A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in pews, looking towards the front. In the middle ground, a person stands at a pulpit on a raised platform. Behind the pulpit is a large, bright, circular light source, possibly a stained glass window or a large lamp, which creates a strong backlighting effect and a lens flare. The background is dark, and the overall atmosphere is solemn and spiritual.

# Mission (im)possible?

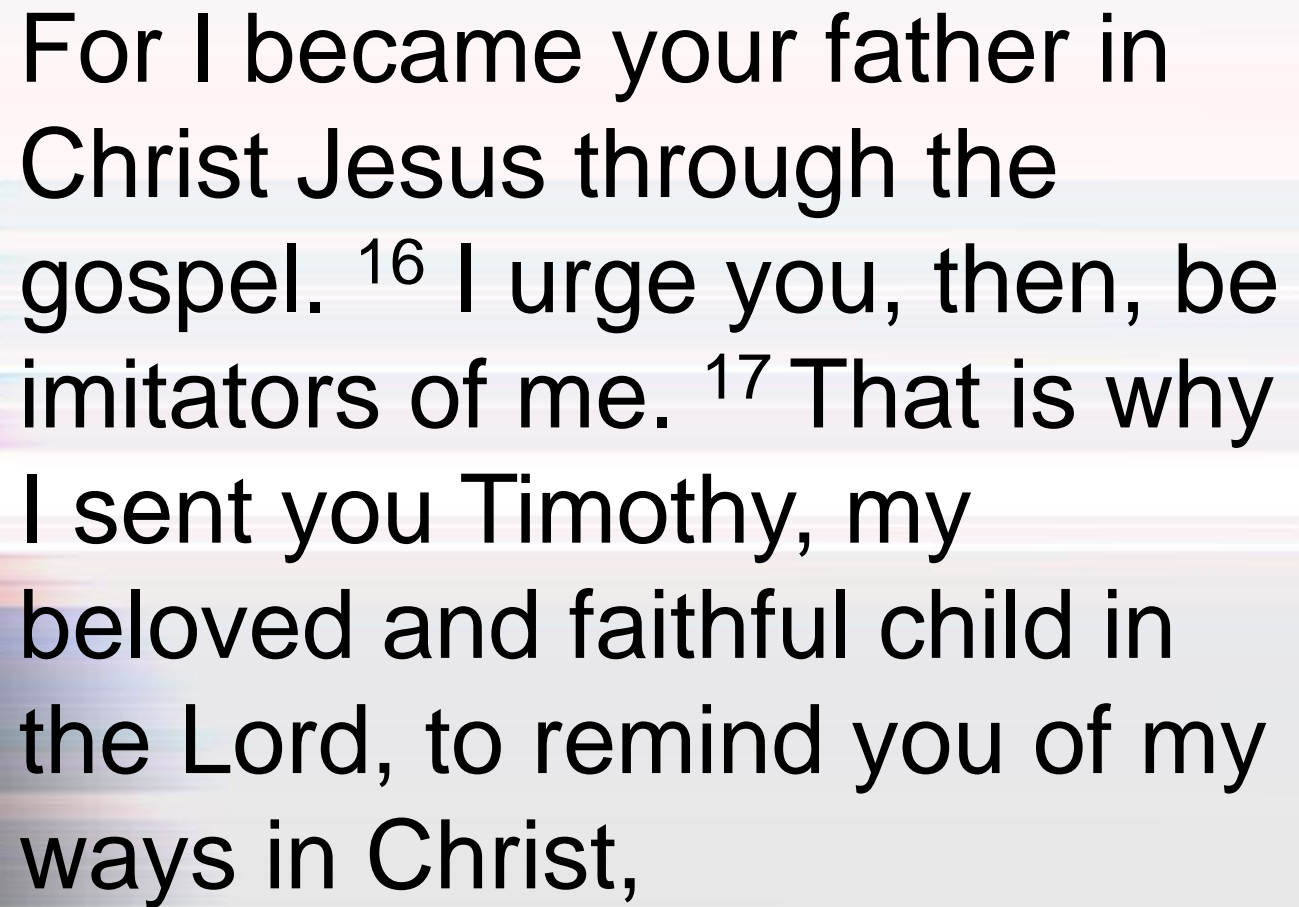
Phillip Gerber

A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in pews, looking towards the front. On a raised platform or stage, a band is performing. A person in a white shirt stands near a microphone stand. To the left, a person is playing an acoustic guitar. A drum set is partially visible. The background features a large, brightly lit window or screen that glows with a warm, orange-red light, creating a silhouette effect on the stage and the people in the foreground.

## 1 Corinthians 4:14-20


<sup>14</sup> I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. <sup>15</sup> For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers.

Mission (im)possible?

A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a stage is lit with a very bright, central light source, possibly a large window or a stage light, creating a strong glow. A person is standing on the stage, and musical instruments like a guitar and drums are partially visible. The overall atmosphere is one of a religious gathering.

For I became your father in  
Christ Jesus through the  
gospel. <sup>16</sup> I urge you, then, be  
imitators of me. <sup>17</sup> That is why  
I sent you Timothy, my  
beloved and faithful child in  
the Lord, to remind you of my  
ways in Christ,

Mission (im)possible?

A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in the pews. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A person in a white shirt stands at a podium, addressing the congregation. The stage is lit with bright, warm lights, and a large, dark silhouette of a person is visible on the left side of the stage.

as I teach them everywhere  
in every church. <sup>18</sup> Some are  
arrogant, as though I were  
not coming to you. <sup>19</sup> But I will  
come to you soon, if the Lord  
wills, and I will find out not the  
talk of these arrogant people  
but their power.

