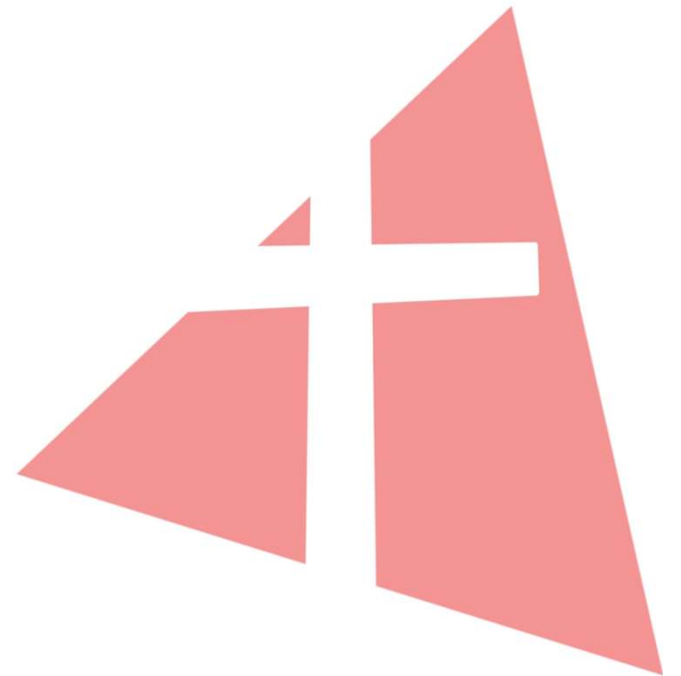


CLAIMING THE TRUTH

April 15th 2018



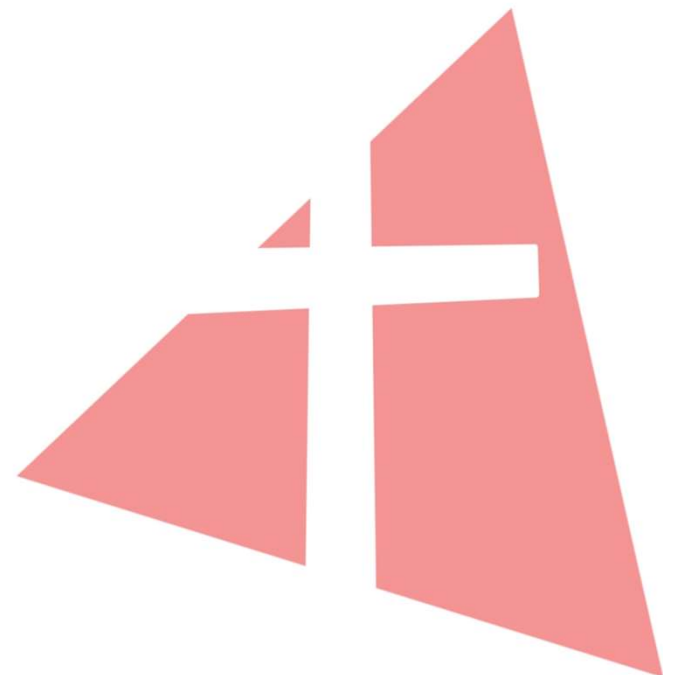
LAST FEW WEEKS

○ Who is God?

- The Attributes of God
- Jesus is God
- The Names of God

○ Who am I?

- Creation and Fall
- Restoration in Christ



WHO IS GOD?

- **God is love**

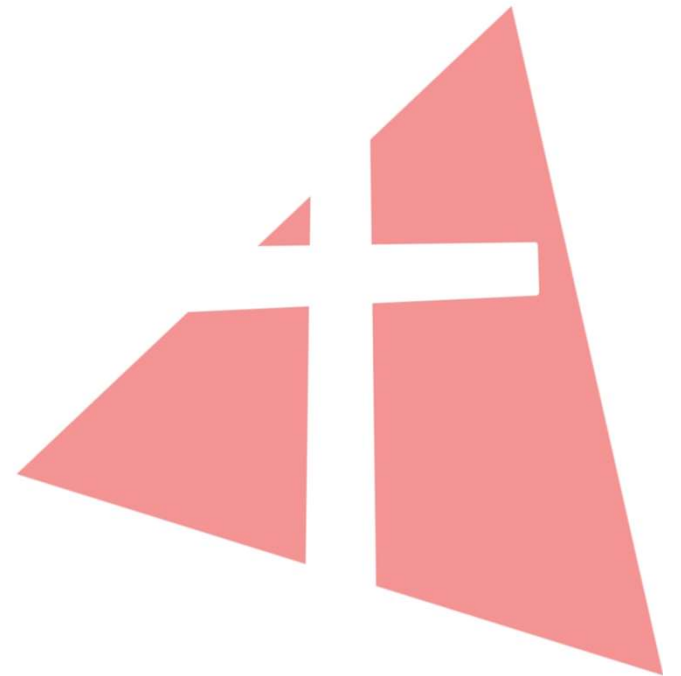
- God is my perfect Father
- God has a perfect plan for me, a plan that is best for me
- God takes care of all my needs

