A large, leafy tree stands in a field under a cloudy sky. The image is split vertically down the middle. The left side is faded and overcast, while the right side is bright and clear. The text is centered over the tree.

Unbreakable.

October 8, 2017

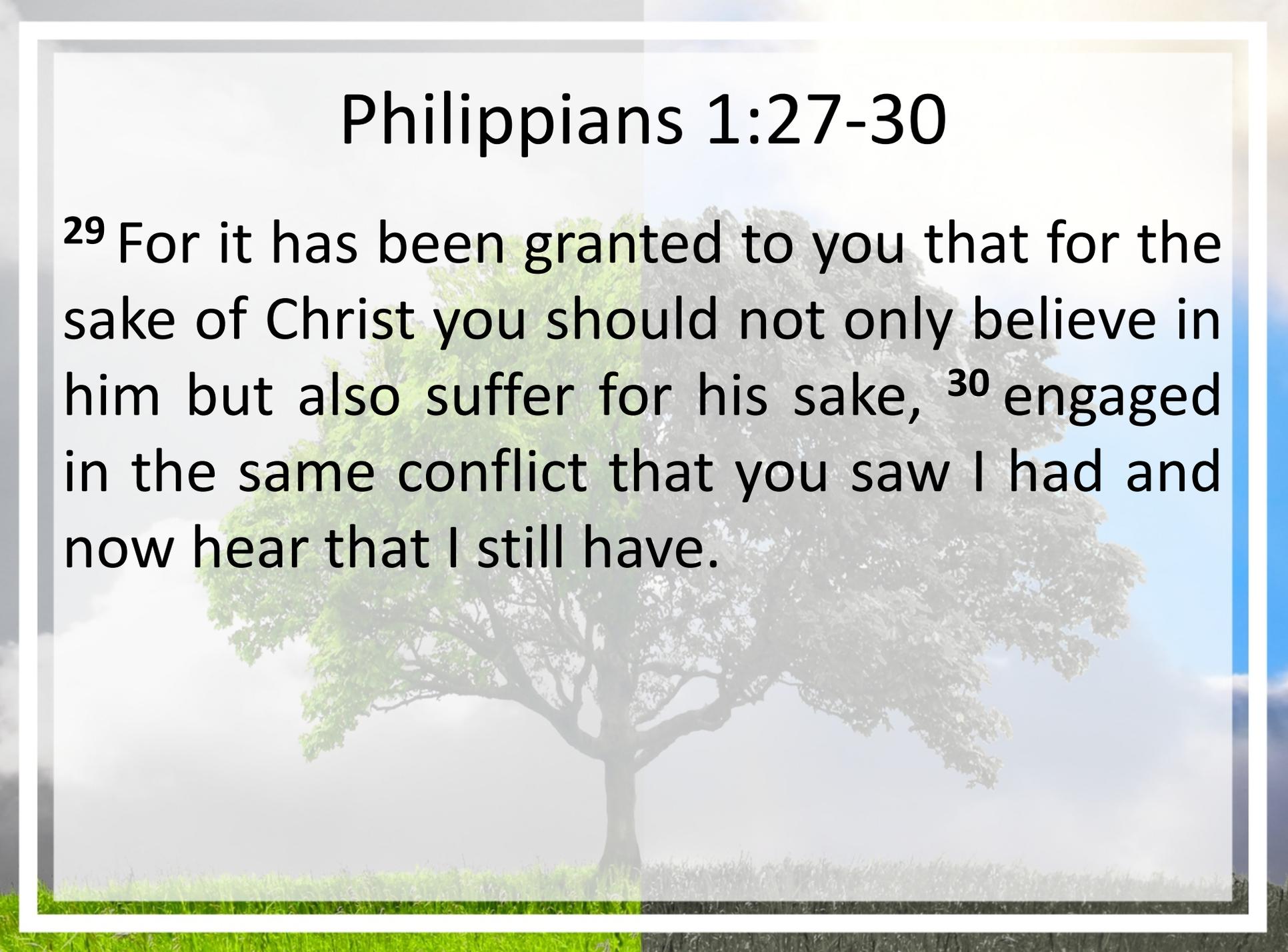


Philippians 1:27-30

²⁷ Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.

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A large, leafy tree stands in a field under a blue sky with light clouds. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The background is a soft, hazy landscape with a green field in the foreground.

Philippians 1:27-30

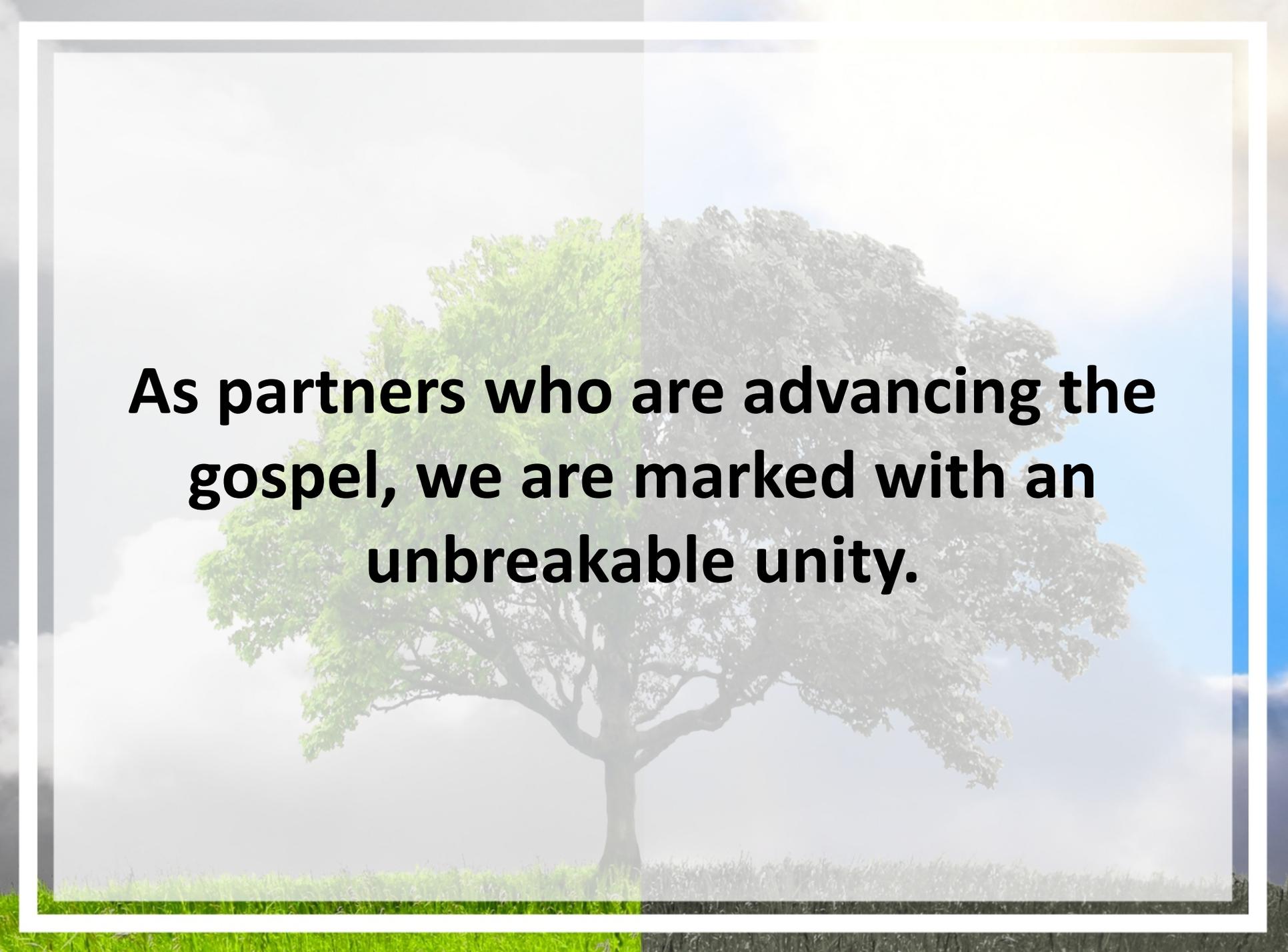
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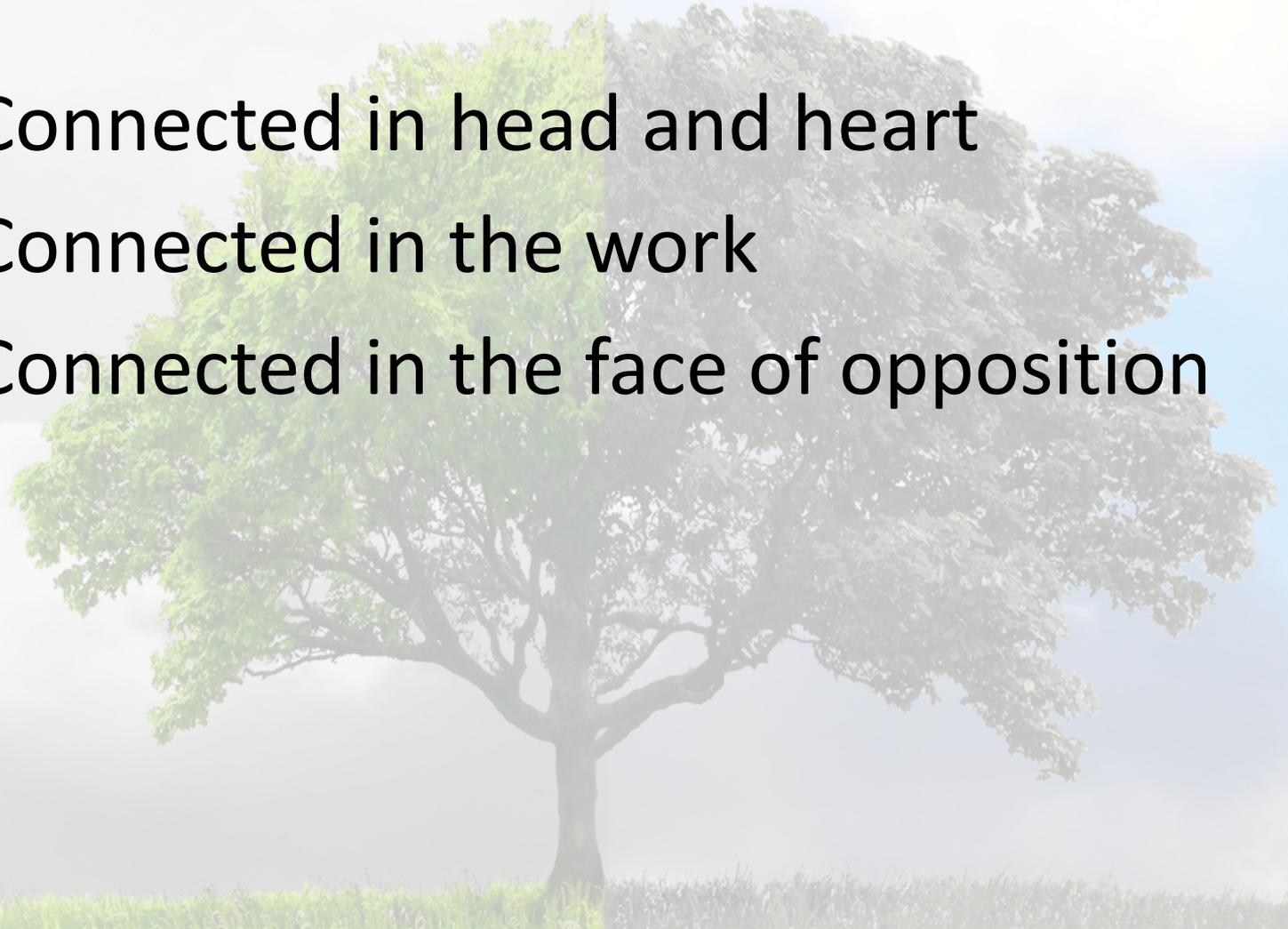
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A large, leafy tree stands in a field under a blue sky with clouds. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The background is a bright, slightly hazy sky. The text is overlaid on the tree and sky.

