



Discover the Divine in Your Design

GIVEN Institute

Presenter: Lisa Mladinich, PCC

Space Images Courtesy of HubbleSite.org

IC 63 GHOST NEBULA





In the Chat:

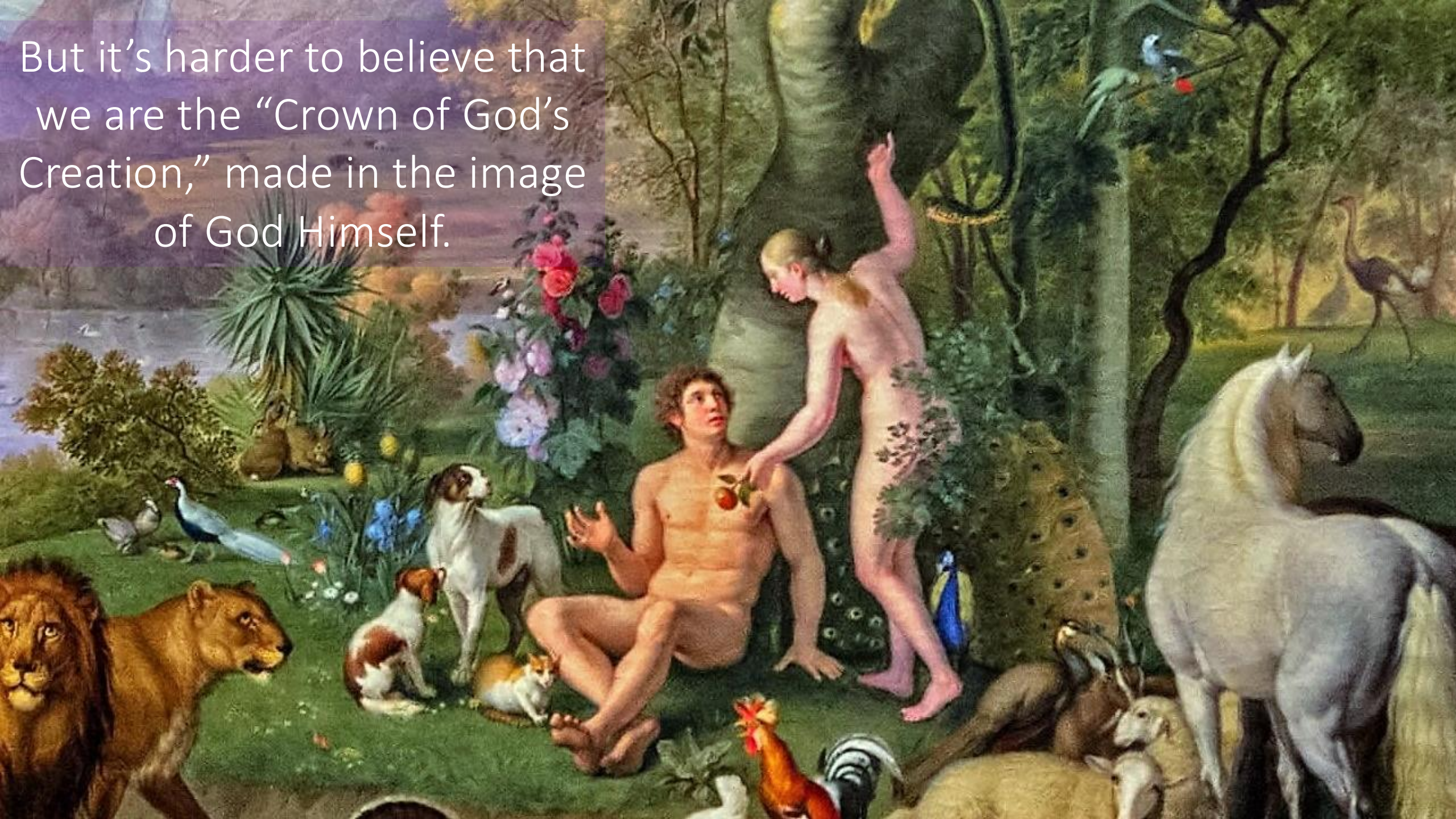
What is *one* part of the created world that makes *you* think of the beauty of God?



