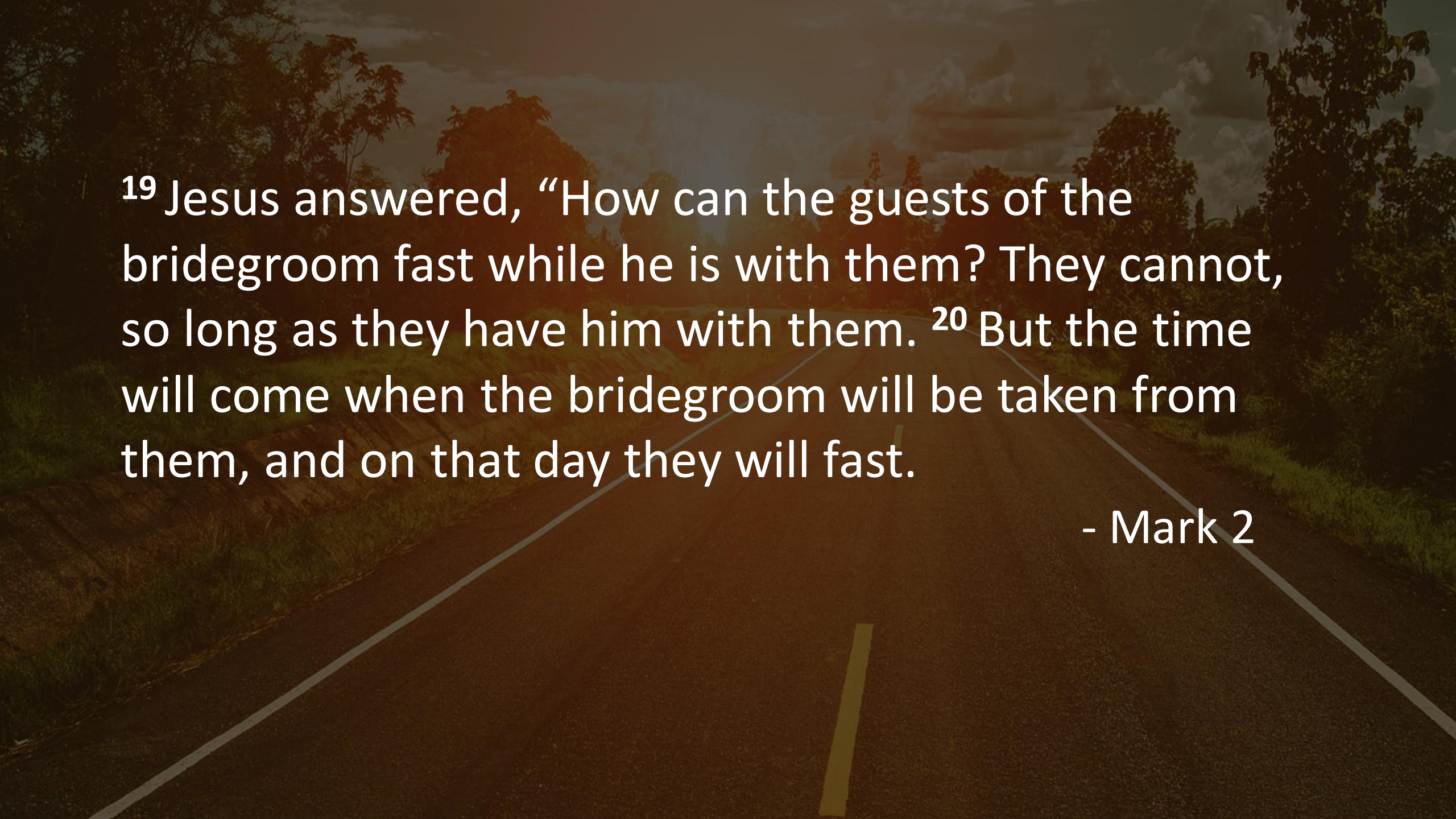


¹⁸ Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"

- Mark 2

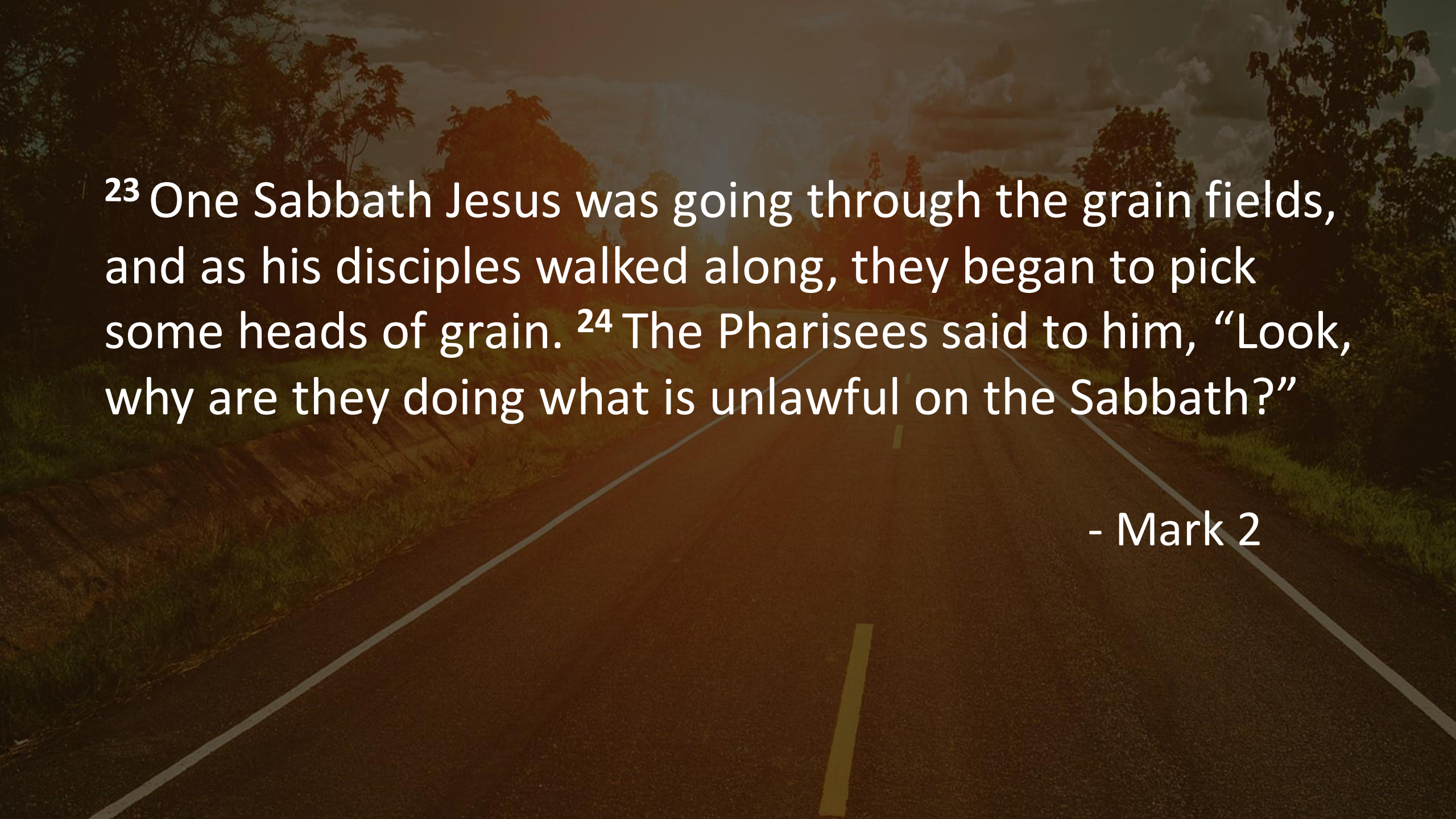
A dark, atmospheric photograph of a road winding through a forest. The road is paved and has a dashed white line down the center. The surrounding trees are dense and dark, with some light filtering through the canopy. The overall tone is somber and mysterious.