Mission (im)possible?

A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of many people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A person in a white shirt stands near the band. A large, bright light source, possibly a window or a stage light, creates a strong glow and lens flare effects across the scene.

<sup>20</sup> For the kingdom of God  
does not consist in talk but in  
power.

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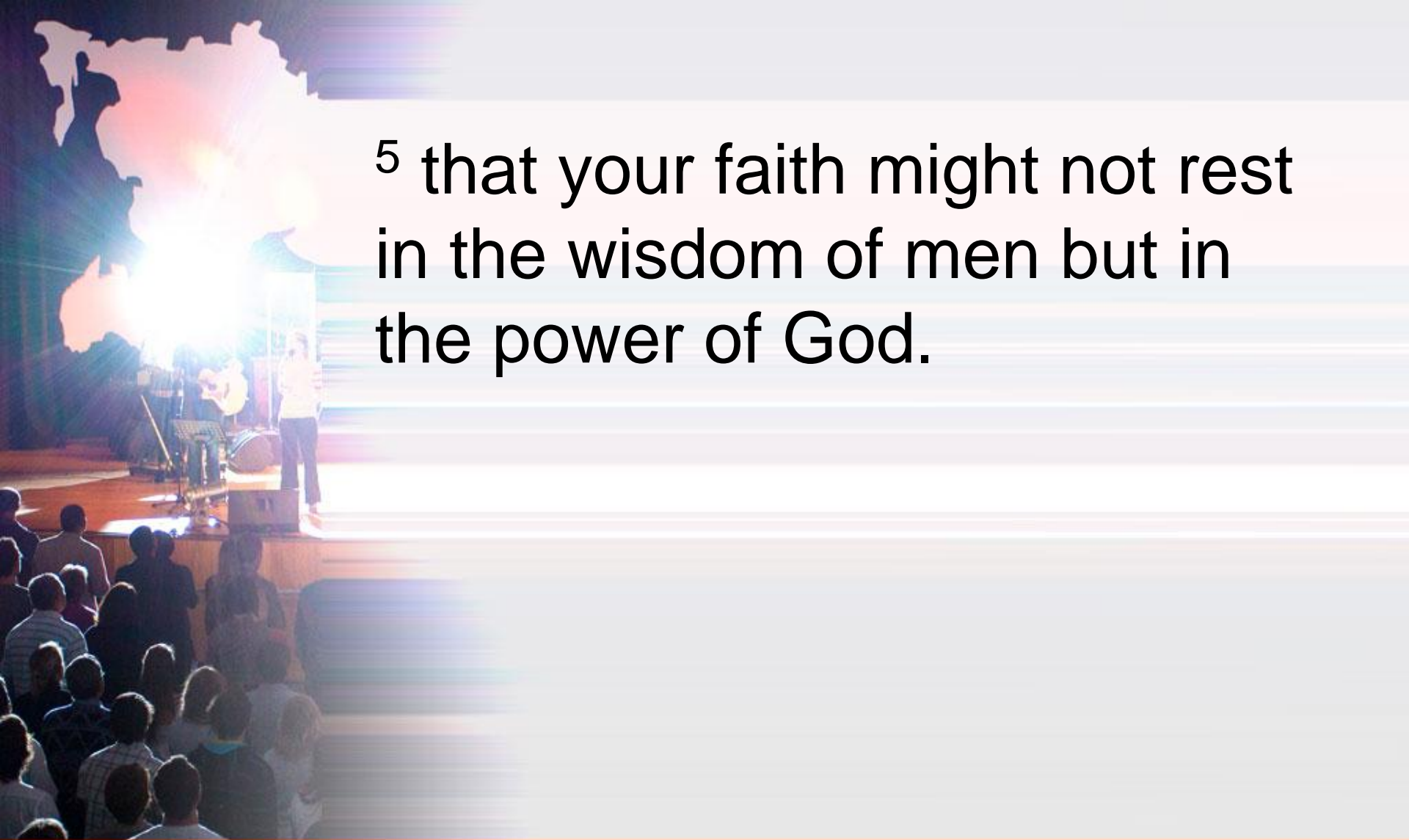


A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a stage is lit with a very bright, central light source, possibly a large window or a stage light, creating a strong glow. A person is standing on the stage, and some musical instruments like a guitar and drums are partially visible. The overall atmosphere is one of a religious gathering.

