

# ENCOUNTERING GOD

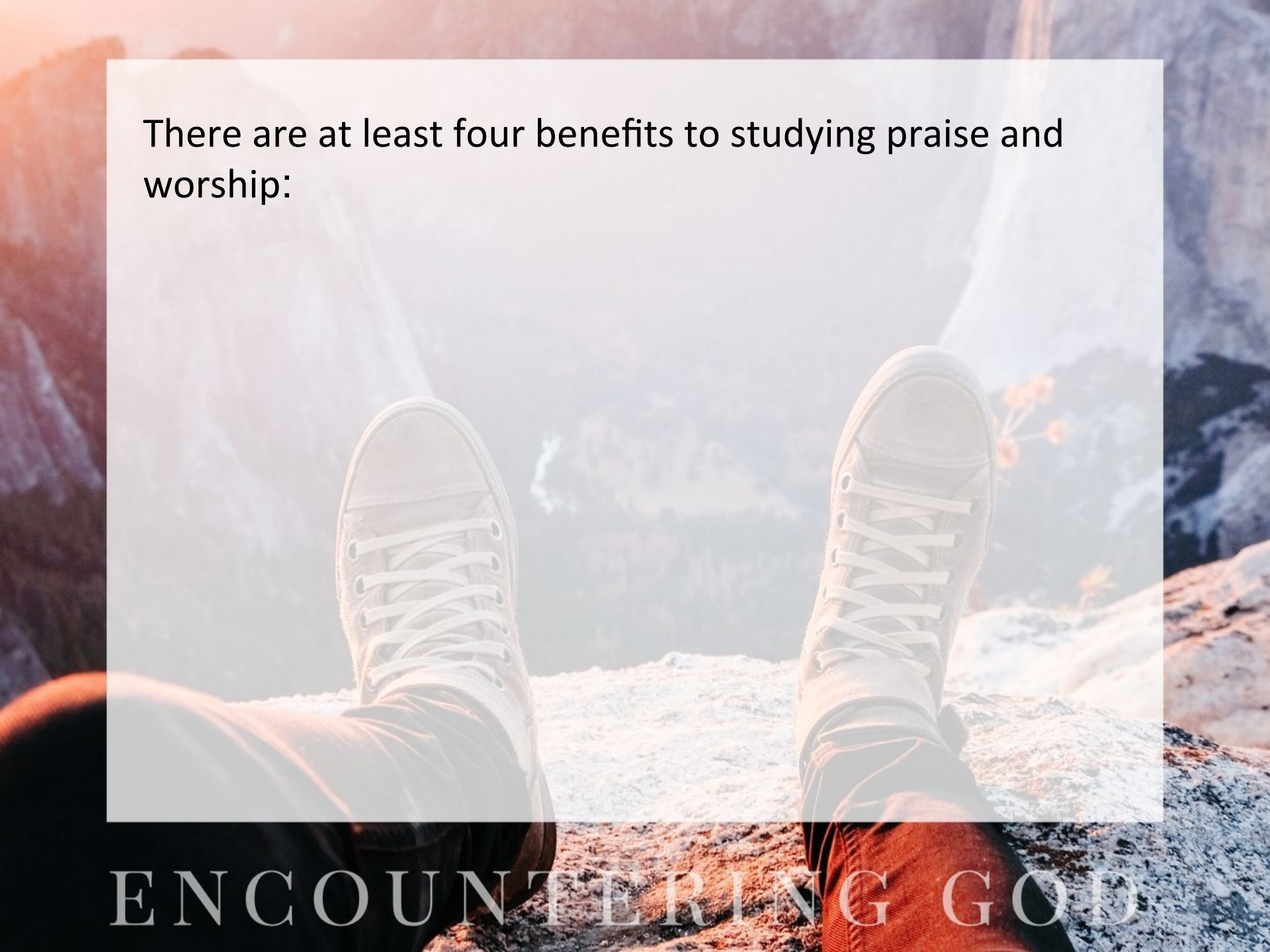
A SERIES ON WORSHIP



A first-person perspective shot of a person sitting on a rocky ledge. Their feet, wearing brown sneakers with white laces, are the central focus. The background is a vast, hazy mountain landscape with a soft, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

