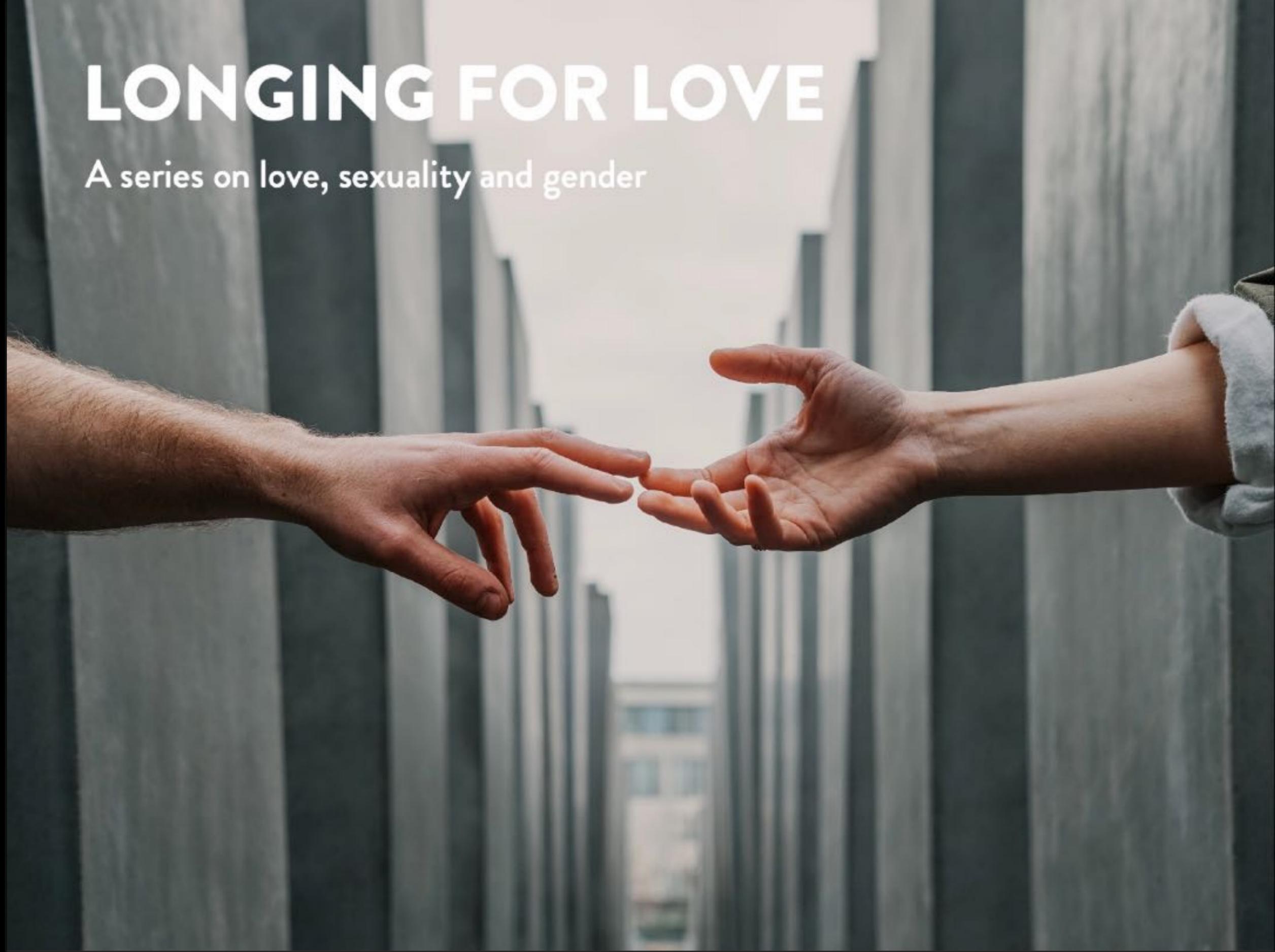


who are the pigs?



LONGING FOR LOVE

A series on love, sexuality and gender





CHRISTIAN
ORTHODOXY

What is marriage /
singleness?

What is gender?

What is sex / sexuality?

What is freedom?

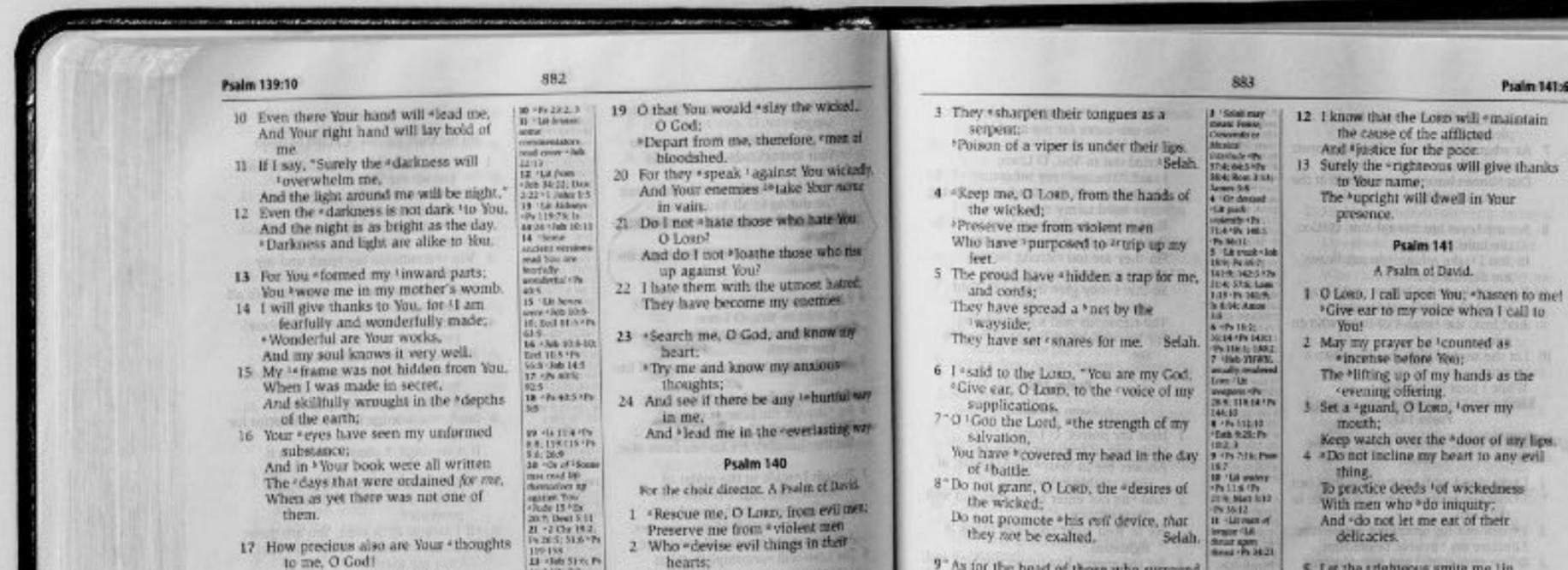
What is love?

GOD is LOVE

MATTHEW 7: 1-8

Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

“Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.



10 Even there Your hand will ¹⁰lead me,
And Your right hand will lay hold of
me.
11 If I say, "Surely the ¹¹darkness will
¹¹overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"
12 Even the ¹²darkness is not dark ¹²to You,
And the night is as bright as the day.
¹²Darkness and light are alike to You.
13 For You ¹³formed my inward parts;
You ¹³wove me in my mother's womb.
14 I will give thanks to You, for I am
fearfully and wonderfully made;
¹⁴Wonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.
15 My ¹⁵frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the ¹⁵depths
of the earth;
16 Your ¹⁶eyes have seen my unformed
substance;
And in ¹⁶Your book were all written
The ¹⁶days that were ordained for me,
When as yet there was not one of
them.
17 How precious also are Your ¹⁷thoughts
to me, O God!

19 O that You would ¹⁹slay the wicked,
O God;
¹⁹Depart from me, therefore, ¹⁹man of
bloodshed.
20 For they ²⁰speak ²⁰against You wickedly,
And Your enemies ²⁰take Your name
in vain.
21 Do I not ²¹hate those who hate You,
O Lord?
And do I not ²¹loathe those who rise
up against You?
22 I hate them with the utmost hatred;
They have become my enemies.
23 ²³Search me, O God, and know my
heart;
²³Try me and know my anxious
thoughts;
24 And see if there be any ²⁴hurtful way
in me,
And ²⁴lead me in the ²⁴everlasting way.

Psalm 140

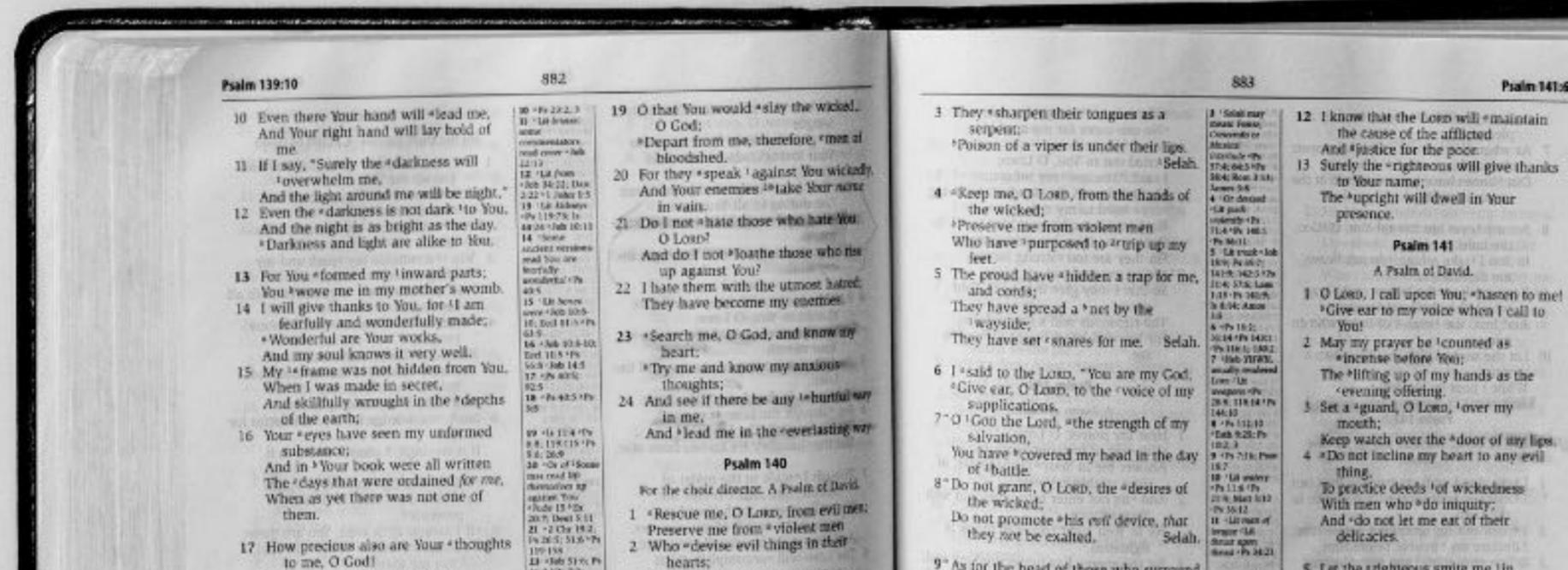
For the choir director. A Psalm of David.
1 ¹Rescue me, O Lord, from evil men;
Preserve me from ¹violent men
2 Who ²devise evil things in their
hearts;

3 They ³sharpen their tongues as a
serpent;
³Poison of a viper is under their lips.
4 ⁴Keep me, O Lord, from the hands of
the wicked;
⁴Preserve me from violent men
Who have ⁴purposed to ⁴trip up my
feet.
5 The proud have ⁵hidden a trap for me,
and confide;
They have spread a ⁵net by the
wayside;
They have set ⁵snare for me. Selah.
6 I ⁶said to the Lord, "You are my God."
⁶Give ear, O Lord, to the ⁶voice of my
supplications.
7 ⁷O God the Lord, ⁷the strength of my
salvation,
You have ⁷covered my head in the day
of battle.
8 ⁸Do not grieve, O Lord, the ⁸desires of
the wicked;
Do not promote ⁸his evil device, that
they not be exalted. Selah.
9 ⁹As for the head of those who surround

12 I know that the Lord will ¹²maintain
the cause of the afflicted,
And ¹²justice for the poor.
13 Surely the ¹³righteous will give thanks
to Your name;
The ¹³upright will dwell in Your
presence.
Psalm 141
A Psalm of David.
1 O Lord, I call upon You; ¹hasten to me!
¹Give ear to my voice when I call to
You!
2 May my prayer be ²counted as
²incense before You;
The ²lifting up of my hands as the
²evening offering.
3 Set a ³guard, O Lord, ³over my
mouth;
Keep watch over the ³door of my lips.
4 ⁴Do not incline my heart to any evil
thing.
To practice deeds ⁴of wickedness
With men who ⁴do iniquity;
And ⁴do not let me eat of their
delicacies.
5 For the righteous smite me the

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.



