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Matthew 16:18

“I will build my church…”



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Matthew 18:17
“…tell it to the church.”

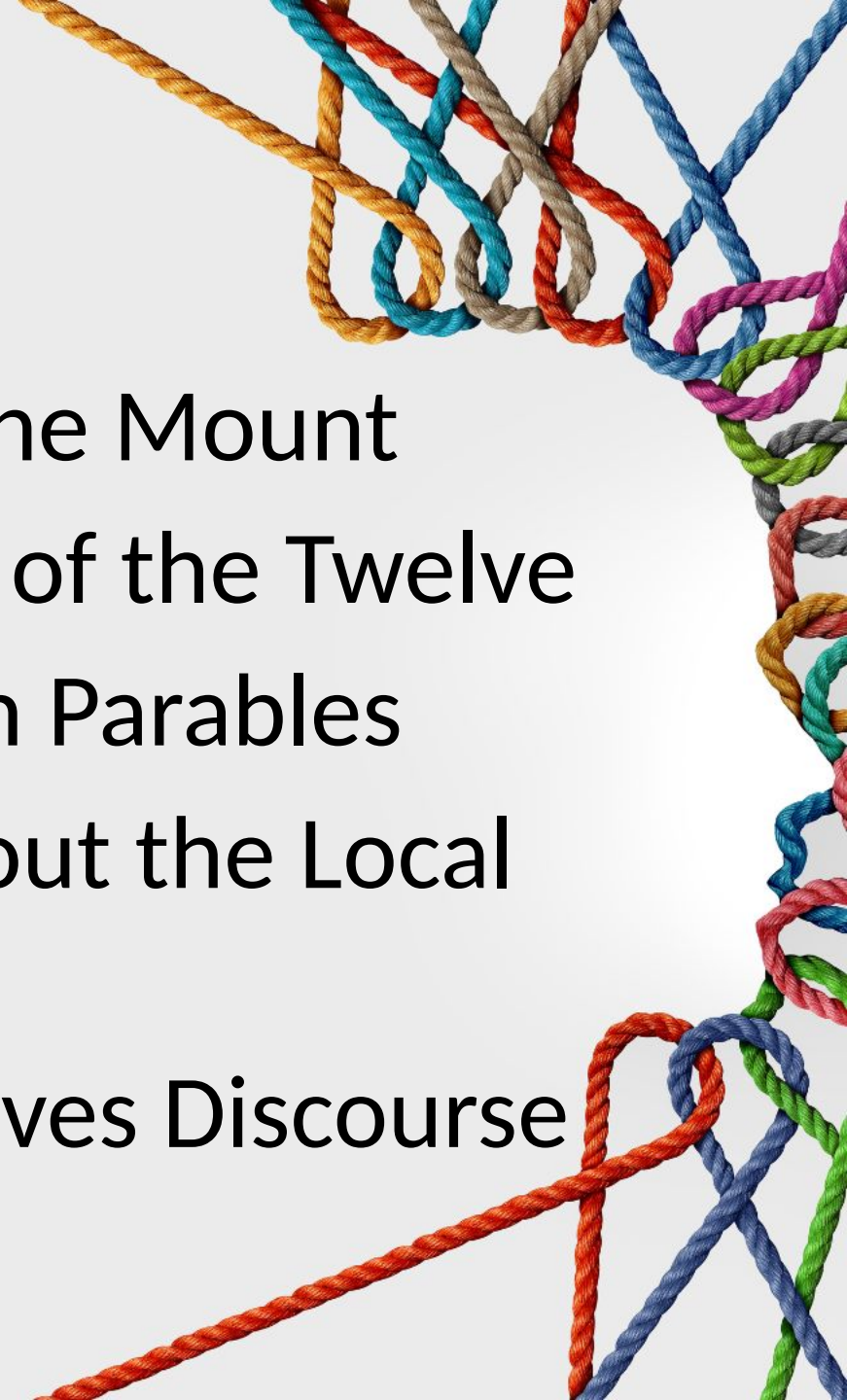


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Teaching Sections in Matthew

- Matthew 5-7 The Sermon on the Mount
- Matthew 10 The Sending of the Twelve
- Matthew 13 The Kingdom Parables
- Matthew 18 Teaching about the Local Church
- Matthew 24-25 The Mount of Olives Discourse



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What did Jesus teach about the only time he taught specifically about the local church?



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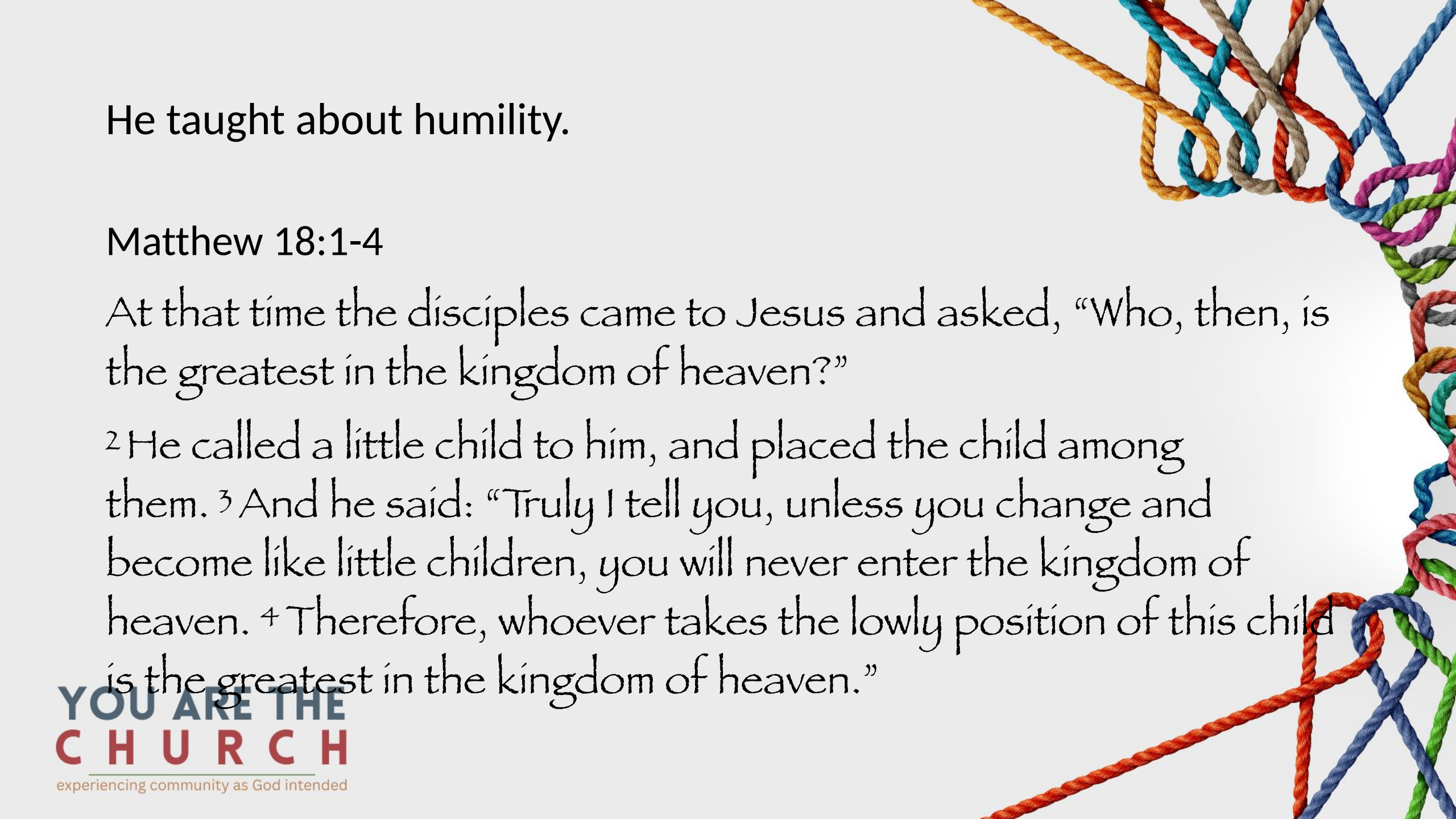
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He taught about humility.

