

An aerial photograph of a river delta, showing a complex network of water channels and intricate, swirling patterns in the water. The water is dark, and the patterns are highlighted by the play of light and shadow. The background is a bright, hazy sky. The text "God's amazing gift" is overlaid in the center of the image.

God's amazing gift

# Now is the time to receive it

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- Have you been in prayer about it?
- Have you heard or known confirmation?
- Are you excited???

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- Have you been in prayer about it?
- Have you heard or known confirmation?
- Are you excited???
- Remember, this is a gift for you
  - He may also be answering prayer for others
  - But there is something He wants to do in/for you

## 2 Corinthians 6

“As God’s partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God’s kindness and then ignore it. For God says, “At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you.” Indeed, the “right time” is now. Today is the day of salvation...”

# What does that have to do with it?

- First and foremost, praise God for the gift of salvation

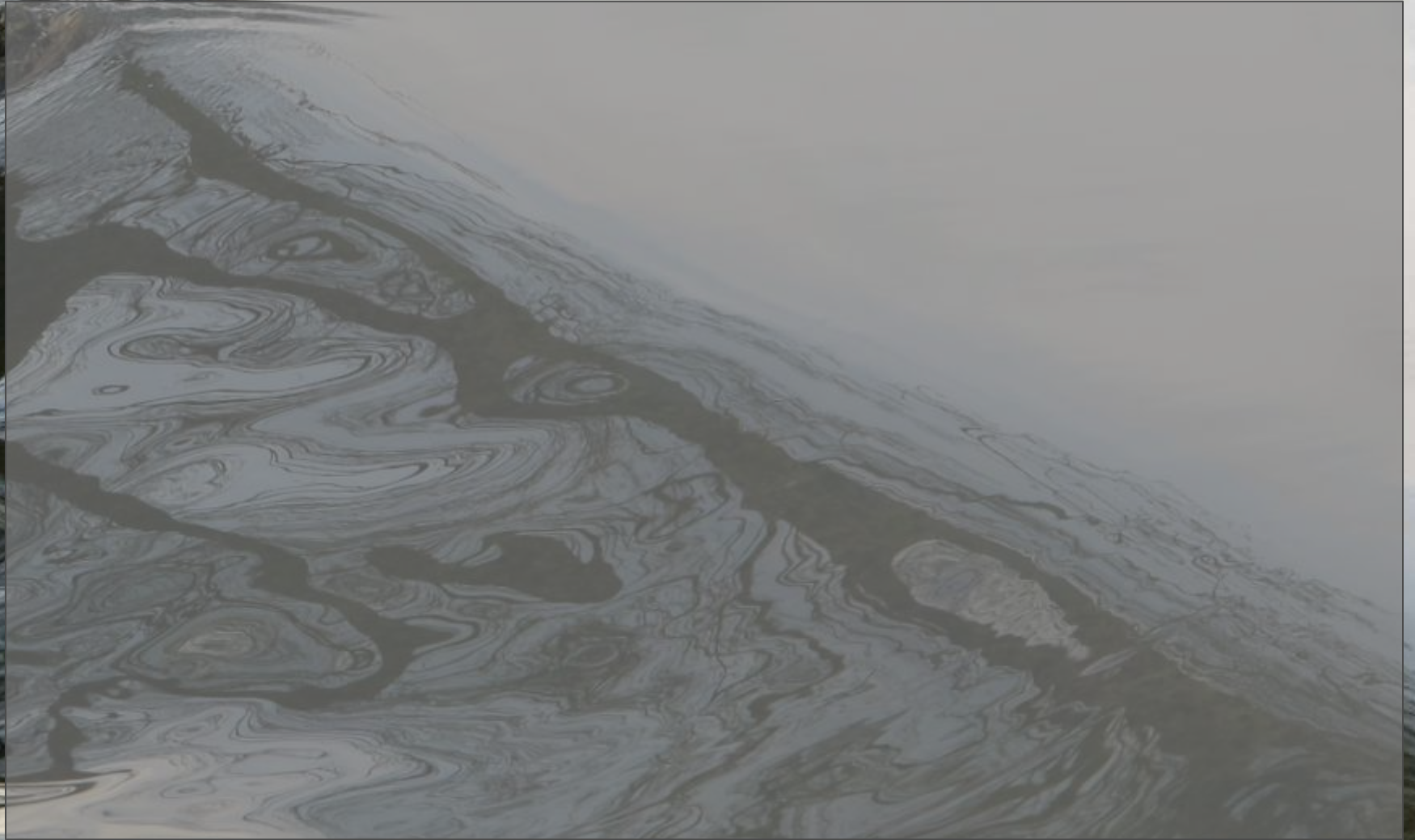
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- First and foremost, praise God for the gift of salvation
- Being reconciled to God through a relationship with Jesus Christ is the most essential and precious gift we will ever receive
- But that reconciliation is not simply “Fire Insurance”

