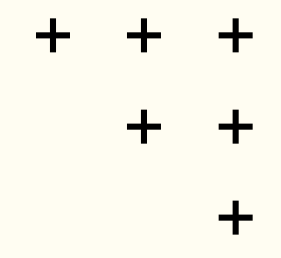


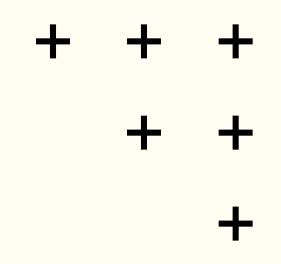
Acts.



We sought out the disciples there and stayed with them seven days.
Through the Spirit they urged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem...

¹² When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to
go up to Jerusalem.

ACTS 21:4, 12 NIV



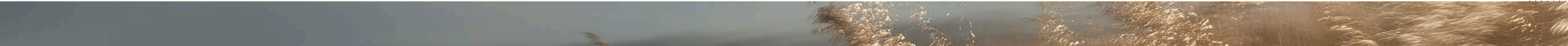
After this, we started on our way up to Jerusalem.

ACTS 21:15 NIV

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Gospel Friendship

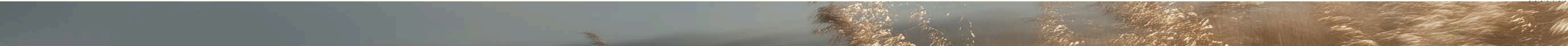
- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + ITS MARKS
- + ITS VISION



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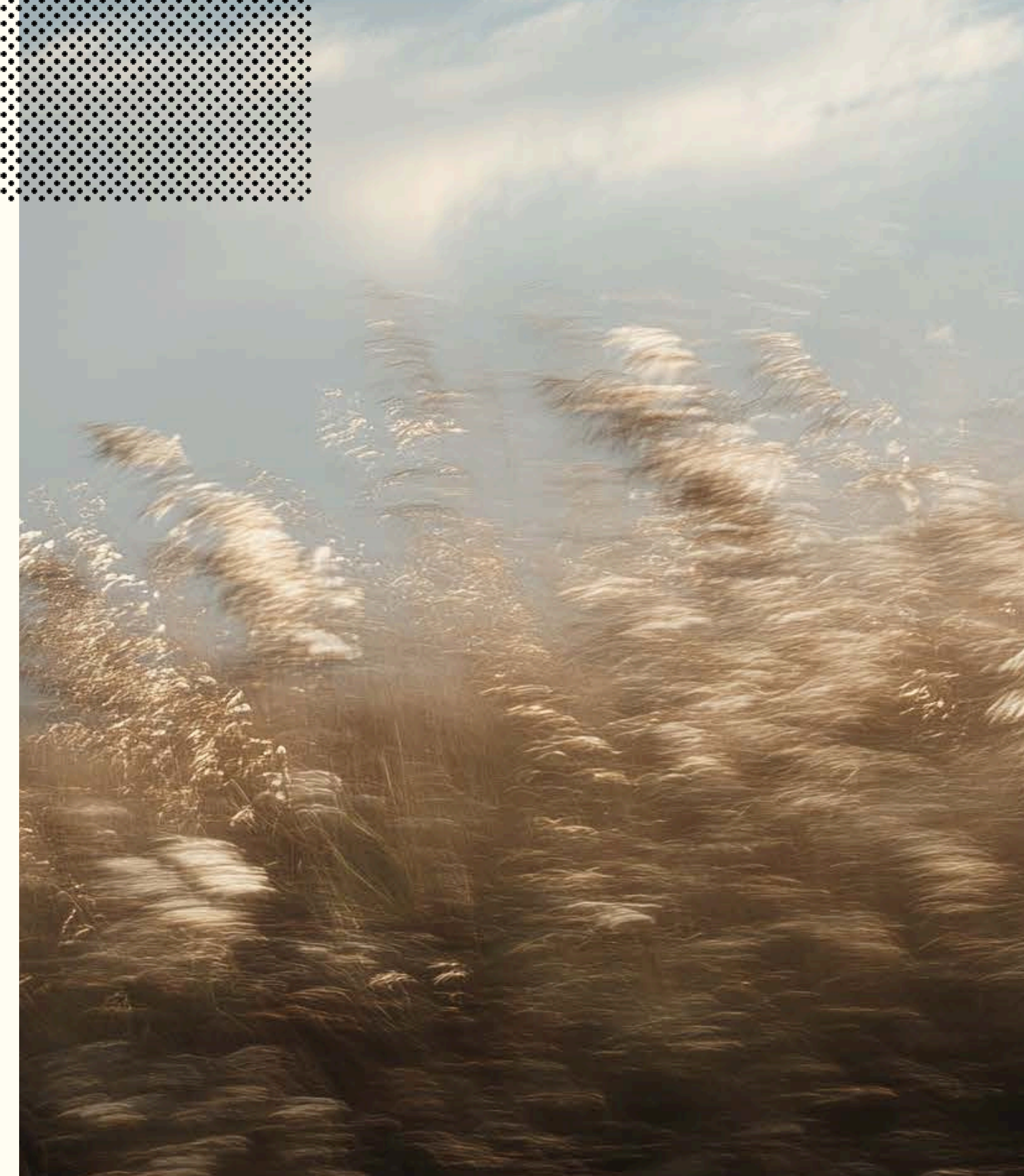
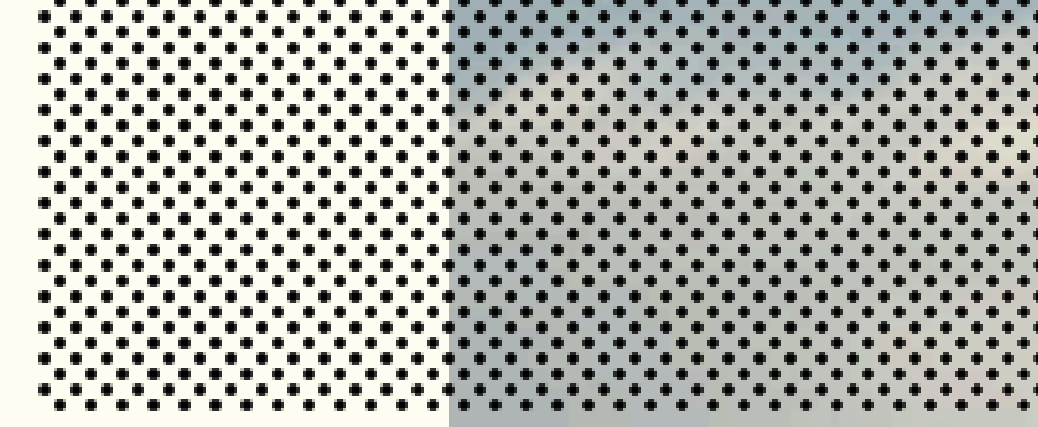
Gospel Friendship