Matthew 18:1-4

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

2 He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. 3 And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”



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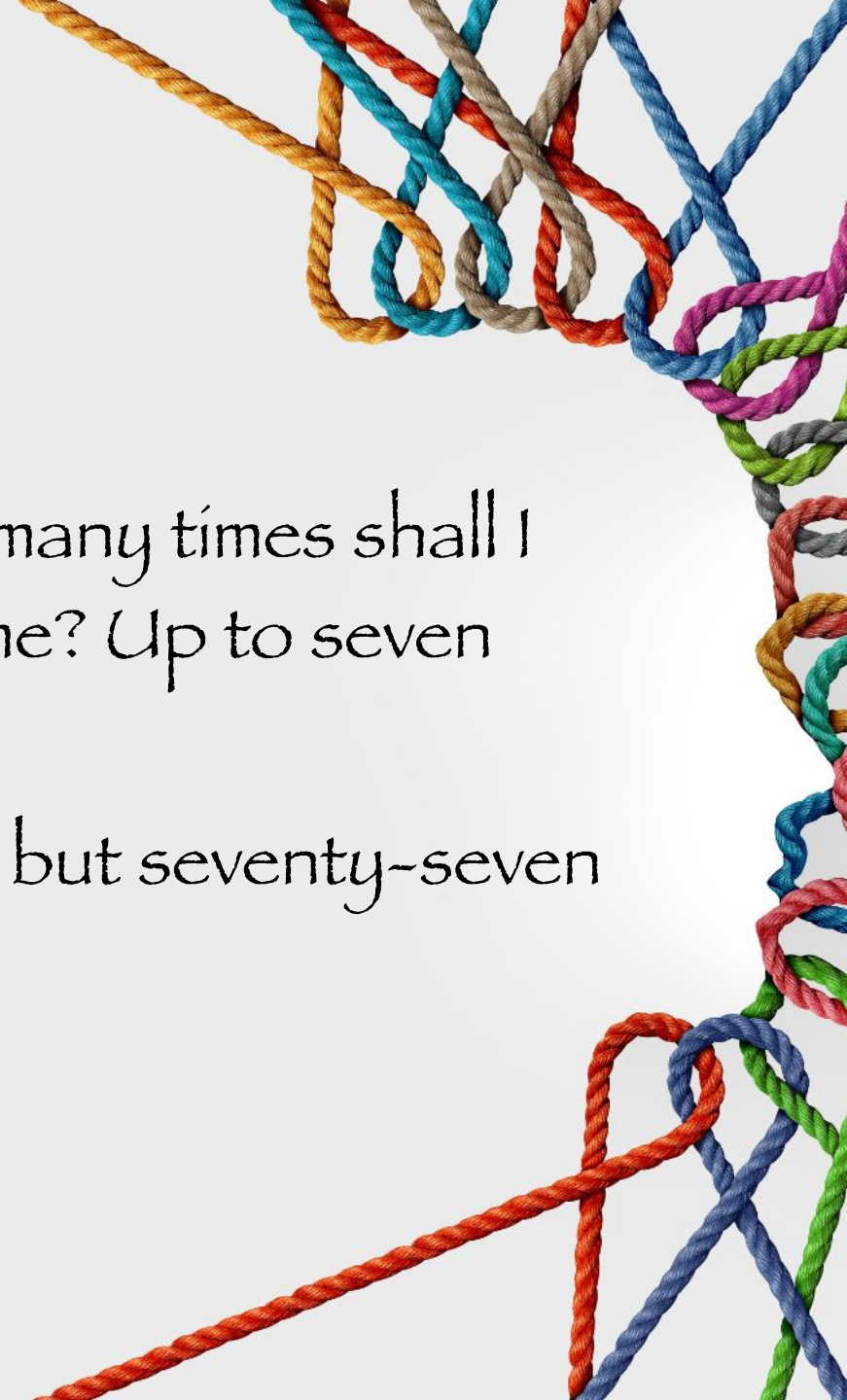
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He taught about forgiveness.

Matthew 18:21,22

21 Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I
forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven
times?”

22 Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven
times.”

