



Commandments 1-4: Loving God.

- No other gods
- No idols
- Honouring God's name.
- Practicing Sabbath rest

Commandments 6-10: Loving Others.

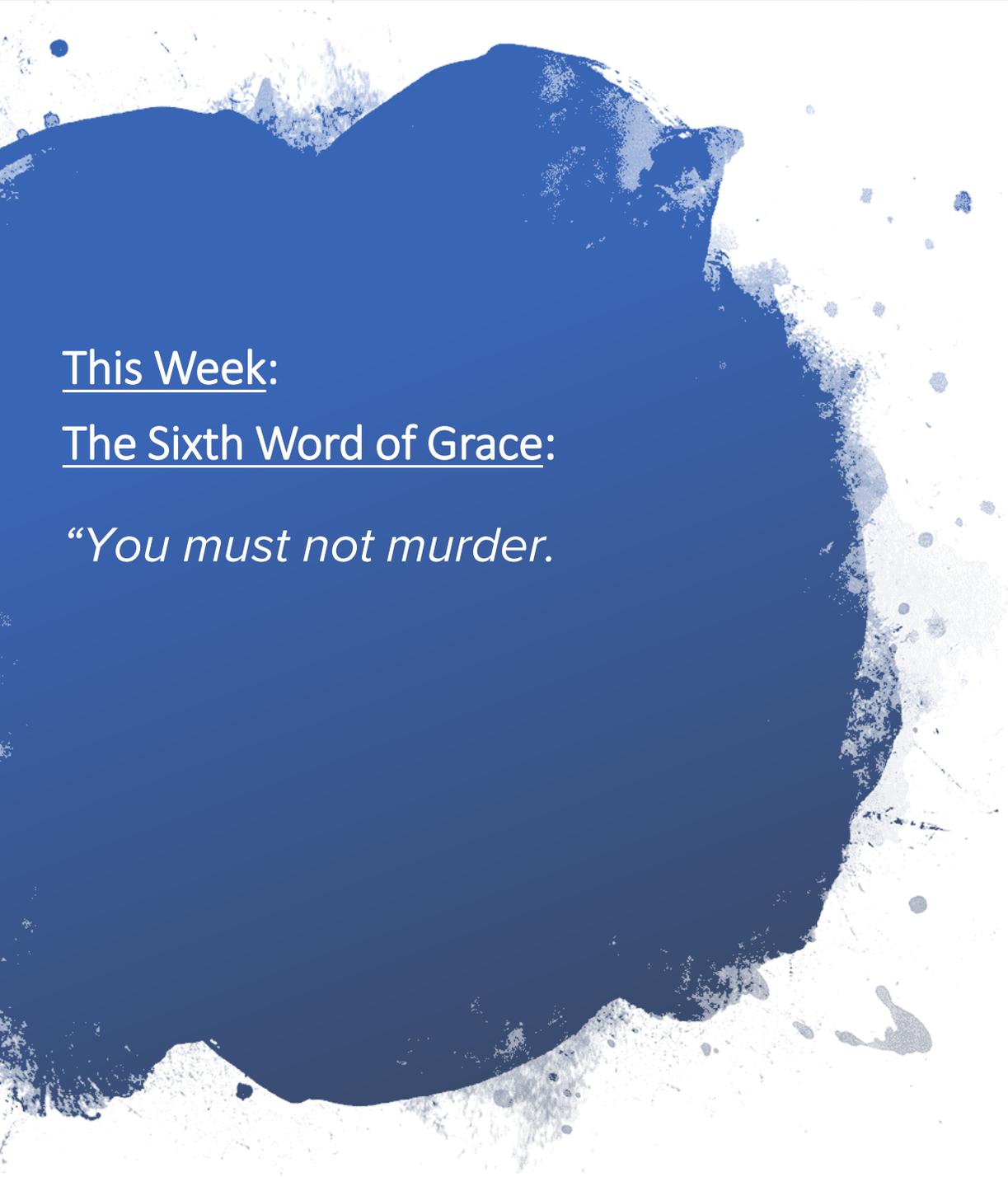
- Honouring parents
- Murder
- Adultery
- Stealing
- False Testimony
- Coveting



This Week:

The Sixth Word of Grace:

“You must not murder.



