



Mount Zion Leadership Huddle

JUNE 6, 2023

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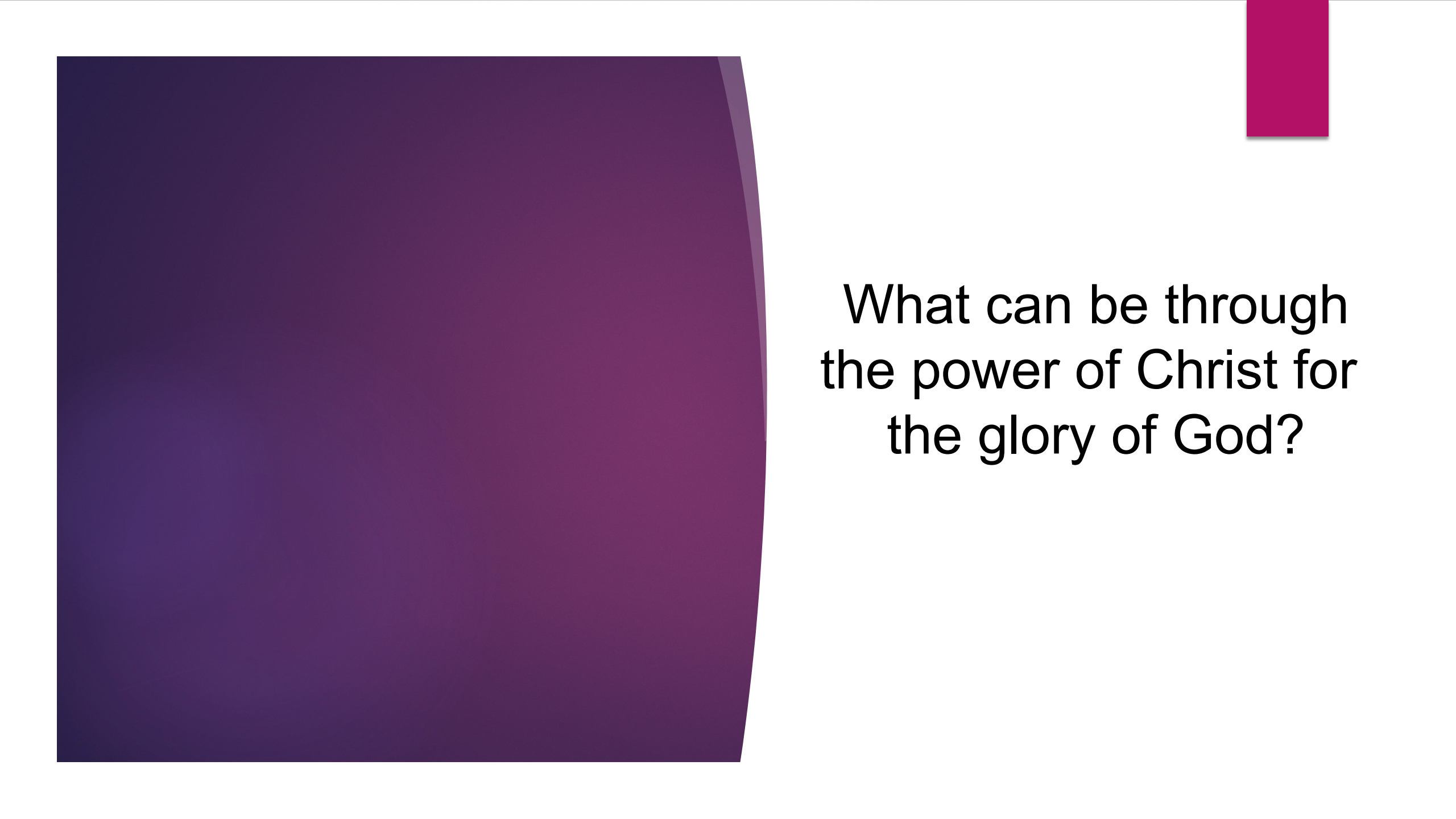
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1 John 3:2 (KJV)