It's easy to see that God's creation
"out there" is amazing, beautiful,
well-ordered, and harmonious

LAGOON NEBULA (VISIBLE-LIGHT VIEW)

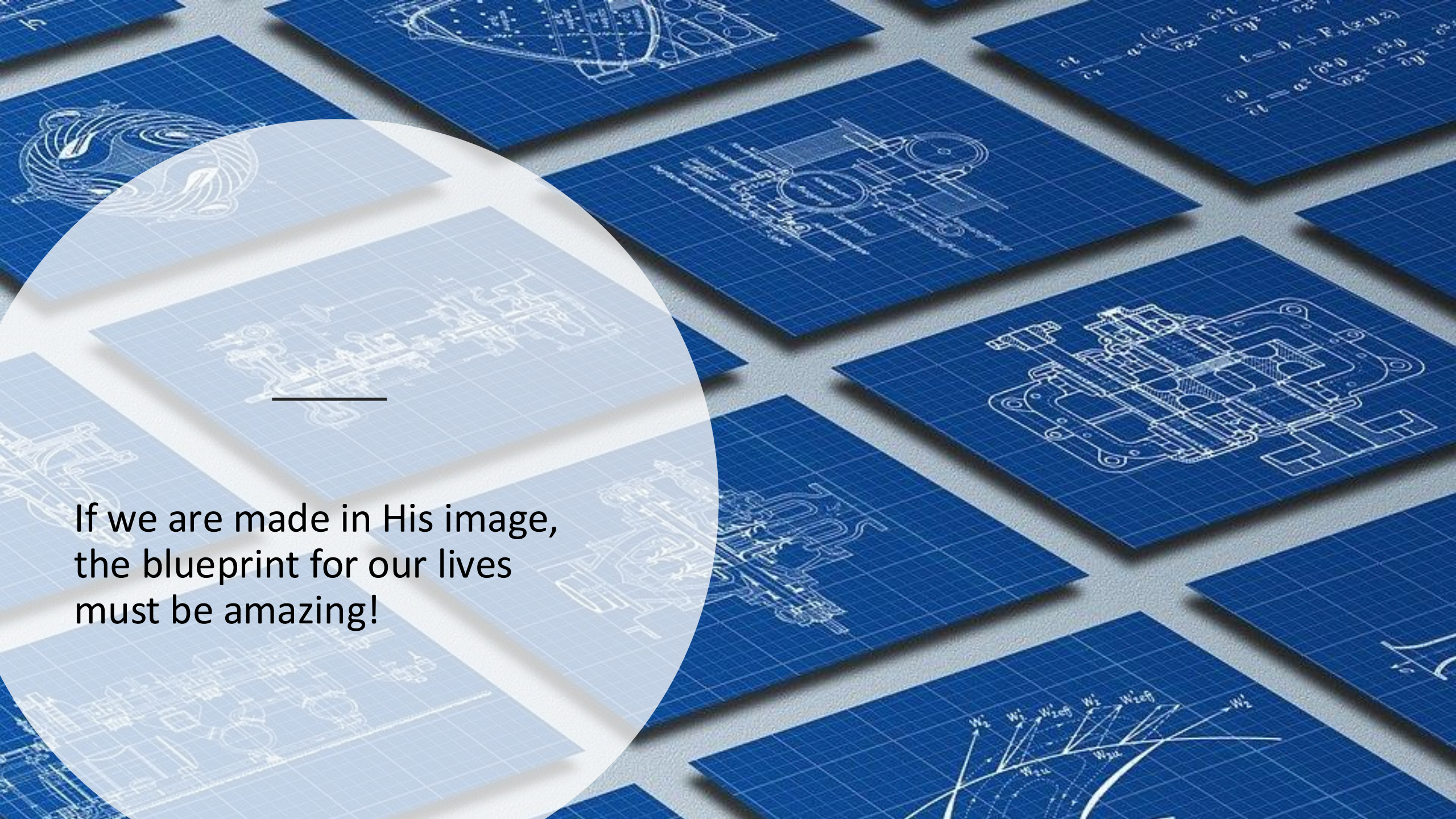
But it's harder to believe that we are the "Crown of God's Creation," made in the image of God Himself.



“Lord, I am wonderfully made.
Wonderful are all your works!
(Psalm 139:14)



“...unique and unrepeatabe...”
(CCC 2275)



If we are made in His image,
the blueprint for our lives
must be amazing!