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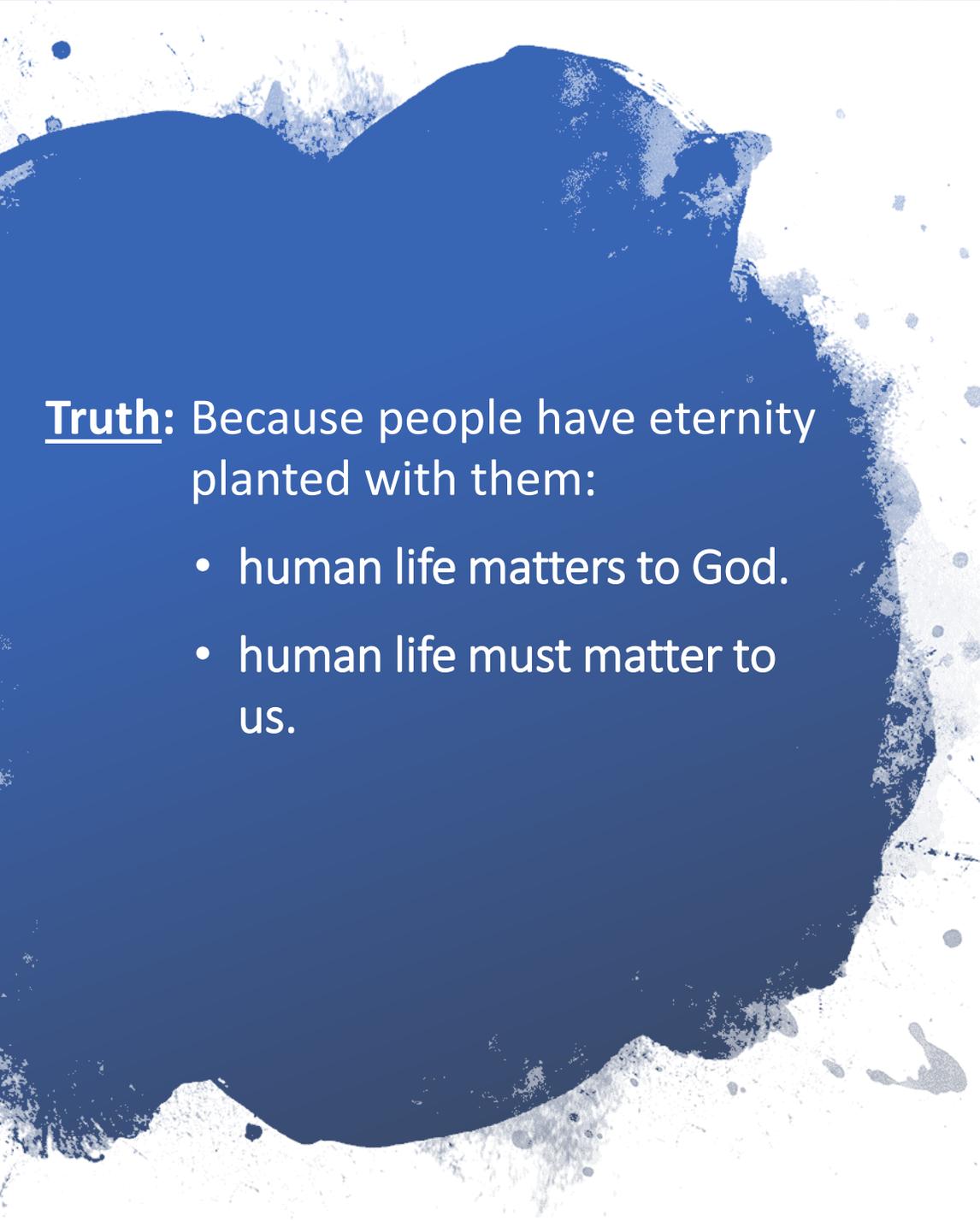
“You must not murder.

Context: Human beings are the pinnacle of God’s Creation.