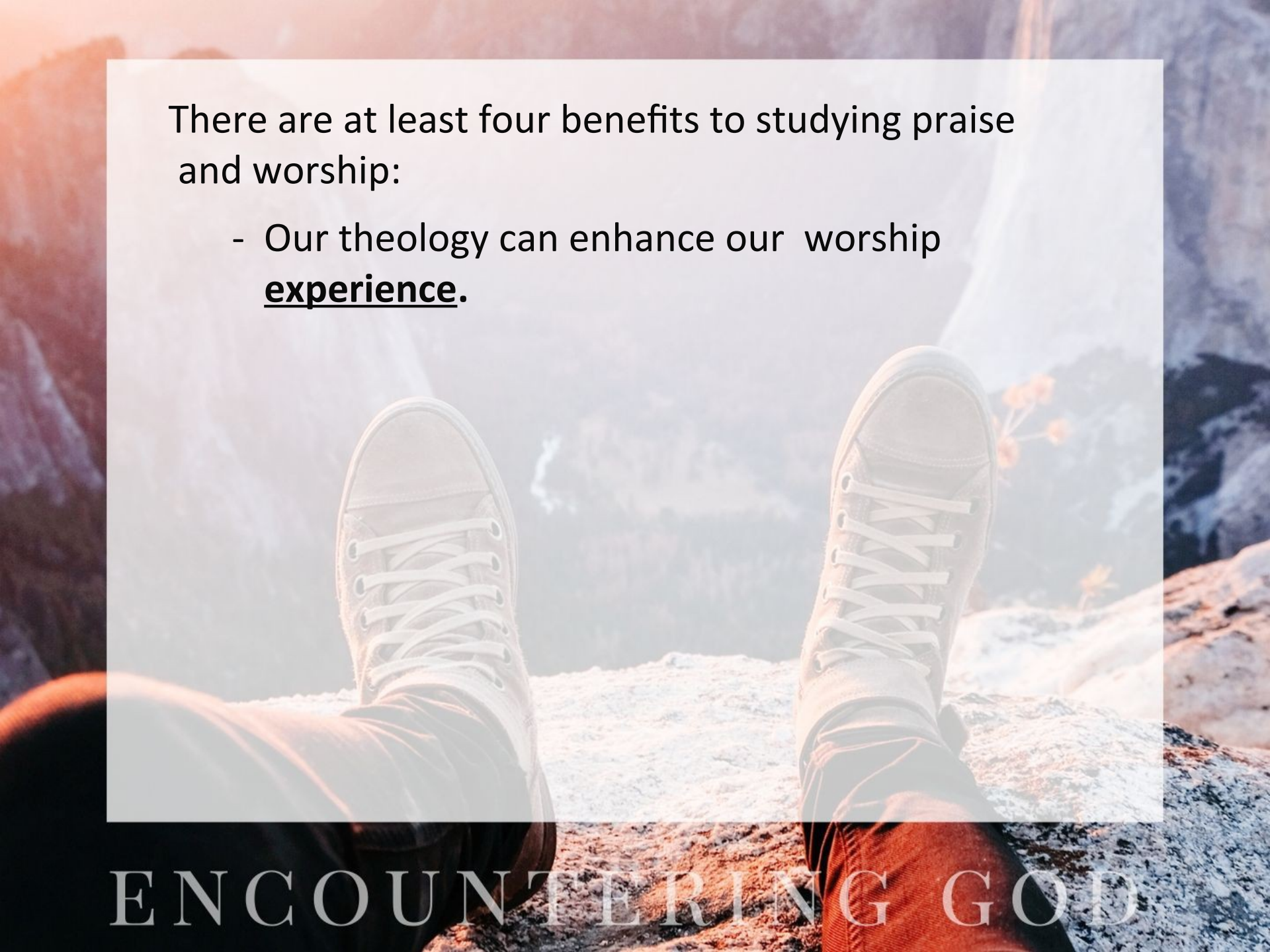
I. The **Theology** of Praise and Worship.

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There are at least four benefits to studying praise and worship:


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A person's feet, wearing white sneakers with white laces, are positioned on a rocky ledge. The person is wearing dark pants. The background is a vast, hazy landscape with mountains and a bright sky, suggesting a high-altitude or mountainous setting. The overall tone is serene and contemplative.

There are at least four benefits to studying praise and worship:

- Our theology can enhance our worship **experience.**

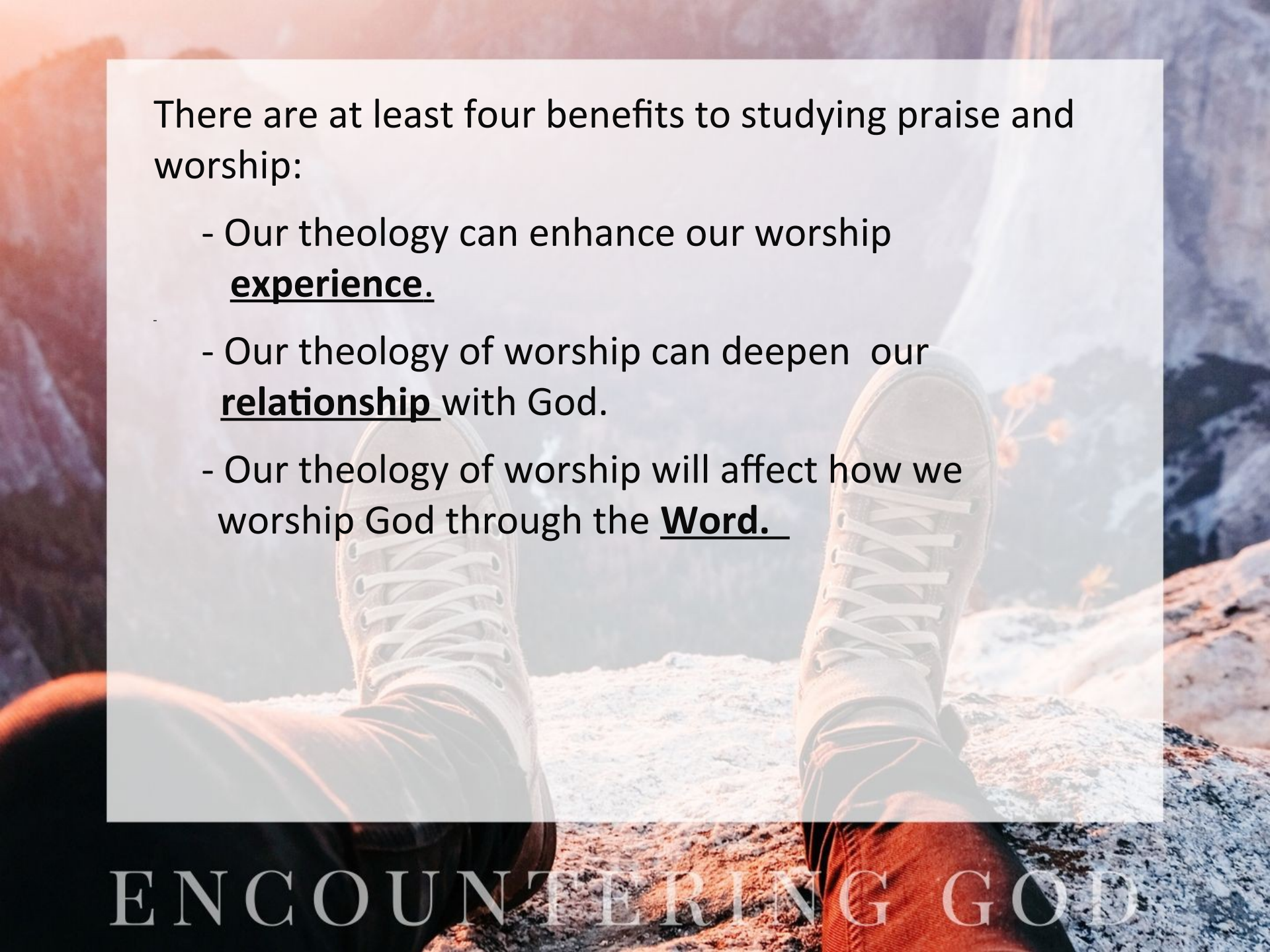
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There are at least four benefits to studying praise and worship:

