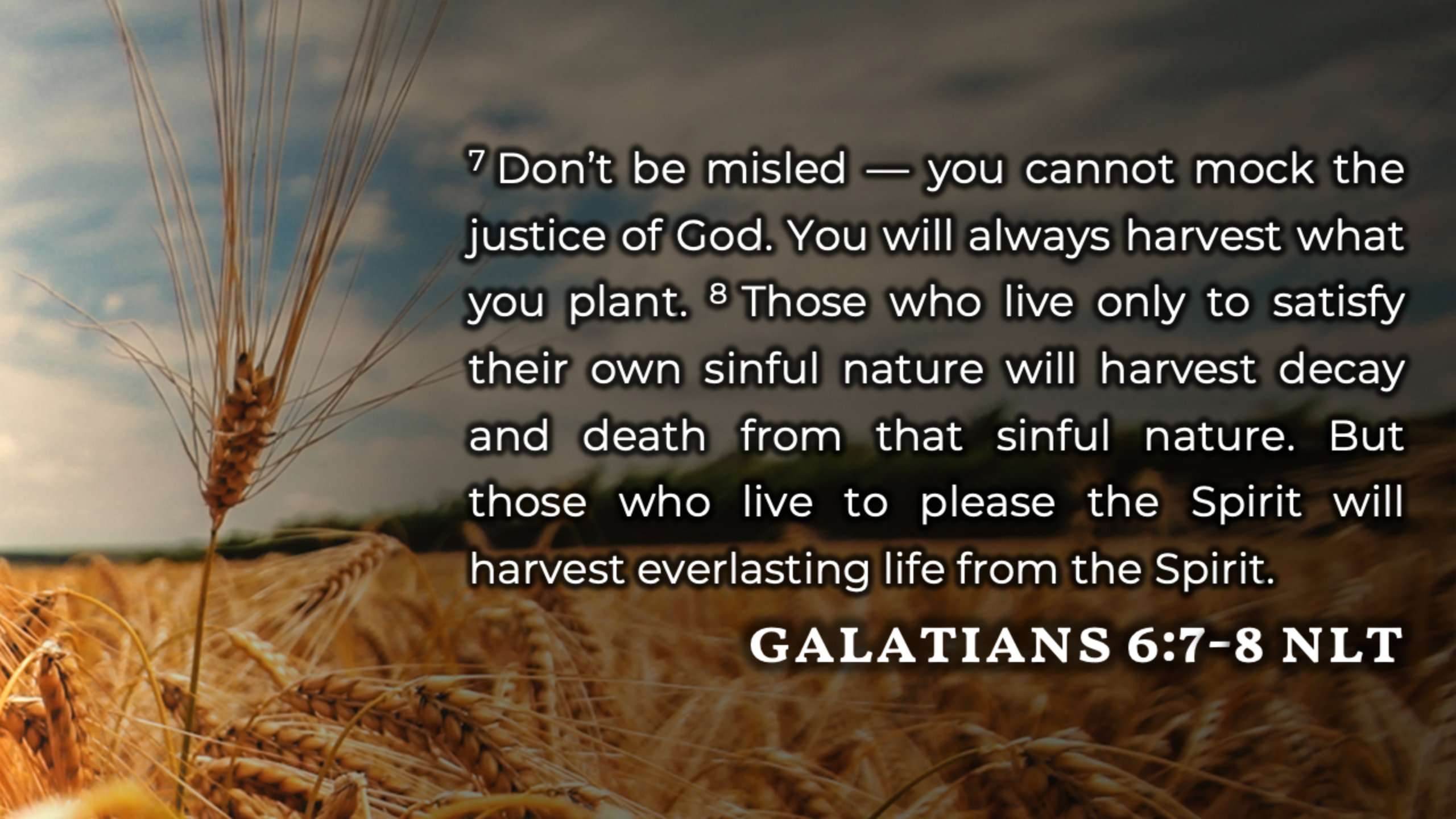




**WEEDS**  
OR  
**WHEAT**






<sup>7</sup> Don't be misled — you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. <sup>8</sup> Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.

**GALATIANS 6:7-8 NLT**





GOD WANTS YOU TO GROW.





