

BETHANY BIBLE STUDY

I JOHN 1:1-4

PART-1

1.07.2026

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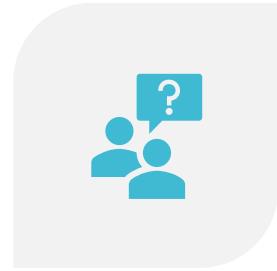
ACTS | Philemon | Colossians | Ephesians | Sermon on
the mount | Daniel | James | I Timothy | II Timothy |
I Thessalonians | II Thessalonians | Deuteronomy |
Malachi | Hebrews | Ezra | Nehemiah | Jude |
I JOHN



**INFORMATION +
APPLICATION =
TRANSFORMATION**



**WHAT HAVE YOU
LEARNED?**



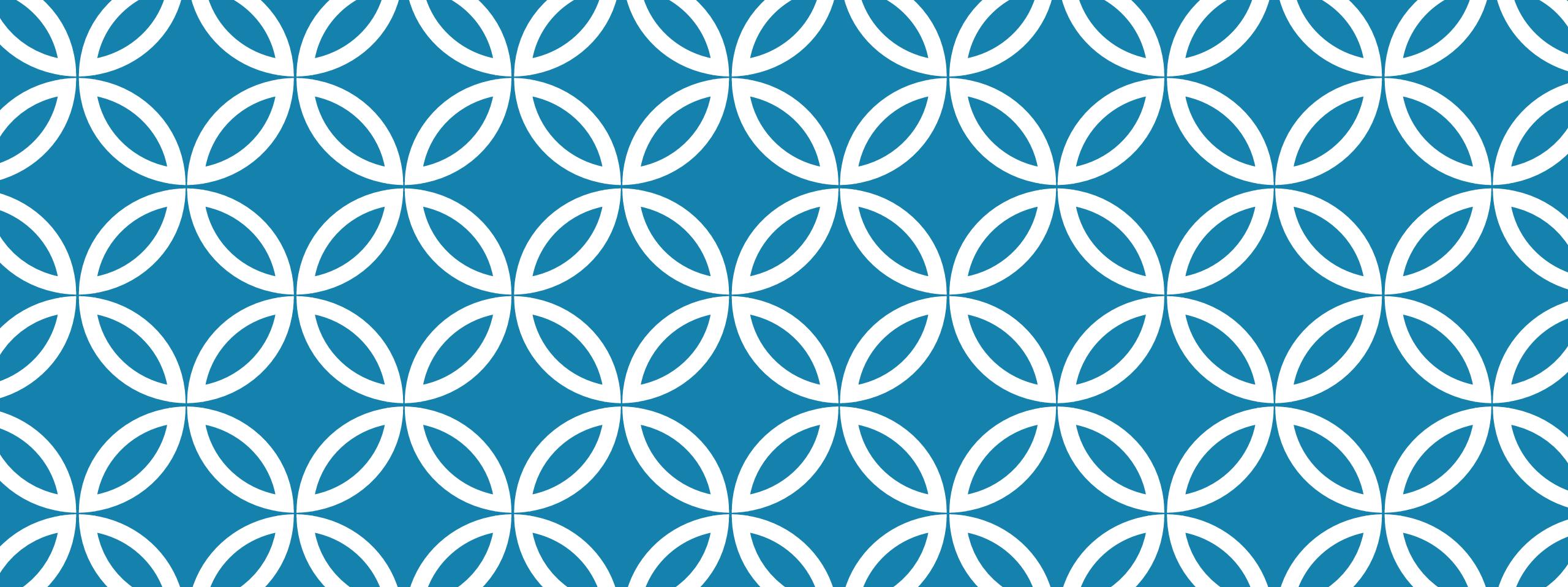
**WHAT HAVE YOU
APPLIED?**



**WHAT QUESTIONS
REMAIN
UNANSWERED?**

BETHANY BIBLE STUDY

BUT BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD,
AND NOT HEARERS ONLY, DECEIVING YOUR OWN SELVES. JAMES 1:22



INTRODUCTION

I JOHN

INTRODUCTION

Author: Apostle John

Date: 80-90 AD

Audience: Believers

KEY THEMES

LOVE.

