



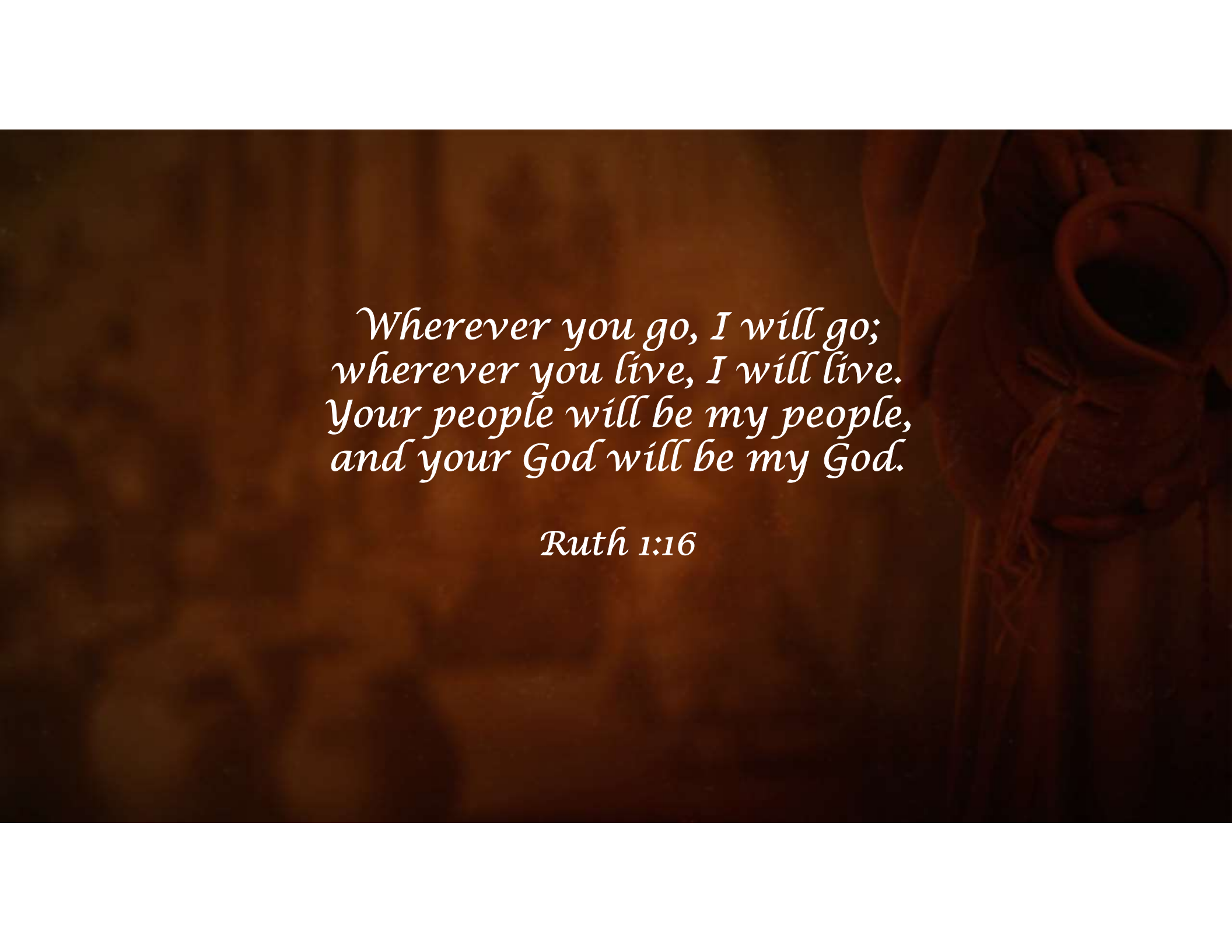
*Surrender —
Draws Us Closer to God*

*He must become greater and greater
and I must become less and less.*

John 3:30







*Wherever you go, I will go;
wherever you live, I will live.
Your people will be my people,
and your God will be my God.*

Ruth 1:16

*Naomi has said, in effect, to Ruth and Orpah,
“You have to save your life. In order to save your
life, you have to lose me. My life is over.”*

*Ruth responds with, “No, my life is over”...
Death is at the center of Ruth’s love.”*

Paul E. Miller

So Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. And it happened, she found herself working in the field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her father-in-law, Elimelech. While she was there, Boaz arrived from Bethlehem...

Ruth 2:3-4

I know about everything you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband. I have heard how you left your father and mother and your own land to live here among complete strangers. May the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge, reward you fully for what you have done.