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10 ^aPs 22:2-3
11 ^aPs 139:10
12 ^aPs 139:12
13 ^aPs 139:13
14 ^aPs 139:14
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16 ^aPs 139:16
17 ^aPs 139:17

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3 ^aPs 140:3
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6 ^aPs 140:6
7 ^aPs 140:7
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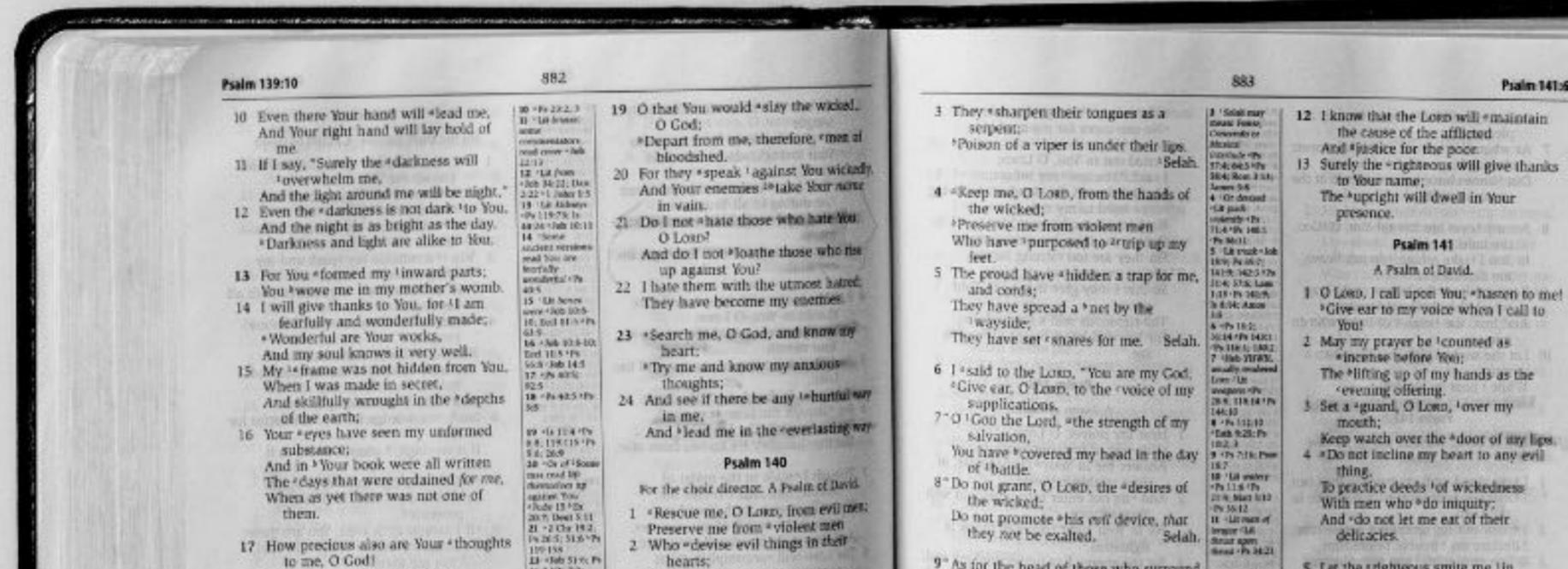
12 ^aPs 141:12
13 ^aPs 141:13
14 ^aPs 141:14
15 ^aPs 141:15
16 ^aPs 141:16
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18 ^aPs 141:18
19 ^aPs 141:19
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94 ^aPs 141:94
95 ^aPs 141:95
96 ^aPs 141:96
97 ^aPs 141:97
98 ^aPs 141:98
99 ^aPs 141:99
100 ^aPs 141:100

“Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

OR

“Who would hang earrings on a dog’s ear or throw pearls in front of wild pigs? They’ll only trample them under their feet and then turn around and tear you to pieces!

(The Passion Translation)



who are the pigs?







NB. who came to mind?



Hang on....

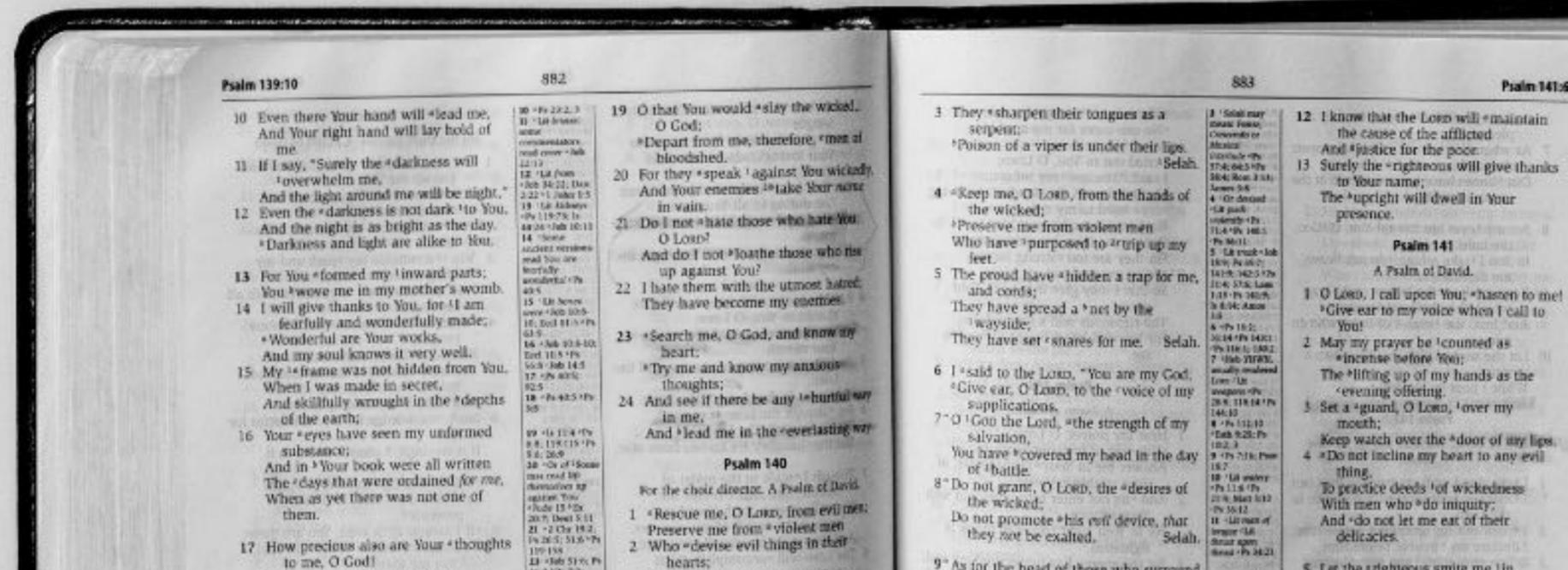
What if Jesus was saying something
far more revolutionary and life
changing here?