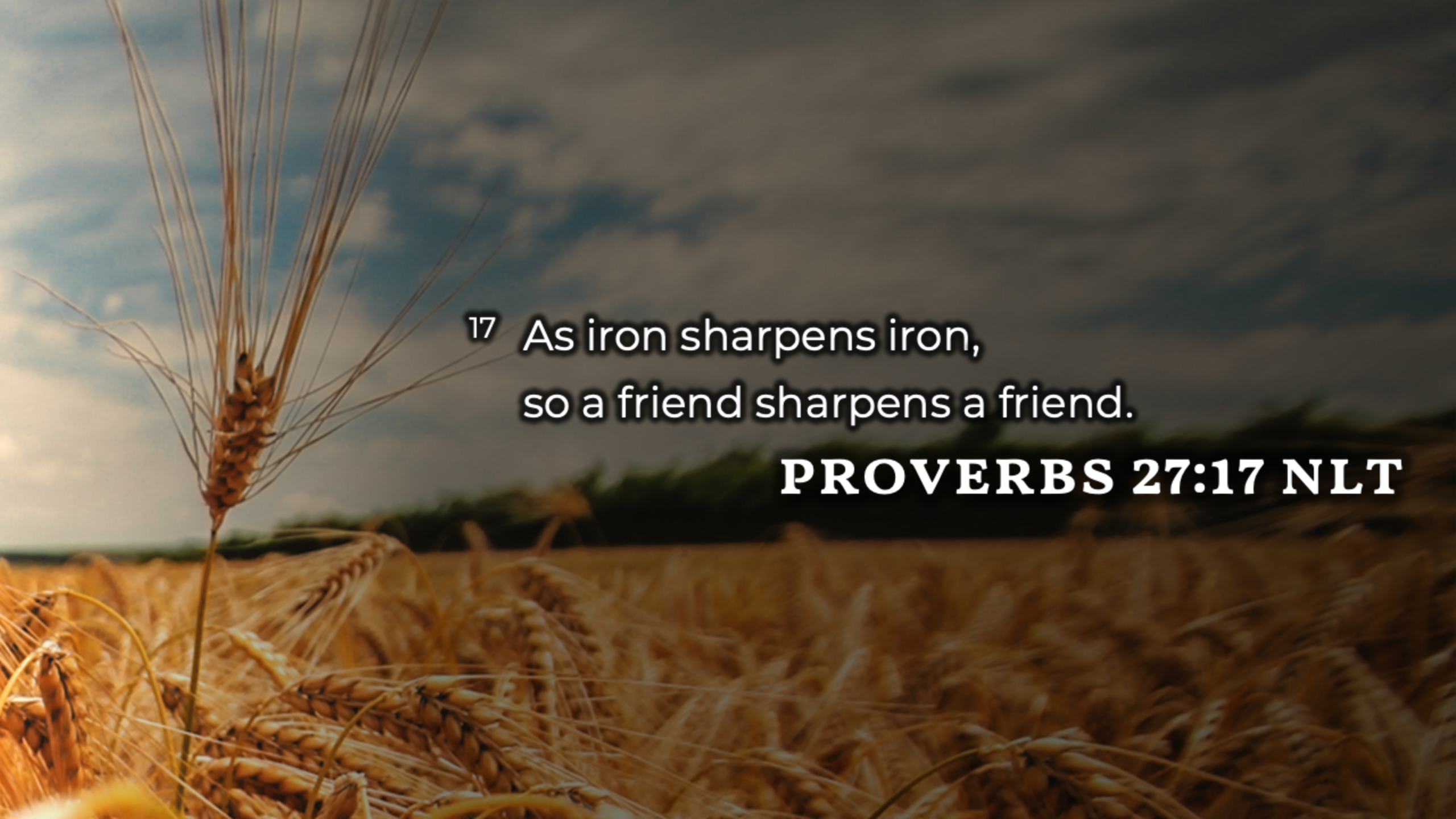
GOD WANTS YOU TO GROW.  
GOD HELPS YOU TO GROW.





I. THE IMPACT OF  
GODLY FRIENDSHIP






<sup>17</sup> As iron sharpens iron,  
so a friend sharpens a friend.