Why aren't Jesus' followers doing what
everyone else does?



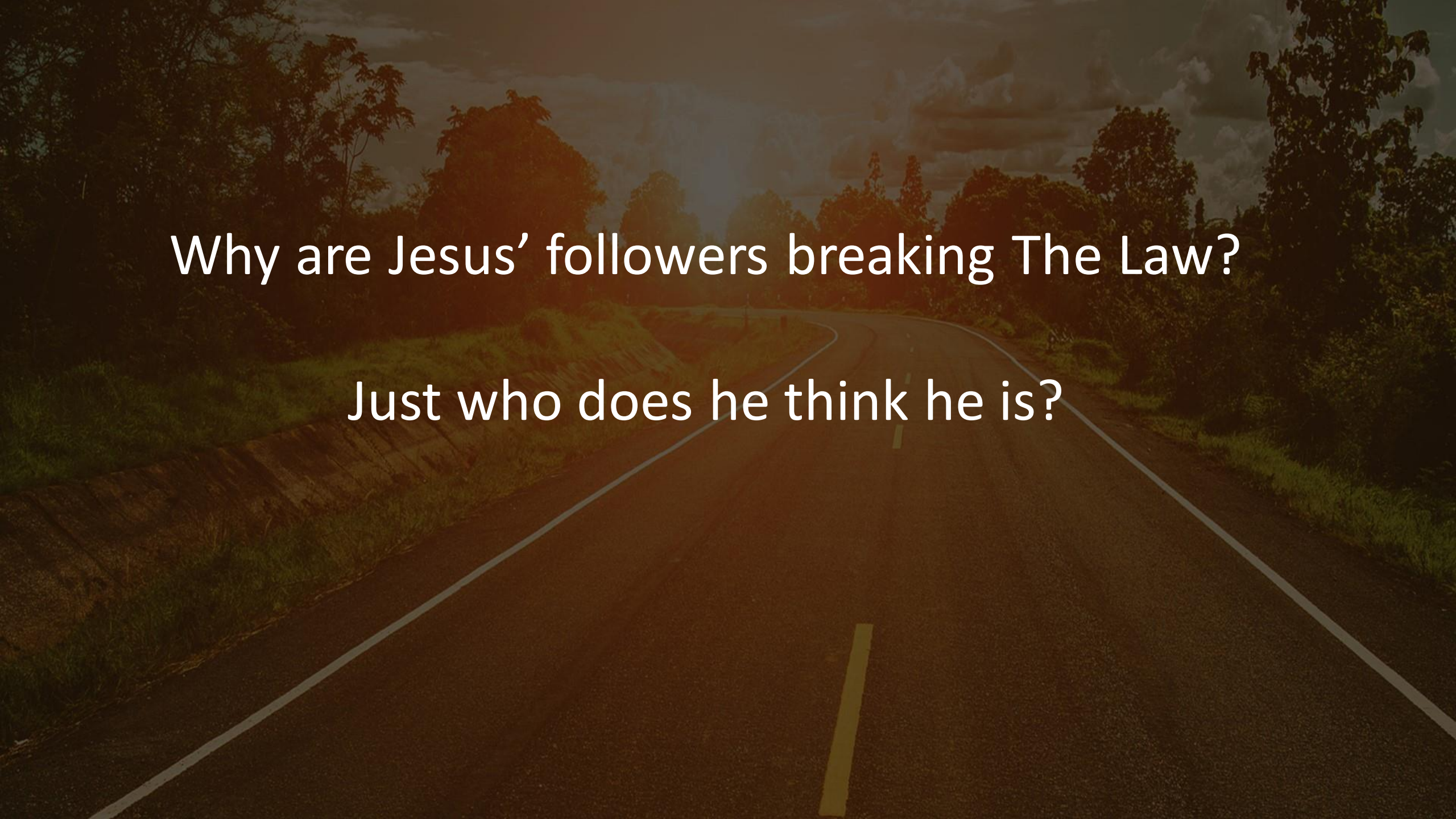
¹⁹ Jesus answered, “How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. ²⁰ But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.

