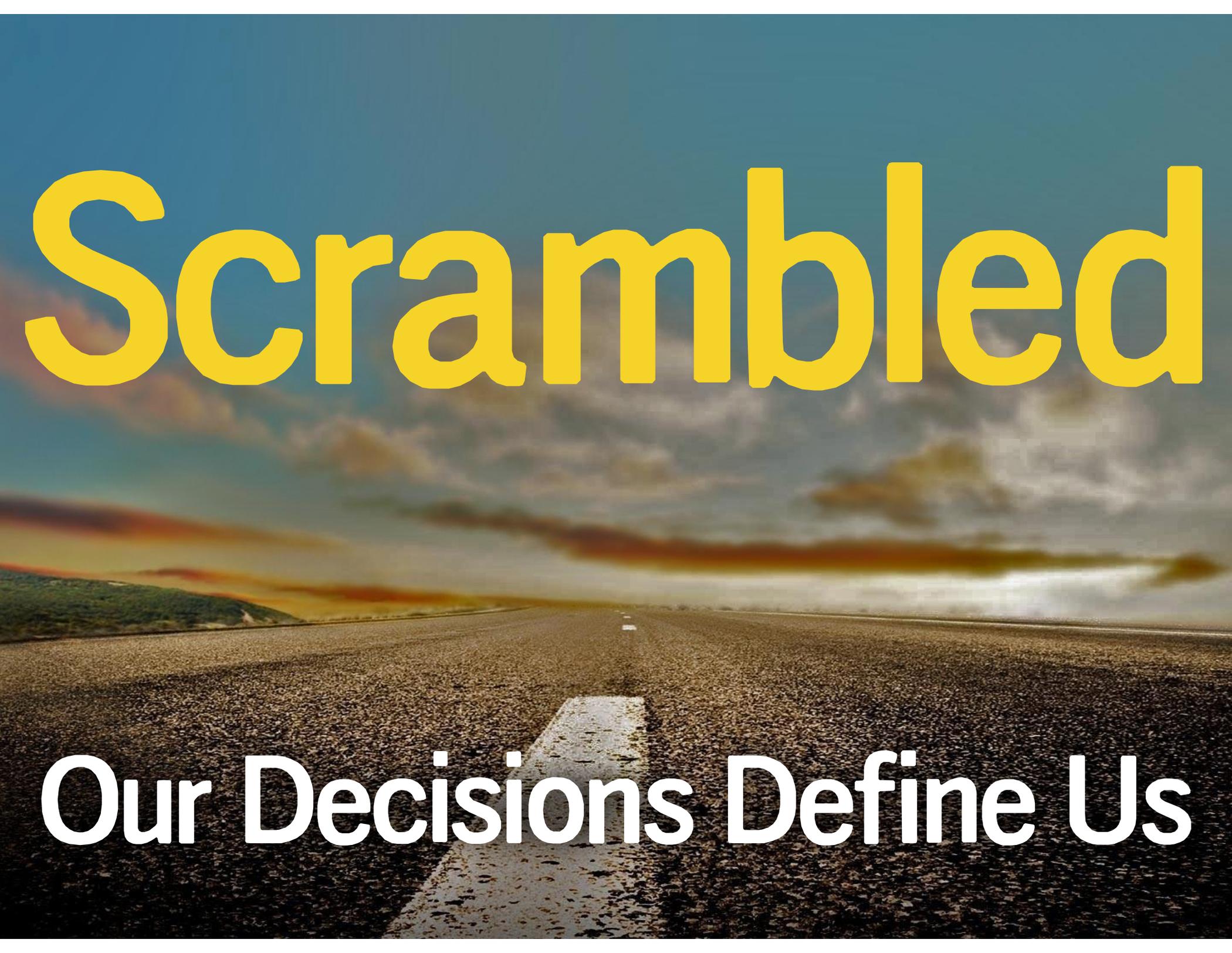


Scrambled



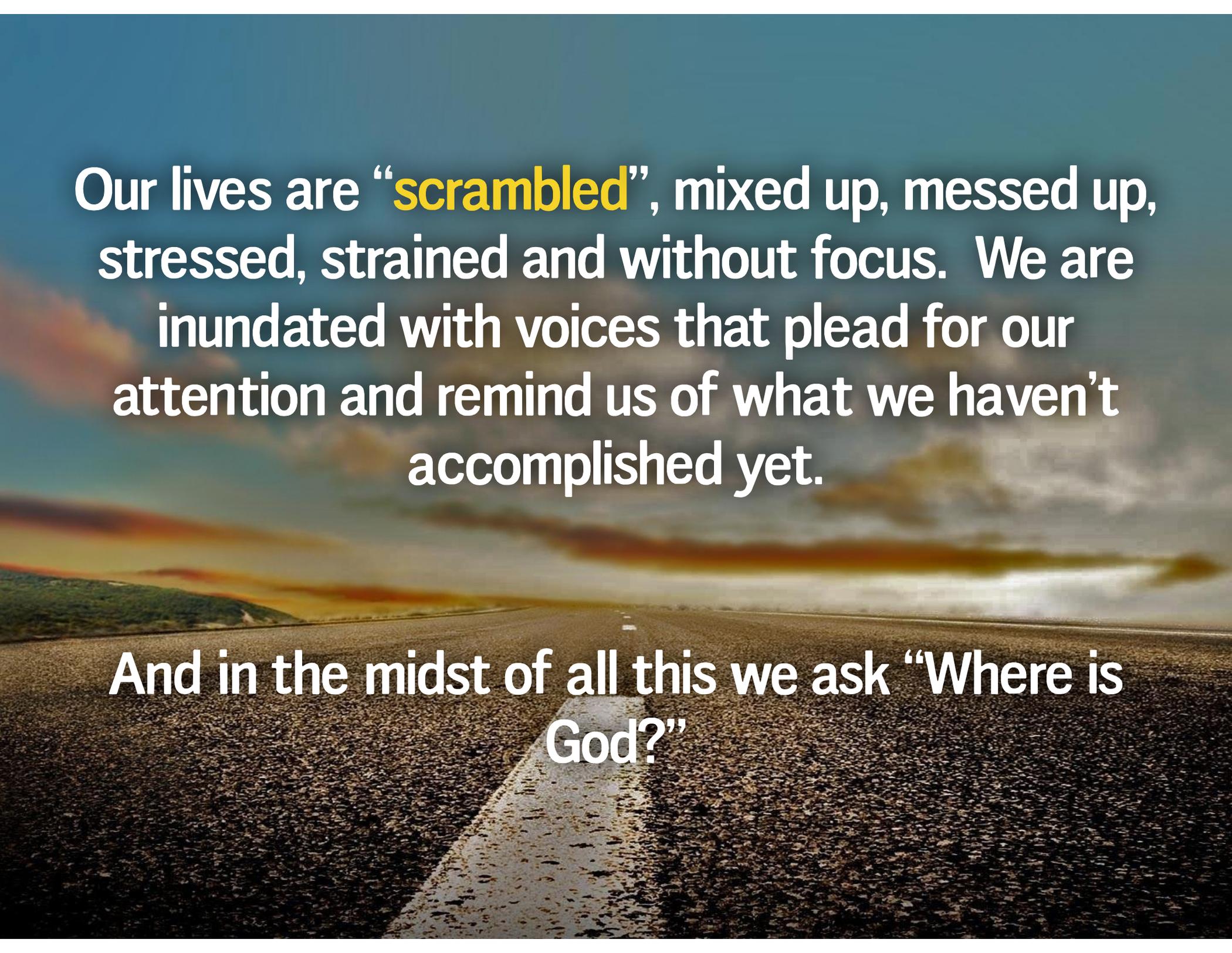
Our Decisions Define Us

Young Alice comes to a fork in the road and asks the Cheshire Cat which direction she should take. “That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,’ said the Cat.