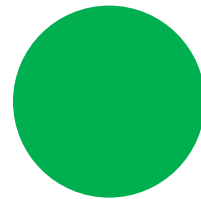
“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when we shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”

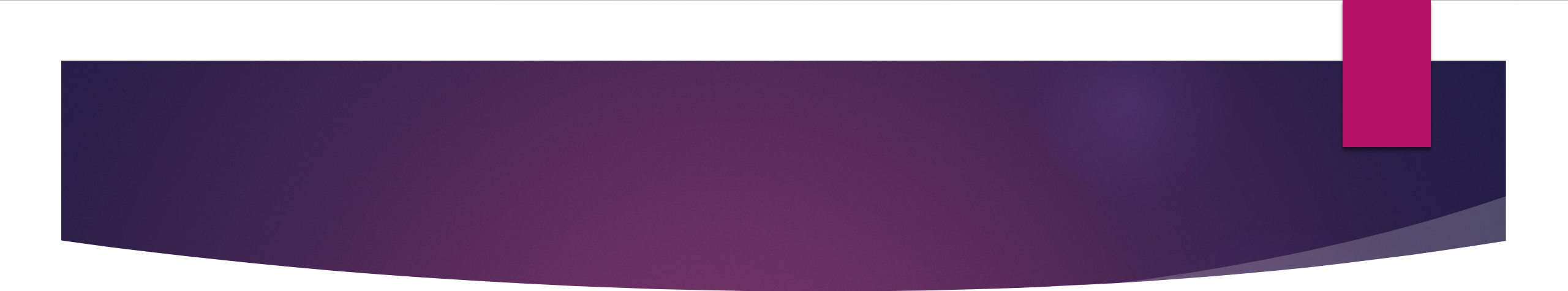


What can be through
the power of Christ for
the glory of God?

Locating the Green Dot

YOU ARE HERE

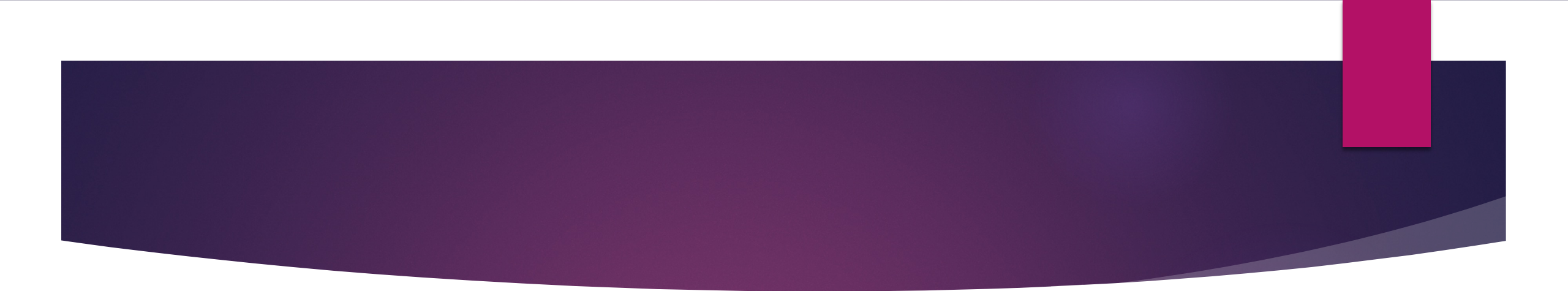




In order to figure out where we can go,
we have to first know where we are starting.
Context matters. We will not be effective in
doing the work of ministry if we do not know
where we are Culturally, Organizationally, or
Spiritually.



