

IT'S  
COMPLICATED

IN A

HURTING

WORLD

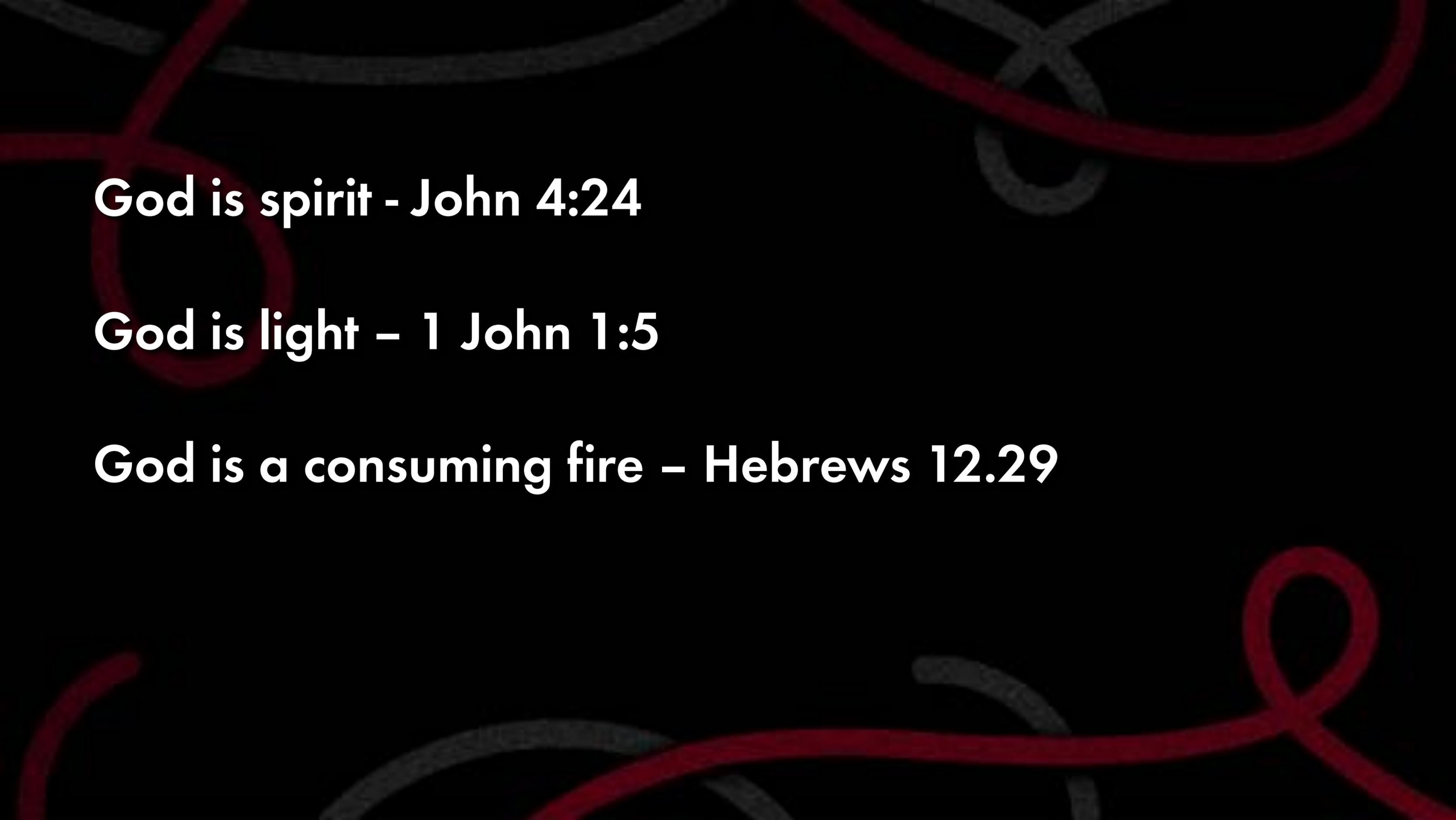
HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:27 (NIV 2011)

<sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, **because God is love.**

1 John 4:8 (NIV 2011)



**God is spirit - John 4:24**

**God is light – 1 John 1:5**

**God is a consuming fire – Hebrews 12.29**

All sorts of people are fond of repeating the Christian statement that 'God is love'. But they seem not to notice that the words 'God is love' have no real meaning unless God contains at least two Persons. Love is something that one person has for another person. If God was a single person, then before the world was made, He was not love.