- **God is holy and just**



WHO AM I?

- **A child of God**
- **Loved by God**



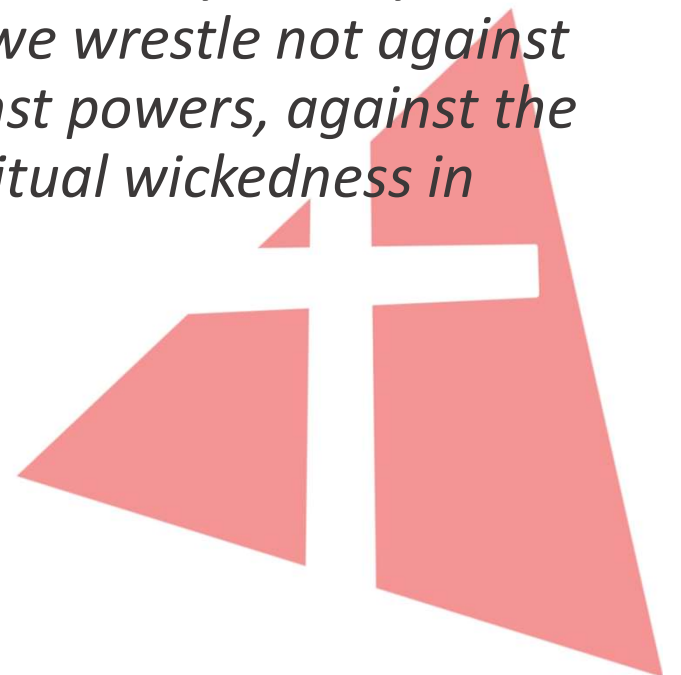
SIMPLE QUESTION

- **If we know what the Bible says, why do we struggle to fully believe it?**



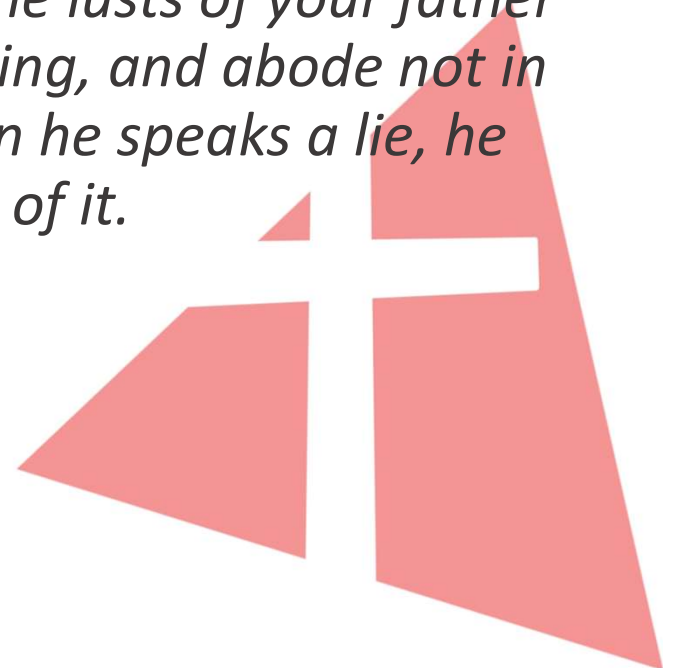
THE DEVIL

Ephesians 6:11-12 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places.