Life.

Light

FELLOWSHIP

with God & Jesus,
and one another

Humanity
of Christ

Fruit of Faith

Remedy for
Believer's sin

Confronting false
teachings with
sound doctrine

FOUR STATED OBJECTIVES

1:4 Joy

And these things write we unto
you, that your
joy may be full.

2:1 Sin Not

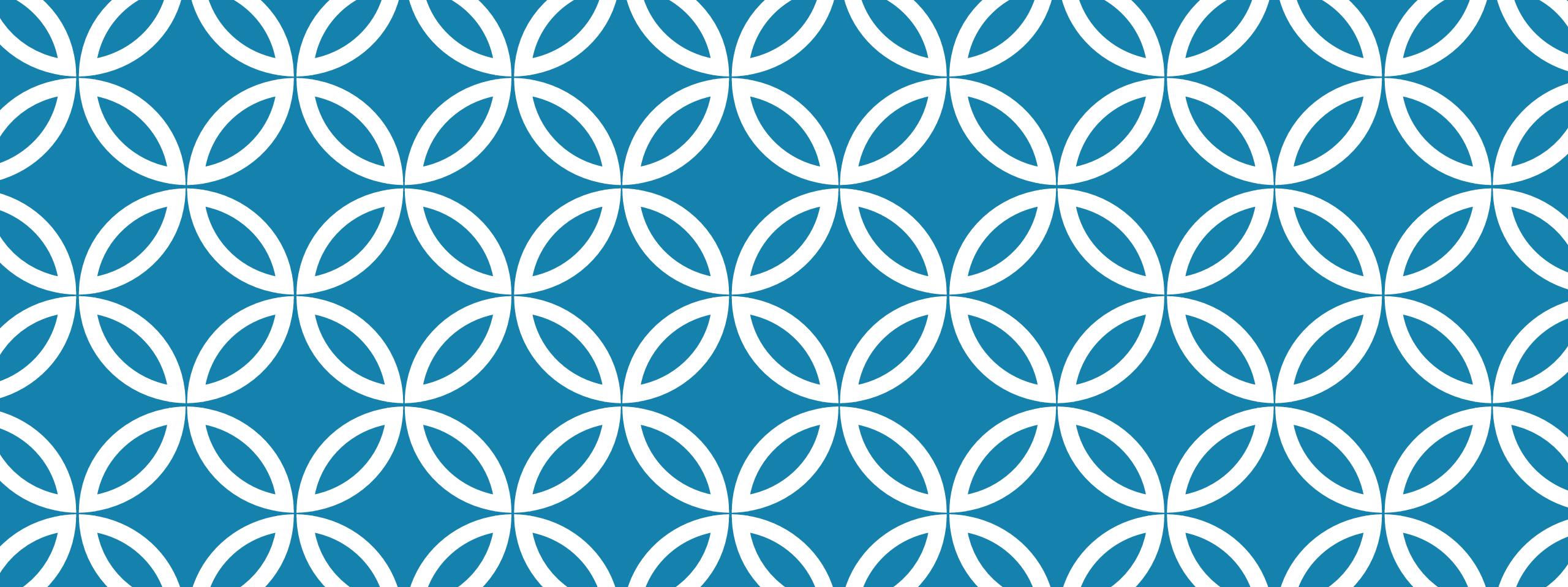
these things write I unto you,
that ye **sin not.**

2:26 False Teachers

These things have I written unto
you **concerning them** that
seduce you.

5:13 Eternal Life

These things have I written unto
you that believe on the name of
the Son of God; that ye may
know that ye have
eternal life,



JESUS CHRIST REVEALED

1-3

JESUS CHRIST REVEALED

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Verse 2 in (-) ... natural flow reading from 1 to 3

ETERNAL PRE- EXISTENT CHRIST

“THAT WHICH
WAS FROM
THE
BEGINNING”

What is the beginning?