- Mark 2



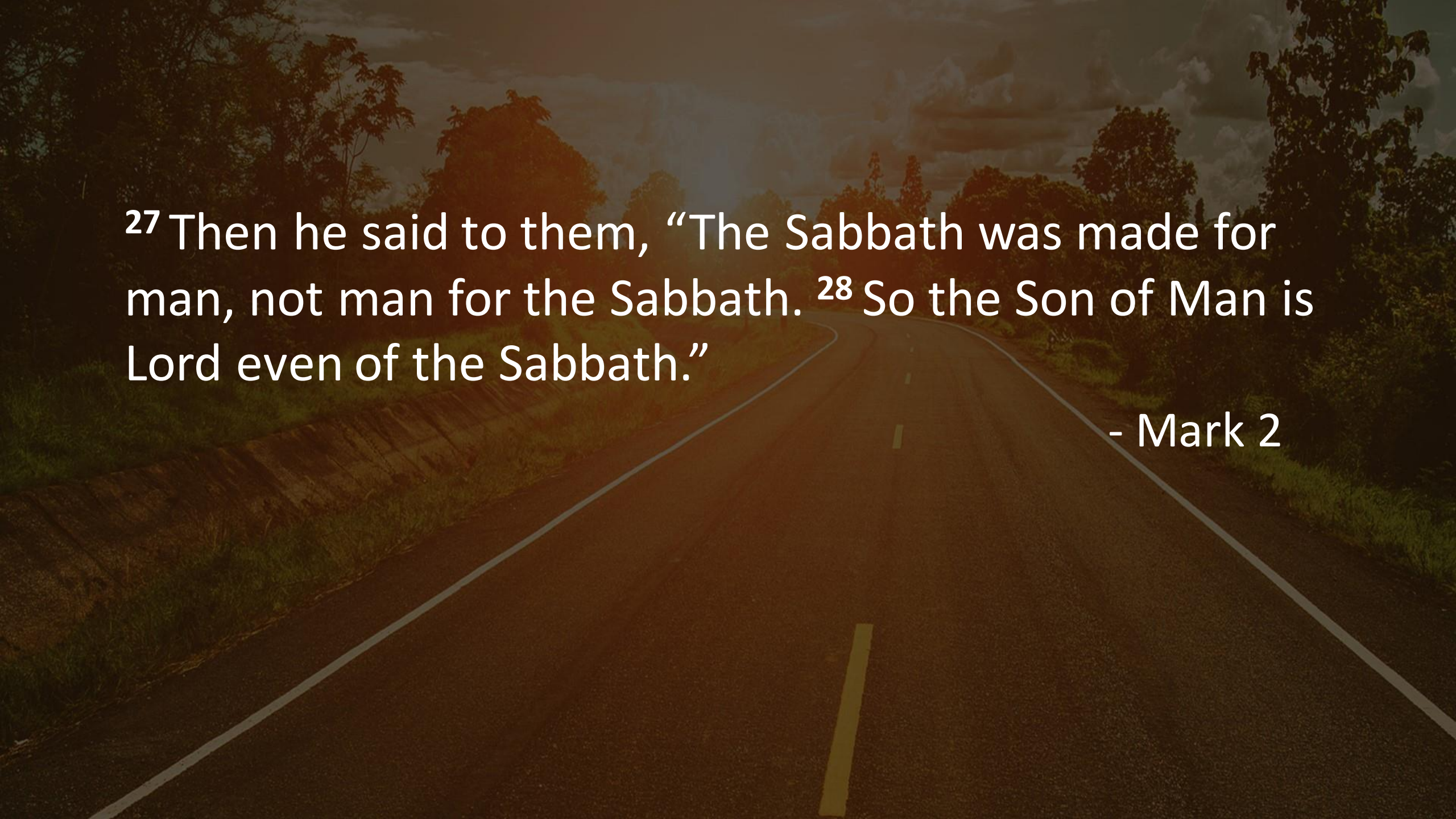
²³ One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grain fields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. ²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?”

- Mark 2

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road winding through a lush, green forest. The road has a dashed yellow center line and solid white edge lines. The trees are dense and tall, with sunlight filtering through the canopy. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The entire image has a dark, brownish-orange tint.

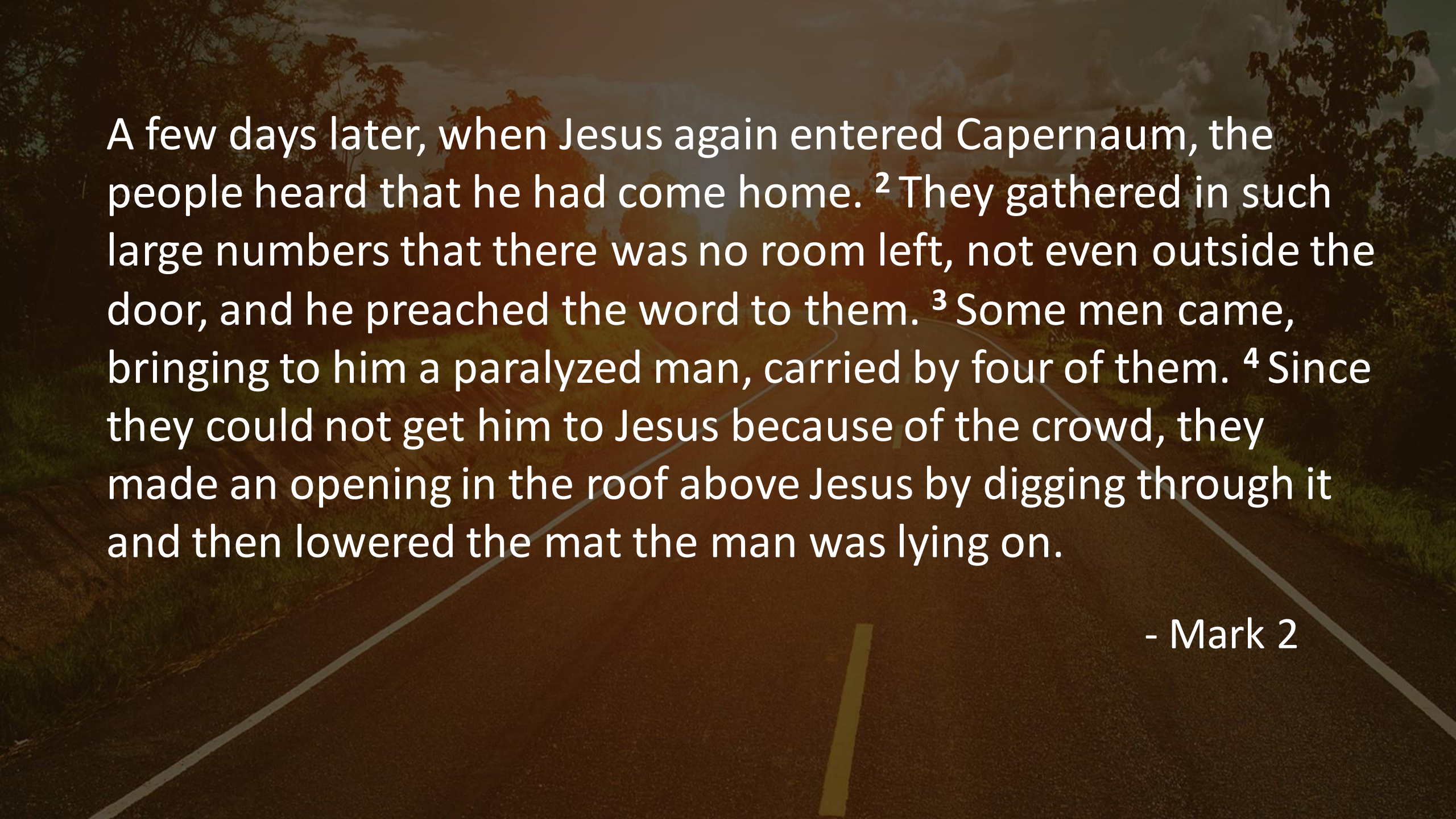
Why are Jesus' followers breaking The Law?