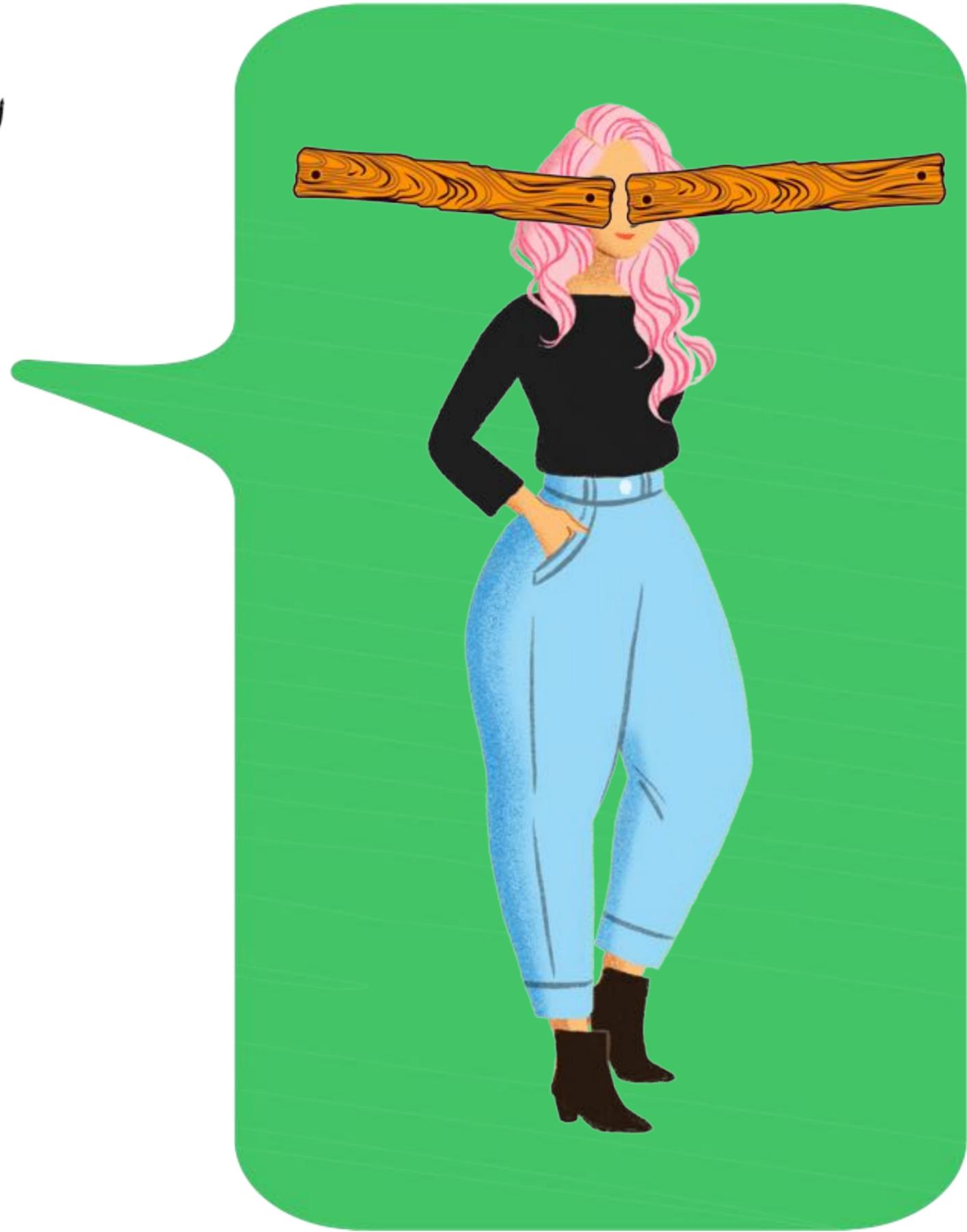
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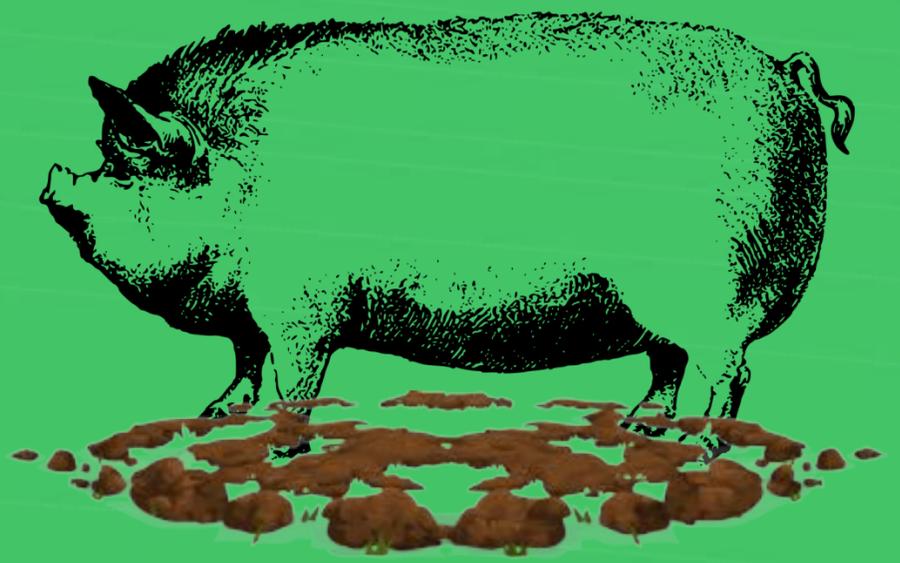
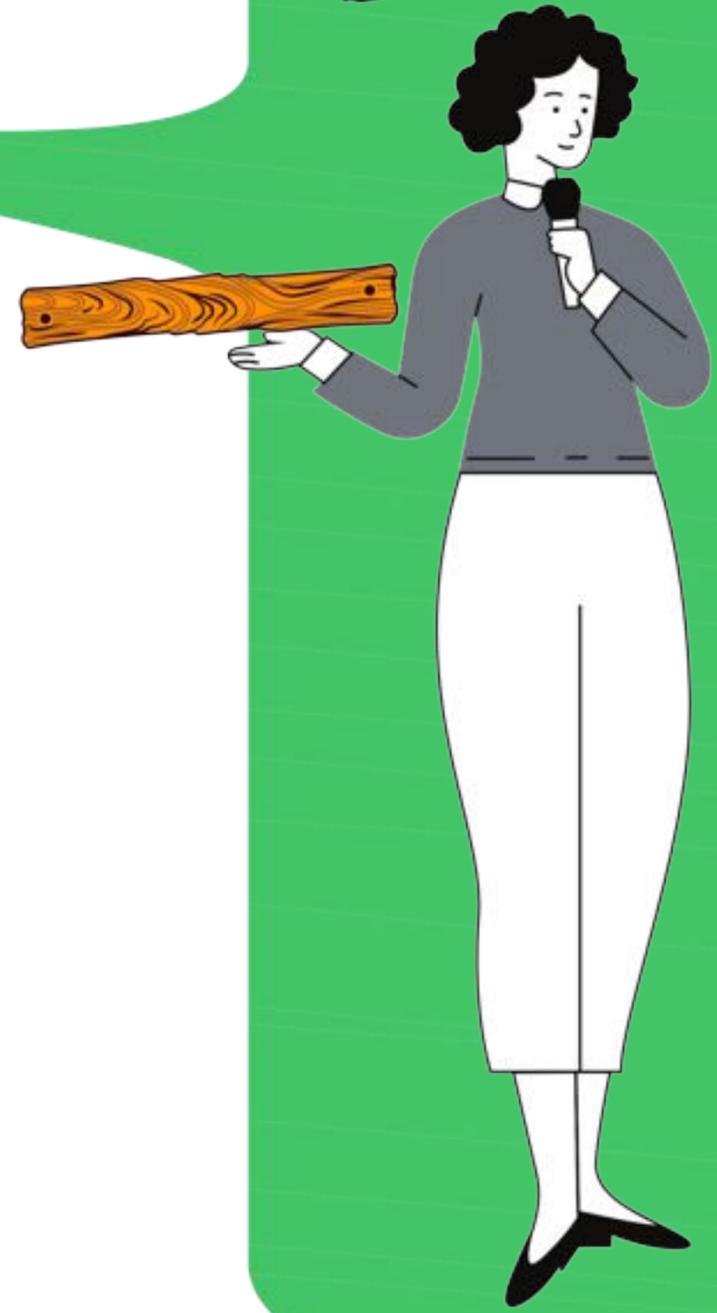




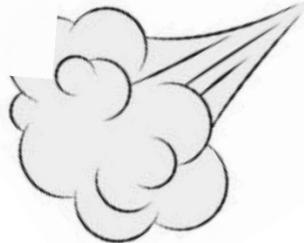
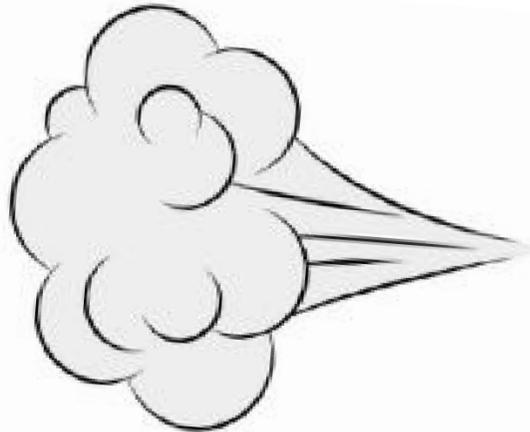


BLAH BLAH BLAH

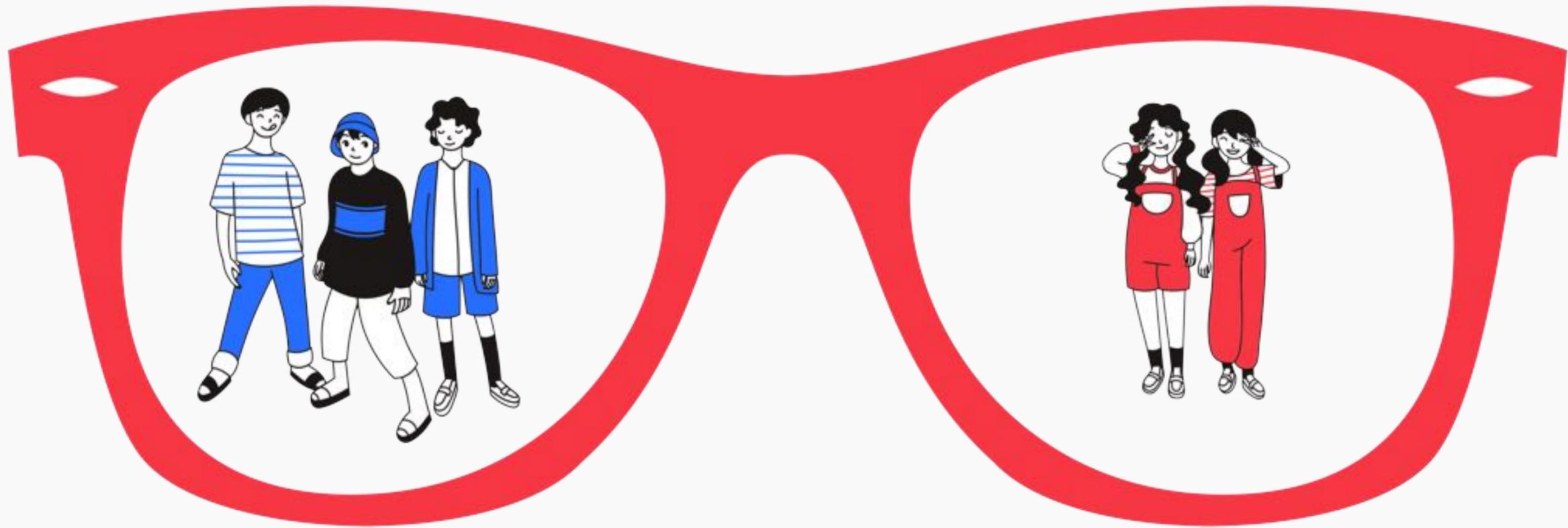
BLAH BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH BLAH



GROWL
SNARL

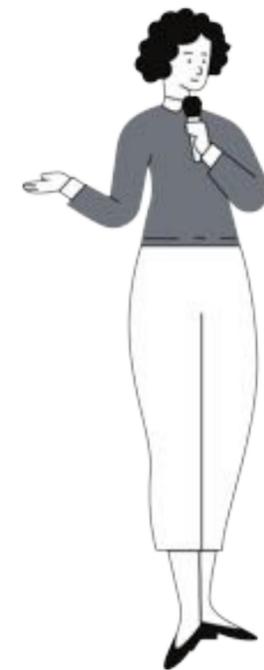






How do we see others ?

*"I am a sensitive, introverted woman,
which means that I love humanity, but actual
human beings are tricky for me.
I love people - but not in person!
For example, I would die for you but not,
like...meet you for coffee"*



Glennon Doyle, *Untamed*



Would you have stood up to the violence of that time?

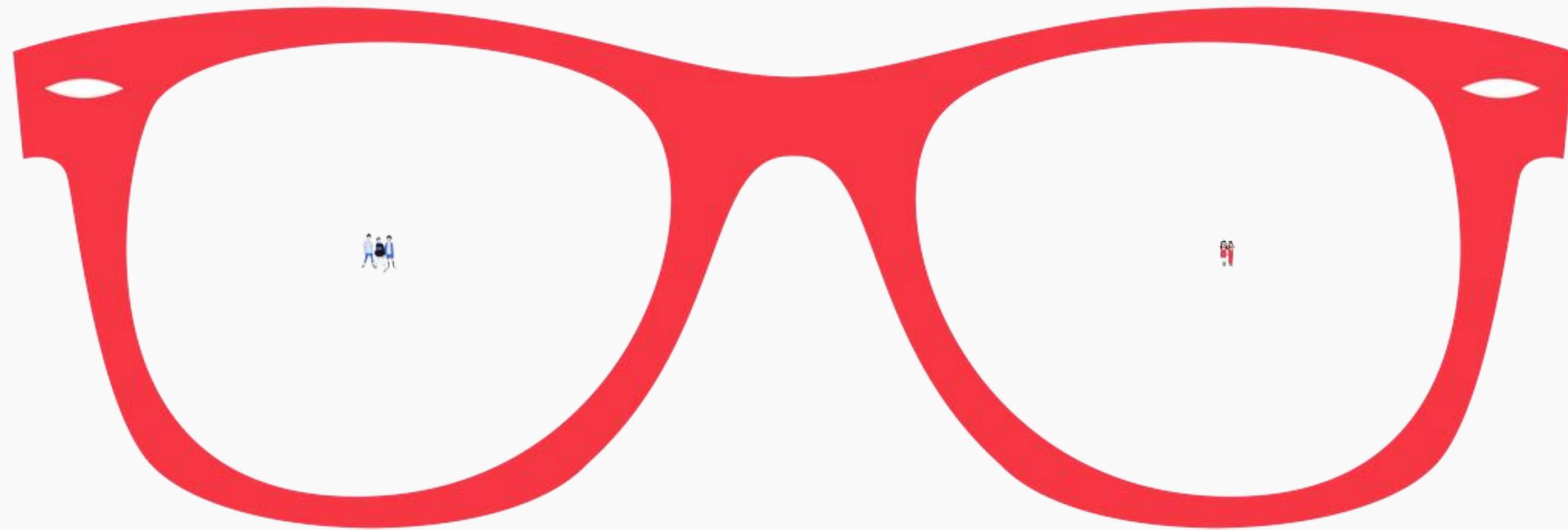


'Terrifyingly
normal'





