



Spiritual
LESSONS FROM
OUR WALK WITH
God

A photograph of a forest path at sunrise or sunset. Sunlight filters through the dense canopy of tall trees, casting a warm, golden glow. A paved path curves through the scene. In the foreground, a man and a woman walk away from the camera. Further down the path, another person walks towards the viewer. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

Part 1

TO JUDGE OR NOT TO JUDGE?

SCOTT HAYDEN

MATTHEW 7

¹ Do not judge

⁶ Do not give what
is sacred to dogs...

pigs

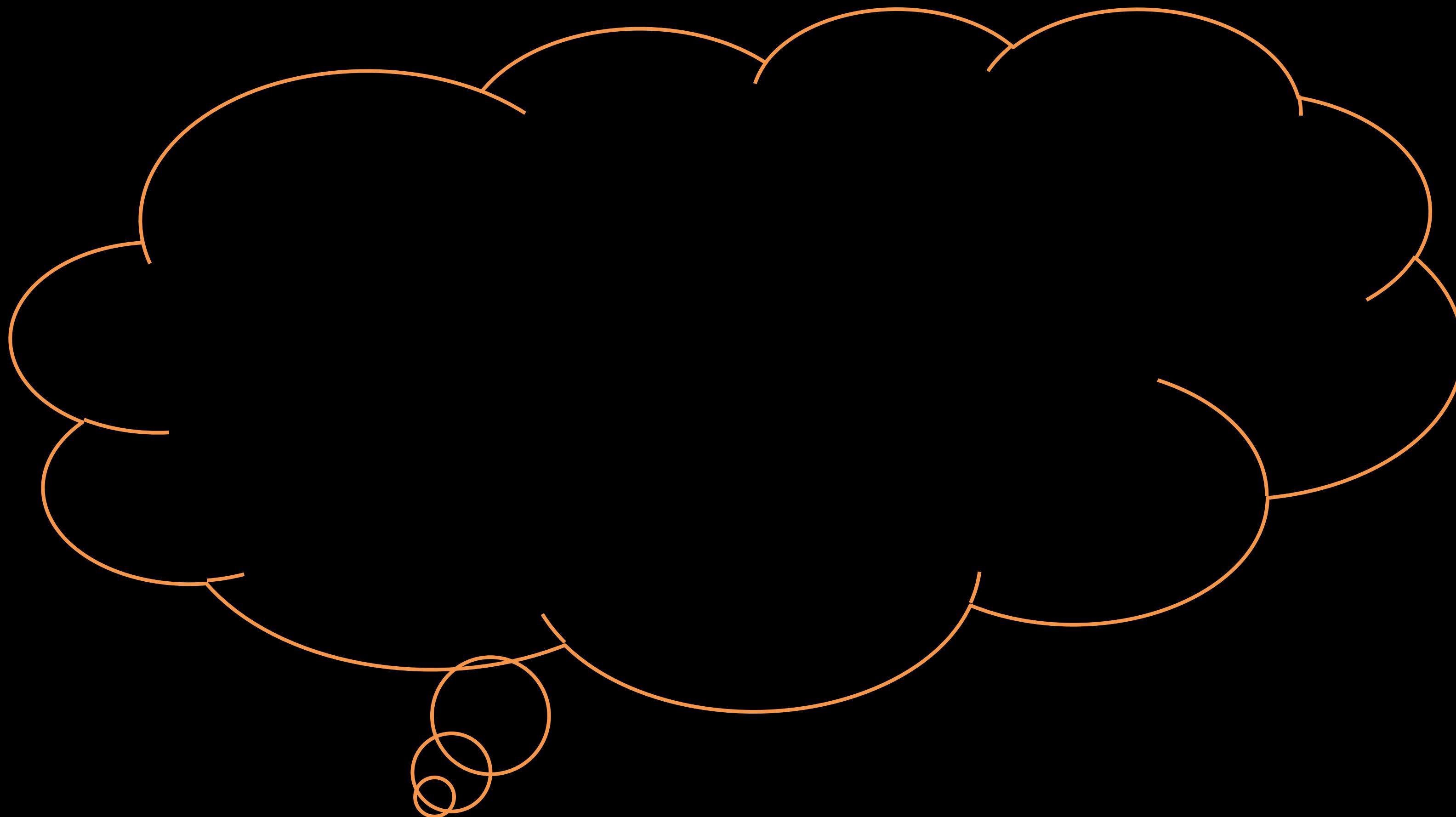


A photograph of a forest path at sunset. Two people are walking away from the camera on a dirt path. On the left, a man and a woman walk together. On the right, a person walks alone. The path is lined with tall trees, and the warm sunlight filters through the leaves, creating a golden glow. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

Part 1

TO JUDGE OR NOT TO JUDGE?

SCOTT HAYDEN



A landscape photograph of rolling hills at sunset. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, transitioning to a darker blue at the horizon. The hills are covered in green vegetation and are bathed in the warm light of the setting sun. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

To Judge or Not to Judge?

Why is this not a simple question?

A wide-angle photograph of a large, green, grassy hill under a sky filled with white and grey clouds. The hill slopes gently from the foreground to the background, with some small, scattered plants visible in the grass.