- we, alone, are created in His image.
Genesis 1:26-27
- we, alone have eternity planted in us.
Ecclesiastes 3:11

God has planted eternity in the human heart.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

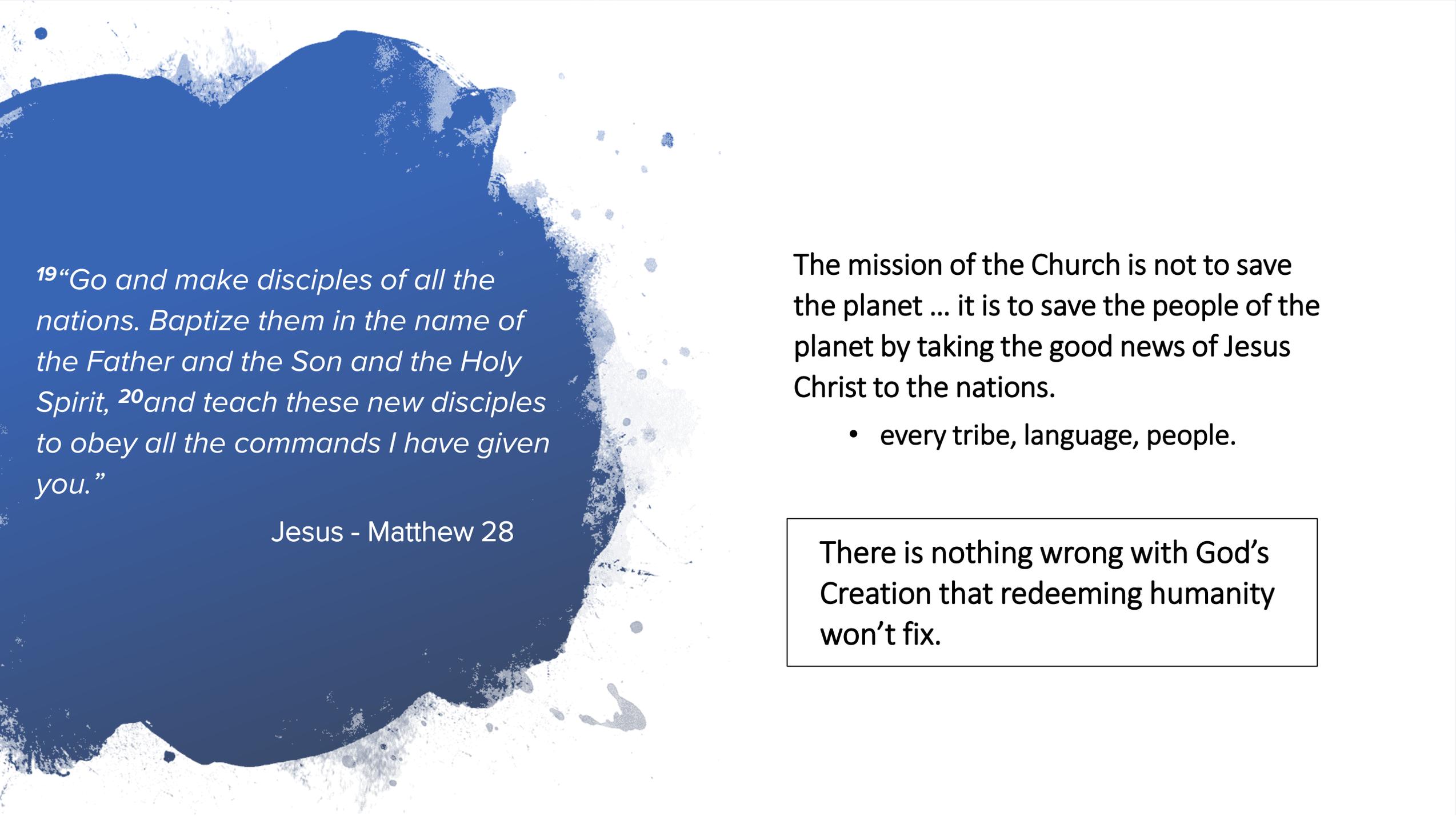


Truth: Because people have eternity planted with them:

- human life matters to God.
- human life must matter to us.

⁵ “ I will require the blood of anyone who takes another person’s life. If a wild animal kills a person, it must die. And anyone who murders a fellow human must die. ⁶ If anyone takes a human life, that person’s life will also be taken by human hands. For God made human beings in his own image.