CULTURALLY

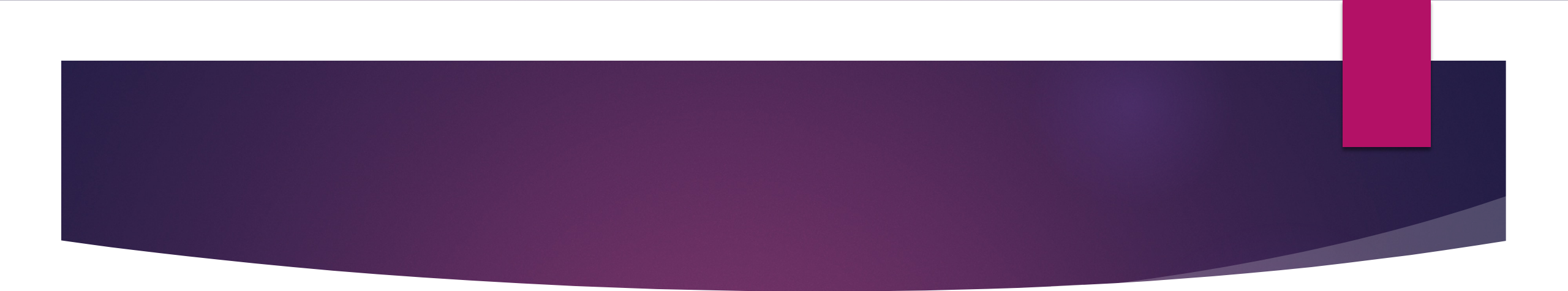
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- ▶ The world in which we are doing ministry is not the same world in which most of us grew up and learned how to do ministry in.
 - ▶ Gil Rendle in *Quietly Courageous* says, “Most of us who lead the church today grew up in convergent culture, whereas we now find ourselves leading in a divergent culture.”

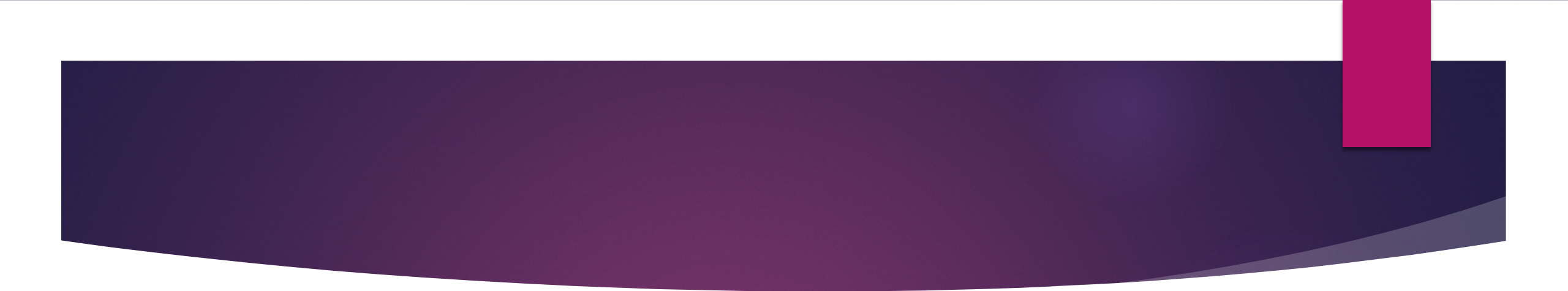


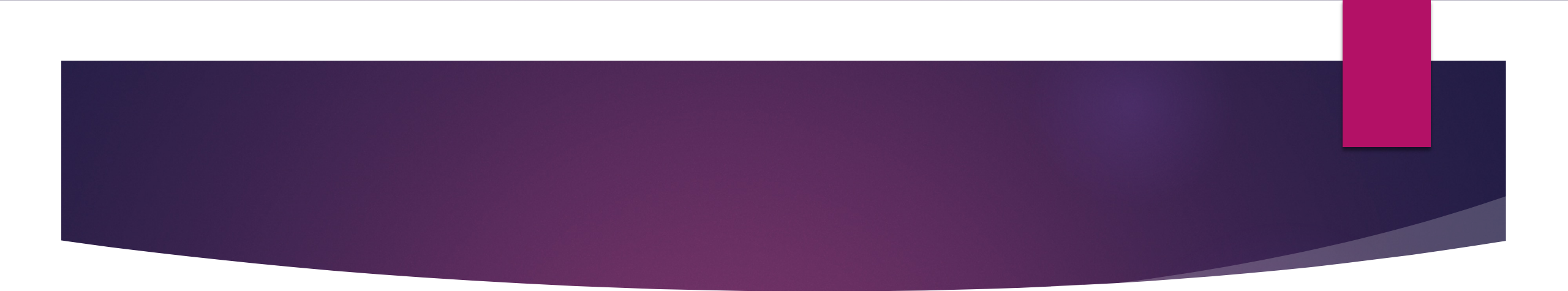
A CONVERGENT CULTURE is characterized by commonality, a sense of unity, common purpose, and shared values.