TELL & RETELL

Do not

Why not Why How When

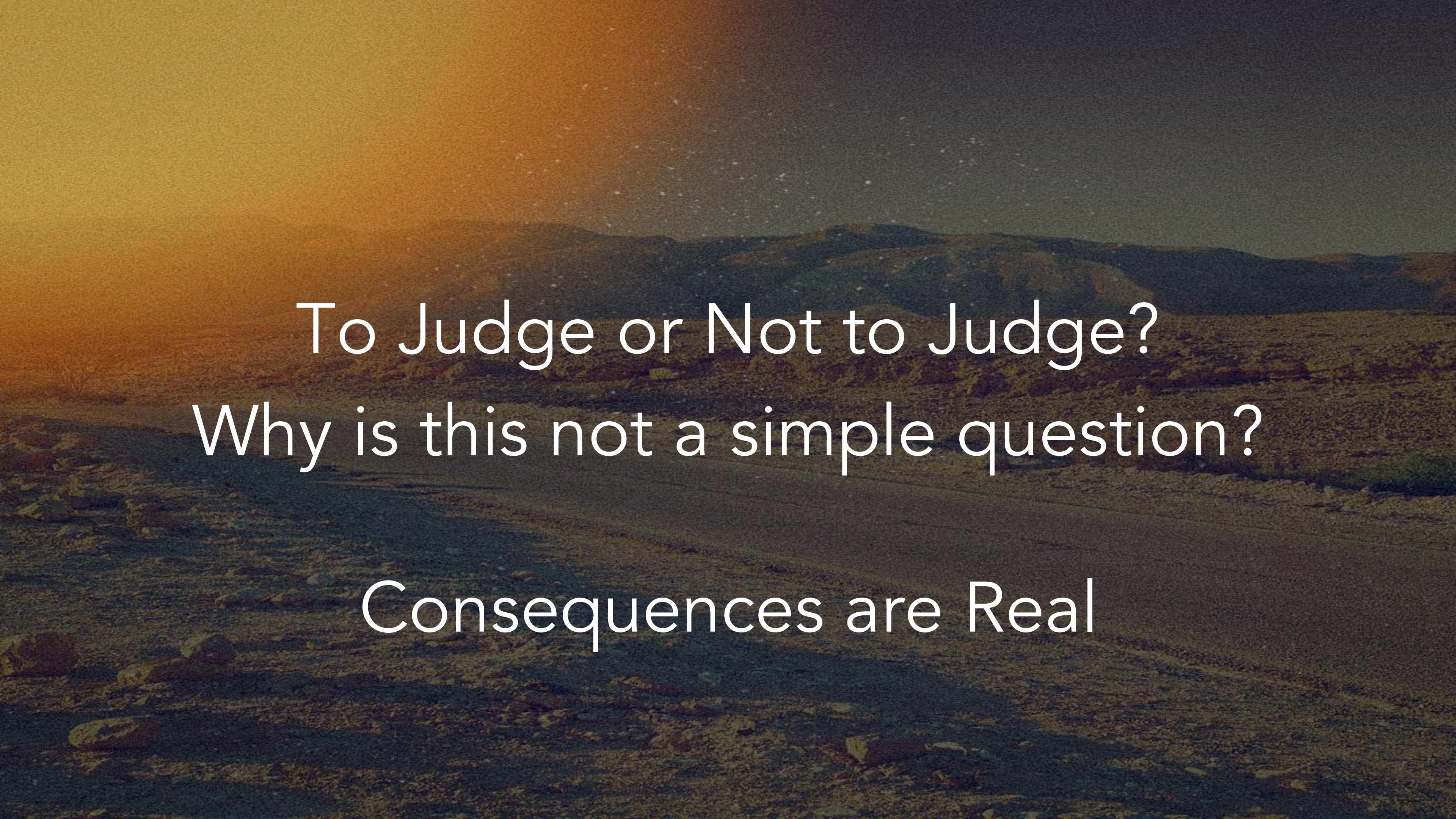
Do not

MATTHEW 7:1-2

Do not judge,
or you too will be judged.

For in the same way you judge others,
you will be judged,
and with the measure you use,
it will be measured to you.



A landscape photograph of rolling hills at sunset. The sky is a warm, glowing orange and yellow, transitioning into darker blues and purples. The hills in the background are dark, silhouetted against the bright sky. In the foreground, there are more hills with some vegetation, appearing in shades of green and brown. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

To Judge or Not to Judge?
Why is this not a simple question?