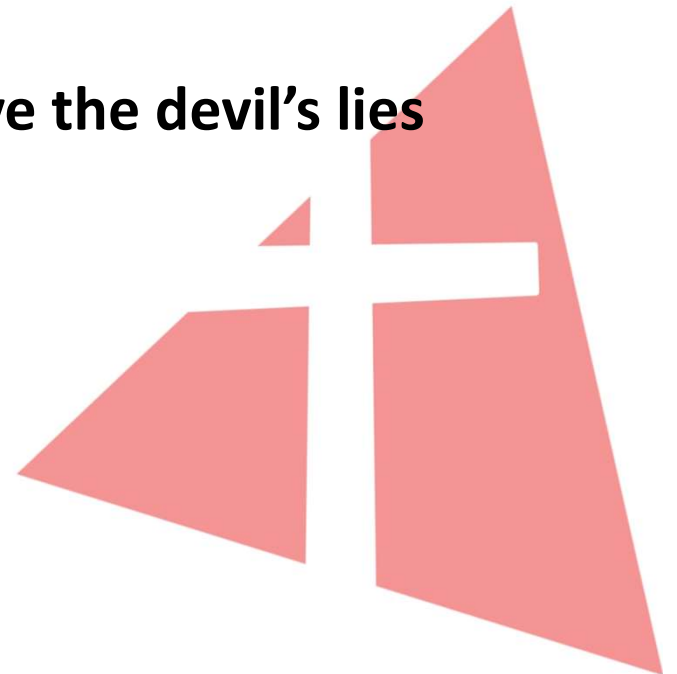
THE DEVIL

John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.



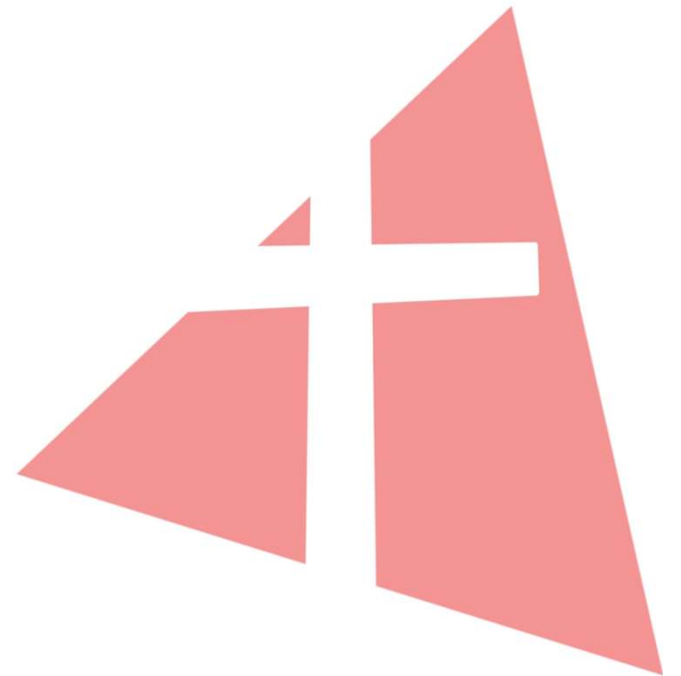
LACK OF BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE

- If we don't "renew our minds" we will believe the devil's lies



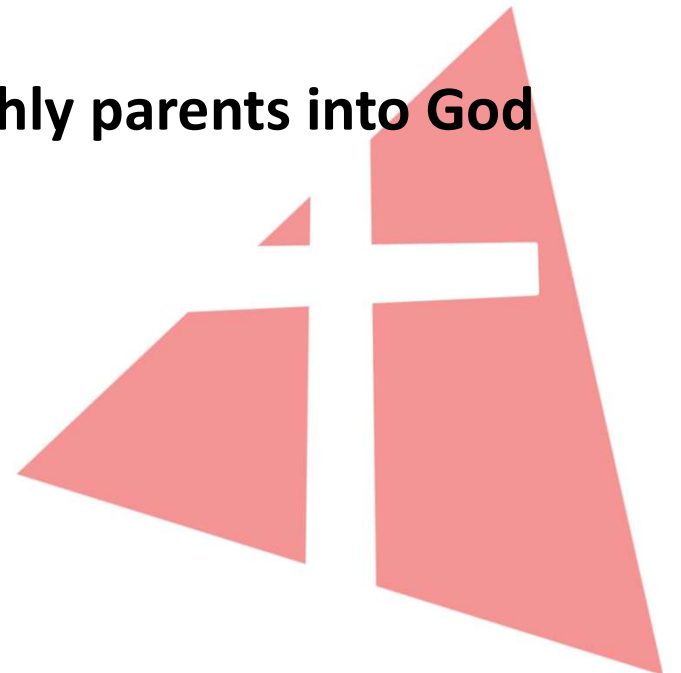
LACK OF FAITH

- **We can only believe with God's help**



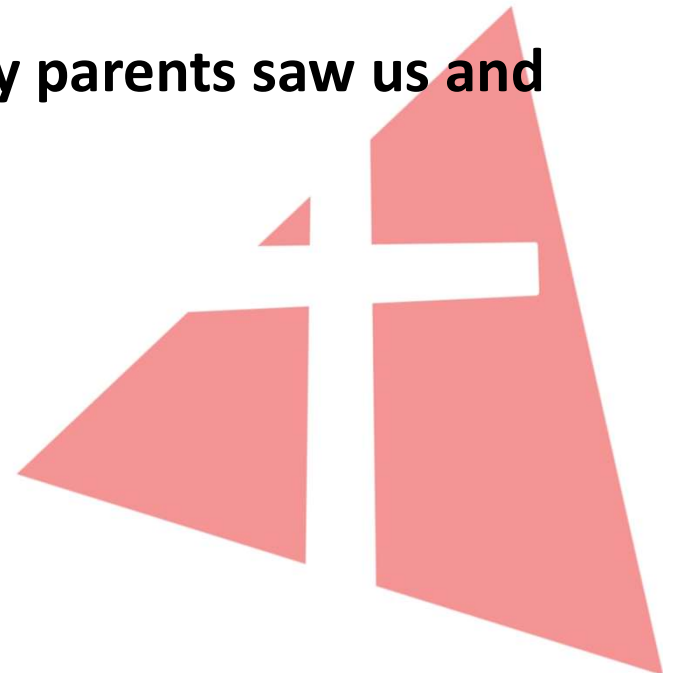
PARENTS (ESP. FATHERS)

- We tend to project the attributes of our earthly parents into God



PARENTS (ESP. FATHERS)

- **We tend to see ourselves the way our earthly parents saw us and treated us**



PARENTS (ESP. FATHERS)

- **We tend to reflect our self image and our belief in “who God is”**
 - A person I know
 - My personal story



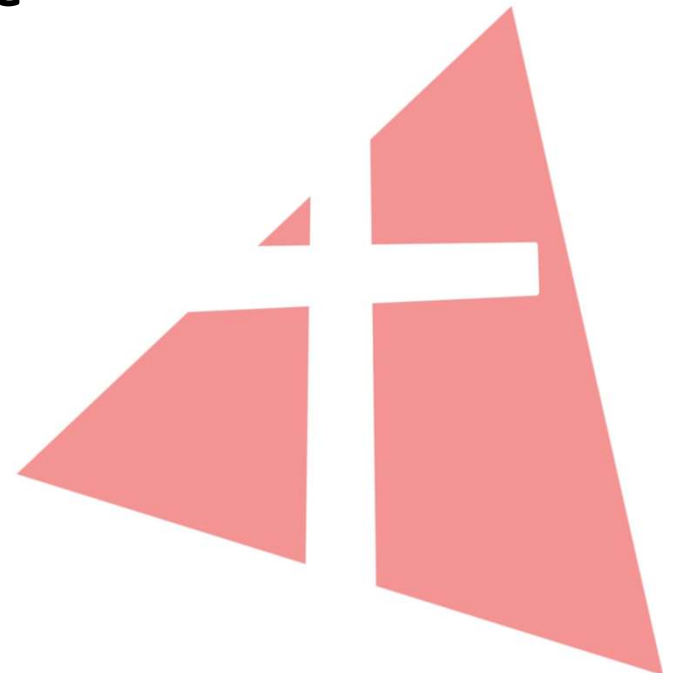
PARENTS (ESP. FATHERS)

- **We tend to reflect our self image and our belief in “who God is”**
 - Some more examples



CULTURE/SOCIETY

- **We tend to believe what most people believe**
 - School teachers
 - Friends
 - ...



