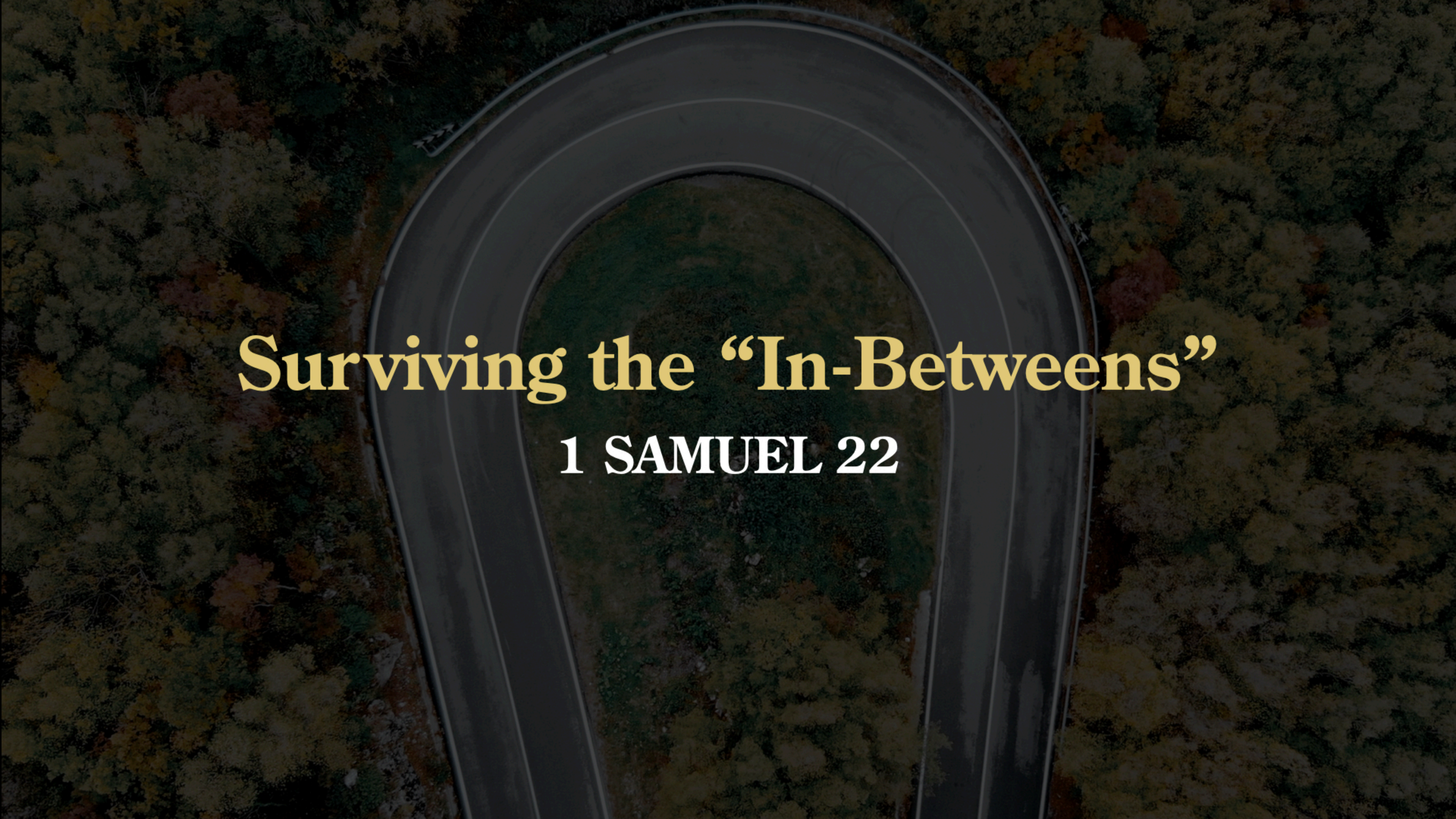




I SAMUEL

Turnarounds

a *Central* series
ASSEMBLY

An aerial photograph of a two-lane asphalt road that curves sharply to the right, disappearing into a dense forest. The trees are covered in autumn foliage, with shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The road has white lane markings and a small arrow pointing right on the left shoulder. The overall tone of the image is dark and moody.