Consequences are Real

MATTHEW 7:3

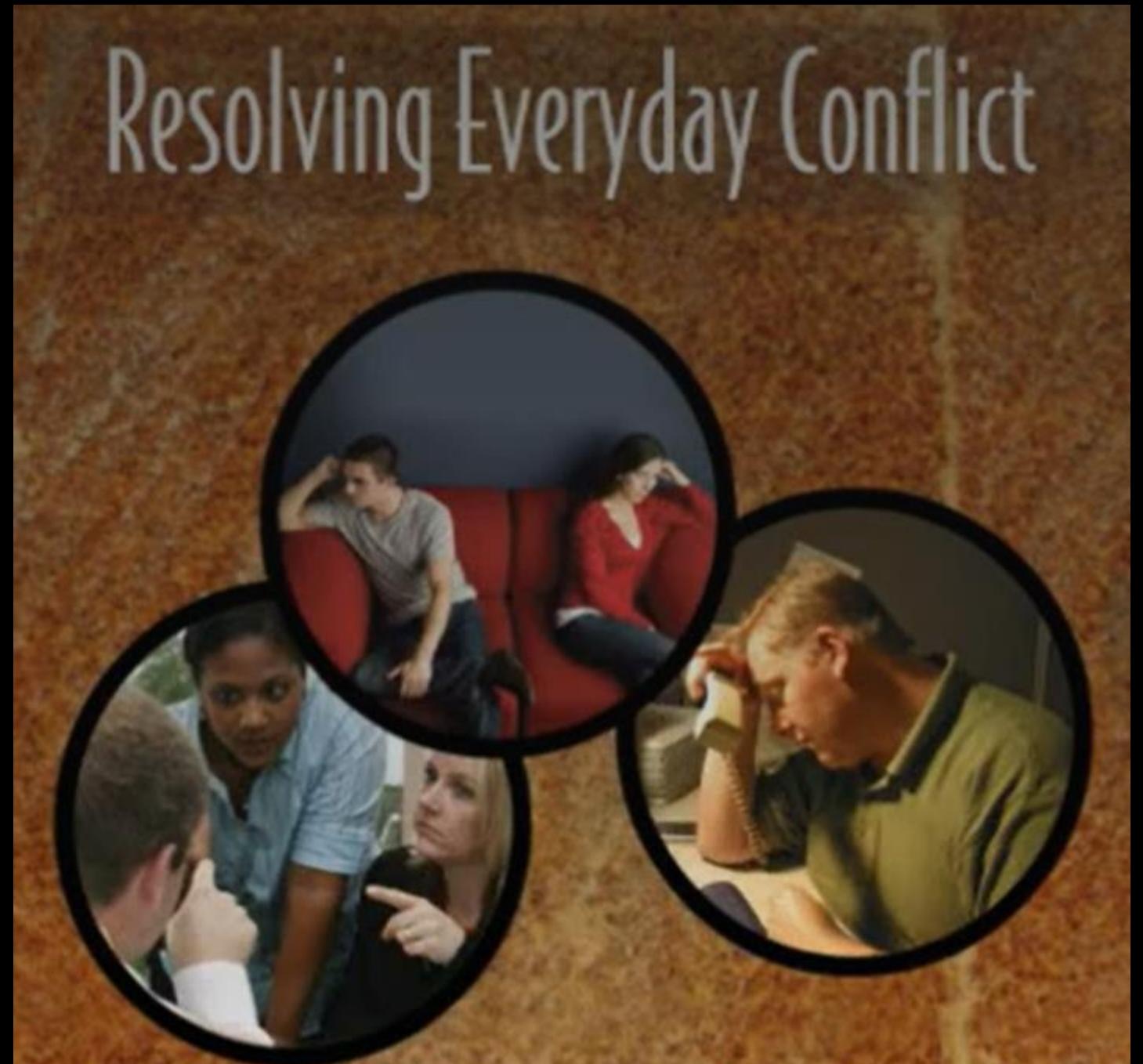
Why do you look at
the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye
and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?





You may be only 2%
responsible for a problem,
but you are 100%
responsible for your 2%

~ Tim Pollard
in *Resolving Everyday Conflict*



righthow MEDIA

MATTHEW 7:3

Why do you look at
the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye
and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?

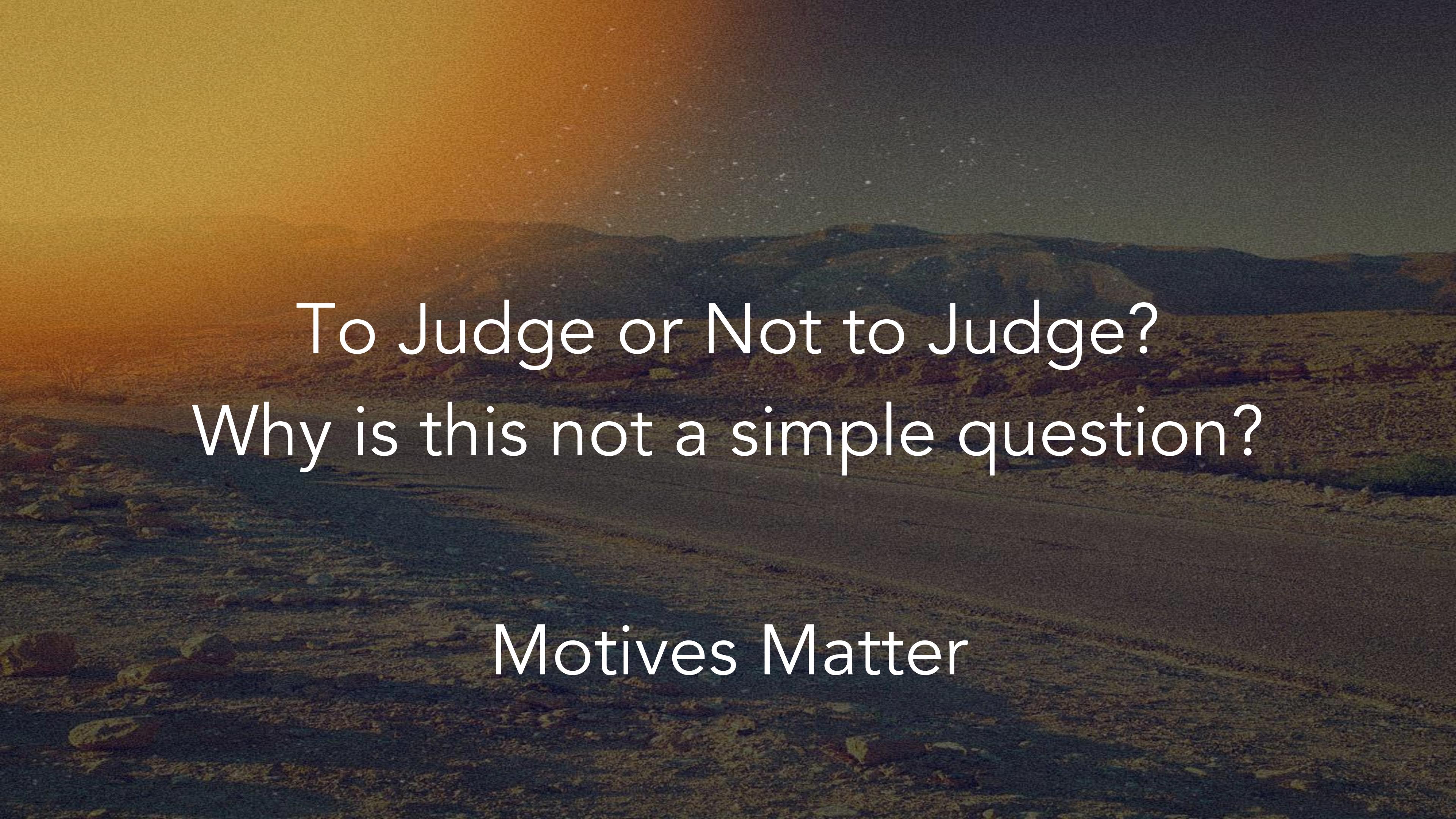
MATTHEW 7:4

How can you say to your brother [or sister]

'Let me take the speck out of your eye,'

when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?



