

The Courageous “Yes”

Luke 1:26-38

› ***Ephesians 2:10 - ¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (NLT)***

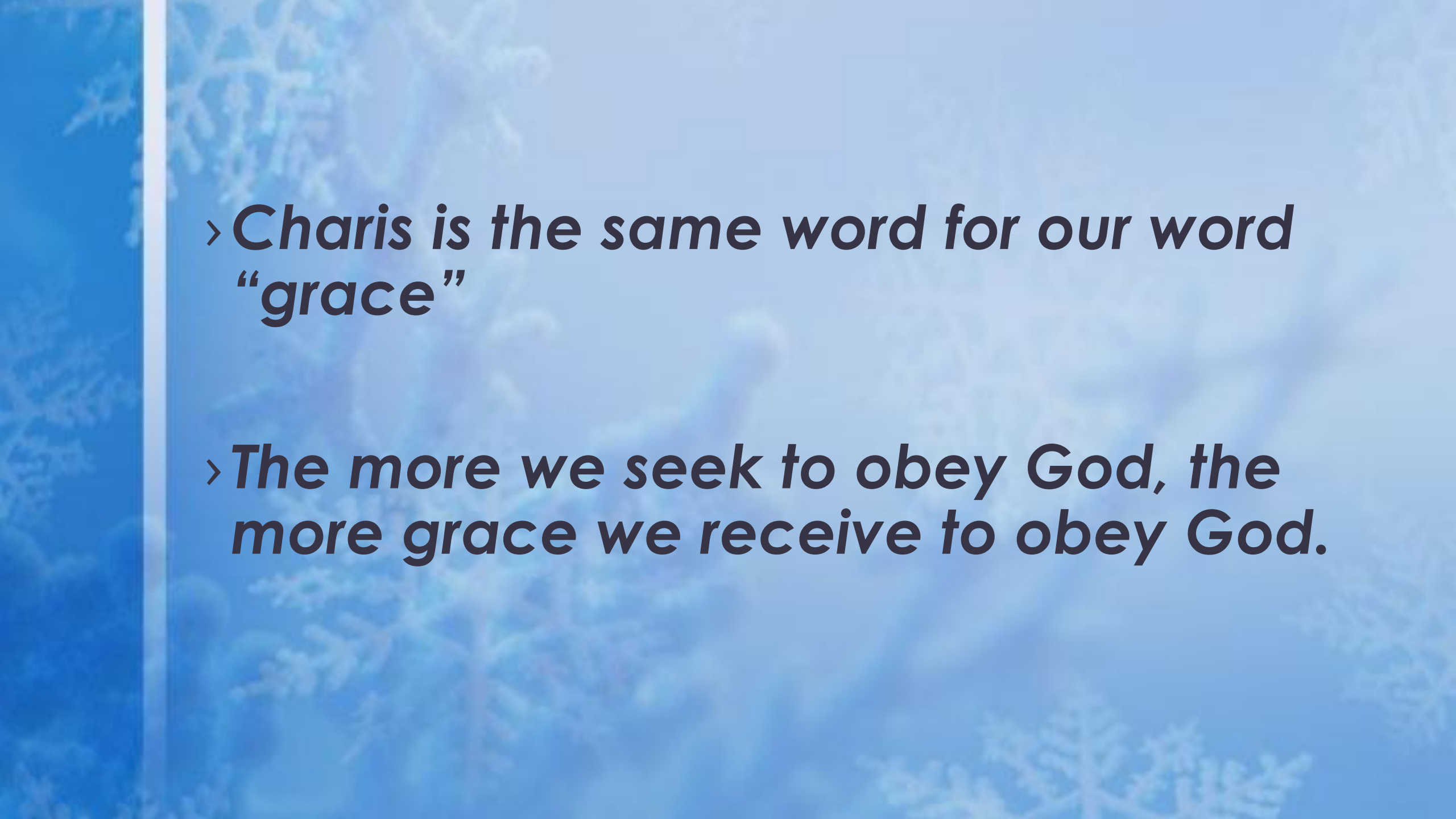
Luke 1:26-31

› ***²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"***

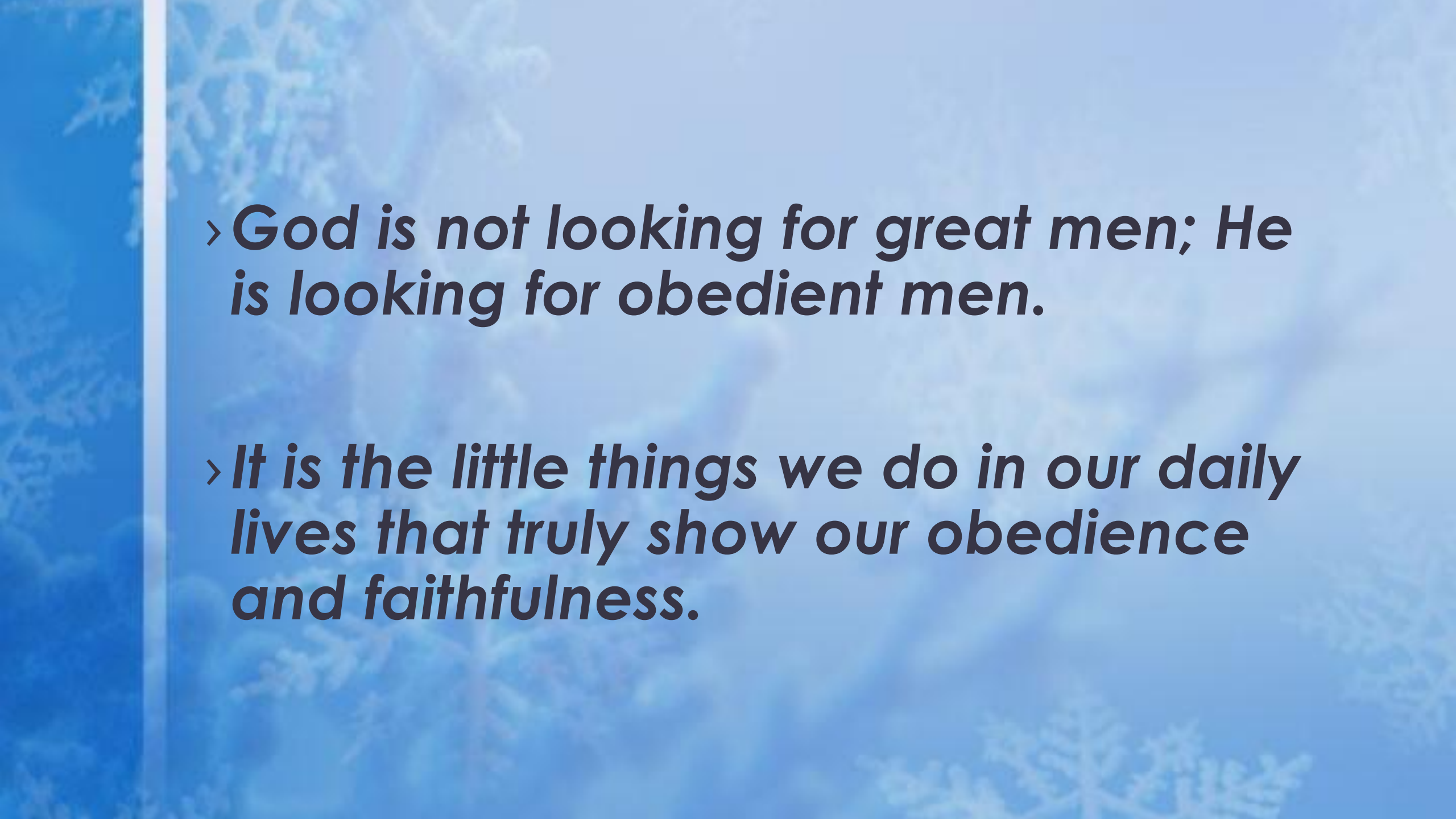
Luke 1:26-31

› **²⁹ But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. ³⁰ Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.**

- › ***To be used by God, you must first be submitted to God***
- › ***Favor in the Greek is Charis – graciousness or gratifying; the divine influence on the heart and its reflection in the life.***

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- › ***Charis is the same word for our word “grace”***
 - › ***The more we seek to obey God, the more grace we receive to obey God.***

› ***The question for you and I is, “Do we want grace to escape the consequences of our actions or do we want the strength that comes through grace to change our actions”?***