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*  
(1952; Harper Collins: 2001) 174-176

# Perichoresis

(from “peri” – around; and “choresis” choreography – dance)

<sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:9-16 (NIV 2011)

<sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. **God is love.** Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

1 John 4:9-16 (NIV 2011)

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1 John 4:9-13 (NIV 2011)

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, keep my commands. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—<sup>17</sup> **the Spirit of truth**. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, **for he lives with you and will be in you.**

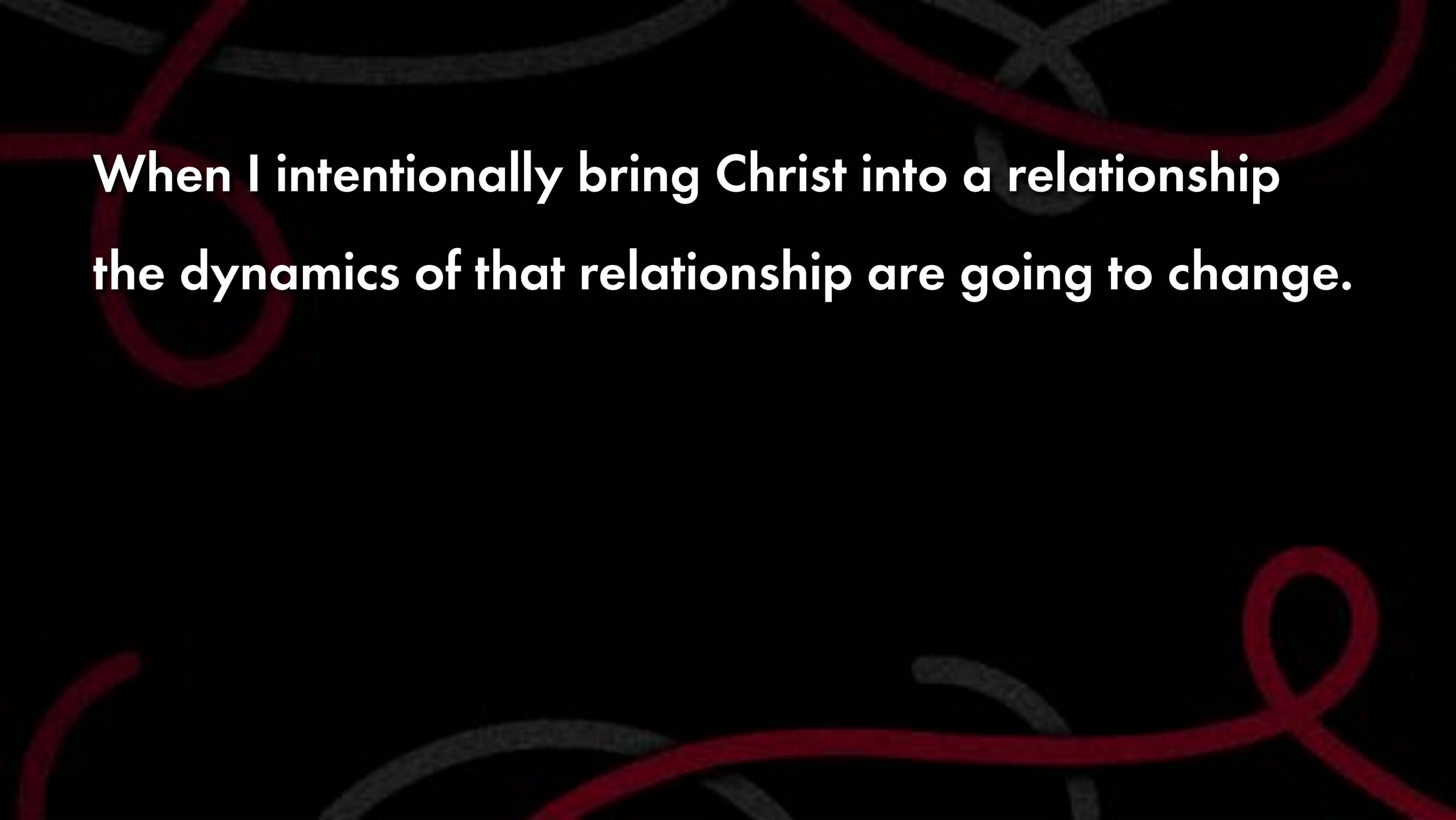
John 14:15-17 (NIV 2011)

