

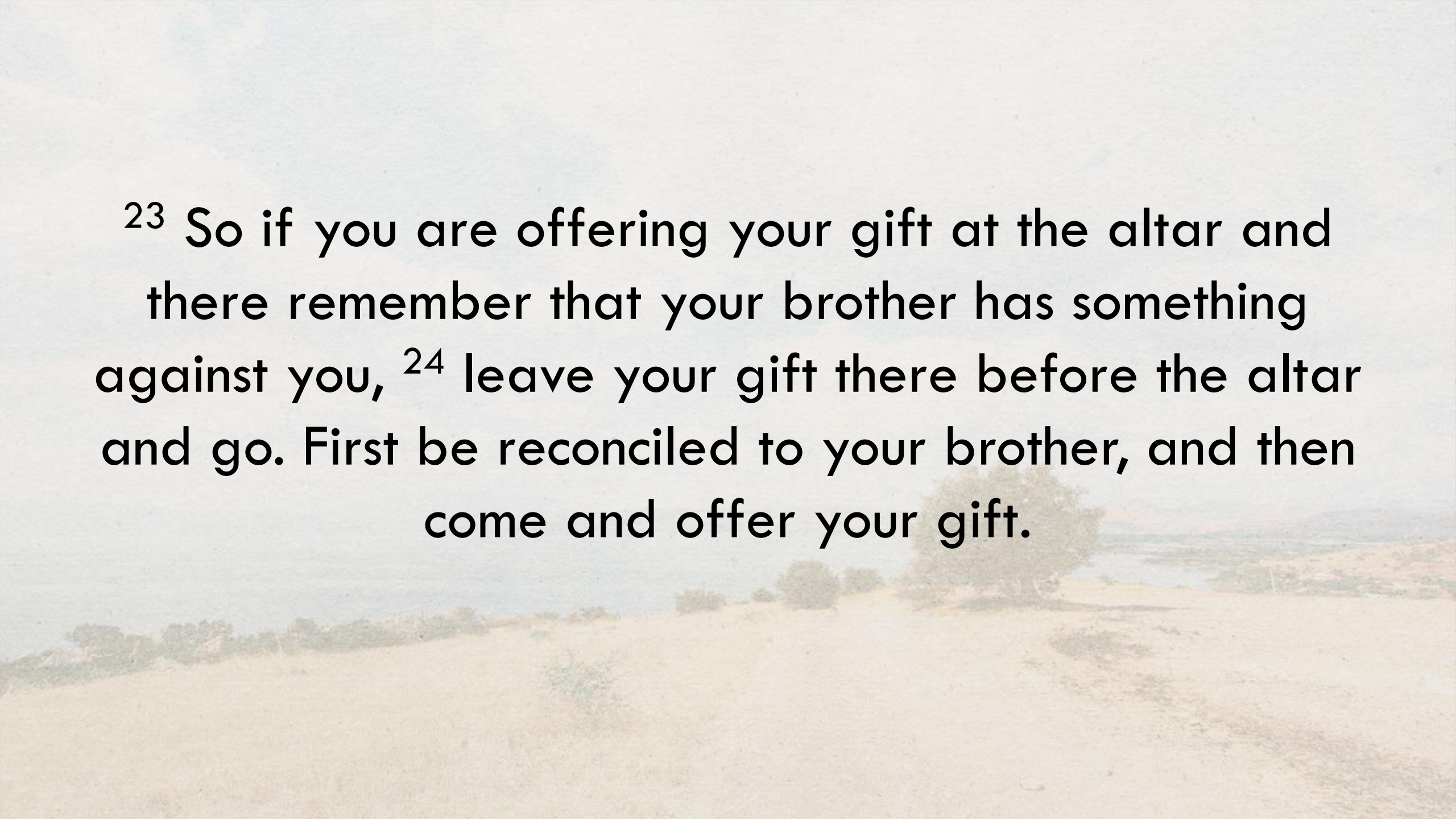
A scenic landscape featuring a dirt road that curves through a field of dry, golden-brown grass. In the background, a large, calm lake stretches across the middle ground, with distant mountains visible on the horizon. The sky is filled with soft, textured clouds in shades of blue and grey. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Sermon on the Mount