Just who does he think he is?



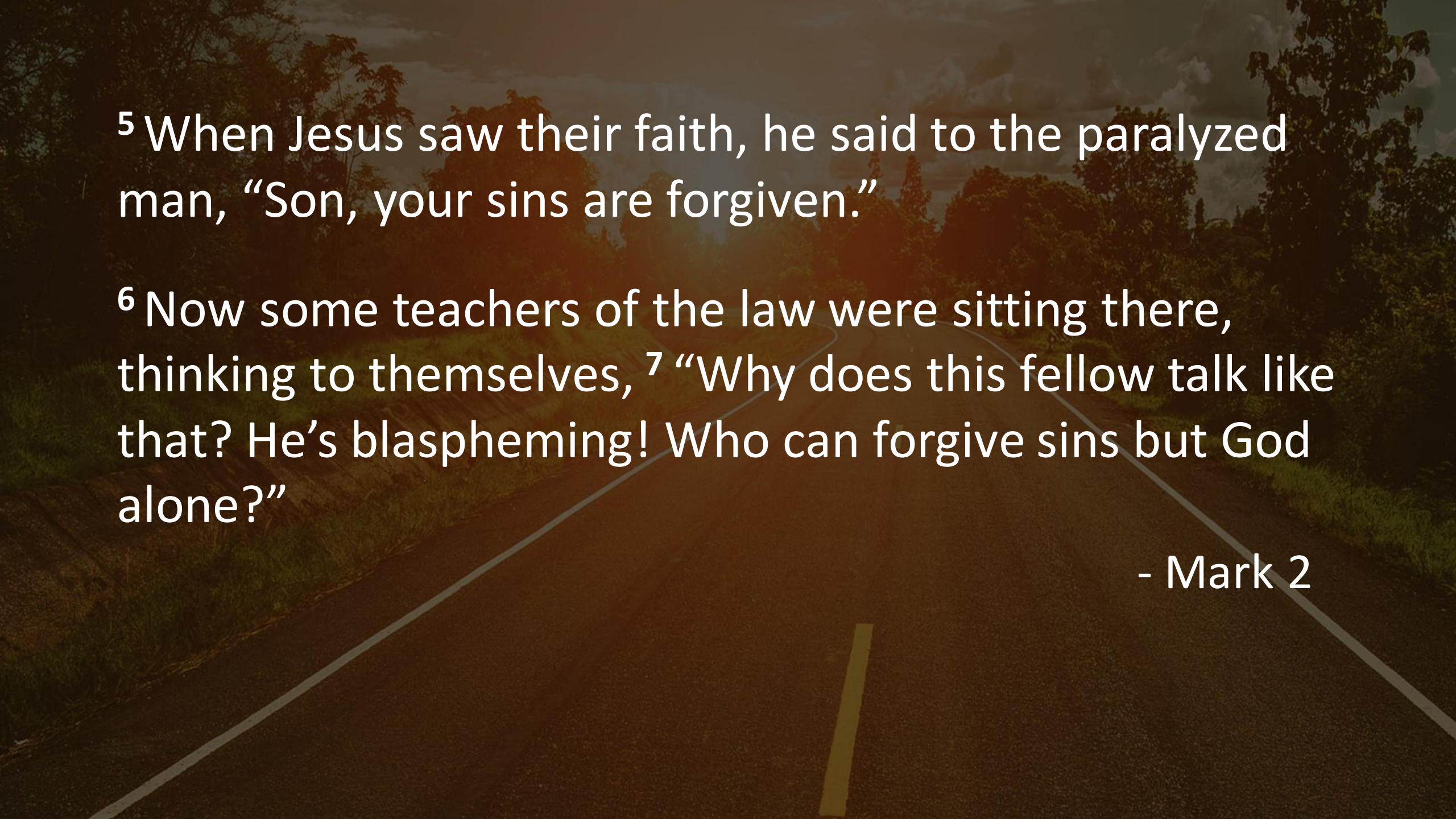
²⁷ Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

- Mark 2



A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ² They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ³ Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.

