

A cyclist wearing a red and black jersey, black tights, a white helmet with red accents, and red sunglasses is riding a black road bike on a dirt path. The background is a dry, open landscape under a cloudy sky. The text 'MOVING TOWARD MATURITY' is overlaid on the left side of the image. The word 'MOVING' is in large, bold, white capital letters. Below it, 'T O W A R D' is written in smaller, spaced-out white capital letters. Below that, 'MATURITY' is in large, bold, white capital letters. To the left of the text is a solid red vertical bar and two thin white vertical lines. In the top right corner, there is a grid of small white squares.

# MOVING T O W A R D MATURITY

## HEBREWS 6:1A NIV

<sup>1</sup>Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity.

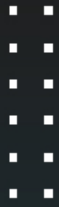


When we stop moving towards maturity, **STAGNATION** begins. Stagnation leads to decay and decay leads to **DEATH**.





Where have you stopped moving in your **FAITH**? Where has your spiritual range of motion been **LIMITED** in your relationship with Jesus?





MOVING TOWARD MATURITY

OUR FAITH WAS  
**INITIATED BY MOVEMENT**

**MARK 10:45 NLT**

<sup>45</sup>"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."



## ROMANS 5:8 NLT

<sup>8</sup>But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.



## MATTHEW 4:18-20 NLT

<sup>18</sup>One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. <sup>19</sup>Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” <sup>20</sup>And they left their nets at once and followed him.



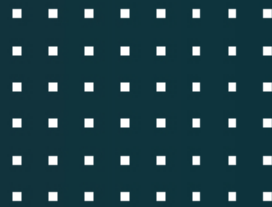
## MATTHEW 9:9 NLT

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him.



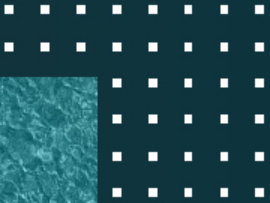


Over the next several weeks we are going to talk about some HABITS and DISCIPLINES of movement that mature and grow us in our relationship with Christ.



WHAT ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT CAUSE  
**SPIRITUAL IMMOBILITY**  
IN OUR LIVES?





**COMPLACENCY**



## 2 PETER 1:5-8 NIV

<sup>5</sup>For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; <sup>6</sup>and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance,

COMPLACENCY

## 2 PETER 1:5-8 NIV

godliness; <sup>7</sup>and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. <sup>8</sup>For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