Surviving the “In-Betweens”

1 SAMUEL 22

God: "I have a plan for your life"
What it feels like:

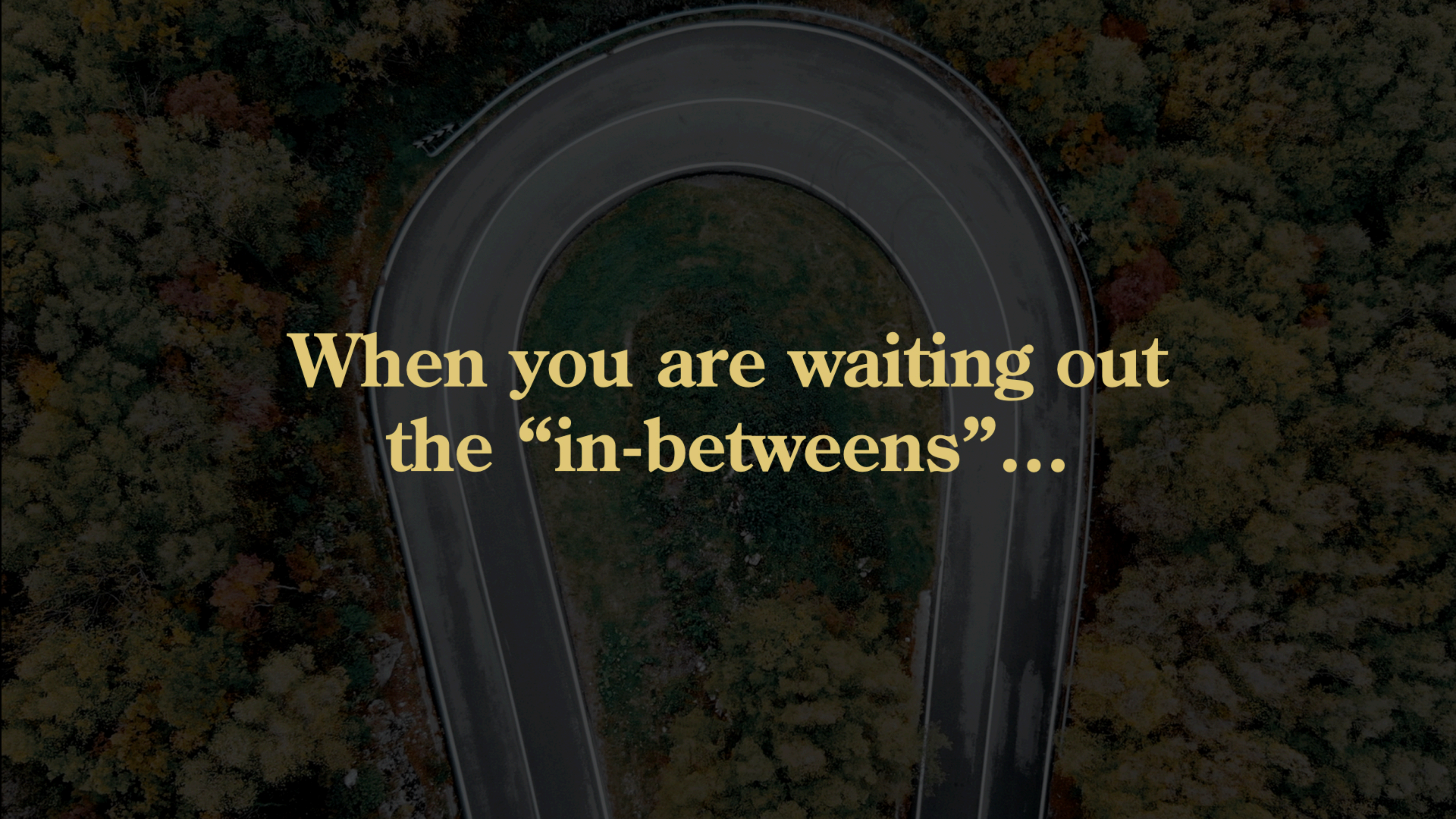