Genesis 9



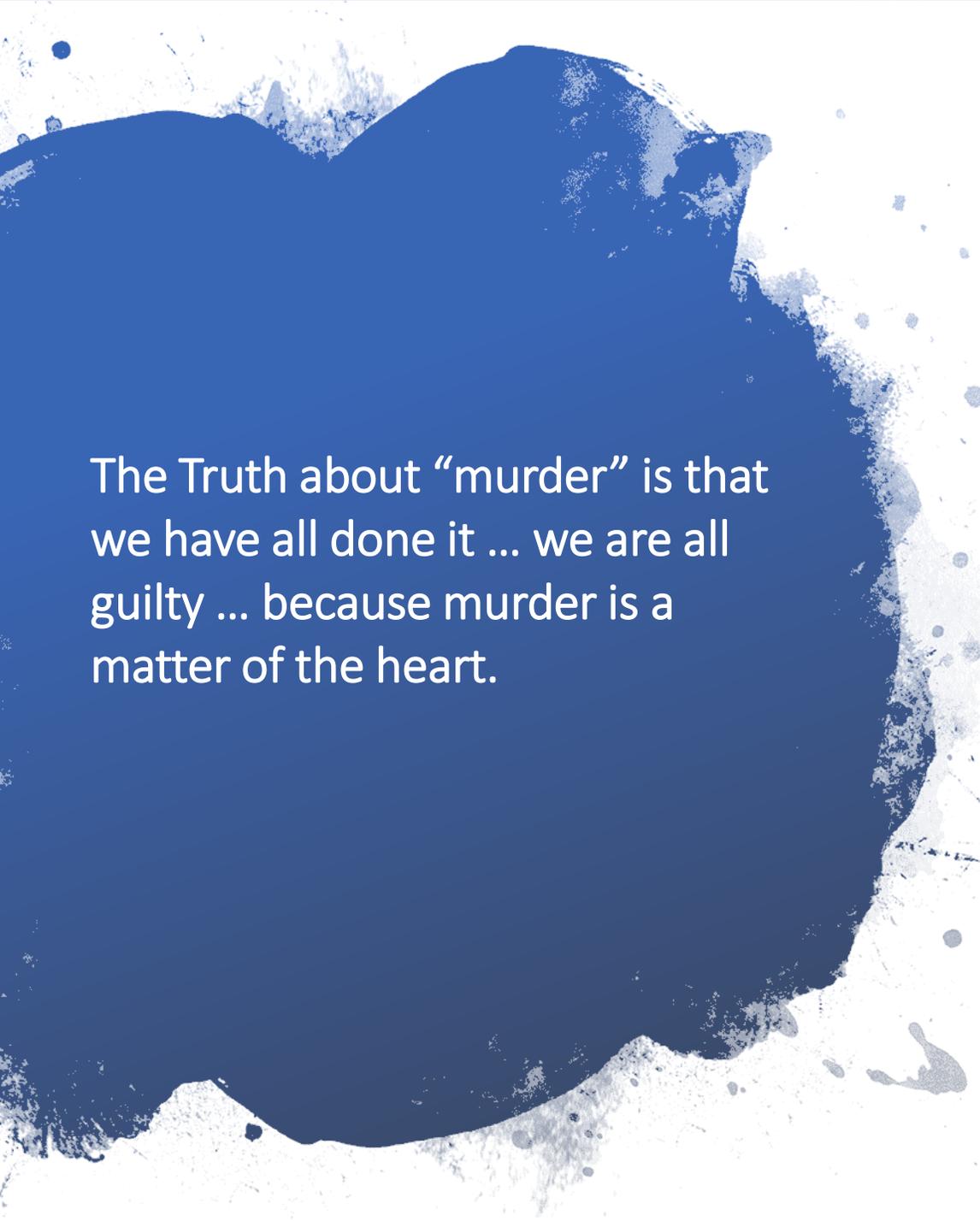
¹⁹“Go and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.”

Jesus - Matthew 28

The mission of the Church is not to save the planet ... it is to save the people of the planet by taking the good news of Jesus Christ to the nations.

- every tribe, language, people.

There is nothing wrong with God's Creation that redeeming humanity won't fix.



The Truth about “murder” is that we have all done it ... we are all guilty ... because murder is a matter of the heart.

Jesus said, ²¹ “You have heard that our ancestors were told, ‘You must not murder, and if you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.’ ²² But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell.

Matthew 5

The well-travelled path to murder:

1. Murder germinates in my HEART.

- my appropriate need for love & attention is not met by others.
- my inappropriate desires dominate and control me.
- my broken identity based upon what others think of me.
- my chasing after power & pleasure.

¹⁴ Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. ¹⁵ These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

James 1

The well-travelled path to murder:

2. Murder takes root & grows in my MIND.

- I lust over what I can't have.
- I obsess over slights & wrongs.
- I refuse to forgive & grow bitter.
- I walk from bitterness into hatred.
- I fantasize over retribution & "justice".