## 1 Corinthians 2:3-5

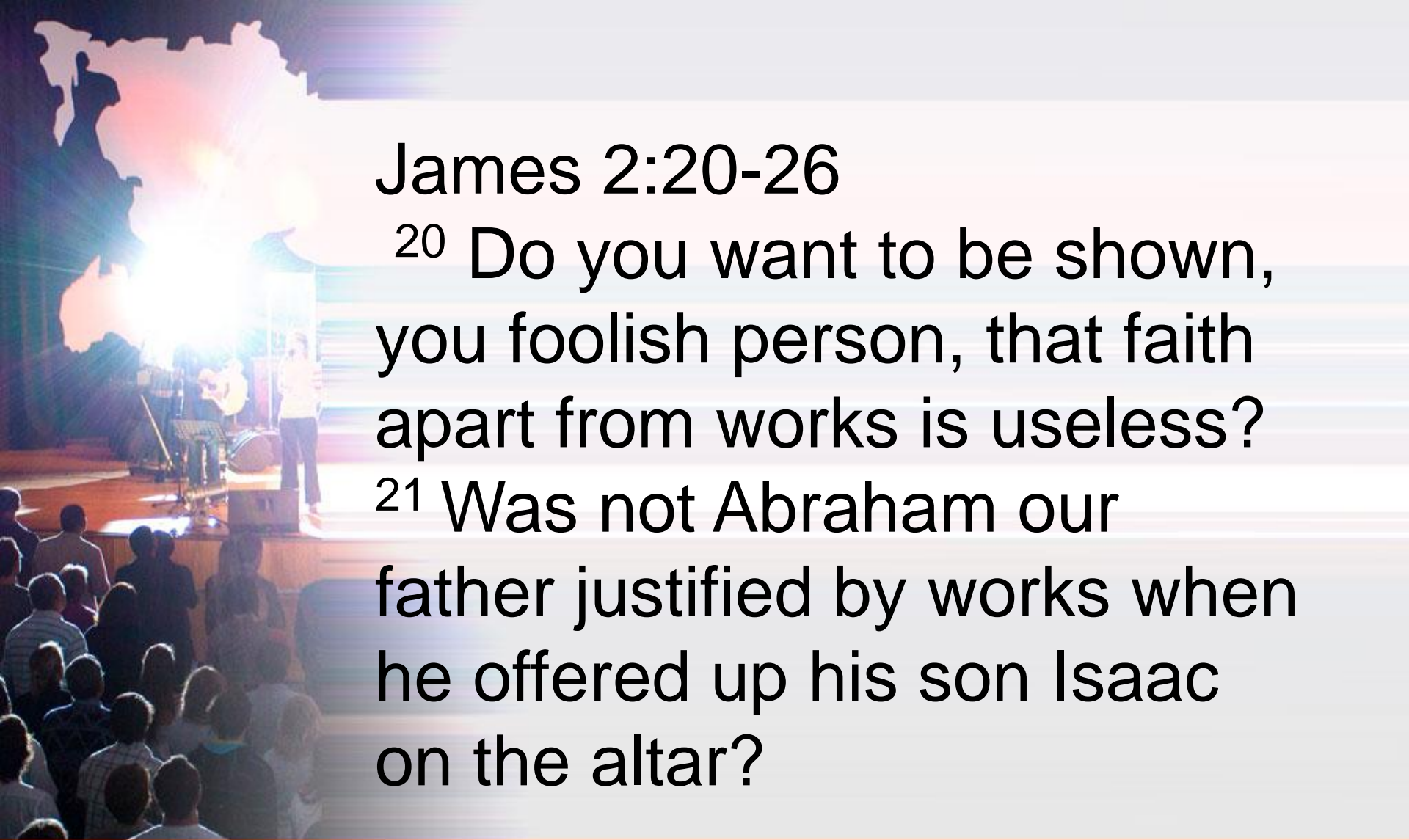
<sup>3</sup> And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup> and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,

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A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A person in a white shirt stands near the band. The stage is lit with bright, warm lights, creating a hazy atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

<sup>5</sup> that your faith might not rest  
in the wisdom of men but in  
the power of God.

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A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in pews, looking towards the front. On a raised platform or stage, a band is performing. A person in a white shirt stands near a microphone stand. To the left, a person is playing an acoustic guitar. A drum set is partially visible. The background features a large, brightly lit window or screen that glows with a warm, orange-red light, creating a silhouette effect on the people and instruments. The overall atmosphere is one of a live musical performance in a religious setting.