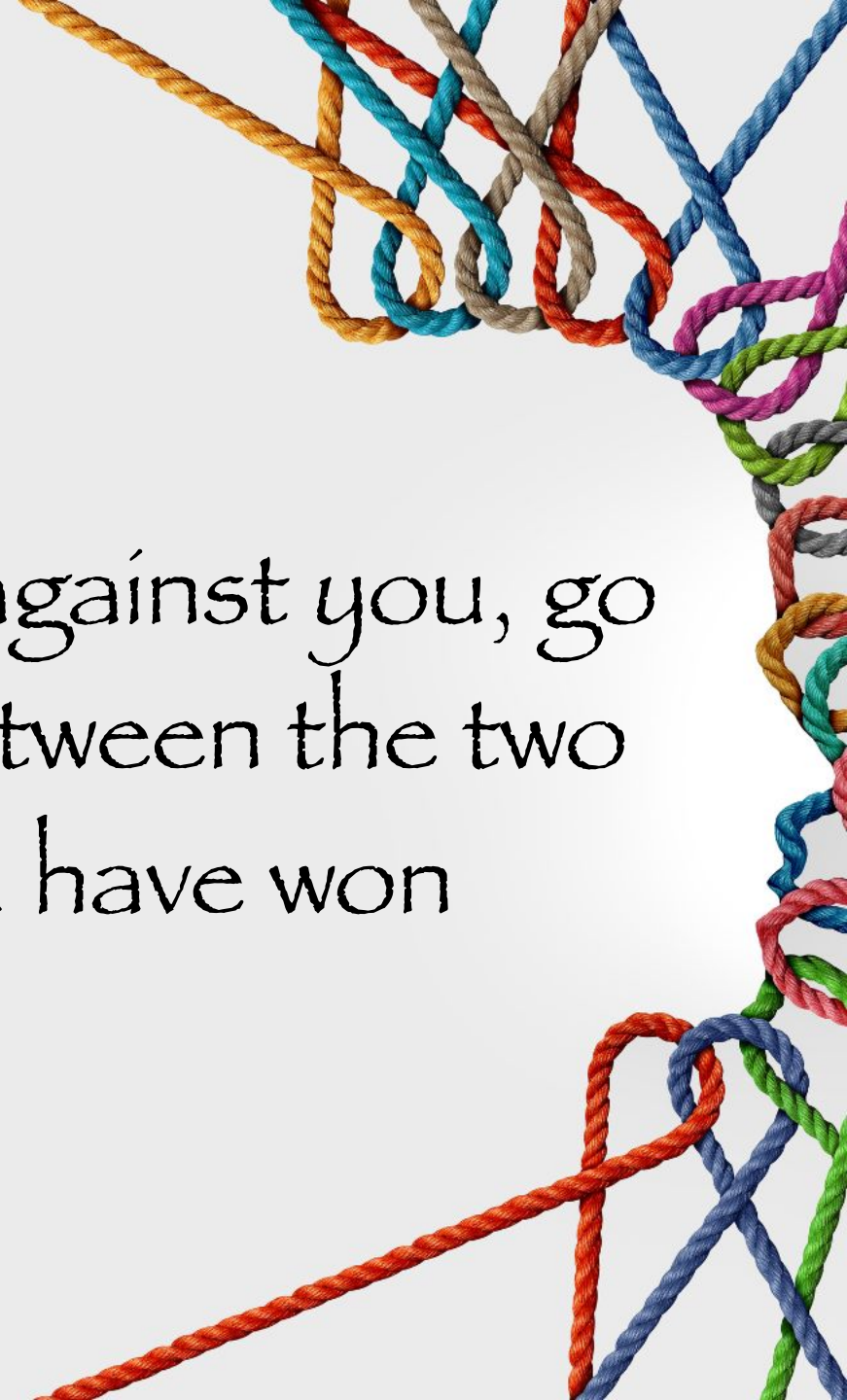


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He taught this:

Matthew 18:15

15 “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.”



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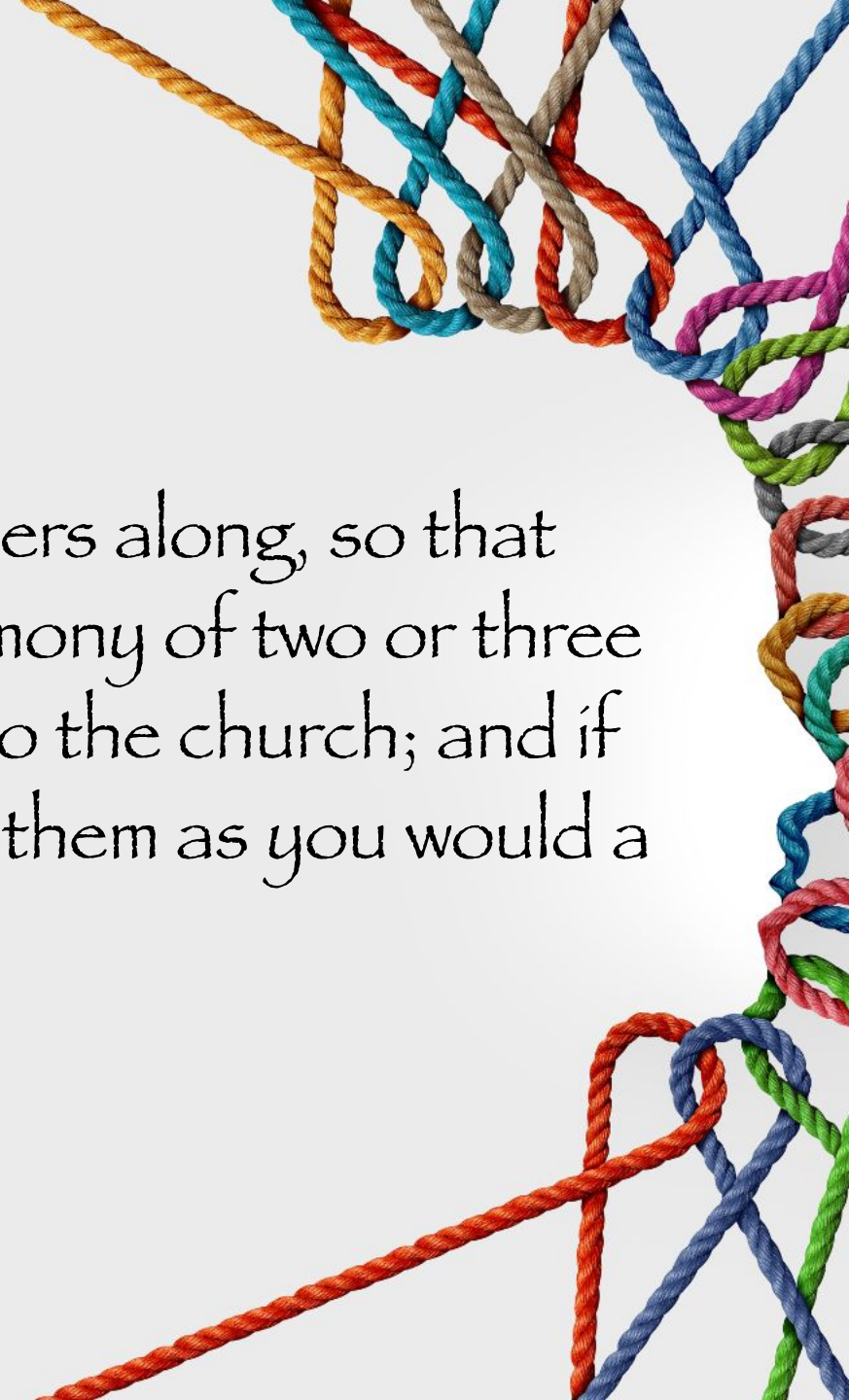
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- Communication
- Repentance
- Forgiveness
- Reconciliation



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More Steps

Matthew 18:16,17

"But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'[17] If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector."