⁶ The LORD said to Cain. "If you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master." ...

Genesis 4

The well-travelled path to murder:

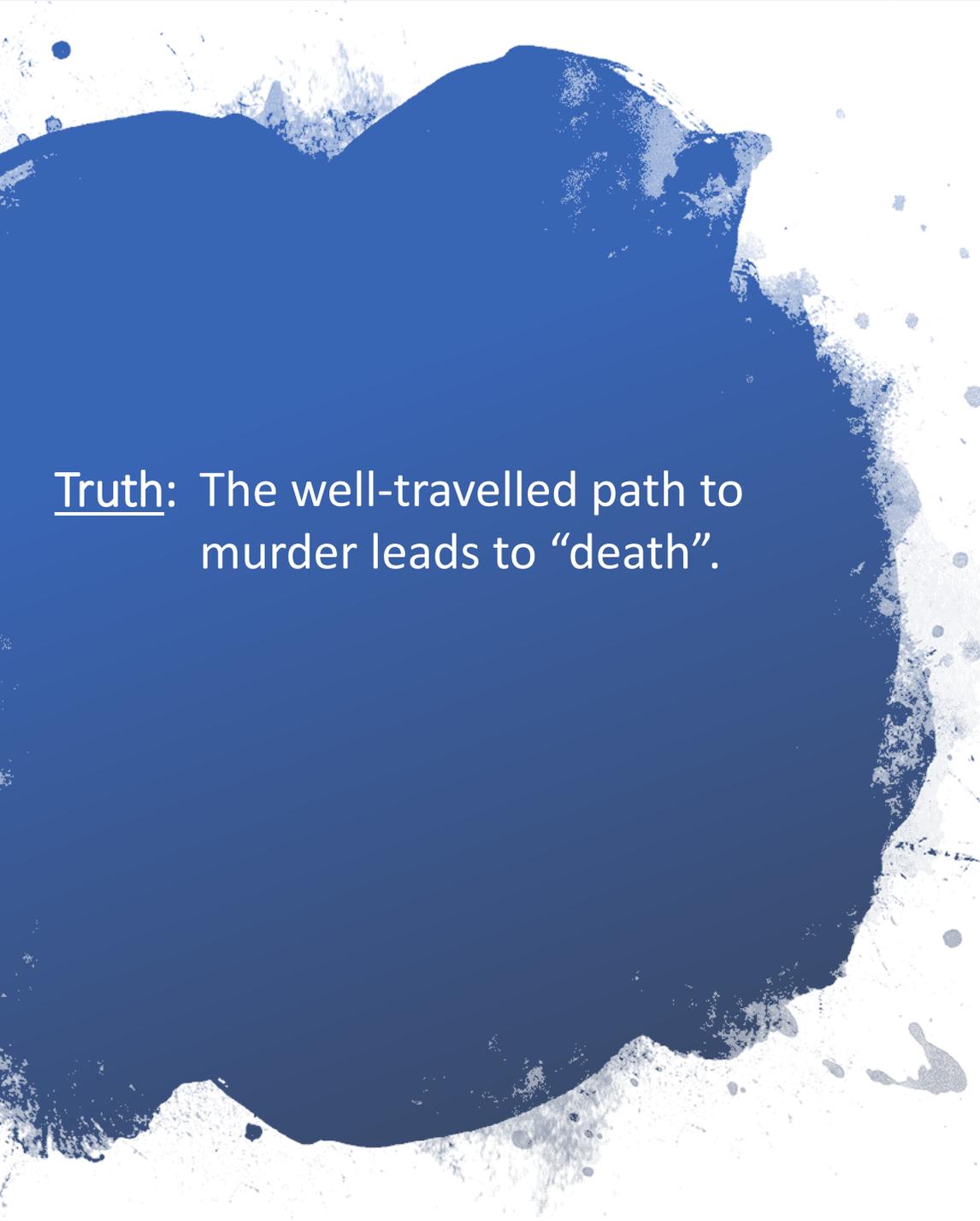
3. Murder bleeds into my BEHAVIOR.

- I practice gossip & slander.
- I assassinate the character of those who have hurt me.
- I embrace a critical spirit.
- I recruit others into my anger and bitterness.
- I isolate and refuse to forgive.
- I wait for the appropriate “ambush.”