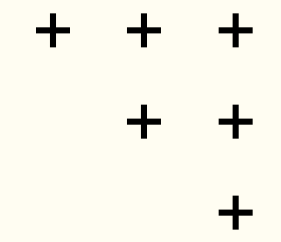
- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + ITS MARKS
- + ITS VISION



Friendship halves our troubles and doubles our joys.

J.C. RYLE





+ **ITS VALUE**

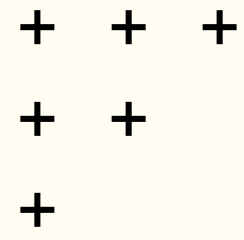
+ **ITS START**

+ **ITS MARKS**

+ **ITS VISION**

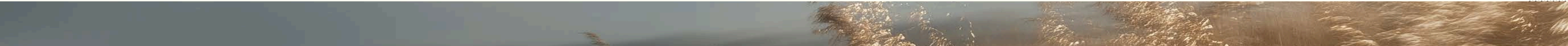
Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. ⁹ Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship...

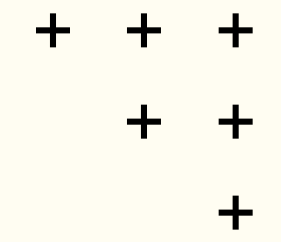
1 THESSALONIANS 2:8b-9a NIV



Gospel Friendship

- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + ITS MARKS
- + ITS VISION





+ ITS VALUE

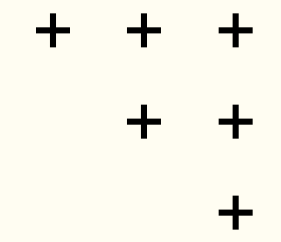
+ **ITS START**

+ ITS MARKS

+ ITS VISION

After sighting Cyprus and passing to the south of it, we sailed on to Syria.
We landed at Tyre, where our ship was to unload its cargo.

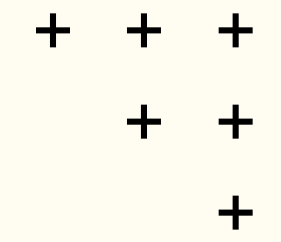
ACTS 21:3 NIV



- + ITS VALUE
- + **ITS START**
- + ITS MARKS
- + ITS VISION

We sought out the disciples there and stayed with them seven days.