A landscape photograph of rolling hills at sunset. The sky is a warm, glowing orange and yellow, transitioning into darker blues and purples. The hills in the background are dark, silhouetted against the bright sky. In the foreground, there are more hills with some vegetation, though it's mostly in shadow. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

To Judge or Not to Judge?
Why is this not a simple question?

Motives Matter



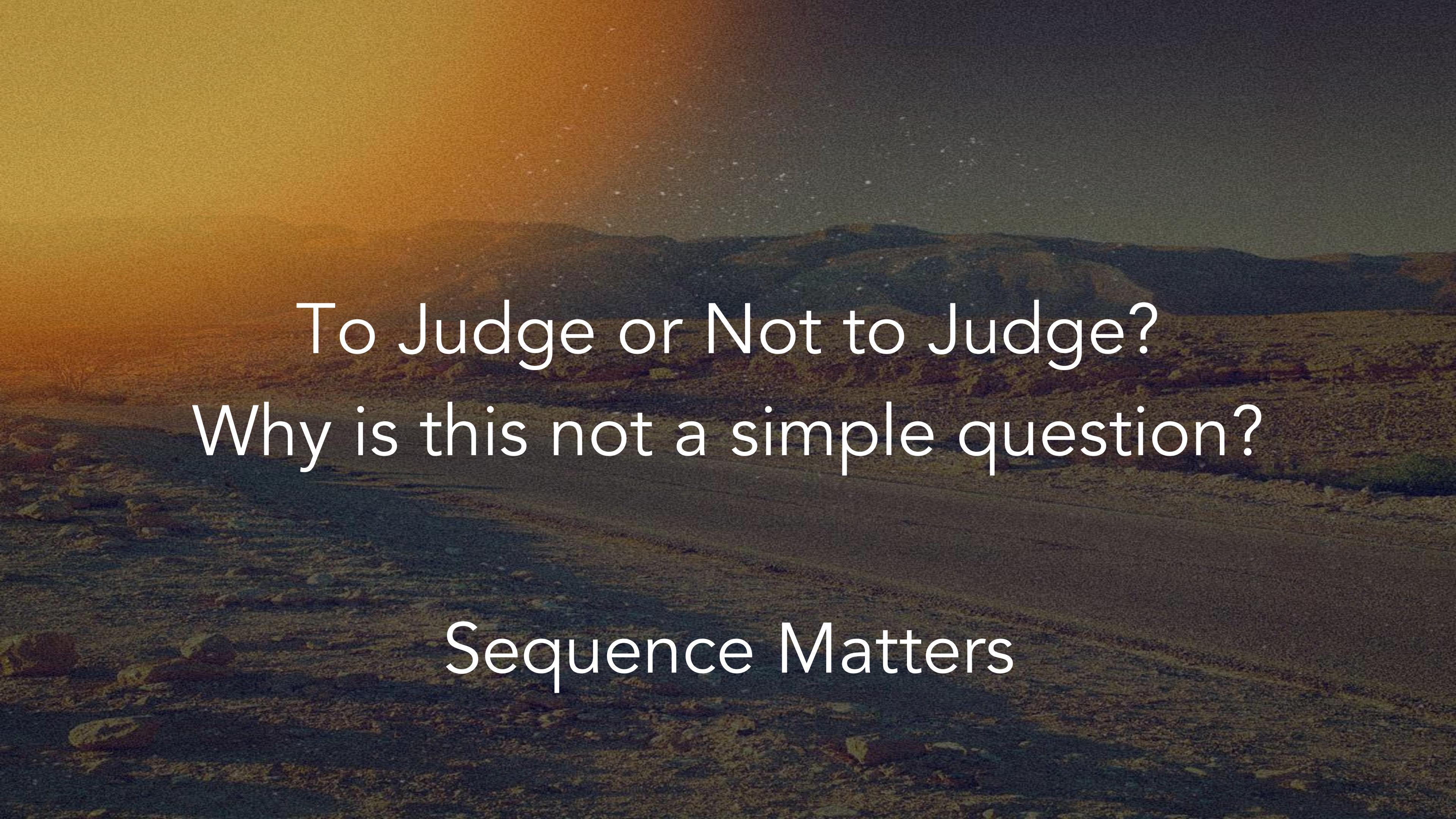
MATTHEW 7:4

How can you say to your brother [or sister]
'Let me take the speck out of your eye,'
when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?



MATTHEW 7:5

You hypocrite,
first take the plank out of your own eye, and
then you will see clearly to remove the speck from
your brother's [or sister's] eye.

A landscape photograph of rolling hills at sunset. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, transitioning into darker blues and purples. The hills in the background are dark, while the foreground is a lighter, grassy field. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

To Judge or Not to Judge?
Why is this not a simple question?