⁶ The LORD said to Cain. “If you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.” ...

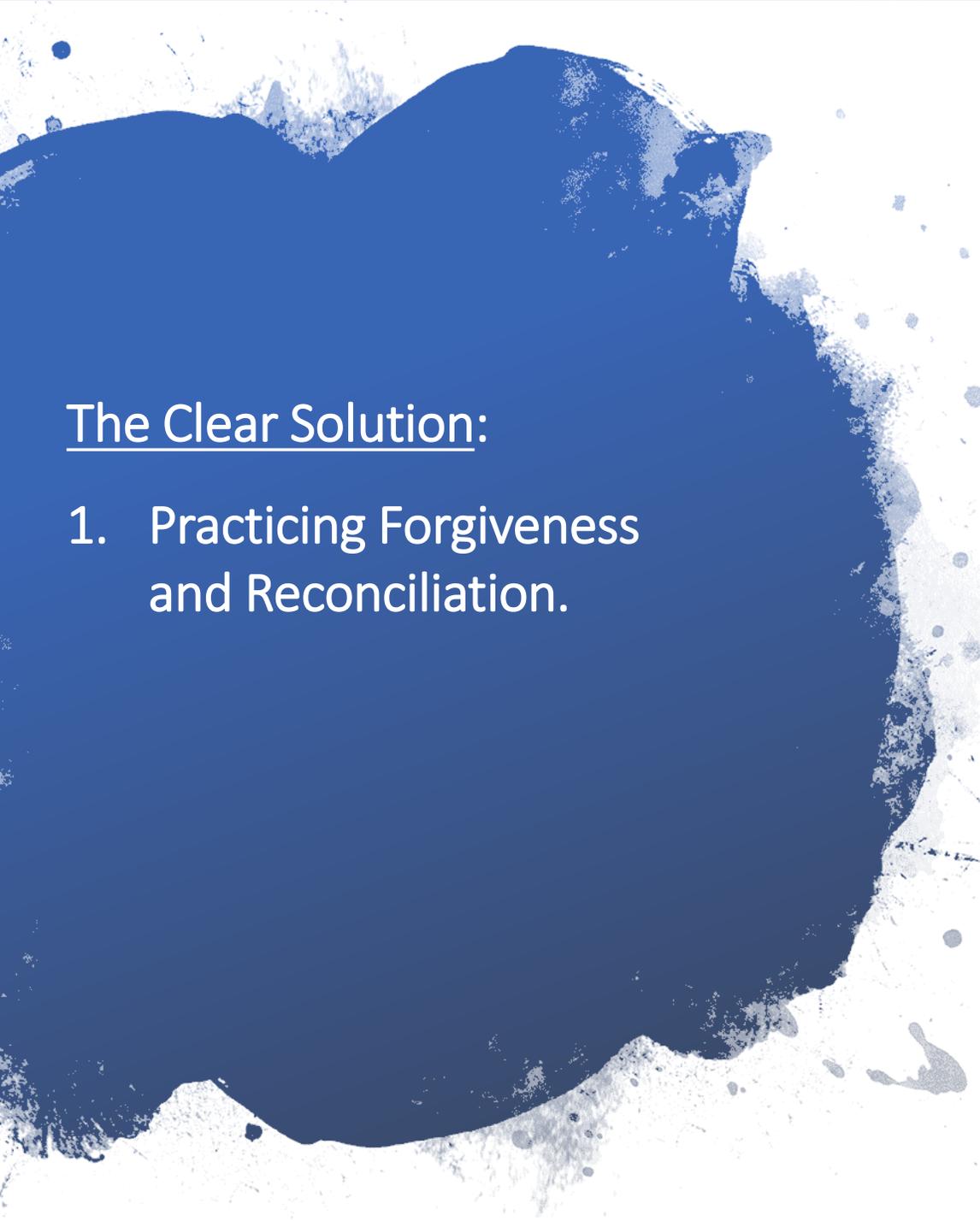
Later, while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.

Genesis 4



Truth: The well-travelled path to murder leads to “death”.

- Spiritually: I isolate from God and others because I refuse to forgive.
- Emotionally: I become angry and depressed as bitterness and guilt grow in my heart and mind.
- Relationally: I live amidst fractured and maimed relationships.
- Physically: I suffer from stress, illness and often addiction.
- Mentally: Anger is always near, and I become known as someone to avoid.