# The concept of being “saved”





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- Sozo
  - Saved
  - Healed
  - Delivered
  - Protected
  - Preserved
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- All these things are ours as part of being reconciled to God through Jesus Christ

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of water with intricate, swirling ripples. The colors range from light grey to dark, almost black, creating a complex, organic pattern. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the water's surface.

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## Salvation

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## Salvation

- deliverance, preservation, safety, deliverance from the molestation of enemies in this world
- the sum of benefits and blessings which Christians, redeemed from all earthly ills, will enjoy after the visible return of Christ from heaven in the consummated and eternal kingdom of God

# That deserves a Whee Ha!

“As God’s partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God’s kindness and then ignore it...”

# Paul continues to encourage...

“We live in such a way that no one will stumble because of us, and no one will find fault with our ministry. In everything we do, we show that we are true ministers of God. We patiently endure troubles and hardships and calamities of every kind...”

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  - Don't let a challenge or storm cause doubt
  - Move past the immature thought that our faith in God is doing Him a favor and we should be “rewarded” for it

# Paul continues...

- We have been beaten, been put in prison, faced angry mobs, worked to exhaustion, endured sleepless nights, and gone without food...”

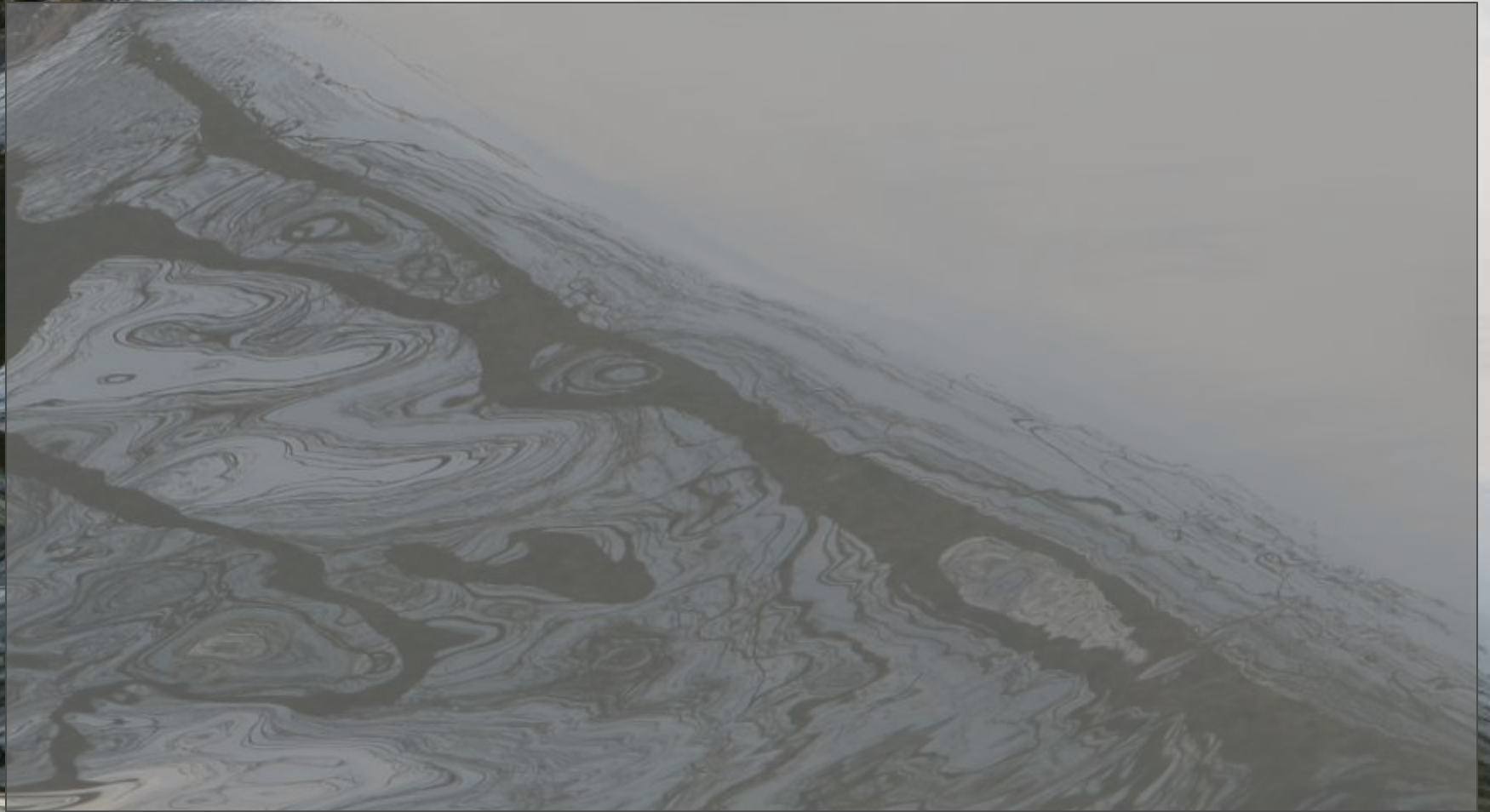
# Paul continues...