Ruth 2:11-12



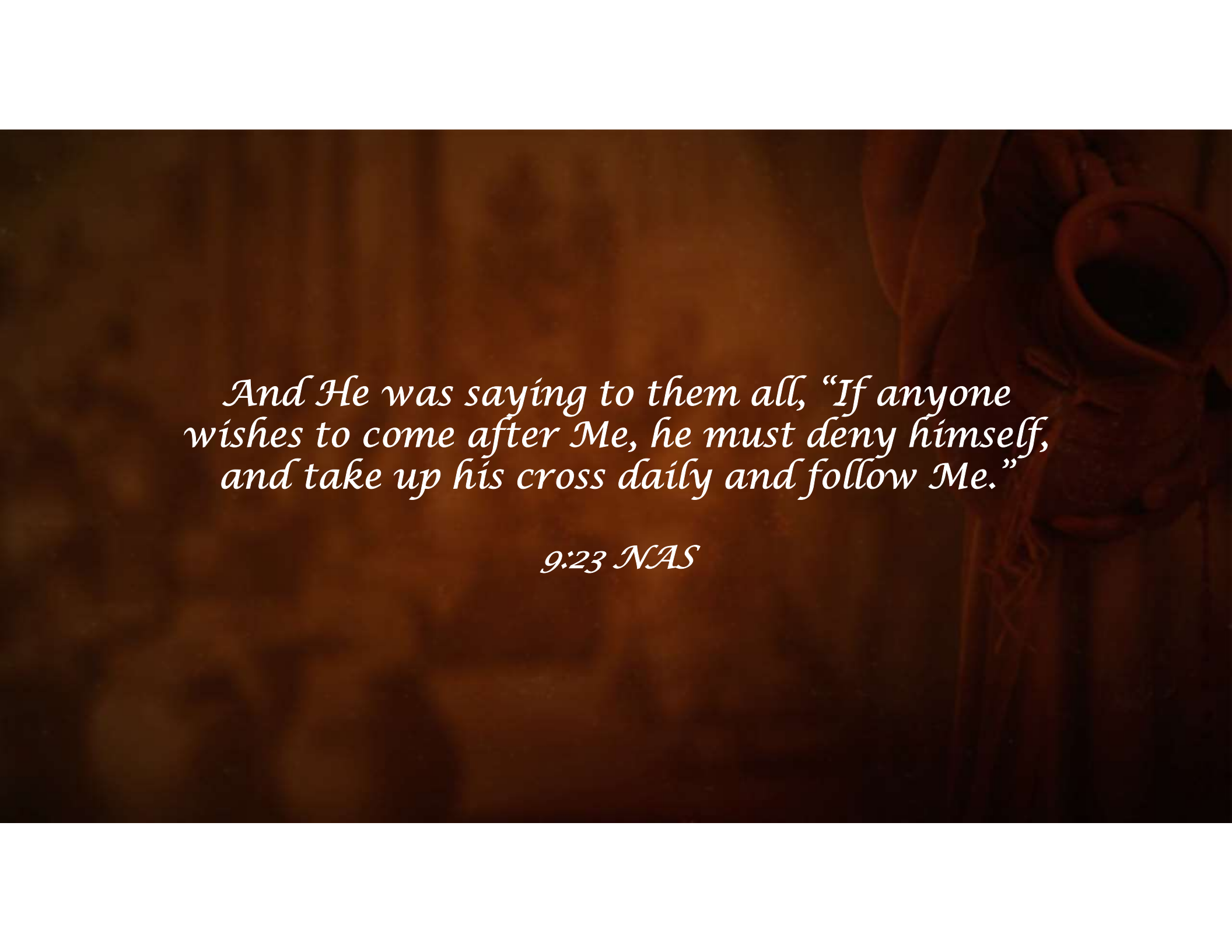
Then the women of the town said to Naomi, "Praise the Lord, who has now provided a redeemer for your family! May he restore your youth and care for you in your old age. For he the son of your daughter-in-law who loves you and has been better to you than seven sons!"

Ruth 4:14-15



Surrender —

*die to self, relinquish, yield, let go,
abandon, submit, give up my rights*



And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me."