ACTS 21:4a NIV



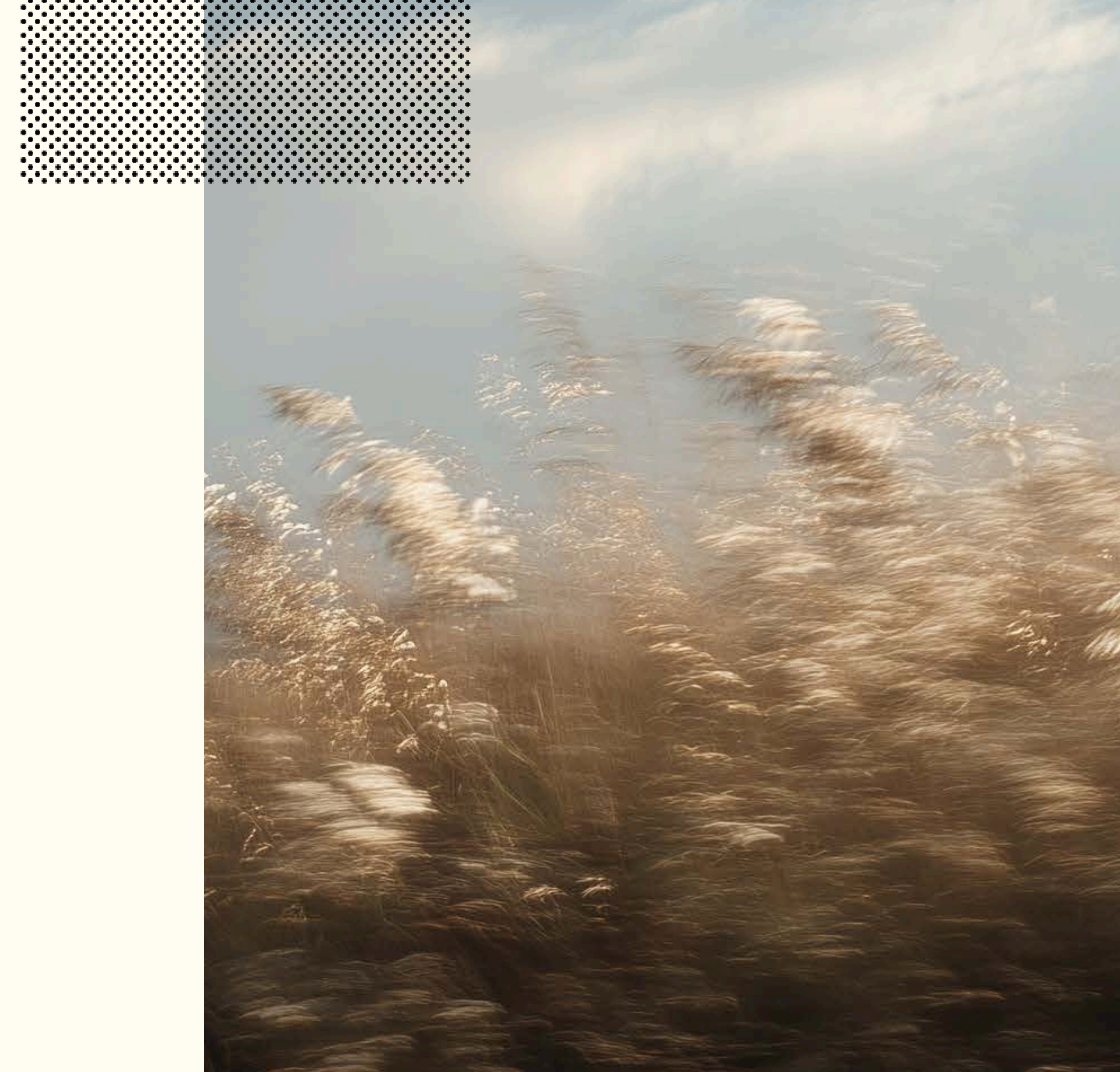
- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + ITS MARKS
- + ITS VISION

When it was time to leave, we left and continued on our way. All of them, including wives and children, accompanied us out of the city, and there on the beach we knelt to pray.