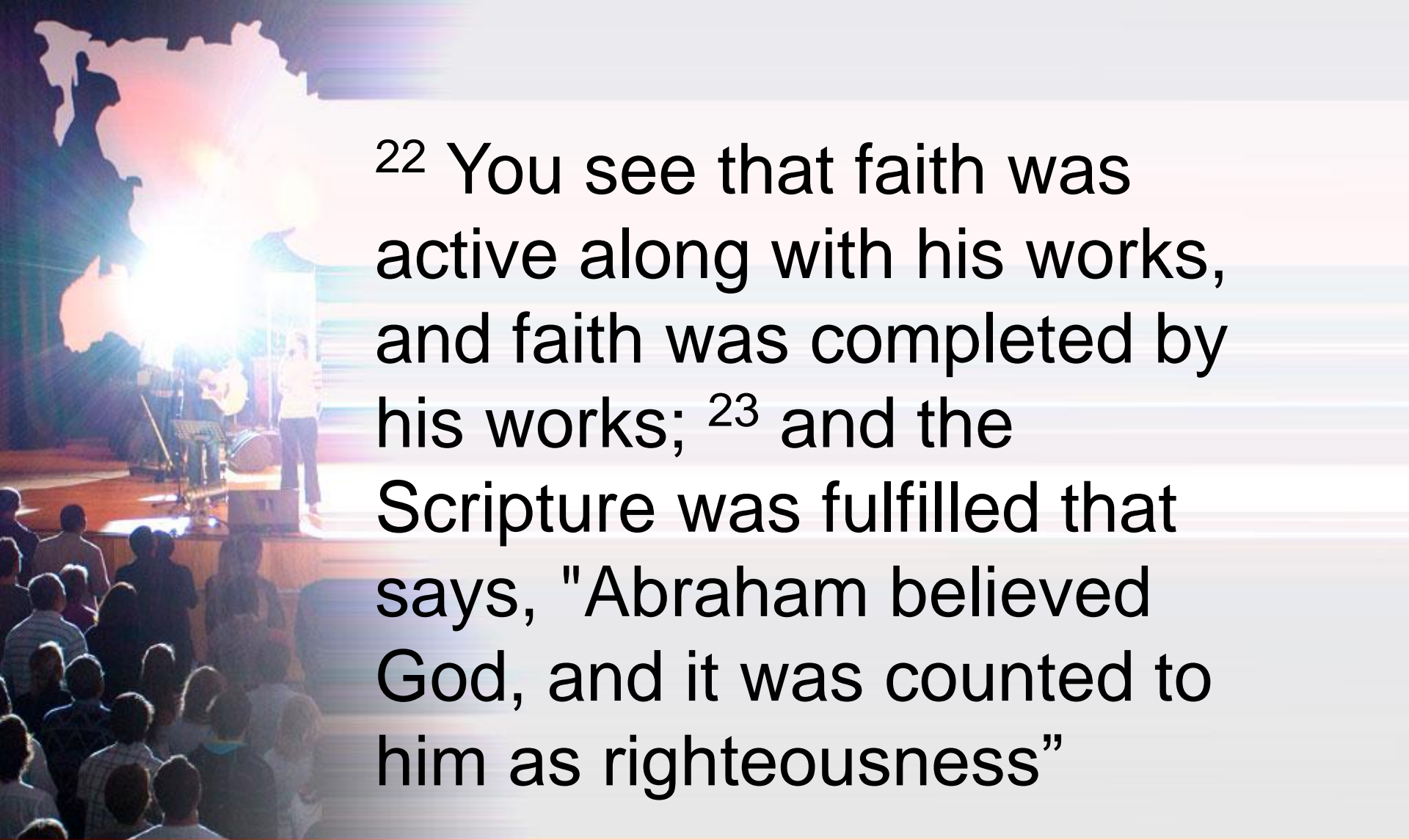
## James 2:20-26

<sup>20</sup> Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

<sup>21</sup> Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?

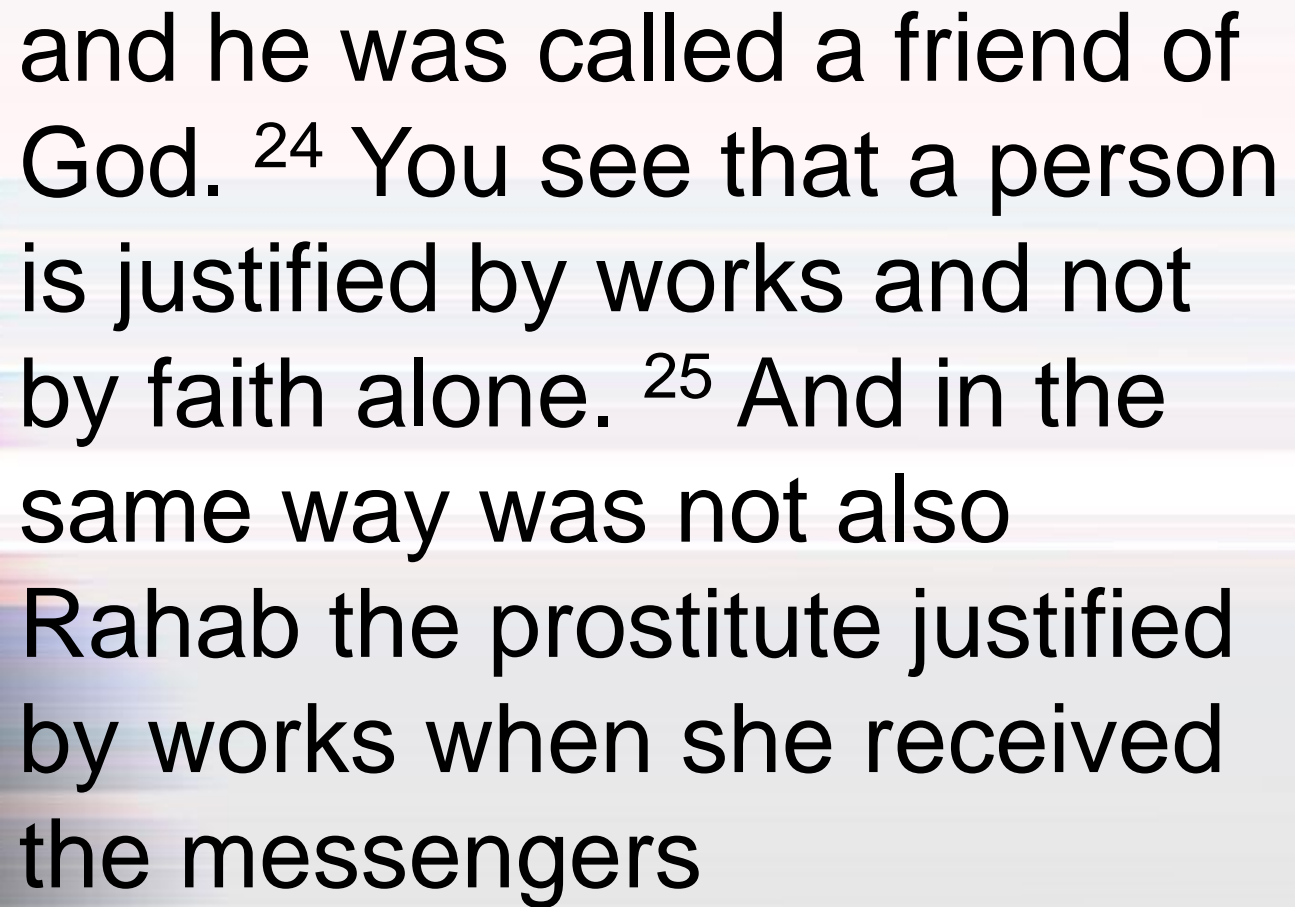
Mission (im)possible?



A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A person in a white shirt stands near the band. The stage is lit with bright, warm lights, and a large, dark silhouette of a person is visible on the left side of the stage.