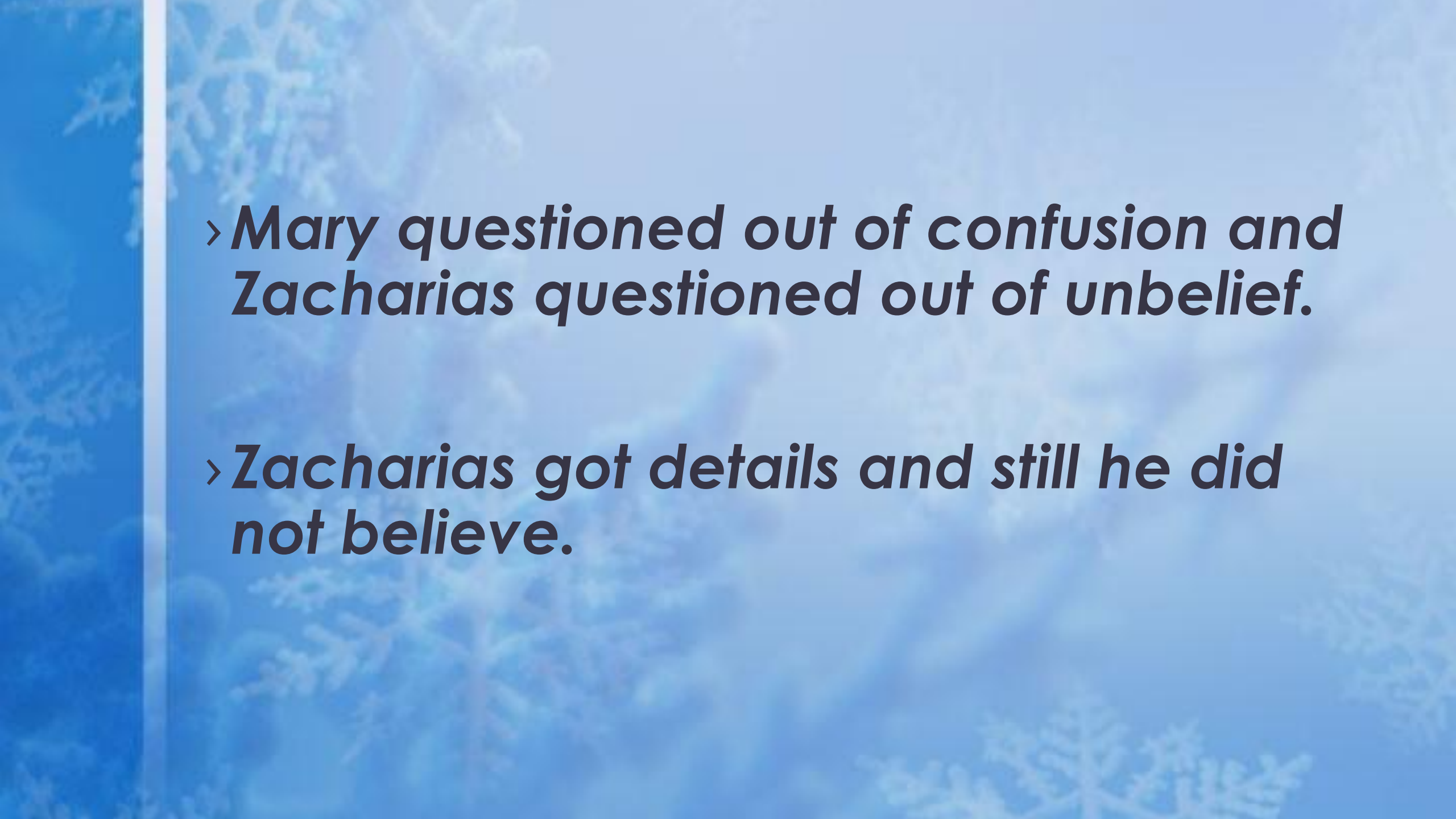
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- › ***God is not looking for great men; He is looking for obedient men.***
 - › ***It is the little things we do in our daily lives that truly show our obedience and faithfulness.***