A DIVERGENT CULTURE craves variety and diversity
and stresses generational, racial, and gender
differences.

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- ▶ Whereas a convergent culture urges individuals to hide their differences or to try to fold their differences into the larger group, a divergent culture encourages people to lead with their differences and to cultivate and express the ways they deviate from cultural norms.

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- ▶ At some point people stopped saying, “We’re here because my family has always been Baptist” (convergent), and started asking, “What can your church do for us?” (divergent).
 - ▶ Gil Rendle says, “Questions like, “Where is the nearest Presbyterian church? (convergent) has become “Why do you want to go to a Presbyterian church?” (divergent)

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- ▶ The major change from a convergent culture to a divergent culture came from our society's move from “communal to individual”.
 - ▶ So now we have divergent congregations. In a divergent age, advertising and technology encourage us to fulfill our individual needs by exercising individual preference.

Example:
In one congregation you have people getting their news from:



How does this affect the Church?

Loss of Members

The average attrition rate of every Church is 10% per year. Many churches are hemorrhaging members at much larger rates and doing so year by year.

Decrease of Support from Members

- ▶ In 1993, just 30 years ago, a REGULAR CHURCH ATTENDEE was defined as someone who could be found attending worship services or church activities 2 to 4 times per week.
- ▶ Today, a REGULAR CHURCH ATTENDEE is defined as someone who can be found attending worship services or church activities (including virtual options) ONCE per MONTH!