9:23 NAS

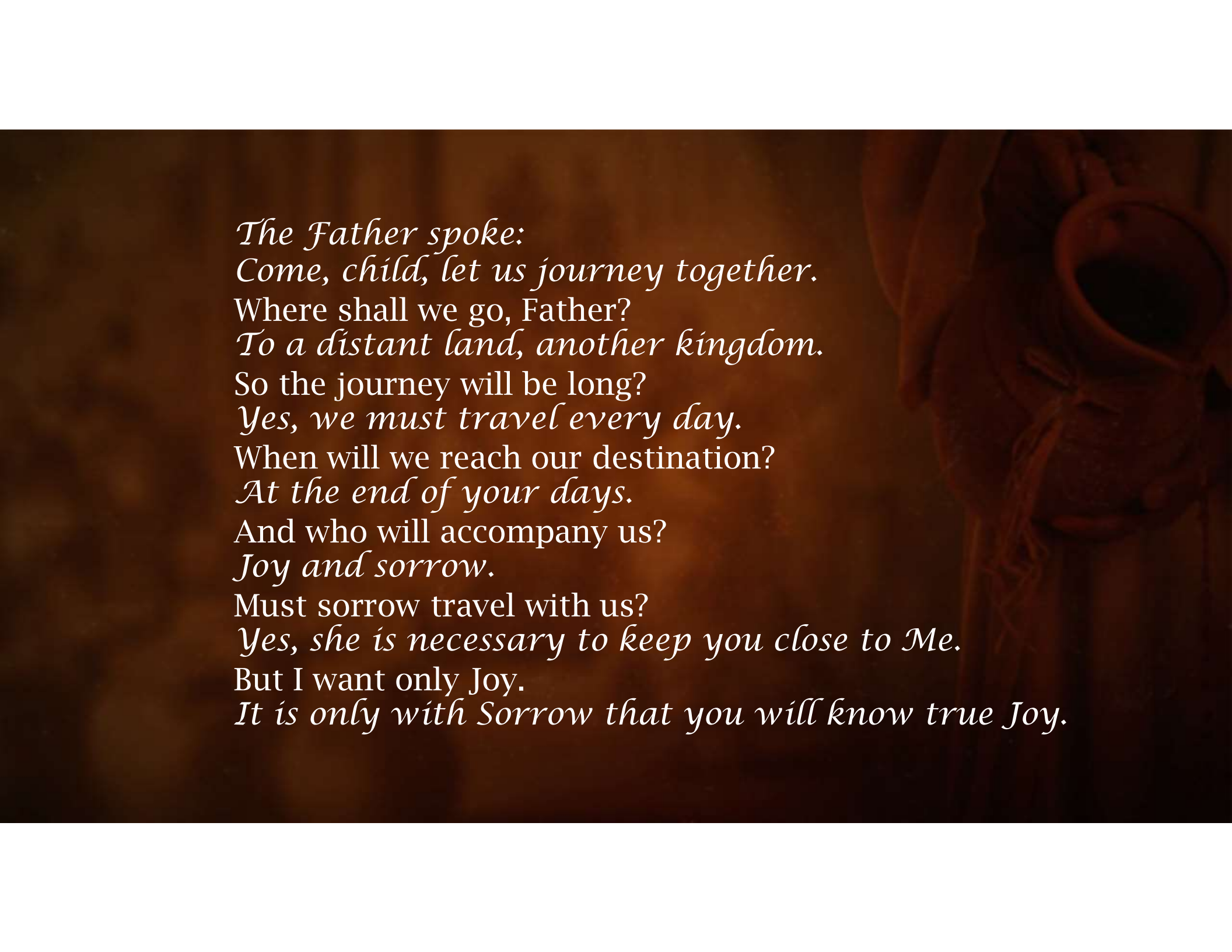
[Jesus] was focusing on the importance of renouncing self as the center of our life and actions. In other words, self-denial is the decision of each of his followers to give over to God his body, career, money, and time. A true disciple is willing to shift the spiritual center of gravity in his life. Self-denial is the sustained willingness to say no to oneself in order to say yes to God.

Bill Hull

As soon as you begin to live the life of faith in God, fascinating and luxurious prospects will open before you, and these things are yours by right; but if you are living the life of faith you will exercise your right to waive your rights, and let God choose for you.

Oswald Chambers





*The Father spoke:
Come, child, let us journey together.
Where shall we go, Father?
To a distant land, another kingdom.
So the journey will be long?
Yes, we must travel every day.
When will we reach our destination?
At the end of your days.
And who will accompany us?
Joy and sorrow.
Must sorrow travel with us?
Yes, she is necessary to keep you close to Me.
But I want only Joy.
It is only with Sorrow that you will know true Joy.*

What must I bring?

A willing heart to follow Me.

What shall I do on the journey?

*There is only one thing that you must do—
stay close to Me. Let nothing distract you.
Always keep your eyes on Me.*


And what will I see?

You will see My glory.

And what will I know?

You will know my heart.

The Father stretched out His hand. The child knowing the great love her Father had for her, placed her hand in His and they began their journey.



*God always gives His best
to those who leave the
choice with Him.*

Jim Elliot





Let the first act on waking be to place yourself, your heart, mind, faculties, your whole being, in God's hands. Ask Him to take entire possession of you, to be the Guide of your soul, your Life, your Wisdom, your Strength. He wills that we seek Him in all our needs, that we may both know Him truly and draw closer and closer to Him.

Sidney Lear