- Our theology can enhance our worship **experience**.
- Our theology of worship can deepen our **relationship** with God.

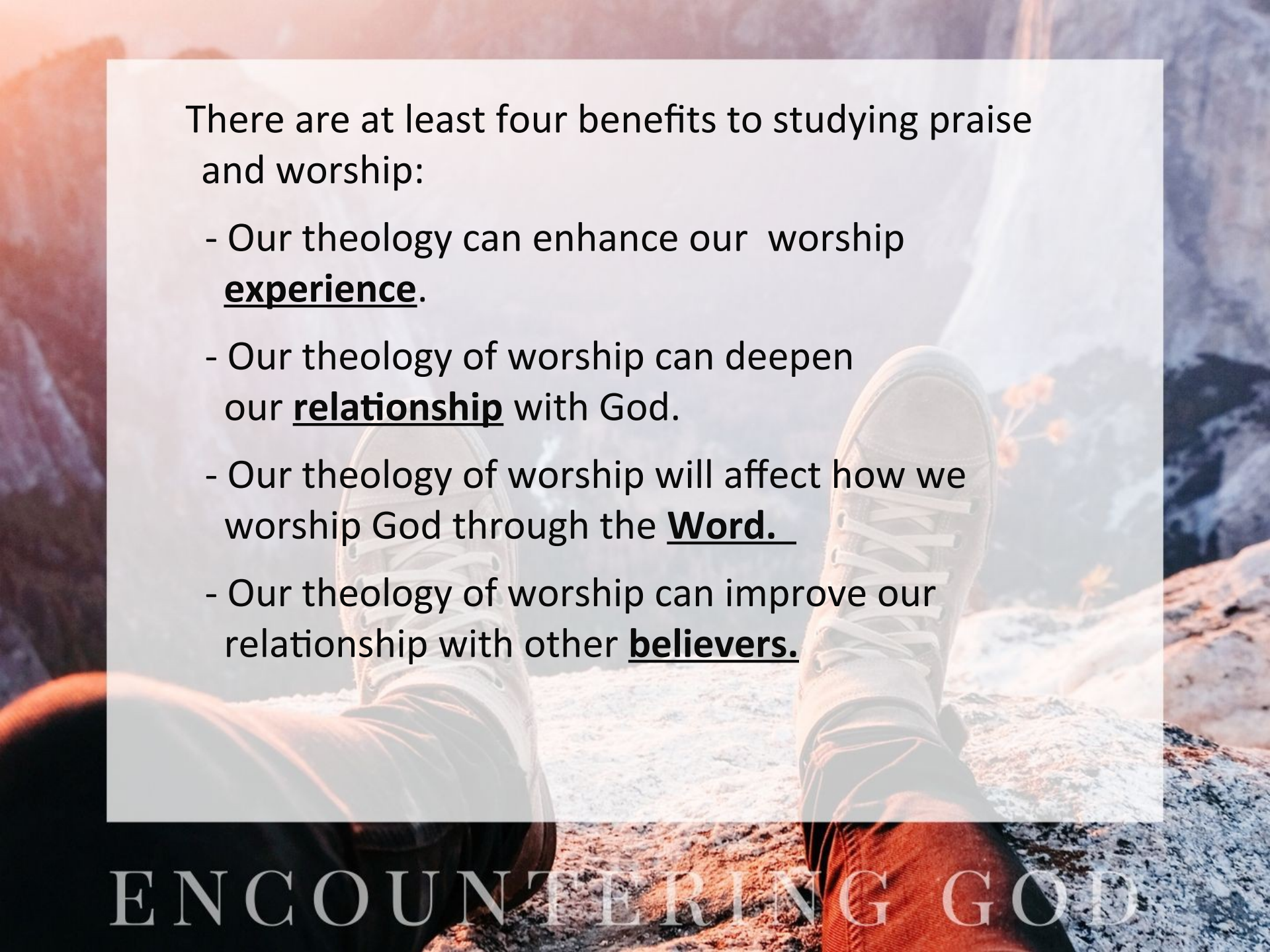
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- Our theology of worship can deepen our relationship with God.
- Our theology of worship will affect how we worship God through the Word.

