

PRAY.

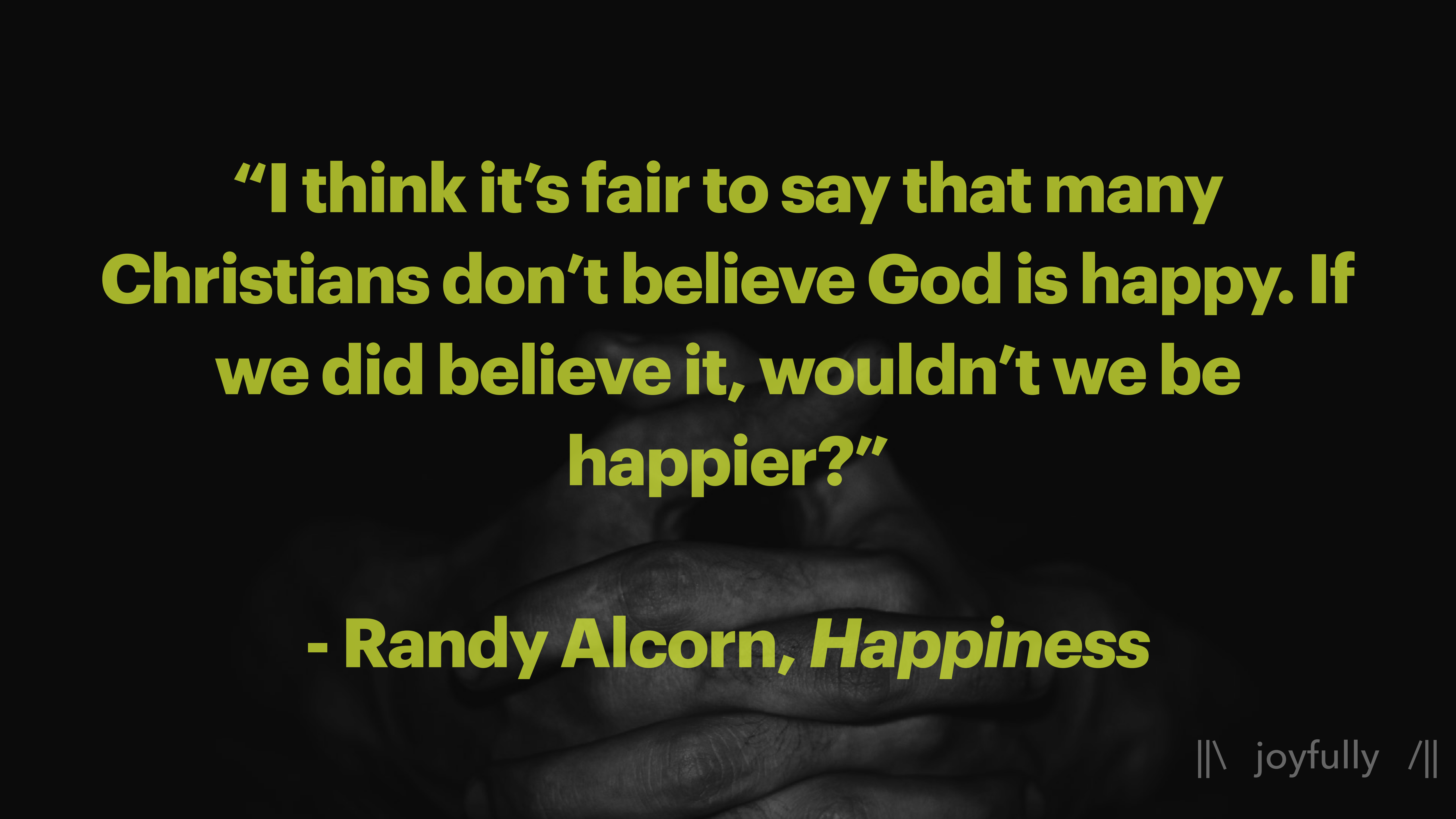


|| joyfully ||

“Nothing distinguishes the children of God so clearly and strongly as prayer. Prayer is the expression of a relation to God, a yearning for Divine communion. It is the outward and upward flow of the inward life toward it’s original foundation. Almighty God still loves to hear his people pour out their hearts to Him in prayer and has promises to respond with blessing and power.”