False Humility



A Humble, Holy Boldness

A person with long hair, wearing a dark top and light-colored pants, is sitting on a rocky cliff overlooking a vast, deep blue ocean. The sun is reflecting off the water, creating a shimmering effect. The sky is clear and blue. The person is looking out at the horizon.

“I can do all things in Him who gives me strength.”
(Philippians 4:13)



Humility = possibility in the Lord



False Humility = Lack

“How *great* must a soul
be, to contain a **God!**”

St. Therese of Lisieux,
Doctor of the Church

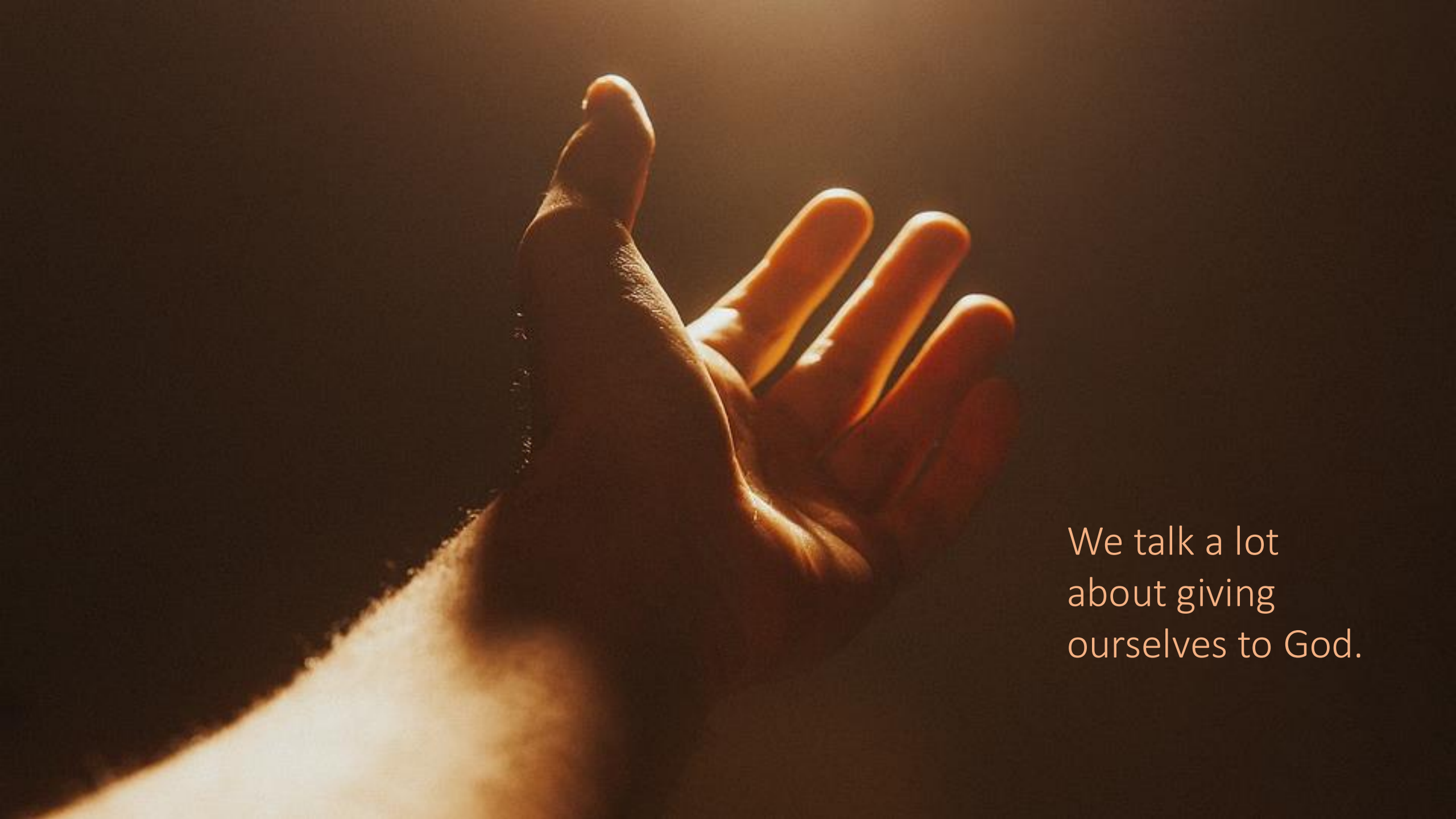


But we may need someone to call out the strengths that are hidden within us.

