

A close-up photograph of several tree trunk cross-sections. The image shows concentric growth rings in shades of brown and tan. The rings are closely spaced in some areas and more widely spaced in others, indicating different growth rates. The texture of the wood is visible, with some areas appearing smoother and others more rough or weathered. The lighting is warm, highlighting the natural colors of the wood.

Known by
your scars

The tree's response

Liquefaction

Forest
Competition

First year

Fissure Scar

Ghost Scar

Fire Scar

Leaf Kill





Our scars tell
our story

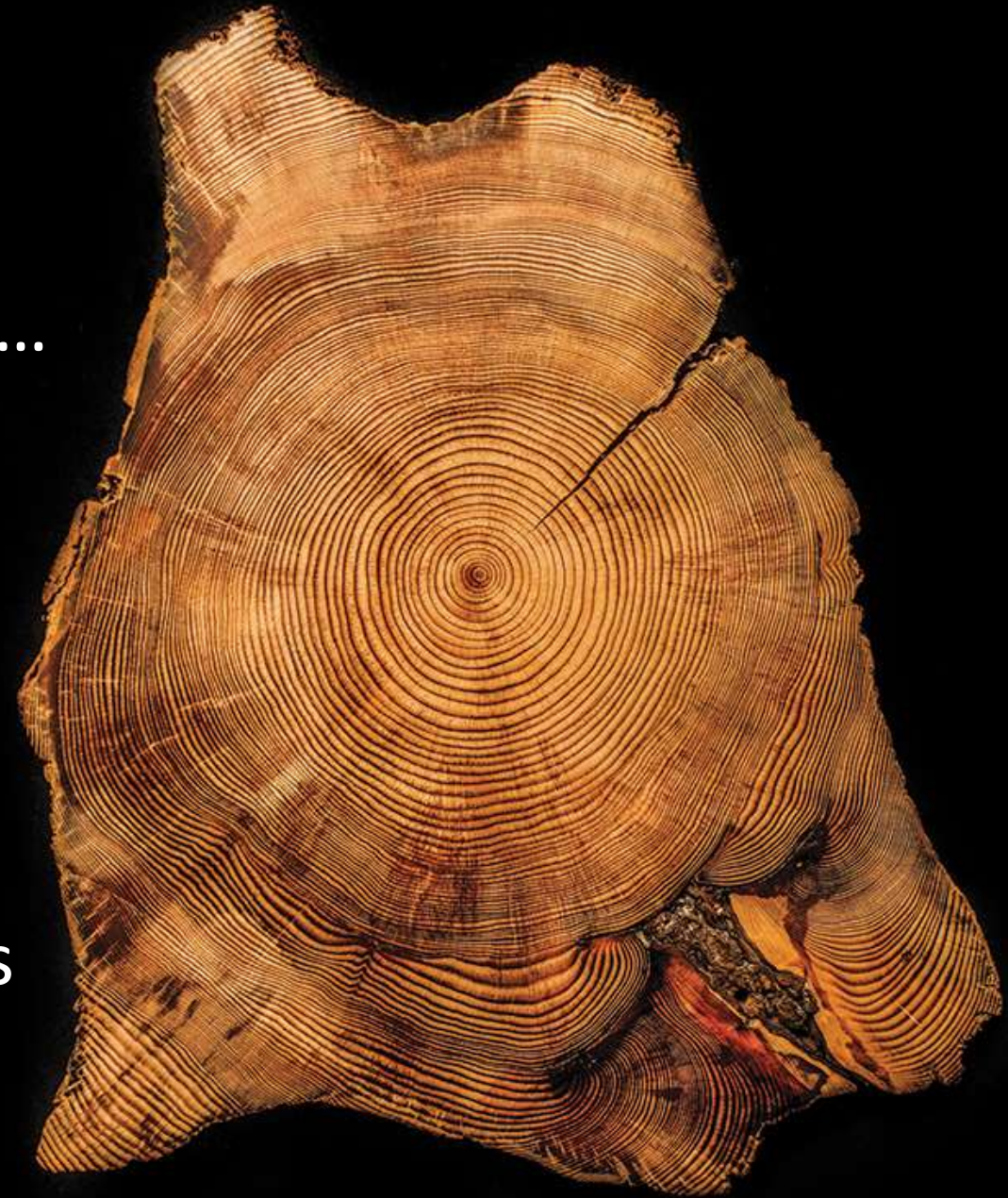
What story does
your marks tell?