- Jim Cymbala, *Complete Works on Prayer* by EM Bounds

||\ joyfully /||



“I think it’s fair to say that many Christians don’t believe God is happy. If we did believe it, wouldn’t we be happier?”

- Randy Alcorn, *Happiness*

PRAY.



|| joyfully ||

**“You love justice and hate evil. Therefore,
God, your God has anointed you, pouring out
the oil of joy on you more than anyone else.”**

Hebrews 1:9

****quoting Psalm 45:6-7***

||\ joyfully /\|

**“Ask, using my name, and you will
receive, and you will have
abundant joy.”**

John 16:24

||\ joyfully /\|

**Life contains sorrow.
Jesus talks about joy.**

||\ joyfully /\|

“This work has helped me realize how joy and sorrow are deeply connected. Both are a response to those things that matter most. Joy is our delight when we experience, celebrate, and anticipate the manifestation of those things we hold with the most significance — like birth or graduation. Sorrow is our response to such sacred things’ violation, destruction, or deterioration.”

- Dr. Pamela King, *What is Joy and What Does it Say About Us*



243,398 likes

**What does joyful
praying look like when
life is hard?**

***“Believe me when I say this. I bow
to you. I am honored to be friends
with one of the greatest heroes I
have ever known (Brayan).”***

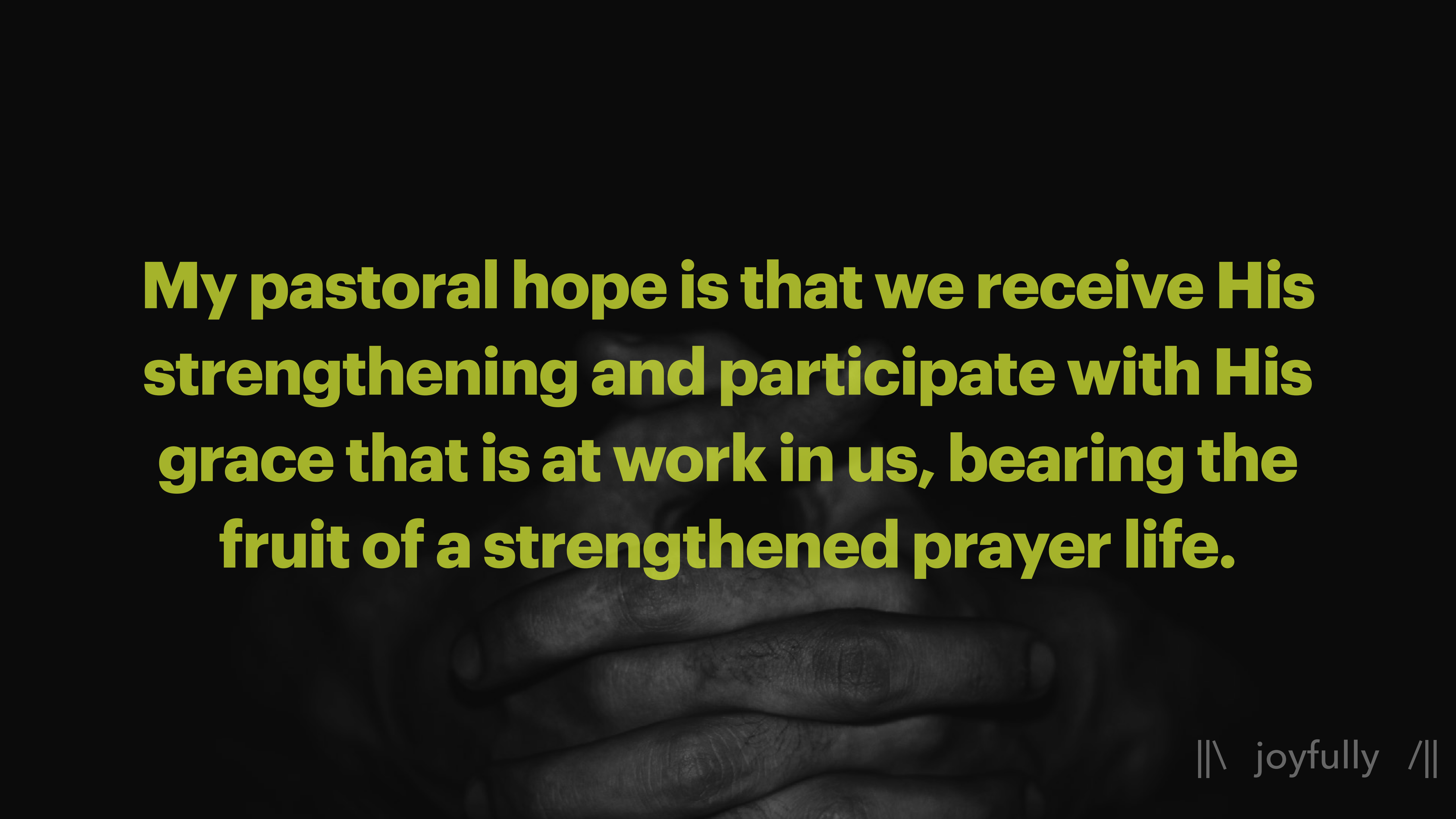
- Spider-Man

||\ joyfully /\|



My pastoral concern is that we miss the urgency of the moment and continue as things are.

||\ joyfully /\|



My pastoral hope is that we receive His strengthening and participate with His grace that is at work in us, bearing the fruit of a strengthened prayer life.

||\ joyfully /\|



The call and privilege to pray are for everyone; everyone can grow in prayer.

||\ joyfully /\|

When the Spirit of God strengthens our prayer life, we joyfully pray because:

- 1. Troubles are an opportunity for joy.**
- 2. God's word fills us with joy.**
- 3. God anoints us with the oil of joy.**
- 4. We have a relationship with the Trinity.**



Troubles are an opportunity for joy.

“Consider; Count”

