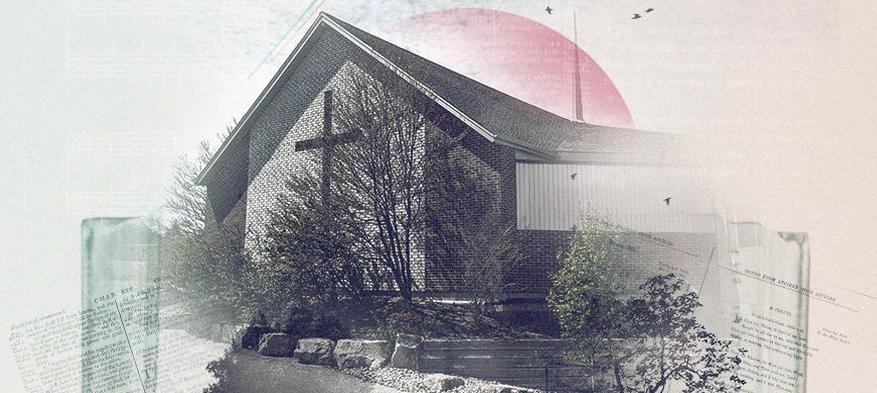
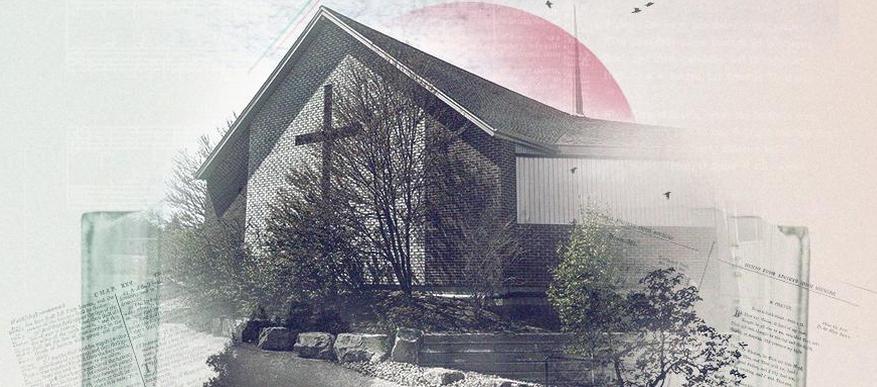


Why Church?



SPIRITUAL ACCOUNTABILITY



²⁵ “Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again.

²⁶ Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you.

²⁷ For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.

ACTS 20:25-38

²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock.

ACTS 20:25-38

³⁰ Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹ So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

ACTS 20:25-38

³² “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing.

ACTS 20:25-38

³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. ³⁵ In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

ACTS 20:25-38

³⁶ When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed.

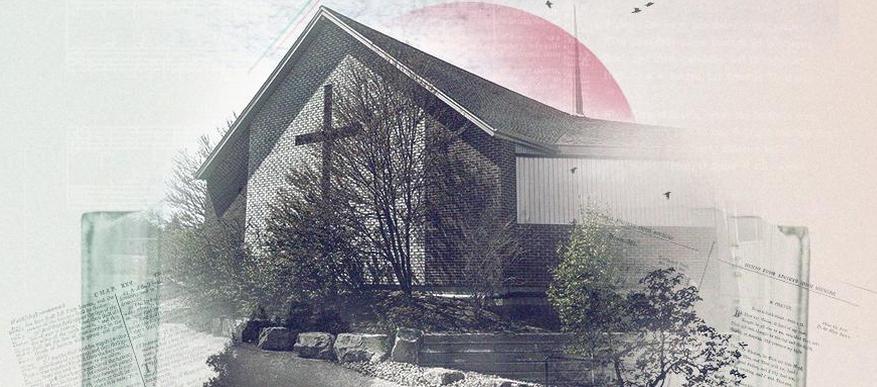
³⁷ They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. ³⁸ What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