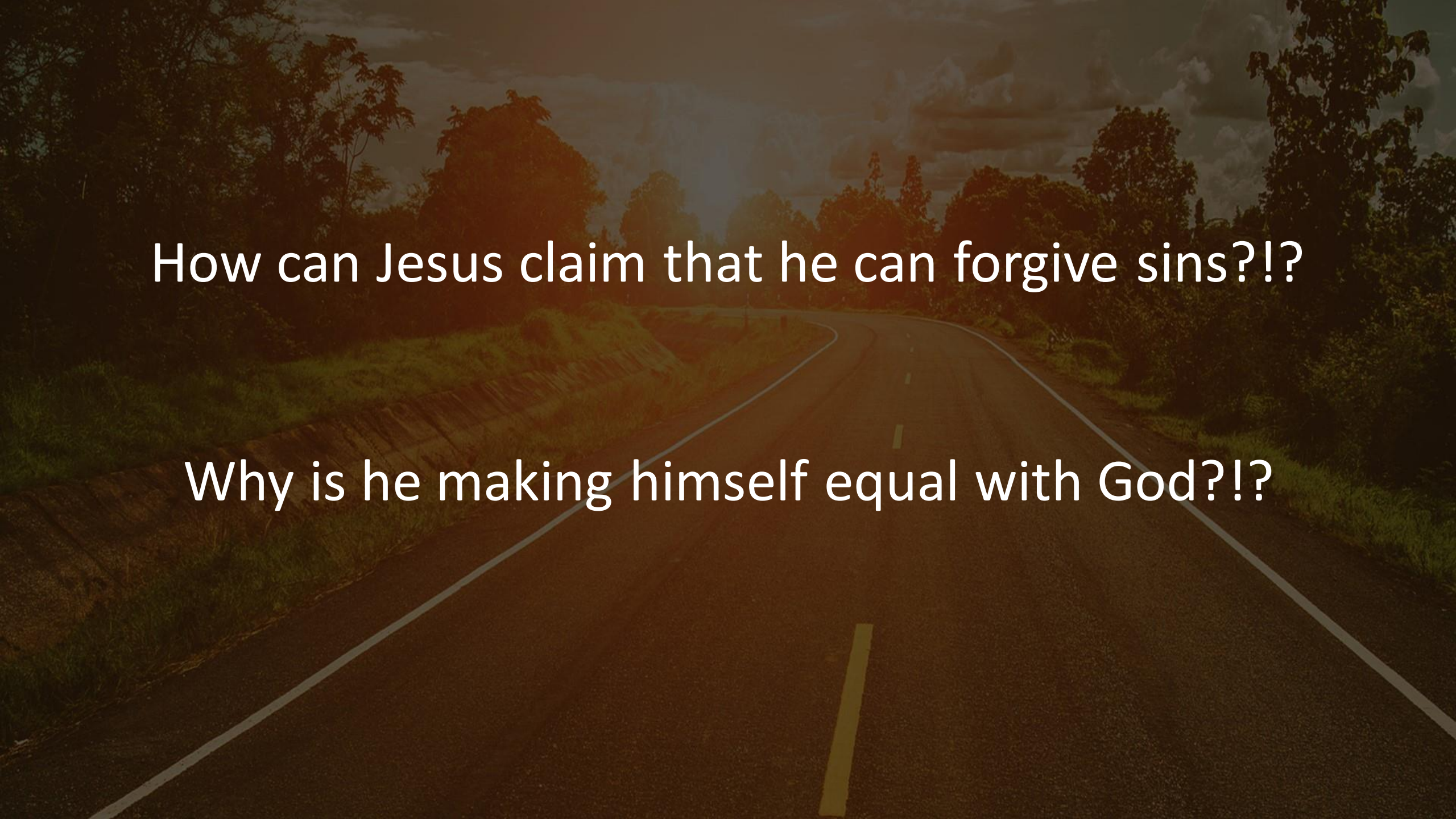
- Mark 2



⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷ “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

- Mark 2

A photograph of a two-lane asphalt road winding through a lush green forest. The road has a dashed white center line and solid white edge lines. The trees are dense and green, and the sky is overcast. The entire image has a semi-transparent brown overlay. Two lines of white text are centered on the image.

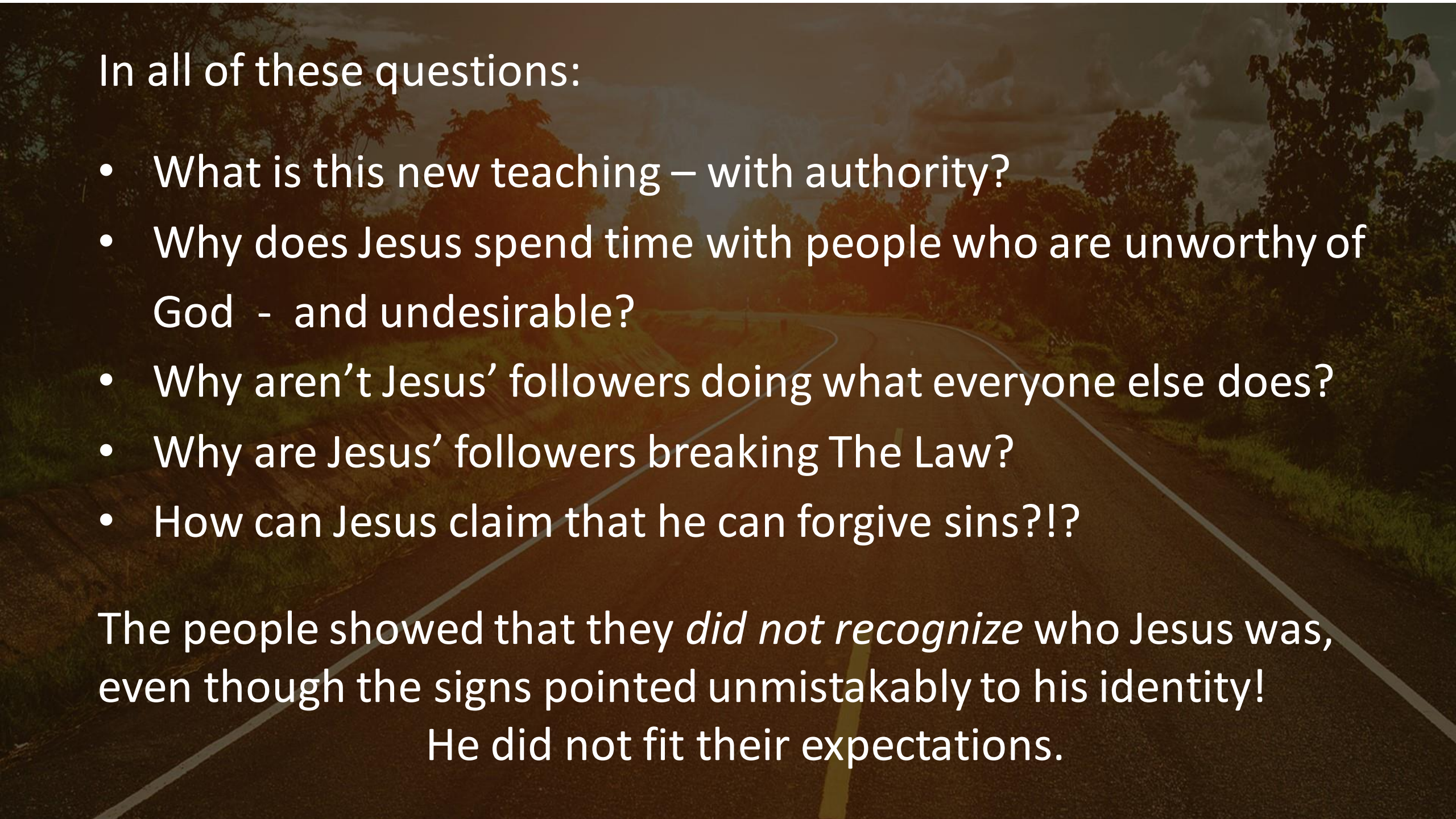
How can Jesus claim that he can forgive sins?!?