**PROVERBS 27:17 NLT**

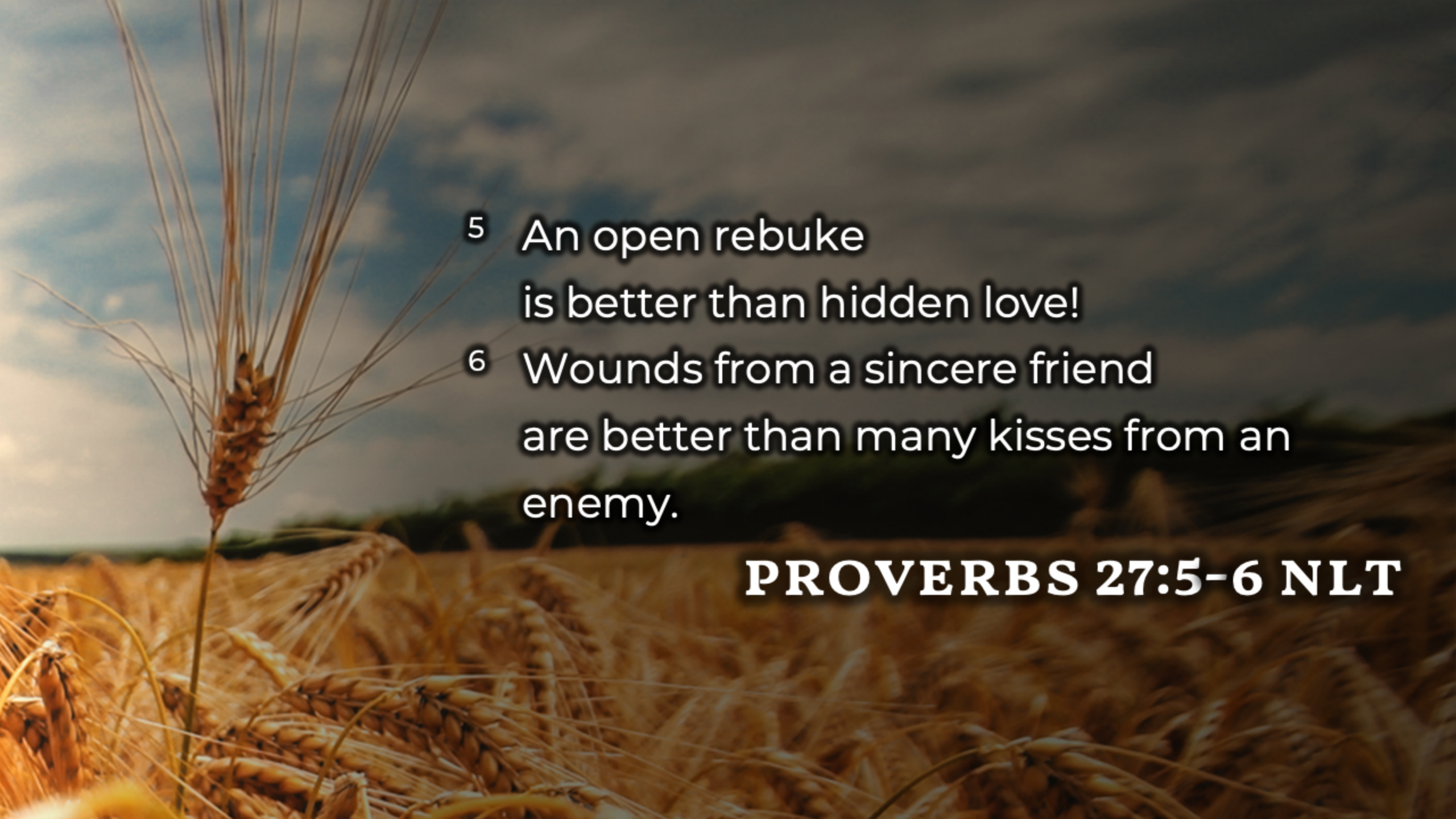


A close-up photograph of a single golden wheat stalk in the foreground, with a vast field of similar stalks extending to the horizon. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall lighting is warm and natural, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting.

<sup>17</sup> A friend is always loyal,  
and a brother is born to help in time of  
need.


**PROVERBS 17:17 NLT**



- 
- 5 An open rebuke  
is better than hidden love!
- 6 Wounds from a sincere friend  
are better than many kisses from an  
enemy.

**PROVERBS 27:5-6 NLT**





ONE OF THE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS  
RESOURCES THAT YOU CAN HAVE IN  
YOUR LIFE TO HELP YOU GROW IN YOUR  
FAITH IS A GOOD, GODLY FRIEND.





## II. CHARACTERISTICS OF GODLY FRIENDSHIPS






# JONATHAN WAS A SELFLESS FRIEND

<sup>1</sup> As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

**1 SAMUEL 18:1 ESV**






<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”

**MATTHEW 22:36-39 NLT**





<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

**MATTHEW 22:36-39 NLT**





IT'S GREAT TO HAVE A FRIEND  
THAT IS GREAT AT THE SECOND  
COMMANDMENT.





# JONATHAN WAS A SACRIFICIAL FRIEND

<sup>2</sup> And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. <sup>3</sup> Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul.

**1 SAMUEL 18:2-3 ESV**



**CONTRACT:**







# CONTRACT:

It is about guarding rights  
and pushing off responsibility.





## CONTRACT:

It is about guarding rights  
and pushing off responsibility.