**As partners who are advancing the
gospel, we are marked with an
unbreakable unity.**

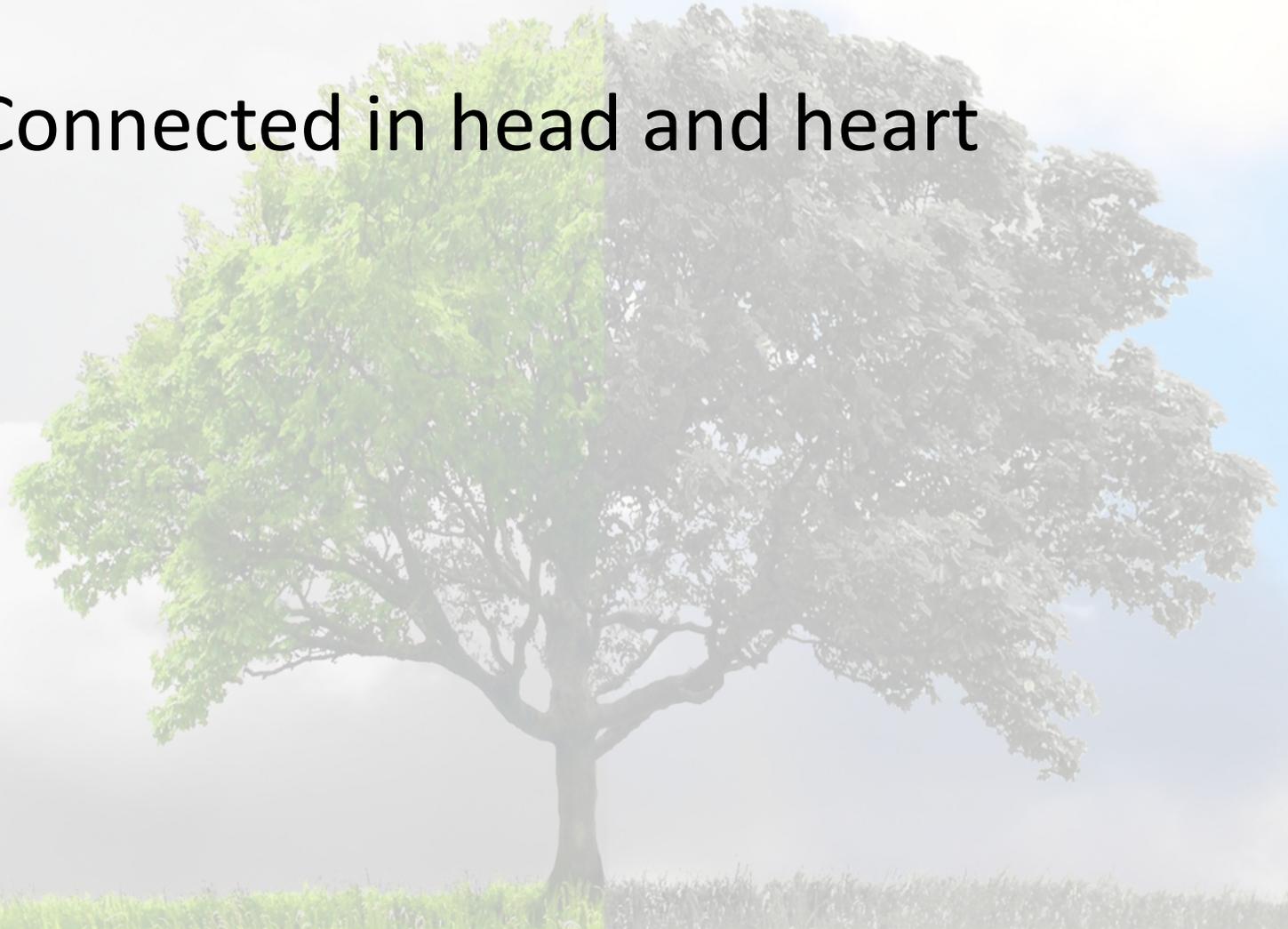
United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
- Connected in the work
- Connected in the face of opposition