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- Our theology can enhance our worship experience.
- Our theology of worship can deepen our relationship with God.
- Our theology of worship will affect how we worship God through the Word.
- Our theology of worship can improve our relationship with other believers.

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II. What is **Christian** worship?

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Five principles of **Christian** Worship.

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Five principles of **Christian** Worship.

1. The activation of the **Priesthood.**

1 Peter 2:5 NLT

<sup>5</sup> And you are living stones that God is building into his spiritual temple. What's more, you are his holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God.

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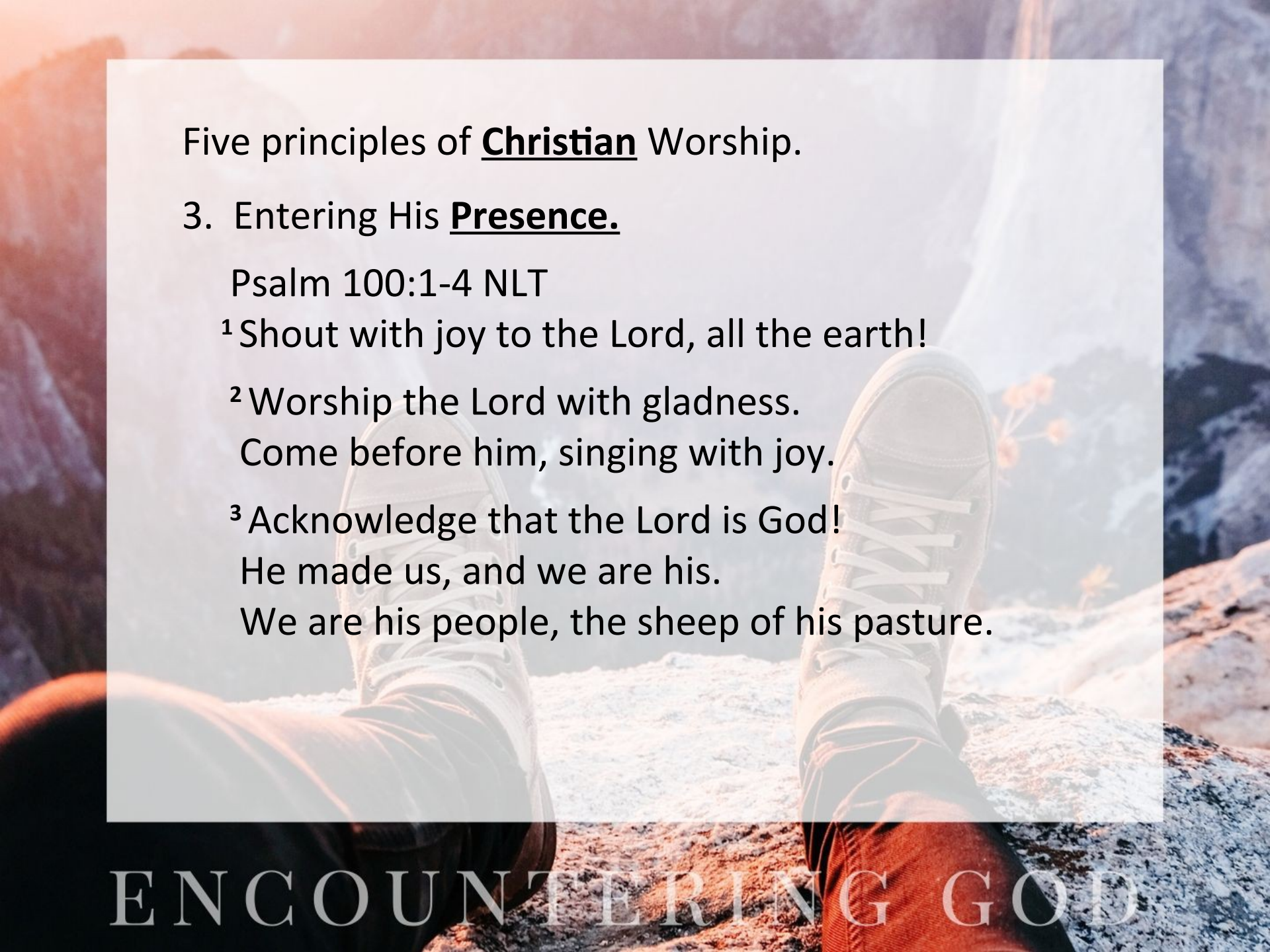
Five principles of **Christian** Worship.

2. Heart, Soul, and Body.

Mark 12:30 NLT

‘And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’

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Five principles of **Christian** Worship.