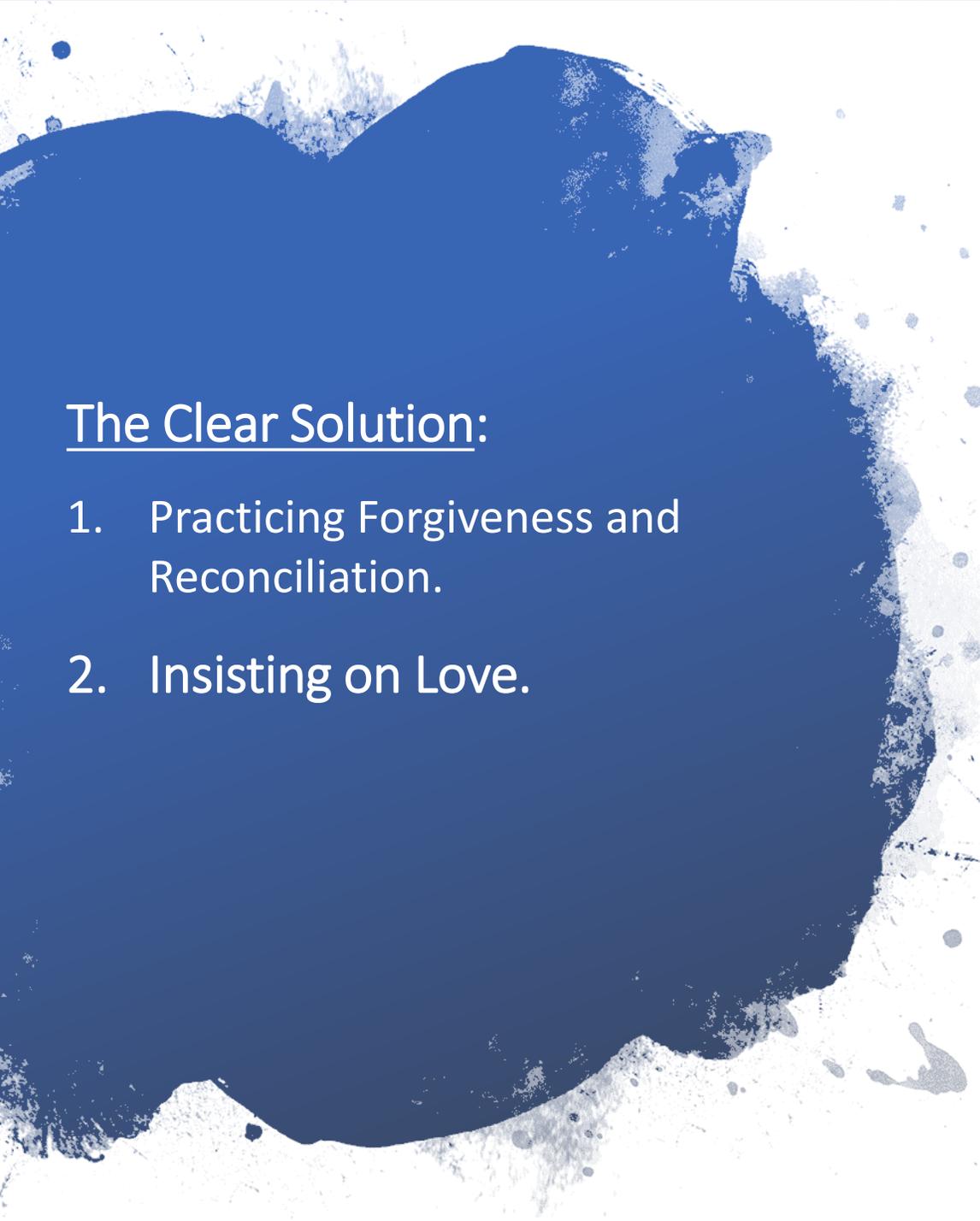


The Clear Solution:

1. Practicing Forgiveness and Reconciliation.

²³ “So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you,²⁴ leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.”