United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart

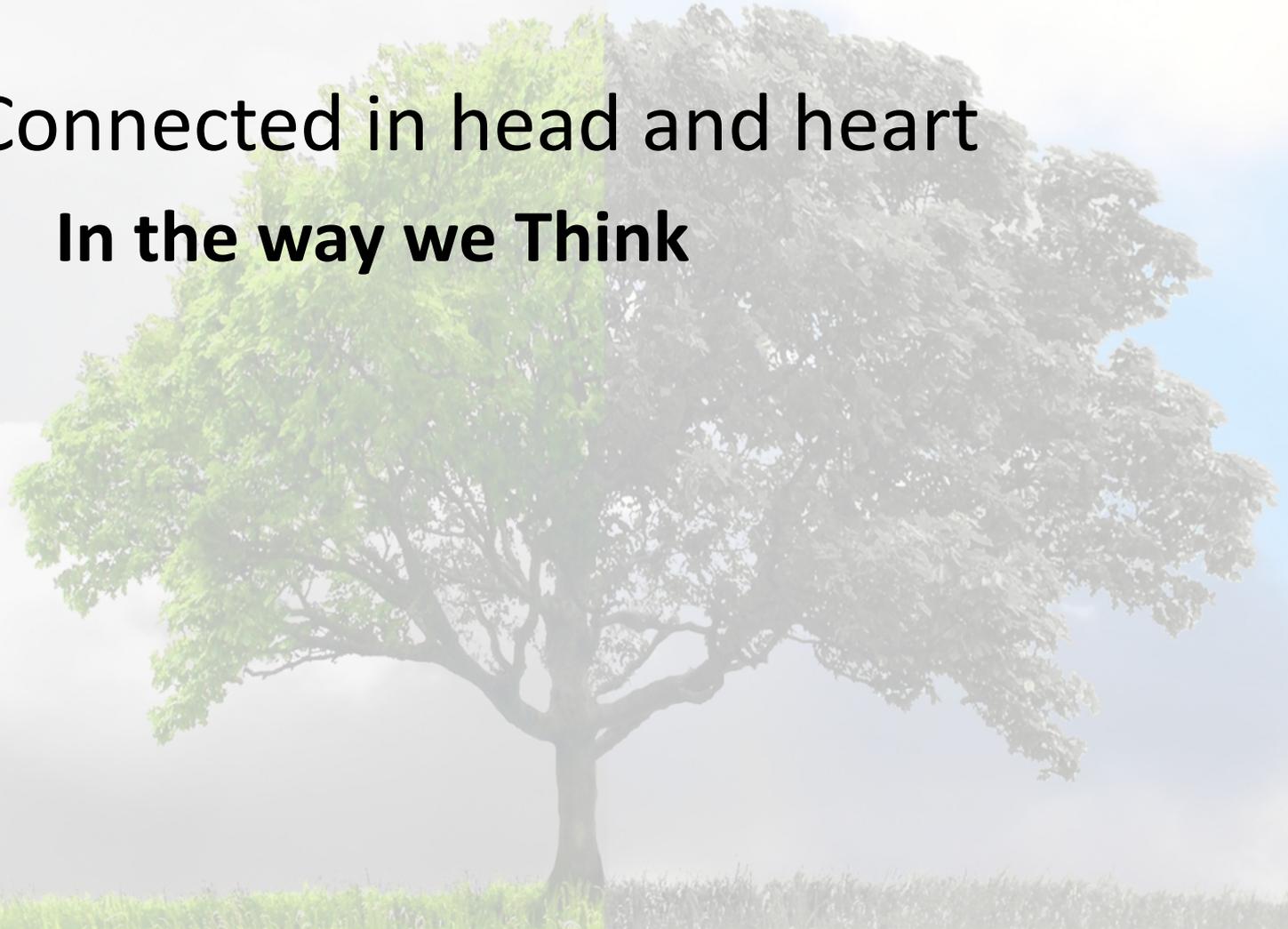


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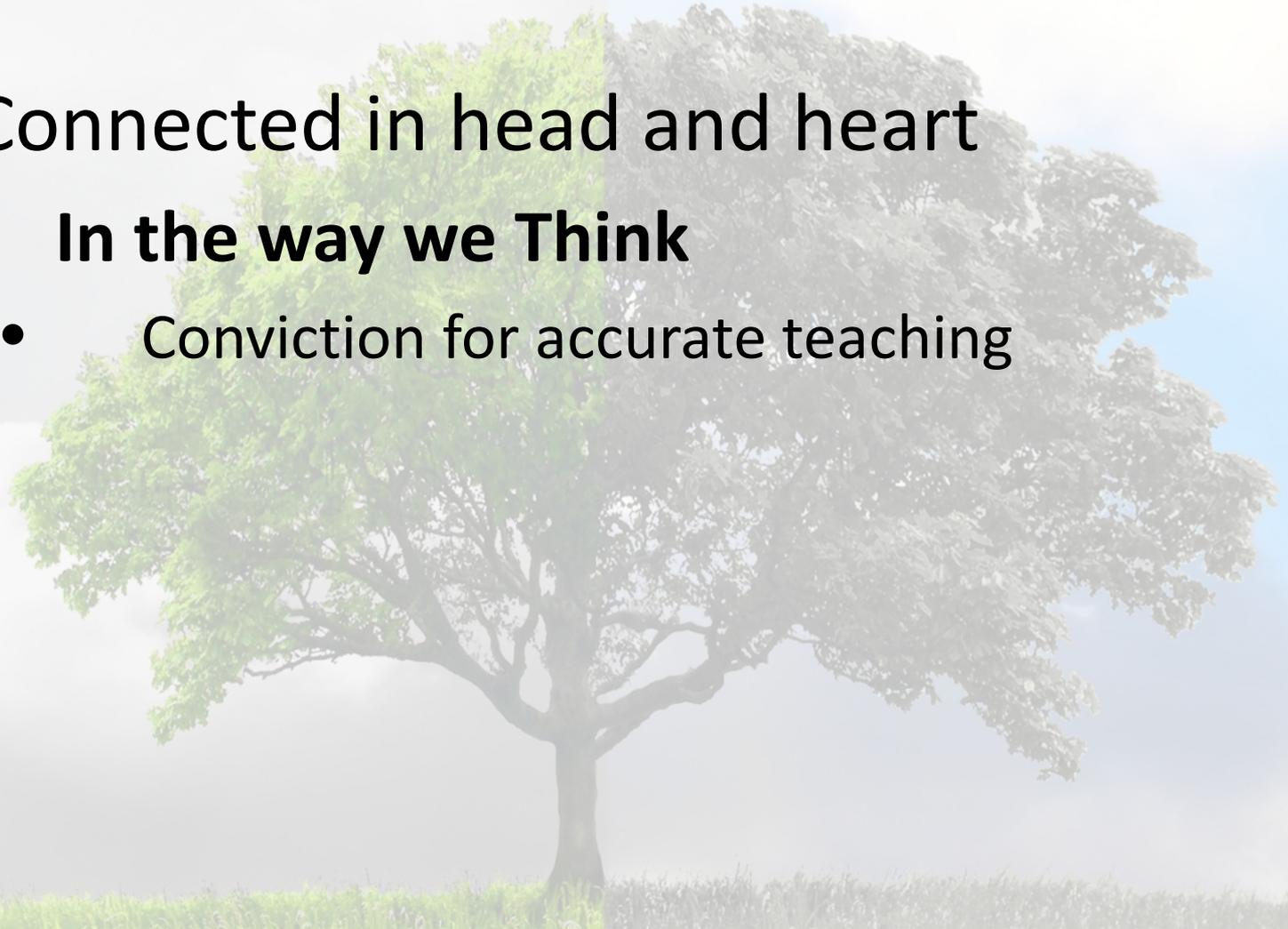
United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
 - **In the way we Think**



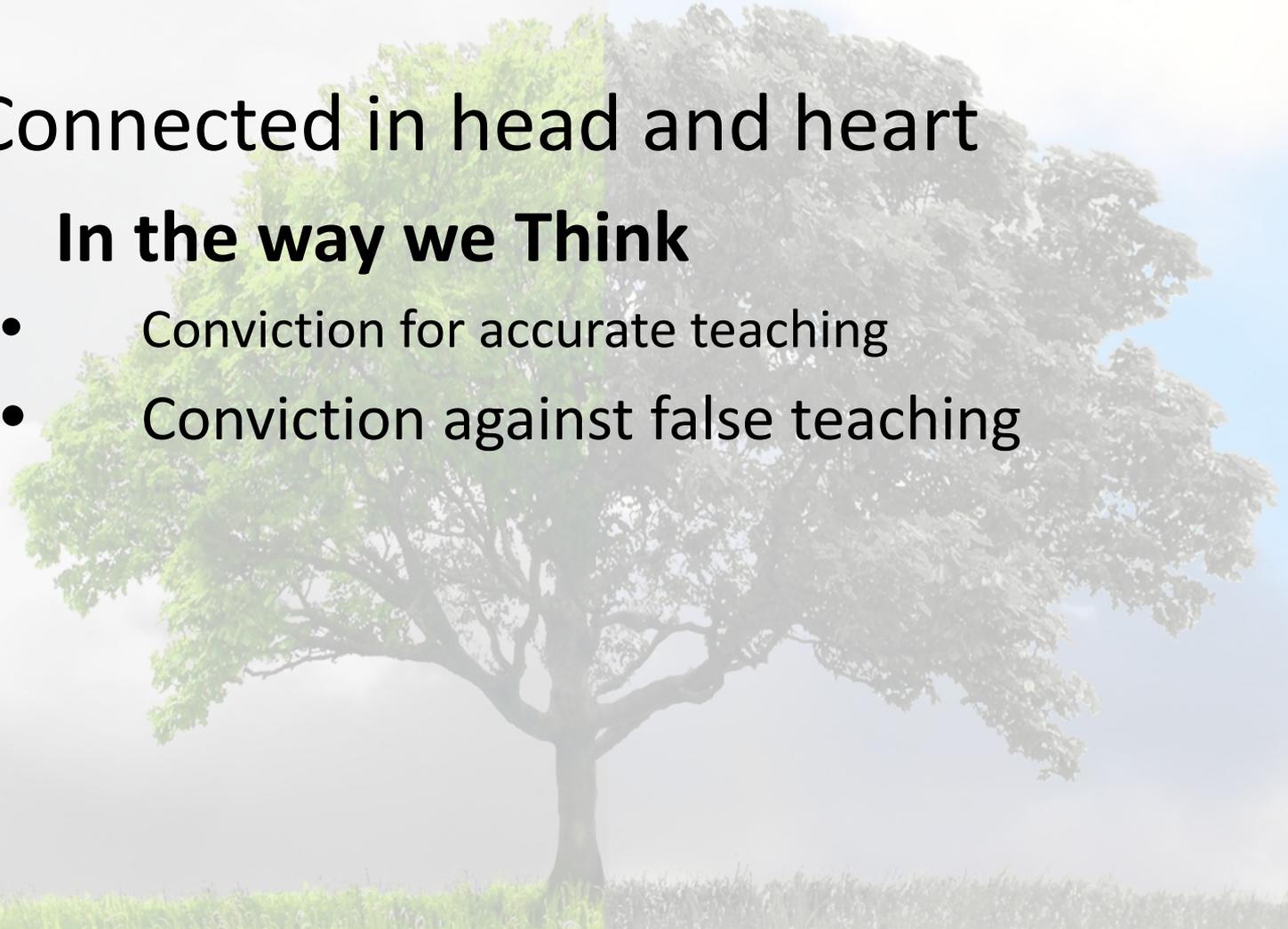
United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
 - **In the way we Think**
 - Conviction for accurate teaching



United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
 - **In the way we Think**
 - Conviction for accurate teaching
 - Conviction against false teaching



United in Advancing the Gospel



- **Connected in head and heart**
 - In the way we Think
 - Conviction for accurate teaching
 - Conviction against false teaching
 - **In the way we Respond**

United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
 - In the way we Think
 - Conviction for accurate teaching
 - Conviction against false teaching
 - **In the way we Respond**
 - Unity is Built while standing firm

United in Advancing the Gospel

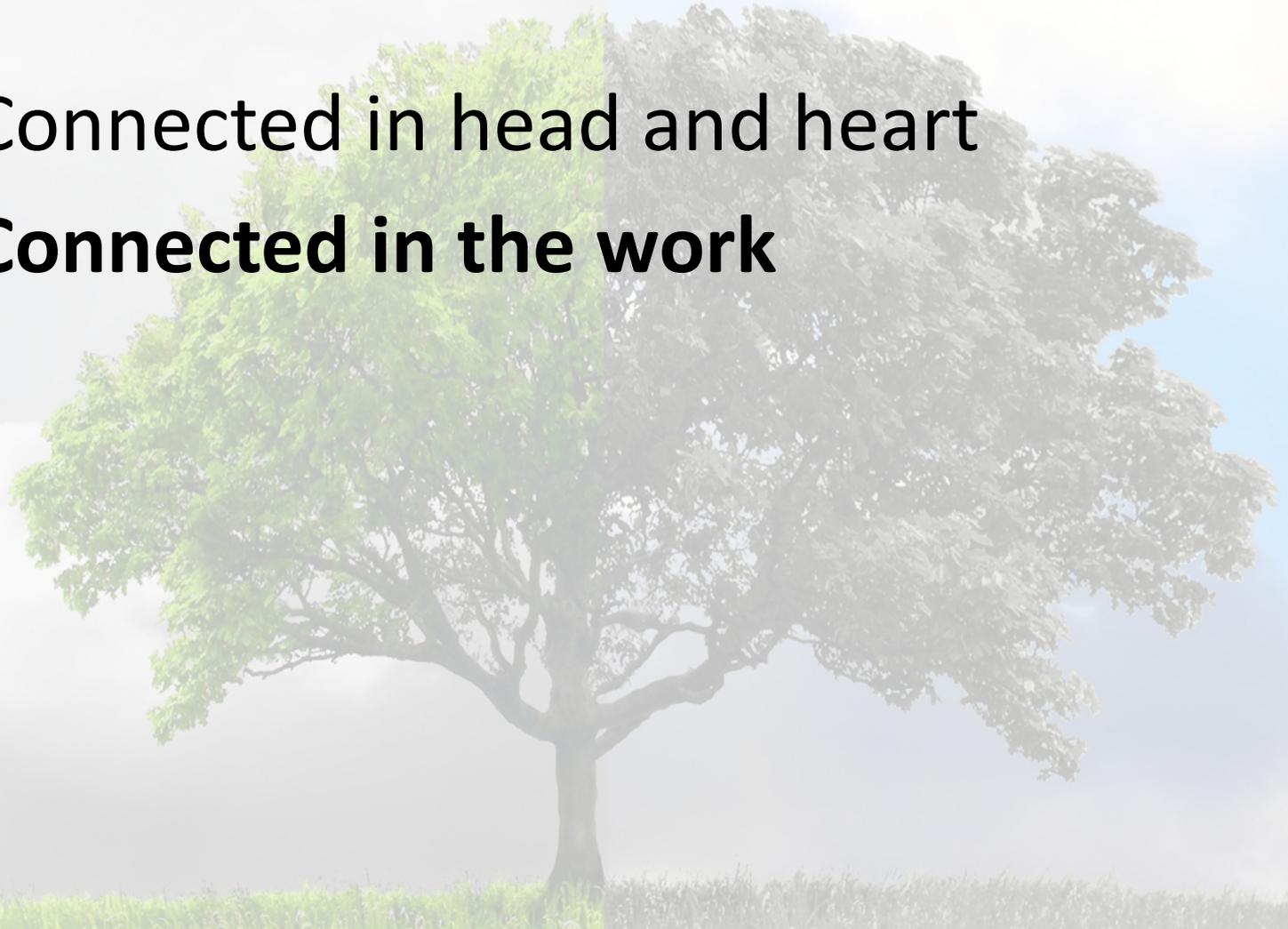
- Connected in head and heart
 - In the way we Think
 - Conviction for accurate teaching
 - Conviction against false teaching
 - **In the way we Respond**
 - Unity is Built while standing firm
 - Unity is Challenged while standing firm