- We have been beaten, been put in prison, faced angry mobs, worked to exhaustion, endured sleepless nights, and gone without food... We prove ourselves by our purity, our understanding, our patience, our kindness, by the Holy Spirit within us, and by our sincere love. We faithfully preach the truth. God's power is working in us. We use the weapons of righteousness in the right hand for attack and the left hand for defense."

# Paul continues...

“We serve God whether people honor us or despise us, whether they slander us or praise us. We are honest, but they call us impostors. We are ignored, even though we are well known. We live close to death, but we are still alive. We have been beaten, but we have not been killed. Our hearts ache, but we always have joy. We are poor, but we give spiritual riches to others. We own nothing, and yet we have everything.”

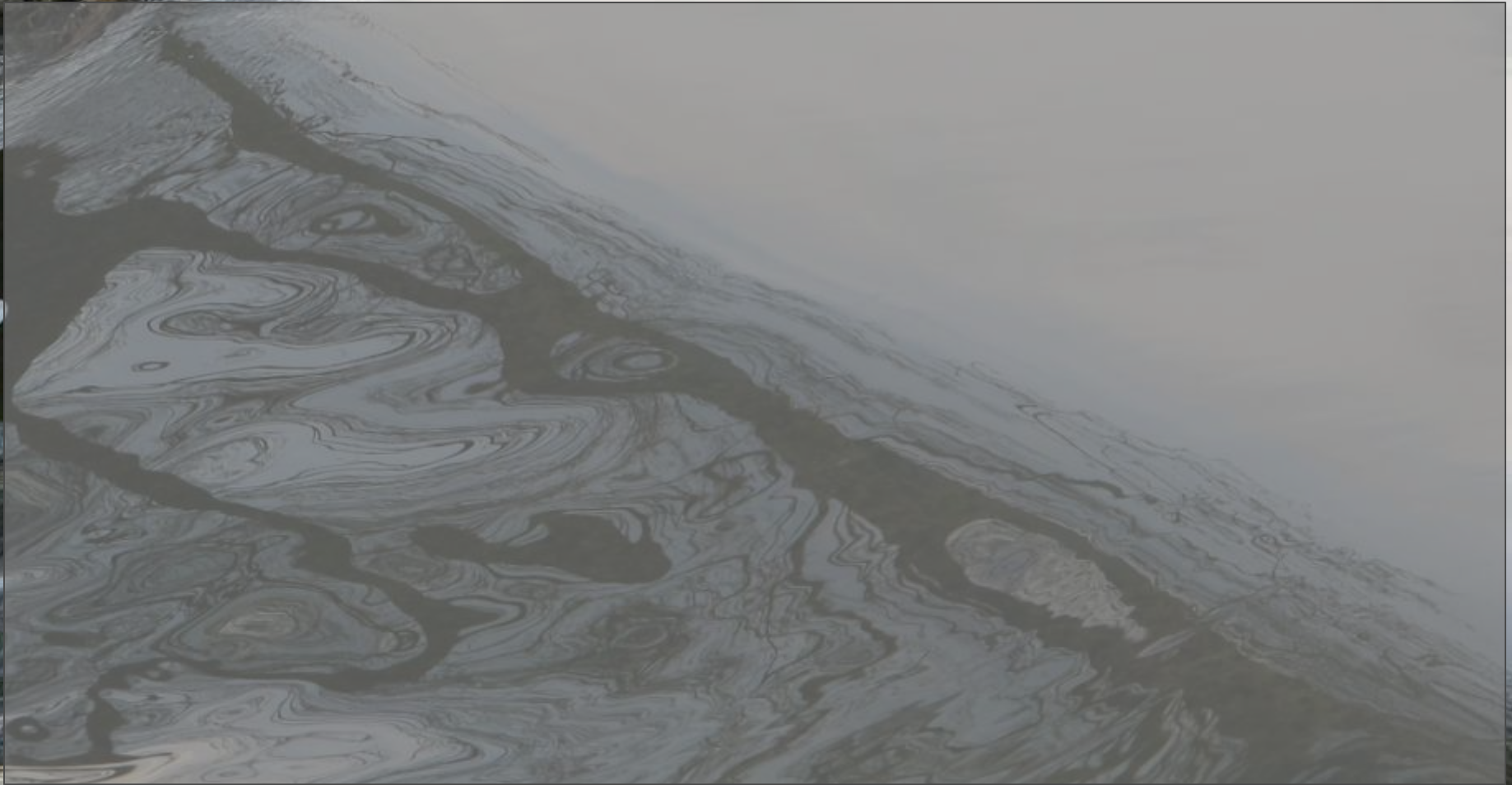
In other words...