ACTS 20:25-38



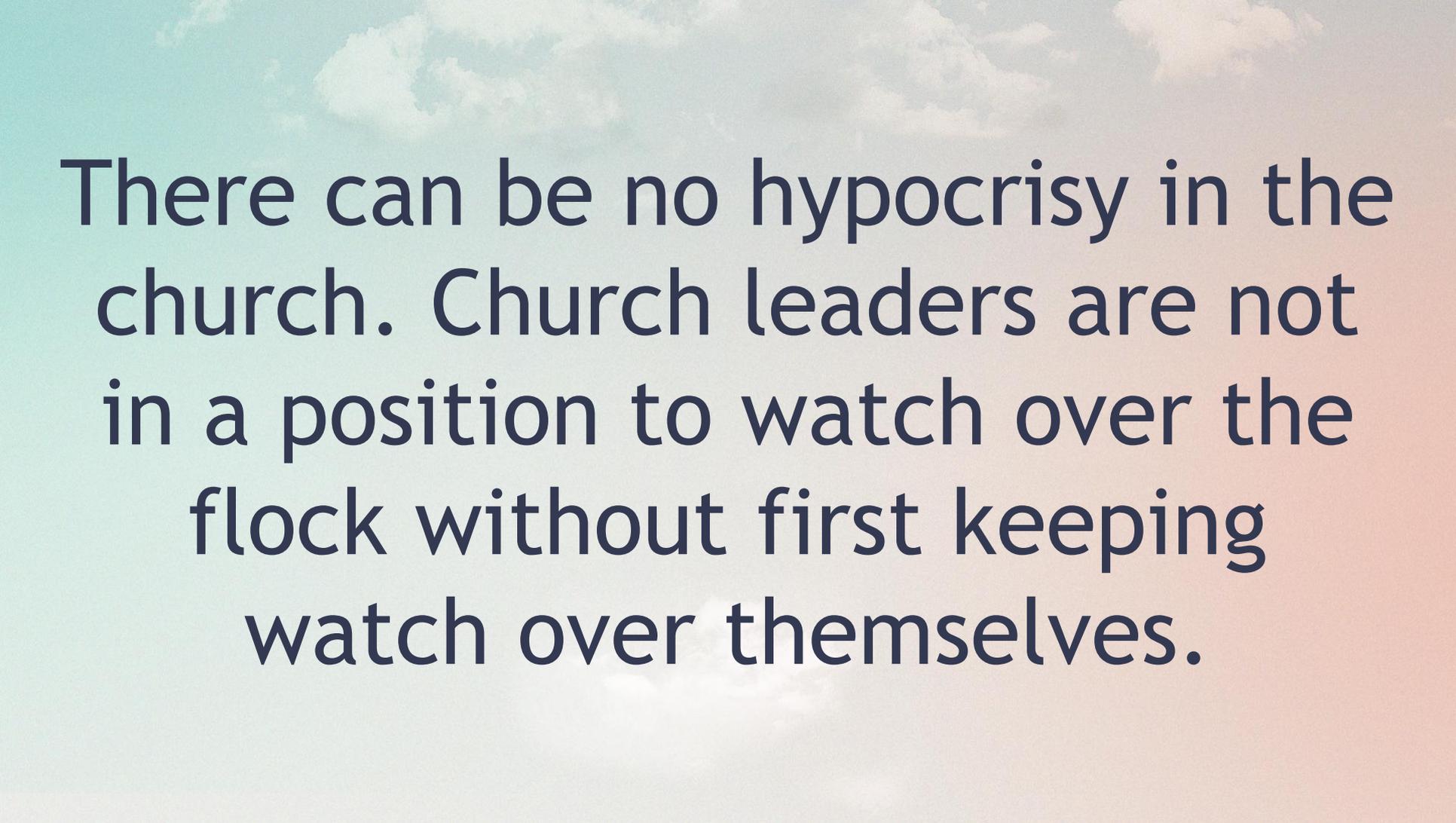
Accountability is not bad,
it is for your good!

1) A CONCERN FOR ACCOUNTABILITY



²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

ACTS 20:28



There can be no hypocrisy in the church. Church leaders are not in a position to watch over the flock without first keeping watch over themselves.