When we 'see' others, responsibility looms large



When we don't, responsibility vanishes

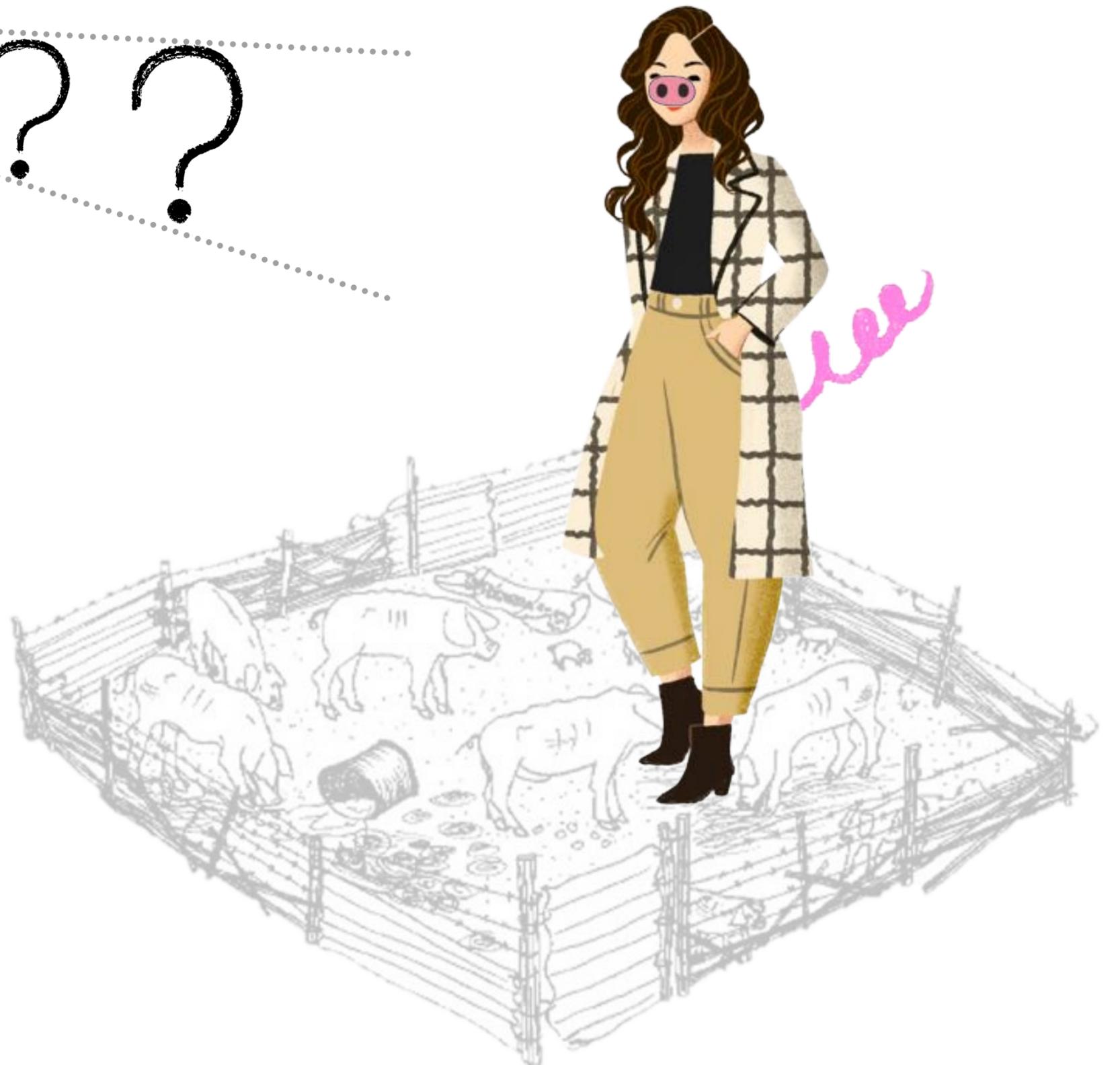
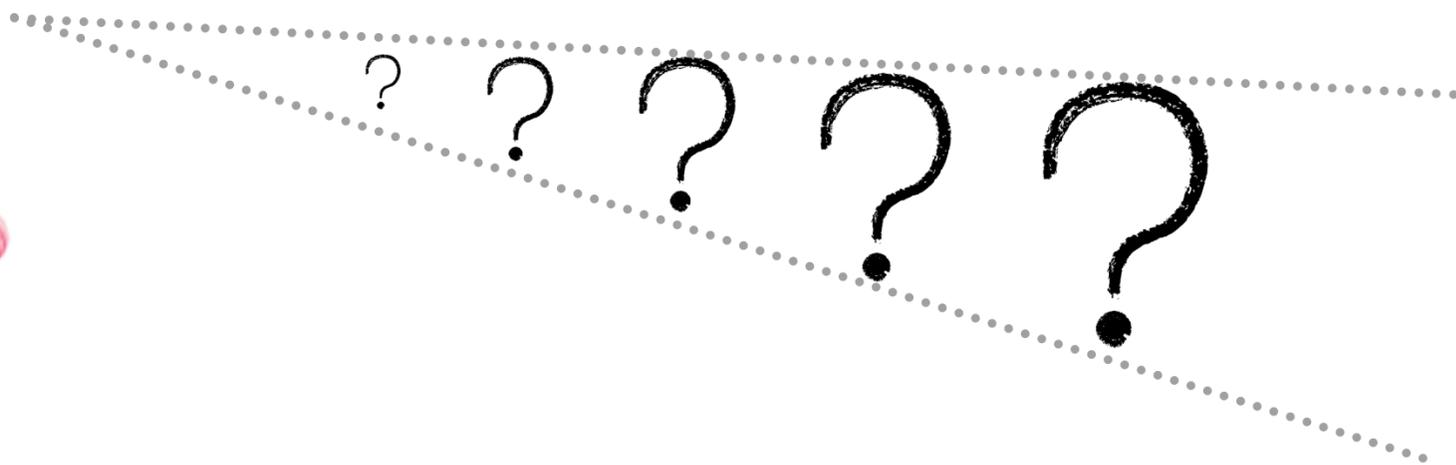


We see others as less than human

ethnicity
culture
nature
sexuality
religion
politics
poverty
gender
health



...and cannot love them.





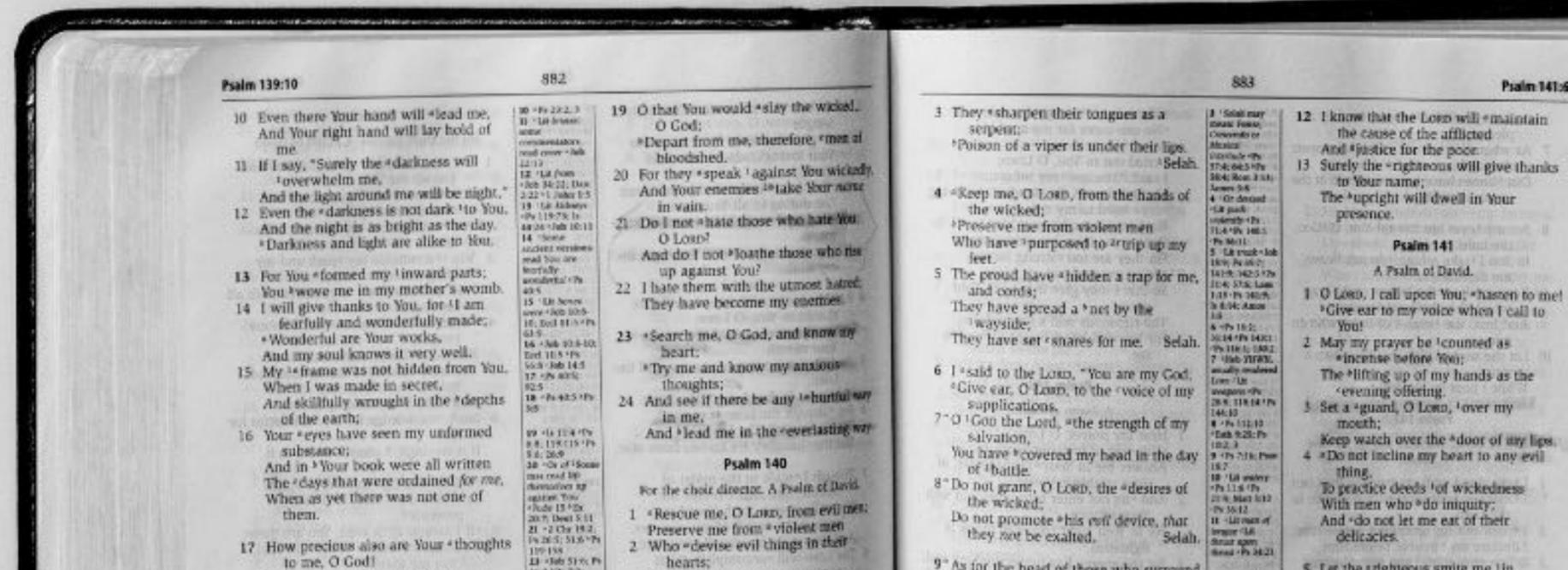


What do the pearls mean to in Jesus' story?



1 JOHN 4: 7-12

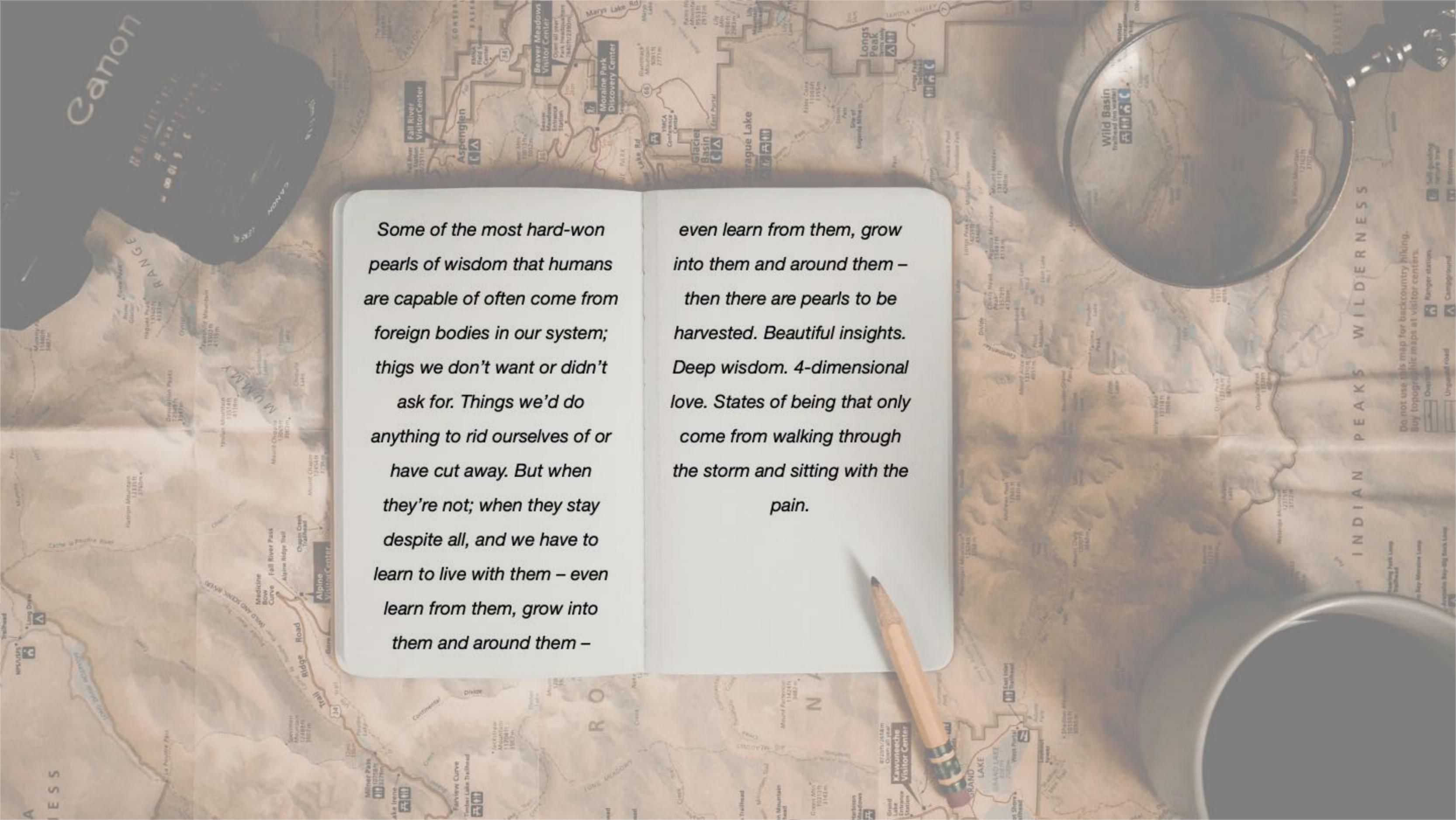
Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