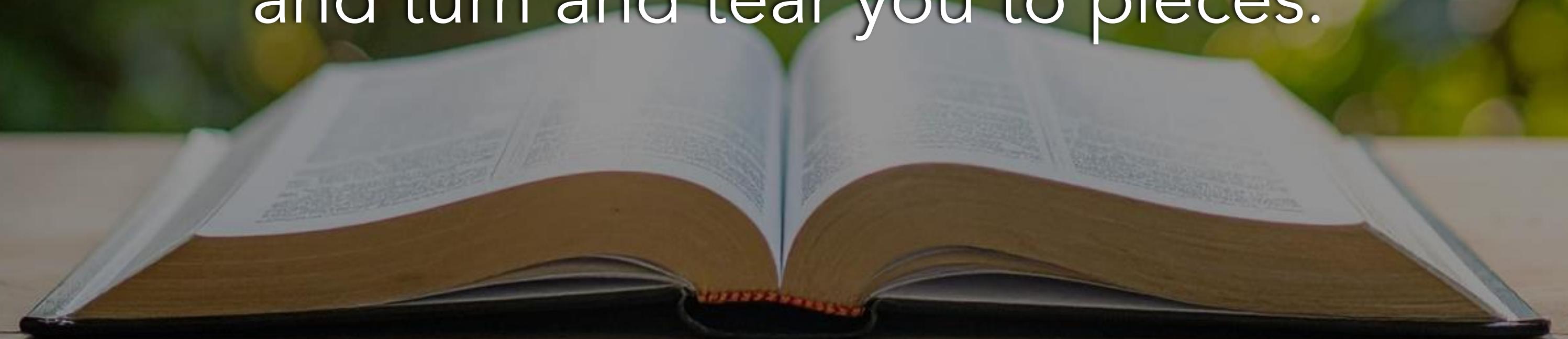
Sequence Matters



MATTHEW 7:6

Do not give dogs what is sacred;
do not throw your pearls to pigs.

If you do, they may trample them under their feet,
and turn and tear you to pieces.



A landscape photograph of rolling hills at sunset. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, transitioning to darker blues and purples. The hills in the background are dark, while the foreground is a lighter, grassy field. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

To Judge or Not to Judge?
Why is this not a simple question?

Threats are Real



What kinds of judgment are there?

Summative / Final Score Keeping

Give up the gavel.

Formative / Coaching

Check the mirror. Take the whistle.

Protective

Keep the key safe.

A landscape photograph of rolling hills at sunset. The sky is a vibrant orange and yellow, transitioning into a darker blue and purple. The hills in the background are dark, while the foreground is a field with some low-lying vegetation. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

How to Discern?

A wide-angle photograph of a large, green, grassy hill under a sky filled with white and grey clouds. The hill slopes gently from the left foreground to the right background. The grass is a vibrant green with some darker patches and small white flowers. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

TELL & RETELL

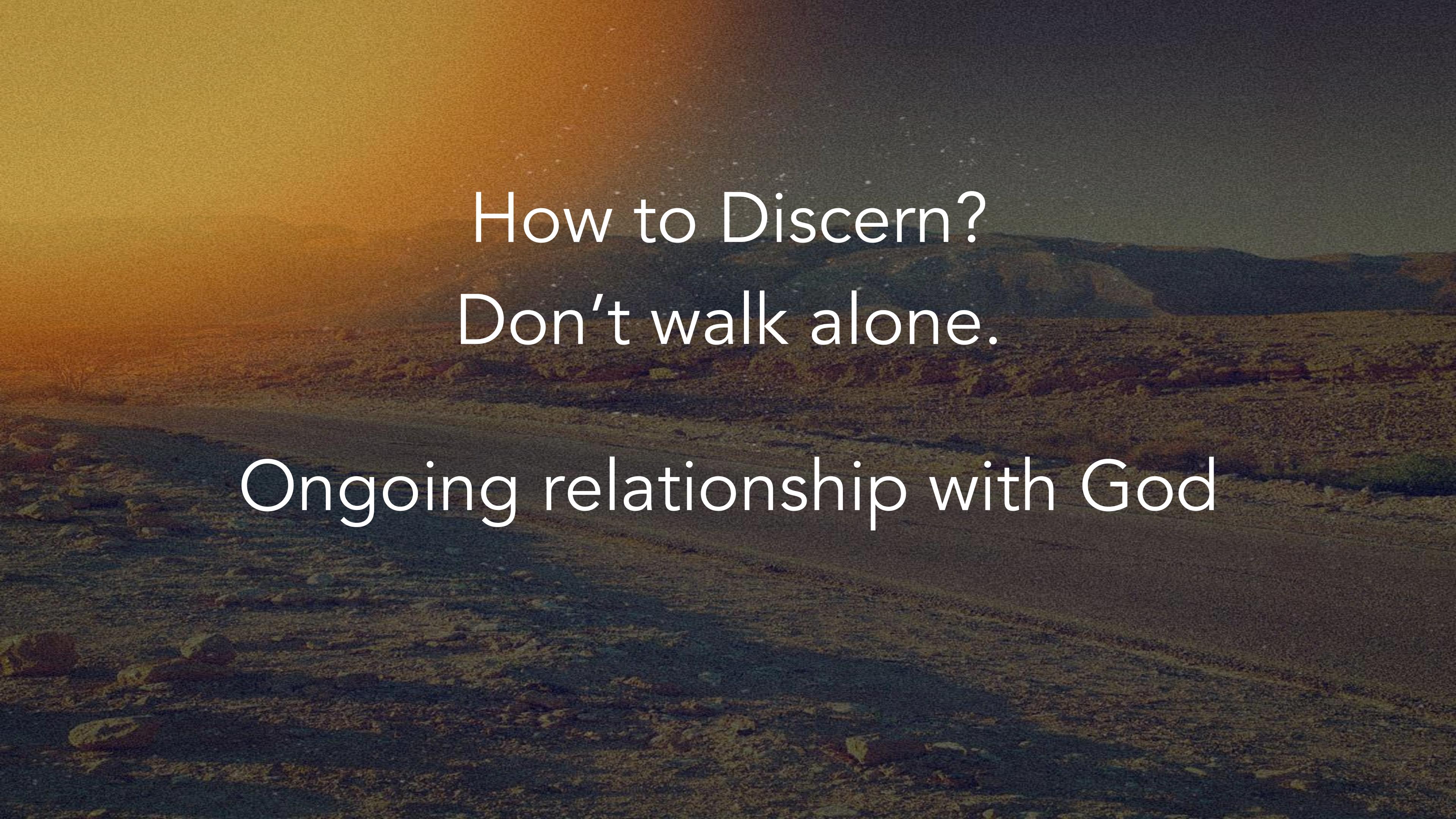
Ask, Seek, Knock (x2)

2 kinds of Givers

Golden Rule

MATTHEW 7:7-8

Ask [and keep asking] and it will be given to you;
seek [and keep seeking] and you will find;
knock [and keep knocking] and the door will be opened
to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who
seeks finds; and to the one who knocks,
the door will be opened.

