



WRESTLING PRAYER

A GATEWAY COLLECTION



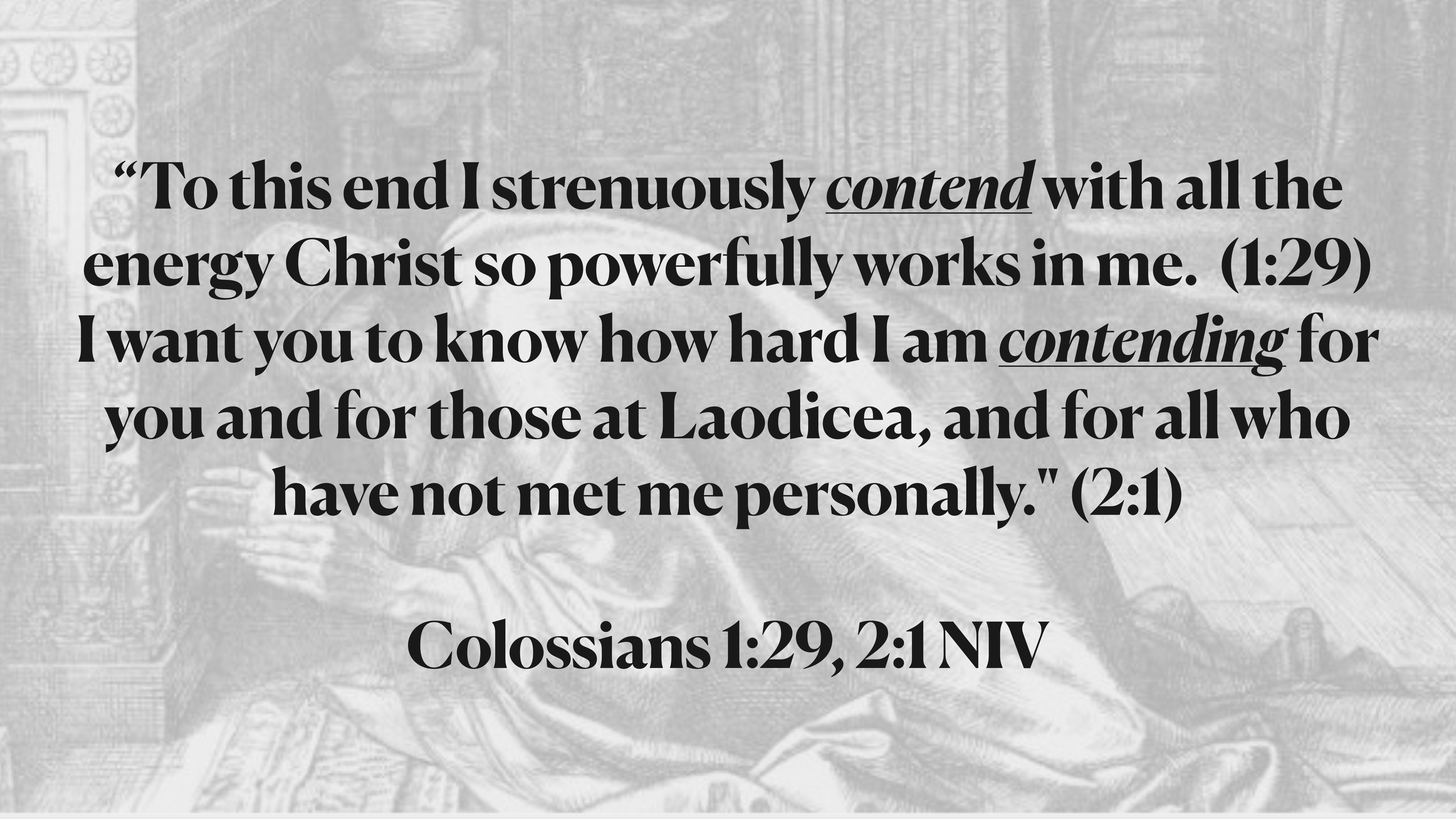
**Behind every face is a story of
pain and triumph.**