Before creation, from eternity past

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word

ETERNAL PRE- EXISTENT CHRIST

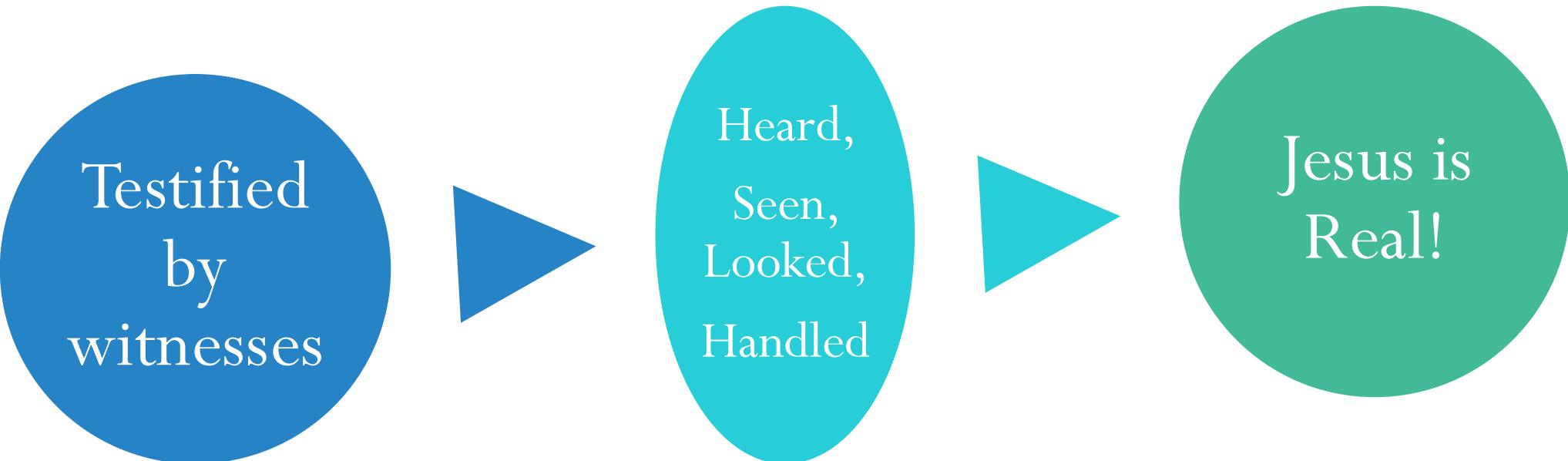
Psalm 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

Proverbs 8:23 I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was

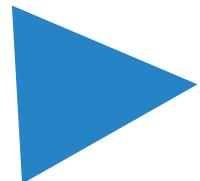
John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

INCARNATION

... GOD BECAME MAN!



Testified
by
witnesses



Heard,
Seen,
Looked,
Handled



Jesus is
Real!

INCARNATION

Galatians 4:4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

Mathew 1:16 And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

HEARD

Disciples **heard** directly from Jesus (for example, sermon on the mount)

Source: Truth received by Jesus from God.

John 7:16 Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

What is the source of our truth?

SEEN

John 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 12:20 And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: ²¹ The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.

LOOKED UPON

LOOKED UPON (studied, gazed intently, focused)

Jeremiah 9:24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.

Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

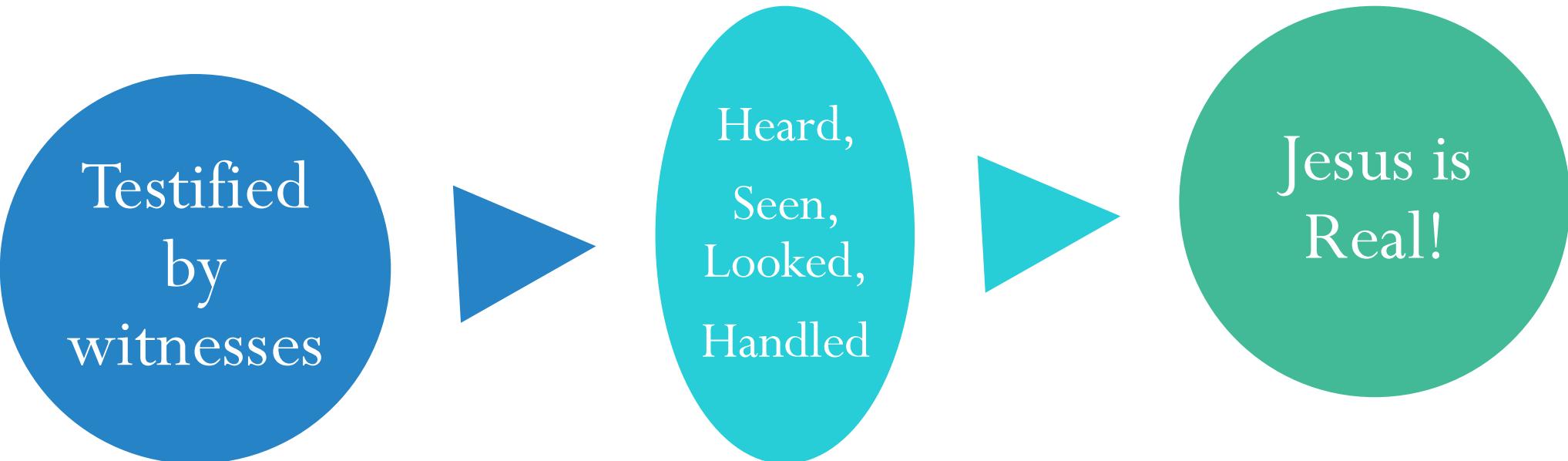
OUR HANDS HAVE HANDLED (TOUCHED)

Luke 24:39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

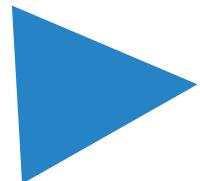
John 20:27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

INCARNATION

... GOD BECAME MAN!



Testified
by
witnesses



Heard,
Seen,
Looked,
Handled



Jesus is
Real!

HOW
ABOUT US?
WE ARE
ALSO
BLESSED!

JOHN 20:29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

WORD OF LIFE

1 THAT WHICH WAS
 FROM THE
BEGINNING, WHICH
 WE HAVE HEARD,
 WHICH WE HAVE
 SEEN WITH OUR
 EYES, WHICH WE
 HAVE LOOKED
 UPON, AND OUR
 HANDS HAVE
 HANDLED, OF THE
 WORD OF LIFE;

Jesus Christ is **THE WORD** (God communicated His message through Christ)

and **THE WORD OF LIFE** (the communication of God's word brought life)

Jesus ...I am the way, the truth, and the life! (John 14:6)

MANIFESTED
(2 FOR THE LIFE
WAS MANIFESTED,
AND WE HAVE SEEN
IT, AND BEAR
WITNESS, AND
SHEW UNTO YOU
THAT ETERNAL
LIFE, WHICH WAS
WITH THE FATHER,
AND WAS
MANIFESTED UNTO
US;)

Manifested ... made flesh

Witnessed and shared with others

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

PURPOSE OF DECLARATION

³ THAT WHICH WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD DECLARE WE UNTO YOU, THAT YE ALSO MAY HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH US: AND TRULY OUR FELLOWSHIP IS WITH THE FATHER, AND WITH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.

Declaration/Witness: of what is seen and heard. We cannot truthfully witness if we have not seen/heard/experienced.

WHY: May enjoy gift of **fellowship** (supernatural fellowship/communion among believers through Christ)

Tri-fold Fellowship: with God the Father, Jesus, and other believers

FELLOWSHIP IS THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Physical interaction does not produce fellowship (ex. Judas Iscariot)

Friendship is natural but **FELLOWSHIP** is the supernatural work of the spirit among the body of believers.