James 1:2-7

||\ joyfully /||

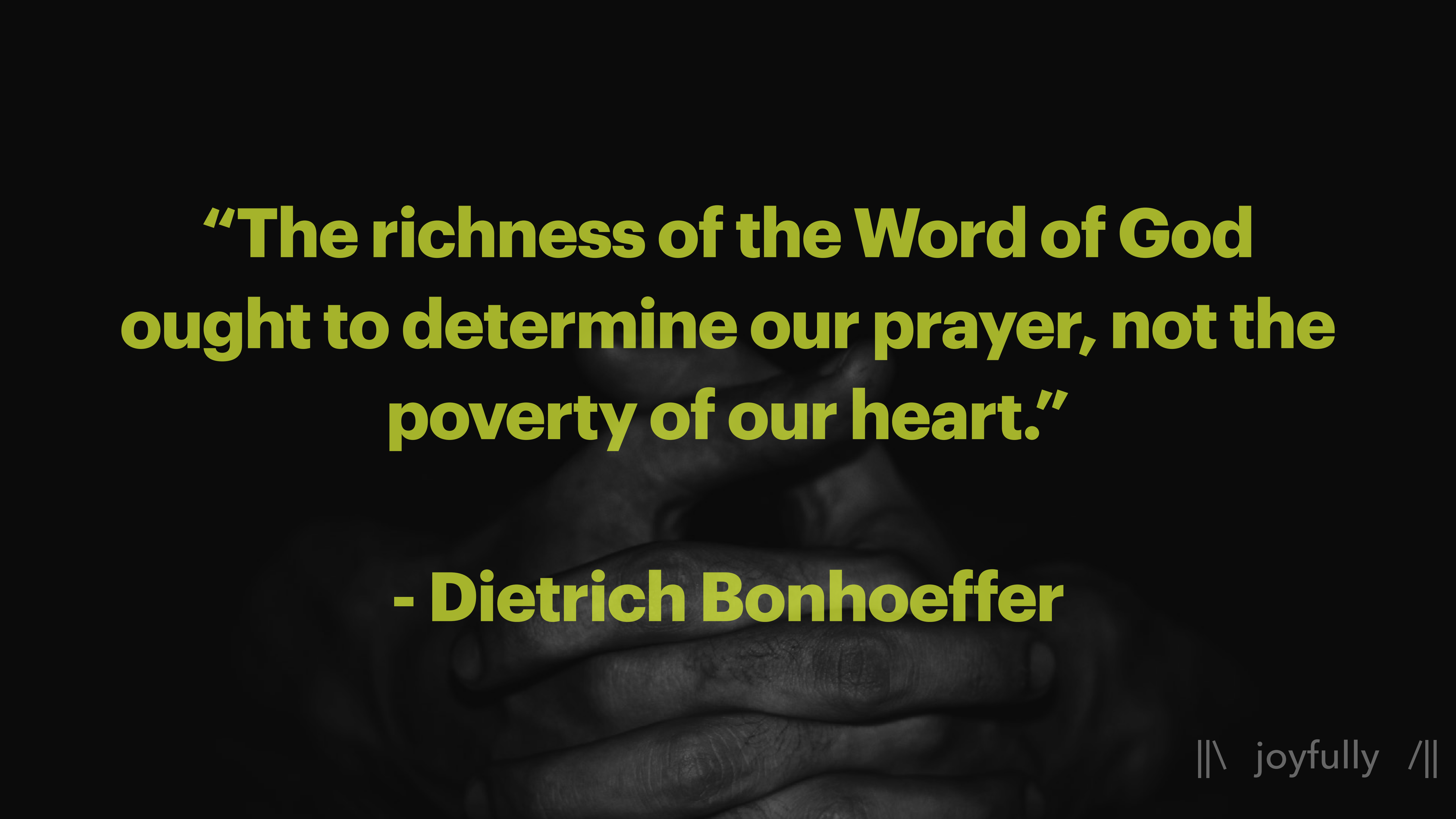


God's word fills us with joy.

"...your joy will overflow."

John 15:11

||\ joyfully /||



**“The richness of the Word of God
ought to determine our prayer, not the
poverty of our heart.”**

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer



God anoints us with the oil of joy.

“Pouring out the oil of joy on you”

Hebrews 1:9

||\ joyfully /||

We have a relationship with the Trinity.

Luke 10:20-21; John 16:24; Romans 14:17

||\ joyfully /||



**I'm telling you all this because the call
and privilege to pray are for everyone;
everyone can grow in prayer!**

||\ joyfully /\|

How can I apply this message?

- 1. Ask the Father for His perspective when you face challenging situations.**
- 2. Learn to pray the Bible by praying the Bible.**

Lectio Divina

[https://www.24-7prayer.com/
podcast_series/the-lectio-course/](https://www.24-7prayer.com/podcast_series/the-lectio-course/)

||\ joyfully /||

How can I apply this message?

- 1. Ask the Father for His perspective when you face challenging situations.**
- 2. Learn to pray the Bible by praying the Bible.**
- 3. Remember something that God has done for you and begin your time of prayer by giving thanks.**
- 4. As you pray, believe and anticipate feelings of joy.**

Let's declare together:

“We are experiencing God, being family, and sharing love everywhere.”

||\ joyfully /\|