The Lord turned to [Gideon] and said, **“Go with the strength you have**, and save Israel from the power of Midian. **Is it not I who send you?”**

(Judges 6:14)





We talk a lot
about giving
ourselves to God.

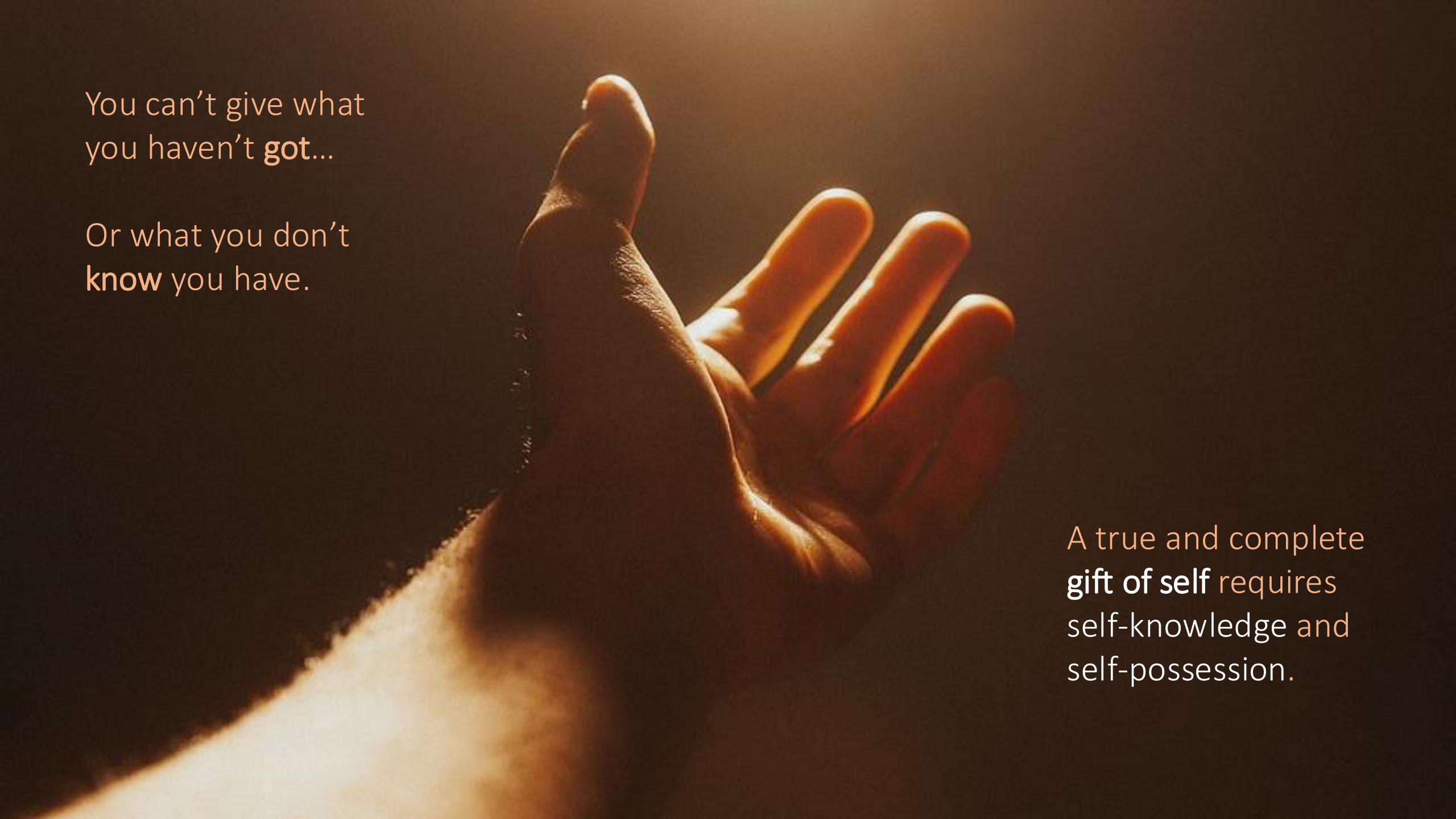
You can't give what
you haven't **got**...

Or what you don't
know you have.



You can't give what
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Or what you don't
know you have.



A true and complete
gift of self requires
self-knowledge and
self-possession.