I SAMUEL 16:13

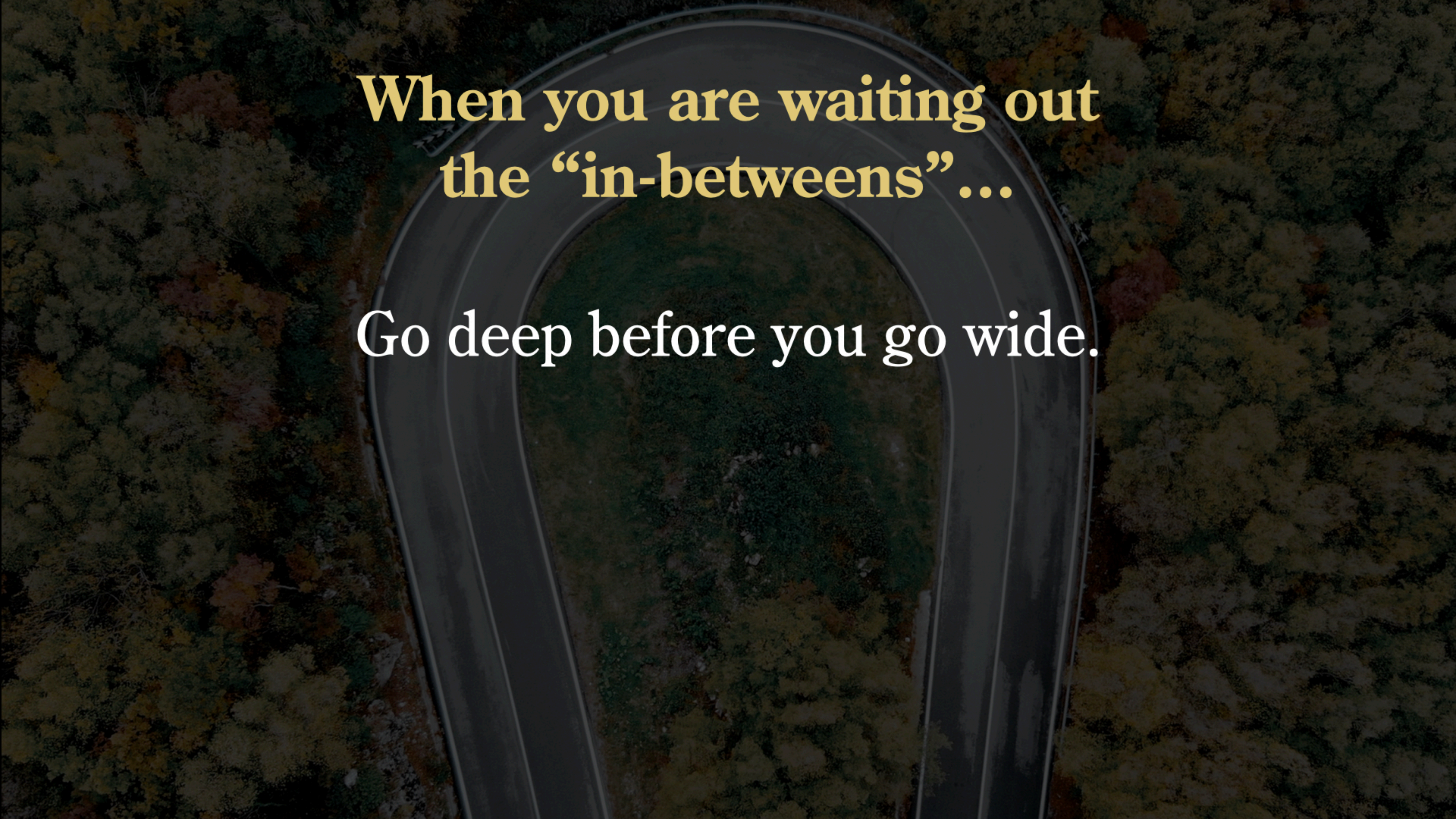
¹³ So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David.