## COVENANT:





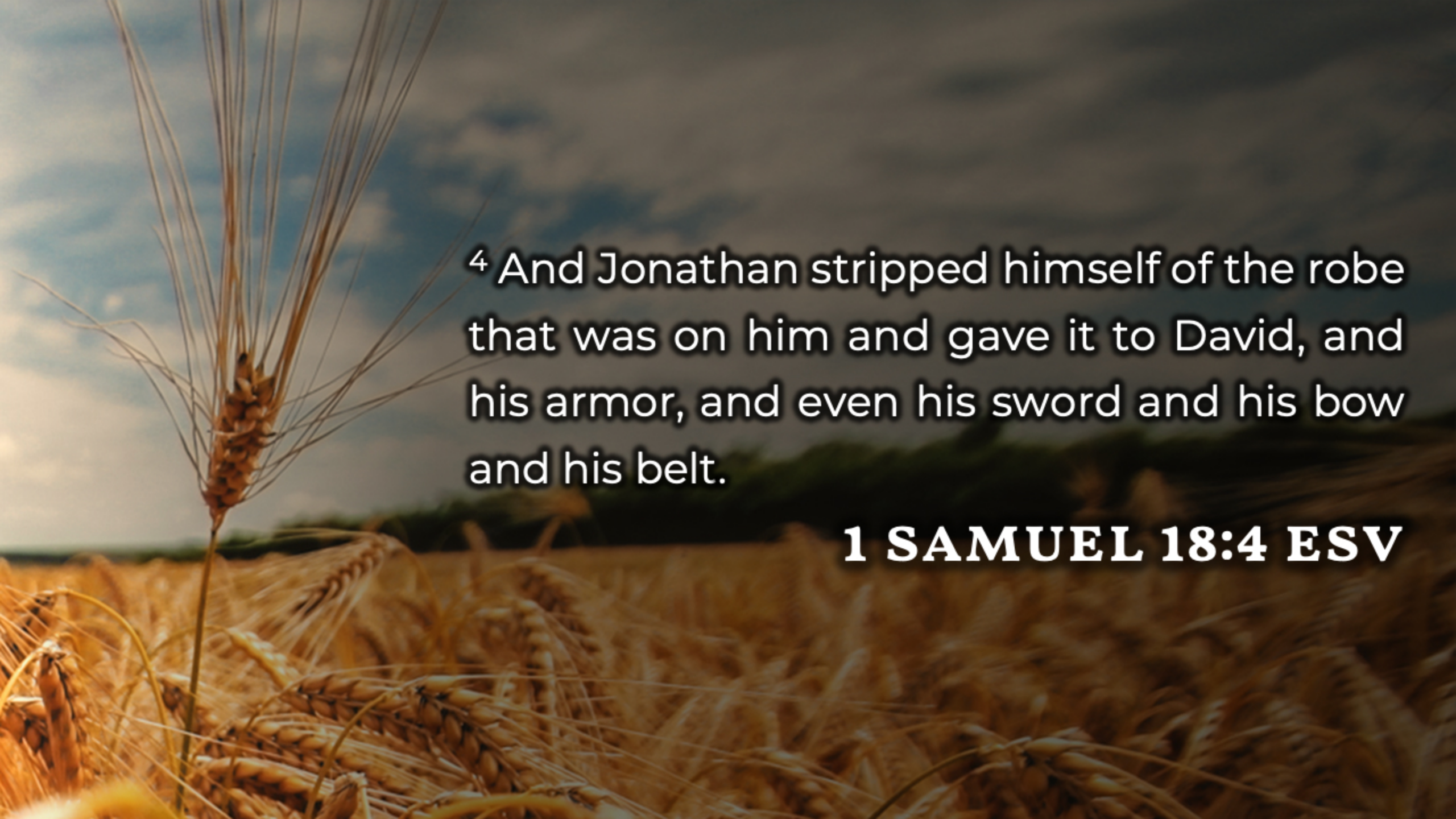
## CONTRACT:

It is about guarding rights  
and pushing off responsibility.

## COVENANT:

It is about surrendering rights  
and assuming responsibility.