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- One or two witnesses
- The church
- No relationship



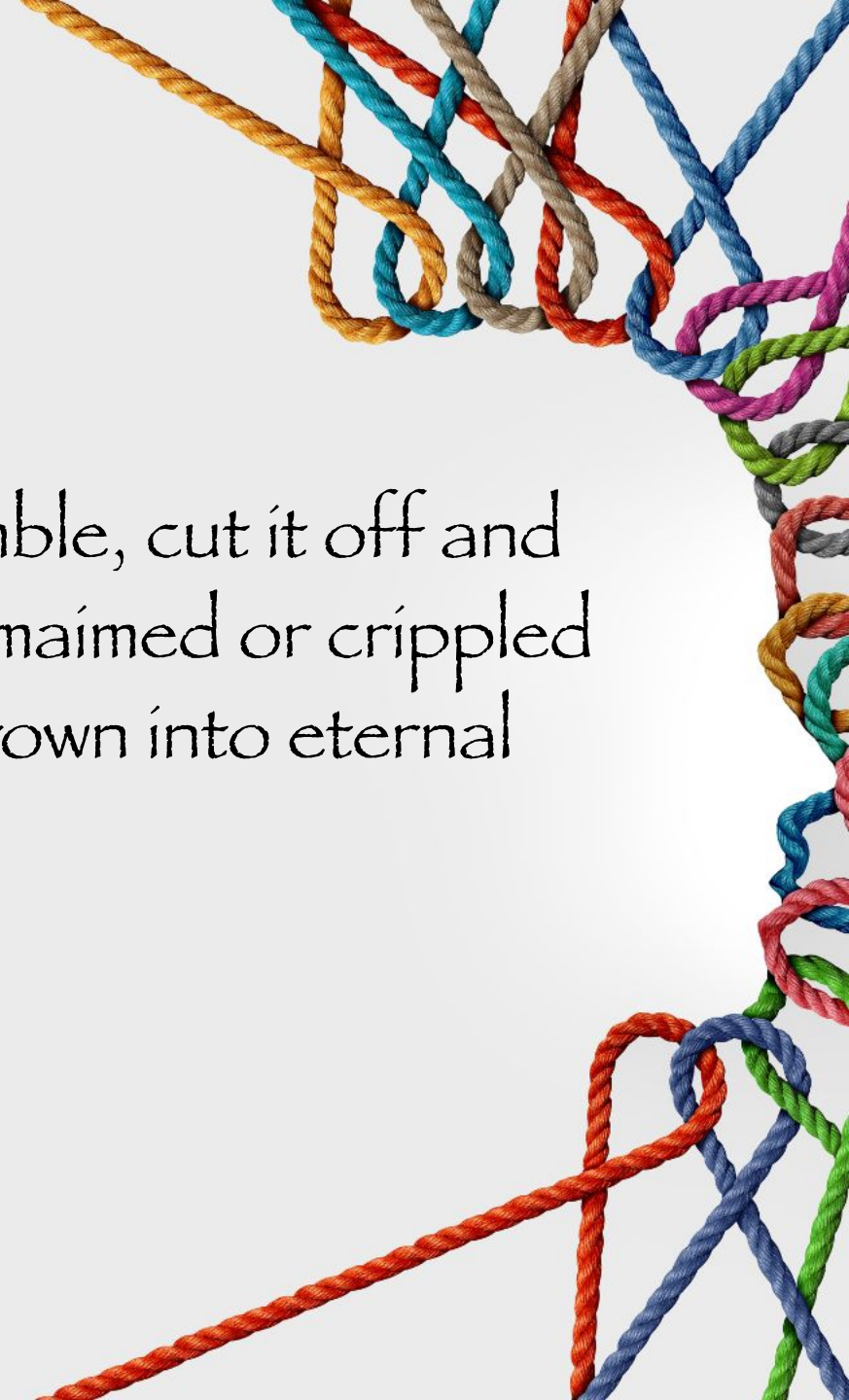
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A member separated from the body

Matthew 18:8

"If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire."



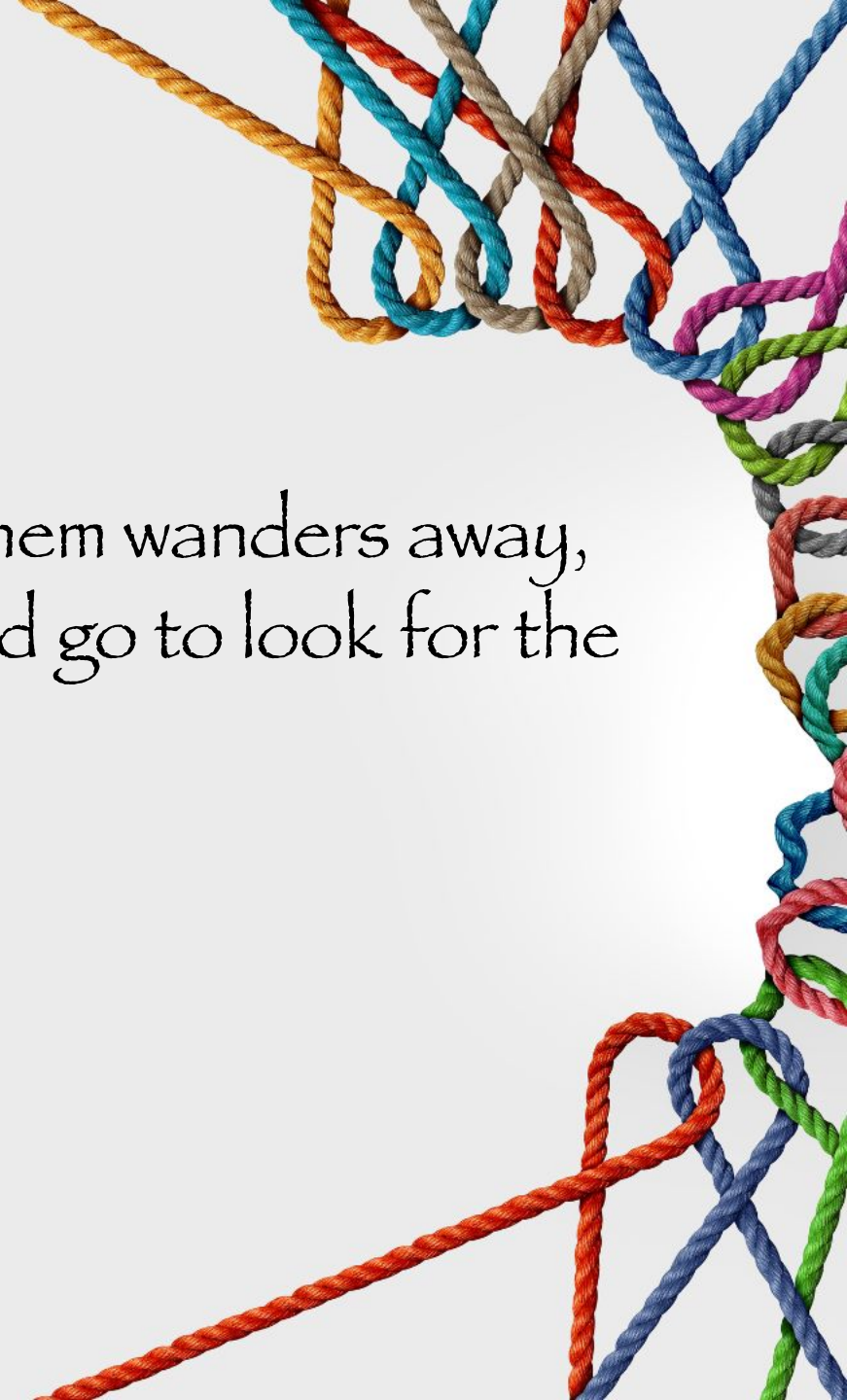
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A sheep wandering from the flock