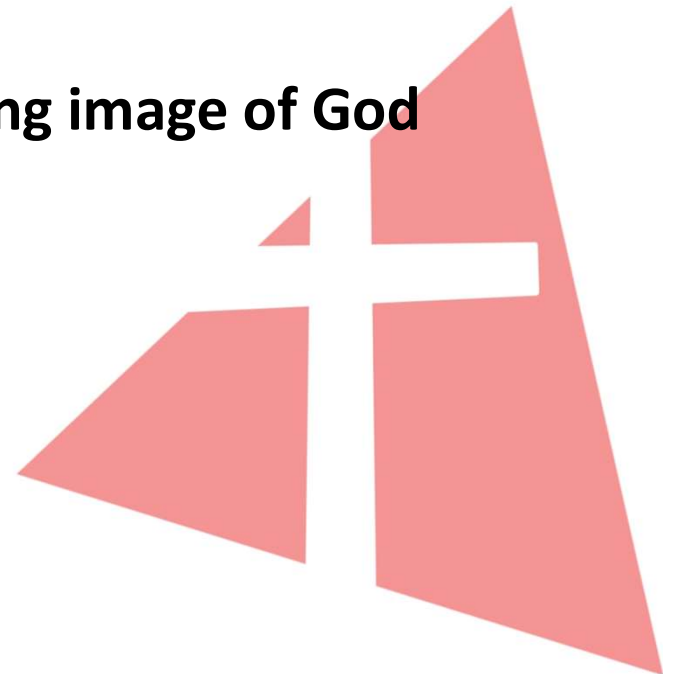
LIFE EXPERIENCES

- **We tend to struggle when life experiences seem to contradict Biblical teachings**



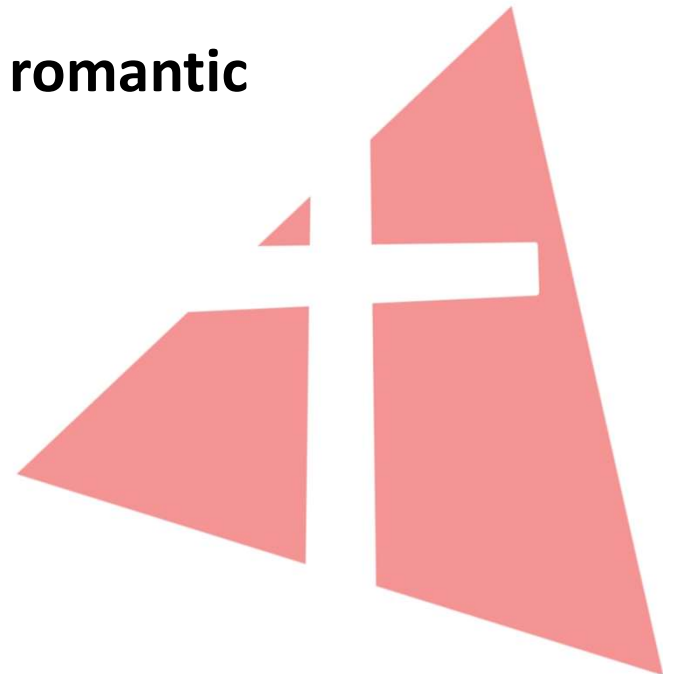
LIFE EXPERIENCES

- **Bad experiences with men can give us a wrong image of God**



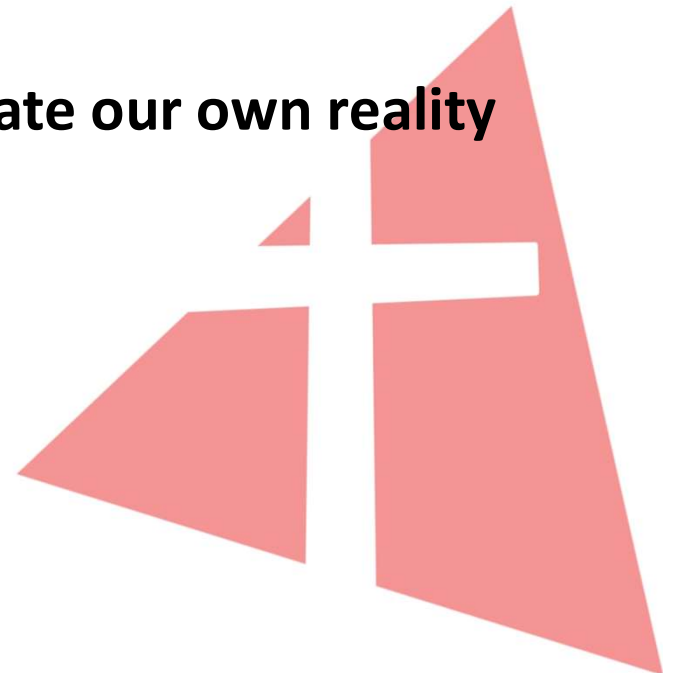
LIFE EXPERIENCES

- **Bad experiences with the other gender (esp. romantic relationships) can give us a wrong self image**