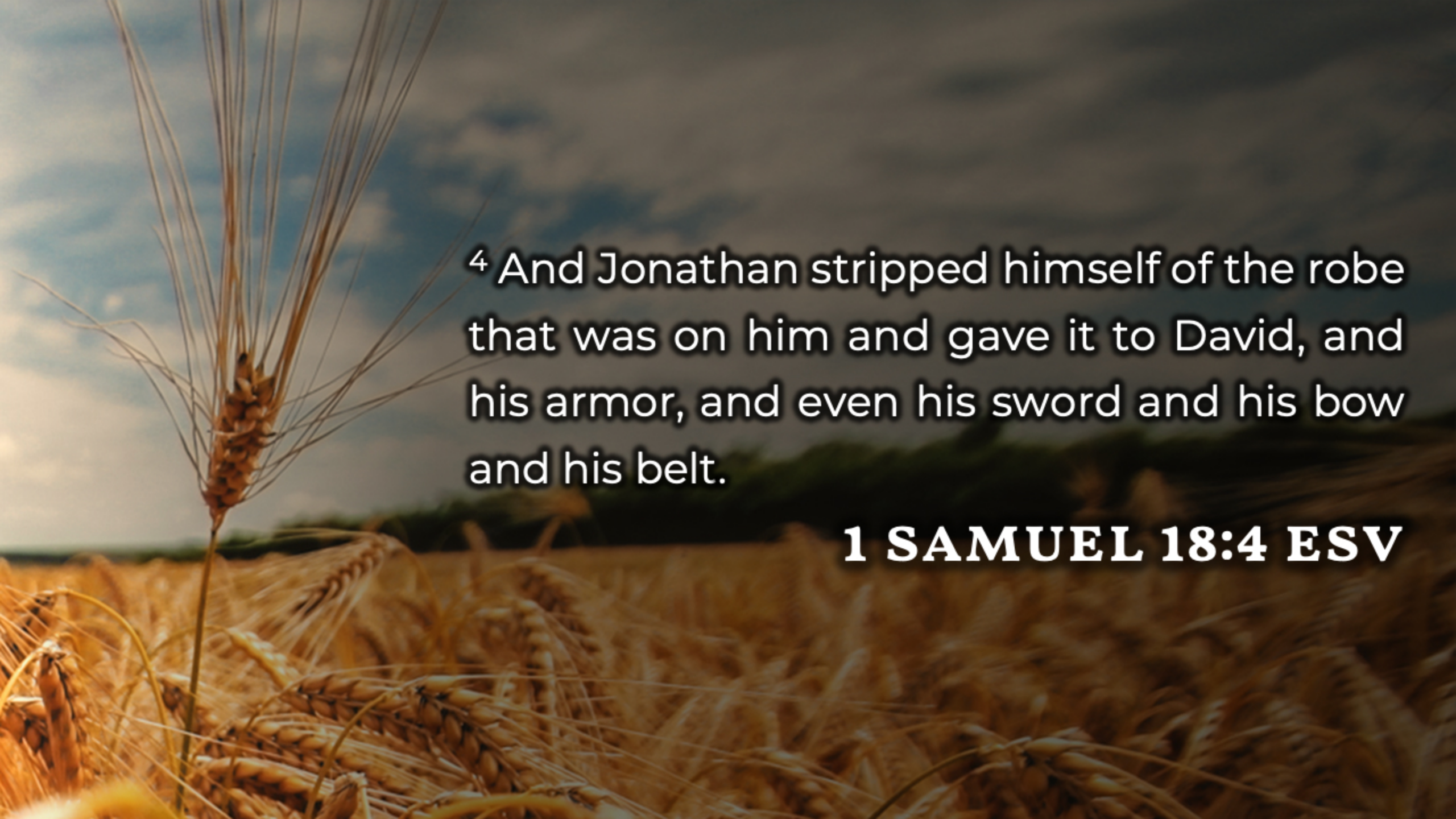




<sup>4</sup> And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

**1 SAMUEL 18:4 ESV**





<sup>4</sup> And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

**1 SAMUEL 18:4 ESV**



**ROBE:**





# ROBE:

Symbolizes the authority of kingship and Jonathan's recognition that David will be the next king of Israel.





## ROBE:

Symbolizes the authority of kingship and Jonathan's recognition that David will be the next king of Israel.

## THE ARMOR, SWORD, BOW AND BELT:





## ROBE:

Symbolizes the authority of kingship and Jonathan's recognition that David will be the next king of Israel.

## THE ARMOR, SWORD, BOW AND BELT:

Jonathan is equipping and empowering David to fulfill the destiny and calling God has on David's life.





# JONATHAN WAS A STRATEGIC FRIEND

<sup>1</sup> Saul now urged his servants and his son Jonathan to assassinate David. But Jonathan, because of his strong affection for David, <sup>2</sup> told him what his father was planning. “Tomorrow morning,” he

**1 SAMUEL 19:1-5 NLT**



# JONATHAN WAS A STRATEGIC FRIEND

warned him, “you must find a hiding place out in the fields.<sup>3</sup> I’ll ask my father to go out there with me, and I’ll talk to him about you. Then I’ll tell you everything I can find out.”

