

A photograph of a forest path covered in red autumn leaves, with tall, thin trees on either side. The scene is misty and atmospheric, with a soft light filtering through the trees. The path leads into the distance, creating a sense of depth and journey.

A Deeper Life With God

Luke 11:1-4

3 Shifts must happen in the preparation

From practicing Religion and Rituals to
RELATIONSHIPS



From Denominational Doctrinal leanings to
DISCIPLESHIP



From Christian by name to **CHRISTLIKENESS**

Sermon Text

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”² He said to them, “When you pray, say: “Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.³ Give us each day our daily bread.⁴ Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.”

Luke 11:1-4



Understanding the Lord's Prayer as a Way of Life

4 Points

Discipleship

Lord, teach
us

Relationship

Father,
Hallowed be
your name

Kingdom

Your kingdom
come

Community

Give us..
Forgive us..
Lead us not..

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place.
When he finished, one of his disciples said to him

Luke 14:1

Discipleship

“Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”



3 Essentials of Discipleship

- **DECISION** determines who you follow
- **DIRECTION** determines where you are going
- **DISCIPLINE** gets you to your destination

Decision

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.**

Matthew 16:24-25

Direction

From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

John 6:66-68

Discipline

I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Psalm 16:8

The Life Jesus Offers

⁵ LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure. (DECISION)

⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance. (LIFE IN GOD)

⁷ I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me. (DISCIPLESHIP)

⁸ I keep my eyes always on the LORD.

With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. (ABIDING)

Psalm 16:5-8

Summary

- God is doing a new thing and He is shaping our future
- He is calling us into a deeper life, not just RELIGION but a RELATIONSHIP, not just understanding DENOMINATIONAL DOCTRINE but DISCIPLESHIP, not just being a Christian by name but to be CHRISTLIKE.
- 4 points in this series (**DISCIPLESHIP**, RELATIONSHIP, KINGDOM, COMMUNITY)
- The Lord's prayer is not a ritual but a Way of Life
- Discipleship is not attending a class but following the unseen Jesus, learning from Him and obeying Him in our daily life.
- We endeavor to abide with God daily. To abide with God means to bring our soul to be in union with God so that it can be refreshed there.




Gather me now
(A prayer by Ted Loder)

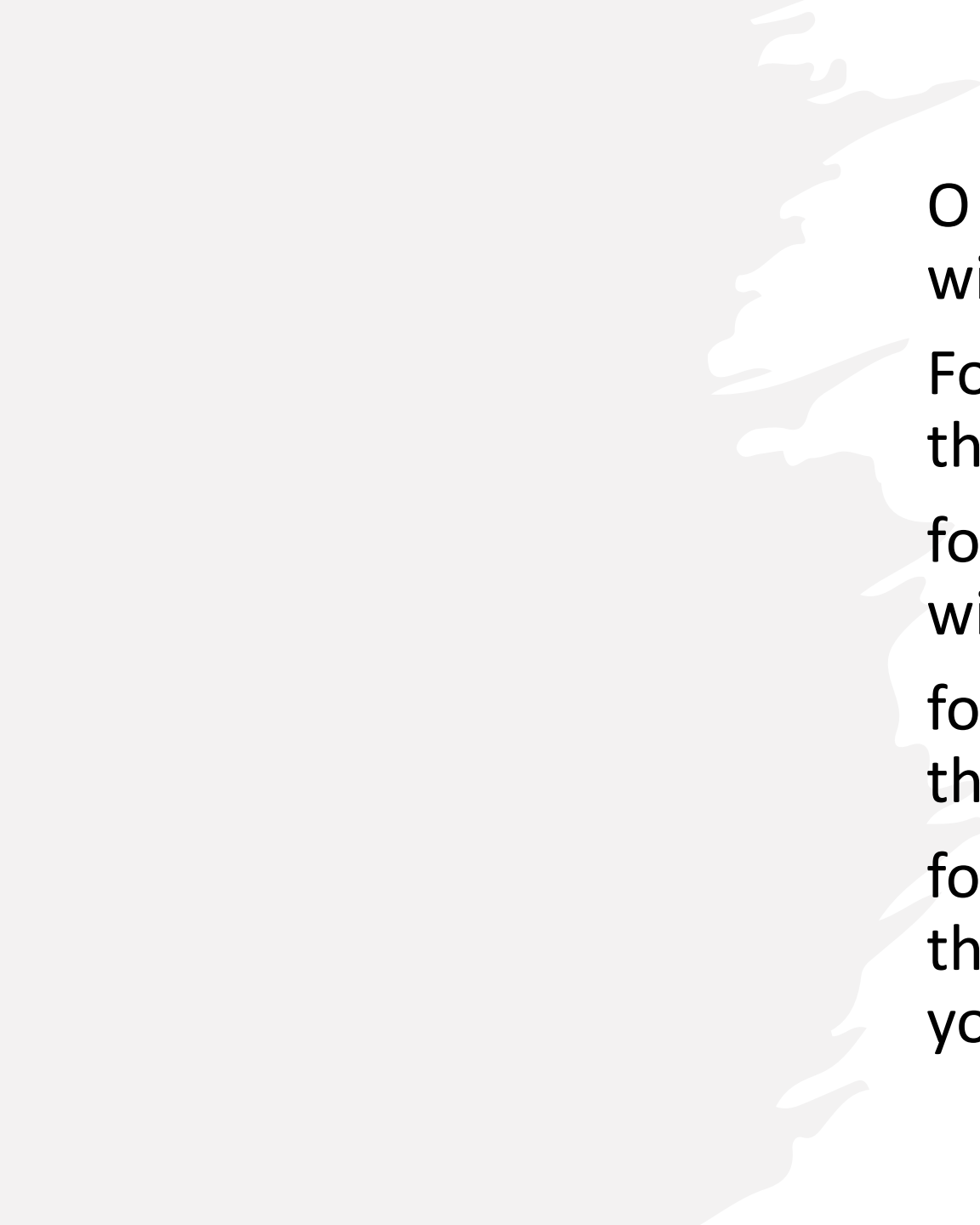
O God,
gather me now
to be with you
as you are with me.