3. Entering His **Presence**.

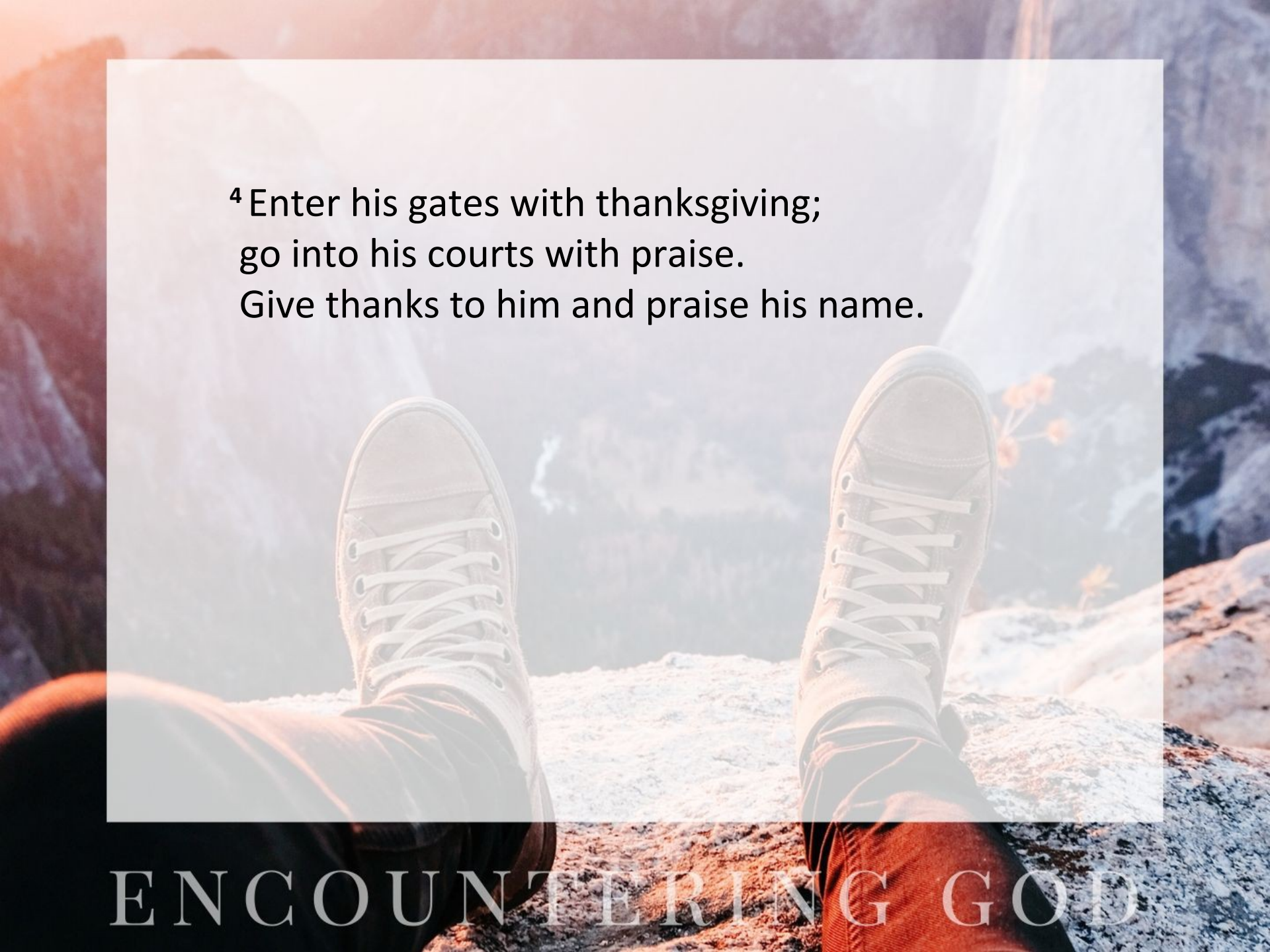
Psalm 100:1-4 NLT

<sup>1</sup> Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!

<sup>2</sup> Worship the Lord with gladness.  
Come before him, singing with joy.

<sup>3</sup> Acknowledge that the Lord is God!  
He made us, and we are his.  
We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

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<sup>4</sup>Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him and praise his name.

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Five principles of **Christian** Worship.

