


The background is a light cream color. It features several green, feathery leaves scattered around the edges. In the center, there is a large, stylized illustration of two hands clasped in prayer, rendered in shades of pink and purple. Behind the hands is a large, semi-circular shape in a warm, golden-yellow color. Small, solid-colored dots in green, yellow, and red are scattered throughout the background.

FIRST, YOU

Pray

2




1 Thessalonians

5:16-18 NLT

¹⁶ Always be joyful. ¹⁷ Never stop praying. ¹⁸ Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.



**Prayer should be
our first response,
not our last resort.**



Prayer starts as a discipline.
**As we understand more
about prayer and God, and as
we build a relationship with
Him; prayer moves away
from being a discipline into
something we desire.**



John 15:4-5 NLT

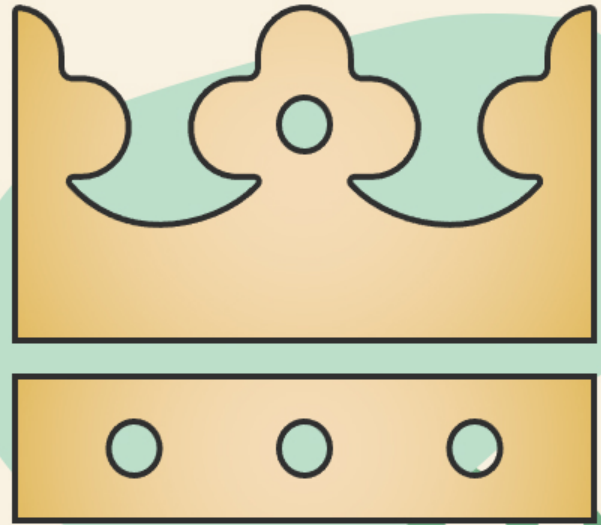
⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

⁵ "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."

The background is a light cream color with scattered green leaves of various shapes and sizes, along with small yellow and red dots. A large, light orange, irregularly shaped oval is centered on the page, containing the text.