I SAMUEL 18:12, 28-29

¹² Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with David but had departed from Saul... ²⁸ When Saul realized that the Lord was with David and that his daughter Michal loved David, ²⁹ Saul became still more afraid of him, and he remained his enemy the rest of his days.

An aerial photograph of a two-lane asphalt road that curves through a dense forest. The trees are covered in autumn foliage, with shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The road is dark and appears to be empty. The text is overlaid on the road's curve.

**When you are waiting out
the “in-betweens”...**

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense forest. The trees are covered in autumn foliage, with shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The road is dark and appears to be wet or polished. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down at the road as it snakes through the woods.

**When you are waiting out
the “in-betweens”...**

Go deep before you go wide.

1 Samuel 19 — Psalm 59

1 Samuel 21 — Psalm 34

1 Samuel 21 — Psalm 56

1 Samuel 22 — Psalm 52

1 Samuel 22 — Psalm 57

1 Samuel 22 — Psalm 142

1 Samuel 23 — Psalm 54

“Everything was being crushed out of him [David]. He sang a great deal. And matched each note with a tear. How strange, is it not, what suffering begets?... David very simply became the greatest hymn writer, and the greatest comforter of broken hearts this world shall ever know.”

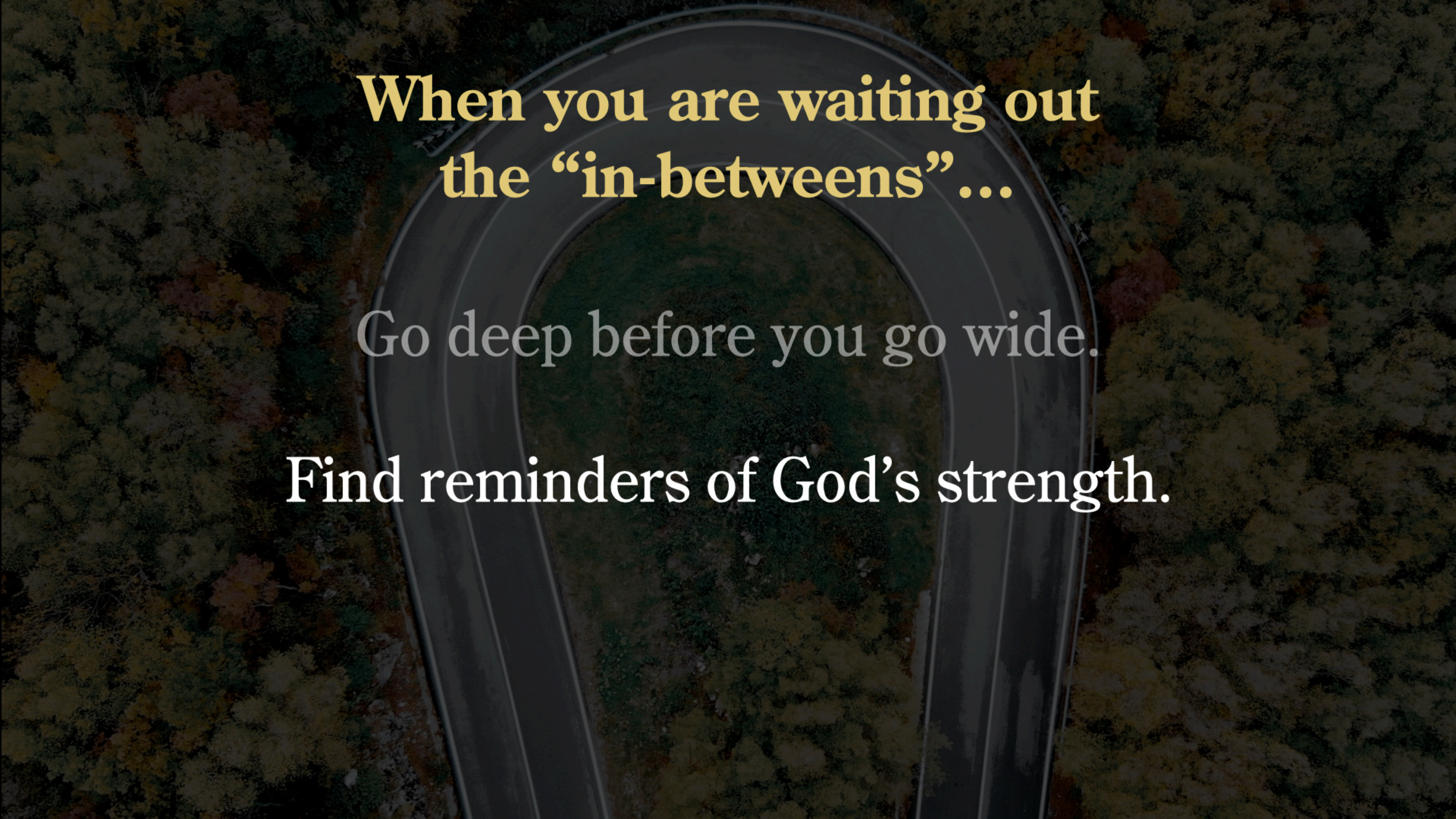
Gene Edwards

A TALE OF THREE KINGS

PSALM 34:4,8

⁴ I **sought** the Lord, and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears....

⁸ **Taste** and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense forest. The trees are covered in autumn foliage, with shades of yellow, orange, and brown. The road is dark and appears to be wet or reflective. The overall scene is serene and contemplative.

**When you are waiting out
the “in-betweens”...**

Go deep before you go wide.

Find reminders of God’s strength.

I SAMUEL 22:1

¹ David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam.



I SAMUEL 22:1-2

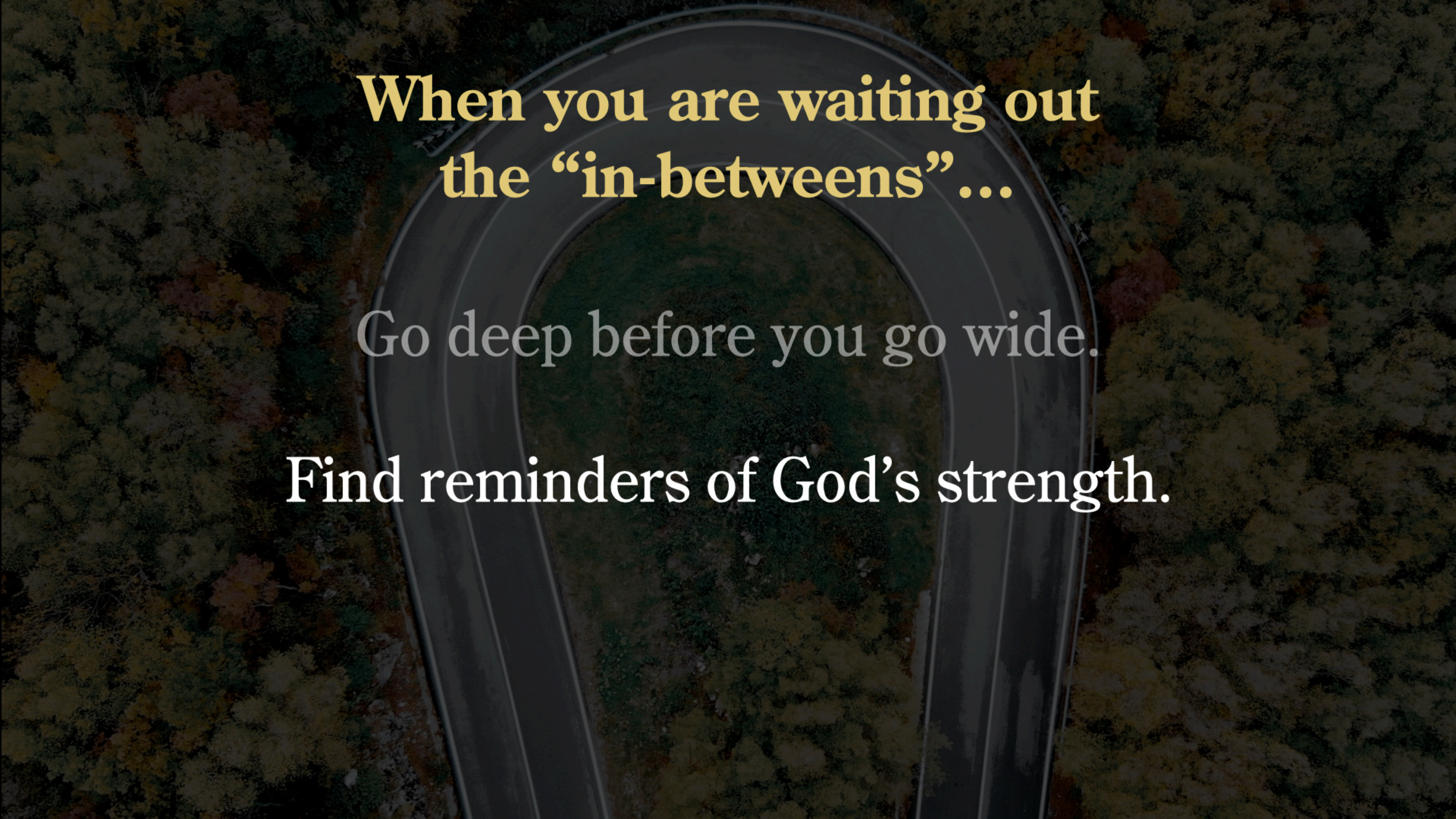
¹ David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and his father's household heard about it, they went down to him there. ² All those who were in **distress** or in **debt** or **discontented** gathered around him, and he became their commander. About four hundred men were with him.

