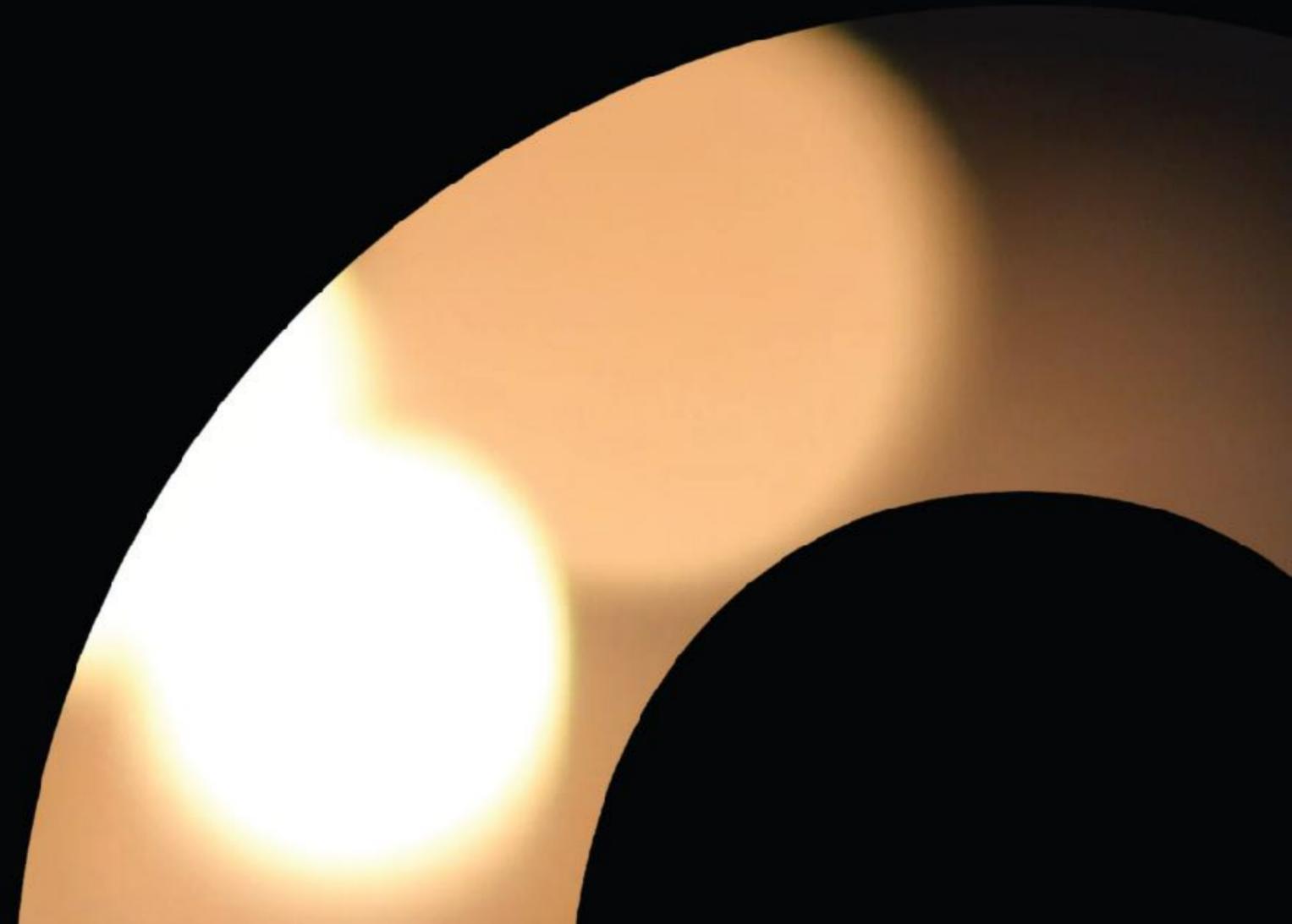


NOT ALONE

The Unexpected Return





¹ David and his men reached Ziklag on the third day. Now the Amalekites had raided the Negev and Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and burned it, ² and had taken captive the women and everyone else in it, both young and old. They killed none of them, but carried them off as they went on their way. ³ When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. ...