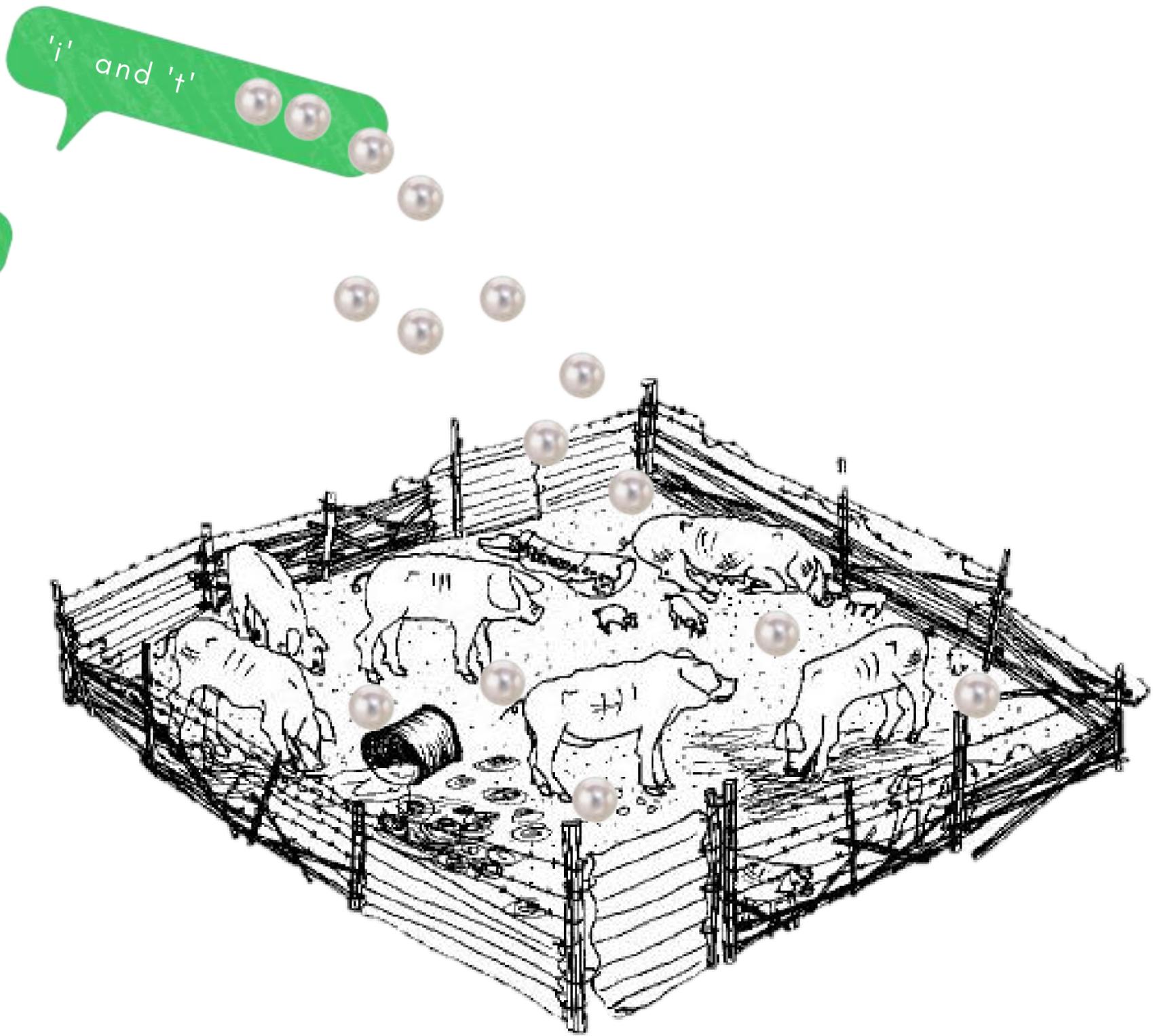
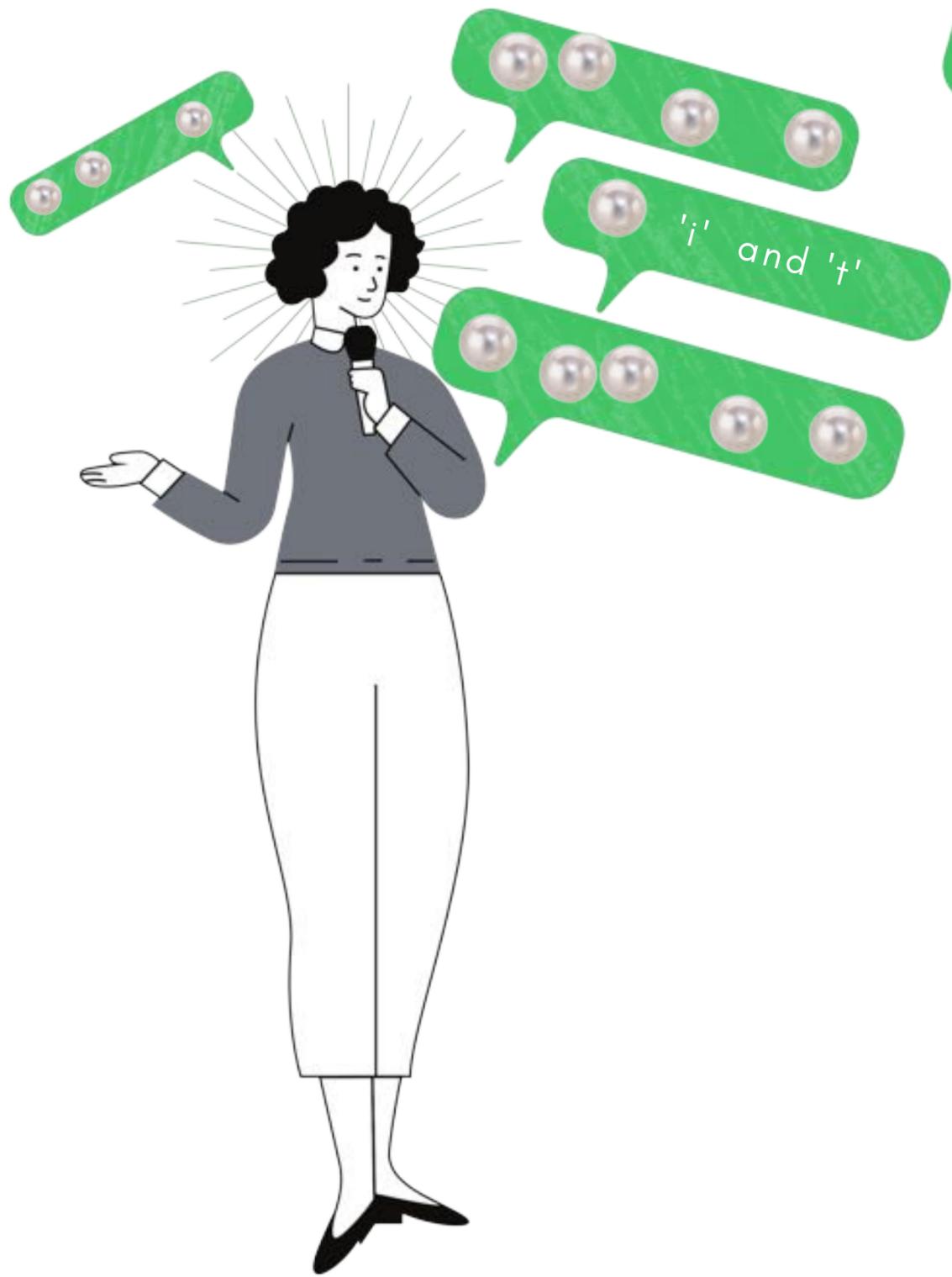




Some of the most hard-won pearls of wisdom that humans are capable of often come from foreign bodies in our system; things we don't want or didn't ask for. Things we'd do anything to rid ourselves of or have cut away. But when they're not; when they stay despite all, and we have to learn to live with them – even learn from them, grow into them and around them –

even learn from them, grow into them and around them – then there are pearls to be harvested. Beautiful insights. Deep wisdom. 4-dimensional love. States of being that only come from walking through the storm and sitting with the pain.