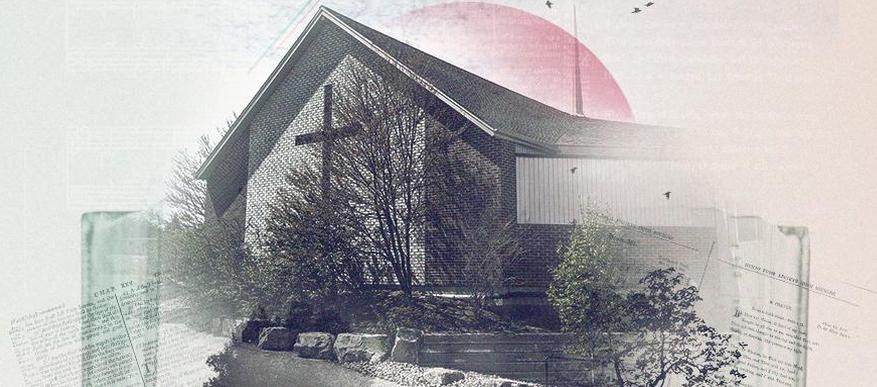
¹⁷ Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

HEBREWS 13:17

¹² Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. ¹³ Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-13

2) A CONCERN FOR TRUTH

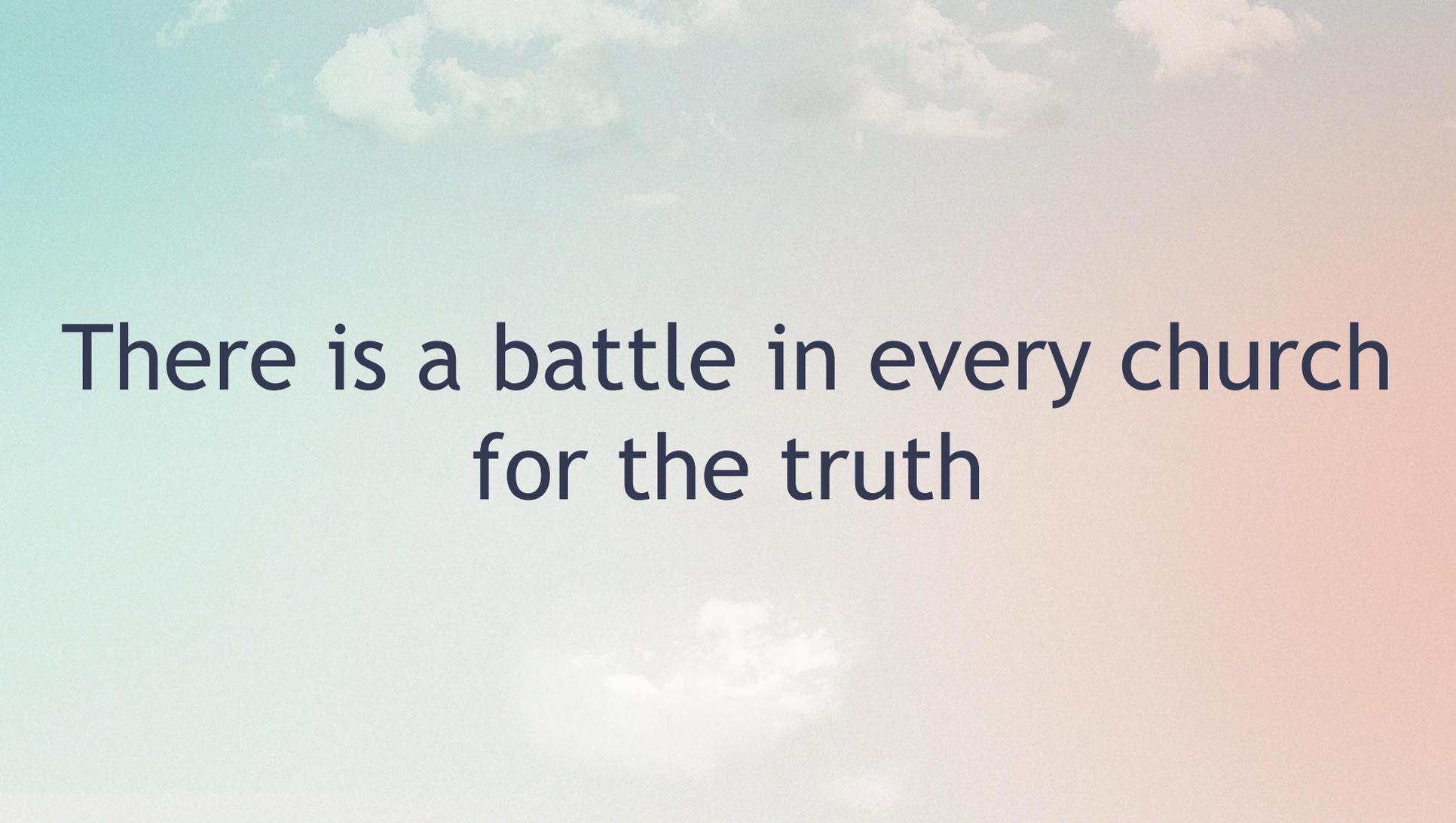


²⁹ I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. ³⁰ Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them.