“I don’t much care where –’ said Alice

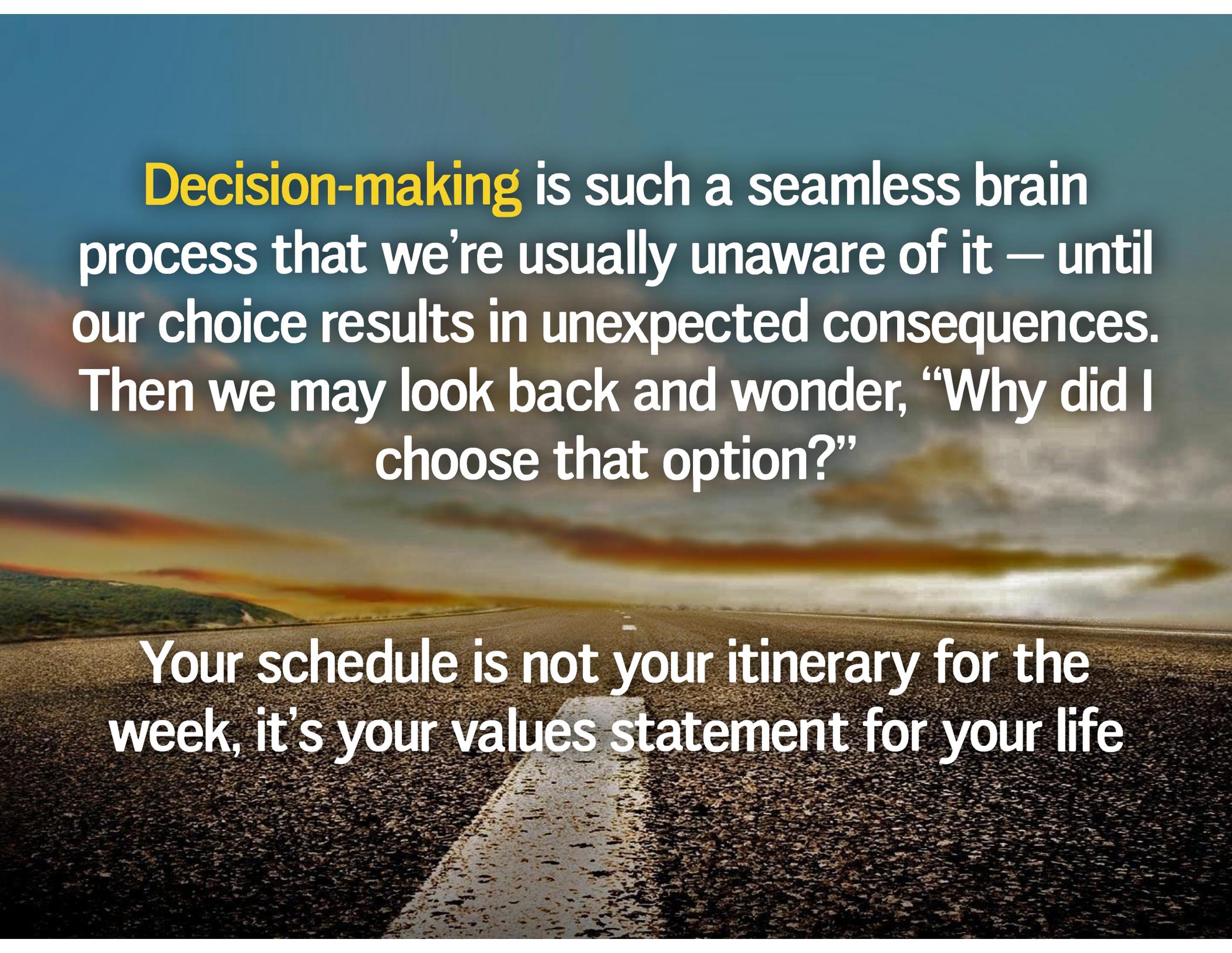


“Then it doesn’t matter which way you walk,’ said the Cat.”

A scenic landscape featuring a paved road that stretches from the foreground into the distance, leading towards a sunset. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue. The ground on either side of the road appears to be a field or meadow. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Our lives are “**scrambled**”, mixed up, messed up, stressed, strained and without focus. We are inundated with voices that plead for our attention and remind us of what we haven't accomplished yet.