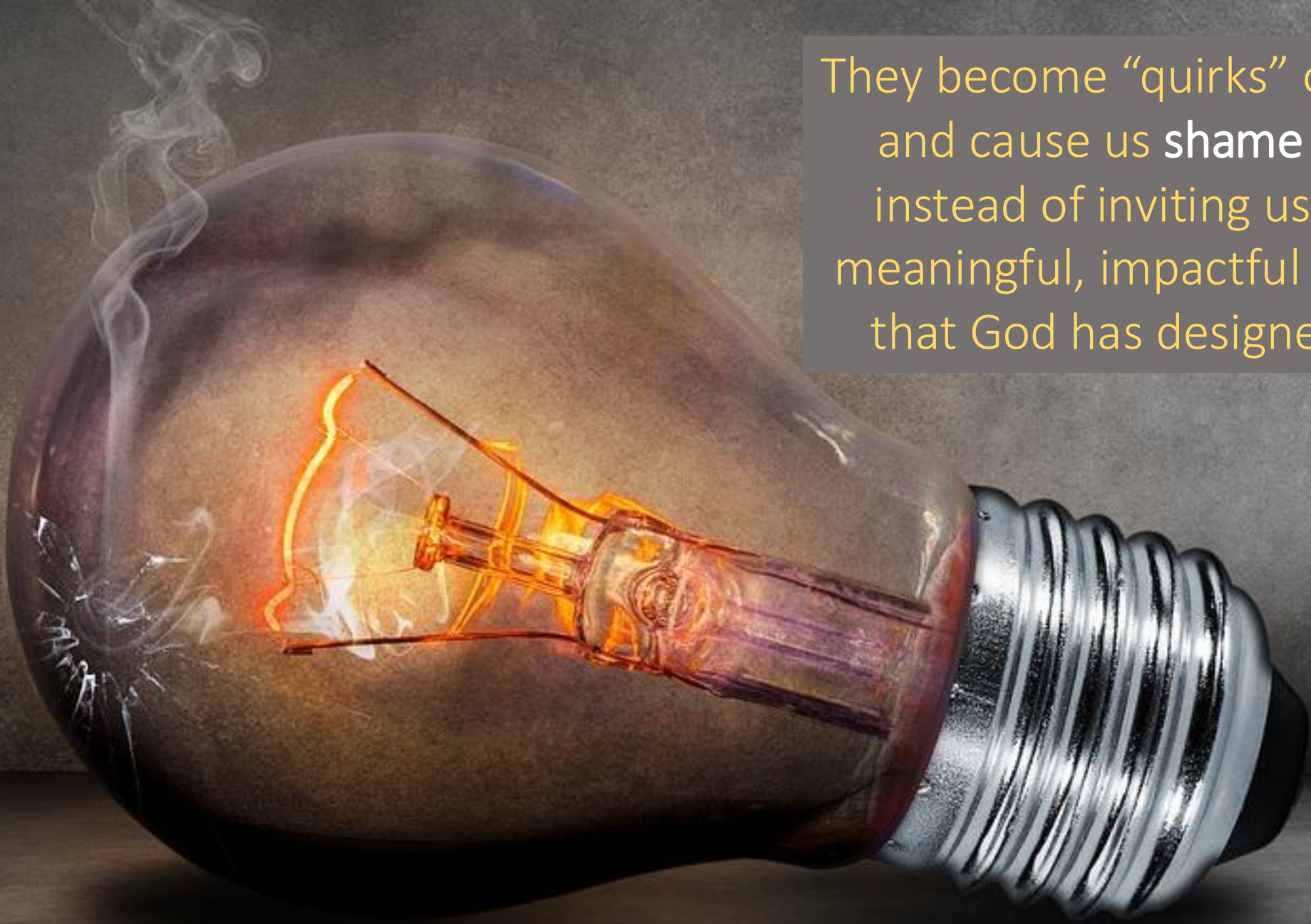
But **inadvertently**, most of us carry around a false identity that weighs down our lives.