COMPLACENCY





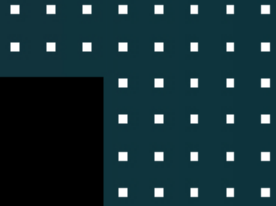
**DOUBT**

## JAMES 1:6 ESV

<sup>6</sup>But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

DOUBT





# DISTRACTIONS



DISTRACTION DEFINITION:  
**MISPLACED ATTENTION**



**MARK 8:36 NIV**

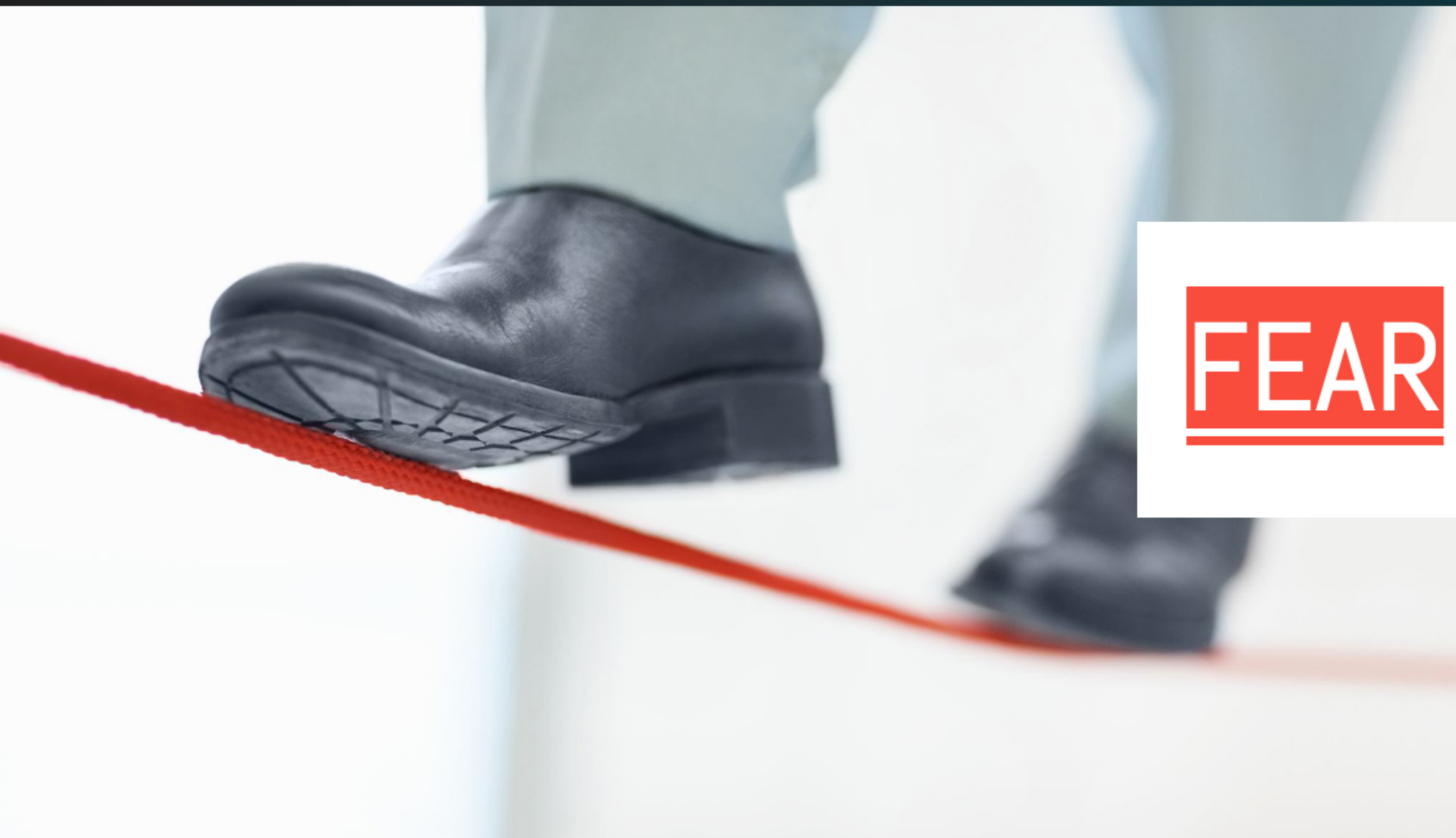
<sup>36</sup>What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?

**DISTRACTIONS**



A black and white photograph of a chessboard. In the foreground, a white king piece stands upright on the left, while a black king piece lies on its side on the right. The background shows other chess pieces in soft focus. A red square is on the left edge, and a white box with a red border contains the word 'FAILURE' in the center.

**FAILURE**



**FEAR**



## 1 JOHN 4:18 ICB

<sup>18</sup>Where God's love is, there is no fear, because God's perfect love takes away fear.