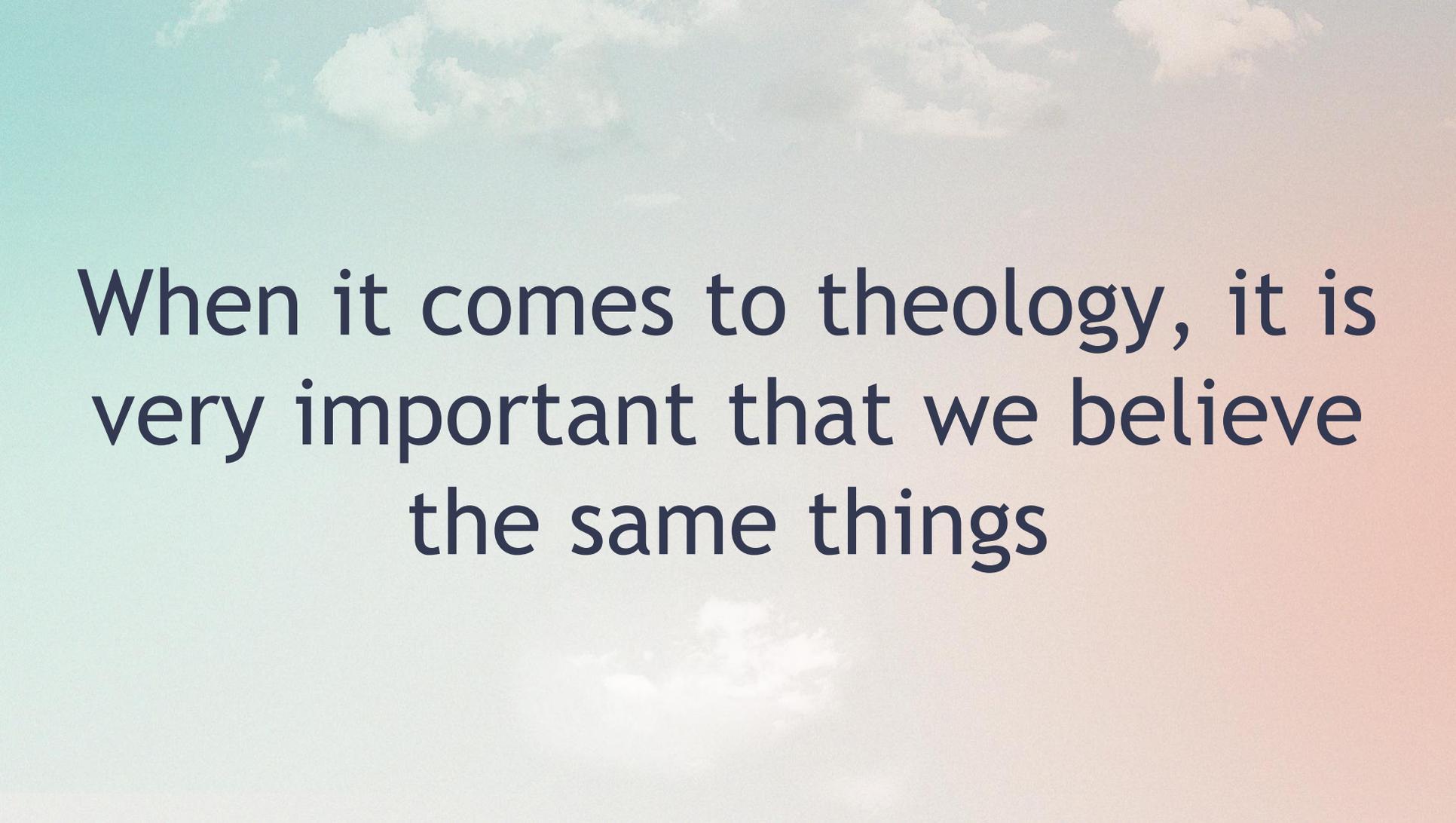
ACTS 20:29-31

³¹ So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

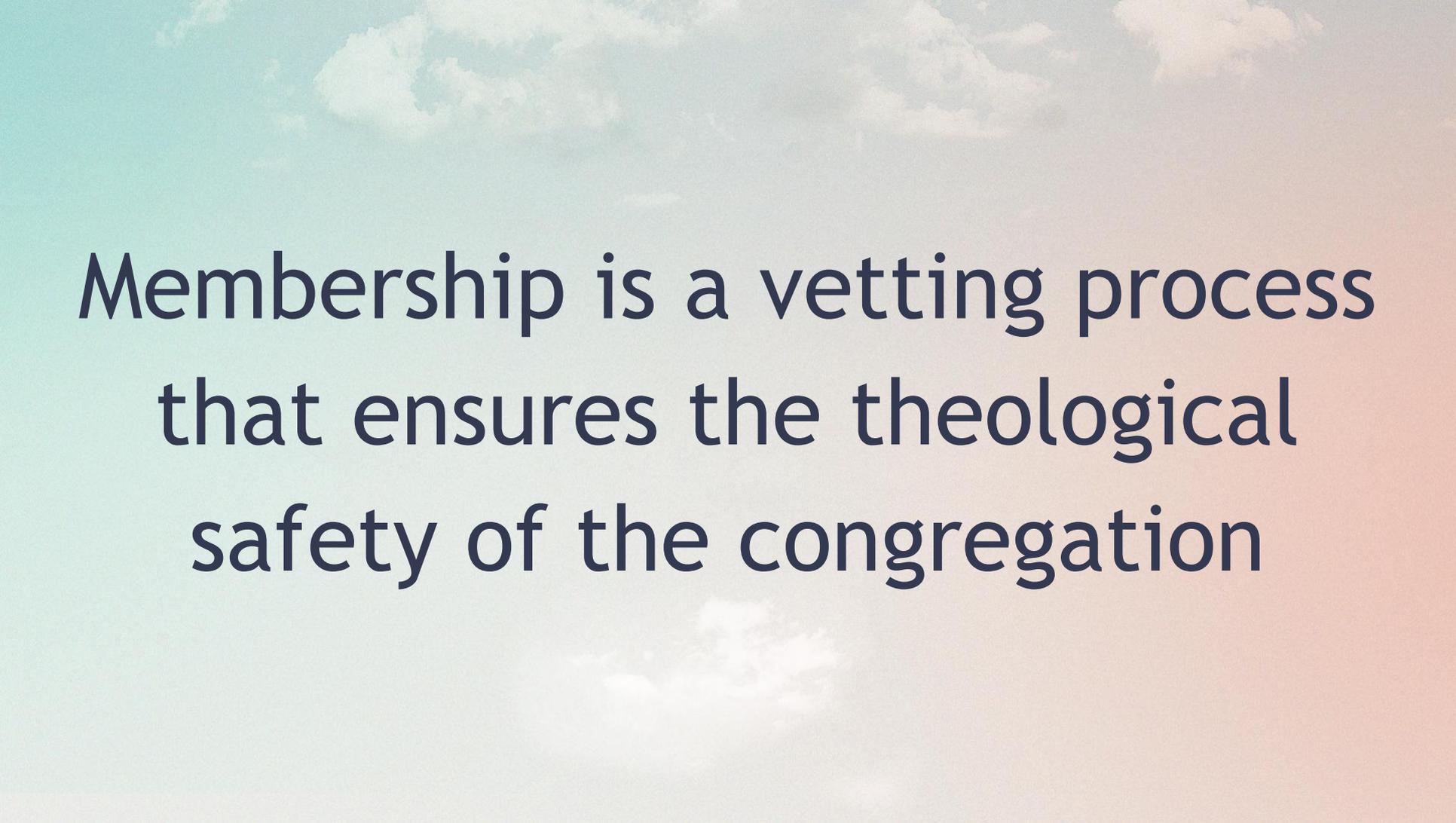
ACTS 20:29-31



There is a battle in every church
for the truth



When it comes to theology, it is
very important that we believe
the same things



Membership is a vetting process