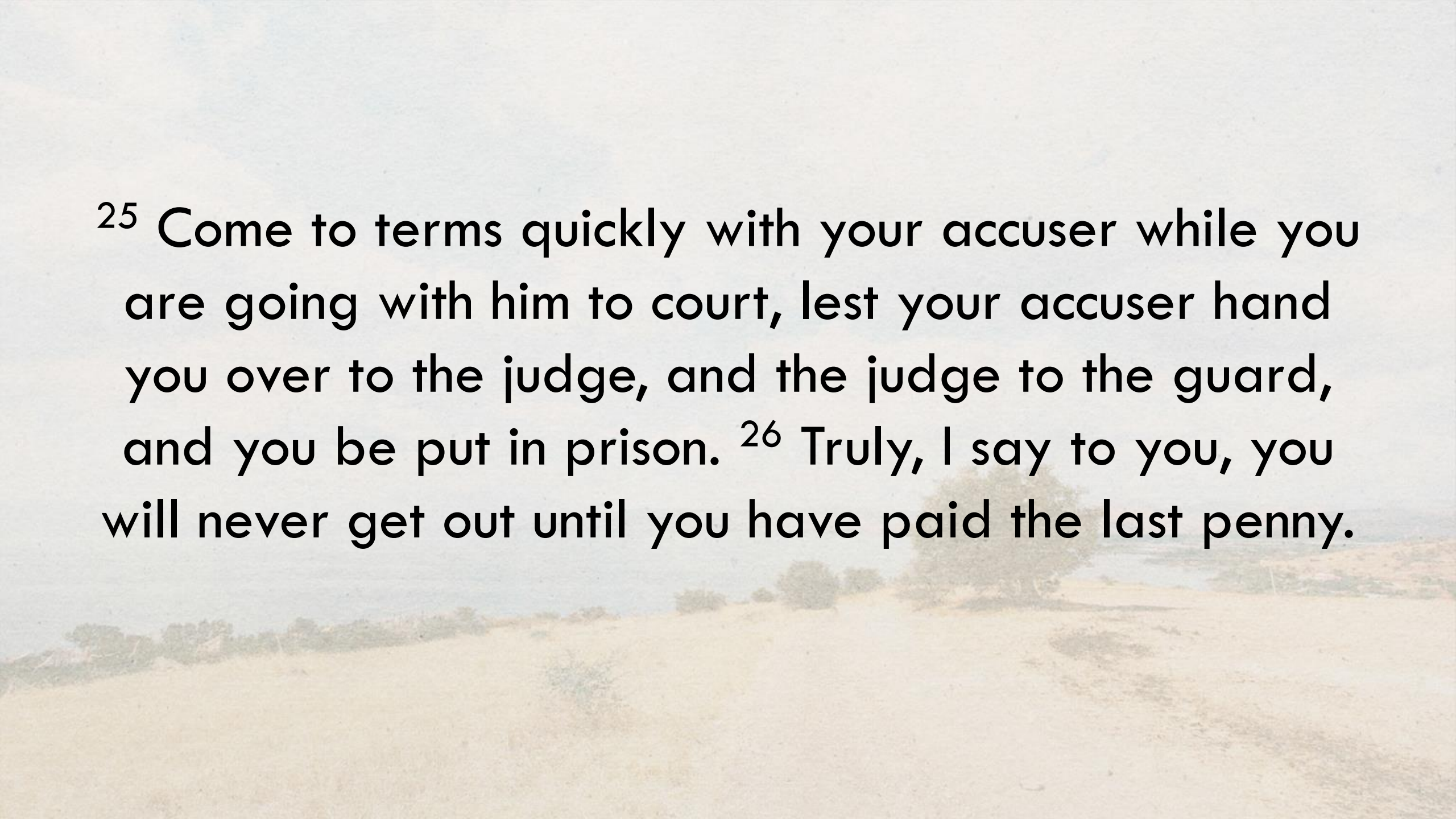
Apprenticing The Way Of Jesus

Matthew 5:21-26

²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.



²³ So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.



²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶ Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.