**Wrestling prayer involves
praying to and WITH Jesus.**

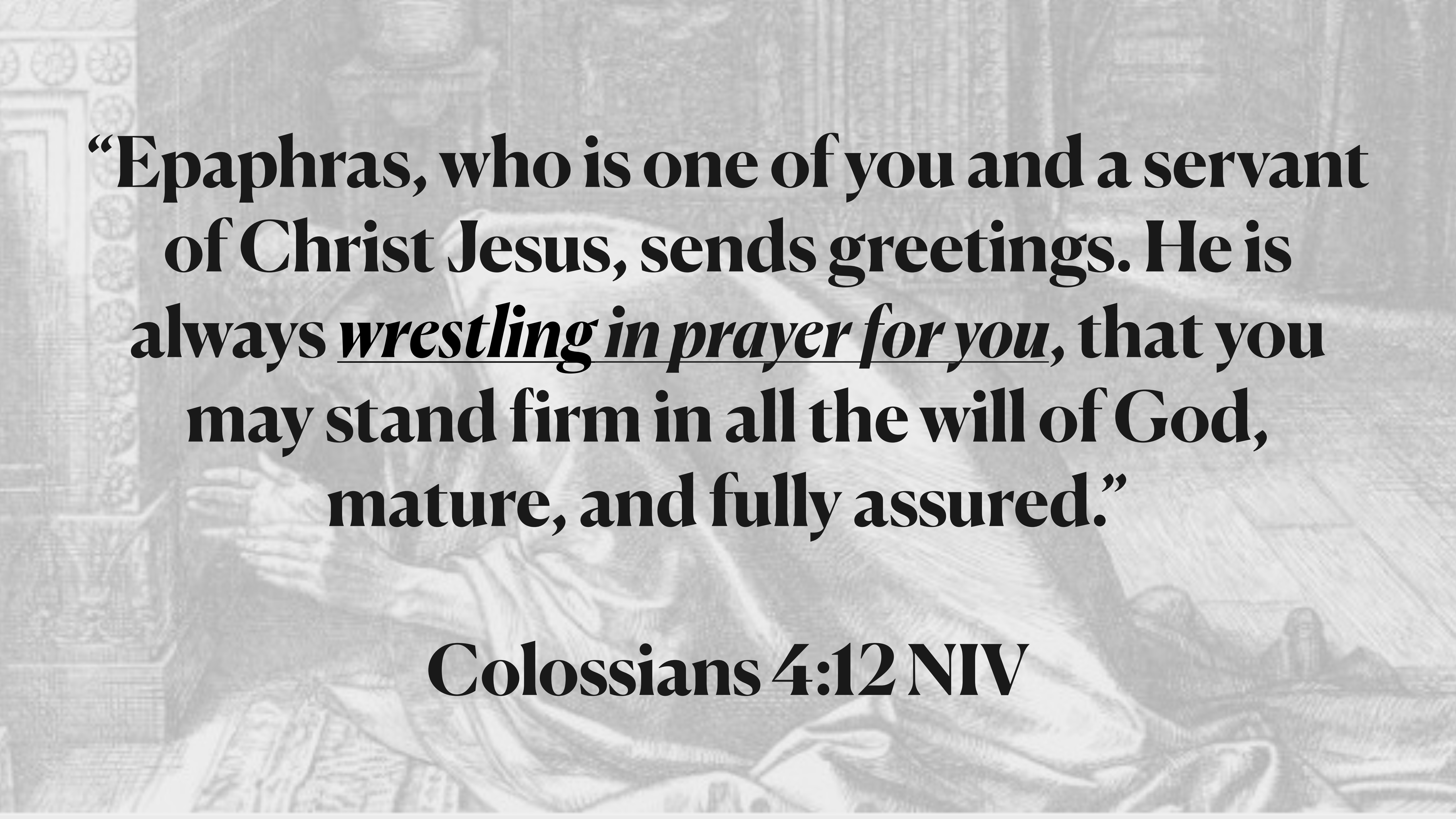
“We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we *pray* for you...(v.3) For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped *praying* for you. We continually *ask God* to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives....” (v.9)