A landscape photograph of rolling hills or fields at sunset. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, transitioning to darker blues and purples. The hills are covered in green vegetation with some yellow and orange highlights from the setting sun. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

How to Discern?
Don't walk alone.

Ongoing relationship with God

MATTHEW 7:9-10

Which of you, if your son asks for bread,
will give him a stone?

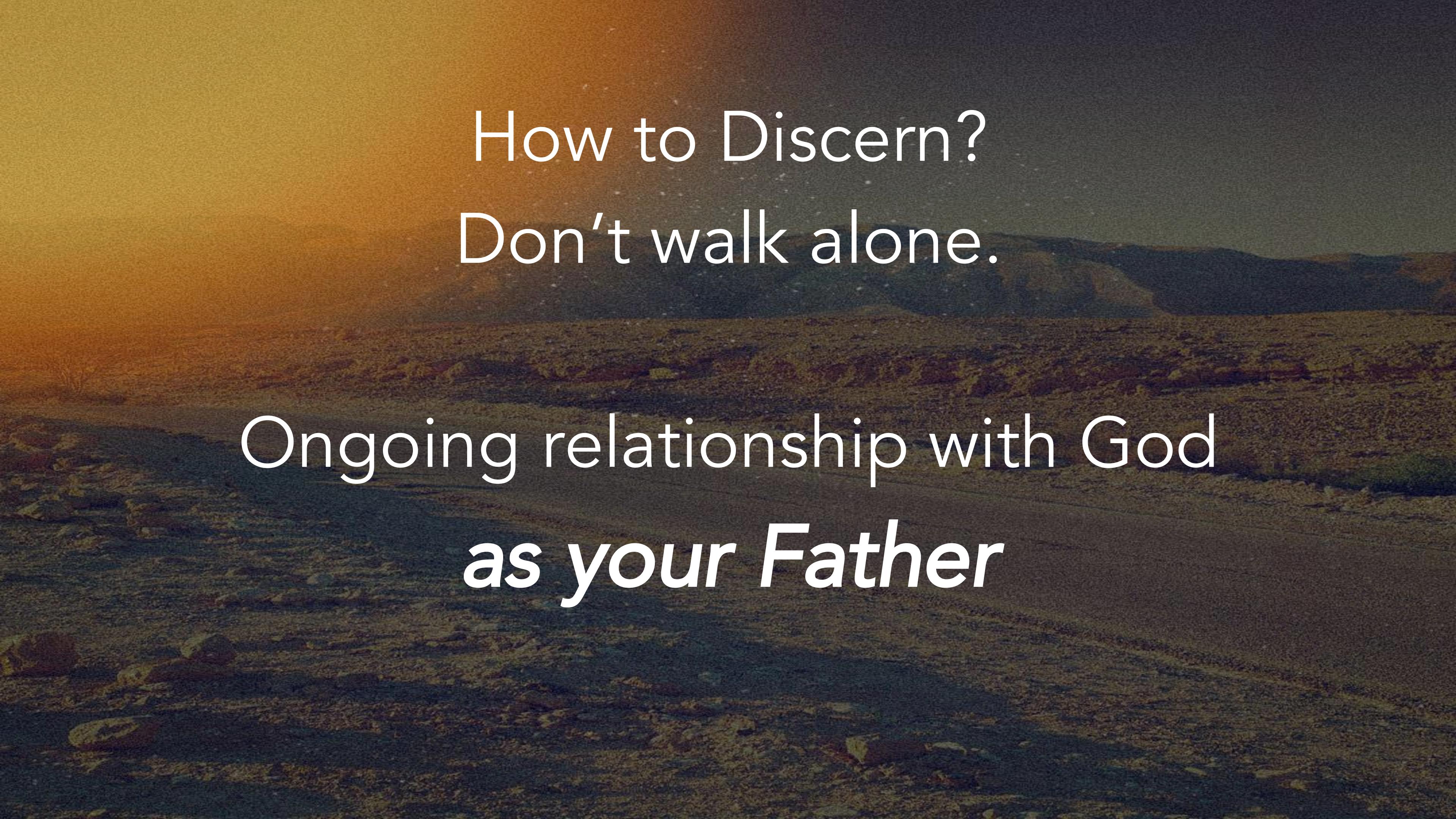
Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?

... you... know how to give good gifts to your children

MATTHEW 7:11

If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!





How to Discern?
Don't walk alone.