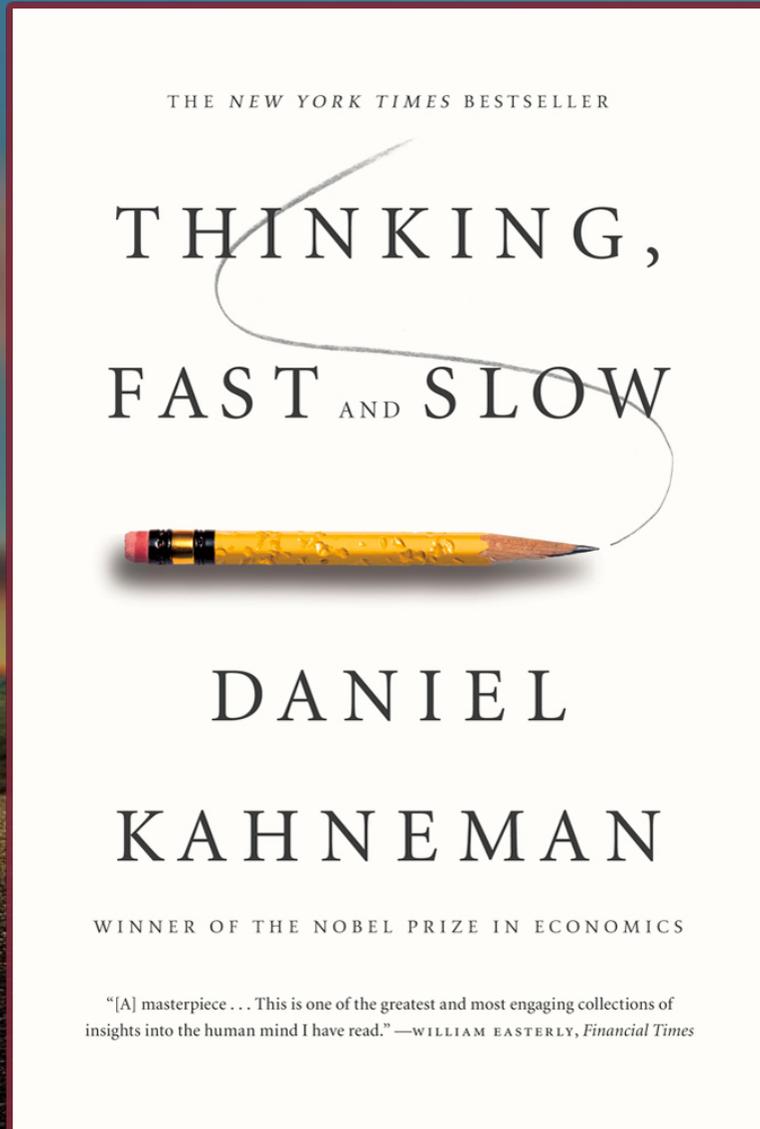
And in the midst of all this we ask “Where is God?”

A scenic landscape featuring a paved road that stretches from the foreground into the distance, leading towards a horizon. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Decision-making is such a seamless brain process that we're usually unaware of it – until our choice results in unexpected consequences. Then we may look back and wonder, “Why did I choose that option?”

Your schedule is not your itinerary for the week, it's your values statement for your life

Thinking Fast and Slow



Prof Kahneman (Nobel Prize Winner) and his late colleague Amos Tversky, who worked at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Stanford University, realized that we actually have **two systems of thinking**. There's the deliberate, logical part of your mind that is capable of analyzing a problem and coming up with a rational answer.

Thinking Fast and Slow

This is the part of your mind that you are aware of. It's expert at solving problems, but it is slow, requires a great deal of energy, and is extremely lazy. Even the act of walking is enough to occupy most of your attentive mind.

Making good decisions can be exhausting

Thinking Fast and Slow

But then there is another system in your mind that is intuitive, fast and automatic. This fast way of thinking is incredibly powerful, but totally hidden. It is so powerful, it is actually responsible for most of the things that you say, do, think and believe.

Thinking Fast and Slow

Most of the time, our fast, intuitive mind is in control, efficiently taking charge of all the thousands of decisions we make each day. The problem comes when we allow our fast, intuitive system to make decisions that we really should pass over to our slow, logical system. This is where the mistakes creep in.