Colossians 1:3, 9 NIV



“To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me. (1:29) I want you to know how hard I am contending for you and for those at Laodicea, and for all who have not met me personally.” (2:1)

Colossians 1:29, 2:1 NIV

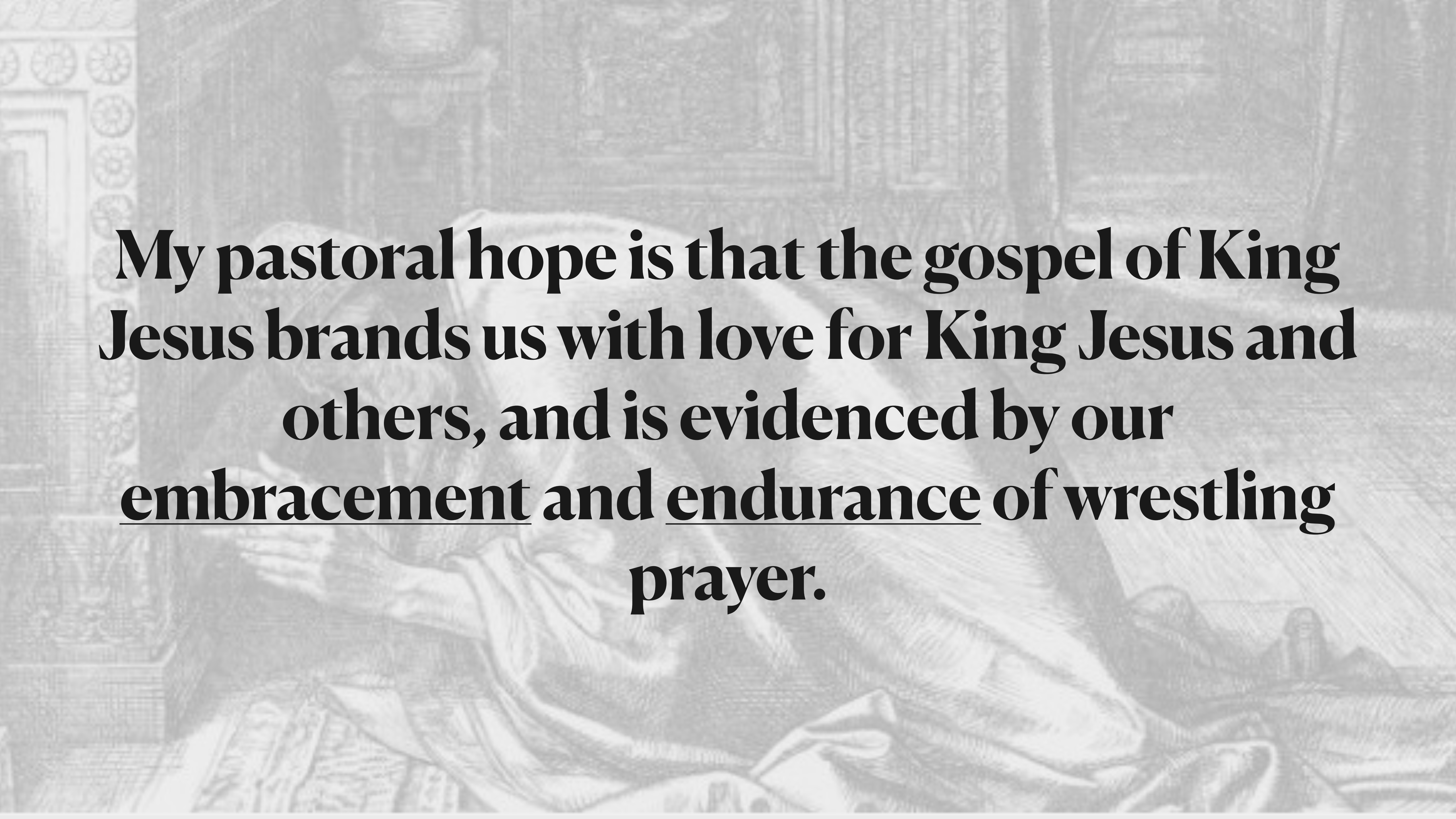


“Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature, and fully assured.”

Colossians 4:12 NIV

A faint, grayscale background image of a church interior. In the foreground, a person is seen from behind, kneeling in prayer with hands clasped. In the background, other people are visible, some sitting and some standing, in a church setting with architectural details like columns and a decorative border on the left.

To stand firm in God's will, grow in our faith, and experience the joy of answered prayer, we must persist in wrestling prayer.