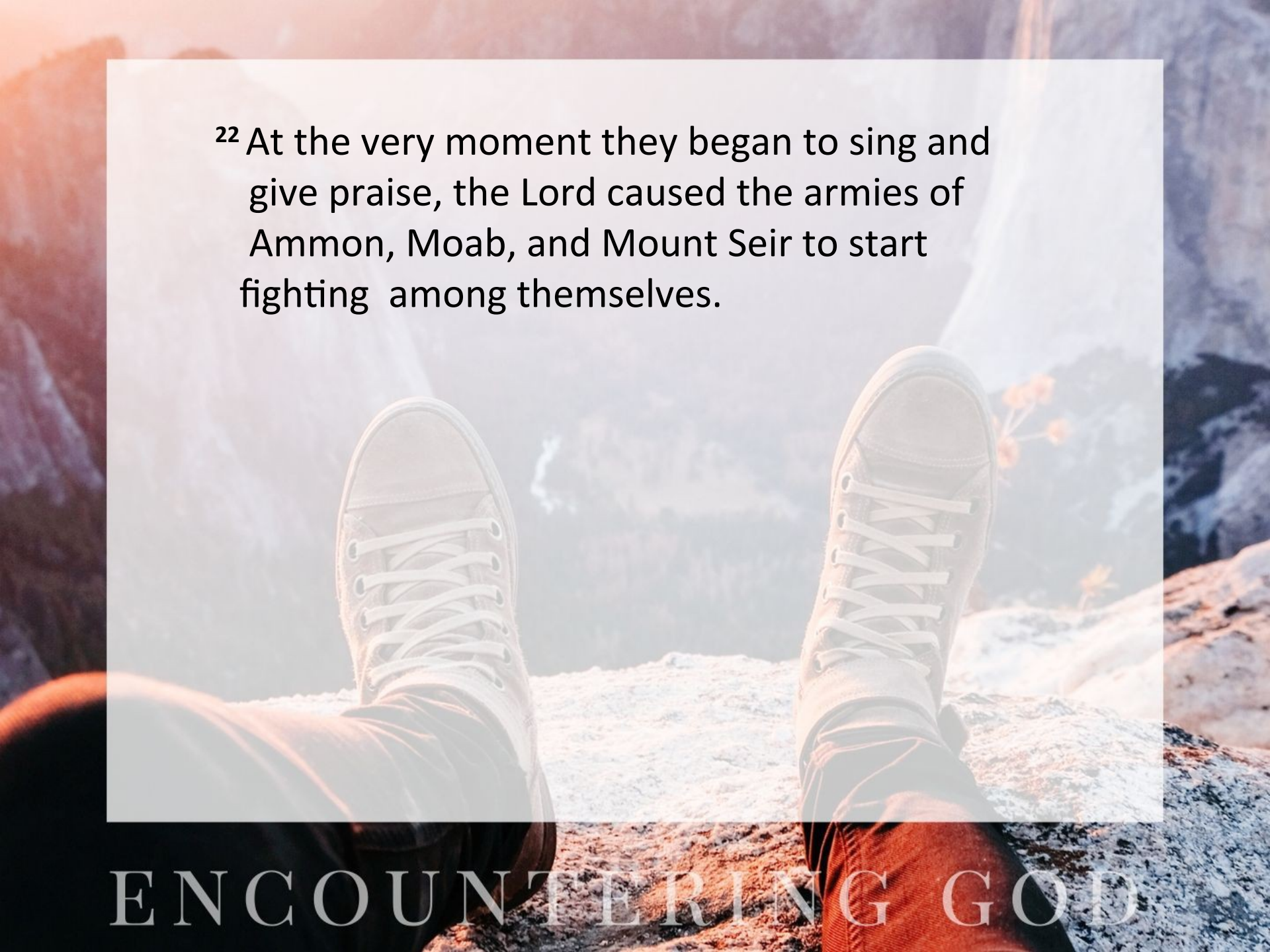
4. Praise and Power

2 Chronicles 20:21-22 NLT

<sup>21</sup> After consulting the people, the king appointed singers to walk ahead of the army, singing to the Lord and praising him for his holy splendor.

This is what they sang:

“Give thanks to the Lord;  
his faithful love endures forever!”

A person's feet, wearing white sneakers with white laces, are positioned on a rocky ledge. The person is wearing dark pants. The background is a vast, hazy mountain range under a bright sky, suggesting a high-altitude or mountainous environment. The overall tone is serene and contemplative.

<sup>22</sup> At the very moment they began to sing and give praise, the Lord caused the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir to start fighting among themselves.

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Five principles of **Christian** Worship.

5. More than a **song**.

Hebrews 13:15-16 NLT

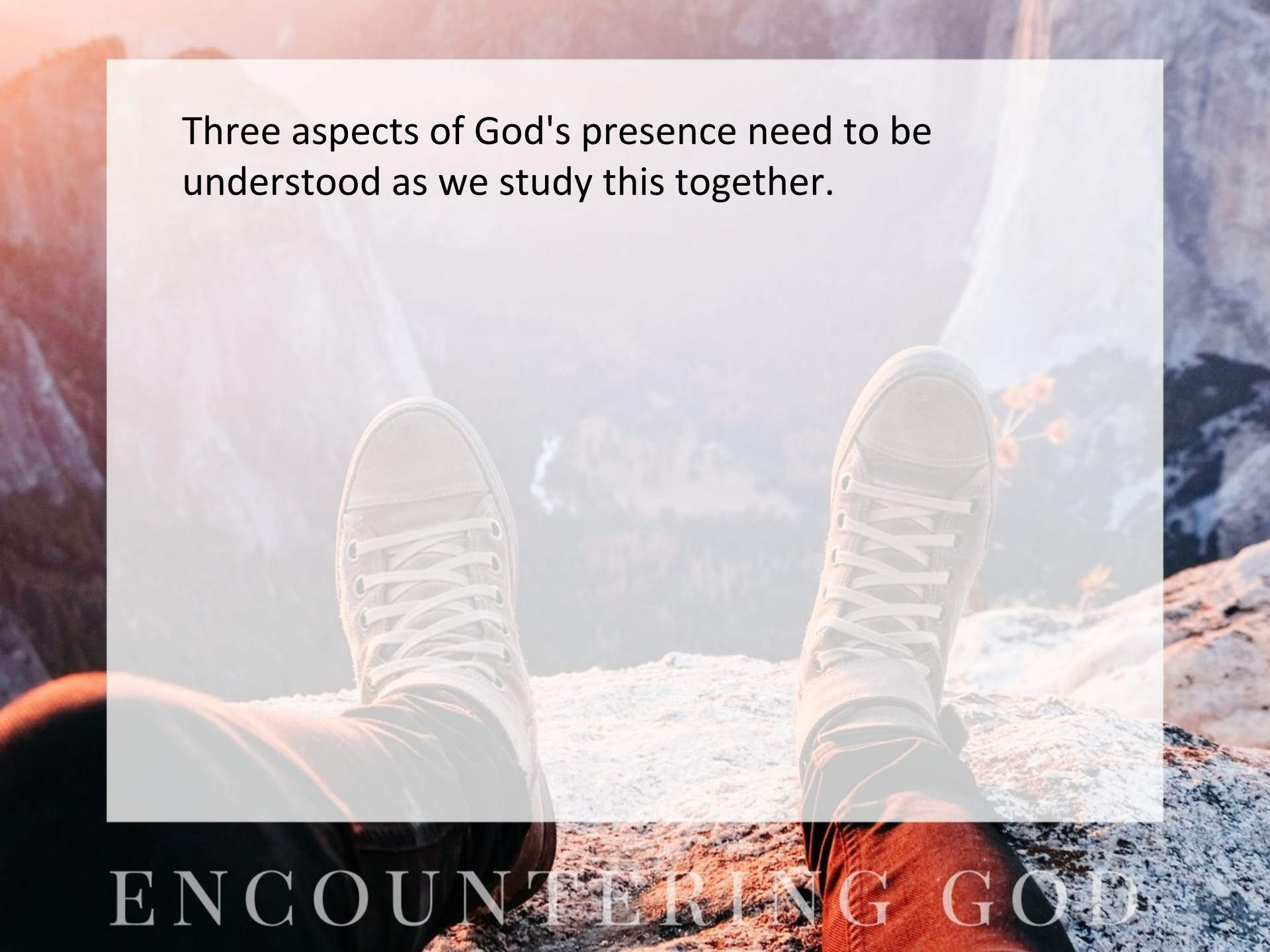
<sup>15</sup>Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name. <sup>16</sup>And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