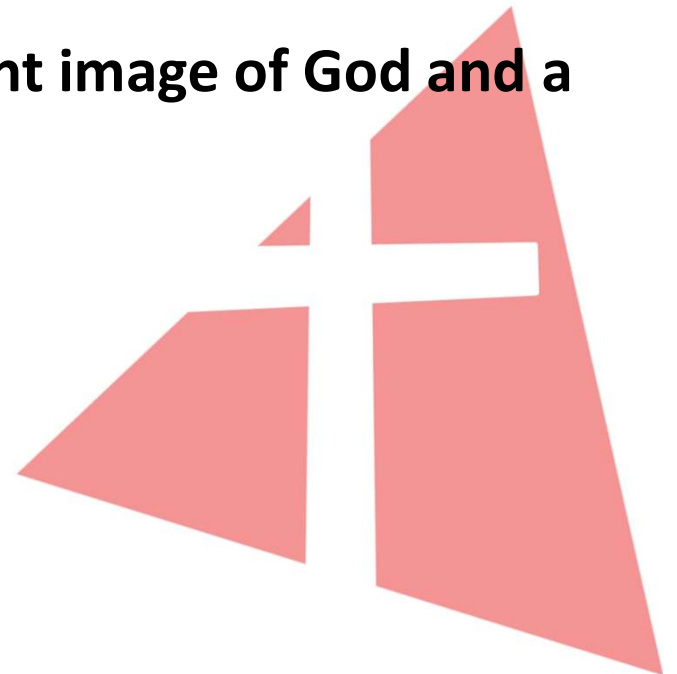
UNFORGIVENESS

- **Bitterness and unforgiveness cause us to create our own reality**



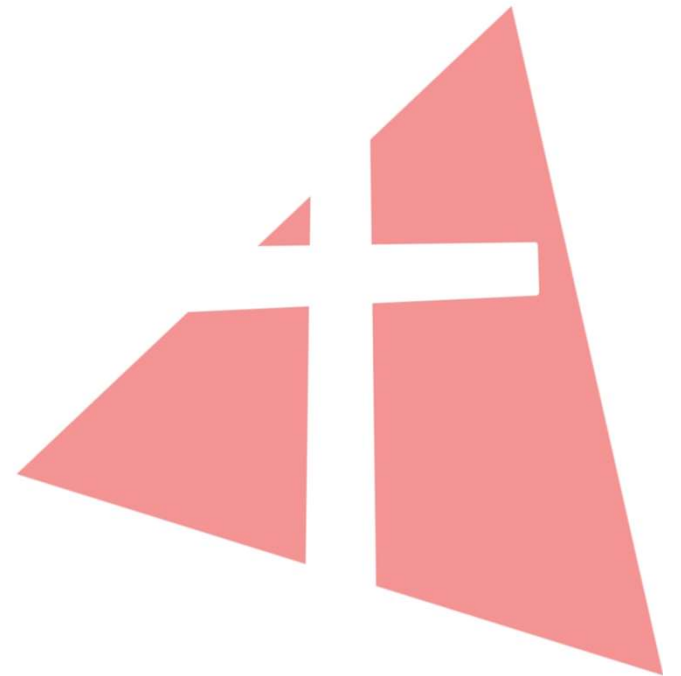
AND NOW?

- **Practical steps we can take to restore the right image of God and a proper self-image**