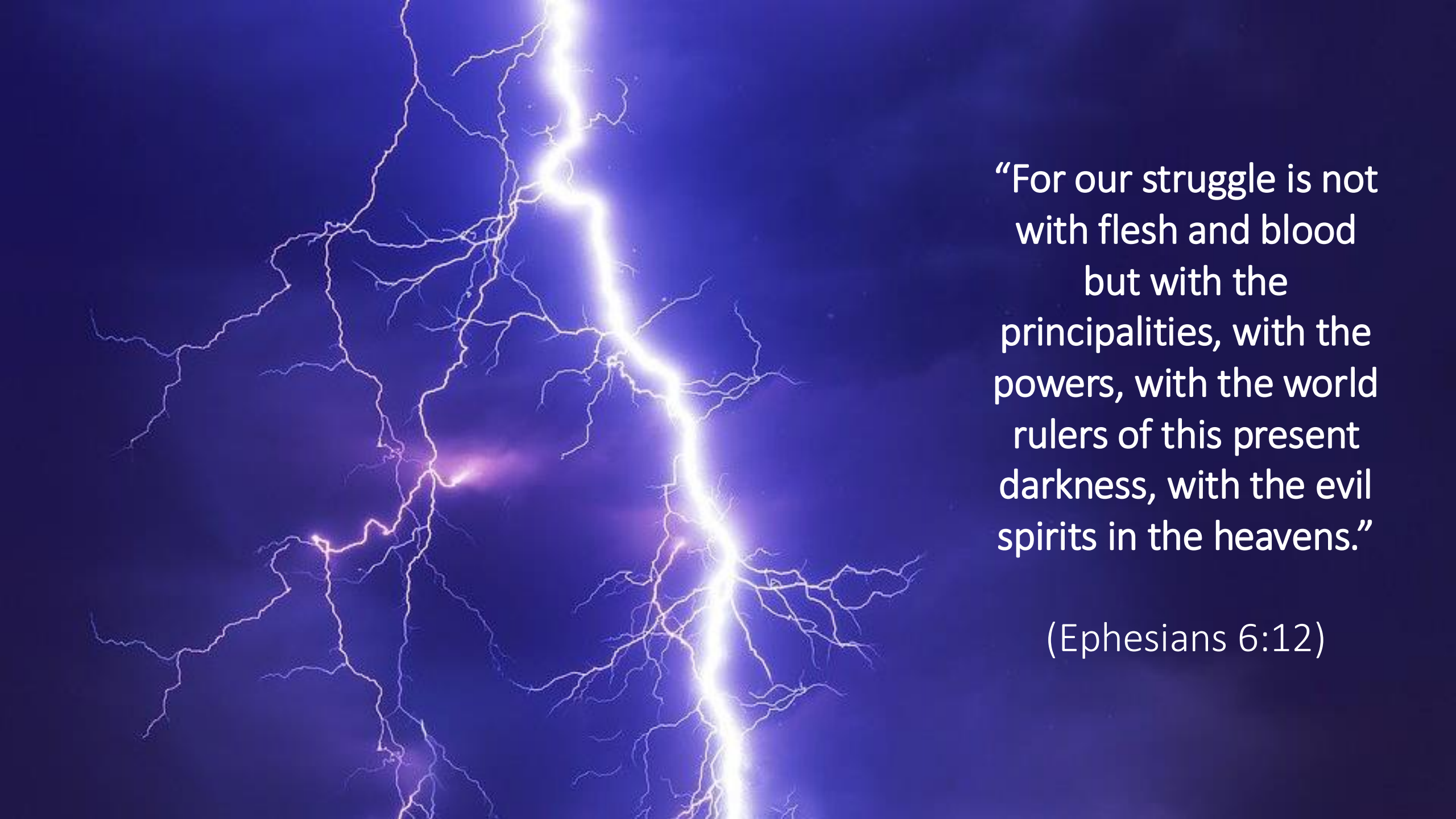


Because of false labels, misunderstandings, and wounds we carry—usually around **our most powerful gifts.**



They become “quirks” or “foibles”
and cause us shame and fear
instead of inviting us into the
meaningful, impactful adventure
that God has designed for us.





“For our struggle is not
with flesh and blood
but with the
principalities, with the
powers, with the world
rulers of this present
darkness, with the evil
spirits in the heavens.”

(Ephesians 6:12)

“Self-knowledge is so important that, even if you were raised right up to the heavens, I should like you never to relax your cultivation of it.”

--*The Interior Castle*



St. Teresa of Avila

Don Clifton
(1924-2003)



CliftonStrengths®

- Christian roots
- 60+ years of deep research
- Emphasizes what is right with us
- Provides remarkably nuanced feedback
- Dovetails nicely with principles of faith
- Invites us to be uniquely excellent

GALLUP®

GALLUP®

CliftonStrengths

Talent

- **Talents** are naturally recurring patterns of thought, feeling, or behavior that can be productively applied.