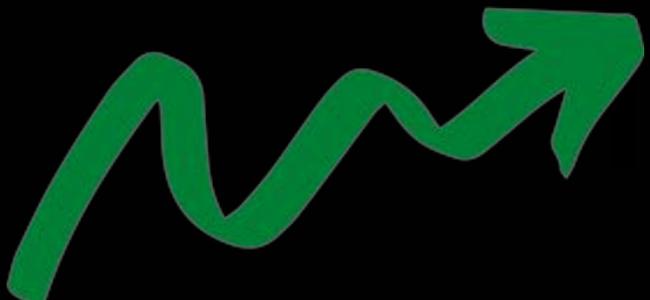




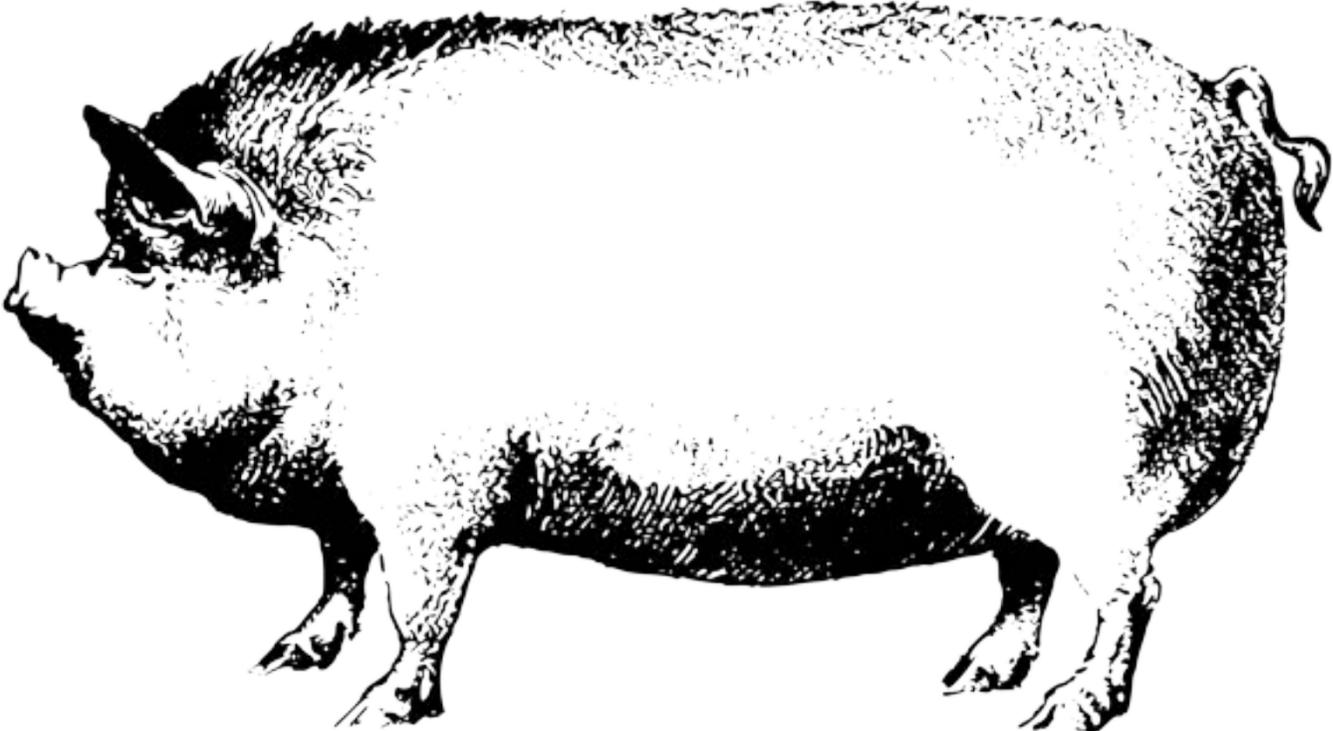
who are the pigs?



Jesus



Man with leprosy
(a terrible disease)



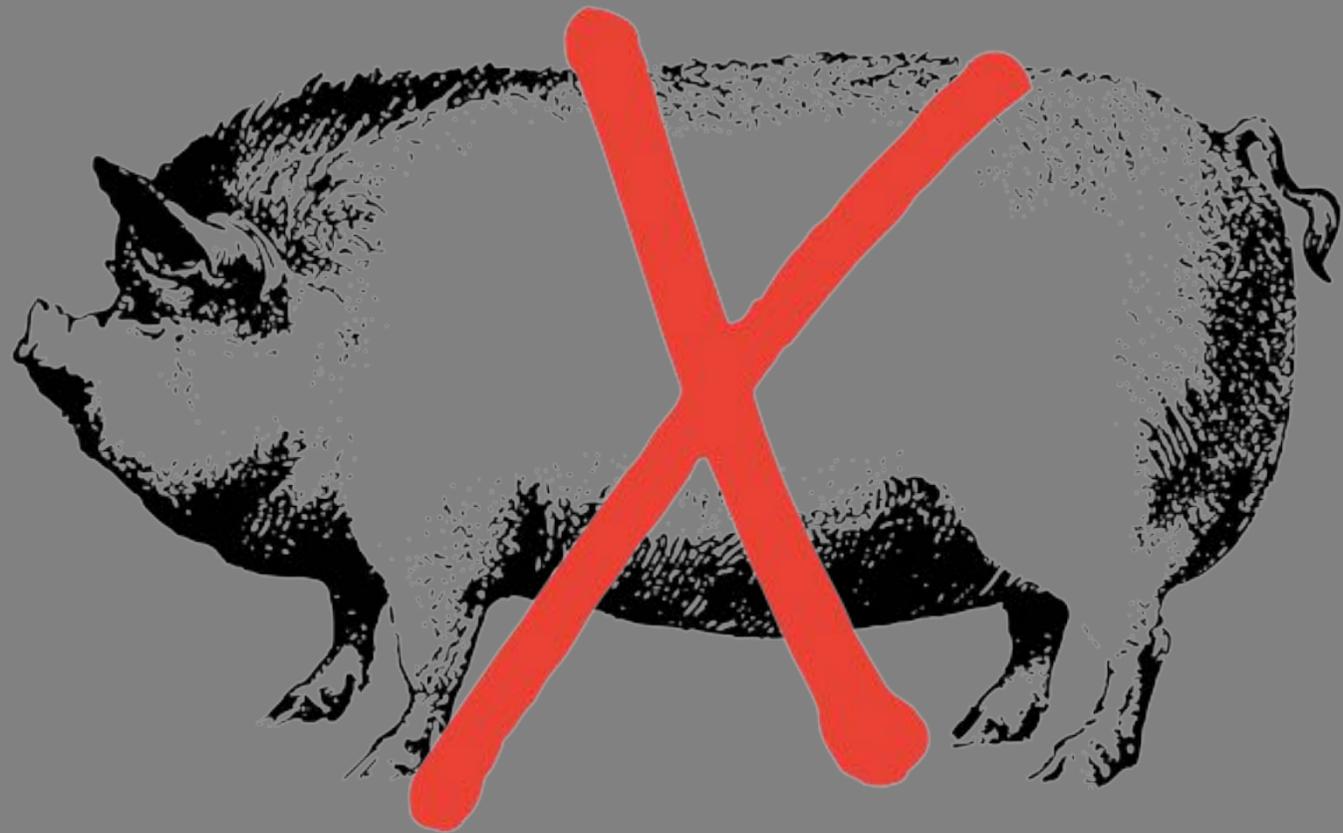
Don't touch
him!

He smells

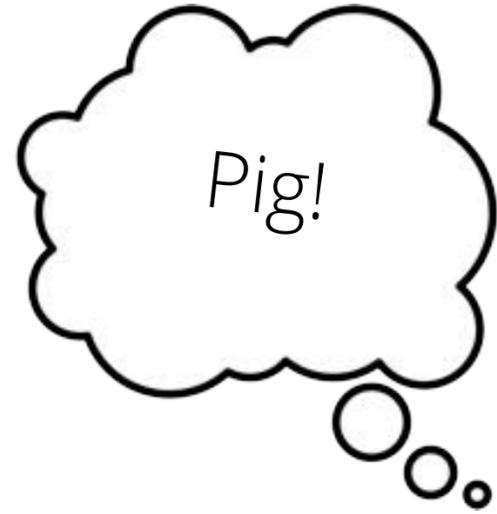
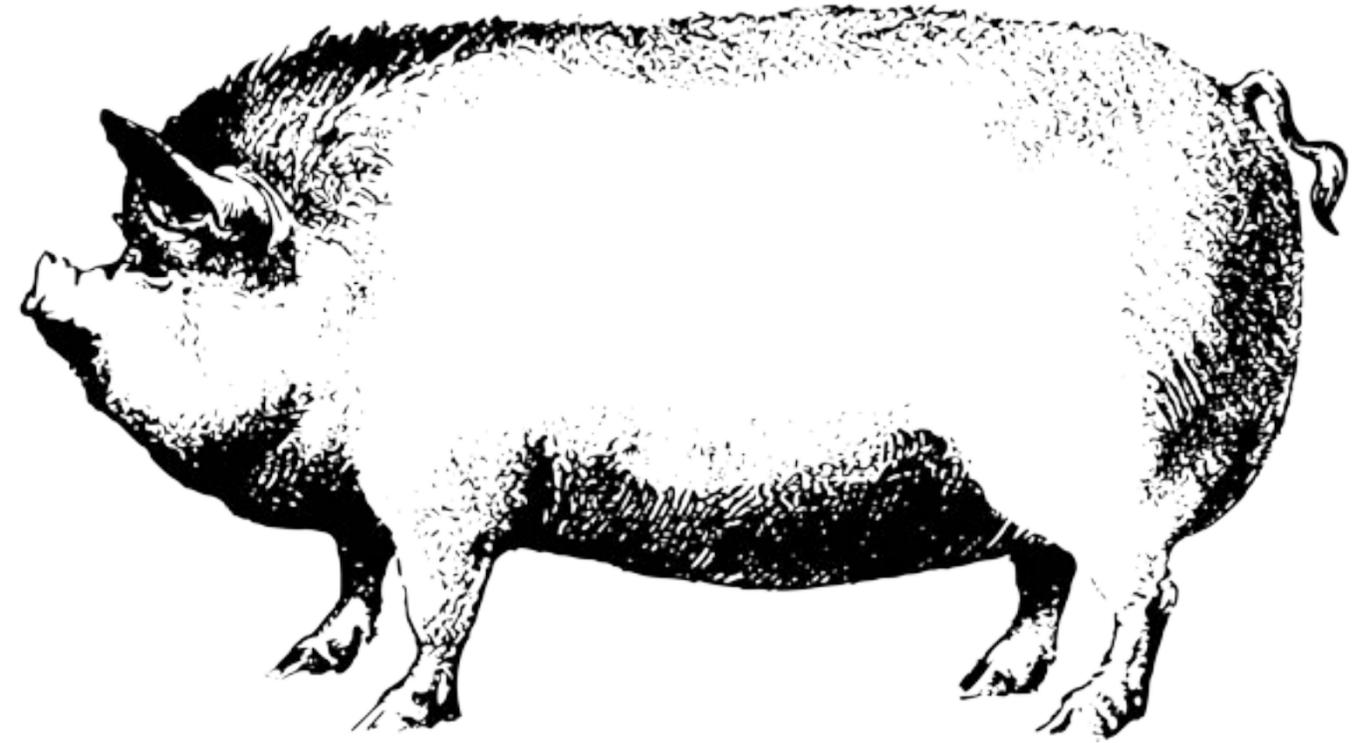
Eww...



Nope, not a pig.



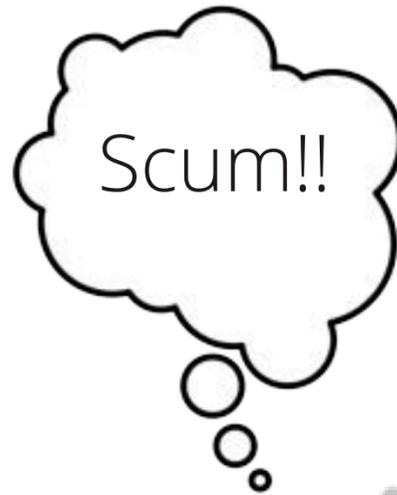
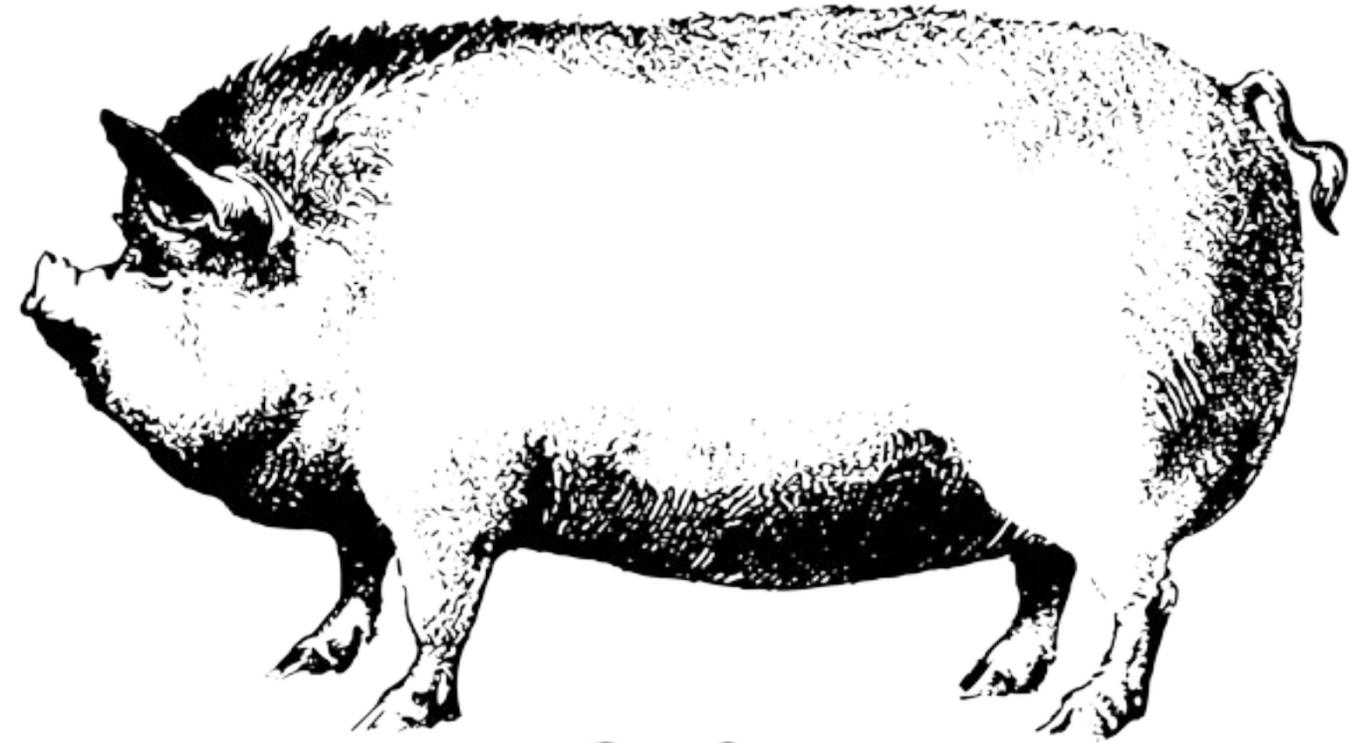
Centurion
(Roman occupier with power)