1 SAMUEL 30:1-6



⁴ So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. ⁵ David's two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. ⁶ David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God.

1 SAMUEL 30:1-6





...But David found strength
in the Lord his God.

1 SAMUEL 30:6



So David and his men wept
aloud until they had no
strength left to weep.

1 SAMUEL 30:4

Lament

expressing great sorrow or regret and even grief about something or someone as in the loss of a life.



“... if you don't hear anything else I tell you, please hear the Lord's heart on this one thing: I haven't forgotten you and what is needed for you in the private. You don't show many moments of weakness and often process events in isolation. But know that I see you and I'm bringing complete full circle healing. I want you to slow down and understand that I value you more than the work that I do have for you to complete.”

James Braxton



“... I saw you as a man following God as a man following a GPS unit like Siri. It’s like, ‘Right turn now!’ and you respond, ‘Okay, sure!’ You have completely surrendered to God ... You’ve laid down your own understanding and thinking. You didn’t see this season coming. Then, out of nowhere, it’s like ‘Left turn now!’ and you were like ‘Wait a minute, I thought we were going straight.’ ... There are some unexpected twists and turns ahead of where I the Lord am leading you.”

Mike Cantrell



“...The word that comes to
mind is lament.

Christy Cantrell



“.. The word that comes to mind is lament. I’m going to give you the definition. It’s a passionate expression of grief or sorrow. It’s mourning a deep loss. This next season, it’s time for you to stop and lament. I believe the Lord wants you to know that it’s okay to cry, and cry like a baby. It’s okay to pour your heart out to the Lord. It’s okay for you to be angry with him. ...

Christy Cantrell



All of those things are okay. You're in a great place [Mosaic] to lament. Just know that the Lord has you swaddled like a baby, and that it's safe for you to lament. And then, watch and see what the Lord will do to you and where he takes you after lamenting."

Christy Cantrell



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



PSALM 34:18

“You don’t stay brokenhearted
long enough for God to draw
close to you!”