Strength

- A **strength** is the ability to consistently provide near-perfect performance in a specific activity.



6x

as likely to be engaged in
their jobs

6x

as likely to strongly agree
that they have the
opportunity to do what
they do best every day

3x

as likely to report having an
excellent quality of life

Plus, people are more confident and more likely to achieve their goals. They're more likely to report having ample energy, feeling well-rested, being happy, smiling or laughing a lot, learning something interesting, and being treated with respect. And they're less likely to report experiencing worry, stress, anger, sadness or physical pain.

No wonder people who use their CliftonStrengths are three times as likely to report having an excellent quality of life.

Almost 8 billion people in the world



One in 278,000
in any order

- 1. Input
- 2. Connectedness
- 3. Activator
- 4. Intellection
- 5. Learner

ONE in 33.4 MILLION
If in the same order

- 1. **Input**
- 2. **Connectedness**
- 3. **Activator**
- 4. **Intellection**
- 5. **Learner**

What if even half the people in
the world knew that they are
wonderfully made by God?





STRENGTHEN

- 1. **Input**
- 2. **Connectedness**
- 3. **Activator**
- 4. **Intellection**
- 5. **Learner**
- 6. Belief
- 7. Woo
- 8. Positivity
- 9. Strategic
- 10. Arranger

NAVIGATE

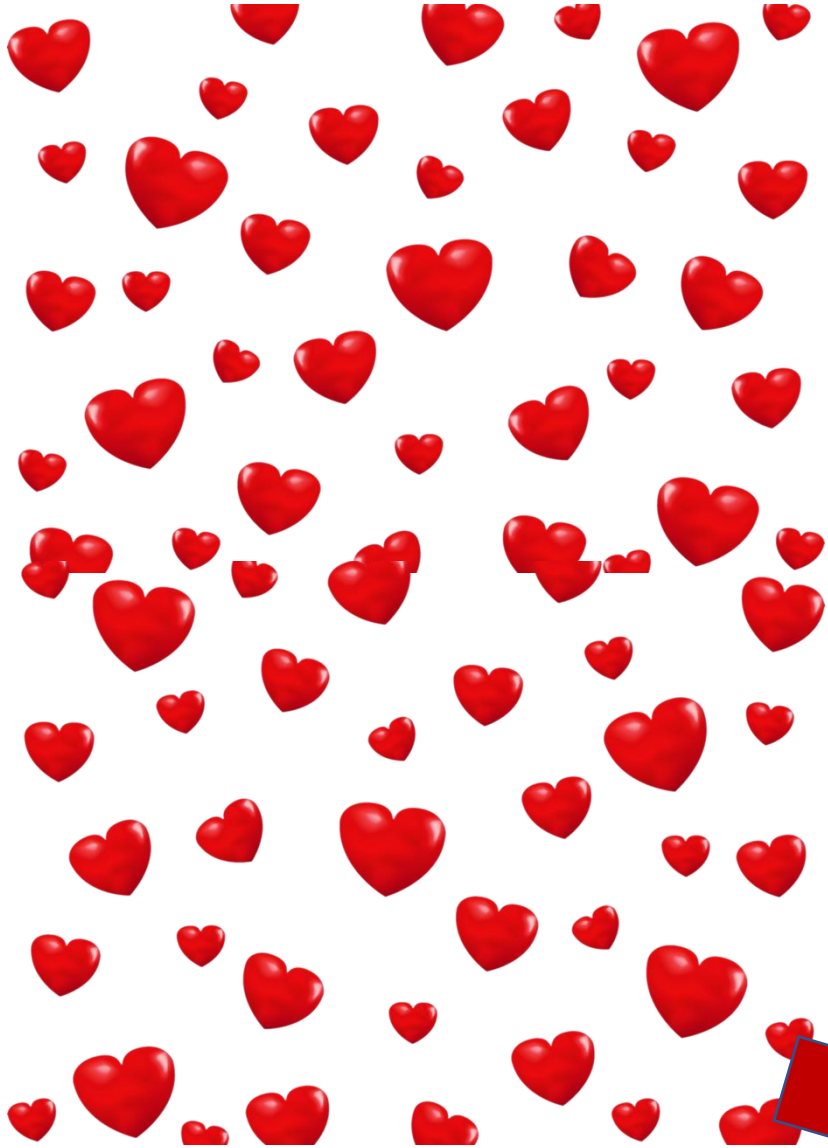
- 11. Communication
- 12. Developer
- 13. Responsibility
- 14. Relator
- 15. Achiever
- 16. Futuristic
- 17. Ideation
- 18. Restorative
- 19. Empathy
- 20. Context
- 21. Adaptability
- 22. Self-Assurance
- 23. Individualization
- 24. Analytical
- 25. Significance
- 26. Maximizer
- 27. Command
- 28. Discipline
- 29. Harmony
- 30. Focus
- 31. Includer
- 32. Deliberative
- 33. Consistency
- 34. Competition