**1 SAMUEL 19:1-5 NLT**





# JONATHAN WAS A STRATEGIC FRIEND

<sup>4</sup> The next morning Jonathan spoke with his father about David, saying many good things about him. “The king must not sin against his servant David,” Jonathan said. “He’s never done anything to harm you. He has always helped you in any way he

**1 SAMUEL 19:1-5 NLT**



# JONATHAN WAS A STRATEGIC FRIEND

could. <sup>5</sup> Have you forgotten about the time he risked his life to kill the Philistine giant and how the Lord brought a great victory to all Israel as a result? You were certainly happy about it then. Why should you murder an innocent man like David? There is no reason for it at all!”

**1 SAMUEL 19:1-5 NLT**





# JONATHAN WAS A SUPPORTIVE FRIEND

<sup>15</sup> While David was at Horesh in the Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul had come out to take his life. <sup>16</sup> And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in

**1 SAMUEL 23:15-18 NIV**



# JONATHAN WAS A SUPPORTIVE FRIEND

God. <sup>17</sup> “Don’t be afraid,” he said. “My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even my father Saul knows this.” <sup>18</sup> The two of them made a covenant before the Lord. Then Jonathan went home, but David remained at Horesh.

**1 SAMUEL 23:15-18 NIV**





**III. THREE TRUTHS TO UNDERSTAND  
ABOUT GODLY FRIENDSHIPS**





### III. THREE TRUTHS TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT GODLY FRIENDSHIPS

Without people to love and be loved by,  
we cannot grow.

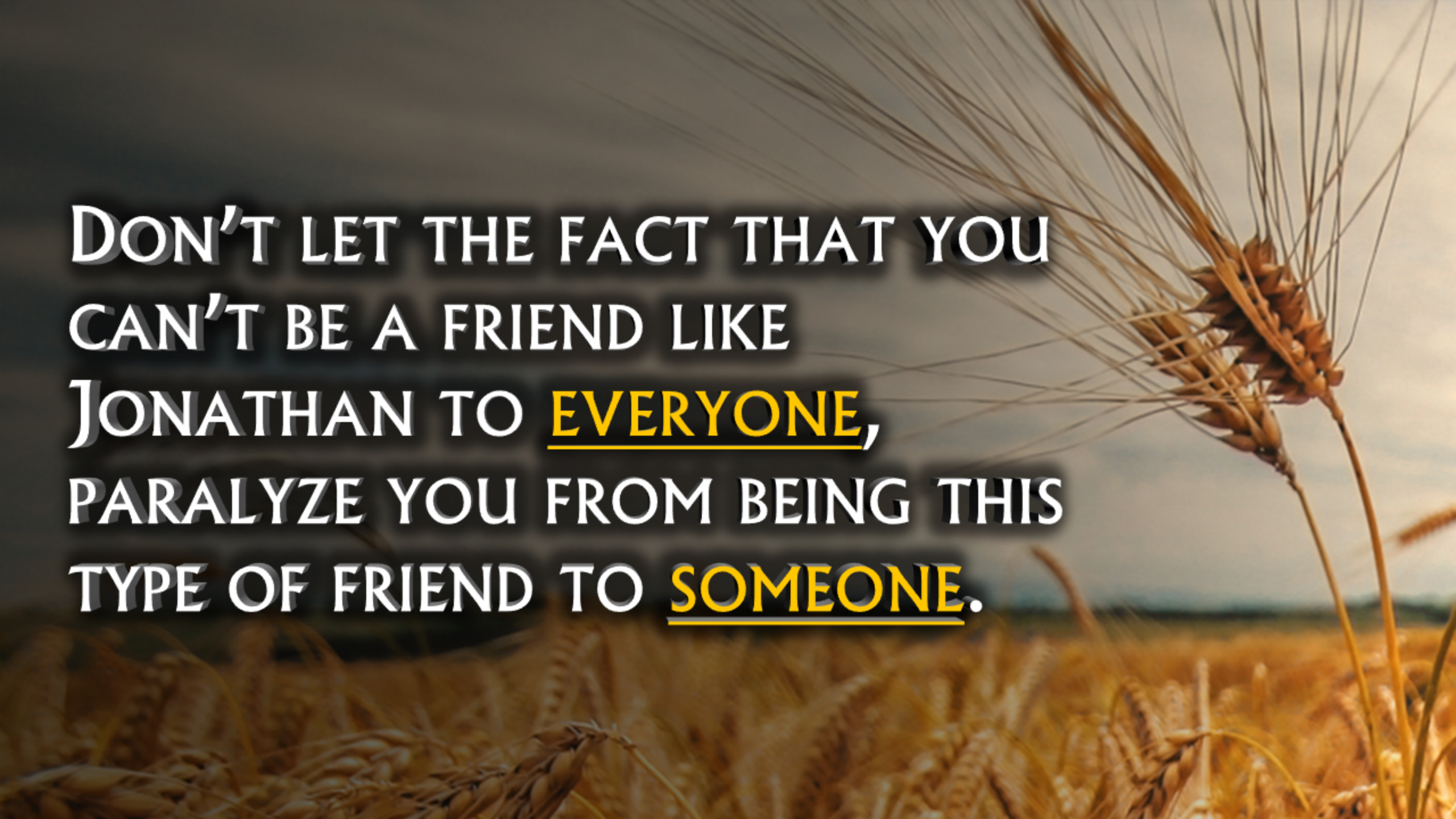




### III. THREE TRUTHS TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT GODLY FRIENDSHIPS

We don't just need a friend like Jonathan,  
we must be a friend like Jonathan.