James Braxton

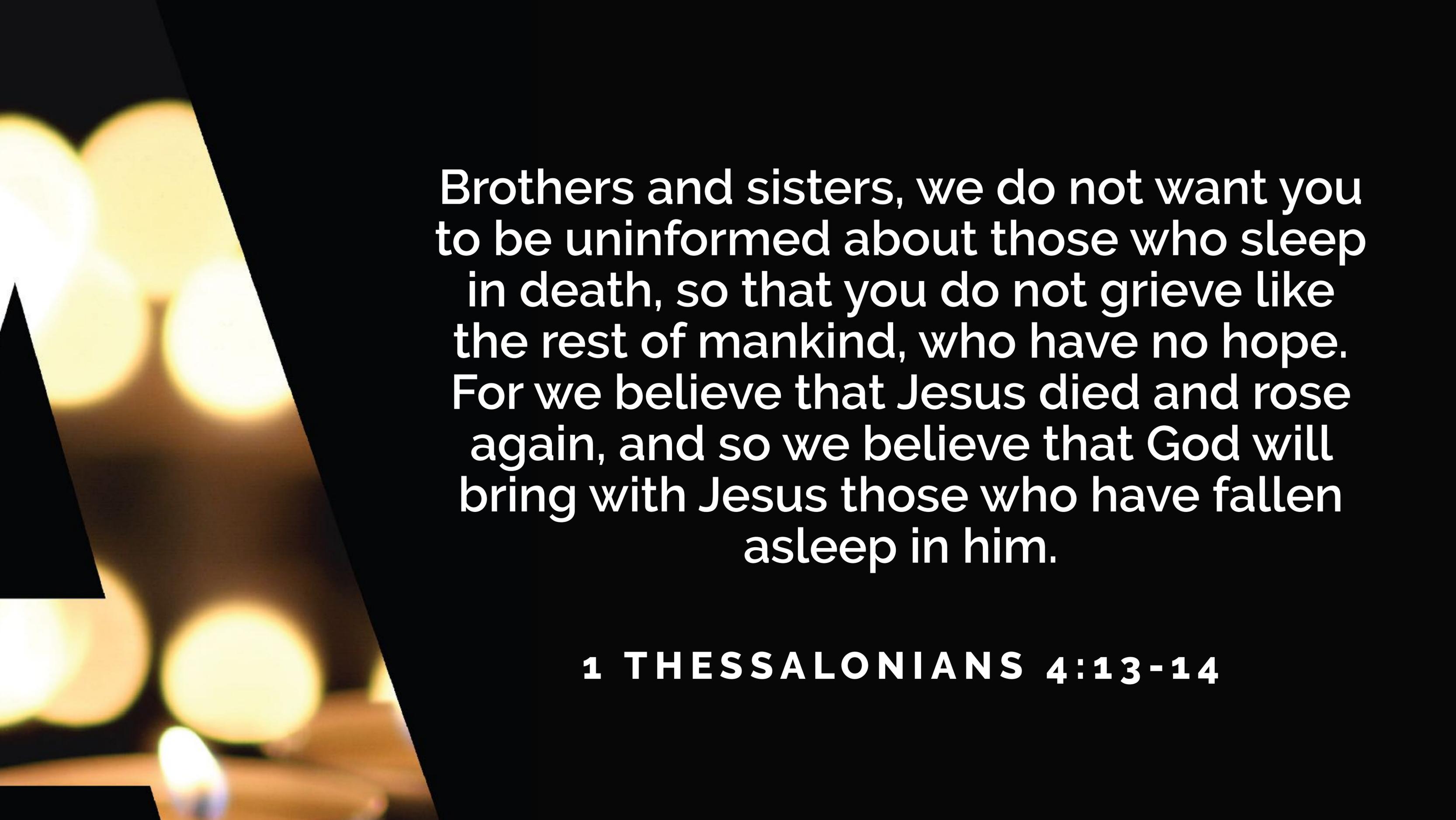


“This verse has changed my life. It allows for God to usher me into a space where when I know that I’m hurting, it’s okay. Because I have a good shepherd and I’m safe with Him. It’s safe to be hurting in His presence. And, I get the benefit of Him drawing close to me ... My most powerful moments with God came when I was completely broken. Completely broken.

Like nothing left. And then, when I got into His presence in those moments, He didn’t necessarily deal with what was broken as much as He radically spoke a fresh, new calling and declaration that unexpectedly restored and renewed my spirit.”