Low to No Morale/Expectation in Most Churches

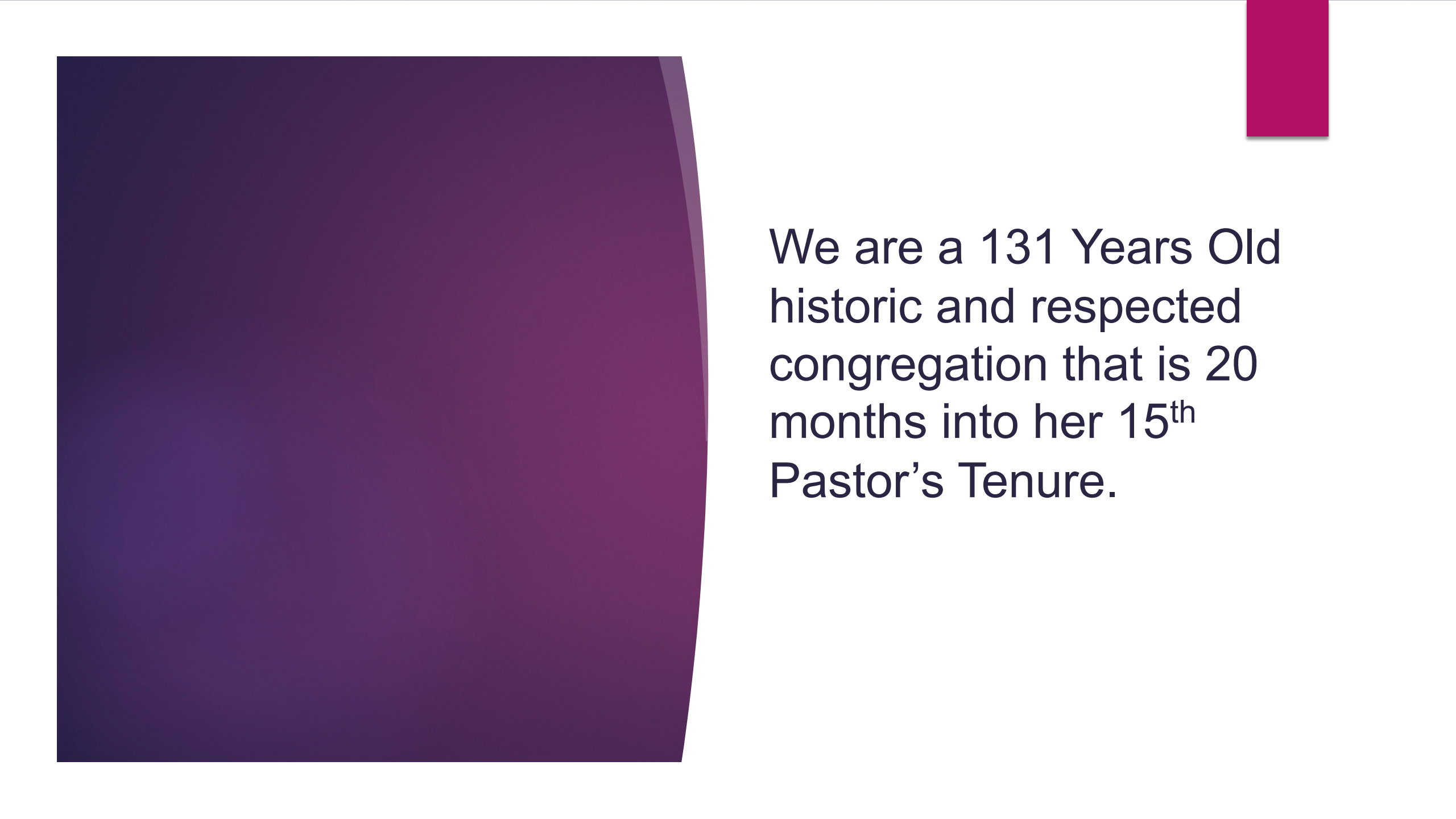
- ▶ The constant decline of membership, death of church pillars, and increasing rate of turnover in Church leadership has left many churches struggling to survive, scrambling to make ends meet, and with little to no hope for the future.



ORGANIZATIONALLY



WHERE ARE WE AS A
CHURCH?



We are a 131 Years Old
historic and respected
congregation that is 20
months into her 15th
Pastor's Tenure.

What does
this mean?



This is a season of **EXCITEMENT**



This is a season of **NERVOUSNESS**



This is a season of **DISCOVERY**



This is a season of **OPPORTUNITY**

Our Church has historically been known for:

Strong
Pulpit

Christian
Education

Influential
Membership

Outreach
and
Evangelism

VITAL STATS

232

number of people
here when I arrived

85

number of new
members under my
leadership as of Sunday

36

number of new
members this year

92

number of first
time visitors

317

number currently
on our roster

140-160

number for
average Sunday
attendance

65

number of members
over the age of 70
(more than 1/3 of average
Sunday attendance)

Strategic Areas of Focus:

1. Reaching Young Families
2. Creating Meaningful Ministries for the wholistic development of people.
3. Establishing Strategic Public and Private Sector Partnerships.
4. Upgrading Our Ministry Campus to make Attractive to Potential Members and Useful for Potential Partnerships.
5. Launching of a Community Development Corporation to enable us to have programs for housing, youth development, and other community needs.
6. Identifying areas to launch Satellite campuses to help us reach the over 9 million people of Los Angeles County.



SPIRITUALLY

Our Present Day Realities

- ▶ REALITY #1: The world is in bad shape. But when the world is its darkest, **the Church can shine her brightest?**
- ▶ REALITY #2: The Church is still the **hope of the world!**
- ▶ REALITY #3: The culture has changed, but the **mandates of ministry are the same!**



WHERE ARE OUR
MANDATES?