Why is he making himself equal with God?!?

⁸ Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?

¹⁰ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, ¹¹ “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” ¹² He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

- Mark 2

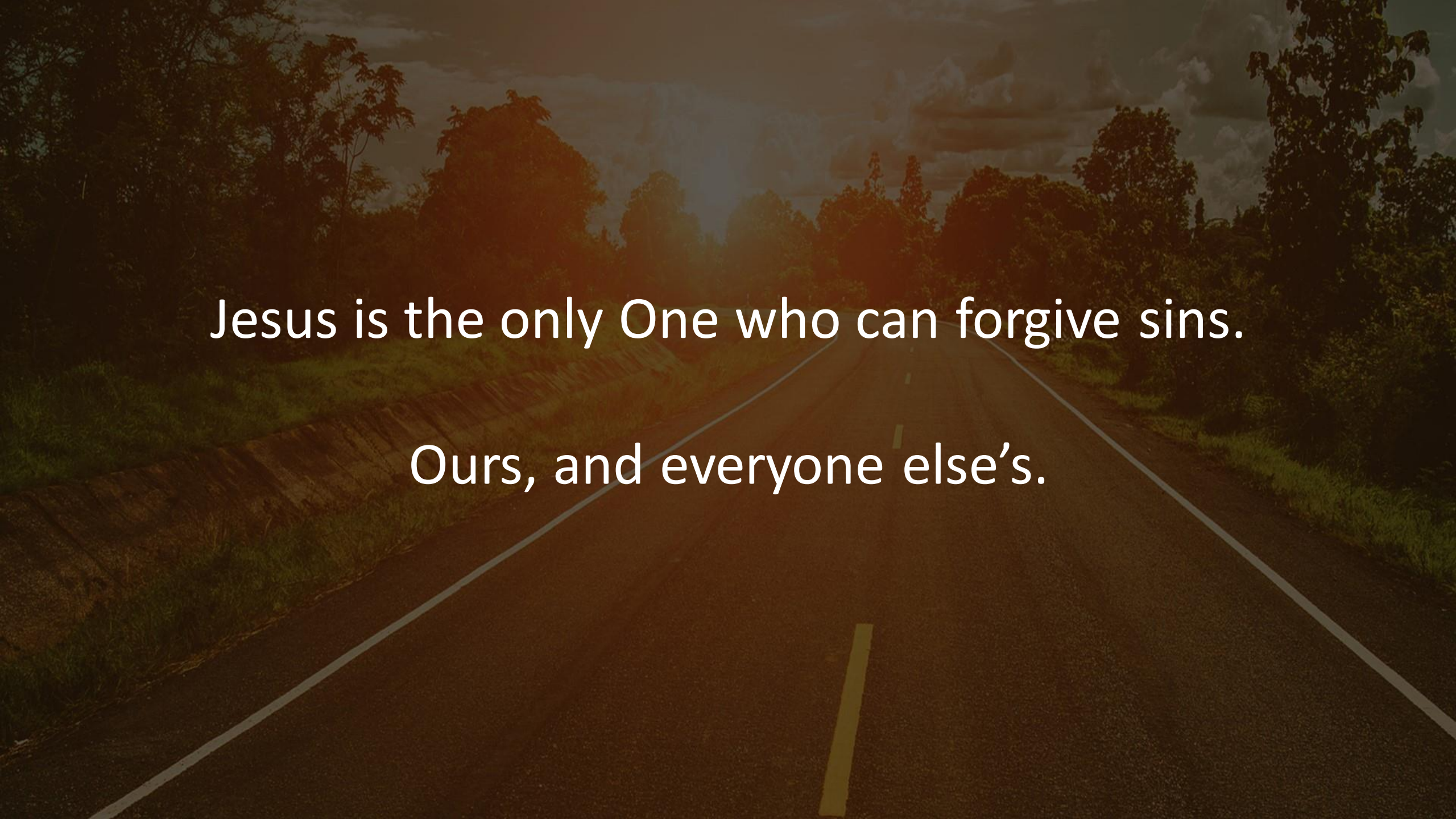


In all of these questions:

- What is this new teaching – with authority?
- Why does Jesus spend time with people who are unworthy of God - and undesirable?
- Why aren't Jesus' followers doing what everyone else does?
- Why are Jesus' followers breaking The Law?
- How can Jesus claim that he can forgive sins?!?