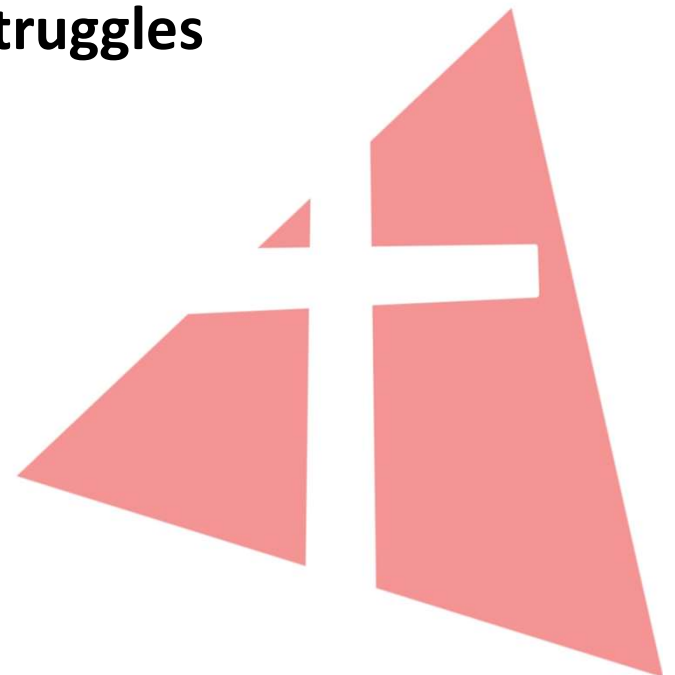
SOLUTIONS

- **Renewing our minds**



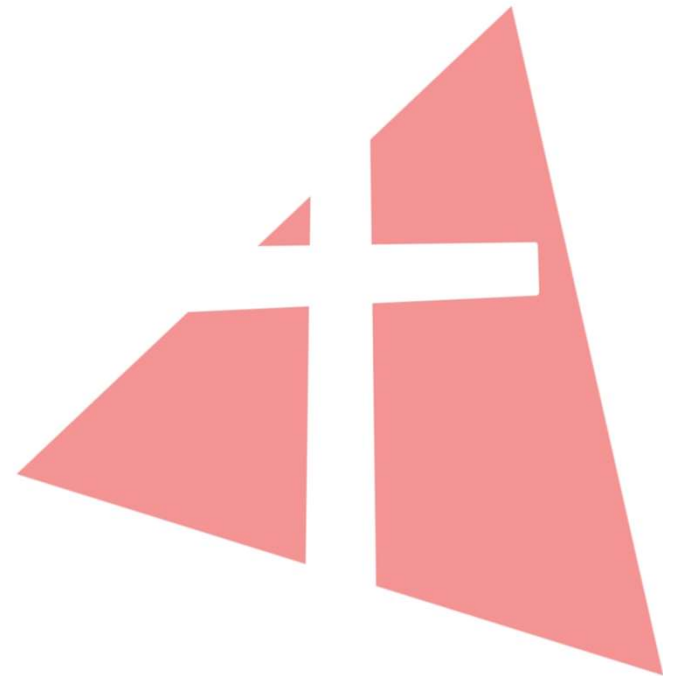
SOLUTIONS

- **Facing the struggles and the sources of our struggles**
 - Accept how God made you
 - Accept what God allowed in your life