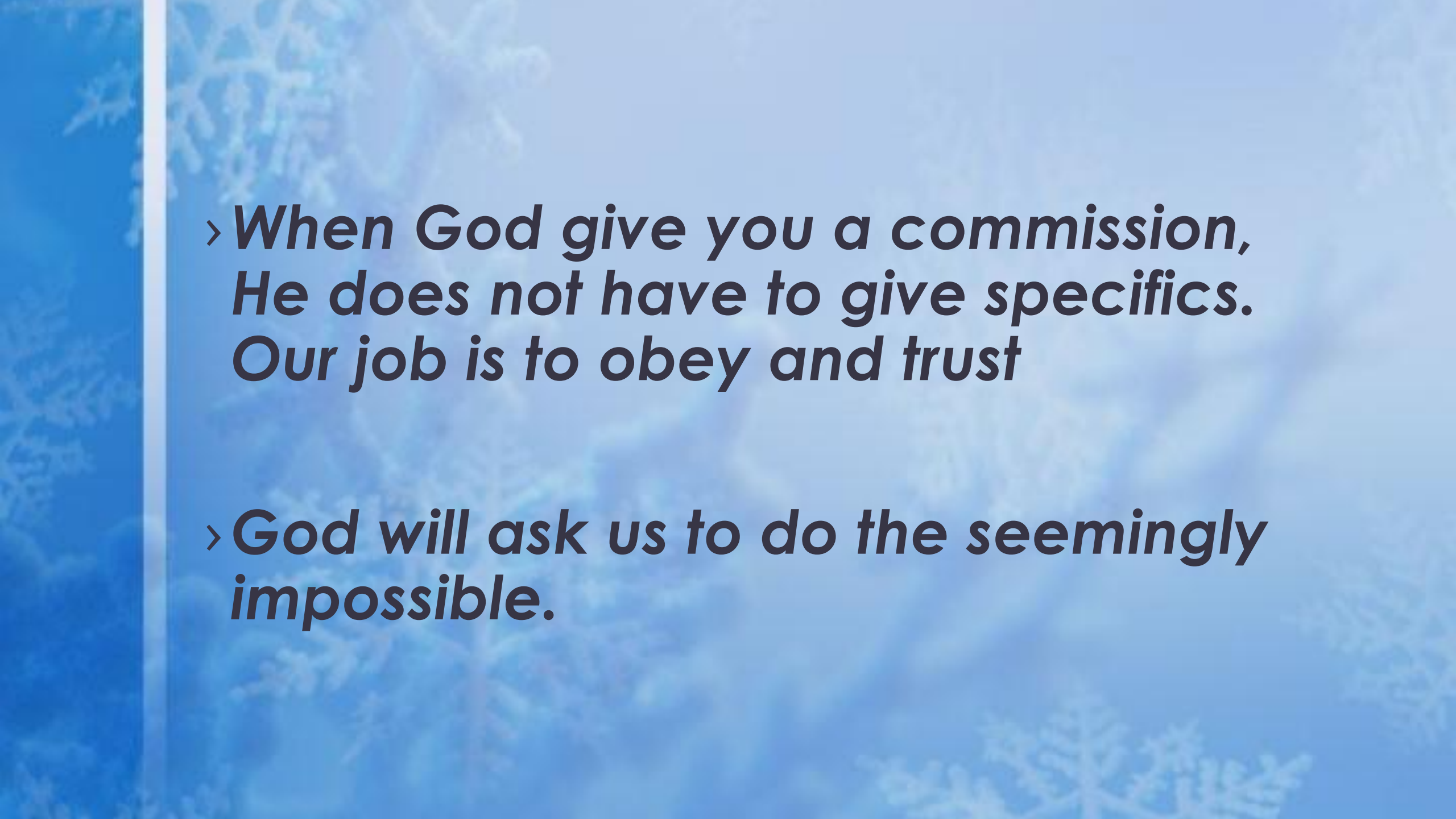
Luke 1:34-37

› ³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” ³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