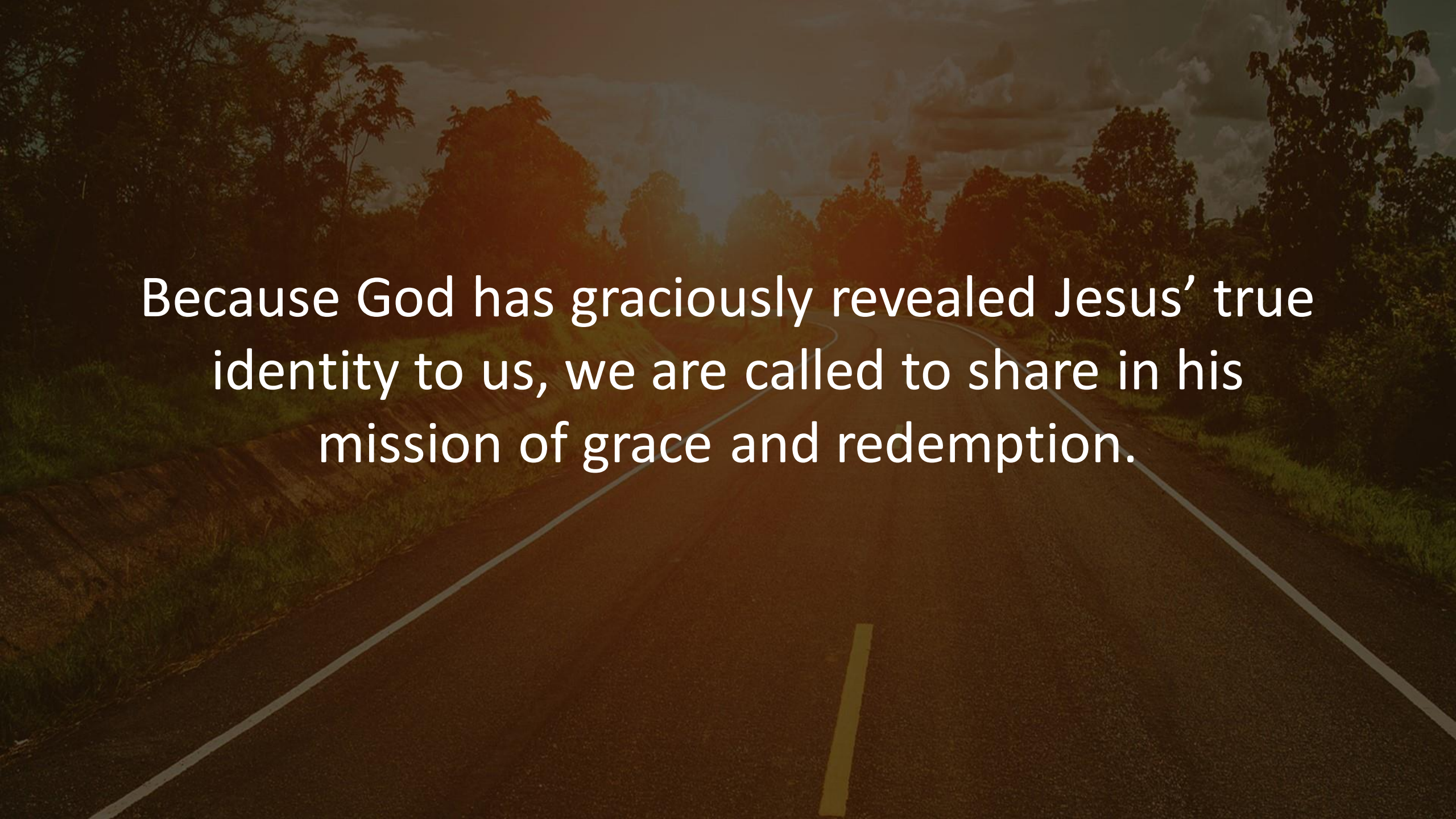
The people showed that they *did not recognize* who Jesus was, even though the signs pointed unmistakably to his identity!

He did not fit their expectations.

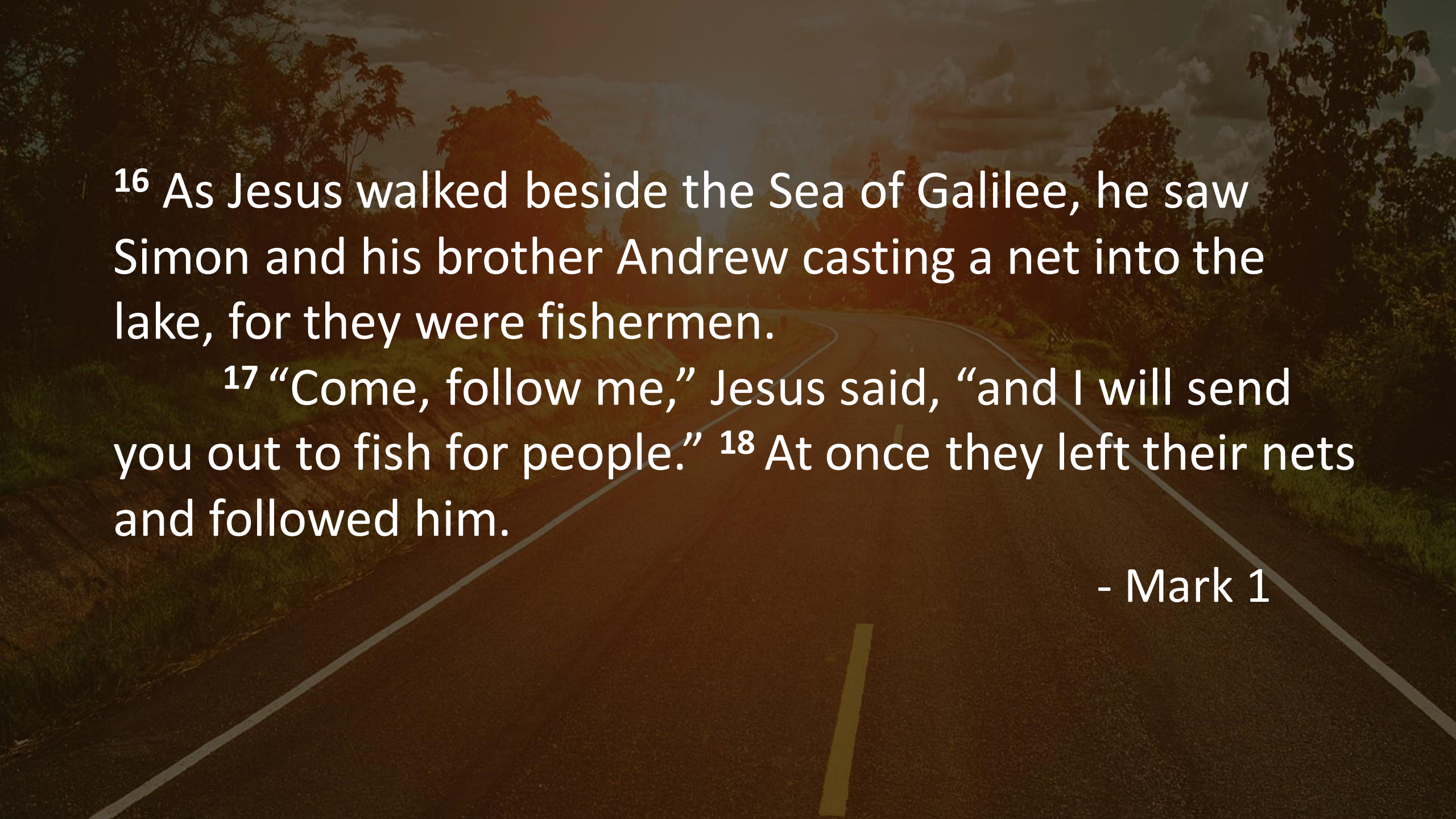
A dark, atmospheric photograph of a road winding through a forest. The road is paved and has white lane markings. The trees are dense and green, and the sky is overcast. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent dark overlay, which makes the white text stand out.