PSALM 34:18

¹⁸ The Lord is close to the brokenhearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

II CORINTHIANS 12:8-9

⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ 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 about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.



**When you are waiting out
the “in-betweens”...**

Go deep before you go wide.

Find reminders of God’s strength.

Be honest with God without giving up.

PSALM 57

Of David. When he had fled from Saul into the cave.

⁴ I am in the midst of lions;
I am forced to dwell among ravenous beasts—
men whose teeth are spears and arrows,
whose tongues are sharp swords.

PSALM 57

Of David. When he had fled from Saul into the cave.

⁶ They spread a net for my feet—
I was bowed down in distress.
They dug a pit in my path—
but they have fallen into it themselves.

PSALM 57

Of David. When he had fled from Saul into the cave.

⁷ My heart, O God, is steadfast,
my heart is steadfast;
I will sing and make music.

PSALM 57

Of David. When he had fled from Saul into the cave.

⁹ I will praise you, Lord, among the nations;

I will sing of you among the peoples.

¹⁰ For great is your love, reaching to the heavens;

your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

PSALM 142

Of David. When he was in the cave. A prayer.

¹ I cry aloud to the Lord;

I lift up my voice to the Lord for mercy.

² I pour out before him my complaint;

before him I tell my trouble.

PSALM 142

Of David. When he was in the cave. A prayer.

⁴ Look and see, there is no one at my right hand;
no one is concerned for me.

I have no refuge;
no one cares for my life.

PSALM 142

Of David. When he was in the cave. A prayer.