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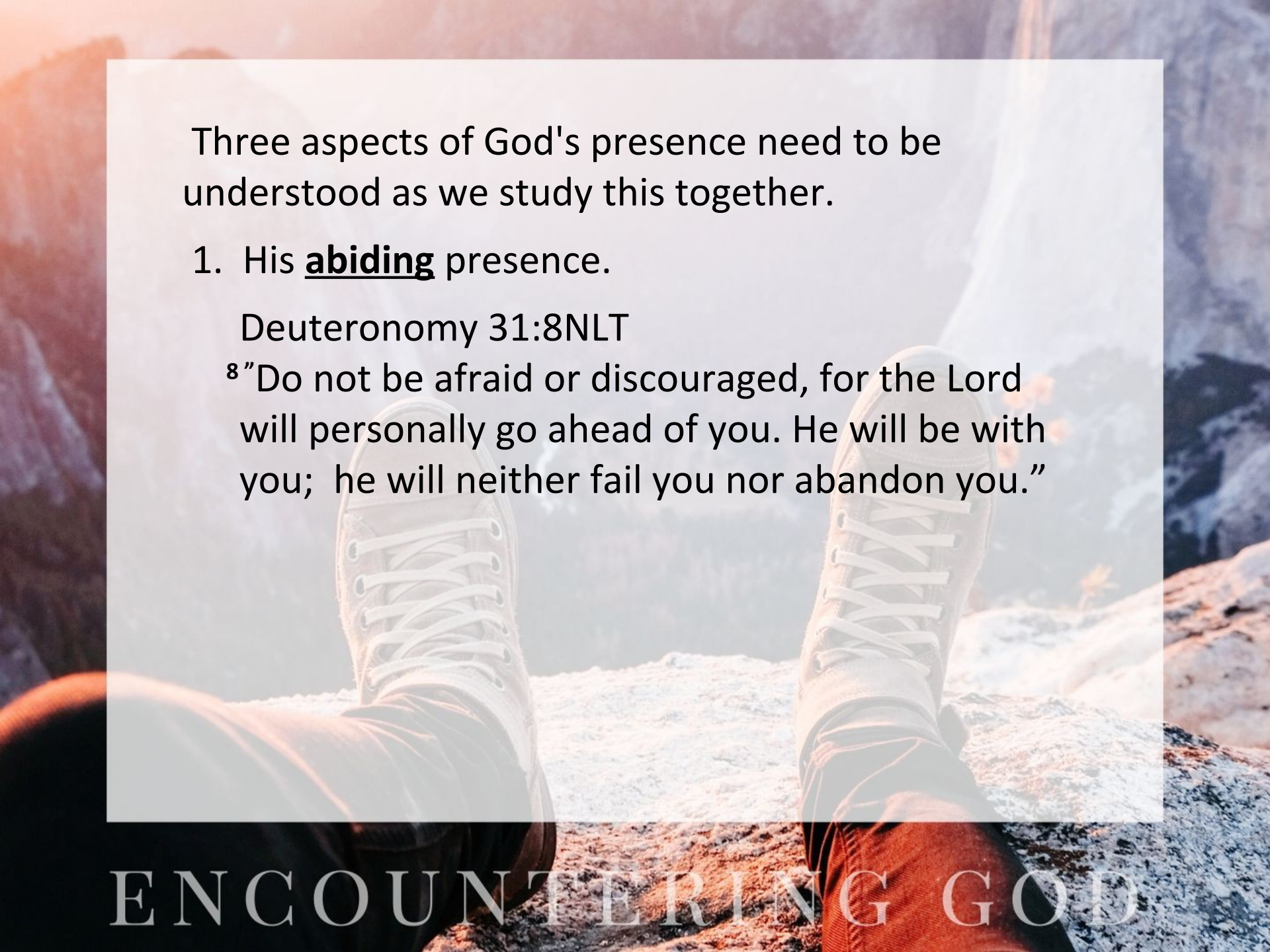
III. Understanding the presence of God.

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A first-person perspective shot of a person sitting on a rocky ledge. Their feet, wearing white sneakers with white laces, are the central focus. They are looking out over a vast, hazy mountain landscape under a bright sky. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Three aspects of God's presence need to be understood as we study this together.