United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
 - In the way we Think
 - Conviction for accurate teaching
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 - **In the way we Respond**
 - Unity is Built while standing firm
 - Unity is Challenged while standing firm
 - Unity is Developed while standing firm

United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
- **Connected in the work**

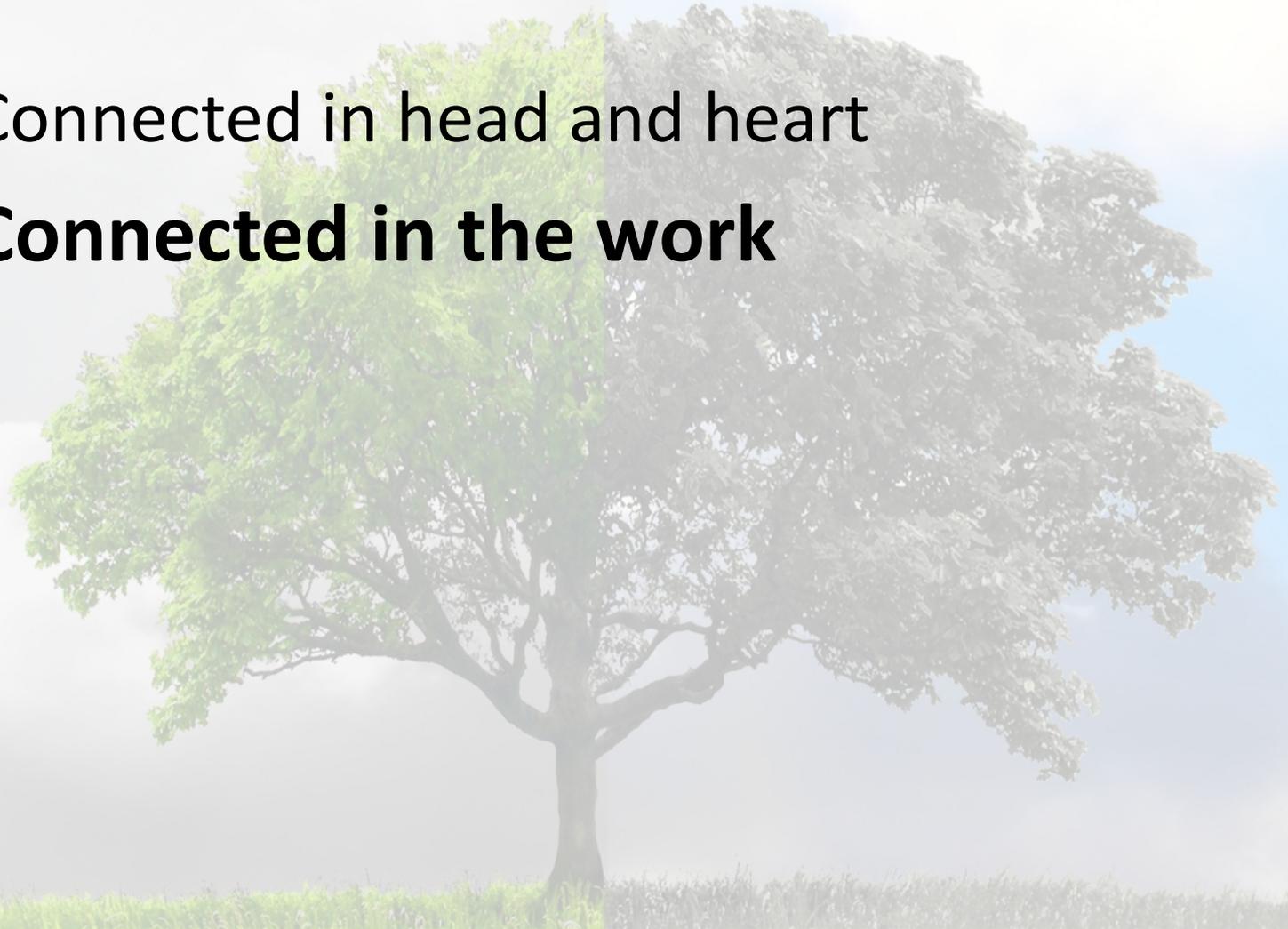


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United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
- **Connected in the work**



United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
- **Connected in the work**
 - Partnership = Vision + Commitment of Resources