that ensures the theological
safety of the congregation

- ¹ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge:
- ² Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

2 TIMOTHY 4:1-4

³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

2 TIMOTHY 4:1-4

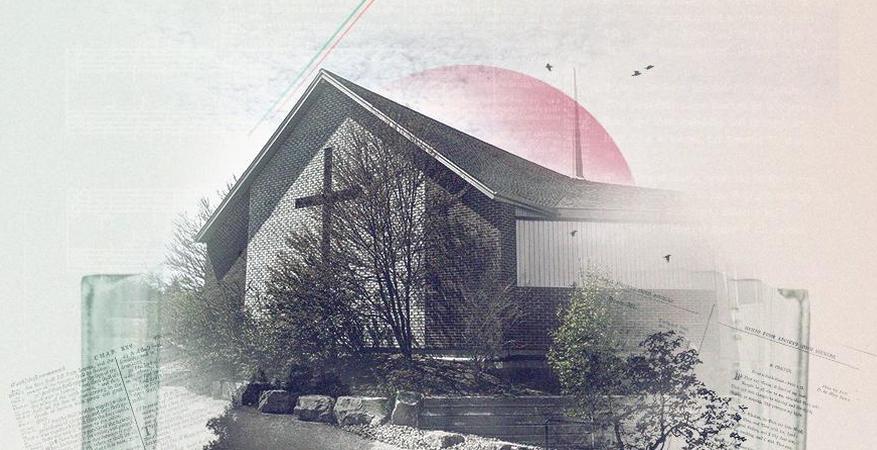
²³ Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.

2 TIMOTHY 2:23-26

²⁵ Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

2 TIMOTHY 2:23-26

3) A CONCERN FOR GIVING



³² “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing.

ACTS 20:32-35

³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. ³⁵ In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