We still have a responsibility to obey Jesus' words:

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)



We still have a responsibility to follow the instructions of Jesus to:

“Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in,
so that my house will be full.” Luke 14:23 (NIV)

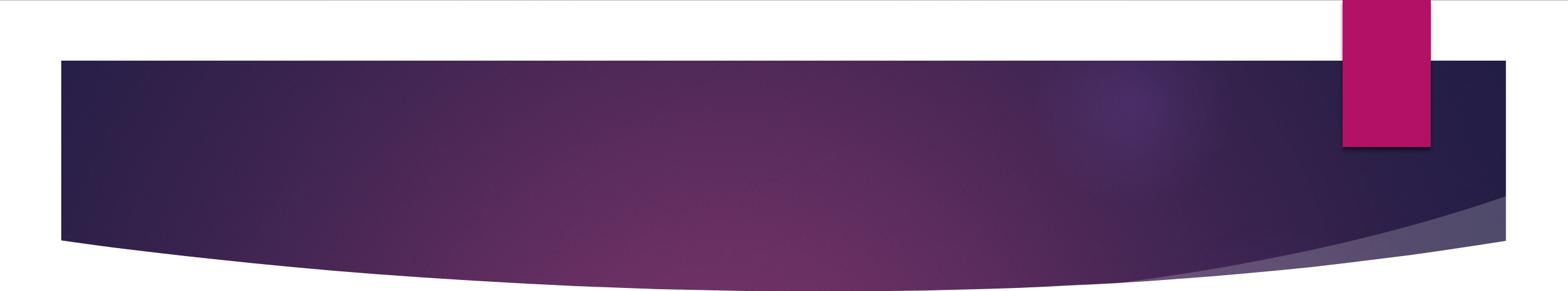


We still have a responsibility to take seriously the words of Paul that we are to:

“equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. ” Ephesians 4:12-16 (NIV)



SO WHERE DO WE GO
FROM HERE?

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- ▶ Because of our spiritual convictions we have practical responsibilities.
 - ▶ We must REMEMBER:
 - ▶ We have to remember our identity that is found in our mission, vision and values!



NEW MISSION STATEMENT:

**We exist to Make Disciples
Who Make a Difference!**

NEW VISION STATEMENT:

To reach and make disciples
of as many people as
possible with the Gospel of
Jesus Christ!

LARGER VISION STATEMENT:

The vision of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church is to be a Christ-Centered, Bible-Based, Spirit-Led, and Kingdom-Minded congregation committed to loving God, loving people, and making disciples for the glory of God and for the good of God's people.

OUR VALUES

1. **We keep God first.** – We believe that the Church was built by Jesus for Jesus, and therefore we want to make sure that everything we do is all about Jesus. We keep God first in all that we do, and seek for Him to get all the glory.
2. **We pray always.** – We believe that prayer should be our first response and not our last option, and therefore we commit to being a people who have prayer as their priority.
3. **We are out of the box, but always in the Book.** – We believe that methods come and go, but the Word of God does not change, and therefore although we will embrace creative ministry methods, we will never sacrifice biblical integrity.

OUR VALUES

4. **We are mission focused.** – We believe that the world is our mission field, and that God wants us to get the Gospel to as many people as possible to fulfill the Great Commission, therefore we are serious about winning our City and World for Jesus Christ.

5. **We believe people matter.** – We love all people because Jesus loves all people and therefore, we will never put programs or processes above people but will always seek to minister to and serve as many people as possible.

6. **We are constantly improving.** – We believe that while we will never be perfect, we should always be getting better, therefore we will be committed to creating a culture of progress and improvement where things are always getting better.

OUR VALUES

7. We believe generosity is our privilege. – Generosity is about giving more than what is required. We see generosity as a privilege, therefore we are generous with our time, talents, and treasure.

8. We maintain a standard of excellence. – We are always going to do the best that we can with what we have. We don't do things halfway. If we're going to do it, it's going to be to the best of our ability. If it bears God's name, it deserves our best.