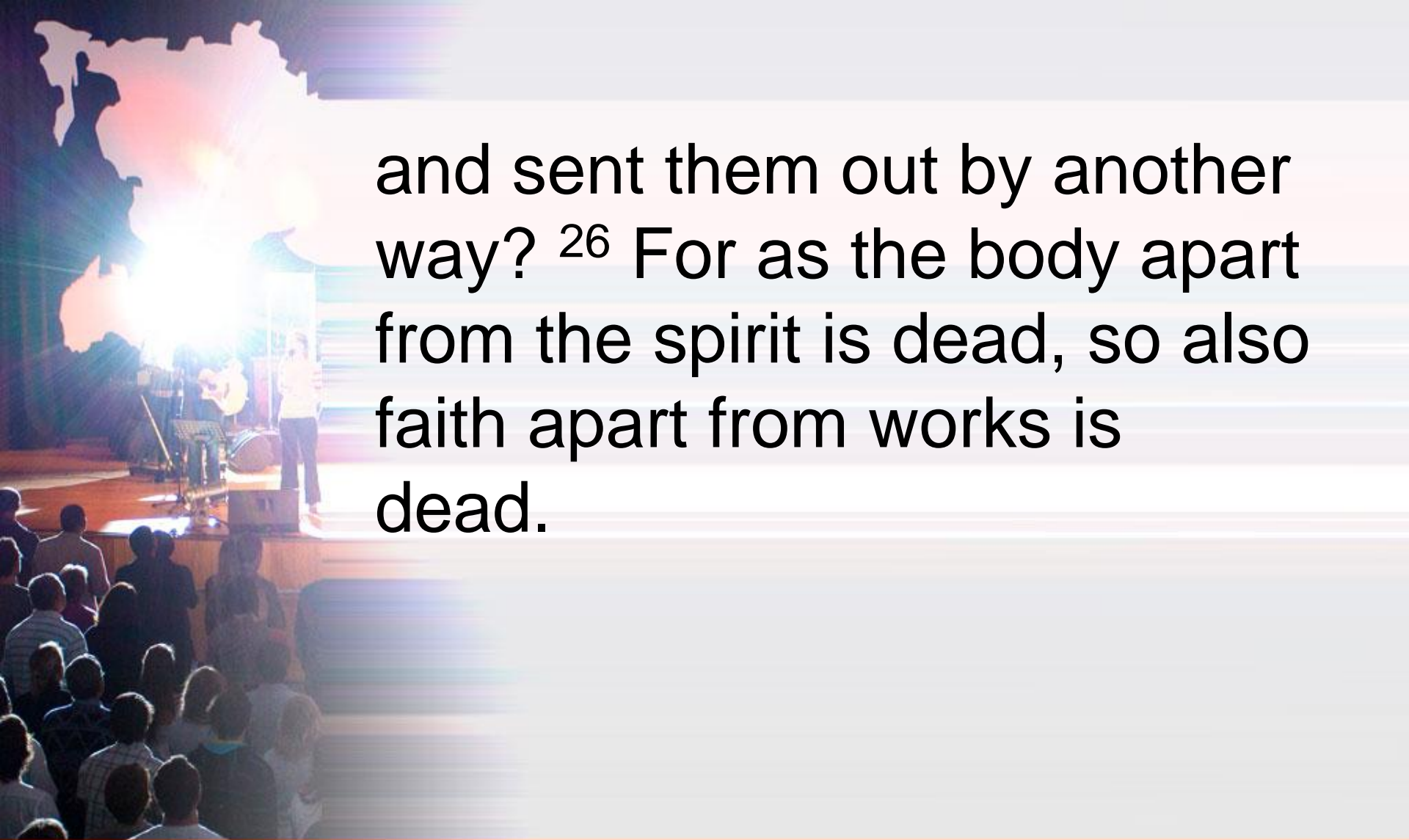
<sup>22</sup> You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; <sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"

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A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A person in a white shirt stands near the band. The stage is lit with bright, warm lights, and there is a large, bright light source on the left side of the stage. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