And guess where the realm of faith and spiritual development fall

Luke 14:25-35

Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: “If anyone comes to me and does not **hate** father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.” **vs 25-27**

Luke 14:25-35

Hate

When the Lord saw that Leah was **not loved (hated ESV, KJV)**, he enabled her to conceive, but Rachel remained childless. **Genesis 29:31**

To have other gods is to love them above God. To have other gods is to hate God

Jesus says that the love for God must be higher than all else or else the person can not consider themselves a disciple

Luke 14:25-35

Counting the Cost

Tower and War

Two tensions here, our faith is something being built but also something attacked

‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

Luke 14:25-35

In the **same way**, those of you who do not give up **everything** you have cannot be my disciples. **vs 33**

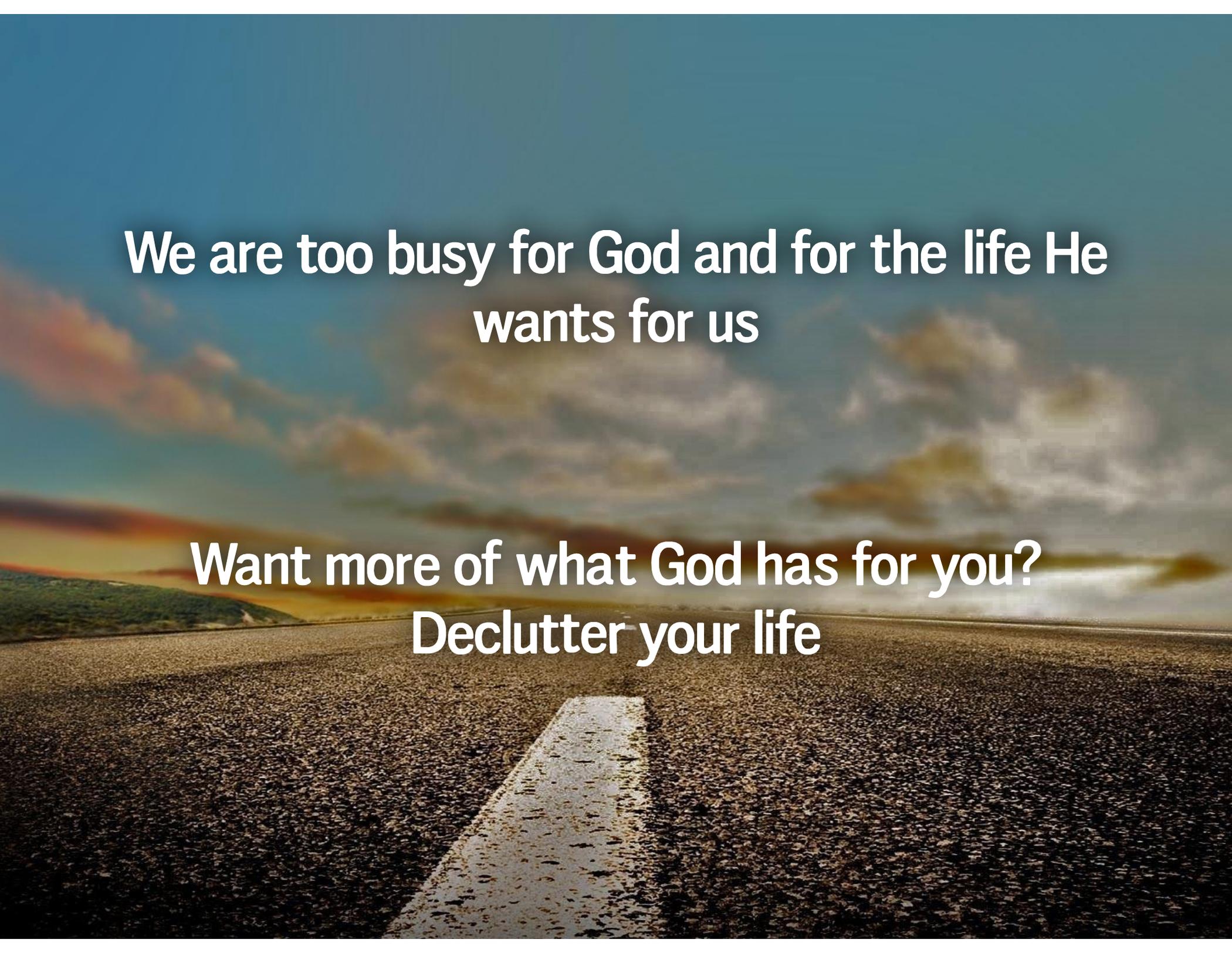
What do you say yes to that takes you away from God?