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Three aspects of God's presence need to be understood as we study this together.

1. His **abiding** presence.

Deuteronomy 31:8NLT

<sup>8</sup>“Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you.”

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Three aspects of God's presence need to be understood as we study this together.

1. His **abiding** presence.

John 14:16-18 ESV

<sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you”.

## 2. His omnipresence

Psalms 139:7-12a NLT

<sup>7</sup> I can never escape from your Spirit!

I can never get away from your presence!

<sup>8</sup> If I go up to heaven, you are there;

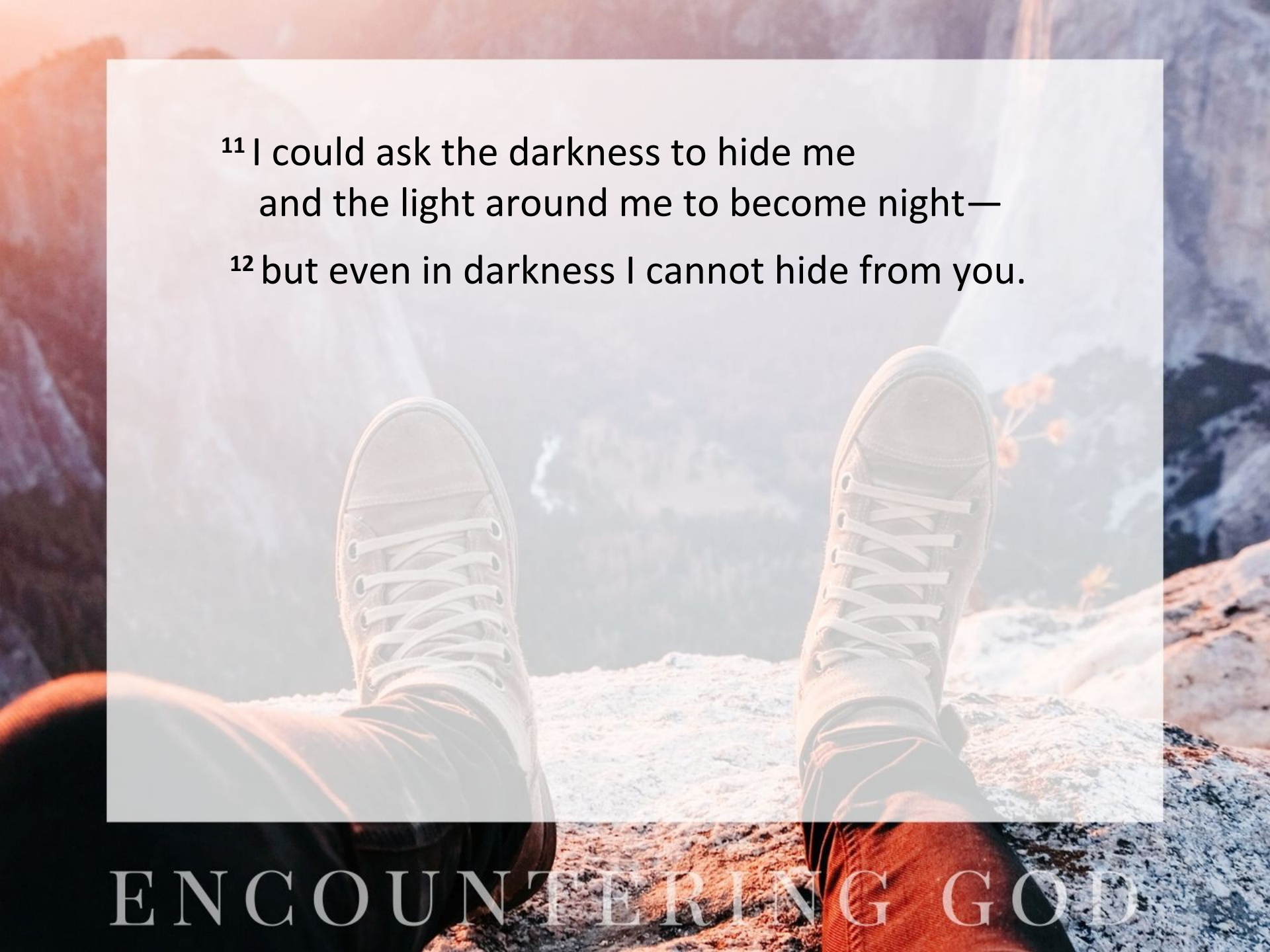
if I go down to the grave, you are there.

<sup>9</sup> If I ride the wings of the morning,

if I dwell by the farthest oceans,

<sup>10</sup> even there your hand will guide me,  
and your strength will support me.

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<sup>11</sup> I could ask the darkness to hide me  
and the light around me to become night—  
<sup>12</sup> but even in darkness I cannot hide from you.

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3. His manifest presence.

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3. His **manifest** presence.

Psalms 77:14 NKJV

<sup>14</sup>You *are* the God who does wonders;  
You have declared Your strength among the  
peoples.

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3. His **manifest** presence.

Psalms 51:11 NLT

<sup>11</sup> Do not banish me from your presence,  
and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

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### 3. His manifest presence.

Colossians 1:25-26 NLT

<sup>25</sup> God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his entire message to you. <sup>26</sup> This message was kept secret for centuries and generations past, but now it has been revealed to God's people.

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3. His **manifest** presence.

John 11:40 NLT

<sup>40</sup> Jesus responded, “Didn’t I tell you that you would see God’s glory if you believe?”

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