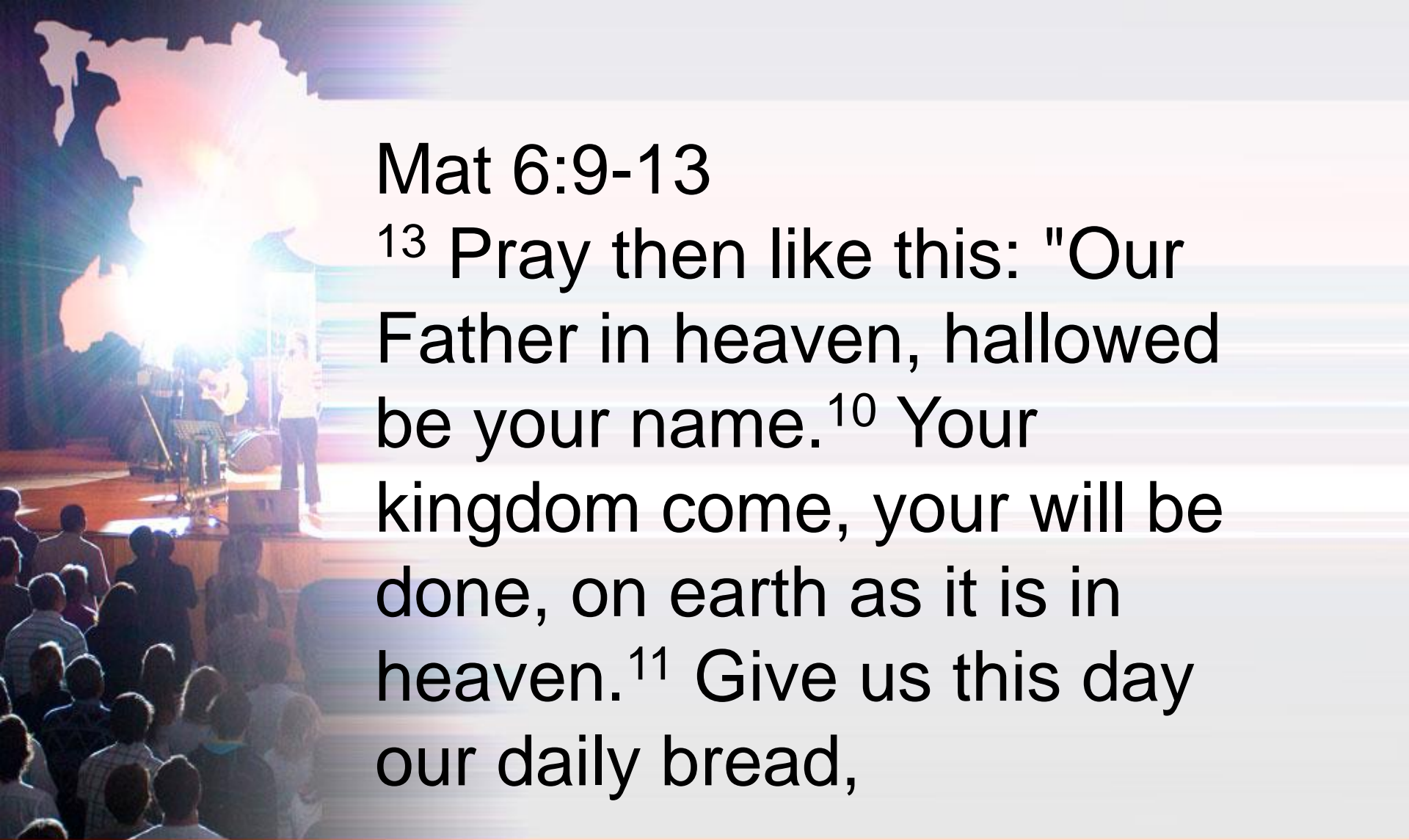
and he was called a friend of God. <sup>24</sup> You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. <sup>25</sup> And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers

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A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in the pews. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A large, brightly lit map of Australia is visible on the left side of the stage. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

and sent them out by another way? <sup>26</sup> For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

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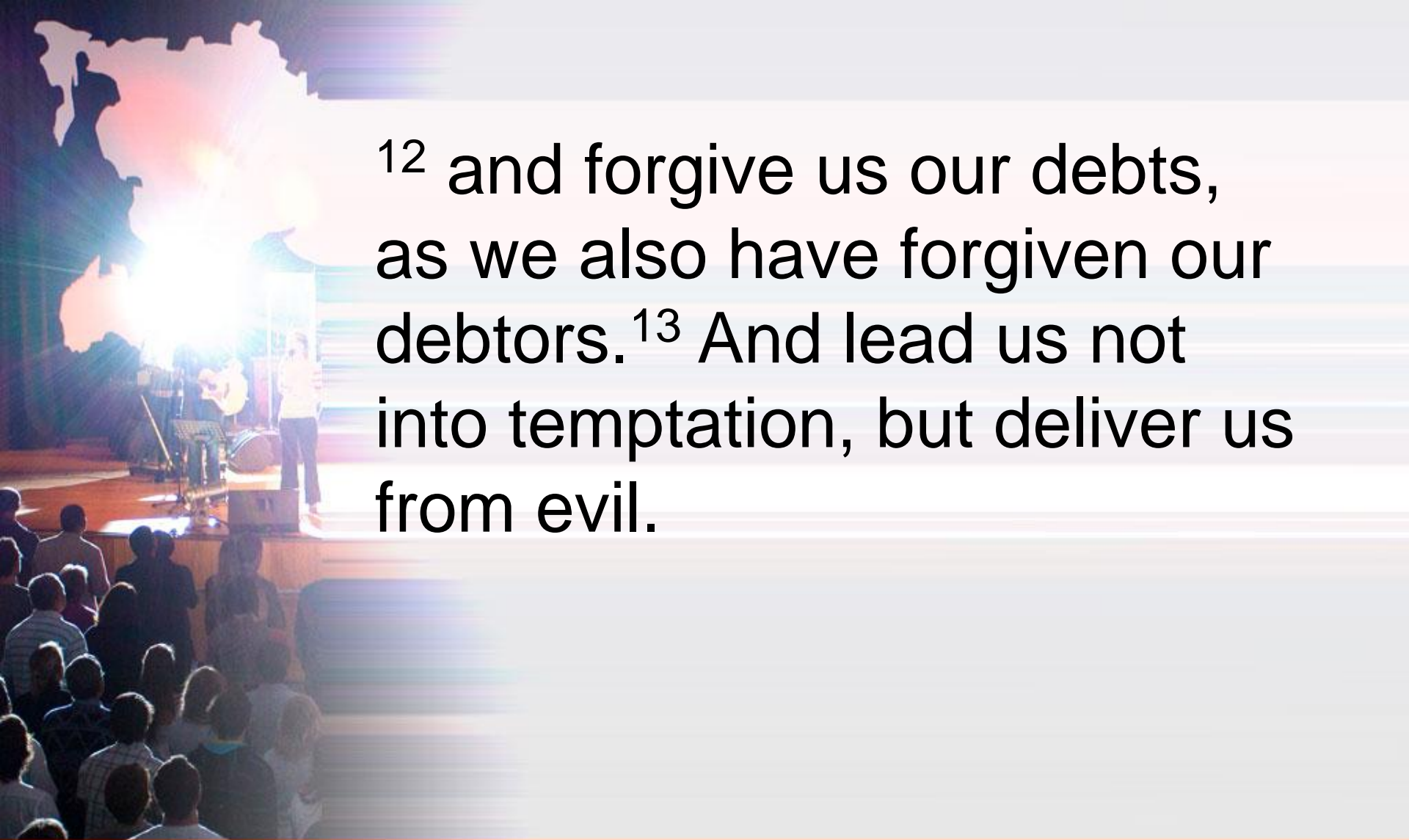
A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A person in a white shirt stands near the band. The stage is lit with bright, warm lights, and a large, glowing cross is visible in the background.