Soothe my tiredness;
quiet by fretfulness;
curb my aimlessness;
receive my compulsiveness;
let me be easy for a moment.





O Lord, release me from the fears
and guilts which grip me so tightly;
from the expectations and opinions
which I so tightly grip,
that I may be open to receiving,
to learn something refreshingly
different.




O God, gather me to be with you as you are with me.

Forgive me for claiming so much for myself that I leave no room for gratitude;

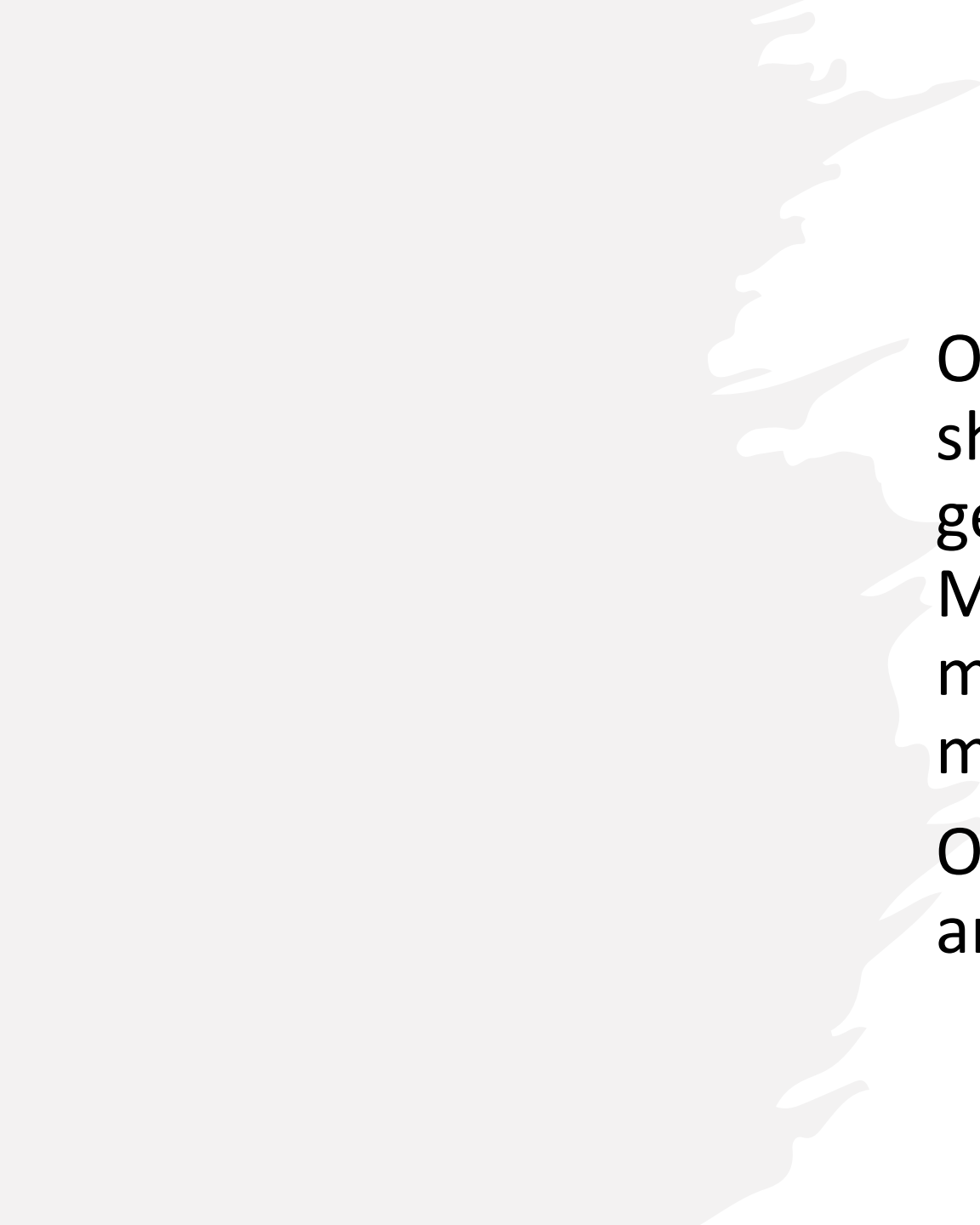
for confusing exercises in self-importance with acceptance of self-worth;

for complaining so much of my burdens that I become a burden;

for competing against others so insidiously that I stifle celebrating them and receiving your blessing through their gifts.



Keep me in touch with myself,
with my needs,
my anxieties,
my angers,
my pains,
my corruptions,
that I may claim them as my own
rather than blame them on
someone else.



O Lord, deepen my wounds into wisdom;
shape my weakness into compassion;
gentle my envy into enjoyment,
My fear into trust,
my guilt into honesty,
my accusing finger into tender ones.

O God, gather me to be with you as you
are with me.