Ongoing relationship with God
as your Father

x (3+1+2)

$f(x) = x$ (receiving + finding + opening)

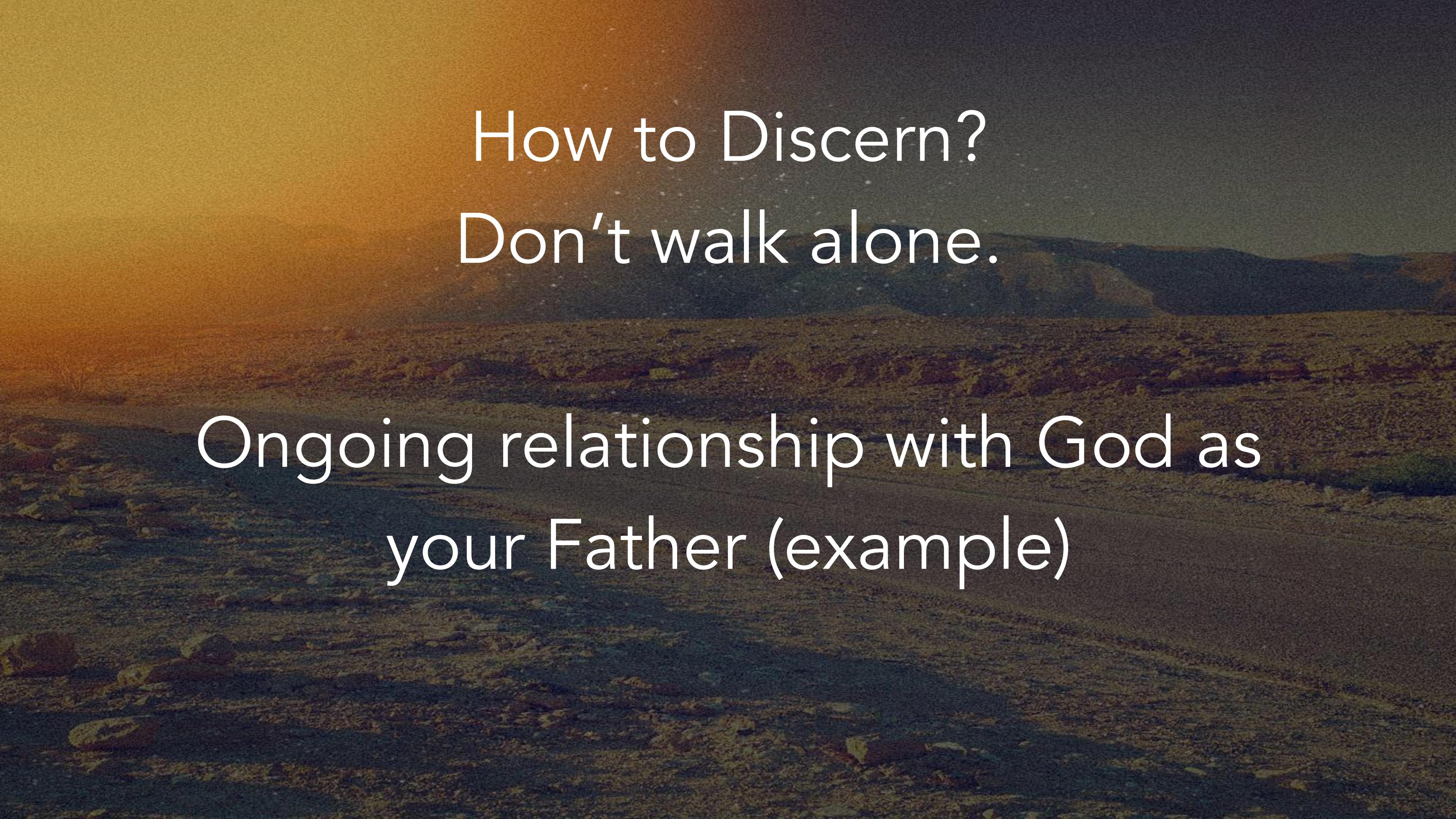
$f(\text{Judge}) =$

$f(\text{Judge}) = \text{You get what you deserve}$

$f(x) = x$ (receiving + finding + opening)

$f(Father) =$

$f(Father) =$ You get what you need



How to Discern?
Don't walk alone.

Ongoing relationship with God as
your Father (example)