**Three ways prayer can
help us to remain**

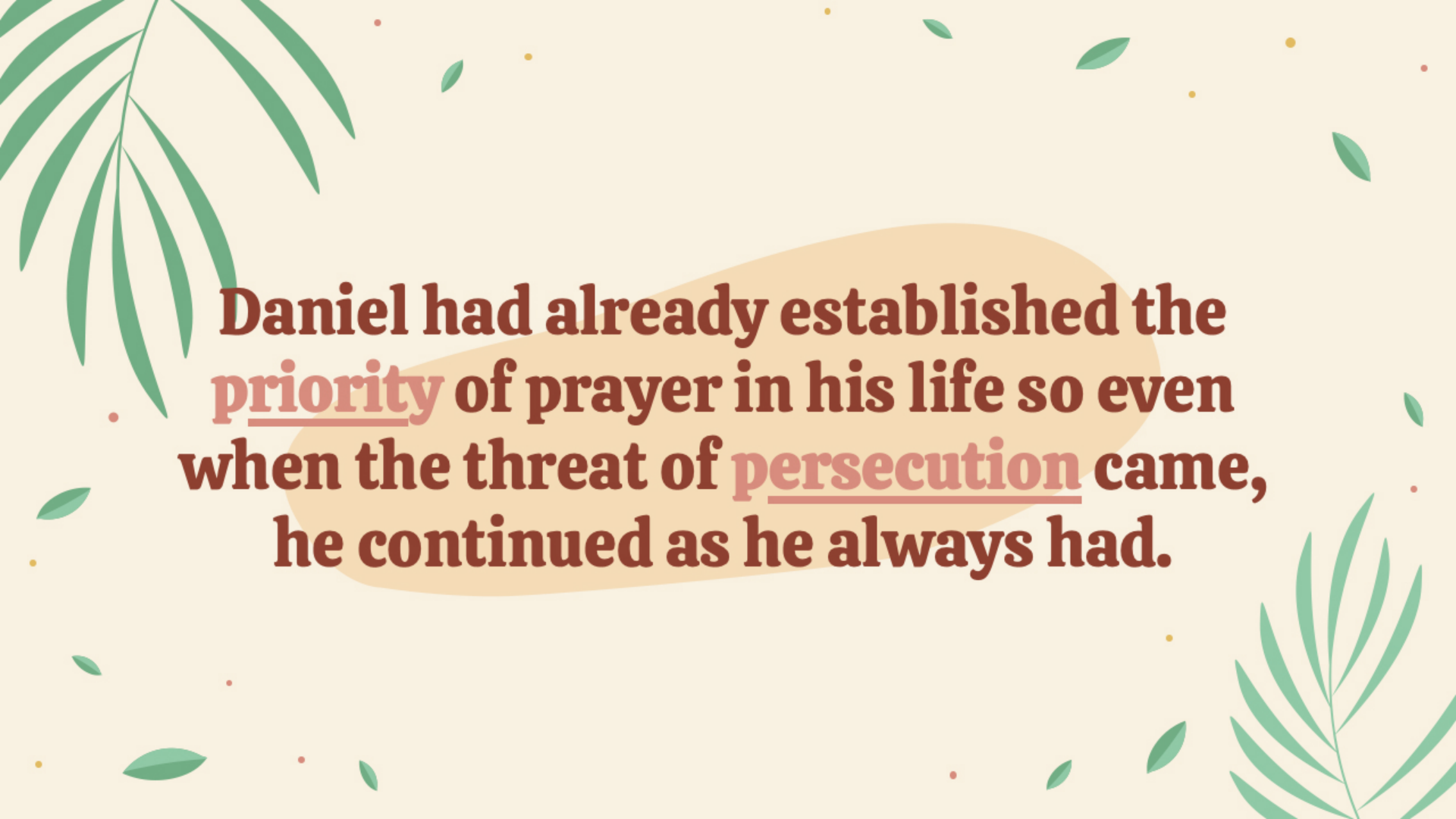
**We should make
prayer a priority.**




We should make prayer a priority.

Daniel 6:10-11 NLT

¹⁰ But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God.



Daniel had already established the priority of prayer in his life so even when the threat of persecution came, he continued as he always had.