ACTS 21:5 NIV

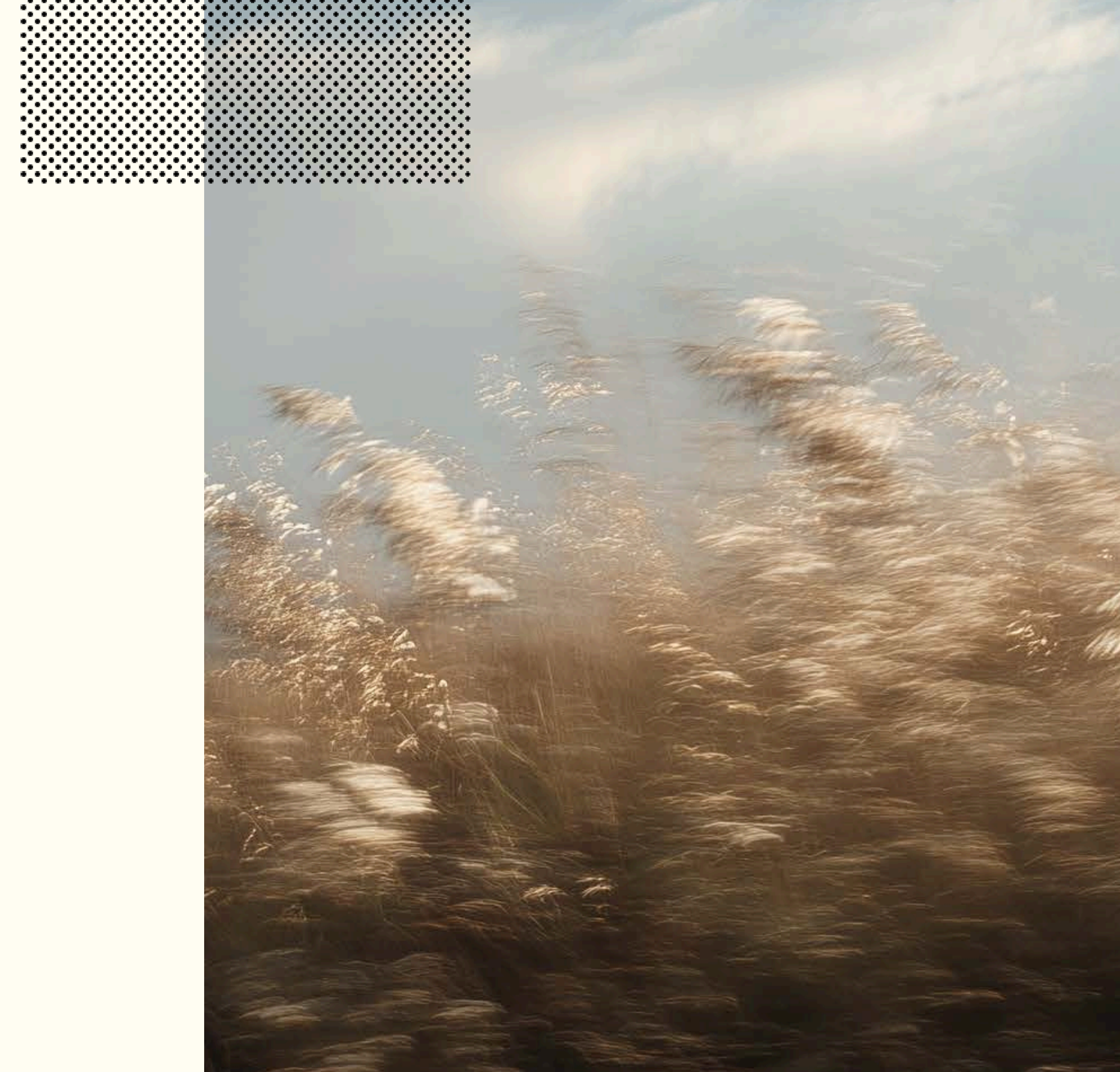
Friendship arises out of mere Companionship when two or more of the companions discover that they have in common some insight or interest or even taste which the others do not share and which, till that moment, each believed to be his own unique treasure (or burden). The typical expression of opening Friendship would be something like, “What? You too? I thought I was the only one.” When they share their vision - it is then that Friendship is born.

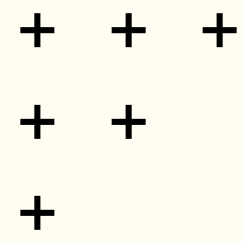
C.S. LEWIS, “THE FOUR LOVES”



That is why those people who simply “want friends” can never make any. The very condition of having Friends is that we should want something else besides Friends. Where the truthful answer to the question “Do you see the same truth?” would be “I see nothing and I don’t care about the truth; I only want a Friend,” no Friendship can arise. There would be nothing for the Friendship to be about. Those who have nothing can share nothing. Those who are going nowhere can have no fellow travelers.