James Braxton





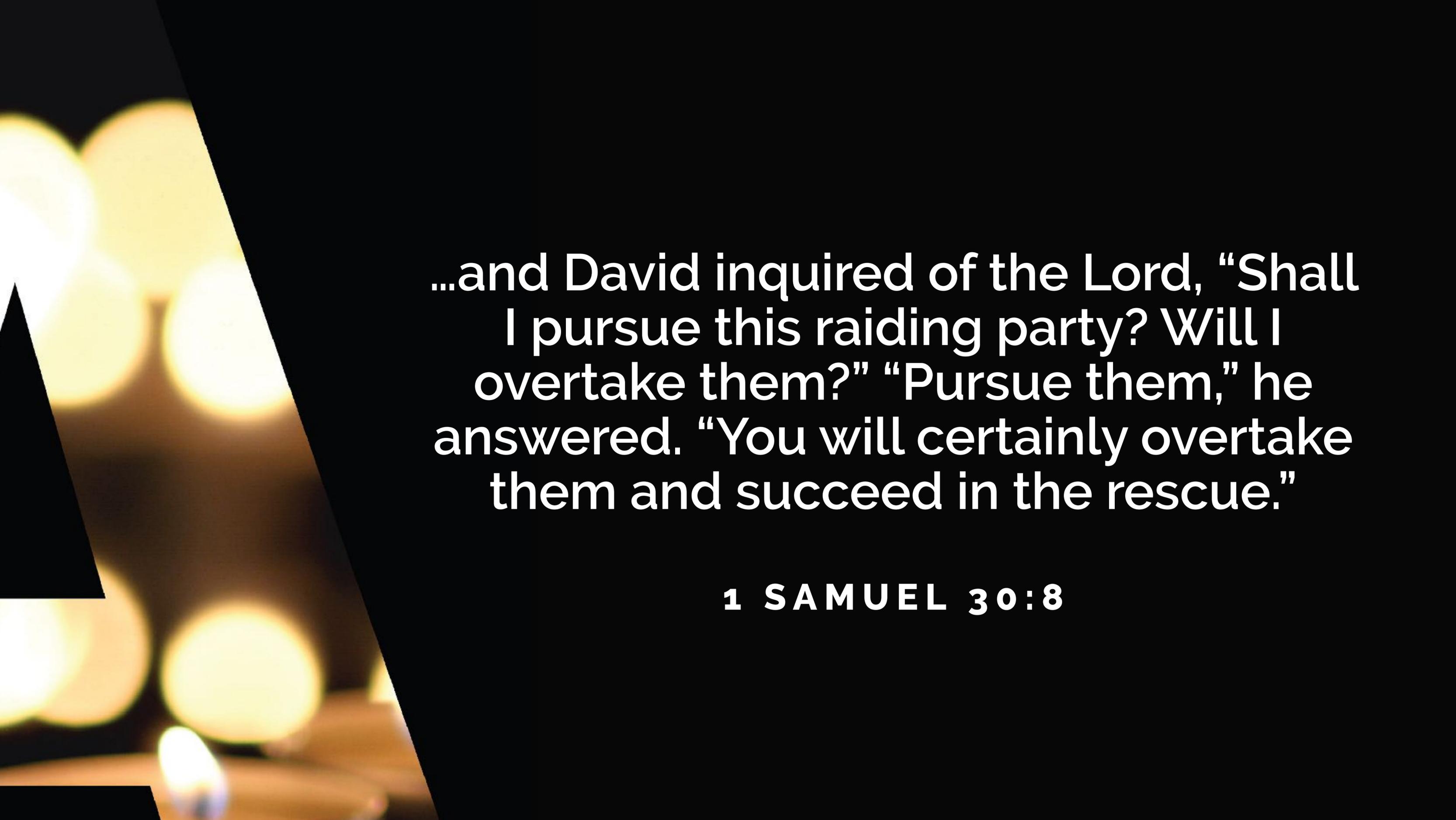
Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-14



Then David said to Abiathar the priest,
the son of Ahimelek, “Bring me the
ephod.” Abiathar brought it to him,

1 SAMUEL 30:7



...and David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?” “Pursue them,” he answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”

1 SAMUEL 30:8

They found an Egyptian in a field and brought him to David. They gave him water to drink and food to eat—part of a cake of pressed figs and two cakes of raisins. He ate and was revived, for he had not eaten any food or drunk any water for three days and three nights. David asked him, “Who do you belong to? Where do you come from?” He said, “I am an Egyptian, the slave of an Amalekite. My master abandoned me when I became ill three days ago. ...

**1 SAMUEL 30:
11-15**



We raided the Negev of the Kerethites, some territory belonging to Judah and the Negev of Caleb. And we burned Ziklag.” David asked him, “Can you lead me down to this raiding party?” He answered, “Swear to me before God that you will not kill me or hand me over to my master, and I will take you down to them.”

**1 SAMUEL 30:
11-15**



**God wants you to know
that you are not alone.
He loves you dearly,
and so do I.**