Jesus – Matthew 5

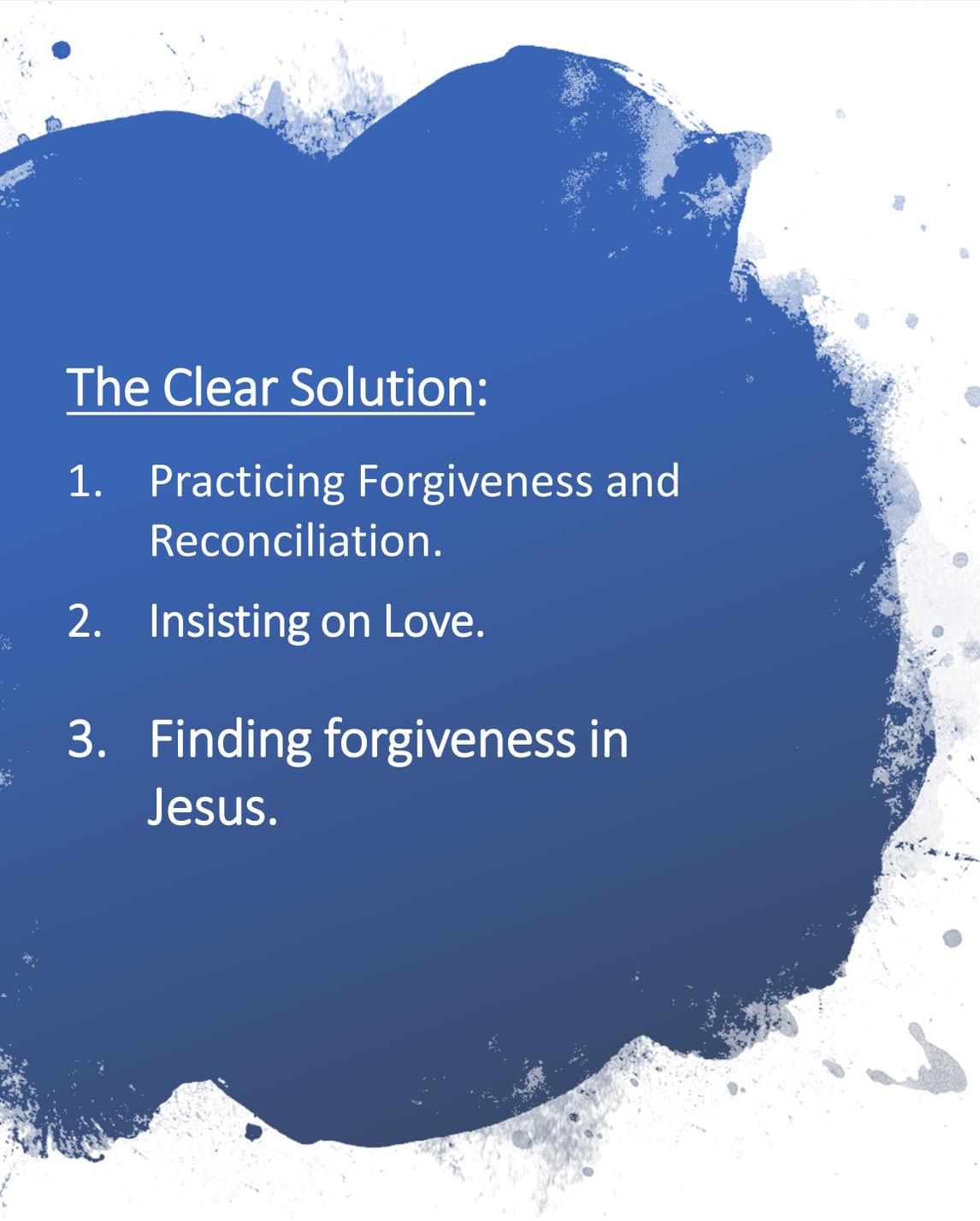


The Clear Solution:

1. Practicing Forgiveness and Reconciliation.
2. Insisting on Love.

⁴ Love is patient and kind, never jealous or envious, never boastful or proud, ⁵ never haughty or selfish or rude. Love does not demand its own way. It is not irritable or touchy. It does not hold grudges and will hardly even notice when others do it wrong. ⁶ It is never glad about injustice, but rejoices whenever truth wins out. ⁷ If you love someone, you will be loyal to them no matter what the cost. You will always believe in them, always expect the best of them, and always stand your ground in defending them.

1 Corinthians 13



The Clear Solution:

1. Practicing Forgiveness and Reconciliation.
2. Insisting on Love.
3. Finding forgiveness in Jesus.

¹⁶ We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us.

1 John 3