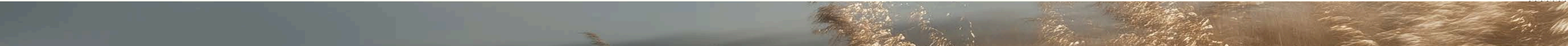
C.S. LEWIS, “THE FOUR LOVES”





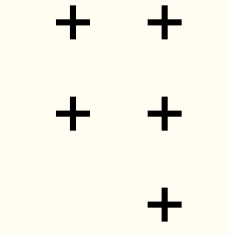
Gospel Friendship

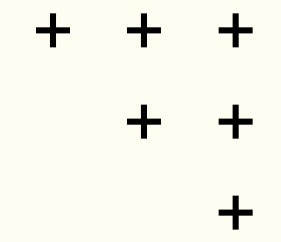
- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + **ITS MARKS**
- + ITS VISION





Marks of Gospel Friendship Time





+ ITS VALUE

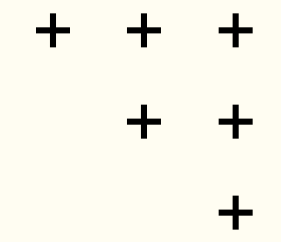
+ ITS START

+ ITS MARKS

+ ITS VISION

After **we** had torn ourselves away from them, **we** put out to sea and sailed straight to Kos. The next day **we** went to Rhodes and from there to Patara. ² **We** found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, went on board and set sail. ³ After sighting Cyprus and passing to the south of it, **we** sailed on to Syria. **We** landed at Tyre, where **our** ship was to unload its cargo.

ACTS 21:1-3 NIV



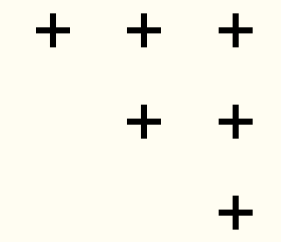
- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + **ITS MARKS**
- + ITS VISION

So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.

ACTS 18:11 NIV

This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

ACTS 19:10 NIV



+ ITS VALUE

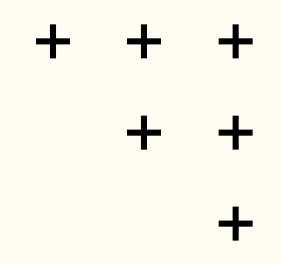
+ ITS START

+ ITS MARKS

+ ITS VISION

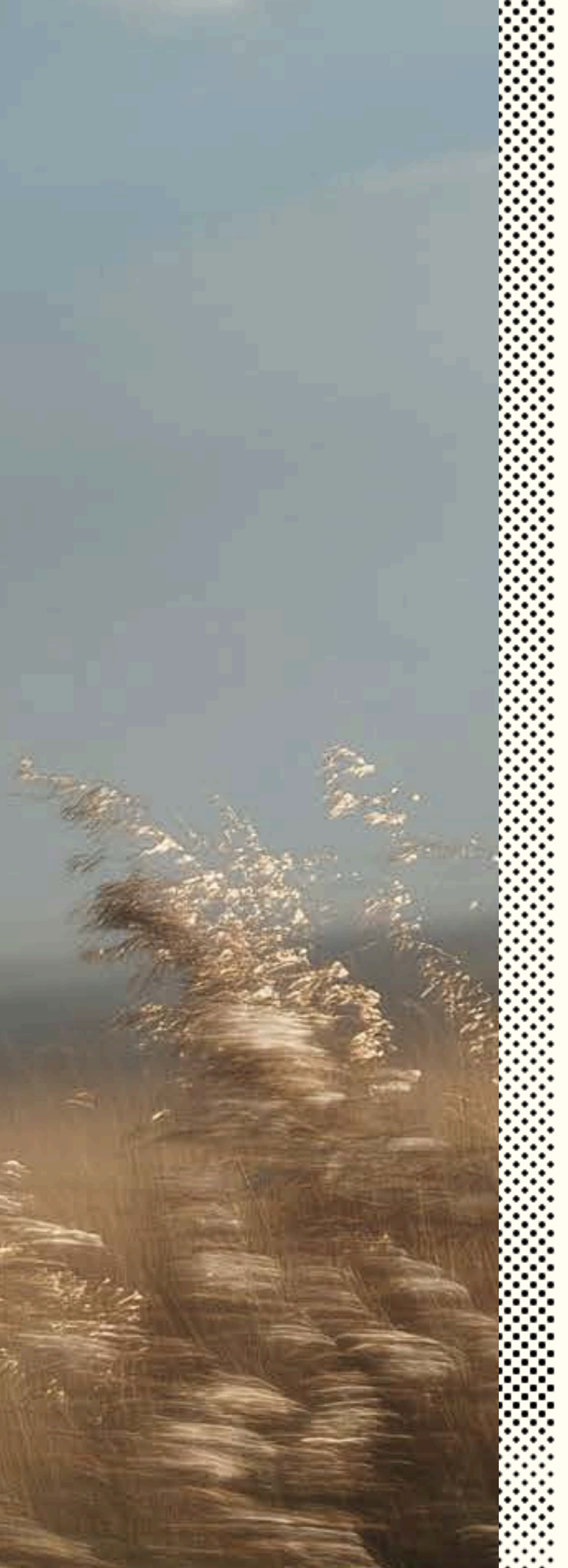
On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight.