Luke 1:34-37

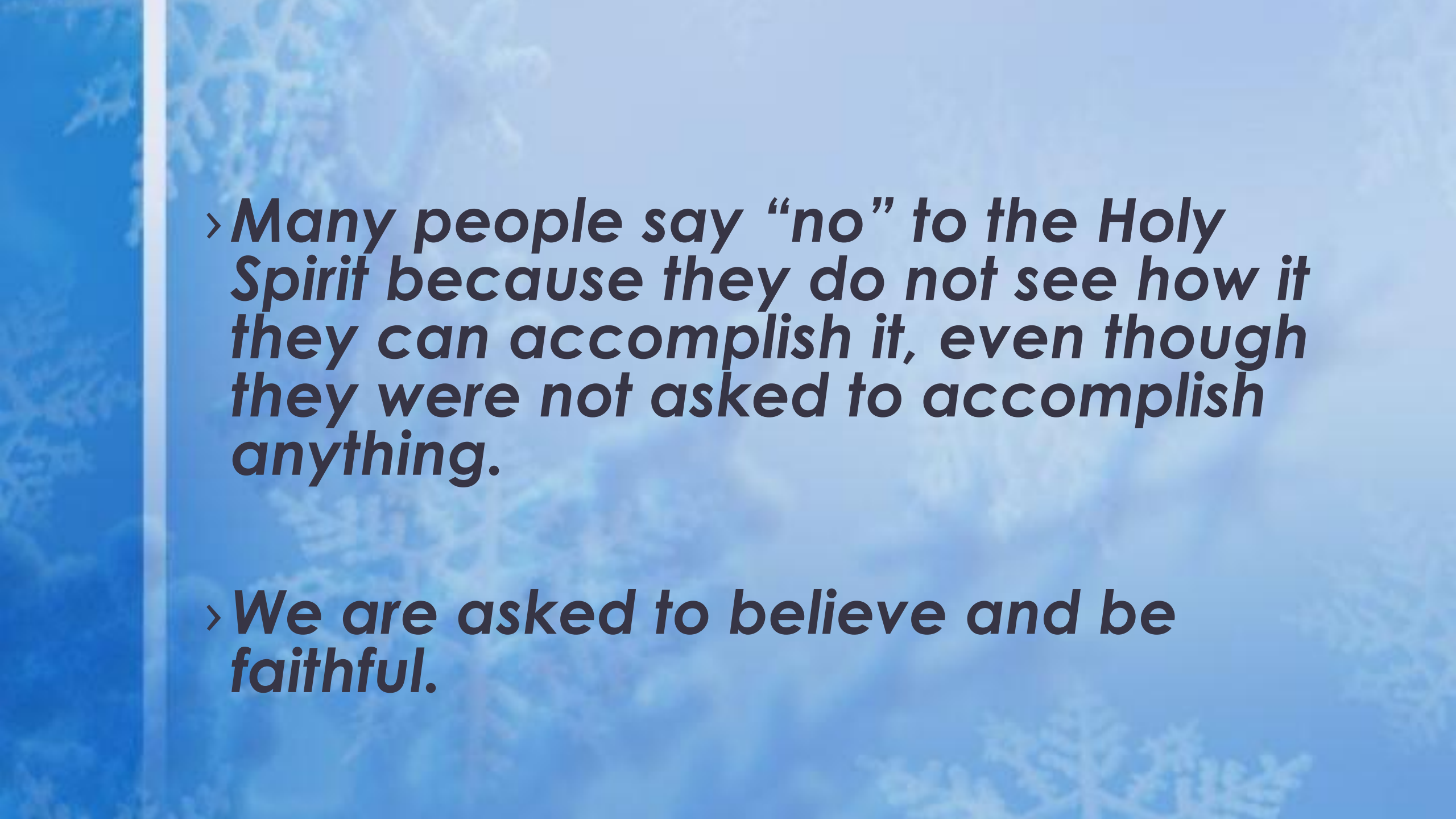
› ***³⁶ Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. ³⁷ For with God nothing will be impossible.”***

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- › **Mary questioned out of confusion and Zacharias questioned out of unbelief.**
 - › **Zacharias got details and still he did not believe.**

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- › ***When God give you a commission,
He does not have to give specifics.
Our job is to obey and trust***
 - › ***God will ask us to do the seemingly
impossible.***

› ***“If it is God’s will, then it’s God’s bill” –
Pastor James Turner***

› ***If God commissions it, He will
empower it.***

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- › **Many people say “no” to the Holy Spirit because they do not see how it they can accomplish it, even though they were not asked to accomplish anything.**
 - › **We are asked to believe and be faithful.**

- › ***The problem is not that there are not a lot of things accomplished for the Kingdom of God, the problem is that not many things are ever started for the Kingdom of God.***
- › ***Being a Christian is less about cautiously avoiding sin than about courageously and actively doing God's will. – Dietrich Bonhoeffer***

- › **We will either focus on the problems the task gives us, or we will focus on the Giver of the power and strength to complete the task.**
- › **Psalm 138:7-8 - ⁷ Though I am surrounded by troubles, you will protect me from the anger of my enemies. You reach out your hand, and the power of your right hand saves me. ⁸ The Lord will work out his plans for my life—for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever. Don't abandon me, for you made me.**

› **Luke 1:38 – ³⁸ Then Mary said,
“Behold the maidservant of the
Lord! Let it be to me according to
your word.” And the angel
departed from her.**