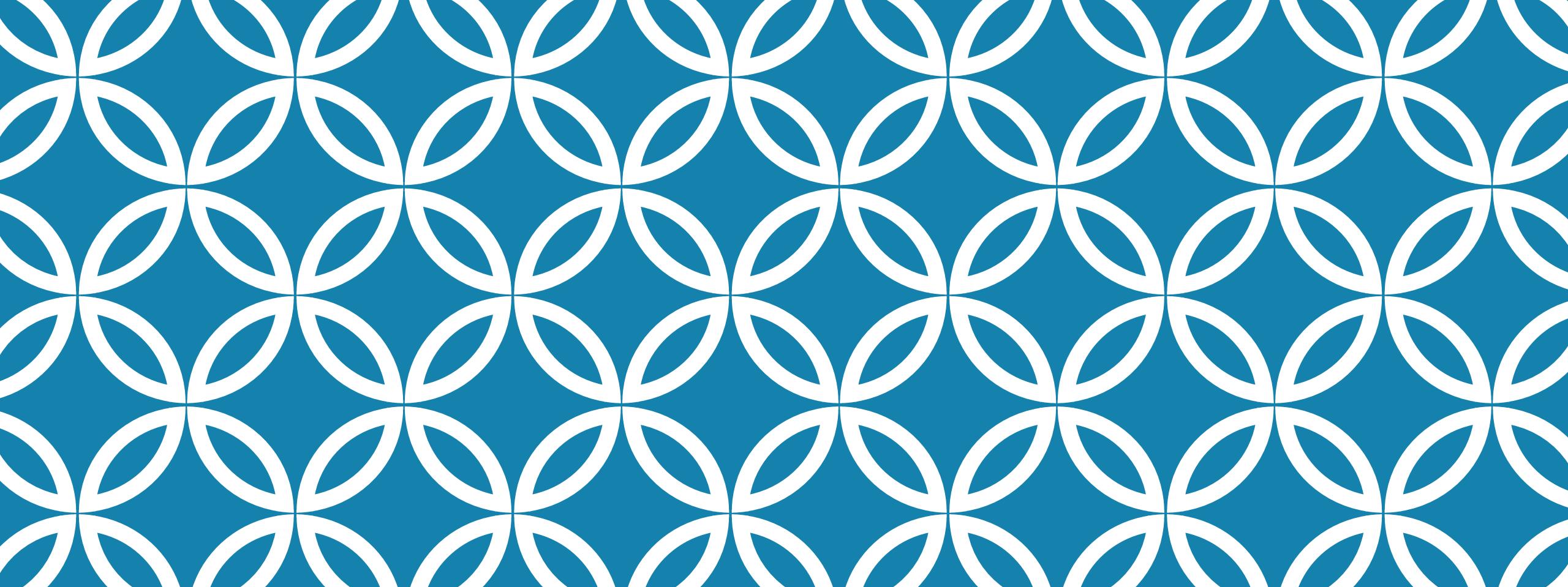
The indwelling spirit connects us to other believers supernaturally ... a bond that is stronger than blood relations.

FELLOWSHIP IS THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

John 14:9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?

Church attendance, knowledge, good works etc. do not produce relationship with God

Romans 8:9 Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.



PURPOSE OF THE LETTER #1 (OF 4)

Verse 4

PURPOSE OF THE LETTER #1: EXPERIENCE FULLNES OF JOY

⁴ And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

Fullness of Joy possible only through Christ

FULLNESS OF JOY

John 15:11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

John 16:24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

John 17:13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

LASTING JOY

Joy begins with Repentance
and is sustained with His Presence/Fellowship

Repentance (Luke 15:7 that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth)

Fellowship with God (I John 1:3-4) In thy presence is fulness of joy (Psalms 16:11)

Do we have lasting joy? How are we sustaining our joy?

HAVE WE TRULY
REPENTED?

ARE WE
ENJOYING
SUSTAINED
FELLOWSHIP?