ACTS 20:7 NIV



Marks of Gospel Friendship

Time Things



+ ITS VALUE

+ ITS START

+ ITS MARKS

+ ITS VISION

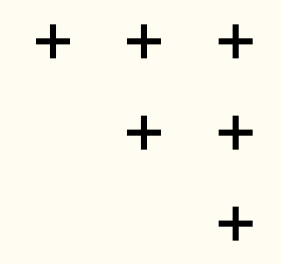
We sought out the disciples there and **stayed with them** seven days.

⁷ We continued our voyage from Tyre and landed at Ptolemais, where we greeted the brothers and sisters and **stayed with them** for a day.

⁸ Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and **stayed at the house of Philip** the evangelist, one of the Seven.

¹⁵ After this, we started on our way up to Jerusalem. ¹⁶ Some of the disciples from Caesarea accompanied us and brought us to the home of Mnason, **where we were to stay.**

ACTS 21:4a, 7-8, 15-16a NIV

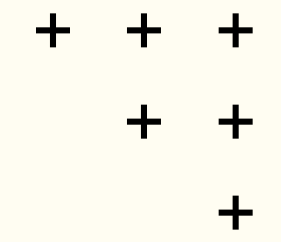


Marks of Gospel Friendship

Time

Things

Feelings



+ ITS VALUE

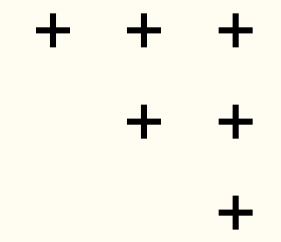
+ ITS START

+ ITS MARKS

+ ITS VISION

When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. ¹³ Then Paul answered, “Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”

ACTS 21:12-13 NIV



+ ITS VALUE

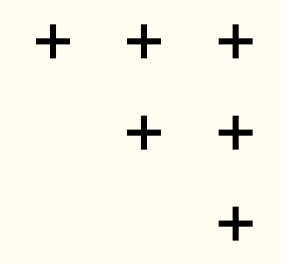
+ ITS START

+ **ITS MARKS**

+ ITS VISION

When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. ³⁷ They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him.

ACTS 20:36-37 NIV



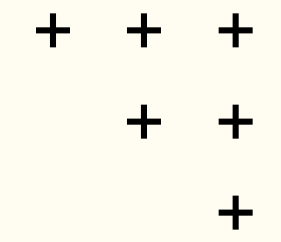
Marks of Gospel Friendship

Time

Things

Feelings

Counsel



+ **ITS VALUE**

+ **ITS START**

+ **ITS MARKS**

+ **ITS VISION**

After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹ Coming over to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, "The Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.' "

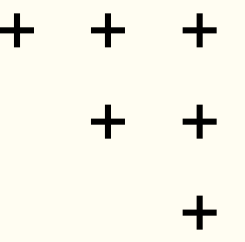
ACTS 21:10-11 NIV

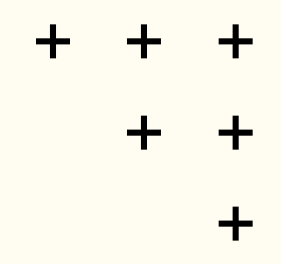


- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + ITS MARKS
- + ITS VISION

What shall we do? They will certainly hear that you have come, ²³ so do what we tell you. There are four men with us who have made a vow. ²⁴ Take these men, join in their purification rites and pay their expenses, so that they can have their heads shaved. Then everyone will know there is no truth in these reports about you, but that you yourself are living in obedience to the law.

ACTS 21:22-24 NIV





Marks of Gospel Friendship

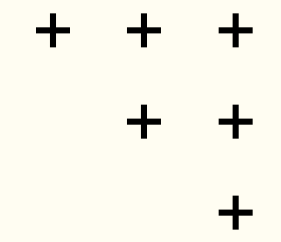
Time

Things

Feelings

Counsel

Support



+ ITS VALUE

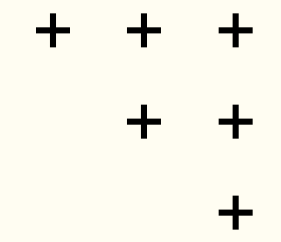
+ ITS START

+ **ITS MARKS**

+ ITS VISION

When he would not be dissuaded, we gave up and said, “The Lord’s will be done.”