Matthew 18:12

"If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off?"

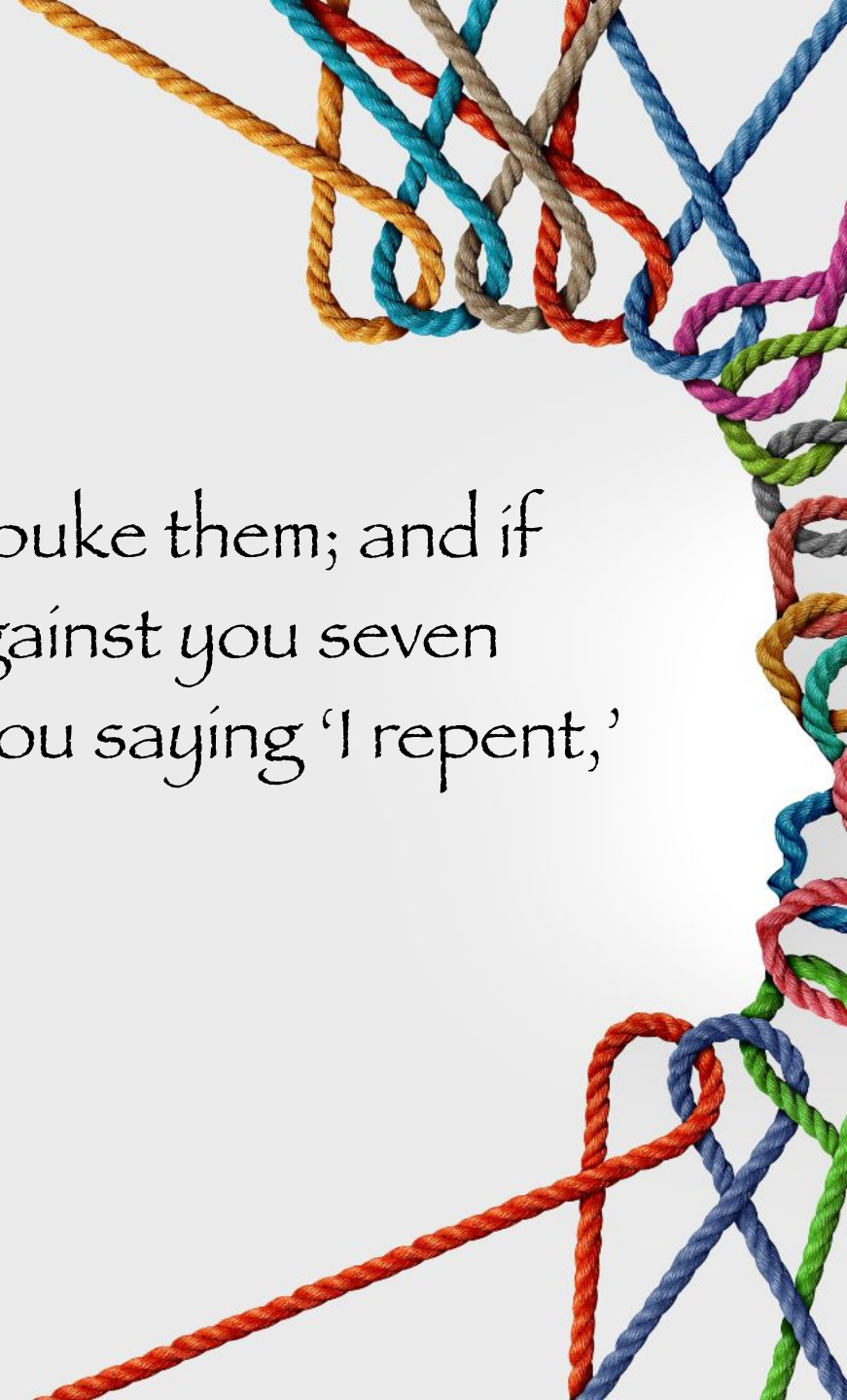


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Luke 17:3,4

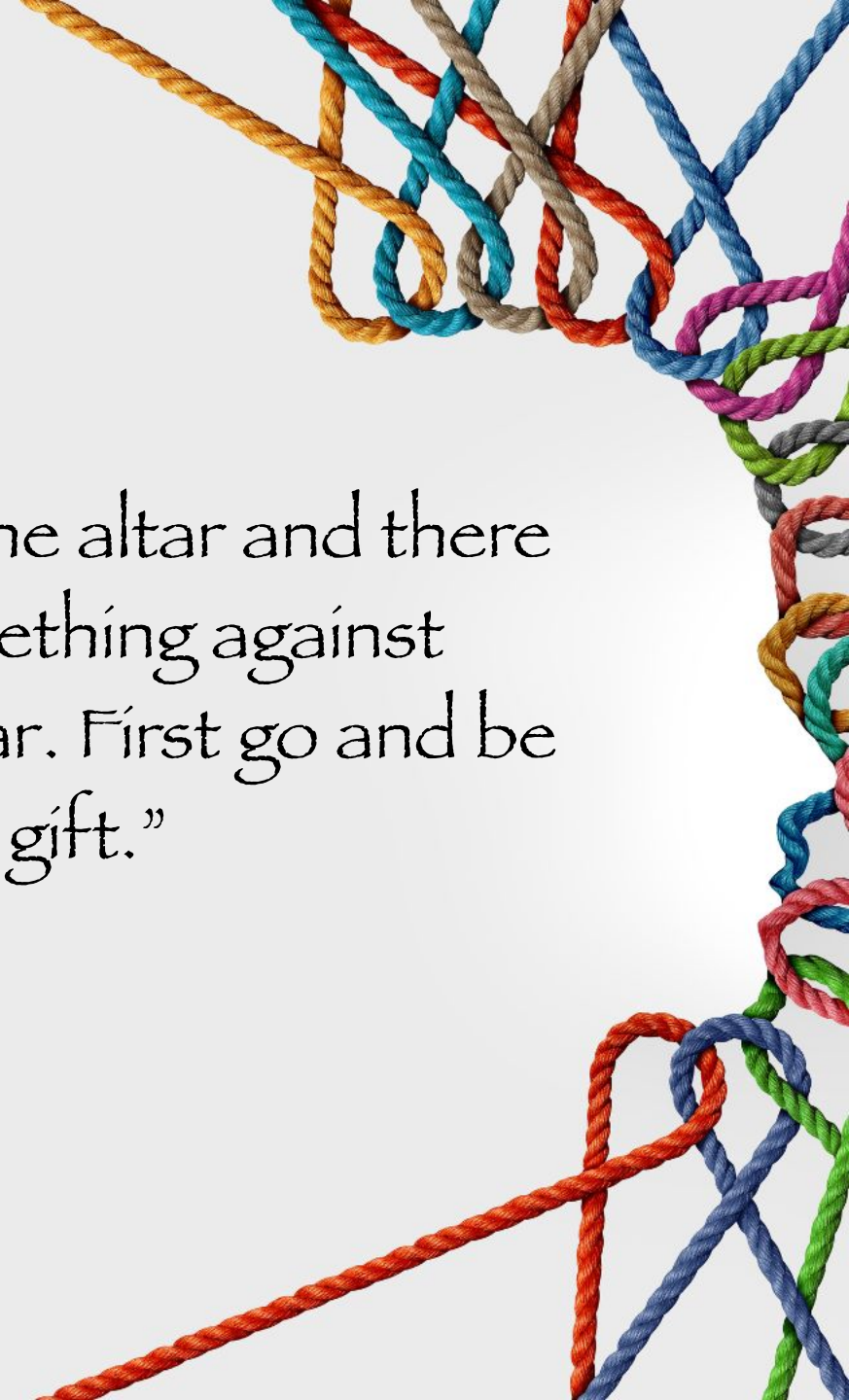
3 “If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if
they repent, forgive them. 4 Even if they sin against you seven
times in a day and seven times come back to you saying ‘I repent,’
you must forgive them.”



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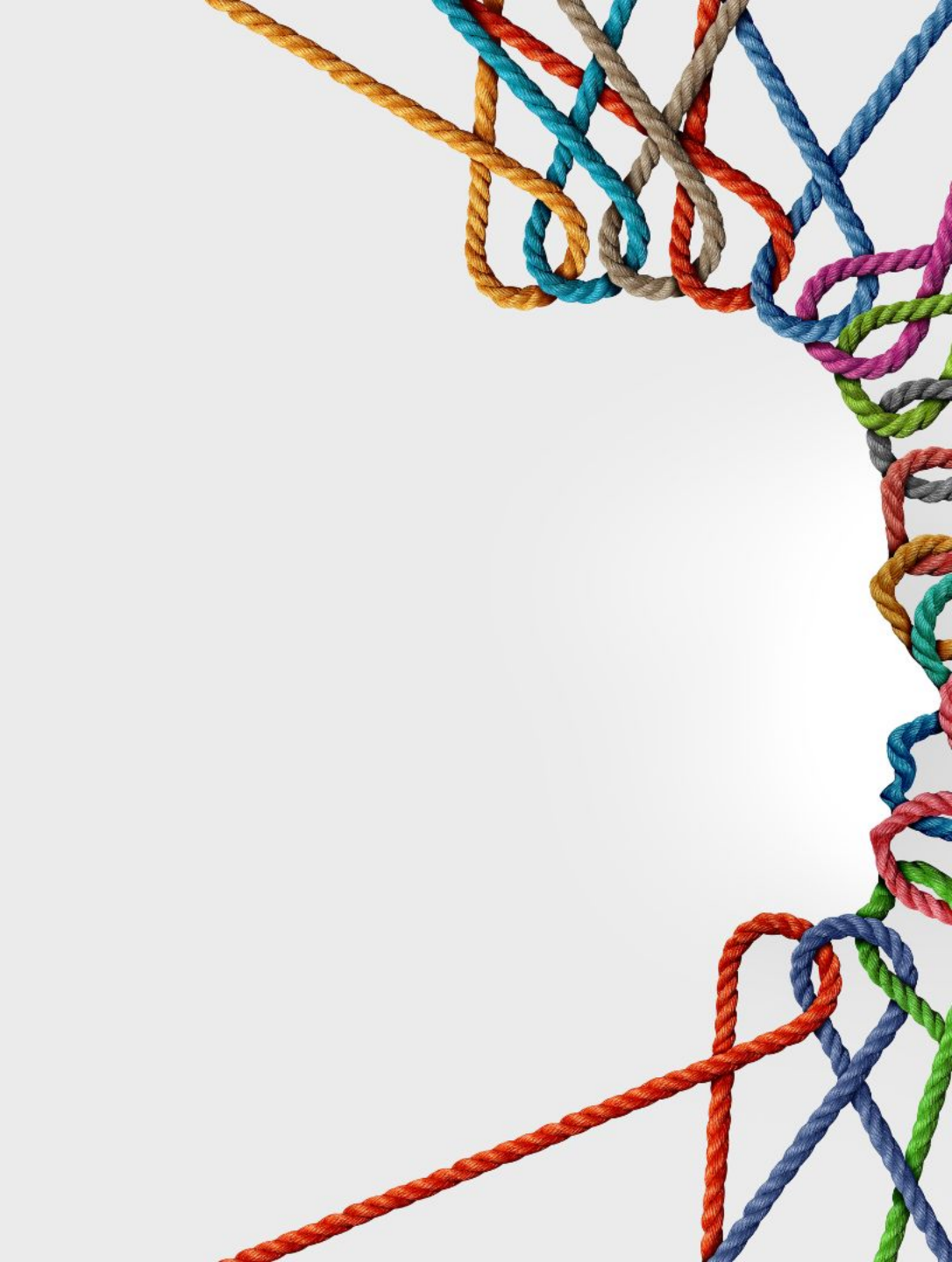
Matthew 5:23,24

23 “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there
remember that your brother or sister has something against
you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be
reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”



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Mark 11:25

25 “And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”



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Why?