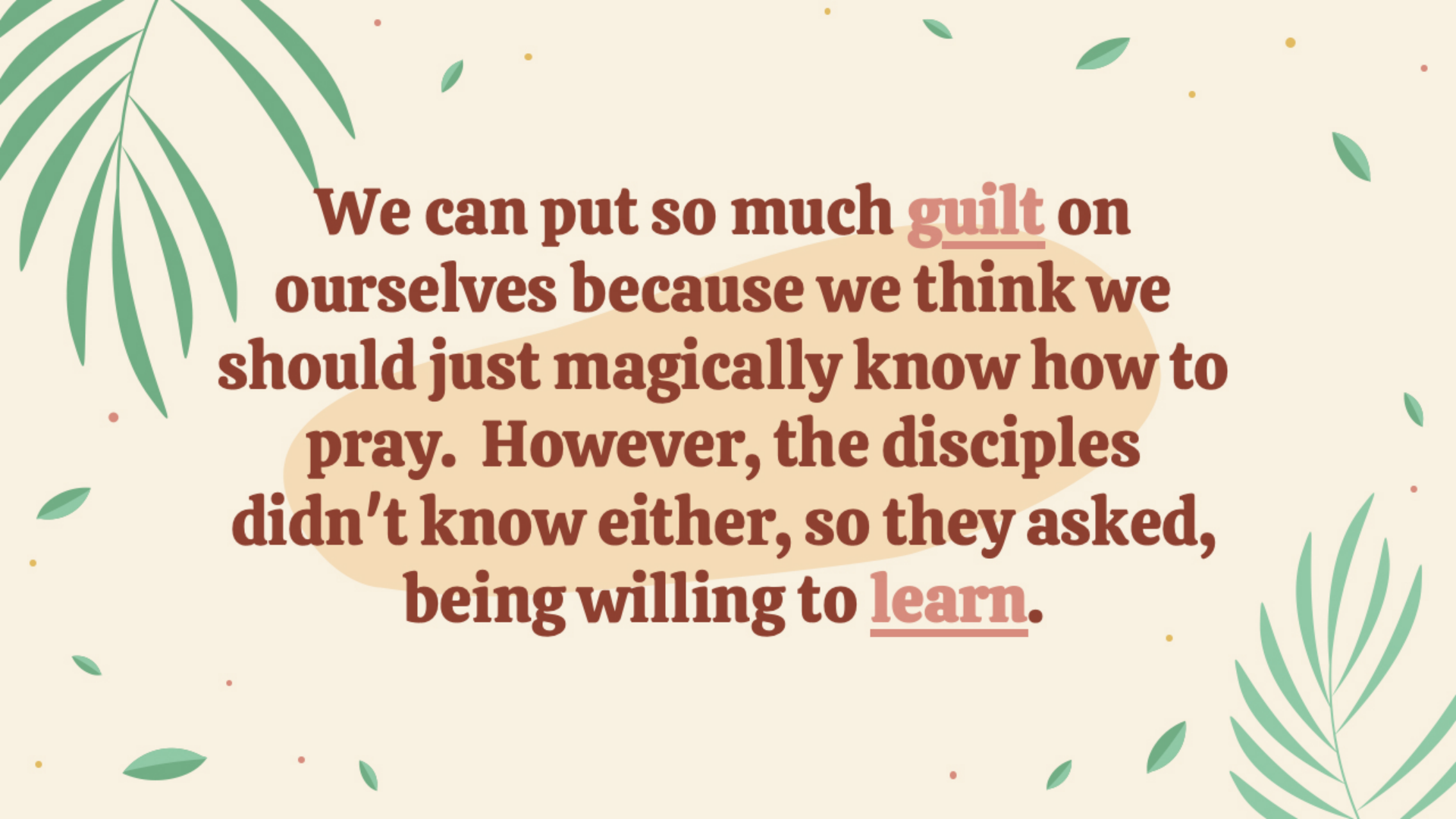
**We should be
willing to grow
in prayer.**

We should be willing to grow in prayer.

Luke 11:1-2 NLT

¹ Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."


² Jesus said, "This is how you should pray.."

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We can put so much guilt on ourselves because we think we should just magically know how to pray. However, the disciples didn't know either, so they asked, being willing to learn.




**We should better understand
the Godhead in regard to prayer.**



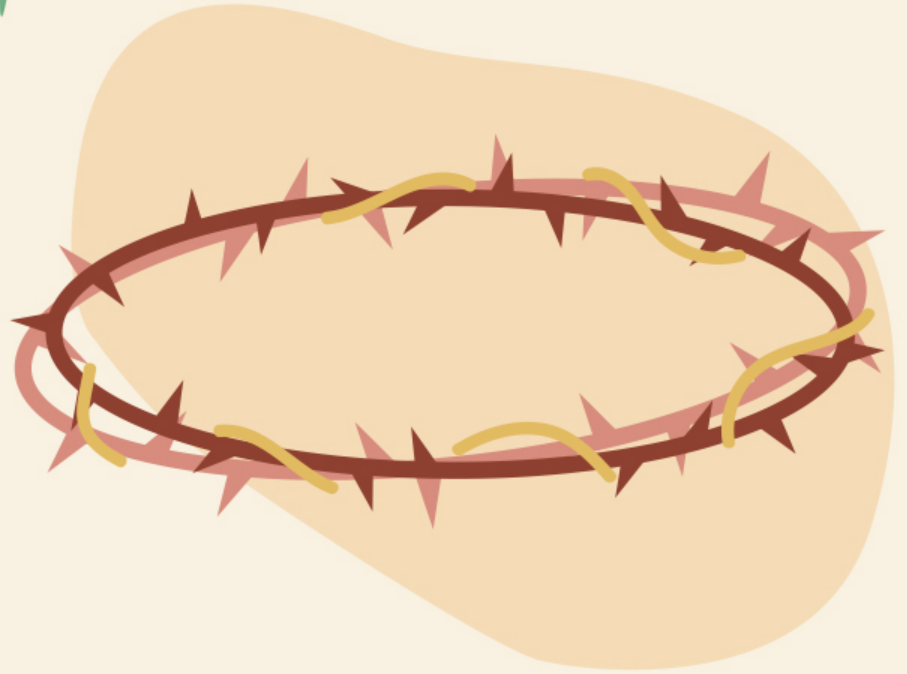
2 Corinthians 13:14 NLT **2 Corinthians 13:14 MSG**

¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord
• Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

¹⁴ The amazing grace of the Master,
Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of
God, the intimate friendship of the
Holy Spirit, be with all of you.