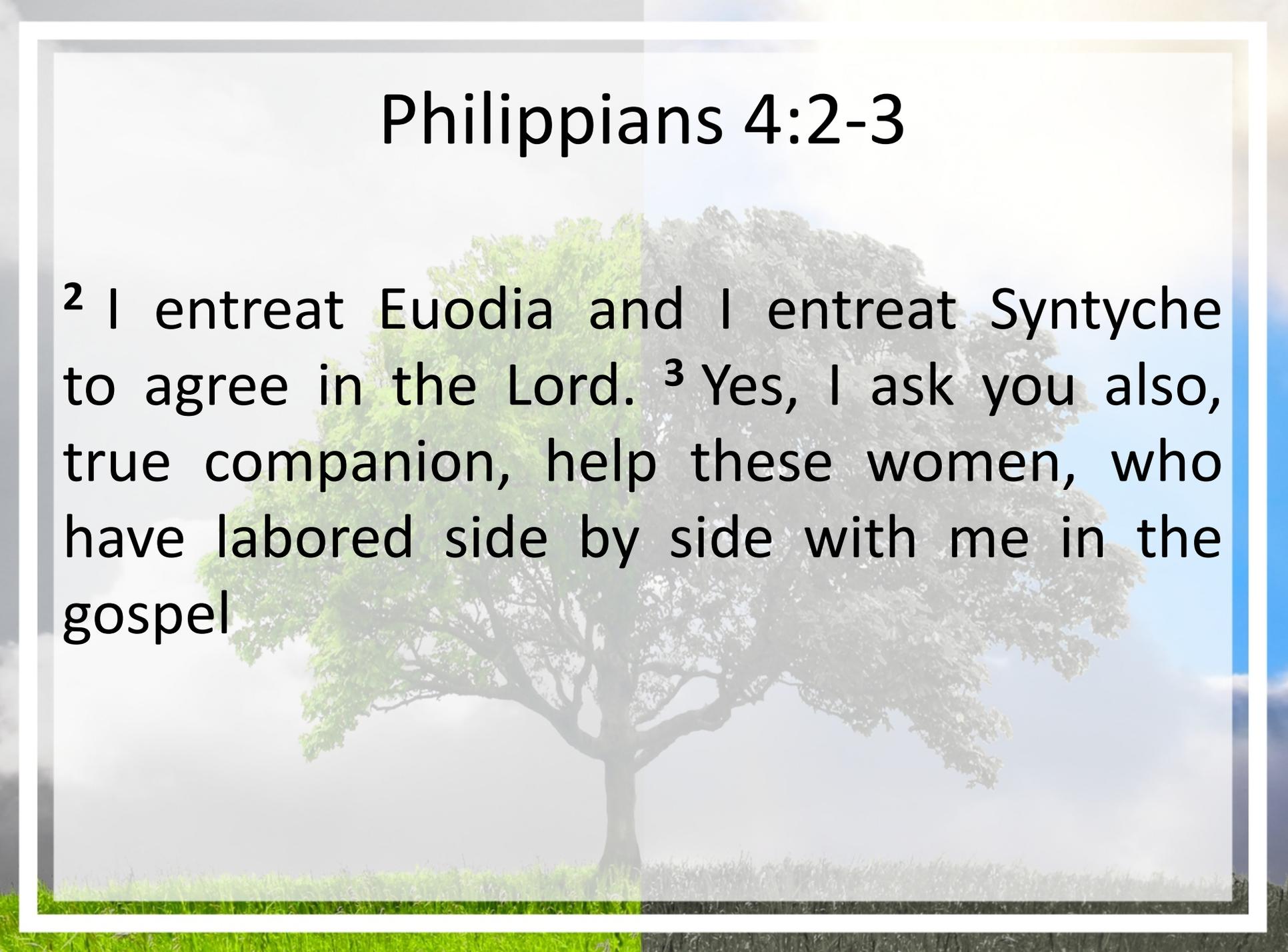


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Philippians 4:2-3

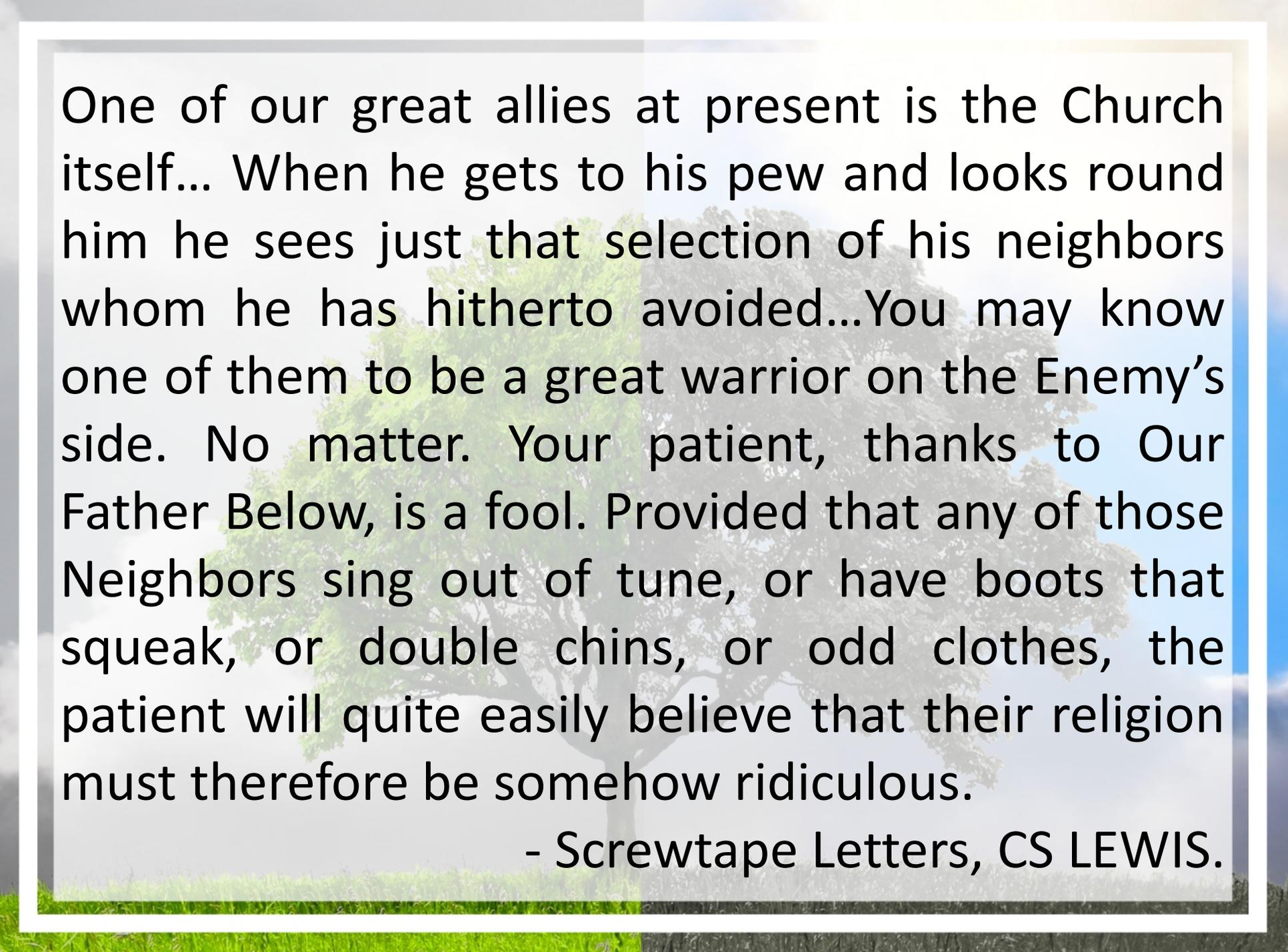
² I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. ³ Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel

A large, leafy tree stands in a field under a blue sky with light clouds. The tree is the central focus, with its branches spreading out. The field is green and grassy. The sky is a clear blue with some light, wispy clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
- **Connected in the work**
 - Partnership = Vision + Commitment of Resources
 - Not distracted by preferences





One of our great allies at present is the Church itself... When he gets to his pew and looks round him he sees just that selection of his neighbors whom he has hitherto avoided... You may know one of them to be a great warrior on the Enemy's side. No matter. Your patient, thanks to Our Father Below, is a fool. Provided that any of those Neighbors sing out of tune, or have boots that squeak, or double chins, or odd clothes, the patient will quite easily believe that their religion must therefore be somehow ridiculous.

- Screwtape Letters, CS LEWIS.

Barriers to striving side by side



Barriers to striving side by side

- Not enthralled with Christ. We're distracted.



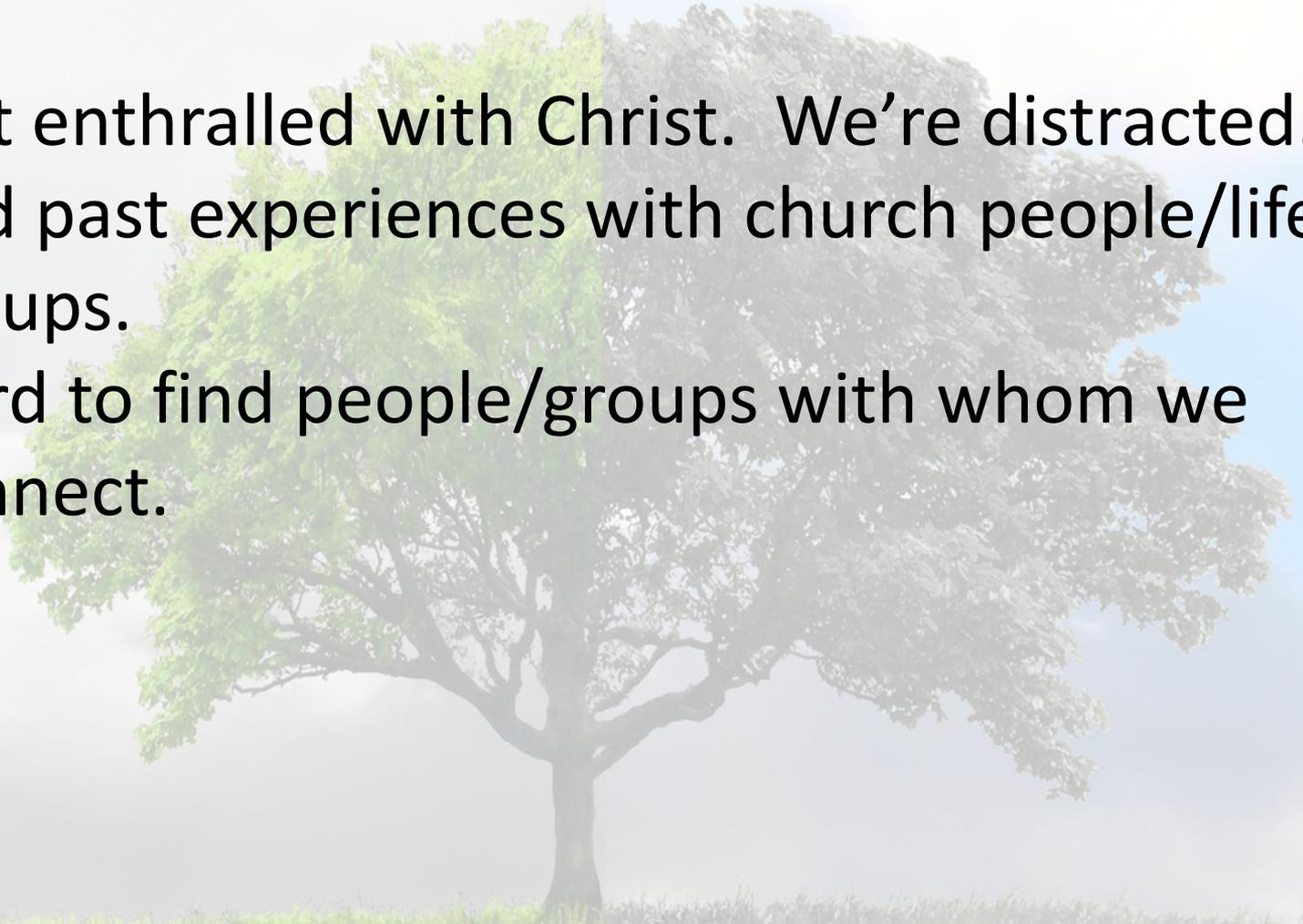
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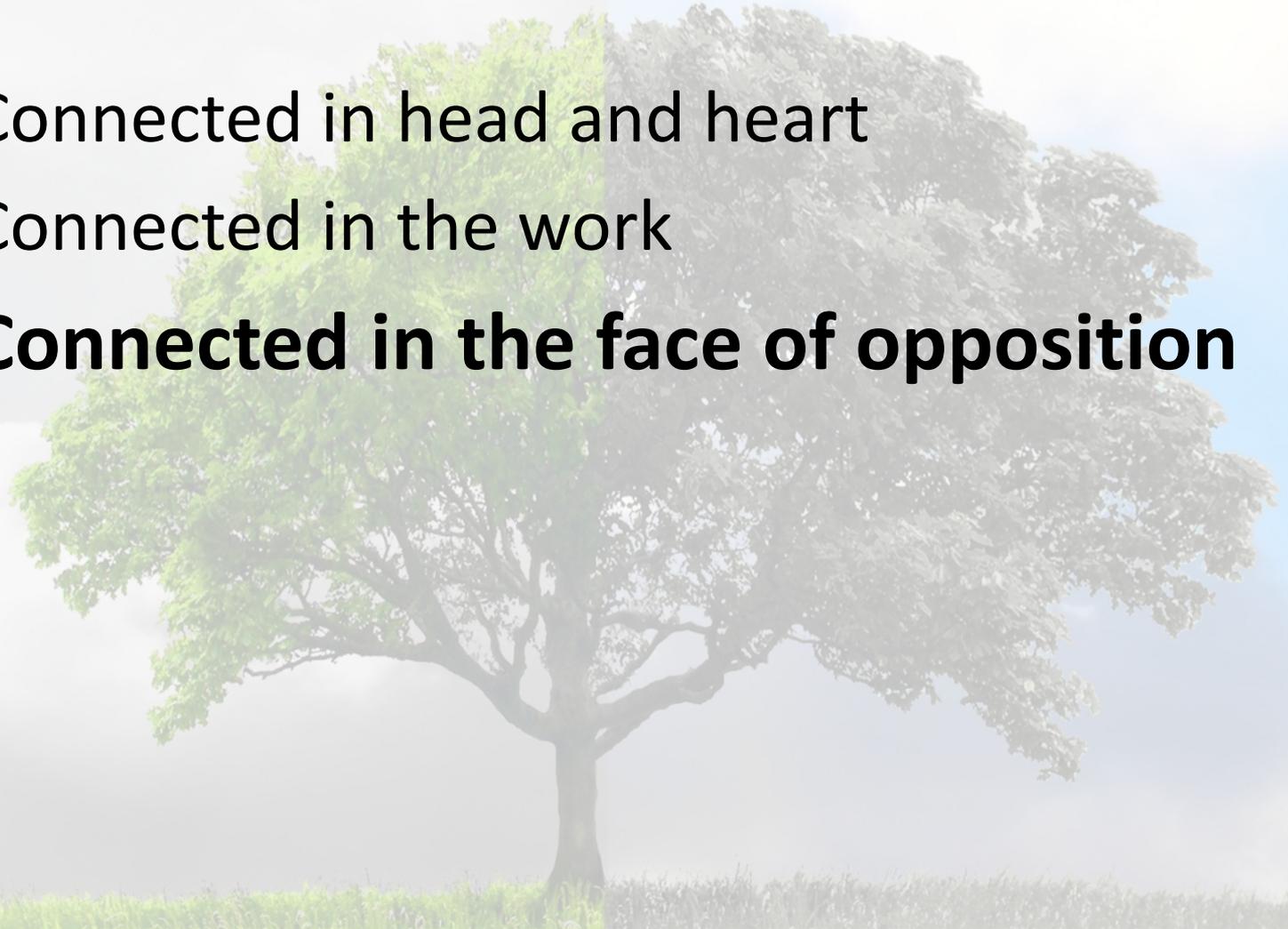
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Barriers to striving side by side

- Not enthralled with Christ. We're distracted.
- Bad past experiences with church people/life groups.
- Hard to find people/groups with whom we connect.
- Difficult to find people who encourage and inspire us.
- Fear of others discovering how much growth is still possible.