NOT LABELS!

You lead with **Strategic Thinking** CliftonStrengths themes.

- **EXECUTING** themes help you make things happen.
- **INFLUENCING** themes help you take charge, speak up and make sure others are heard.
- **RELATIONSHIP BUILDING** themes help you build strong relationships that hold a team together.
- **STRATEGIC THINKING** themes help you absorb and analyze information that informs better decisions.

READ "IDENTIFY YOUR UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION: THE CLIFTONSTRENGTHS DOMAINS" SECTION TO [LEARN MORE >](#)



CliftonStrengths 34

(personalized **access points** for the deeper work)



A clear lens

...for intimacy with God and each other, examination of conscience, fulfillment, renewal, self-management, priority and goal setting, achievements, etc.

Stretch Break:
2 Minutes



EXECUTING	INFLUENCING	RELATIONSHIP BUILDING	STRATEGIC THINKING
Achiever	Activator	Adaptability	Analytical
Arranger	Command	Connectedness	Context
Belief	Communication	Developer	Futuristic
Consistency	Competition	Empathy	Ideation
Deliberative	Maximizer	Harmony	Input
Discipline	Self-Assurance	Includer	Intellection
Focus	Significance	Individualization	Learner
Responsibility	Woo	Positivity	Strategic
Restorative		Relator	





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Connecting Your Fulfillment Stories to Your Strengths

Do what you can on this page, before our live session, but I will give you some time to add to this:

DIRECTIONS:

Summarize each of your three Fulfillment Stories in a few brief words, then comment on which of your Talent Themes or areas of natural ability show up in that story.

FULFILLMENT STORY #1
CORRESPONDING TALENT THEMES (OR AREAS OF NATURAL ABILITY)

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FULFILLMENT STORY #1
<p>Example: When I was a little girl, I used to make up silly jokes and crack everyone up at the family table. It used to make everyone laugh and lightened up the atmosphere.</p> <p>Example: When I was sixteen, I used my love of research to prepare for buying my first second-hand car, and I got a great deal. I remember my dad saying, “You’re a sharp one!” And I felt so proud.</p>
CORRESPONDING TALENT THEMES (OR AREAS OF NATURAL ABILITY)
<p>Example: Woo, Communication, Positivity</p> <p>Example: Analytical, Competition, Strategic</p>

Timed Writing: 5 Minutes

- Write a few lines summarizing 1-3 Fulfillment Stories you have started to work on since Dr. Miller's session last month
- Referencing your CliftonStrengths, jot down a few talents that showed up in your Fulfillment Story



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FULFILLMENT STORY #1

CORRESPONDING TALENT THEMES (OR AREAS OF NATURAL ABILITY)

Prepare Your Breakout Introduction: 1 minute

- Your name and where you are from.
- Then, share the fun fact you shared in the chat earlier.
- Keep it to two sentences, being mindful of the time.

Breakout Session: 15 Minutes

- Each of you will take five minutes maximum to share what you're noticing about the ways some of YOUR known strengths (or talent themes, if you're familiar enough) are showing up in your Fulfillment Stories from last month's session with Dr. Miller.
 - **The listener** should ask clarifying questions and take note of the verbs his partner uses to describe his actions
 - **The listener** should notice "feeling" words and shifts in energy and take notes
- **In the last five minutes: Compare notes**, suggesting any additional ways your partner's strengths may be showing up in the story

Plenary Discussion

- What are you noticing, as you connect the dots between your motivations and your strengths?
- Questions?

“You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it
under a bushel basket;

it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light
to all in the house.”

(Matt 5:14)