Mat 6:9-13

<sup>13</sup> Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.<sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.<sup>11</sup> Give us this day our daily bread,

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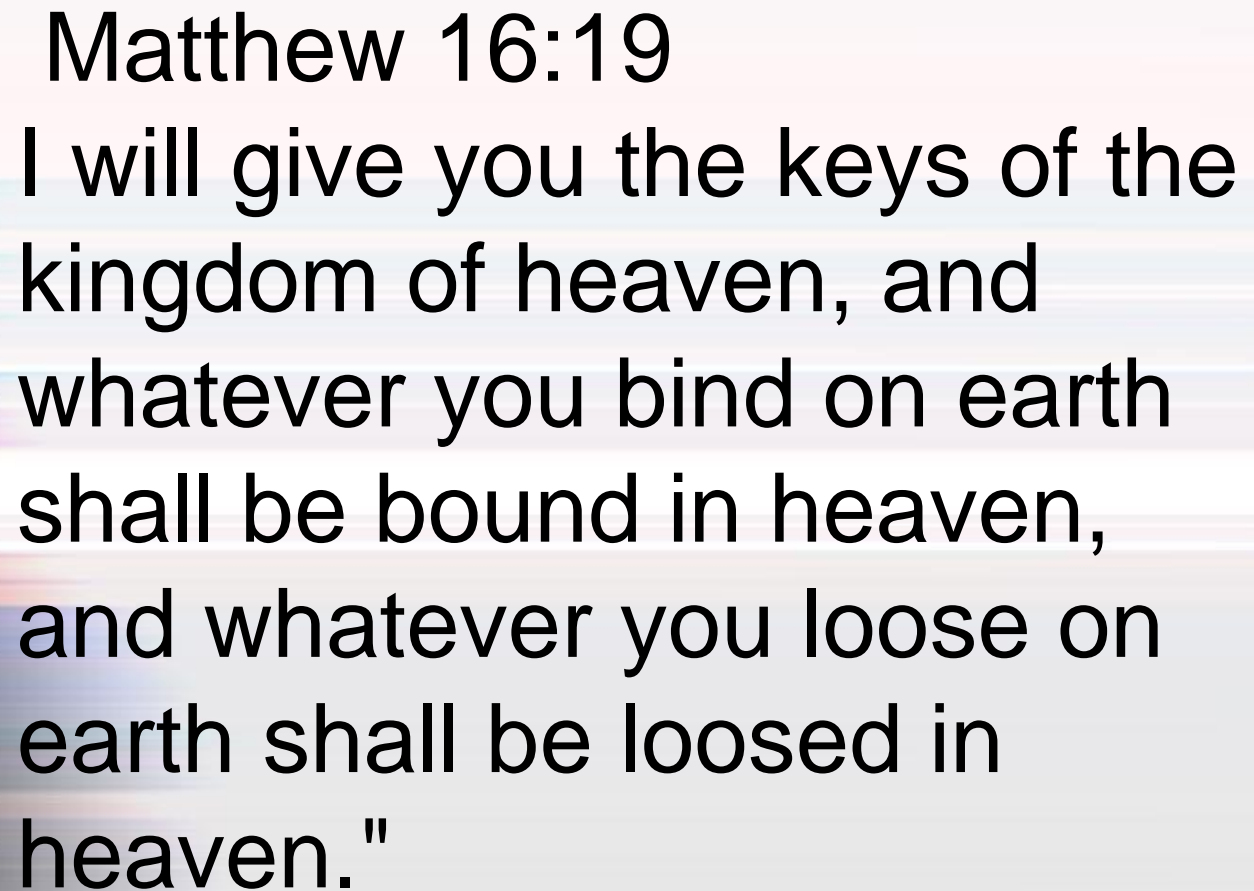


A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in pews, looking towards the front. On a raised platform or stage, a band is performing. A person in a white shirt stands near a microphone stand. To the left, a person is playing an acoustic guitar. A drum set is partially visible. The background features a large, brightly lit opening, possibly a stained glass window or a large doorway, which creates a strong backlighting effect. The overall atmosphere is one of a live musical performance within a religious setting.

<sup>12</sup> and forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our  
debtors.<sup>13</sup> And lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver us  
from evil.

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A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in pews, looking towards the stage. On the stage, a band is performing. A person in a white shirt stands near a microphone stand. The stage is lit with bright, warm lights, creating a hazy atmosphere. The background features a large, dark silhouette of a person, possibly a religious figure, against a bright light source.

Matthew 16:19  
I will give you the keys of the  
kingdom of heaven, and  
whatever you bind on earth  
shall be bound in heaven,  
and whatever you loose on  
earth shall be loosed in  
heaven."