2 Corinthians 11:23-33, 12:7-10

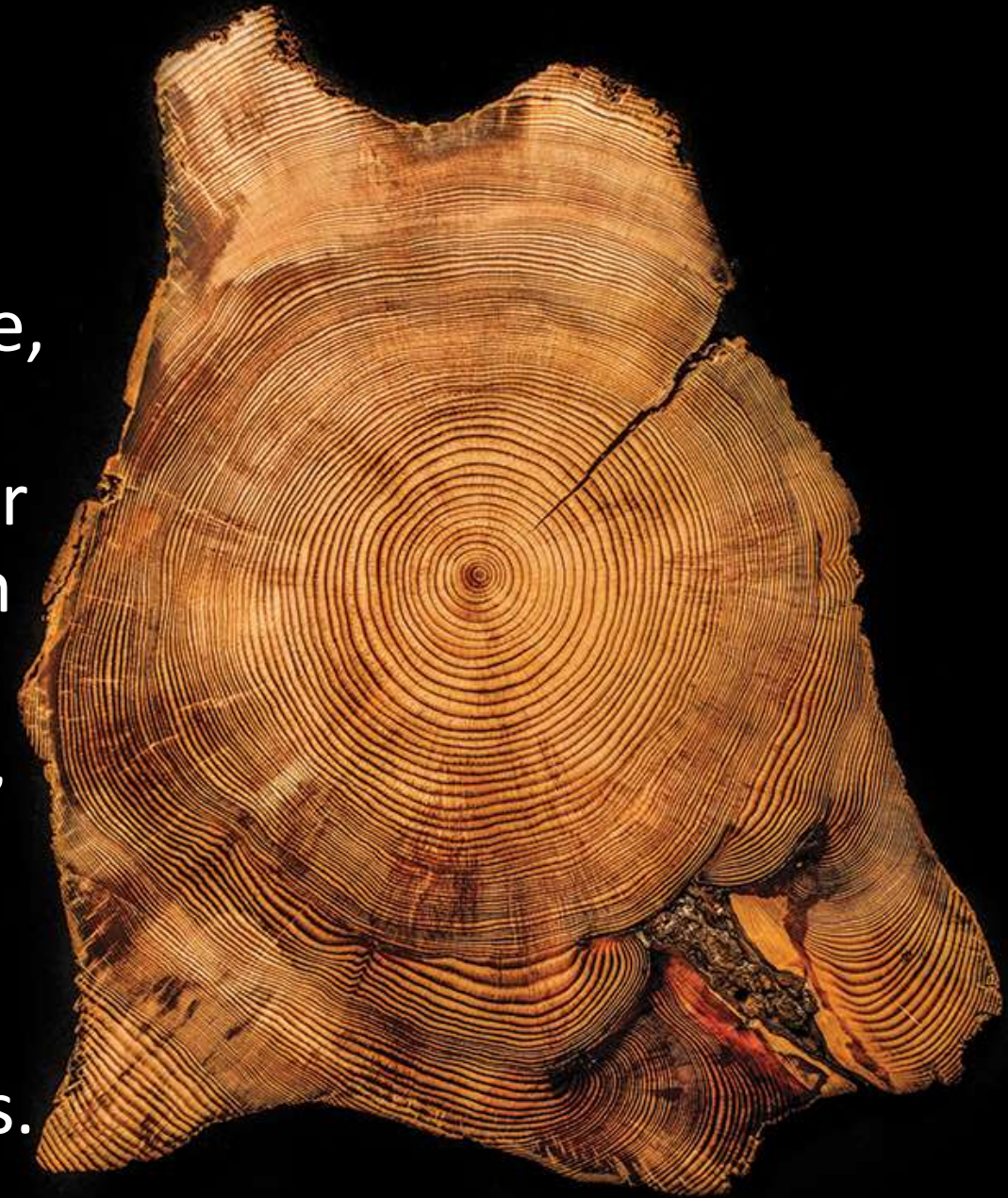
Are [those who claim to be apostles] servants of Christ? I am a better one... with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death.

Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys...



2 Corinthians 11:23-33, 12:7-10

...in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.



2 Corinthians 11:23-33, 12:7-10

If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness...

[I had heavenly revelations...]

So keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.



2 Corinthians 11:23-33, 12:7-10

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.



1 Our scars are
witness to our
weakness
- visible and invisible
signs of grace.
These bring daily **comfort.**



2 Our scars are
witness to tests
we've been through
- visible and invisible
signs of faith.

These bring daily **confidence.**



3 Our scars are
witness to a fading,
fallible world
- visible and invisible
signs of hope.

These bring daily **joy.**



4 Our scars are
reminder of Christ's
marks

- visible and invisible
signs of love.

These bring daily devotion



our scars:

signs of *grace*

signs of *faith*

signs of *hope*

signs of *love*