REPENTANCE

ACTS 26:20

...THAT THEY
SHOULD
REPENT AND
TURN TO GOD,
AND DO WORKS
MEET FOR
REPENTANCE

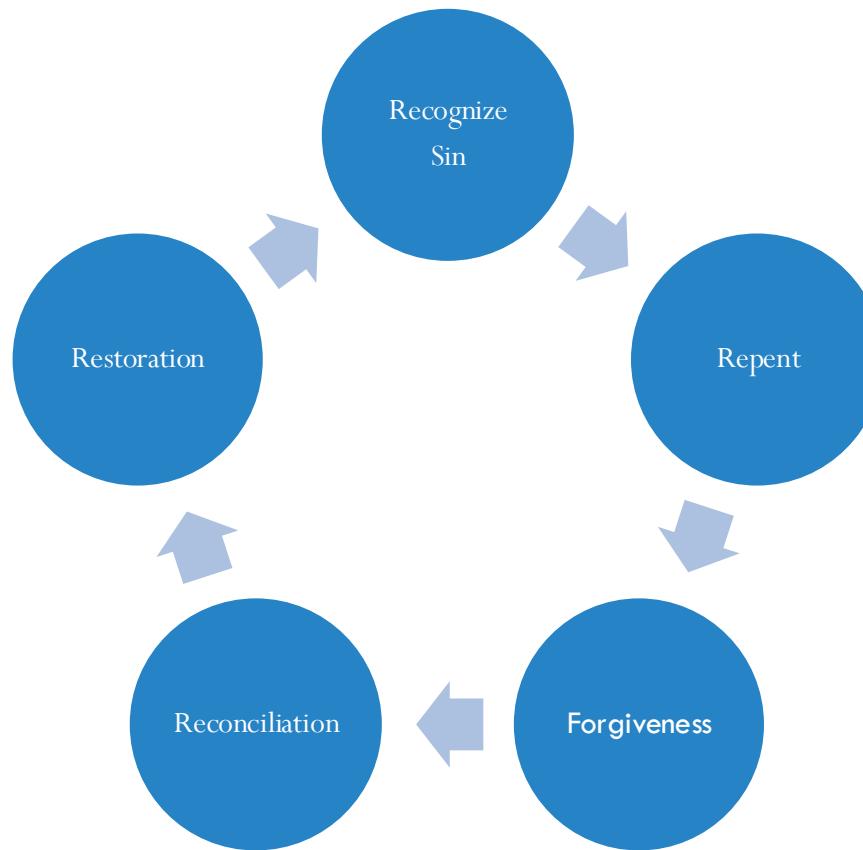
Is more than being “Sorry” and “Regretting” for mistakes made.

Repentance requires turning away from sin and turning to God.

Repentance is not the work of man but work of God (John 6:⁴⁴ No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him). How does God draw us to Him?

Repentance is followed by change (Mathew 3:8, fruits meet for repentance, II Corinthians 5:17, old things are passed away)

BELIEVERS FALLING INTO SIN: REPENTANCE IS THE KEY TO RESTORATION (EX. PRODIGAL SON)



BELIEVER'S GOAL: SPIRITUAL RESTORATION

Psalm 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation.

Unrepentant believer lives in misery

Psalm 32, ³ When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. ⁴ For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer.