United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in head and heart
- Connected in the work
- **Connected in the face of opposition**



Philippians 1:27-30

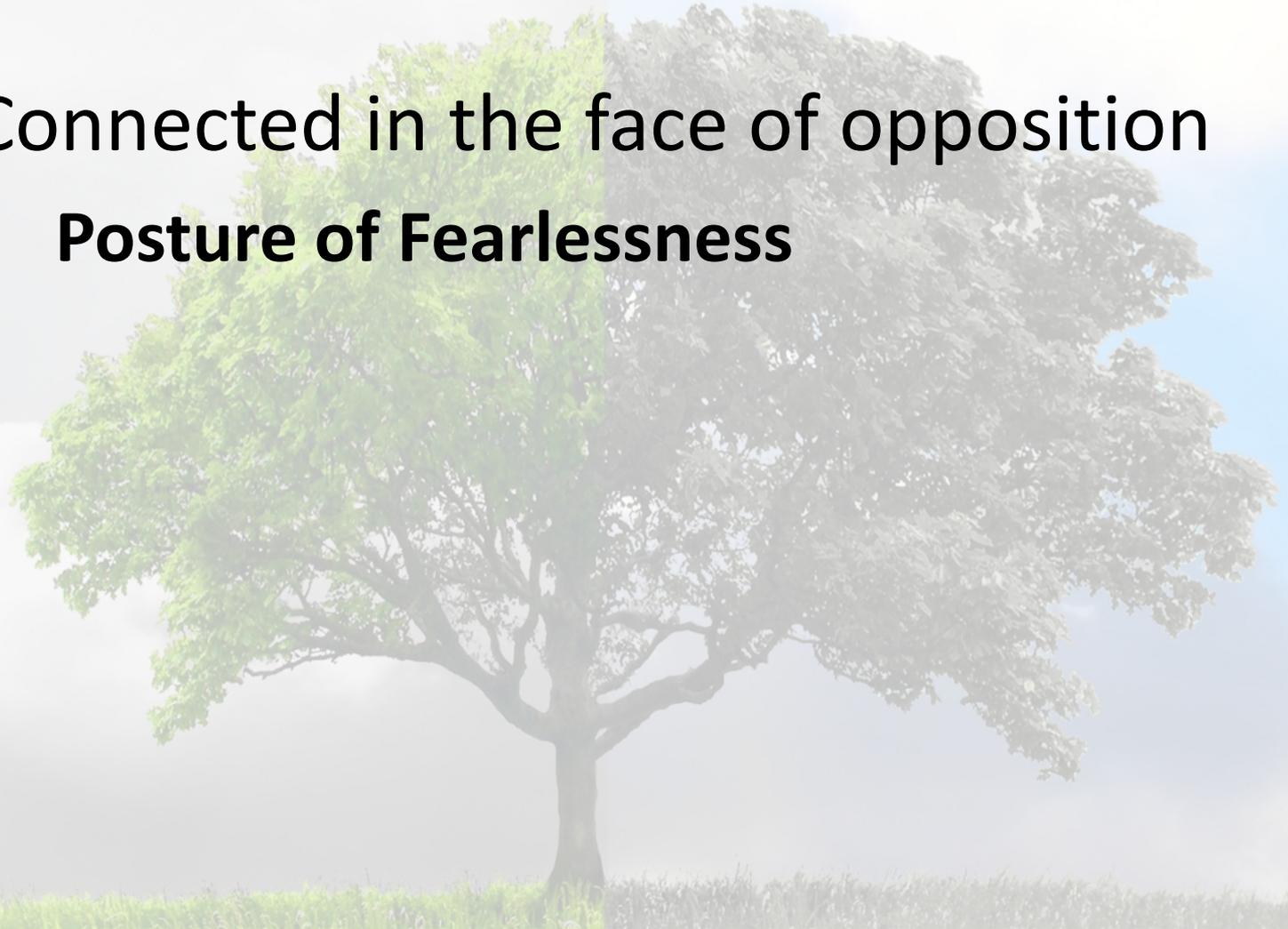
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United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in the face of opposition
- **Posture of Fearlessness**



Philippians 1:27-30

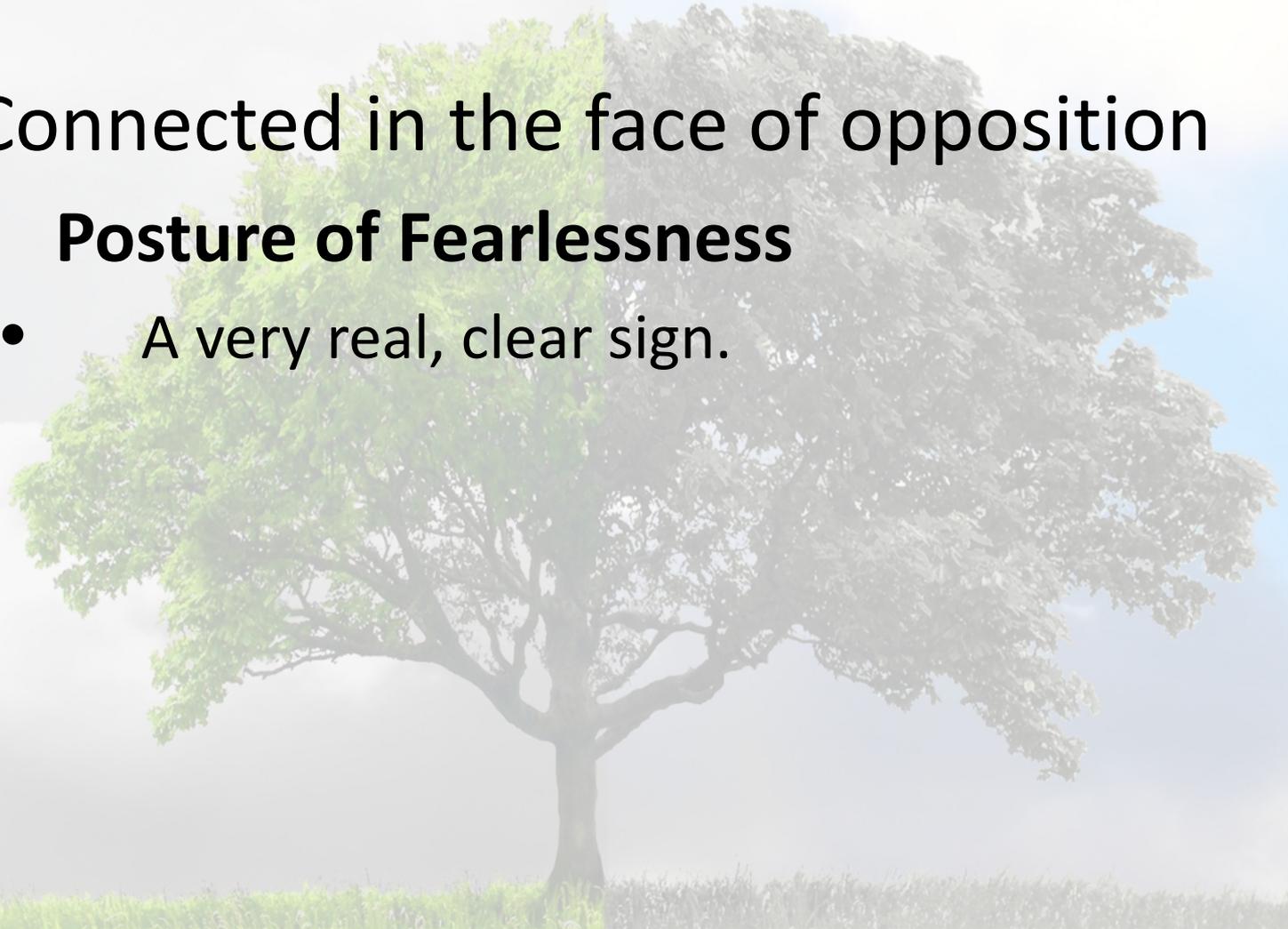
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United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in the face of opposition
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 - A very real, clear sign.