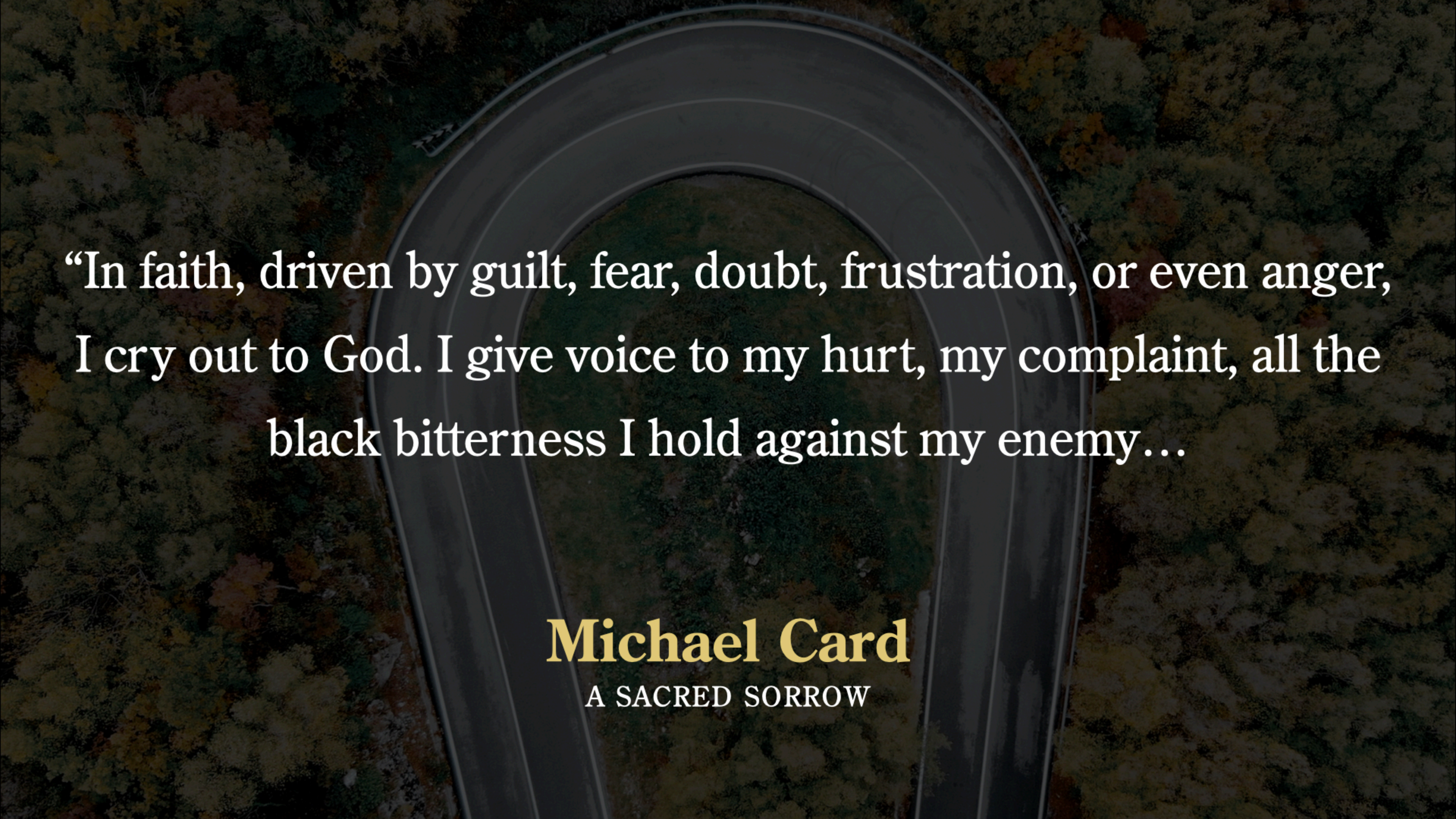
⁵ I cry to you, Lord;
I say, “You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living.”

PSALM 142

Of David. When he was in the cave. A prayer.

⁷ Set me free from my prison,
that I may praise your name.