FELLOWSHIP

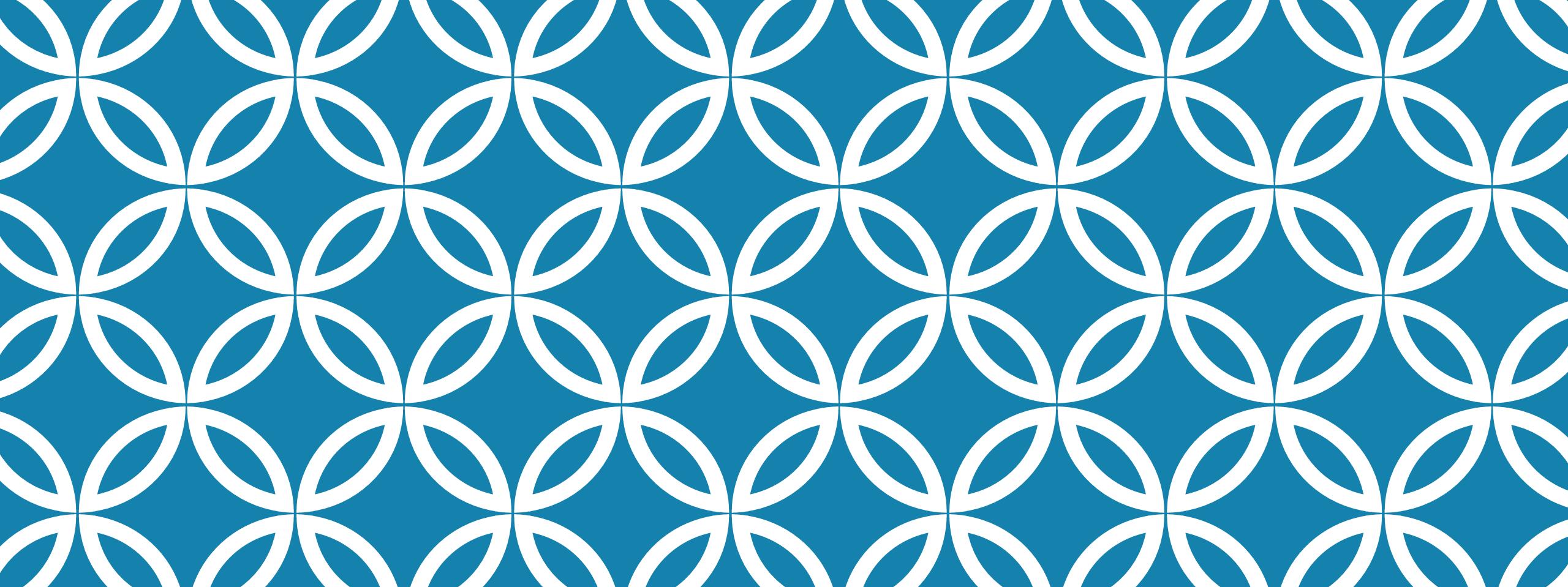
Being steadfast in WORD + PRAYER + COMMUNION (ACTS 2:42) will enhance our FELLOWSHIP with God and others.

Hindrance to fellowship

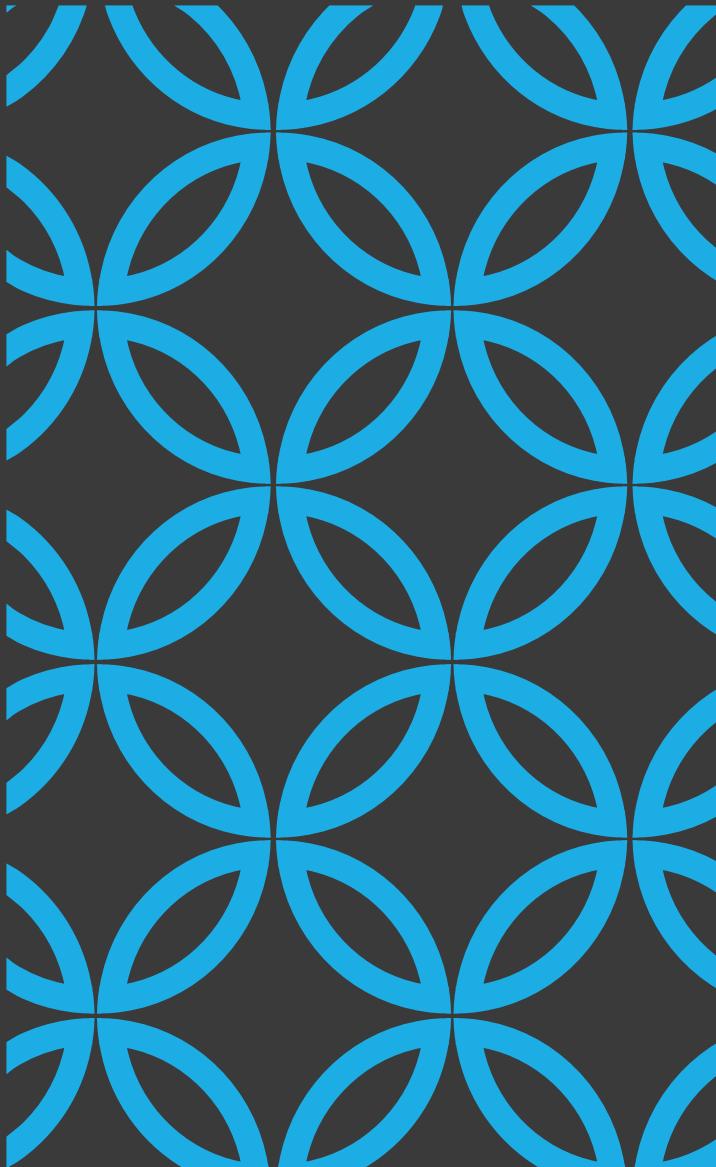
Worldly friendships James 4:4 ... know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