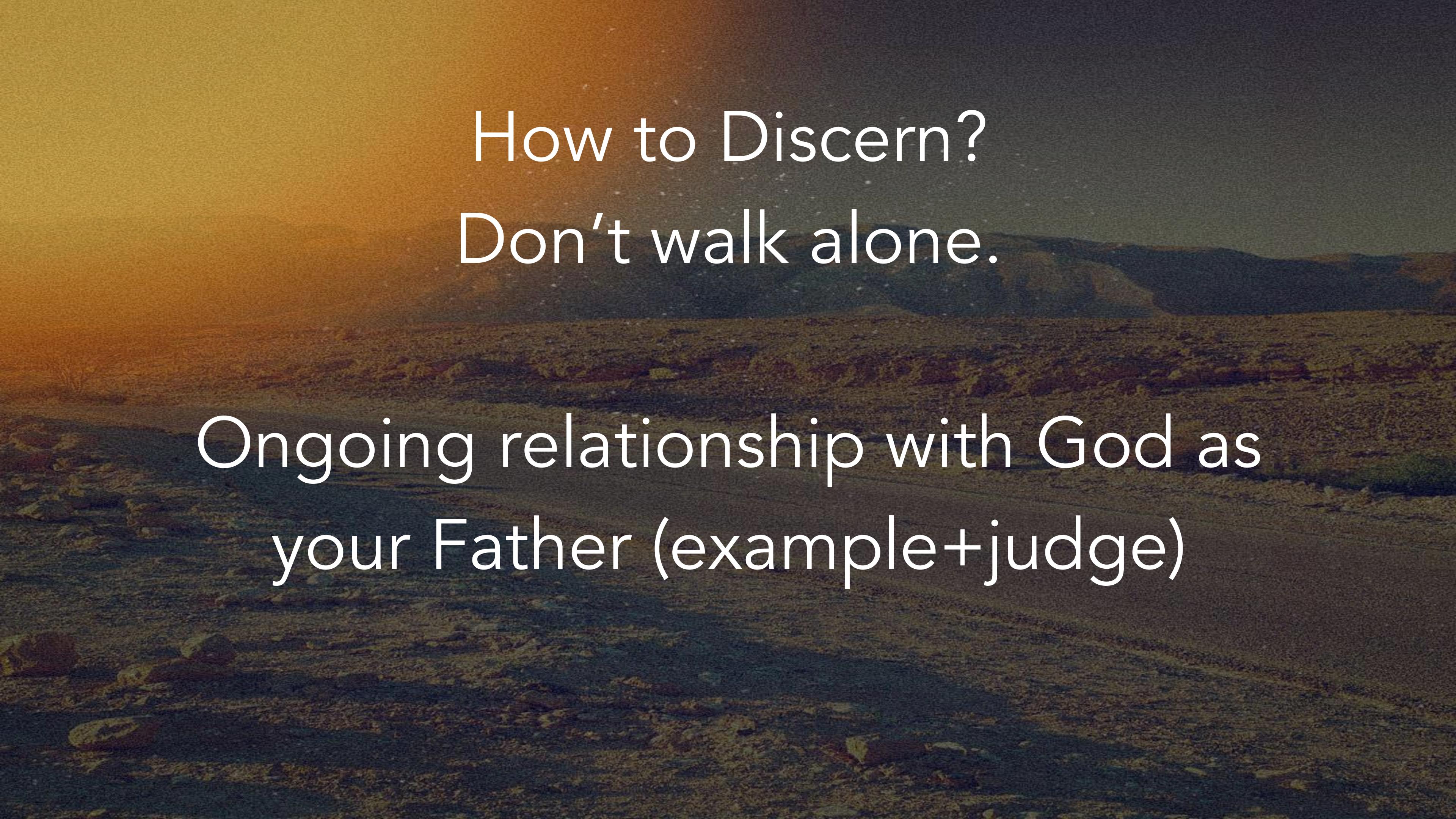
MATTHEW 7:12a

So
in everything, do to others
what you would have them do to you...



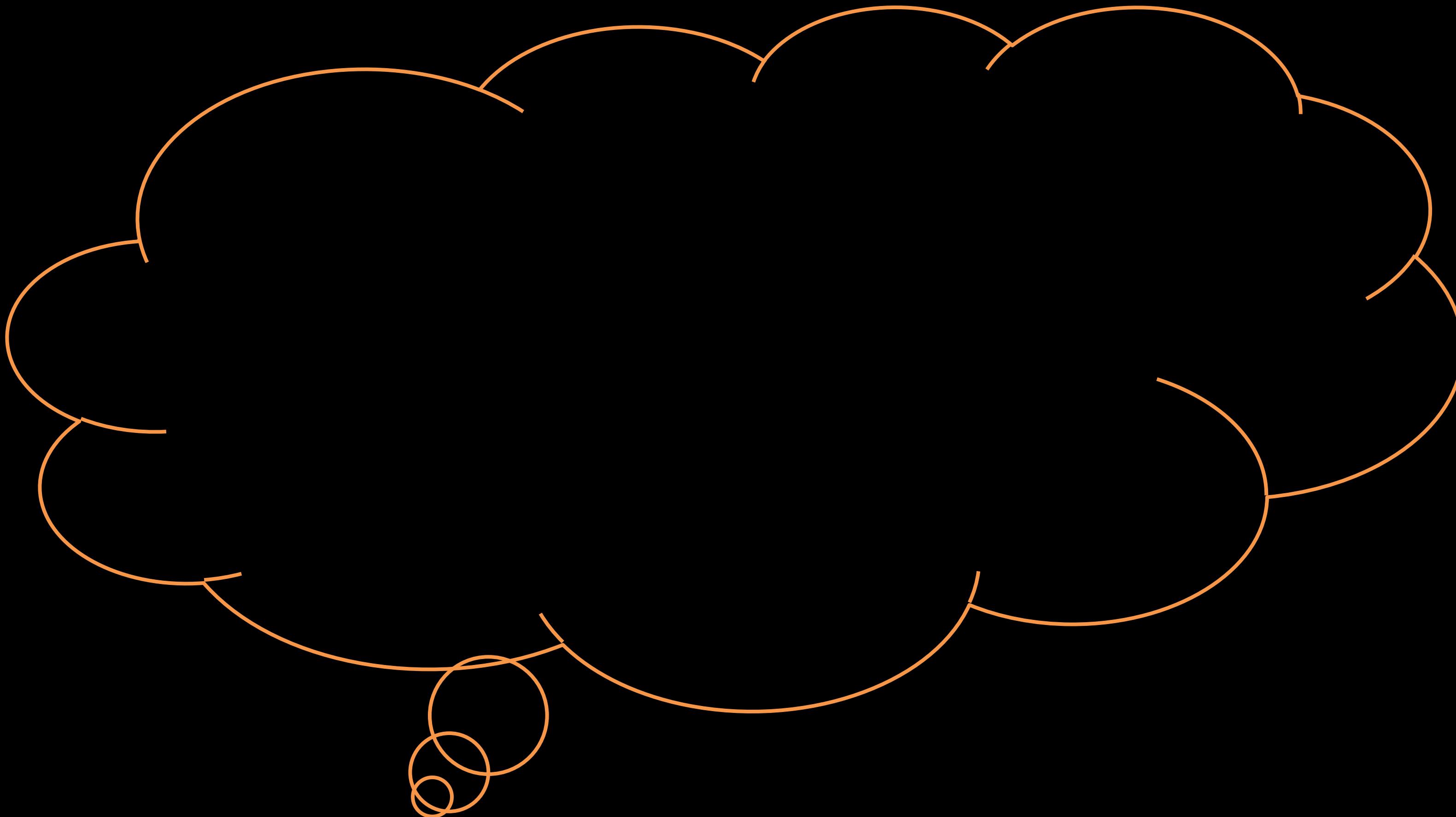
MATTHEW 7:12

So
in everything, do to others
what you would have them do to you,
for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.



How to Discern?
Don't walk alone.

Ongoing relationship with God as
your Father (example+judge)





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