The background is a grayscale, semi-transparent image of a church interior. In the foreground, a person is seen from behind, kneeling in prayer with their hands raised. In the background, other people are visible, some sitting and some standing, in a similar posture of prayer. The architecture includes a doorway on the left and a large window or altar area in the distance.

**My pastoral hope is that the gospel of King
Jesus brands us with love for King Jesus and
others, and is evidenced by our
embracement and endurance of wrestling
prayer.**

Colossae: The Overlooked City

:: The overlooked city = The overlooked life

:: The overlooked city = The city in decline

:: The overlooked city = The overlooked employee

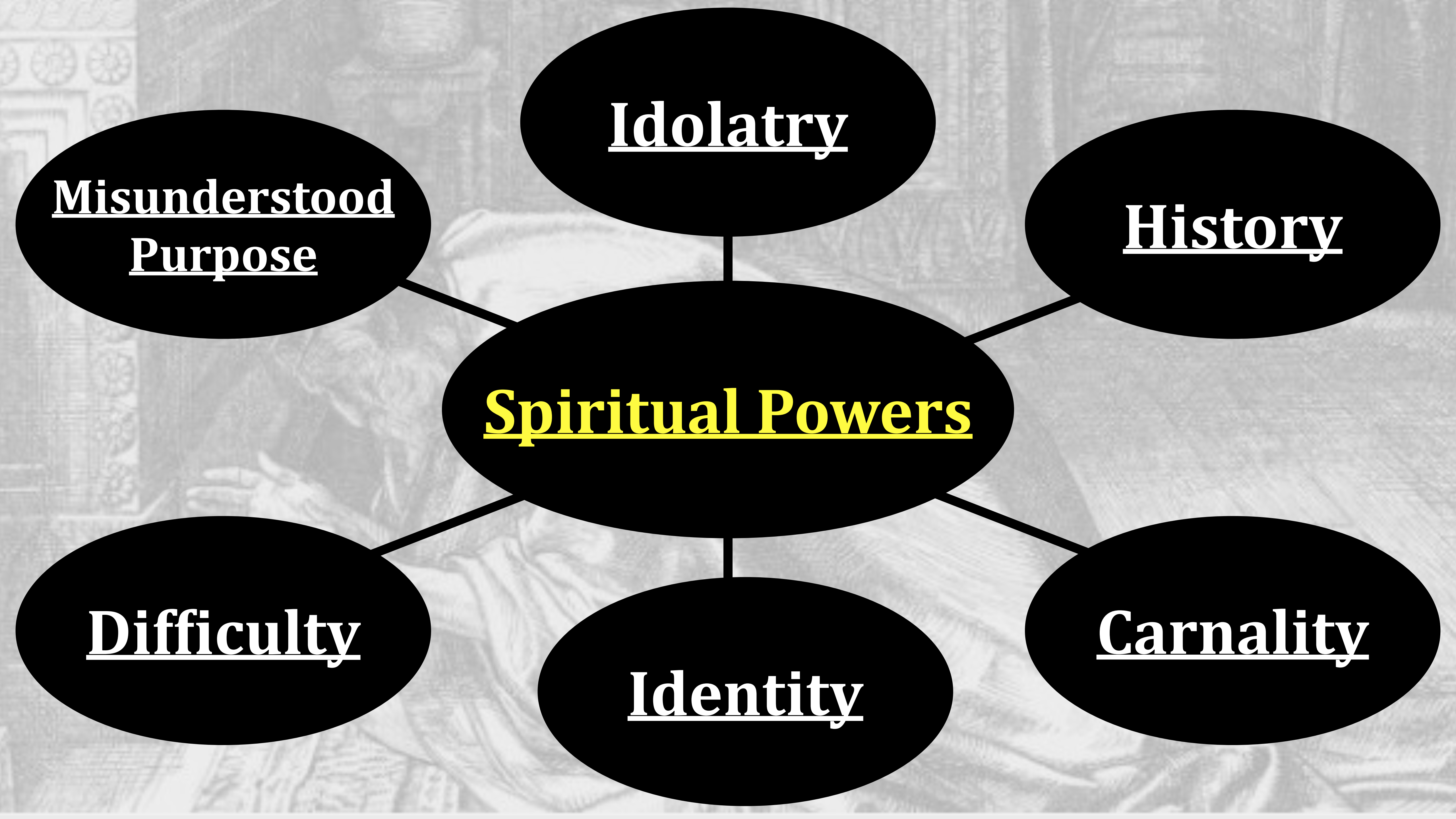
:: The overlooked city = The overlooked friend or spouse