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Why are humility, relationships, and forgiveness so important in a church?

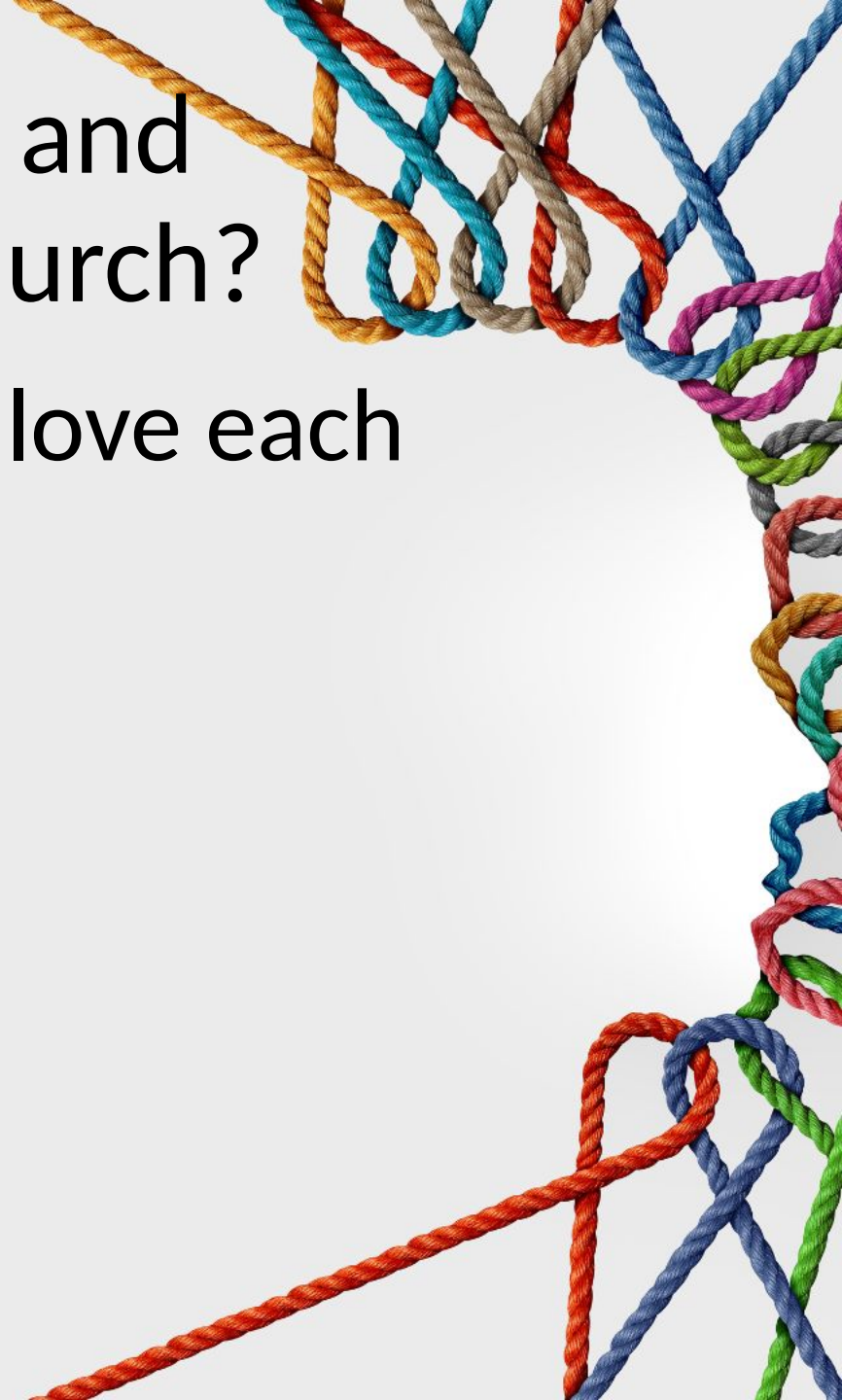


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Why are humility, relationships, and forgiveness so important in a church?