9. We serve together. – If you're too big to serve then you are too small to lead. We believe the greatest leadership is service to others. Every leader is a servant first. From the parking lot to the pulpit, everyone serves. Every role is different, but they are all important. If you ain't helping, you are ain't helping.

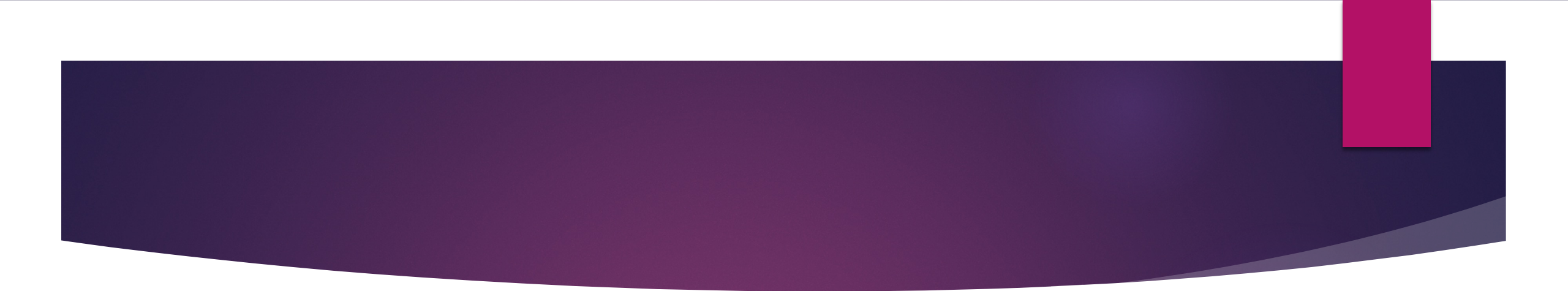
10. We make a difference. – We believe God is using us to write fresh history for the future, and therefore we are committed to being an authentic, innovative, and trail-blazing 5-star ministry that operates in the five-fold ministry gifts, and influences and impacts nations and generations.