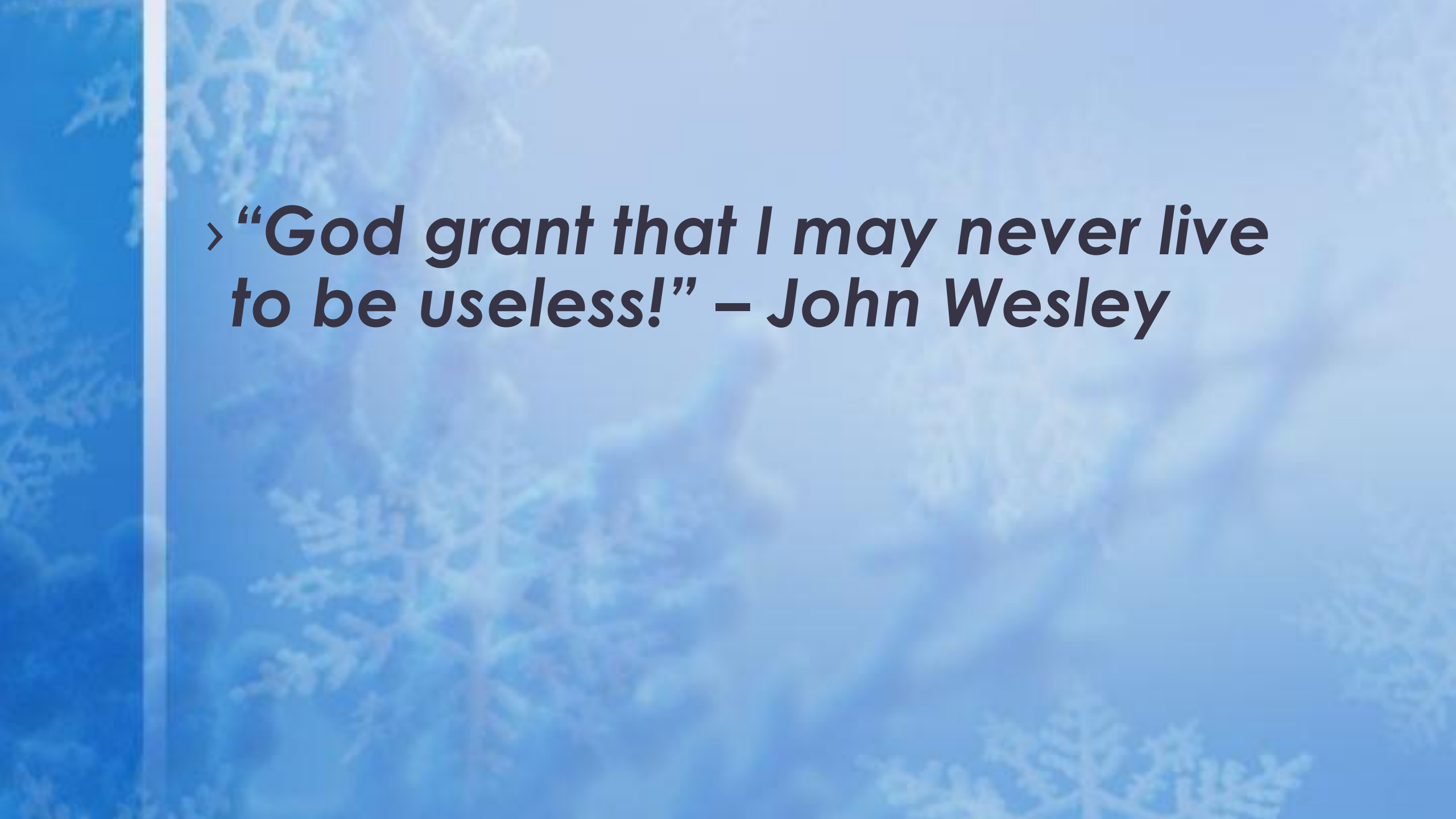


› ***We must focus on the command and not the repercussions or struggles.***

› ***God did not call us to an easy life, but a fruitful one.***

› ***“A man may be considered spiritual when he wants to see the honor of God advanced through his life even if it means that he himself must suffer temporary dishonor or loss”. – A.W. Tozer***

› **Hebrews 13:20-21 - ²⁰ Now may the God of peace—who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood—²¹ may he equip you with all you need for doing his will. May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him. All glory to him forever and ever! Amen. (NLT)**



› ***“God grant that I may never live
to be useless!” – John Wesley***