Nope, not a pig.



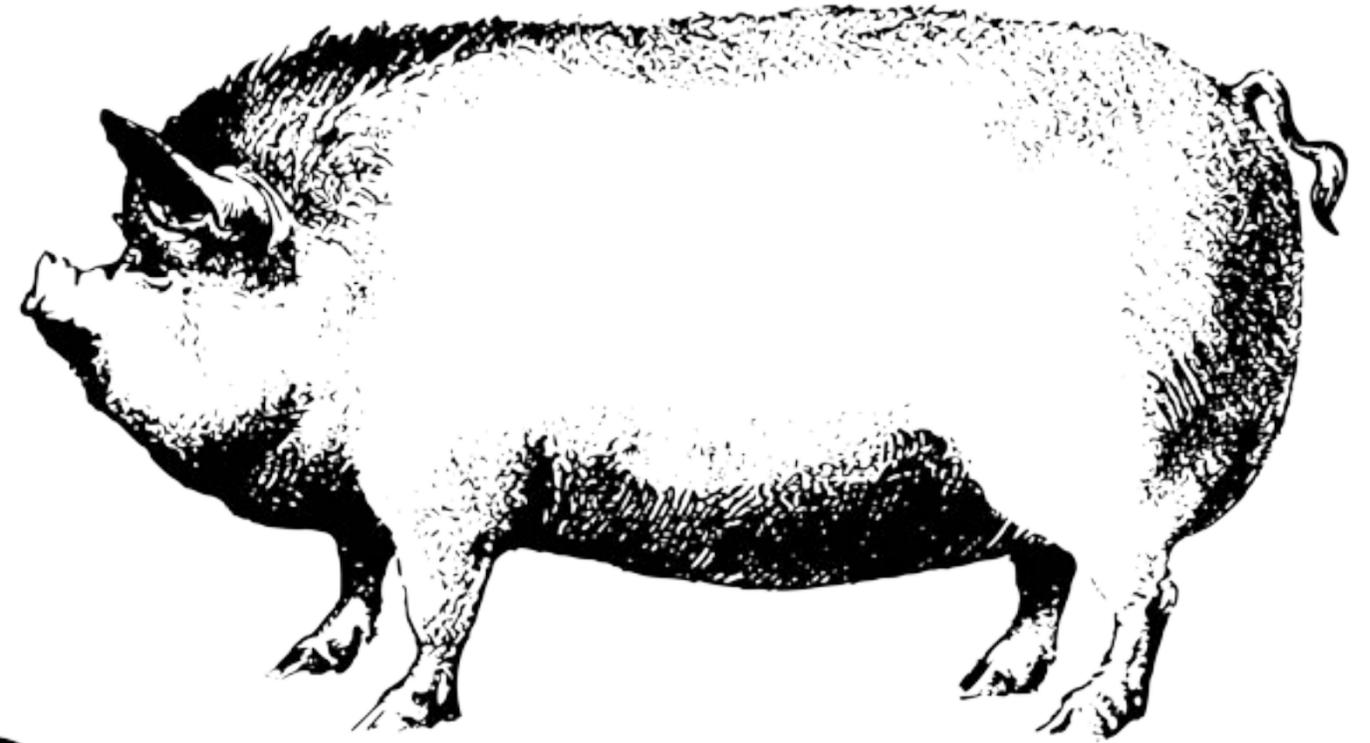
Tax Collector
(supposed to be on your
team but kicking goals for
the other side)



Nope, not a pig.



Demon-possessed men
(crazy, naked, dangerous)



Don't touch
them!

Crazy
people

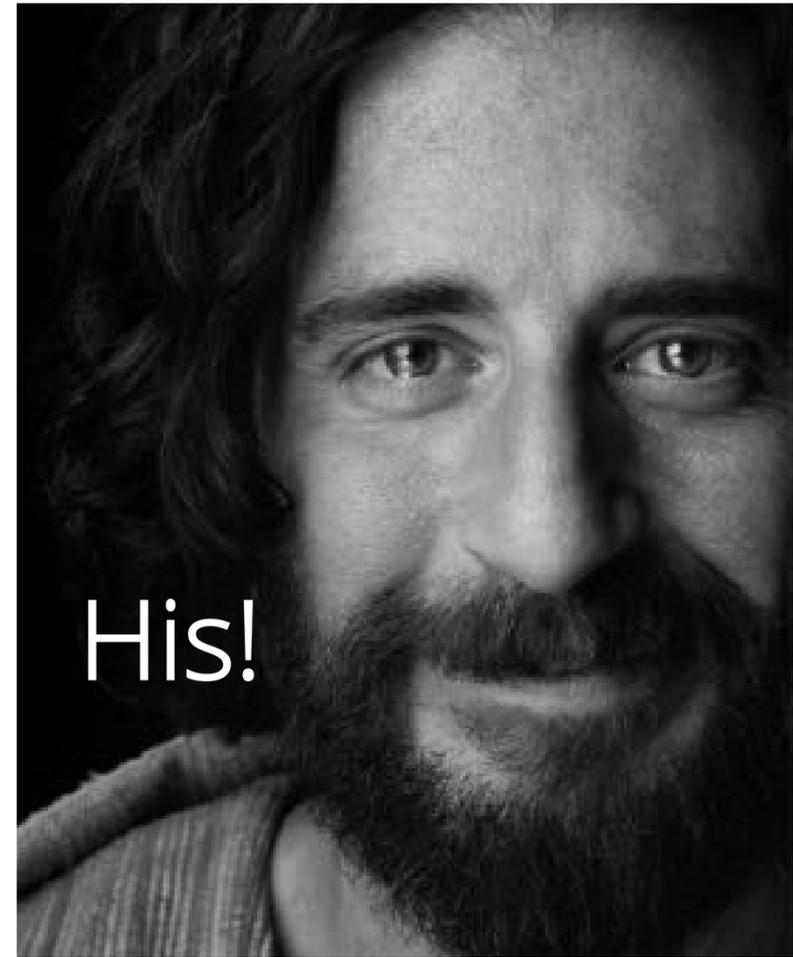
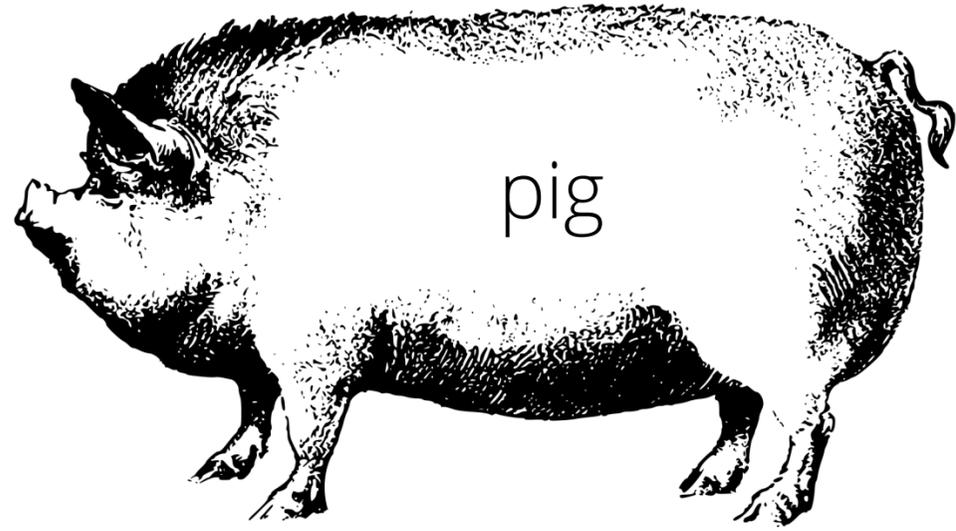
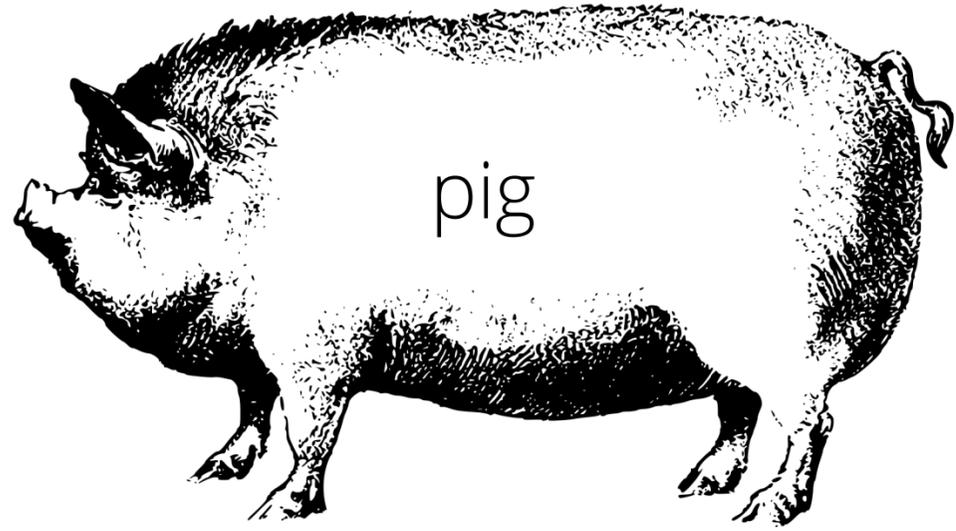
Eww...put
some
clothes on!





demons





What is marriage /
singleness?