ACTS 21:14 NIV



+ ITS VALUE

+ ITS START

+ ITS MARKS

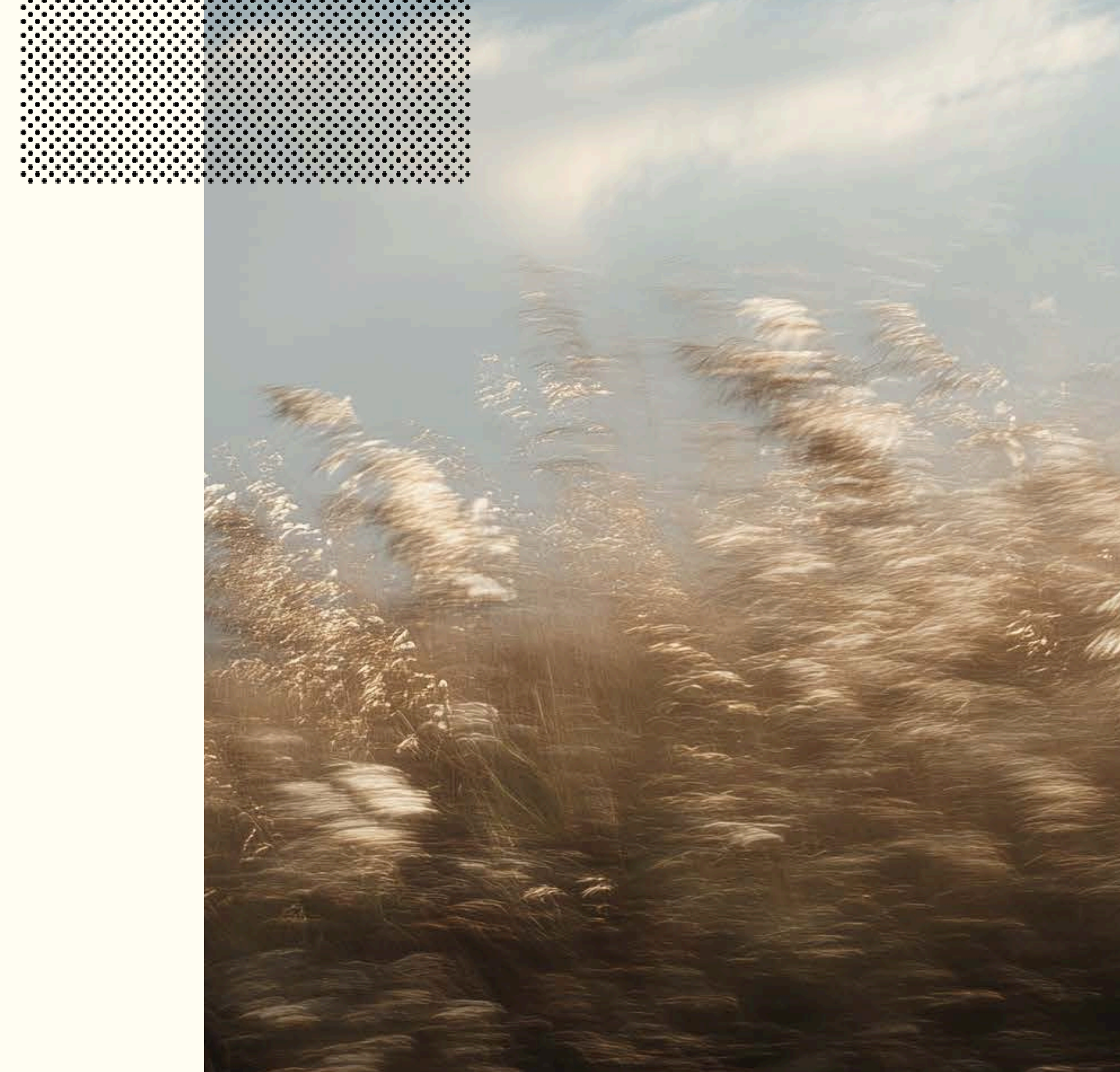
+ ITS VISION

After this, we started on our way up to Jerusalem. ¹⁶ Some of the disciples from Caesarea accompanied us and brought us to the home of Mnason, where we were to stay. He was a man from Cyprus and one of the early disciples.

ACTS 21:15-16 NIV

The mark of perfect Friendship is not that help will be given when the pinch comes (of course it will) but that, having been given, it makes no difference at all.