Luke 14:25-35

Discipleship is not a matter of how much we have to offer, but of renouncing all we think we have

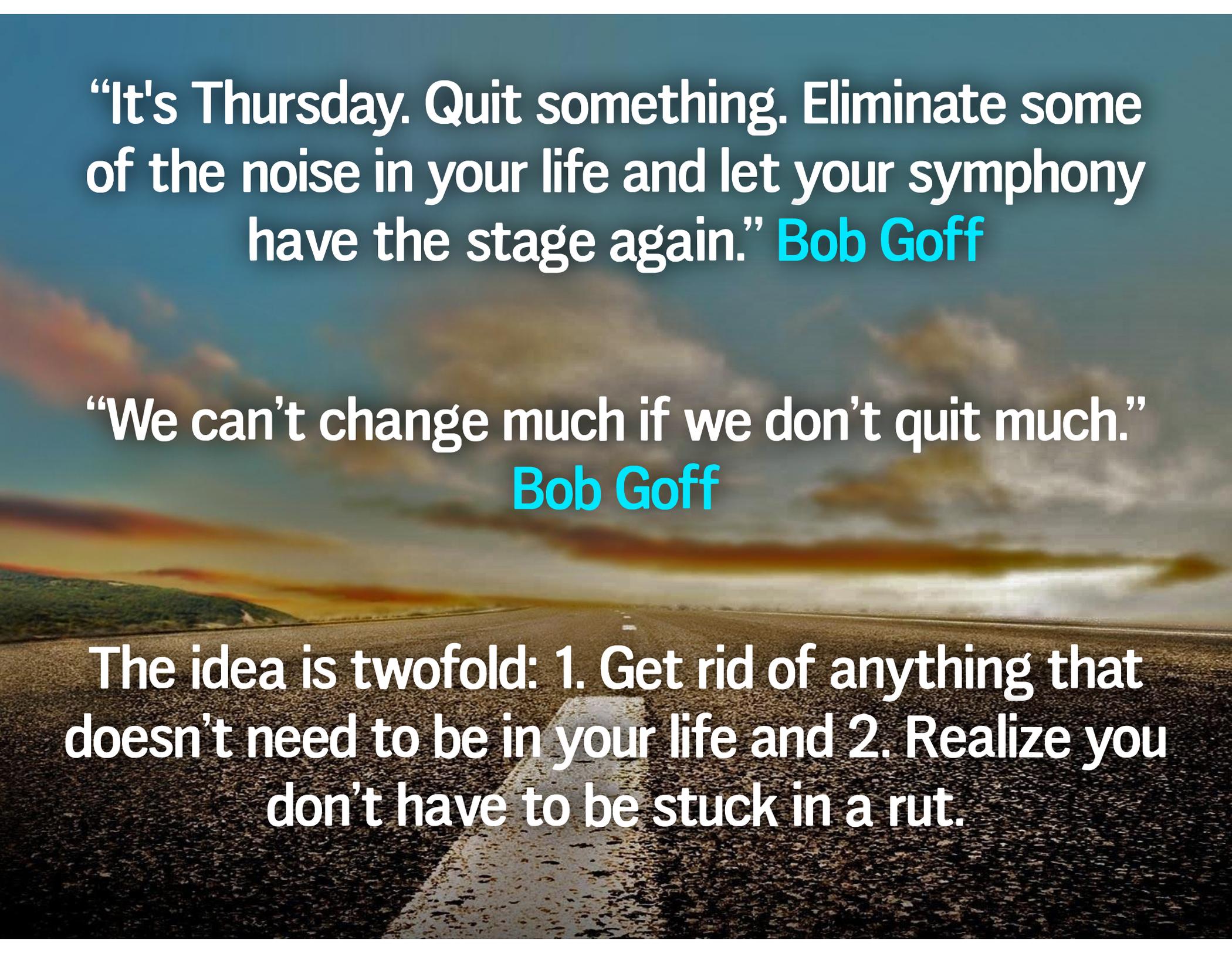
To deny oneself is to be aware only of Christ and no more of self, to see only him who goes before and no more the road which is too hard for us. Once more, all that self denial can say is: "He leads the way, keep close to him."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship