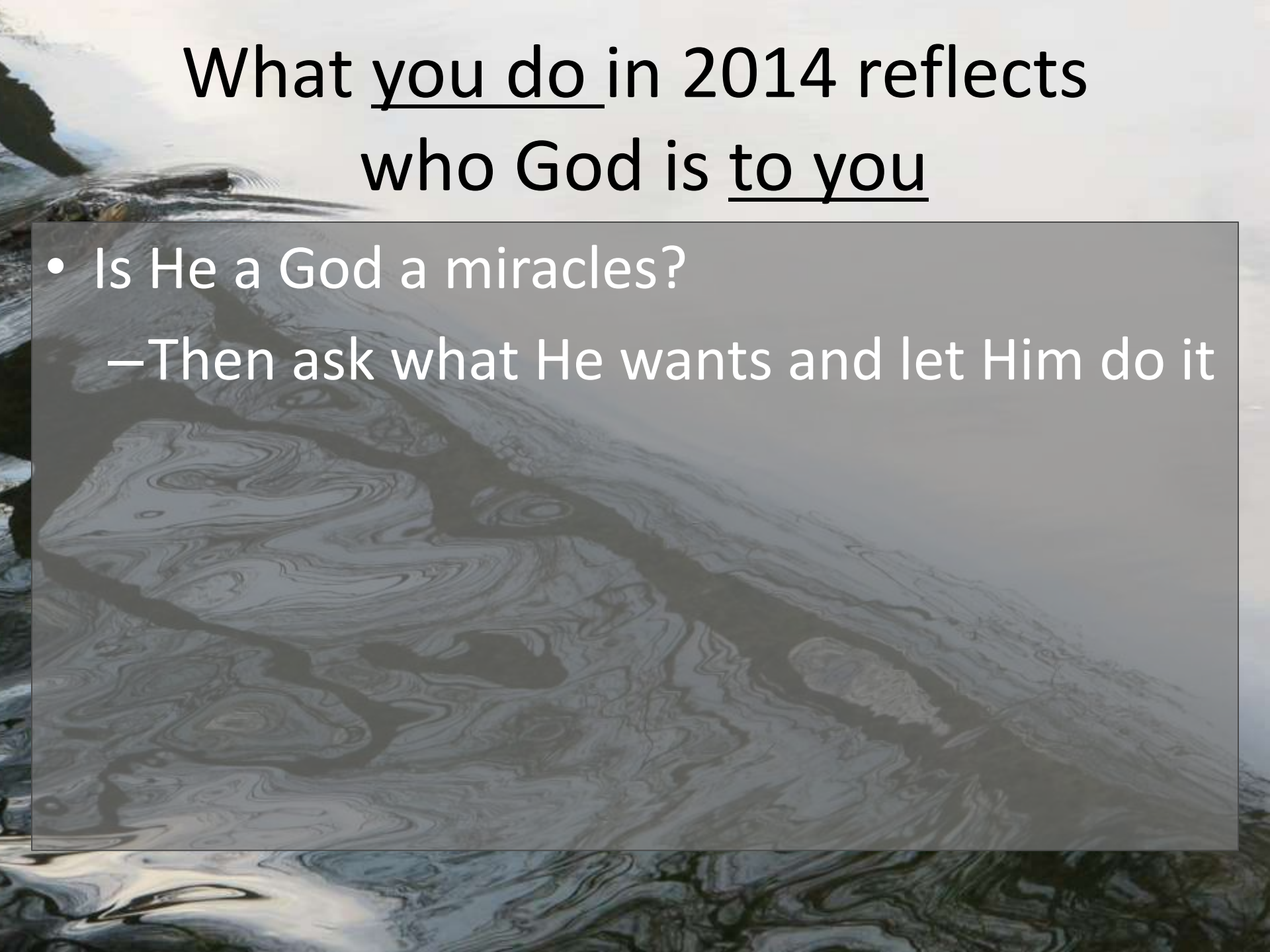
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What you do in 2014 reflects  
who God is to you