***Fear** is the path to the dark side. Fear leads to **anger**. Anger leads to **hate**. Hate leads to **suffering**.*

- Yoda

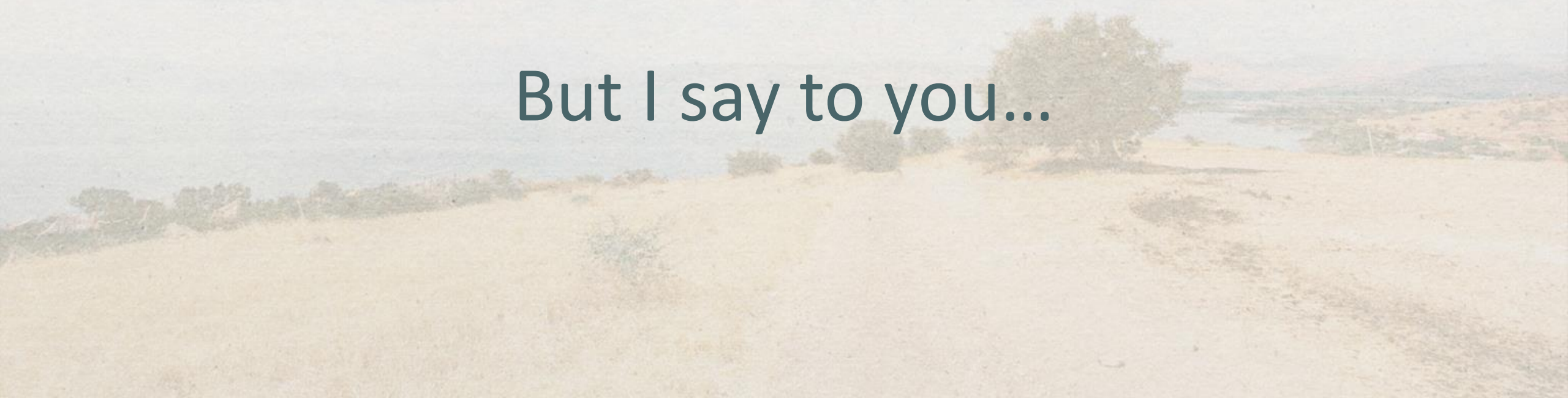
Key Idea:

Murder and Unrighteous Anger share the common thread of “devaluing” and “dehumanizing” one created in the image of God.

Jesus "fulfills" the Law by bringing it back to God's heart for reconciled relationship.

You've Heard it said...

But I say to you...



1) What's so wrong with murder?

“You have heard that it was said to those of old,
‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will
be liable to judgment.’”

Matthew 5:21

Why is murder wrong?

The Hebrew word for "murder" carries a sense of an intentional and unlawful taking of the life of another.

Murder steps into the place of God, disregarding the life and creation He has made.

2) Kingdom perspective on Anger

But I say to you that everyone who is **angry** with his brother will be liable to judgment...

Matthew 5:33

What is Anger?

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“Premeditated” and “Stewing” Anger

“grudge that expresses itself in a violent attack on another or a passive-aggressive severing of relationship”

Is Anger bad? Wasn't Jesus Angry?



“Anger” is not bad in and of itself

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.

-Eph. 4:26-27



“Our problem is that we burn with indignation and anger, not at sin and injustice, but at offense to ourselves. In none of the cases in which Jesus became angry was his personal ego wrapped up in the issue.”

-DA Carson

What I tend to get angry over?

**Righteous anger is most often angry at sin and
injustice**

vs.

**Unrighteous anger is most often
angry over personal offense**

3) The dangerous progression of anger

But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.

Matthew 5:22

The dangerous progression of anger

- 1) We make the decision to nurse our anger**
(We sin resulting in judgement)



The dangerous progression of anger

- 1) We make the decision to nurse our anger
(We sin resulting in judgement)
- 2) Our anger gives way to sarcasm**
(Liable to the council)

The dangerous progression of anger

- 1) We make the decision to nurse our anger
(We sin resulting in judgement)
- 2) Our anger gives way to sarcasm
(Liable to Council)
- 3) We sever the person all together (Fire)

**Murder and Anger share the same heart attitude
of devaluing and dehumanizing an individual and
therefore unworthy of life and relationship**