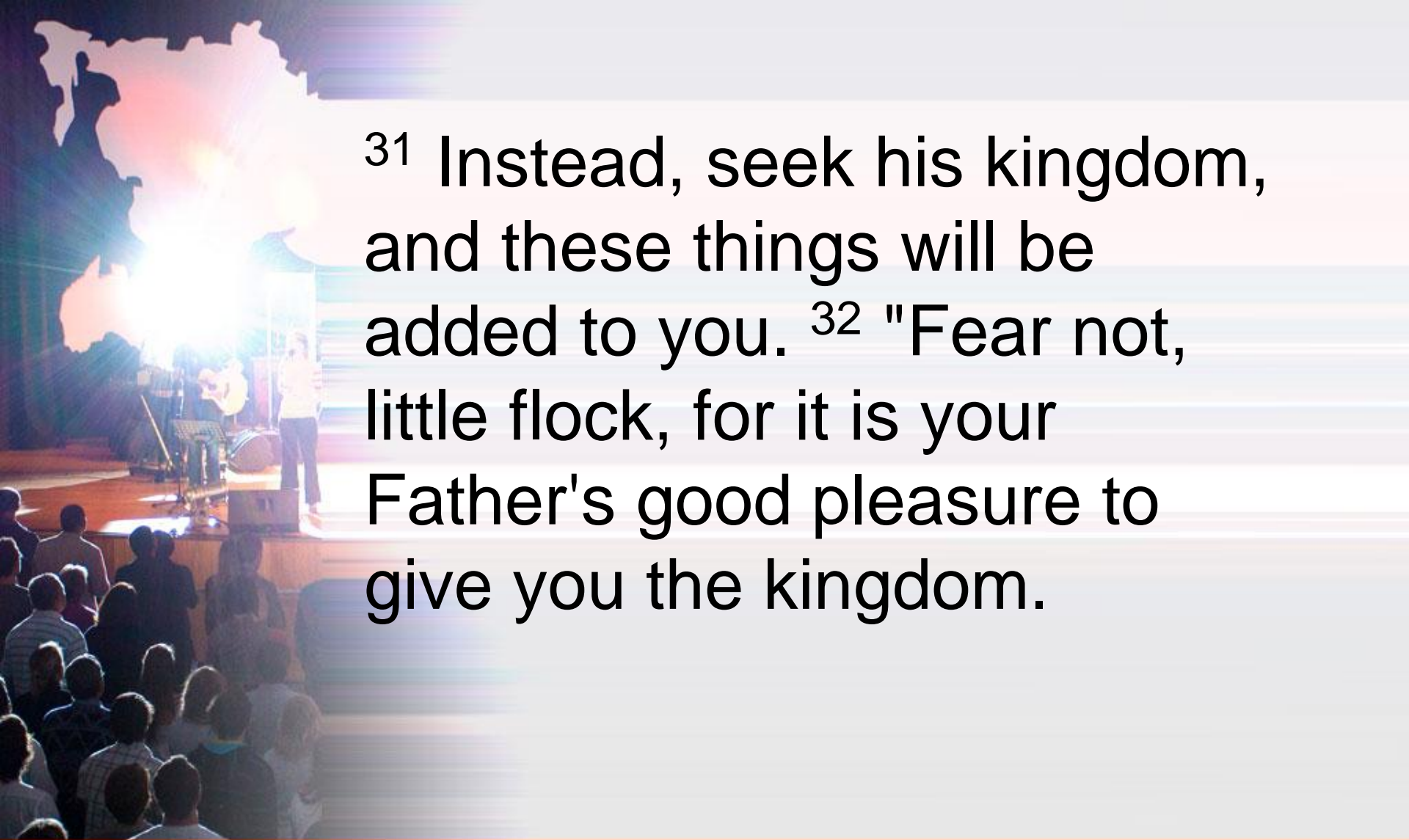
Mission (im)possible?

A photograph of a church service. In the background, a band is performing on a stage with a large, bright light source behind them, creating a silhouette effect. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in the pews, looking towards the stage.

Luke 12:29-32

<sup>29</sup> And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup> For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Mission (im)possible?

A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of many people's heads are visible as they sit in pews, looking towards the front. On a raised platform or stage, a band is performing. A person in a white shirt stands near a microphone stand. To the left, a person is playing an acoustic guitar. A drum set is partially visible. The stage is lit with bright, warm light, creating a hazy atmosphere. The background features a large, dark silhouette of a person, possibly a religious figure, against a bright light source.

<sup>31</sup> Instead, seek his kingdom,  
and these things will be  
added to you. <sup>32</sup> "Fear not,  
little flock, for it is your  
Father's good pleasure to  
give you the kingdom.

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A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in a congregation. In the background, a band is performing on a stage. A person in a white shirt stands near the band. The stage is lit with bright, warm lights, and a large, glowing cross is visible in the background.

## Luke 11:9-13

<sup>9</sup> And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds,

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A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible as they sit in pews, looking towards the front. On a raised platform or stage, a bright, circular light source, possibly a chandelier or a large lamp, is glowing intensely, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the scene. A person is standing near the light, and musical instruments like a guitar and drums are partially visible in the background. The overall atmosphere is one of a formal religious gathering.

and to the one who knocks it  
will be opened. <sup>11</sup> What father  
among you, if his son asks for  
a fish, will instead of a fish  
give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup> or if he  
asks for an egg, will give him  
a scorpion?

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A photograph of a church service. On a stage, a band is performing with a guitar, drums, and a keyboard. A person in a white shirt stands near the band. The background is a large, brightly lit window or screen. In the foreground, the backs of many people's heads are visible as they sit in the pews, facing the stage.

<sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil,  
know how to give good gifts  
to your children, how much  
more will the heavenly Father  
give the Holy Spirit to those  
who ask him!"

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