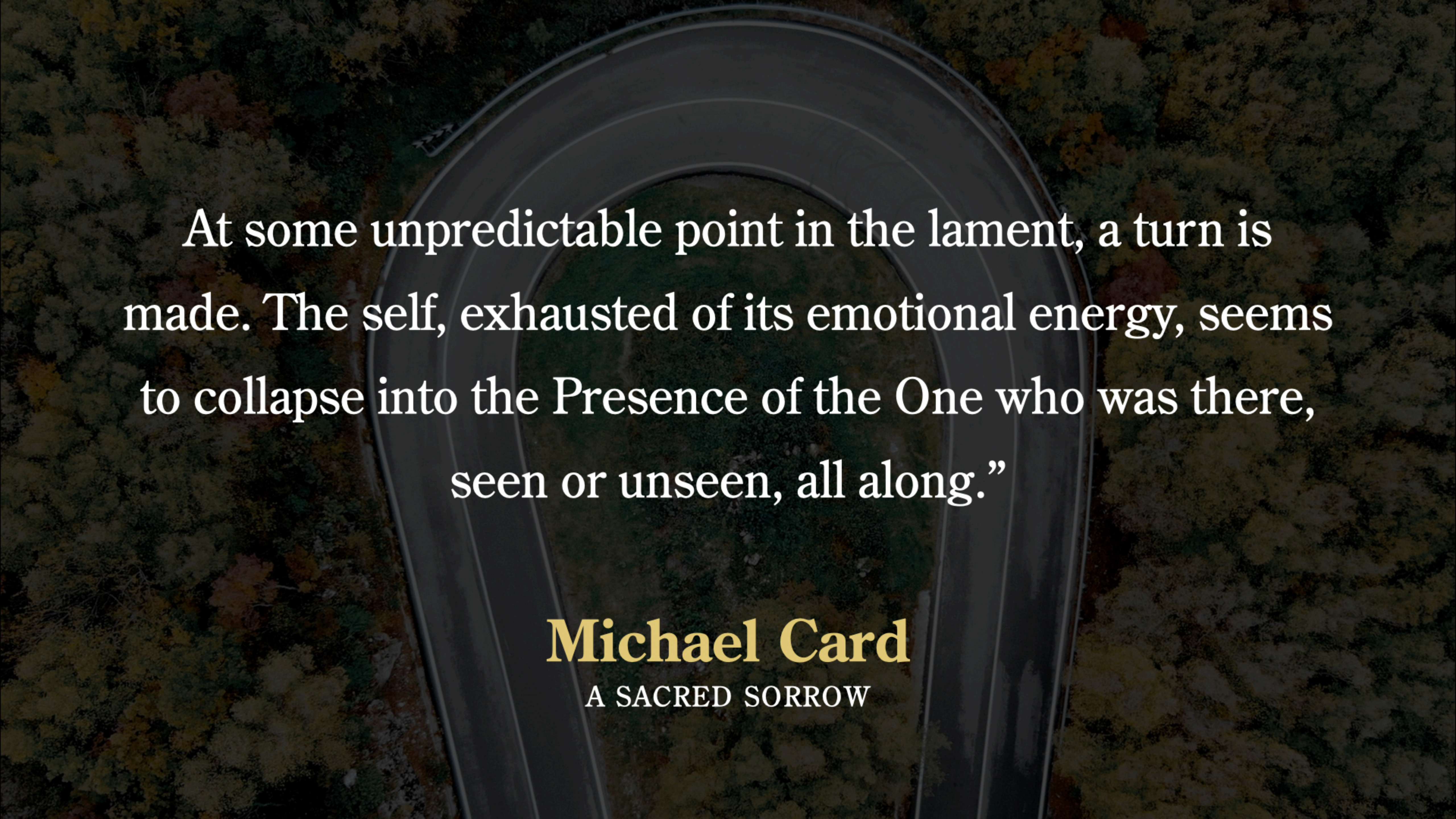
Then the righteous will gather about me
because of your goodness to me.

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense forest. The trees are covered in autumn foliage, with shades of yellow, orange, and brown visible. The road is dark and has white lane markings. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down on the road as it disappears into the woods.

“In faith, driven by guilt, fear, doubt, frustration, or even anger,
I cry out to God. I give voice to my hurt, my complaint, all the
black bitterness I hold against my enemy...

Michael Card

A SACRED SORROW

An aerial photograph of a winding asphalt road that curves through a dense forest. The trees are covered in autumn foliage, with shades of yellow, orange, and brown visible. The road is dark and appears to be empty. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

At some unpredictable point in the lament, a turn is made. The self, exhausted of its emotional energy, seems to collapse into the Presence of the One who was there, seen or unseen, all along.”

Michael Card

A SACRED SORROW

ISAIAH 61:1-3

¹ The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me....² ...to comfort all who mourn,³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a **crown of beauty** instead of ashes, **the oil of joy** instead of mourning, and **a garment of praise** instead of a spirit of despair.

ISAIAH 61:1-3

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one [Jesus] who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

HEBREWS 4:15-16



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