1. The Father wants his children to love each other.

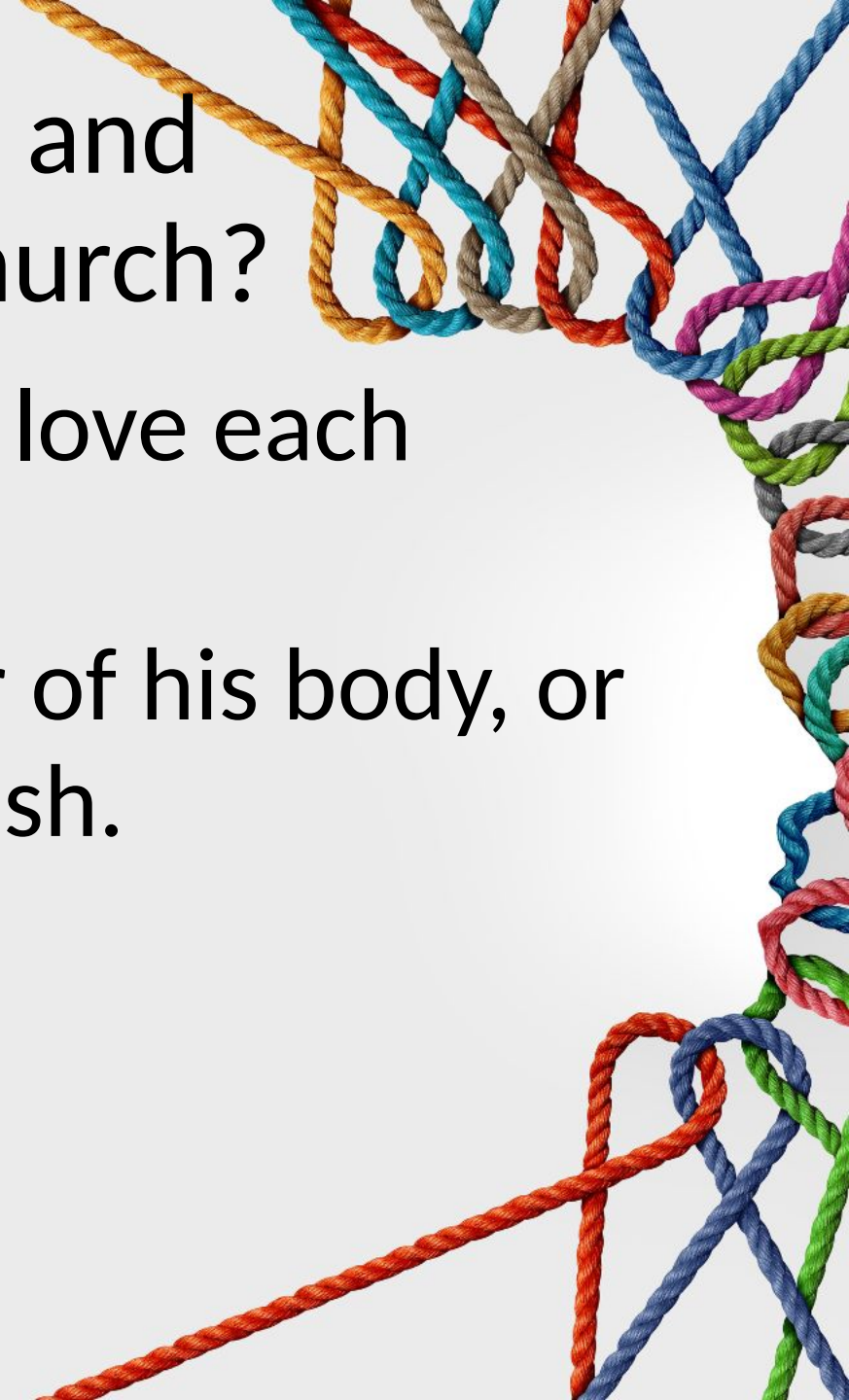


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Why are humility, relationships, and forgiveness so important in a church?

1. The Father wants his children to love each other.
2. Jesus doesn’t want one member of his body, or one sheep from his flock, to perish.



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Matthew 18:19,20

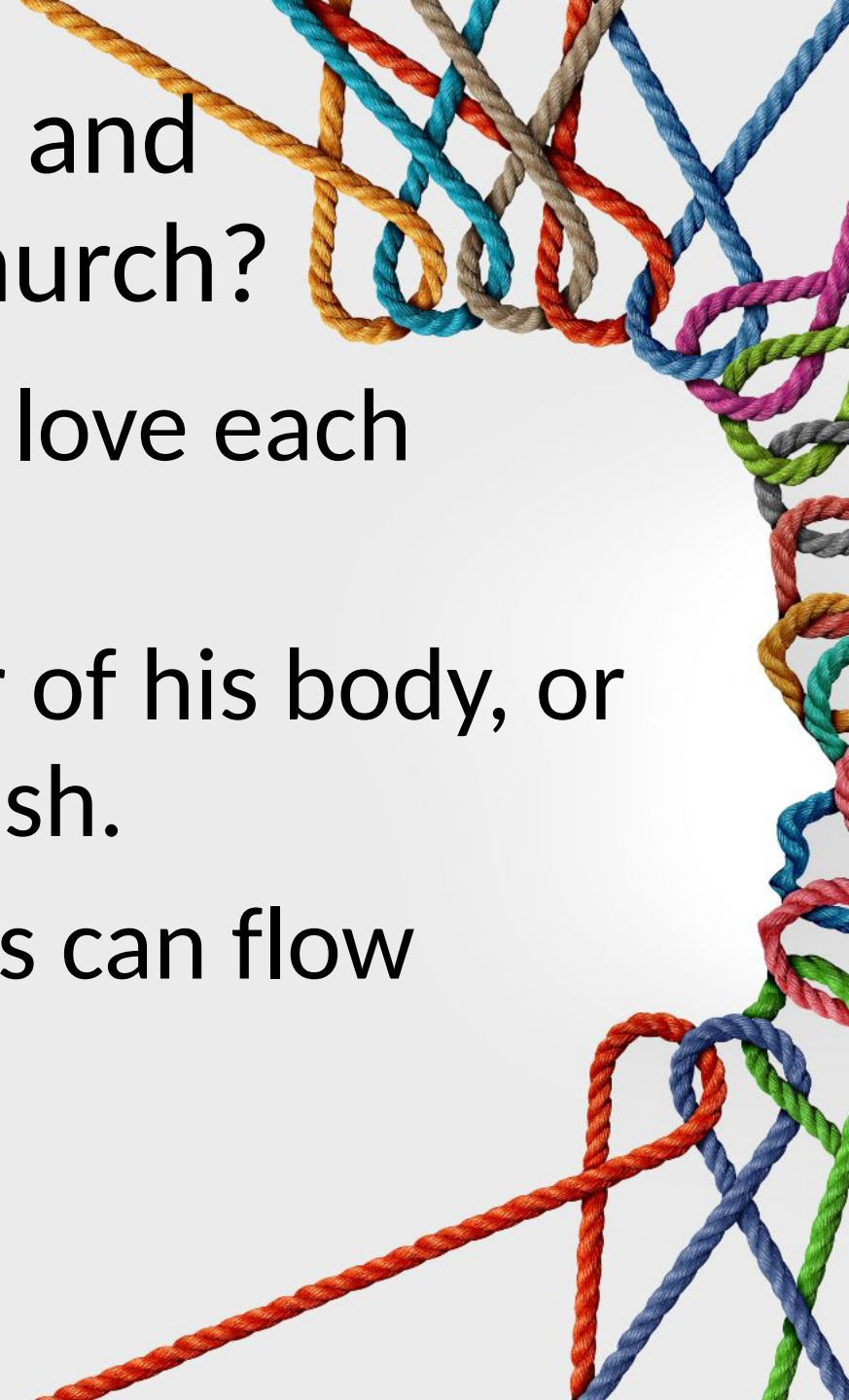


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Why are humility, relationships, and forgiveness so important in a church?

1. The Father wants his children to love each other.
2. Jesus doesn’t want one member of his body, or one sheep from his flock, to perish.
3. The power and presence of Jesus can flow through a local church in unity.



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Psalm 133:1, 3



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What Jesus Taught About the Local Church



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Knit our hearts together Lord

Bind them with your cords of love

That we may be one

And that we may be used

Knit our hearts together O Lord



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