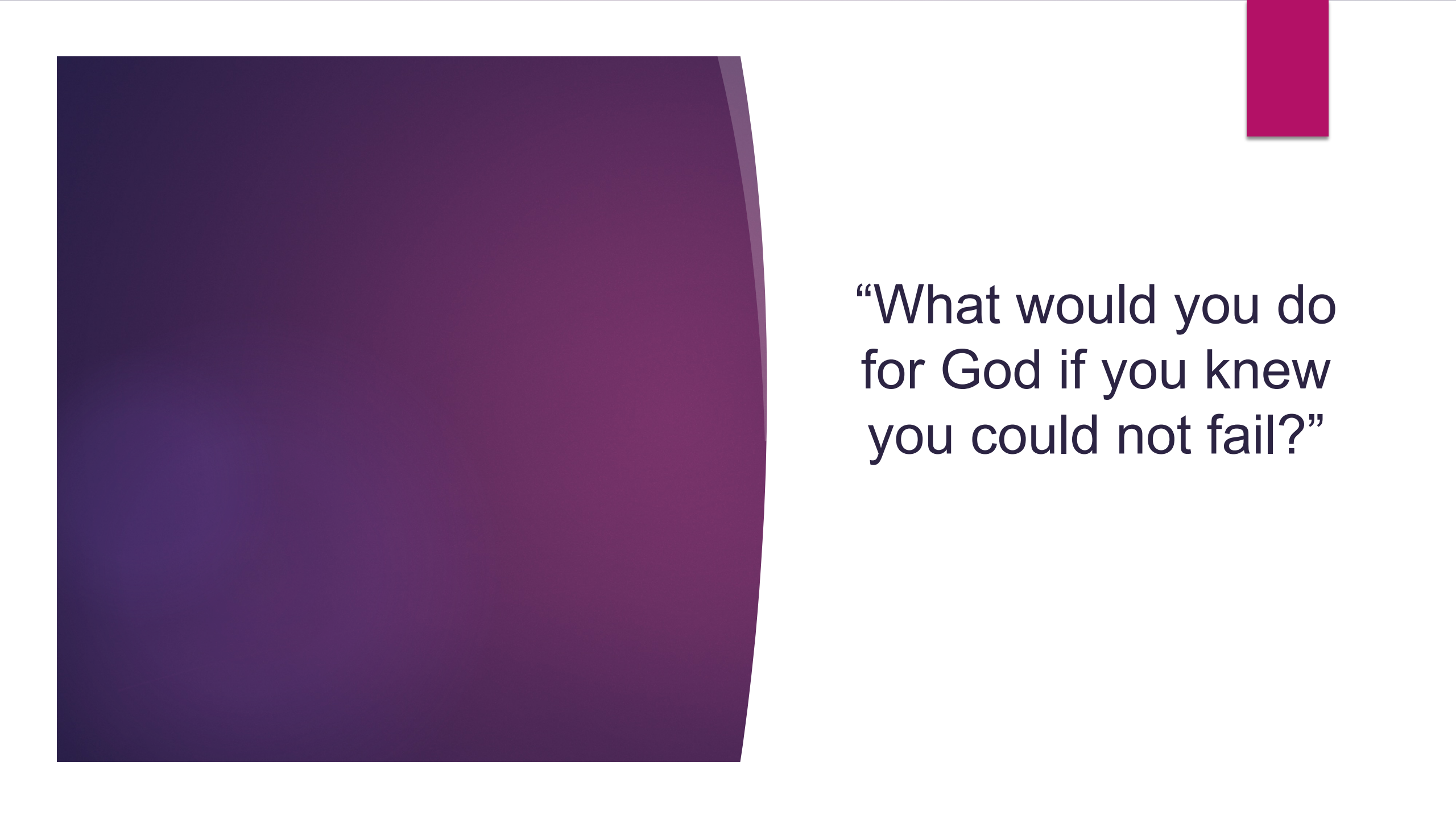


Our **values** are what we believe, our **mission** is why we exist, and our **vision** is where we are going!

- ▶ Our **MISSION** gives us our **WHY**.
- ▶ Our **VISION** gives us our **WHAT**.
- ▶ Our **VALUES** define our **WHO**.

We must REIMAGINE!

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- ▶ The past is not coming back and the future doesn't look like the past. We must reimagine. (Adam Grant says we must “rethink”), if we are to advance and thrive!
 - ▶ We must reimagine **THE FUTURE.**
 - ▶ We must reimagine **OUR GOALS.**
 - ▶ We must reimagine **OUR PRIORITIES.**
 - ▶ We must reimagine **OUR POSSIBILITIES.**



“What would you do
for God if you knew
you could not fail?”

We must **REVAMP**

- ▶ Too many ministries are trying to offer 8-track programs in an iPhone generation.
- ▶ Picture of Blackberry and a Picture of an iPhone
- ▶ “And of the children of Issachar, *which were men* that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do;” 1 Chronicles 12:32 (KJV)
- ▶ We must be willing to revamp our systems, our programs, and our philosophies.
- ▶ The MESSAGE will never change, but the METHODS must if we are to reach the next generation and the ones coming after them.

We must **RECOMMIT**

Revelation 2:1-4 (NIV) “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

In order for the Church to make disciples that make a difference and be effective in the world today, we must recommit ourselves to God and return to doing the things we did at first.

We must recommit to **GOD**

“Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.” Proverbs 16:3 (NIV)

We must recommit to **PRAYER**

“Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.” Proverbs 16:3 (NIV)

We must recommit to **FAITH**

Now the just shall live by faith; But if *anyone* draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.” Hebrews 10:38 (NKJV)

We must recommit to **OBEDIENCE**

“But Samuel replied: “Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.” I Samuel 15:22 (NIV)



And whenever God's people RECOMMIT,
God will send REVIVAL!

“if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)