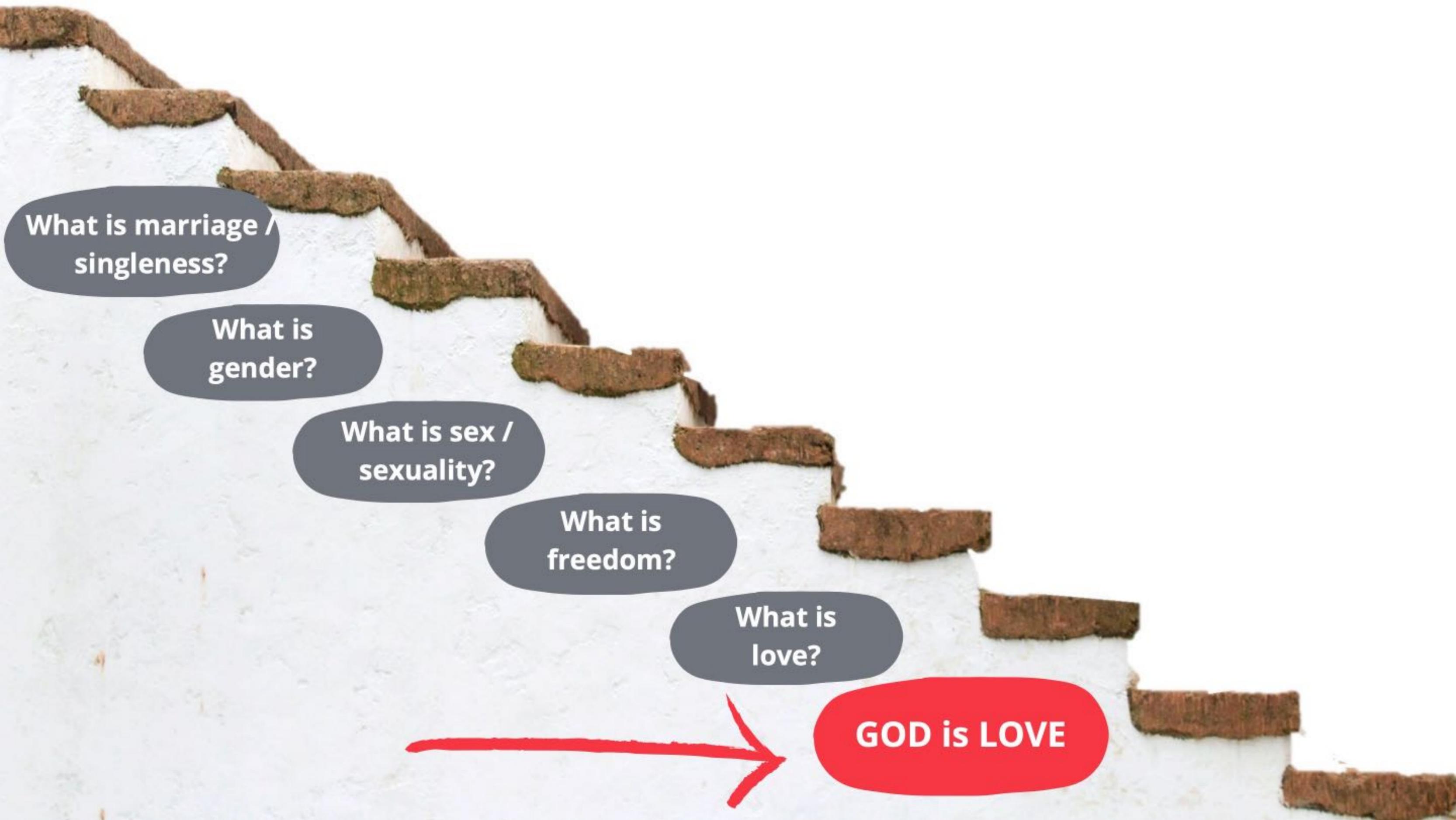
What is
gender?

What is sex /
sexuality?

What is
freedom?

What is
love?

GOD is LOVE

A staircase with five steps, each with a question in a grey oval. A red arrow points from the bottom step to a red oval containing 'GOD is LOVE'. The staircase is made of white paper with brown cardboard edges. The questions are: 'What is marriage / singleness?', 'What is gender?', 'What is sex / sexuality?', 'What is freedom?', and 'What is love?'. The final oval is red and contains the text 'GOD is LOVE'.

What is marriage /
singleness?

What is
gender?

What is sex /
sexuality?

What is
freedom?

What is
love?

GOD is LOVE

AS WE GO UP...





What is marriage /
singleness?

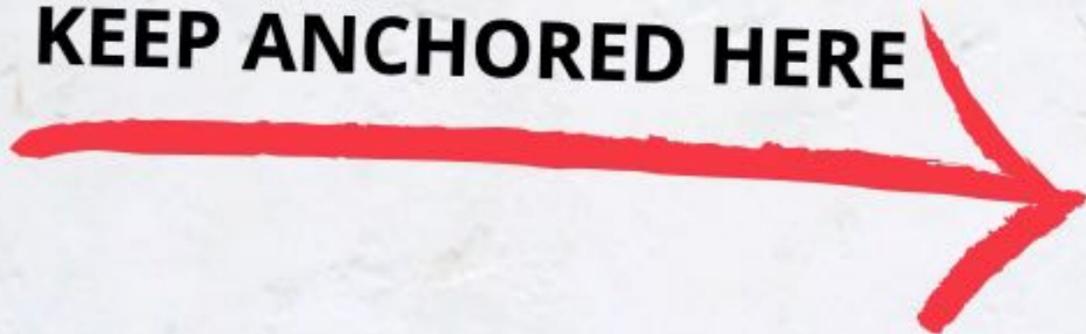
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sexuality?

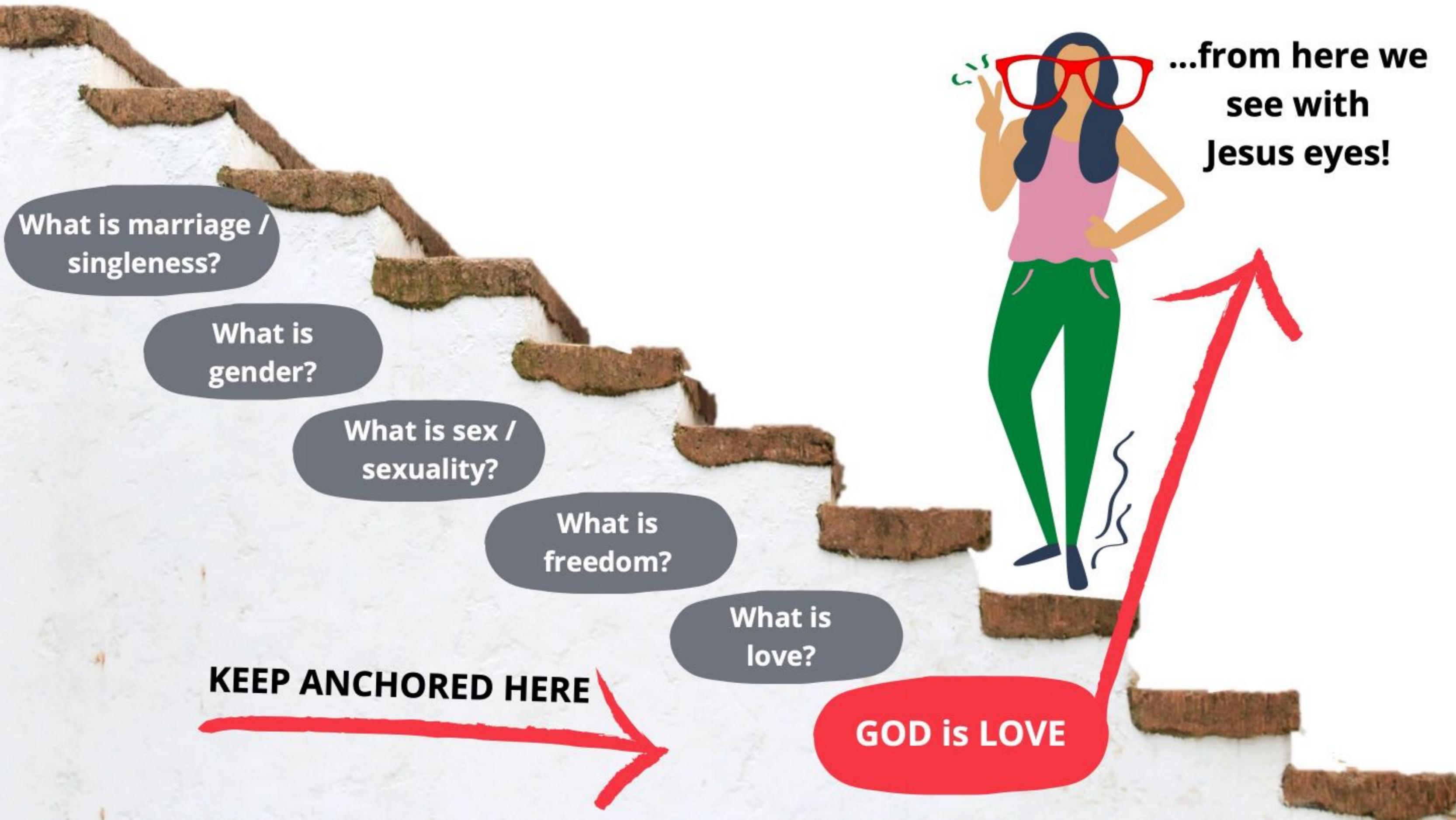
What is
freedom?

What is
love?

KEEP ANCHORED HERE



GOD is LOVE



...from here we see with Jesus eyes!

What is marriage / singleness?

What is gender?

What is sex / sexuality?

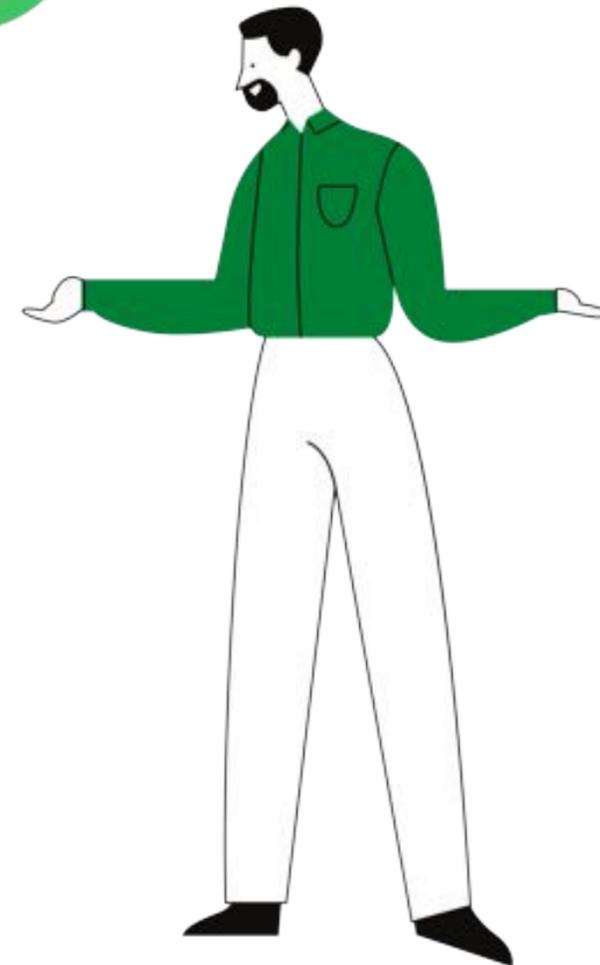
What is freedom?

What is love?

GOD is LOVE

KEEP ANCHORED HERE

How do we love like Jesus?



Encouragements:



1

Seek the gift

- Ask, seek & knock – it will be given to you! (Matt 7: 8) Ask God, he wants to give you his gift of love! (Matt 7: 9!)
- It doesn't come easily – its a narrow gate; the pearl is hard won (Matt 7: 13)

2

Deep Listening

- Listen, deeply (especially to those you find it hard to love)
- Others are a 'part of me I do not yet know' (Valerie Kaur)
- It isn't about letting go of what you think; its about seeing the way God sees.