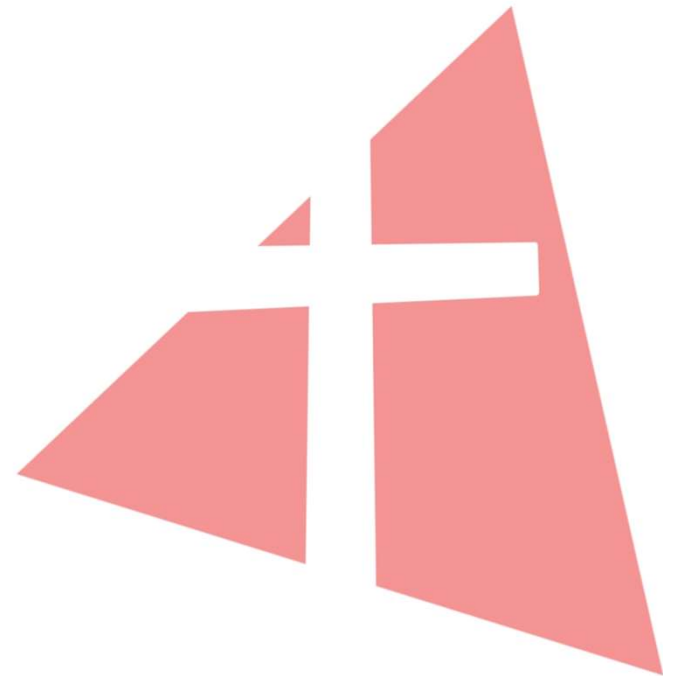
SOLUTIONS

- **Forgiveness**



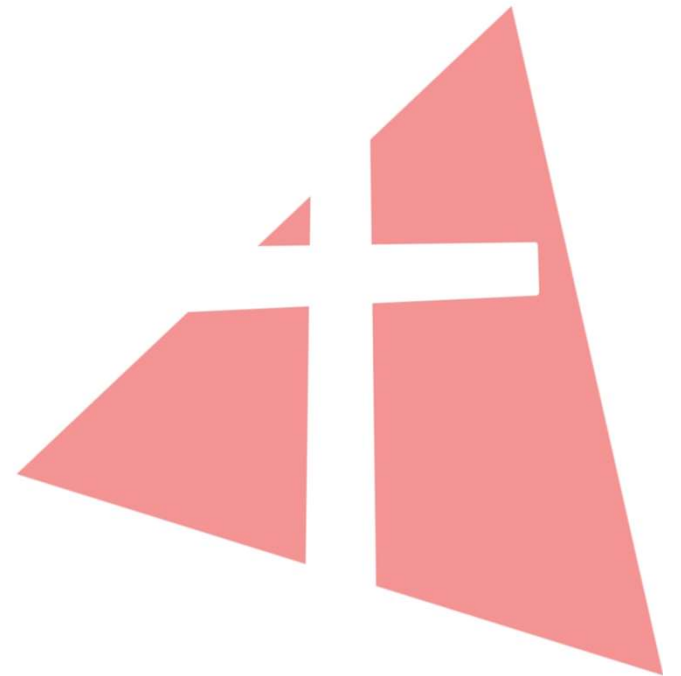
SOLUTIONS

- **Community**



SOLUTIONS

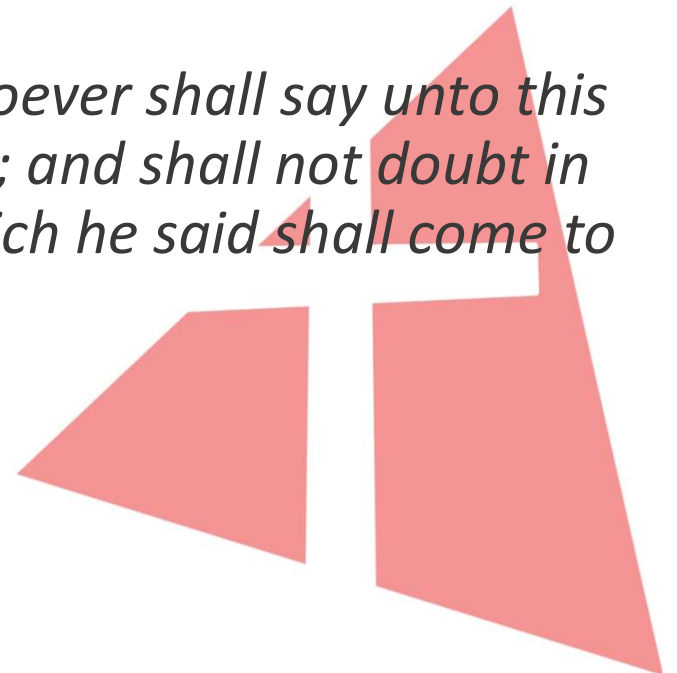
○ Prayer



SOLUTIONS

- **Faith and Trust**

Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be removed, and be cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he said shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he said.



OUR CHOICE

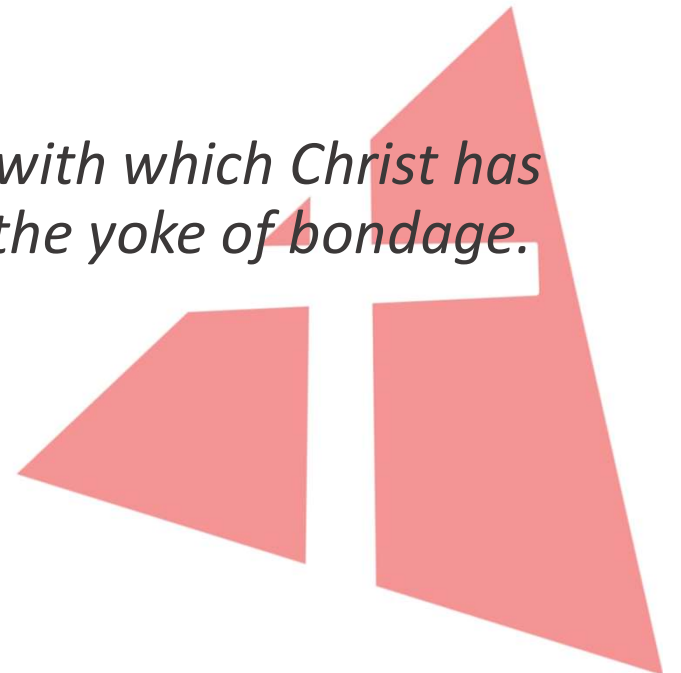
- **We can choose to live in our broken image of God and ourselves**
- **We can face what we need to face and live in the freedom that comes after the pain**



OUR CHOICE

- **Jesus' offer:**

Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty with which Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.



Communion

Remembering His sacrifice.