DON'T LET THE FACT THAT YOU  
CAN'T BE A FRIEND LIKE  
JONATHAN TO EVERYONE,  
PARALYZE YOU FROM BEING THIS  
TYPE OF FRIEND TO SOMEONE.





# JONATHAN POINTS US TO JESUS

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

**PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8 NIV**





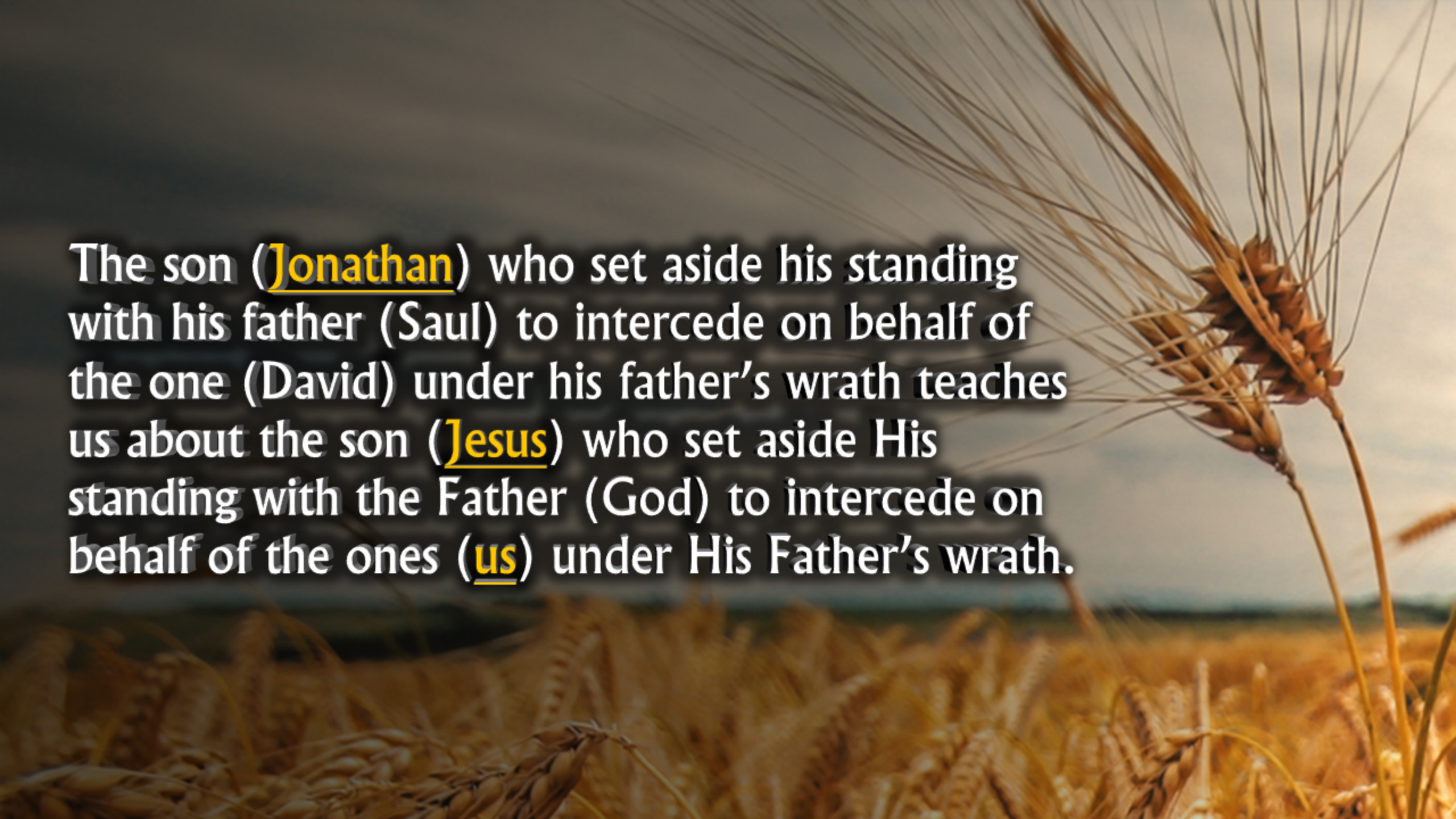
# JONATHAN POINTS US TO JESUS

<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death —  
even death on a cross!