**We are too busy for God and for the life He
wants for us**

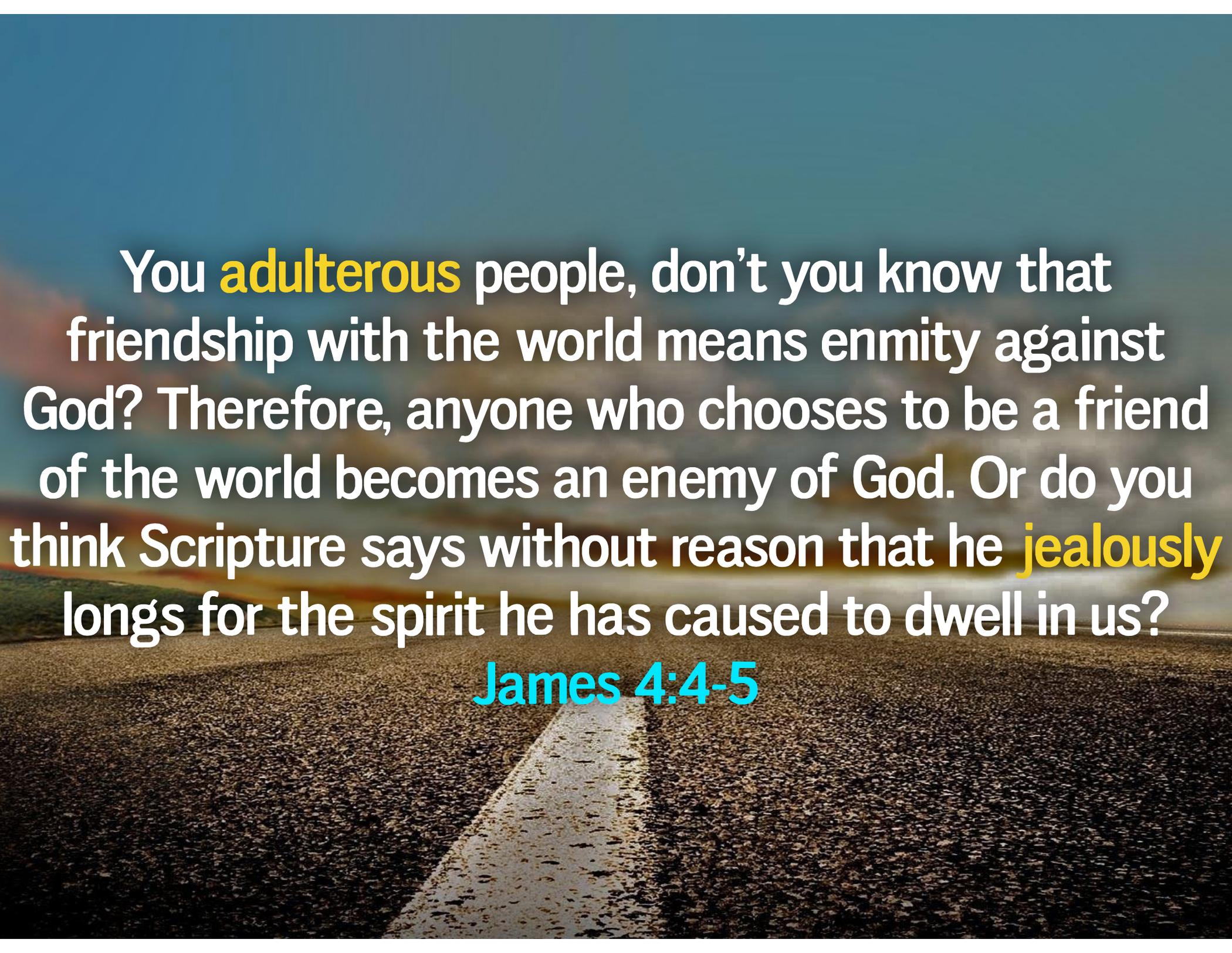
**Want more of what God has for you?
Declutter your life**

A scenic landscape featuring a paved road that stretches into the distance, flanked by green hills. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

“It's Thursday. Quit something. Eliminate some of the noise in your life and let your symphony have the stage again.” Bob Goff

**“We can't change much if we don't quit much.”
Bob Goff**

The idea is twofold: 1. Get rid of anything that doesn't need to be in your life and 2. Realize you don't have to be stuck in a rut.



You **adulterous** people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he **jealously** longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?

James 4:4-5