FEAR



LACK OF **PASSION**



## ROMANS 12:9-11 NIV

<sup>9</sup>Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. <sup>11</sup>Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

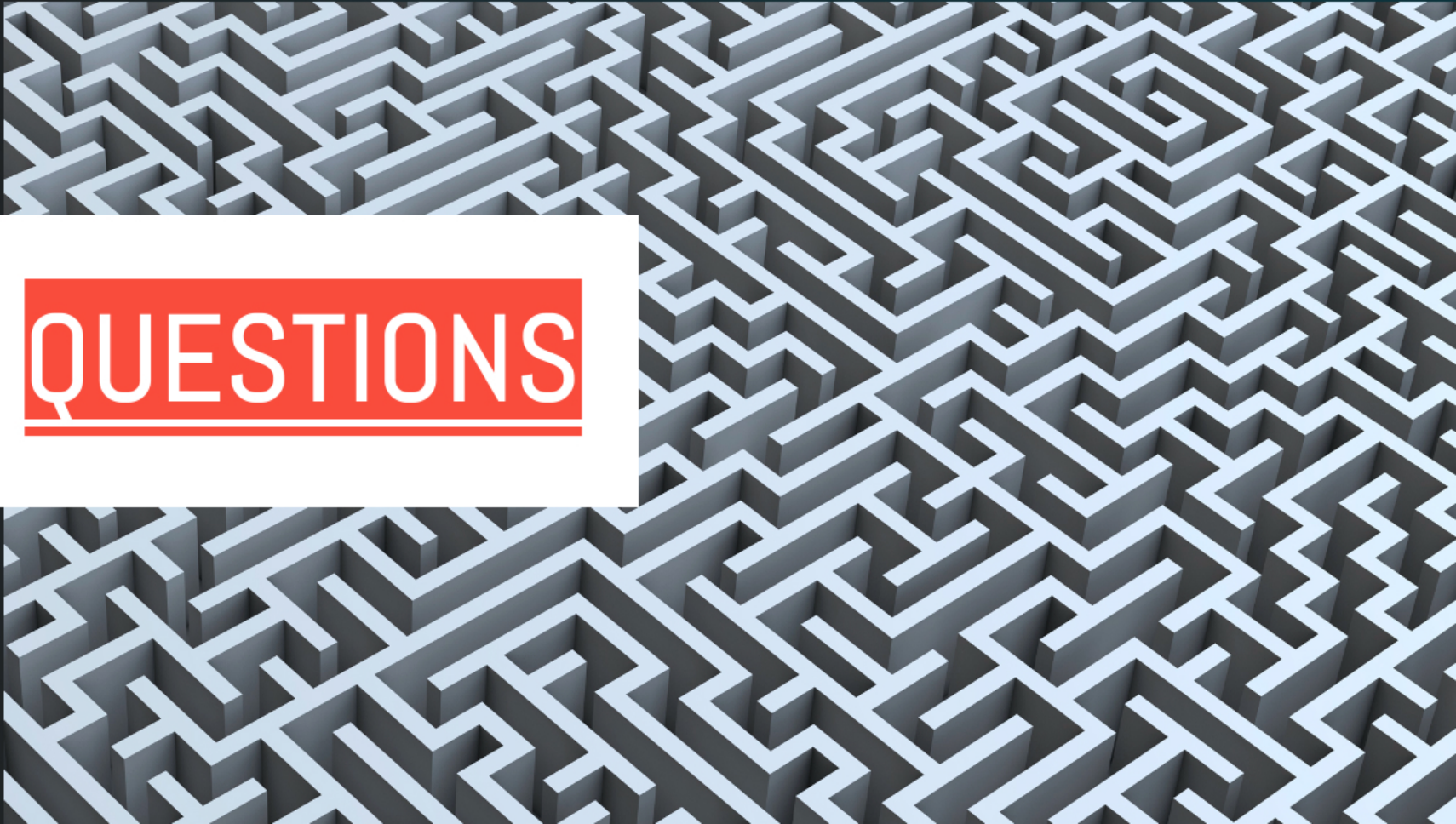
LACK OF PASSION





**PAIN**





# QUESTIONS

## ROMANS 12:1-2 AMP

<sup>1</sup>Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies [dedicating all of yourselves, set apart] as a living sacrifice, holy and well-pleasing to God, which is your rational (logical, intelligent) act of worship. <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world [any longer with its superficial values and customs], but be transformed and

## ROMANS 12:1-2 AMP

progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you].