ACTS 20:32-35

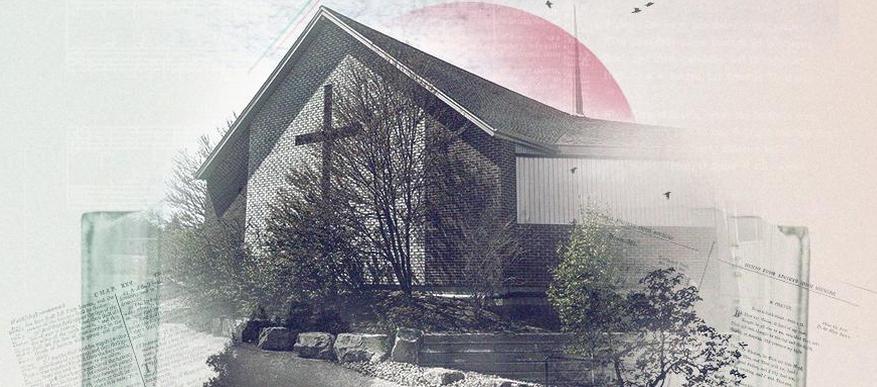


A) FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE

B) FAITHFUL TITHING

C) FAITHFUL SERVING

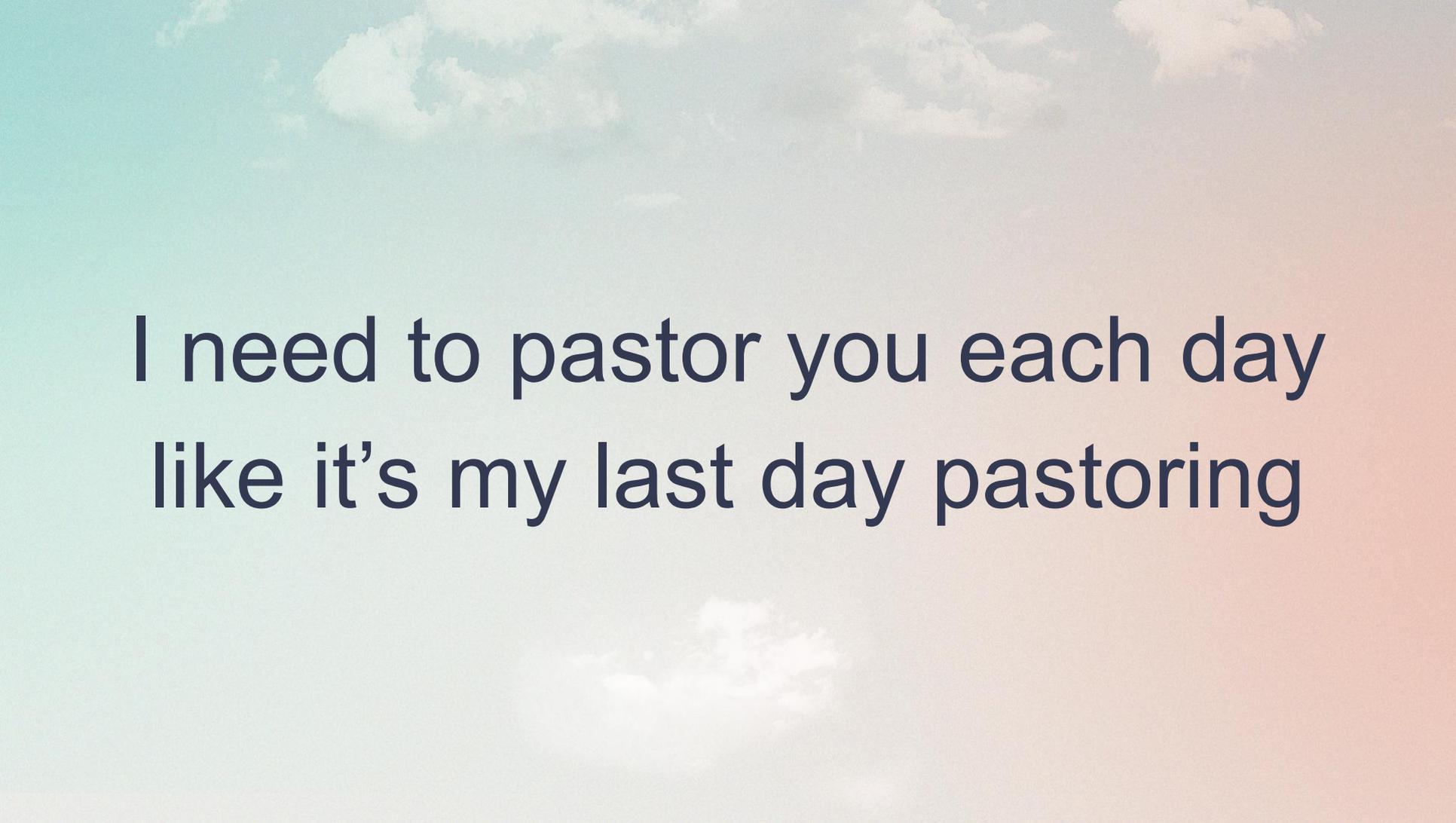
4) A CONCERN FOR RELATIONSHIP



³⁶ When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed.

³⁷ They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. ³⁸ What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

ACTS 20:36-38



I need to pastor you each day
like it's my last day pastoring



We have 352 members at WPA



Healthy membership is a sign of
a healthy church

Why Church?