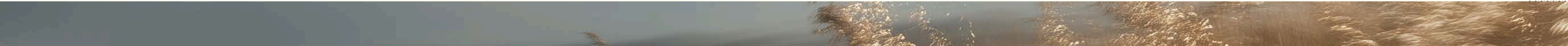
C.S. LEWIS, "THE FOUR LOVES"



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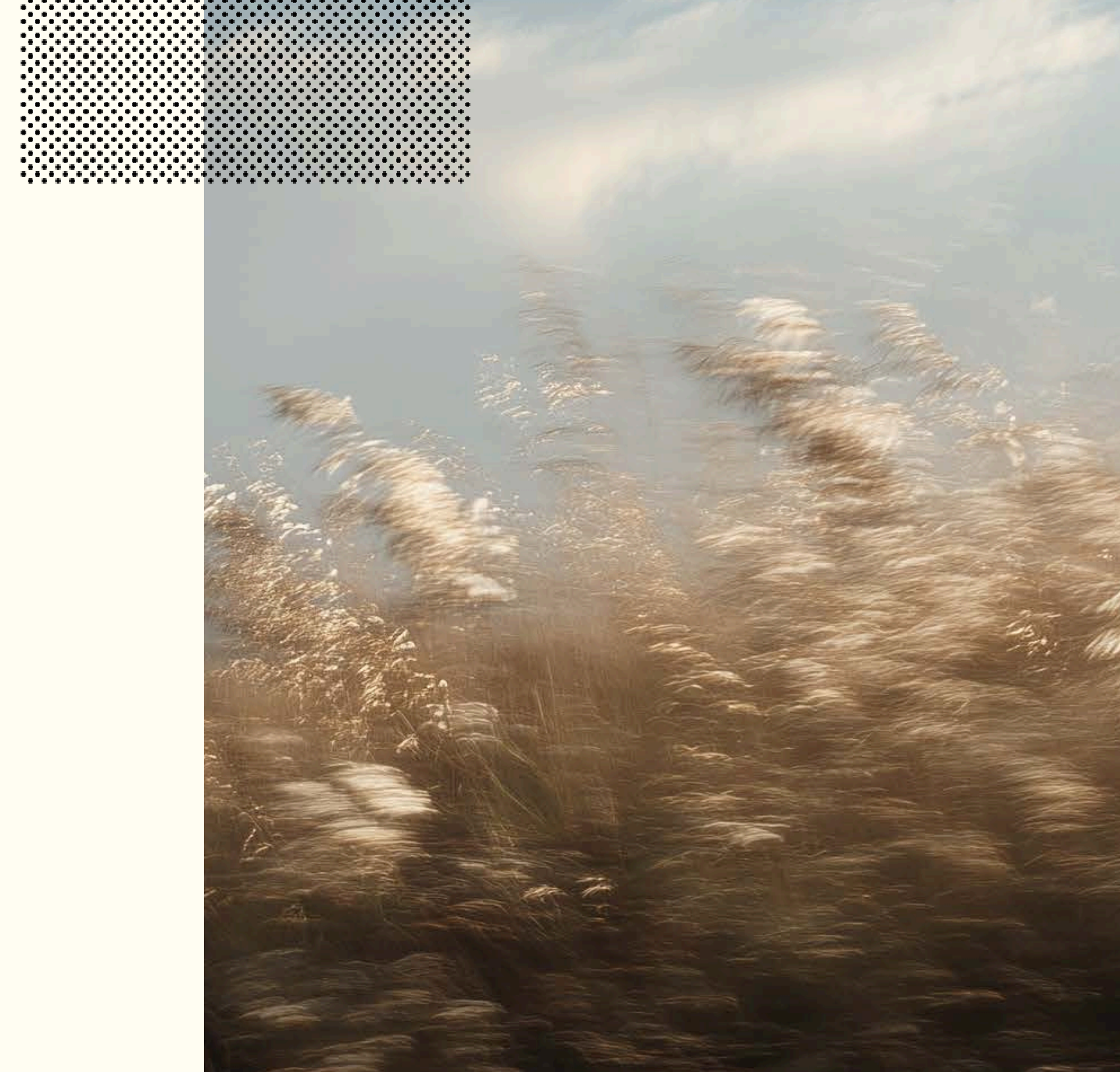
Gospel Friendship

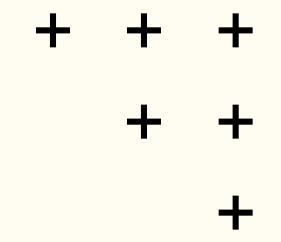
- + ITS VALUE
- + ITS START
- + ITS MARKS
- + ITS VISION



The people in the audience rose to their feet and cheered though it was only a play. Nature herself was exerting her power in this case by prompting those watching to approve in others a deed of true friendship they might not be able to do themselves. Imagine what they would have done if it were real life!

CICERO, DE AMICITIA (HOW TO BE A FRIEND)





+ ITS VALUE

+ ITS START

+ ITS MARKS

+ ITS VISION

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.
¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

JOHN 15:13-15 NIV