Jesus is the only One who can forgive sins.

Ours, and everyone else's.

A dark, atmospheric photograph of a winding road through a forest. The road is paved and has white lane markings. The trees are dense and dark, and the sky is overcast. The overall tone is somber and contemplative. A semi-transparent text overlay is centered on the image.

Because God has graciously revealed Jesus' true identity to us, we are called to share in his mission of grace and redemption.

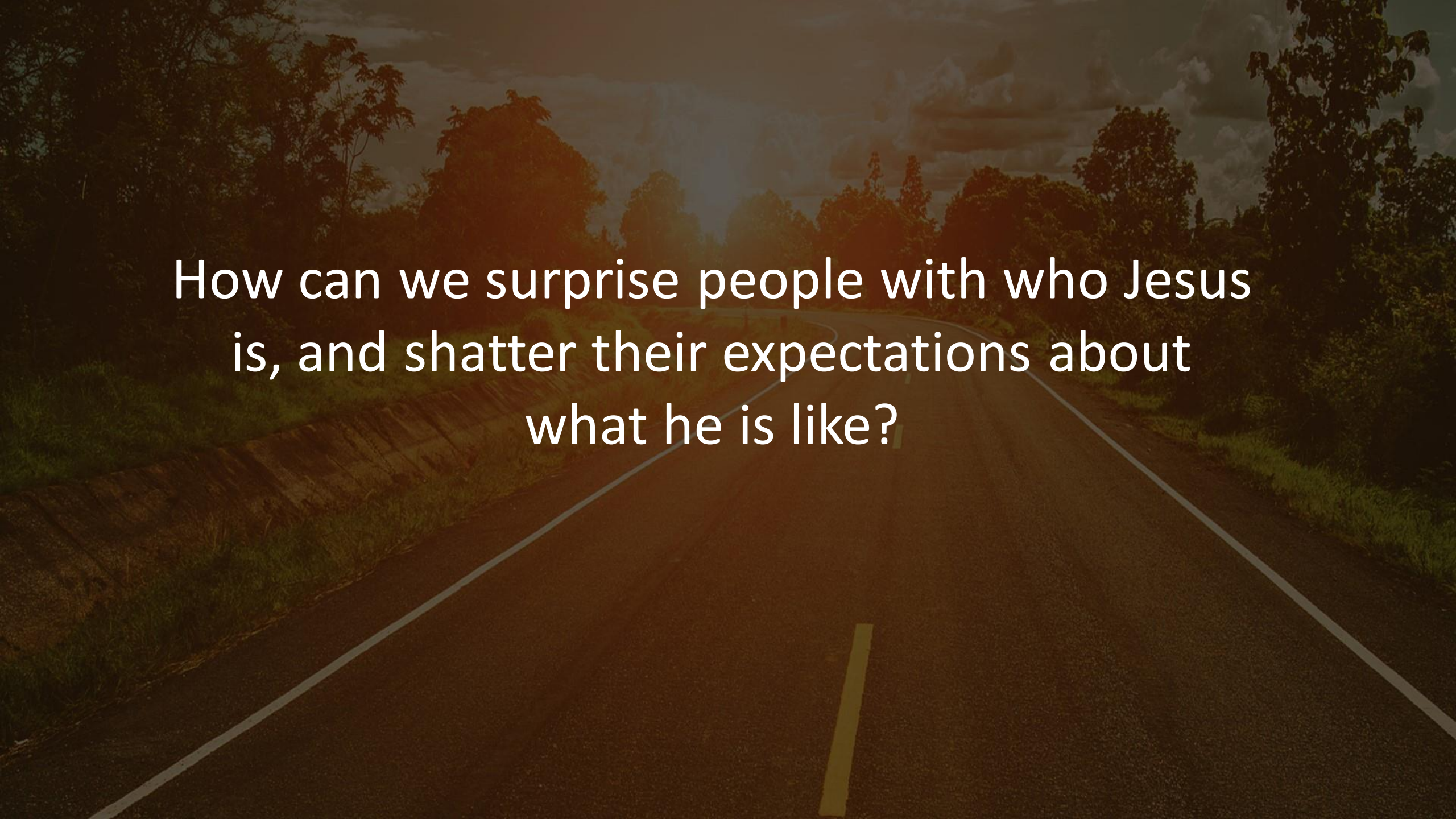


¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen.

¹⁷ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him.

- Mark 1



A dark, atmospheric photograph of a winding road through a forest. The road is paved and has white lane markings. The surrounding trees are dense and dark, creating a somber and mysterious mood. The sky is visible in the distance, showing some clouds. The overall color palette is dark, with shades of brown, black, and grey, accented by the green of the foliage.

How can we surprise people with who Jesus
is, and shatter their expectations about
what he is like?





for Shattered Expectations?