Philippians 1:27-30

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United in Advancing the Gospel

- Connected in the face of opposition
- **Posture of Fearlessness**
 - A very real, clear sign
 - Of your opponents destruction

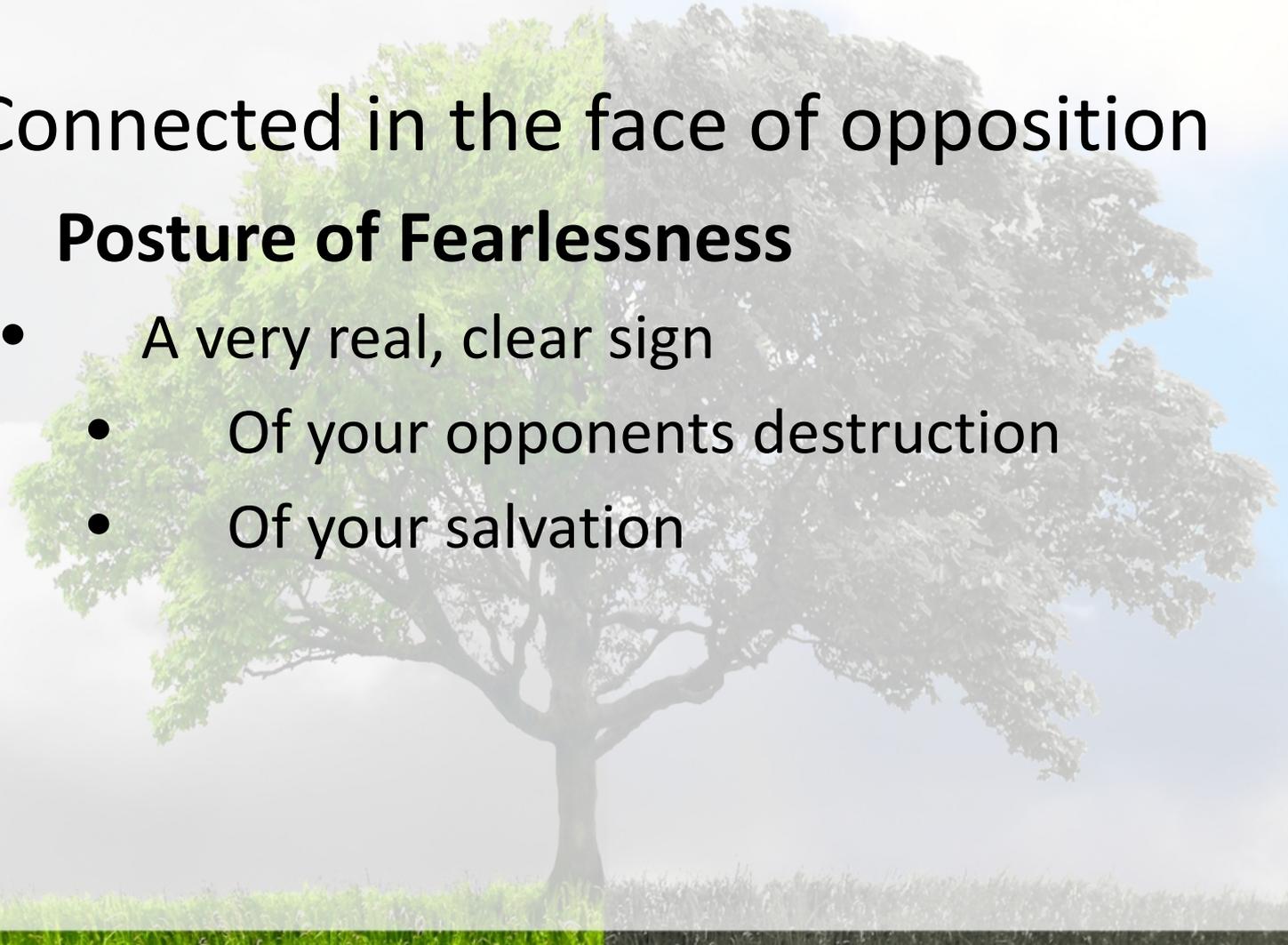


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United in Advancing the Gospel

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- **Posture of Fearlessness**
 - A very real, clear sign
 - Of your opponents destruction
 - Of your salvation

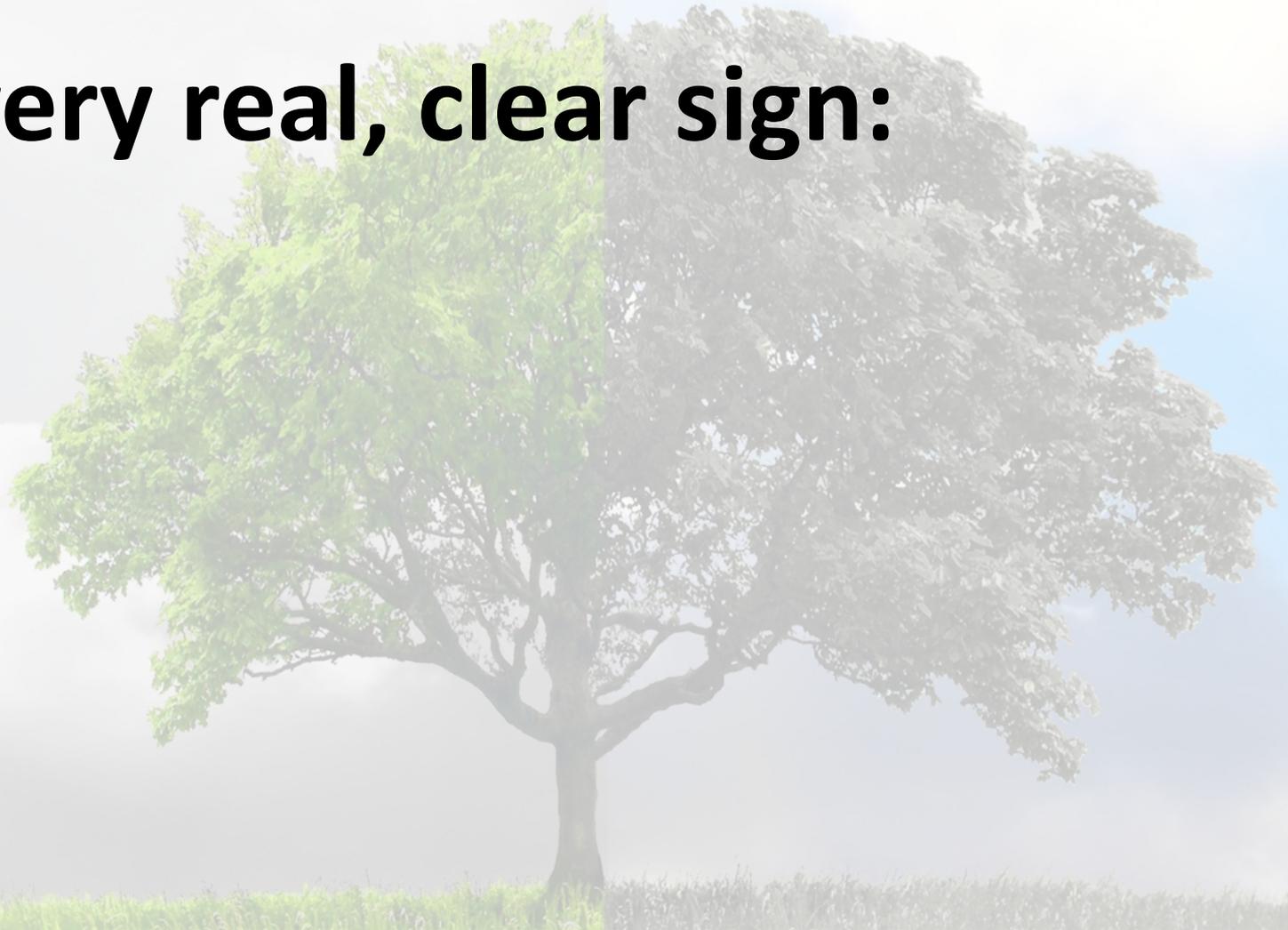


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United in Advancing the Gospel

A very real, clear sign:



United in Advancing the Gospel

A very real, clear sign:

– when we are in our work environment



United in Advancing the Gospel

A very real, clear sign:

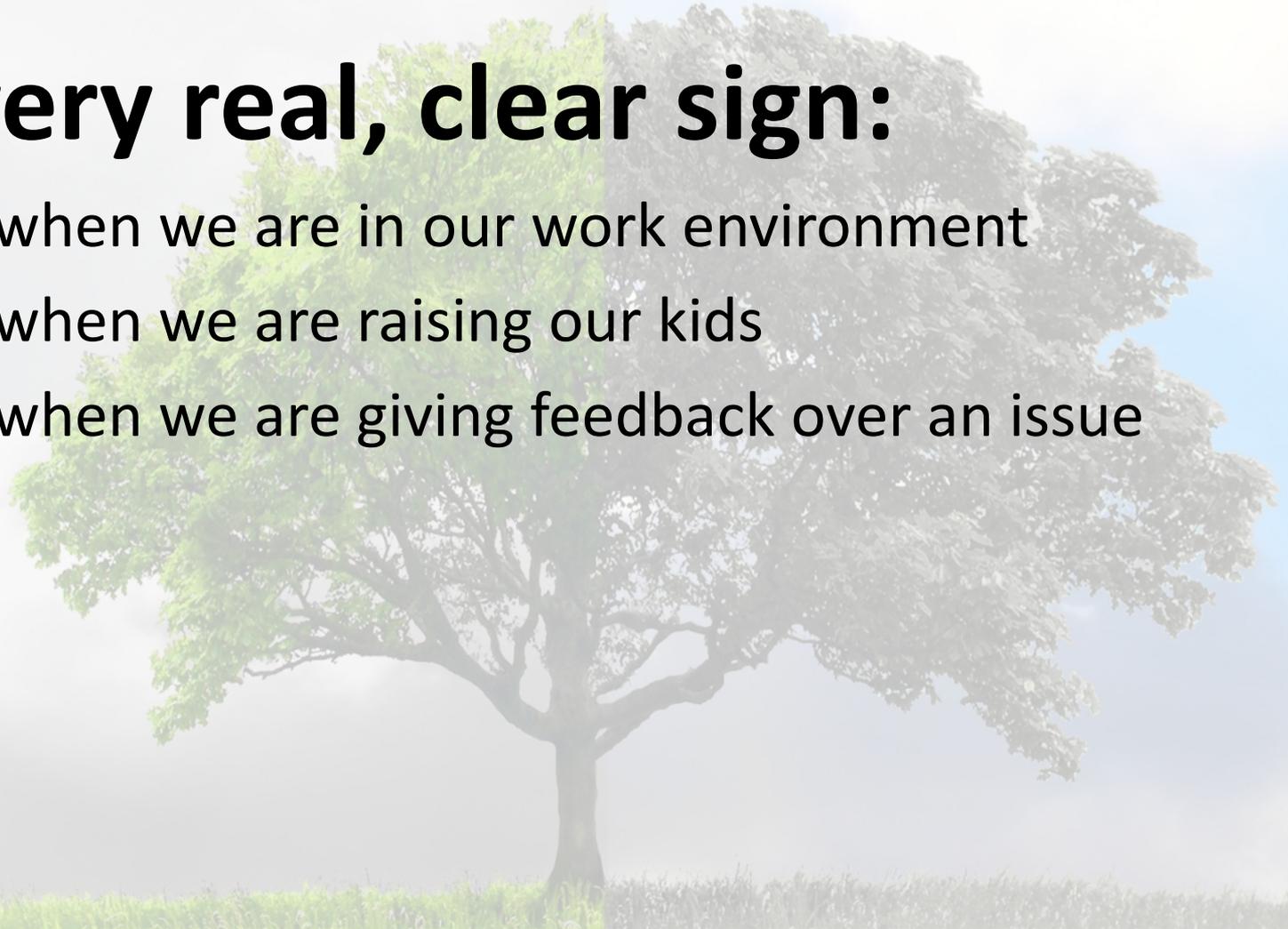
- when we are in our work environment
- when we are raising our kids