**The amazing
grace of Jesus**



The amazing grace of Jesus

Romans 8:34 NIV

³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

The amazing grace of Jesus

Hebrews 4:15-16 ESV

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.



The extravagant love of God



The extravagant love of God.

Psalm 103:8-13 NLT

⁸ The Lord is compassionate and merciful,
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

⁹ He will not constantly accuse us,
nor remain angry forever.

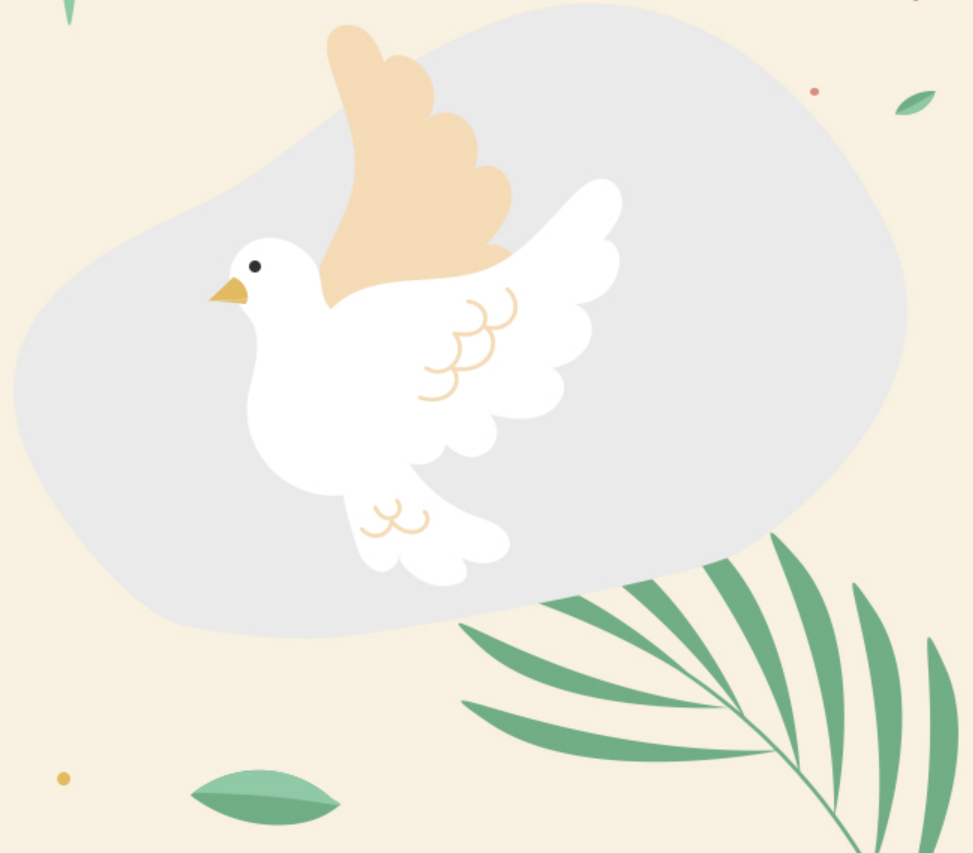
¹⁰ He does not punish us for all our sins;
he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve.

The extravagant love of God.

Psalm 103:8-13 NLT

- ¹¹ For his unfailing love toward those who fear him
is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth.
- ¹² He has removed our sins as far from us
as the east is from the west.
- ¹³ The Lord is like a father to his children,
tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

**The intimate
friendship of
the Holy Spirit**



The intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit

John 14:16, 26 ESV

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.