:: The overlooked city = The overlooked opportunity



**The gospel of Jesus Christ is
the answer to an overlooked**

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Idolatry

History

Spiritual Powers

Carnality

Identity

Difficulty

Misunderstood Purpose



Truth in Action!
(Indicatives and Imperatives)

Wrestling Prayer

- 1. Why do we wrestle?**
- 2. What do we wrestle?**
- 3. How do we wrestle?**

How do we wrestle?

**Effectively, as we remain in Christ,
along with each other as one family,
through the gospel, and by prayer.**

How do we wrestle?

Effectively, as we *remain in Christ*...

(1:4, 15-20; 2:6-7, 19; 3:4, 12-17).

How do we wrestle?

**Effectively, as we remain in Christ,
*along with each other as one family...***

(1:4; 3:10-15; 18-22; 4:1-4, 6-7)

How do we wrestle?

Effectively, as we remain in Christ, along with each other as one family, *through the gospel...*

(1:5-7, 21-23, 25-27; 2:13-15)

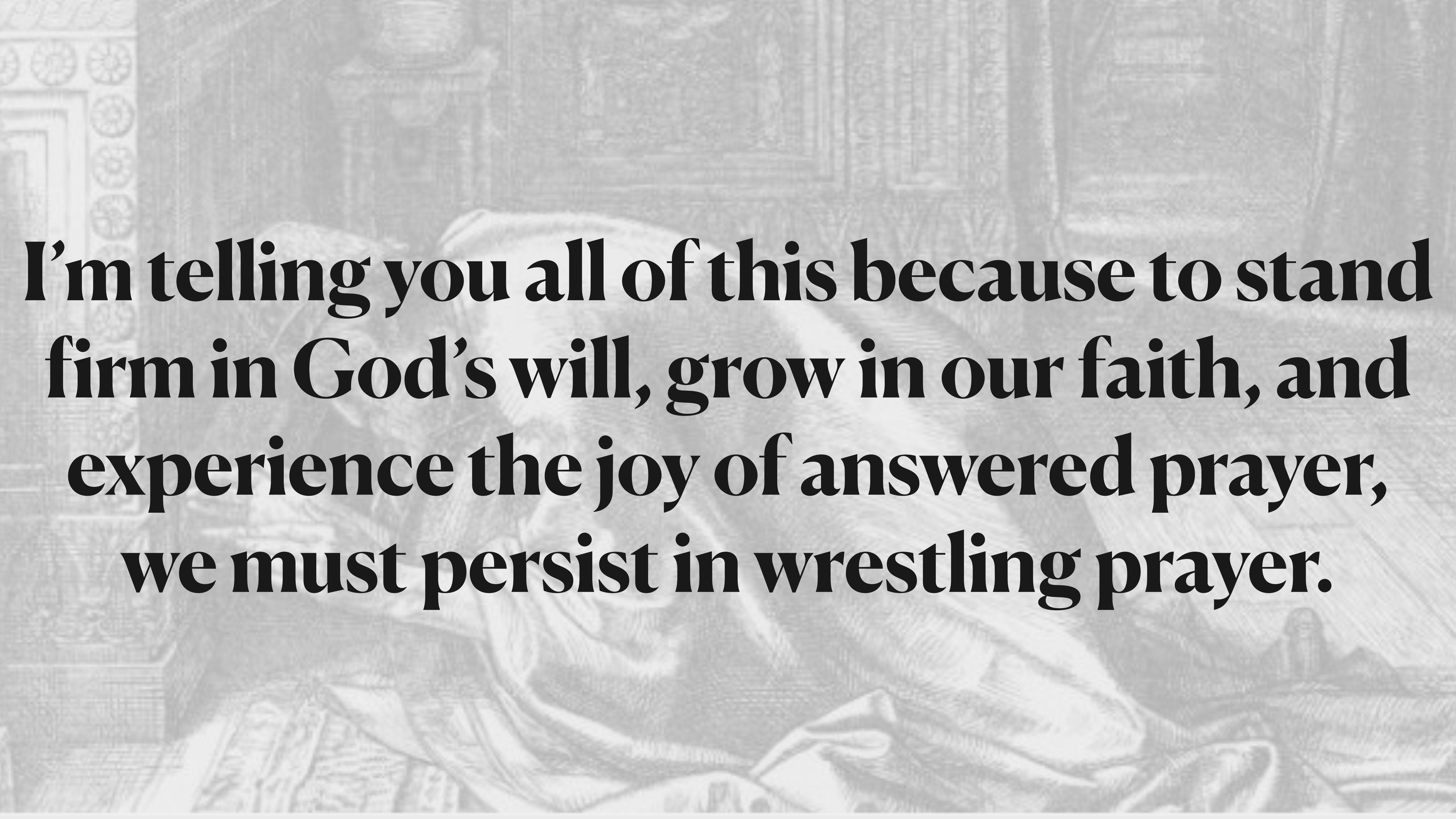
How do we wrestle?

Effectively, as we remain in Christ, along with each other as one family, through the gospel, and *by prayer*.

(1:1-5, 9; 1:29-2:1; 4:2-4, 12-15)

This is the result of neglecting the strategies for wrestling prayer.



A grayscale background image of a church interior. In the center, a person is kneeling in prayer, their hands clasped together. The church has high ceilings with intricate architectural details, including columns and arches. The lighting is soft, creating a solemn and reverent atmosphere.

I'm telling you all of this because to stand firm in God's will, grow in our faith, and experience the joy of answered prayer, we must persist in wrestling prayer.

Application:

- 1. Practice the “New Self”. (Colossians 3:10-17)**
- 2. Surround yourself with a learning environment so you can flourish in your strengthened faith. (Colossians 1:23, 2:5, 7)**
- 3. Learn and practice biblical responses to the trials of life. (Colossians 1:9-14)**
- 4. Discover how to pray the bible by actually praying the bible and listening to others who practice the same. (Colossians 4:2)**



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