United in Advancing the Gospel

A very real, clear sign:

- when we are in our work environment
- when we are raising our kids
- when we are giving feedback over an issue



United in Advancing the Gospel

A very real, clear sign:

- when we are in our work environment
- when we are raising our kids
- when we are giving feedback over an issue
- when we are having a frustrating day playing golf

United in Advancing the Gospel

A very real, clear sign:

- when we are in our work environment
- when we are raising our kids
- when we are giving feedback over an issue
- when we are having a frustrating day playing golf
- when we are frustrated at someone in our family

United in Advancing the Gospel

A very real, clear sign:

- when we are in our work environment
- when we are raising our kids
- when we are giving feedback over an issue
- when we are having a frustrating day playing golf
- when we are frustrated at someone in our family
- when we are allocating our personal resources

United in Advancing the Gospel

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- when we are giving feedback over an issue
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- when we are allocating our personal resources
- when we are attending or participating in athletics

United in Advancing the Gospel

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- when we are going out to a play, dinner, or show

United in Advancing the Gospel

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- when we are going out to a play, dinner, or show
- when we are participating in simple conversation

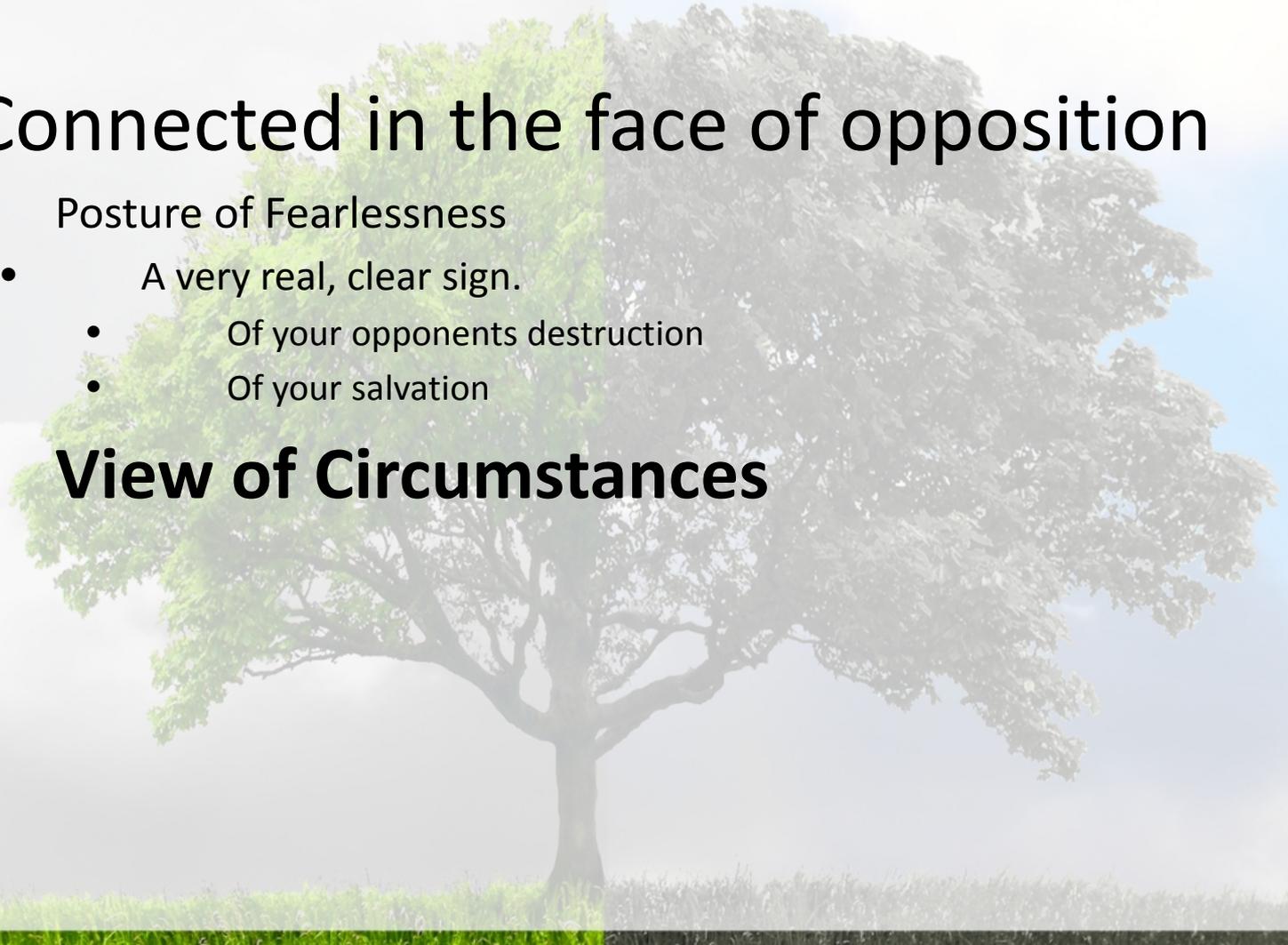
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- when we are going out to a play, dinner, or show
- when we are participating in simple conversation
- **WHEN WE ARE FACING DEATH.**

United in Advancing the Gospel

- **Connected in the face of opposition**
 - Posture of Fearlessness
 - A very real, clear sign.
 - Of your opponents destruction
 - Of your salvation
- **View of Circumstances**

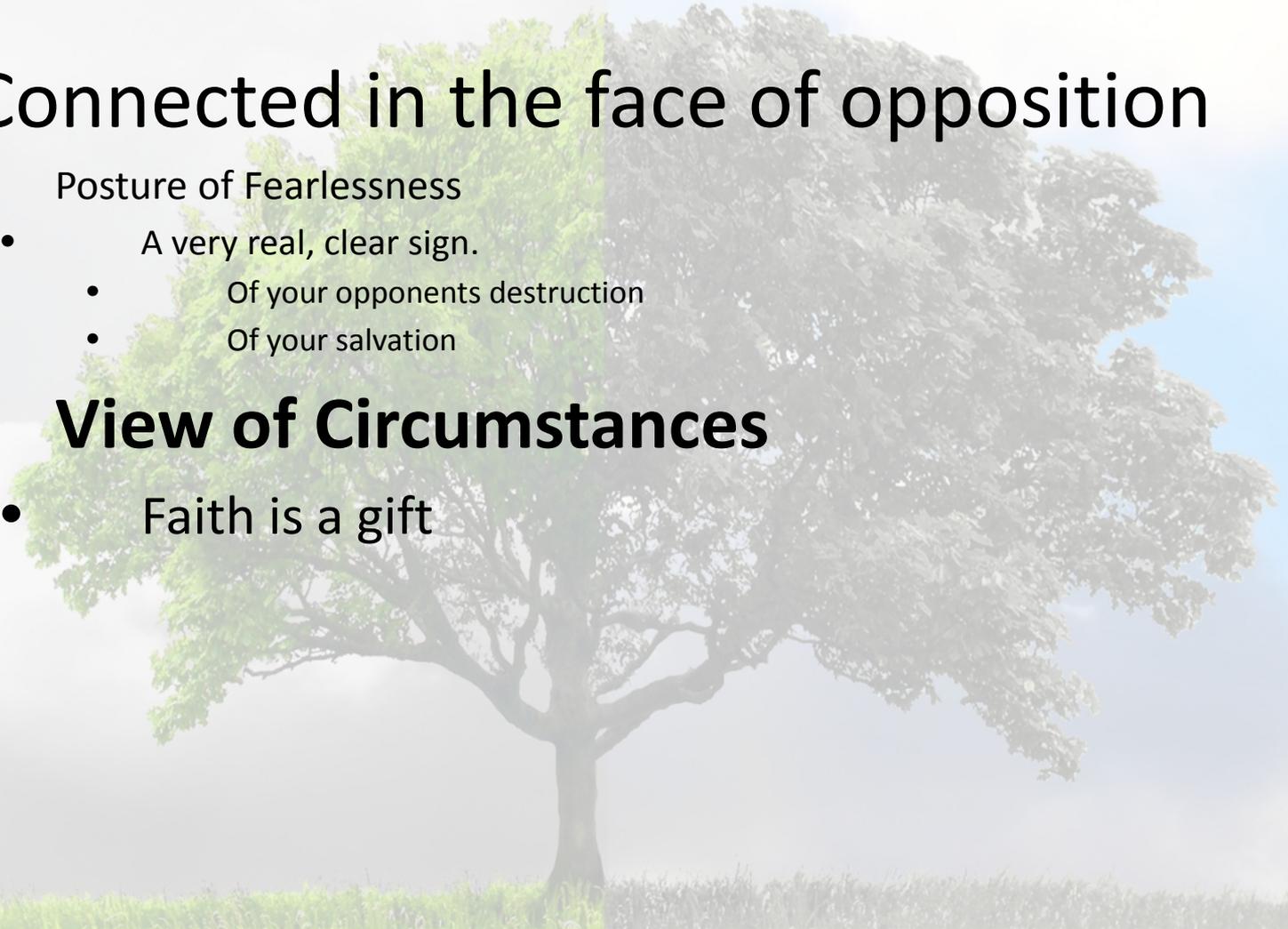


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Philippians 1:12-14

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

United in Advancing the Gospel

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United in Advancing the Gospel

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- **View of Circumstances**
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 - Suffering is a gift
 - Measure your faith

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 - Suffering is a gift
 - Measure your faith
 - Grow your faith

United in Advancing the Gospel

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 - Of your salvation
 - **View of Circumstances**
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 - Suffering is a gift
 - Measure your faith
 - Grow your faith
 - Share your faith



Takeaways



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- **In life, what are things that you strive after?**
 - Re-read Philippians and reflect this week on how your life reflects that the gospel is your highest priority.



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- **Strive with others towards advancing the gospel.**
 - If you are in community: Identify areas of growth.
 - If you are not in community: Confront the fears or concerns you may have about striving with others.

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- **Invite someone into this conversation with you this week.**