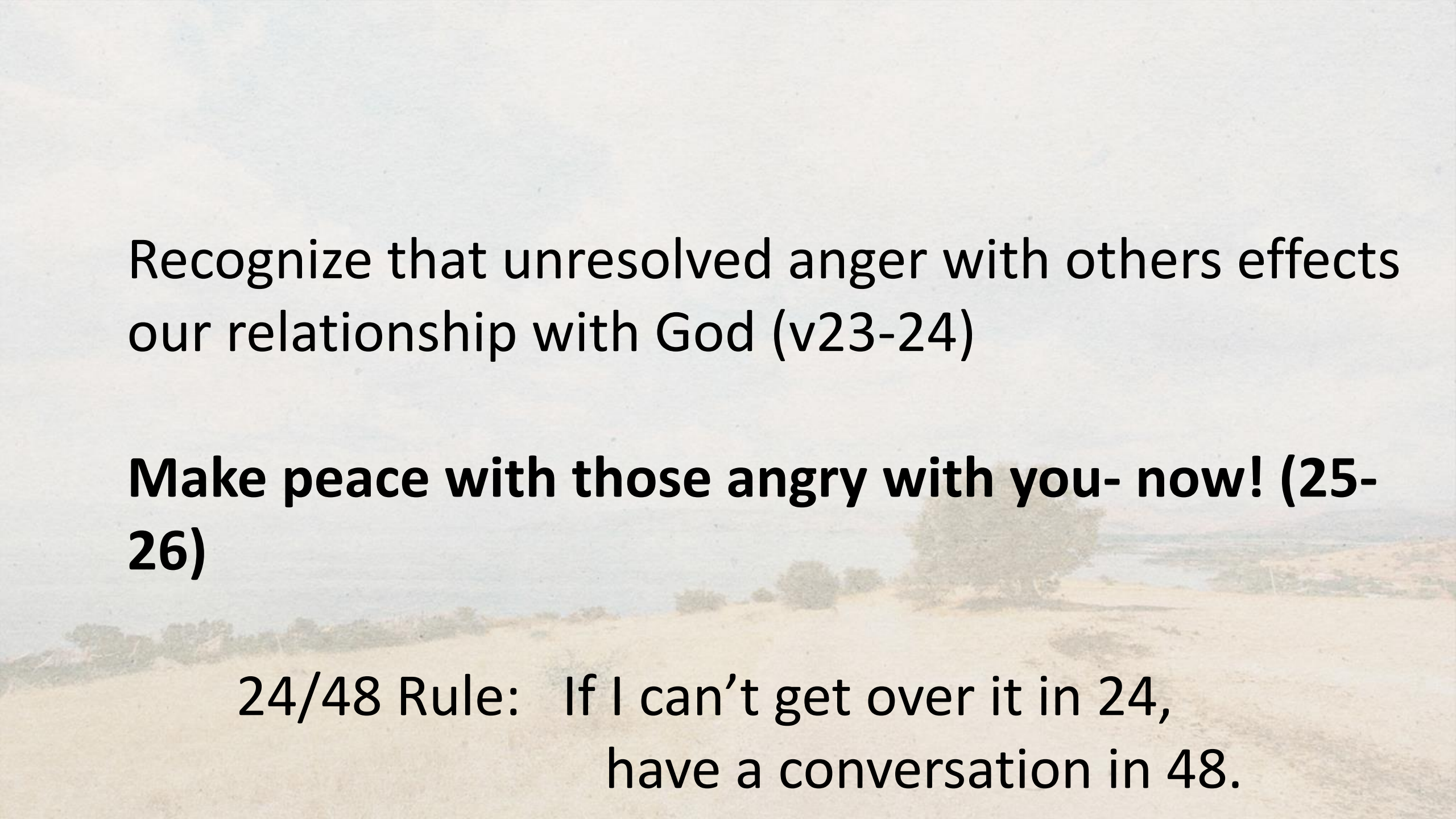


4) Finding freedom from anger

Recognize that unresolved anger with others effects our relationship with God

“So, if you are offering your gift at the altar go and leave your offering, be reconciled to your brother and present your offering.”