Unconfessed sin

+ **not submitting to God's will** in all areas of our life (be it our work, education, families, or pursuit of success)

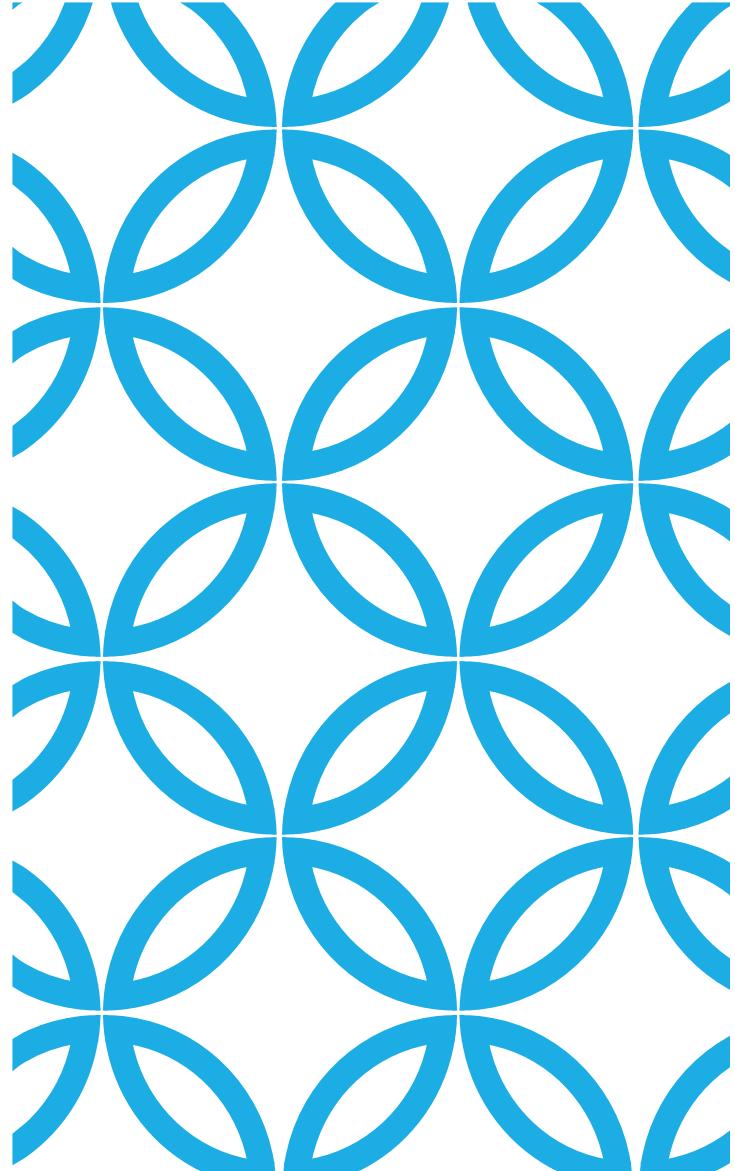


REFLECTIONS



IS OUR JOY FULL?

If not, what is missing?



WITNESS OF DISCIPLES
WAS BASED ON WHAT
THEY SAW, HEARD,
LOOKED UPON,
HANDLED

What is the Basis for our witness?

What is the Content of our witness?

What is the Desired outcome of our witness?