# Three Questions to Ask Myself When I'm in a Complicated Relationship:

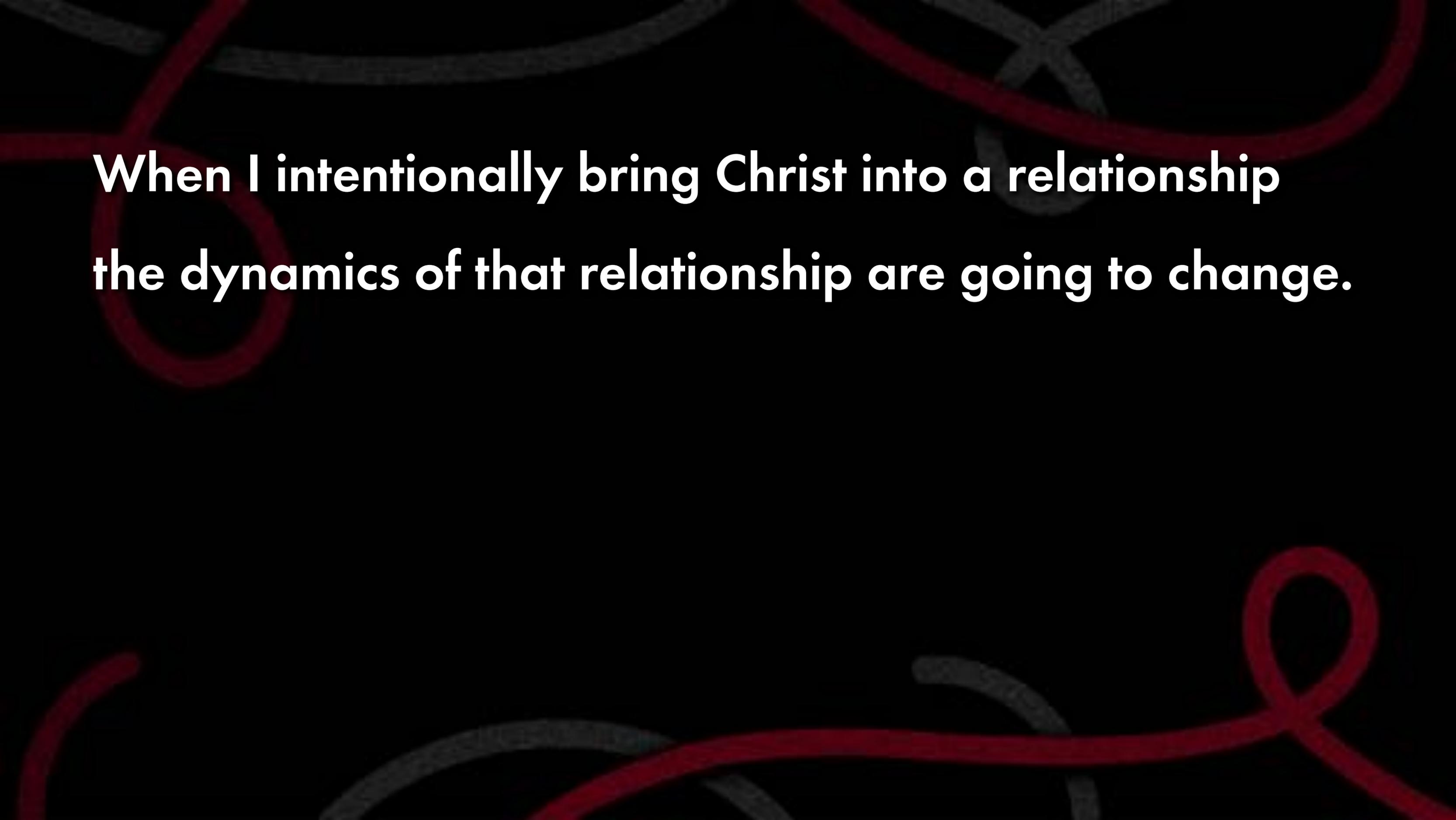
**1. Am I Being Selfish?**

# Three Questions to Ask Myself When I'm in a Complicated Relationship:

1. Am I Being Selfish?
2. How can I intentionally bring Christ into this relationship?



**When I intentionally bring Christ into a relationship  
the dynamics of that relationship are going to change.**



**When I intentionally bring Christ into a relationship  
the dynamics of that relationship are going to change.**

# Three Questions to Ask Myself When I'm in a Complicated Relationship:

1. Am I Being Selfish?
2. How can I intentionally bring Christ into this relationship?
3. Am I seeking to get back at them?

<sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. <sup>18</sup> If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

<sup>19</sup> Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

Romans 12:17-19 (NIV 2011)

**Jan 5:** Designed to Connect | Chris Dolson

**Jan 12:** Loneliness | Michael Knapstad

**Jan 26:** Authenticity | Matt Metzger

**Feb 2:** Forgiveness | Charles Yu

**Feb 9:** Good Conflict | Matt Metzger