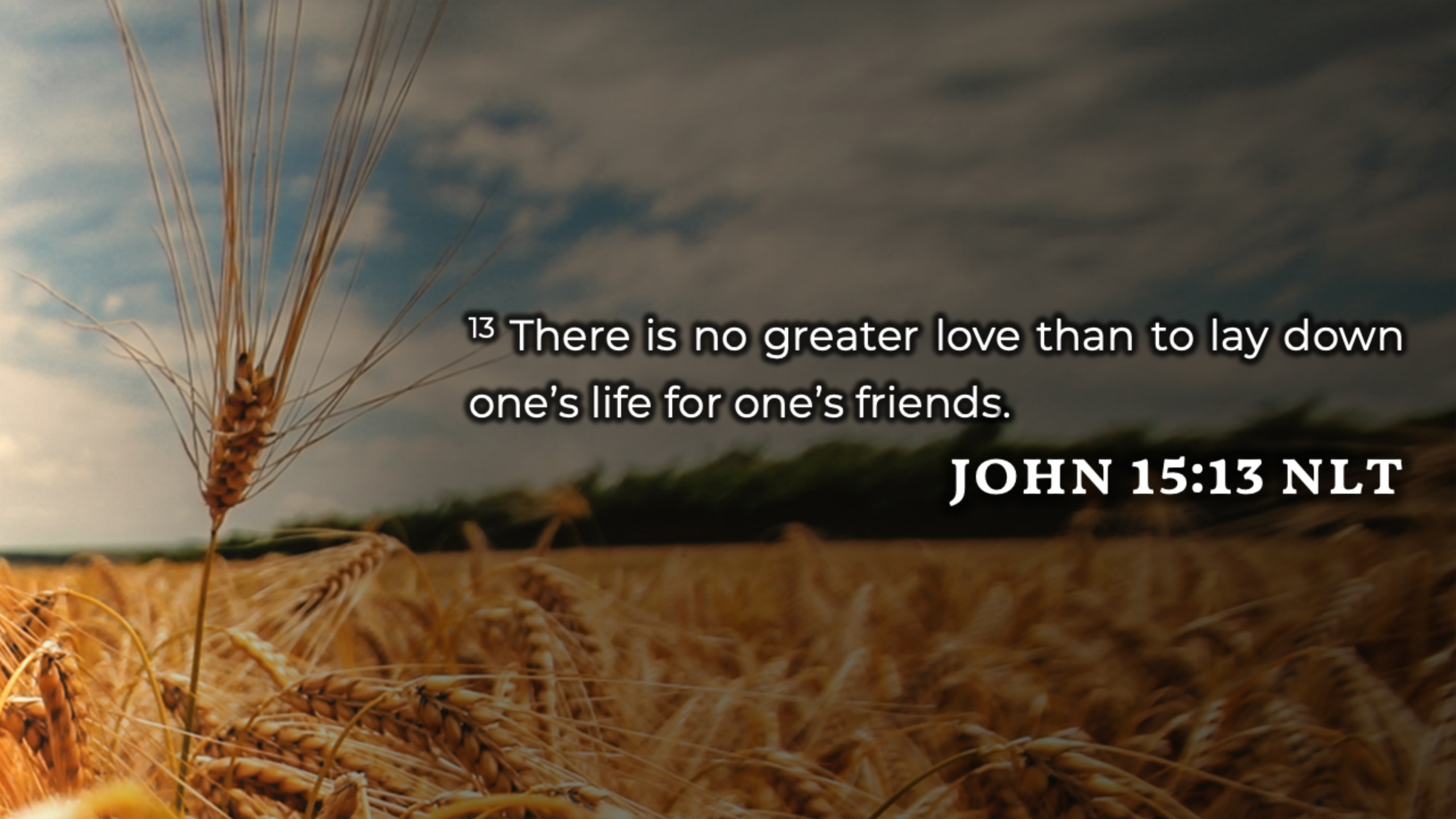
**PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8 NIV**





The son (Jonathan) who set aside his standing with his father (Saul) to intercede on behalf of the one (David) under his father's wrath teaches us about the son (Jesus) who set aside His standing with the Father (God) to intercede on behalf of the ones (us) under His Father's wrath.





<sup>13</sup> There is no greater love than to lay down  
one's life for one's friends.

**JOHN 15:13 NLT**