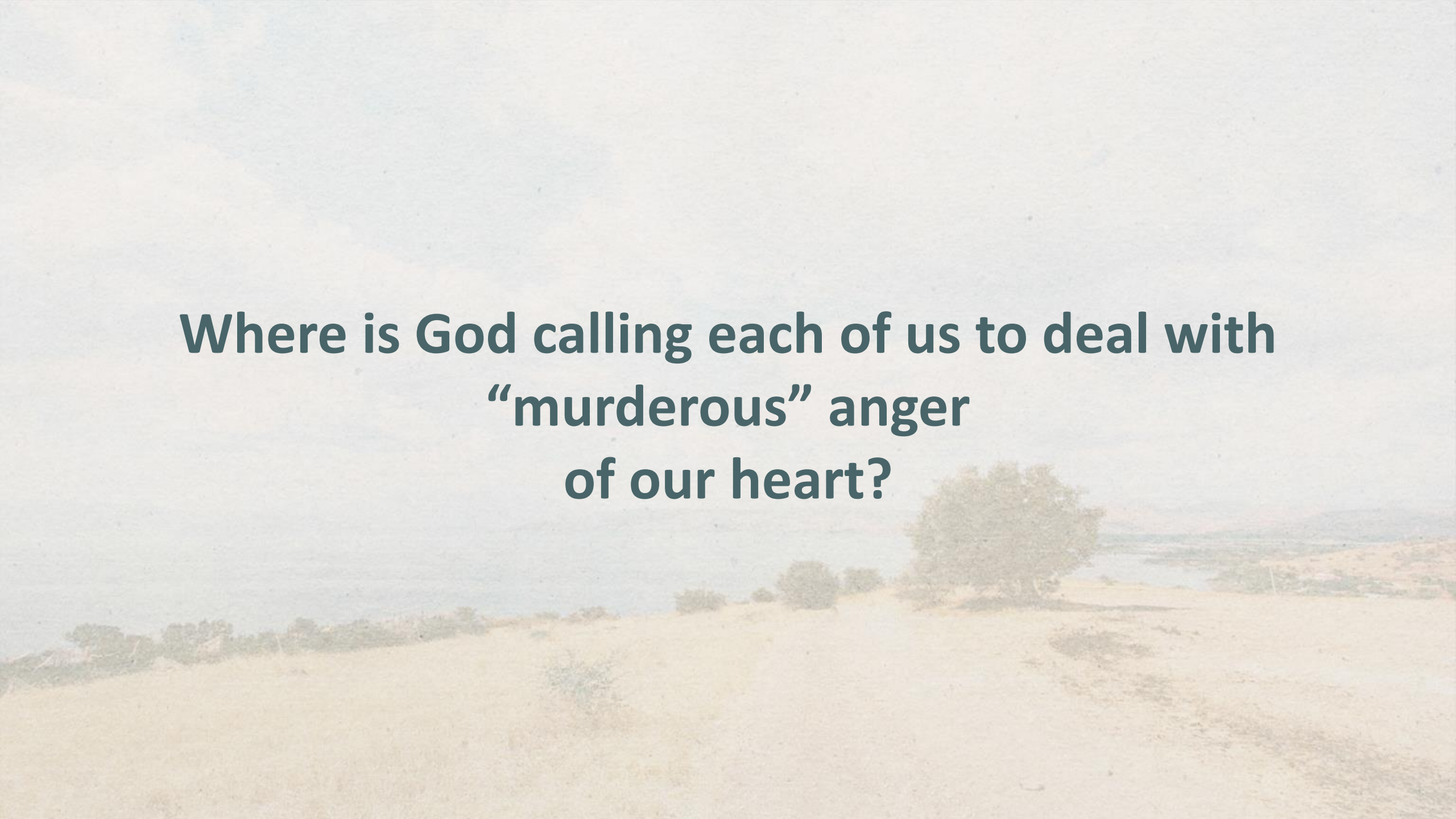
Matthew 5:23



Recognize that unresolved anger with others effects our relationship with God (v23-24)

Make peace with those angry with you- now! (25-26)

24/48 Rule: If I can't get over it in 24,
have a conversation in 48.

A landscape photograph showing a body of water in the distance, a large tree on the right, and a grassy field in the foreground. The text is overlaid in the center.

**Where is God calling each of us to deal with
“murderous” anger
of our heart?**

Reflection Questions

Read Matthew 5:21-26 this week several times...

What do you hear Jesus saying to you as you read?

What kinds of things do you get angry about? Why? Where might our anger either need to grow or lessen based on a relationship?

Who do you find most difficult to forgive? Why? Where might Jesus be inviting you into reconciliation?

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