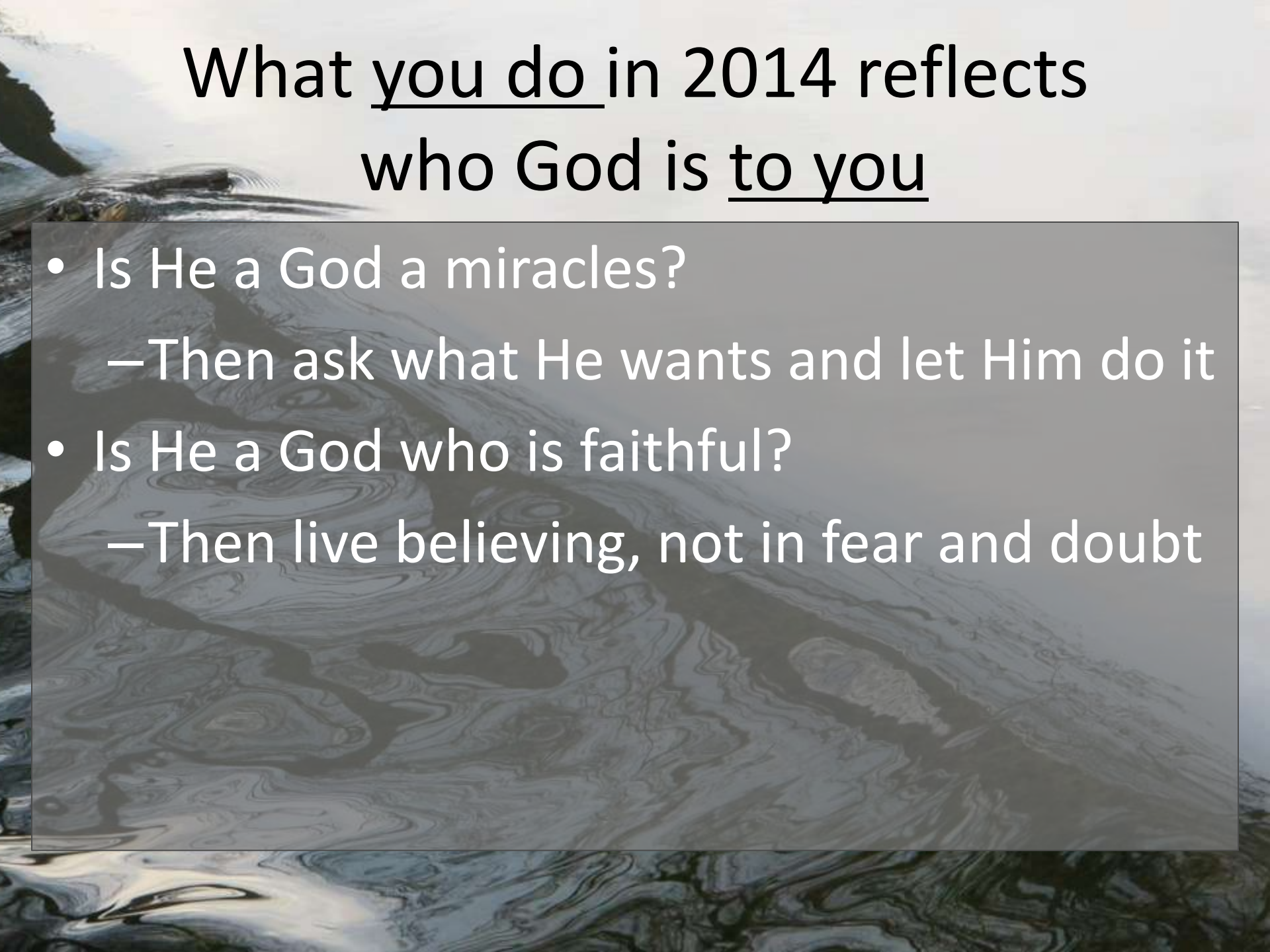






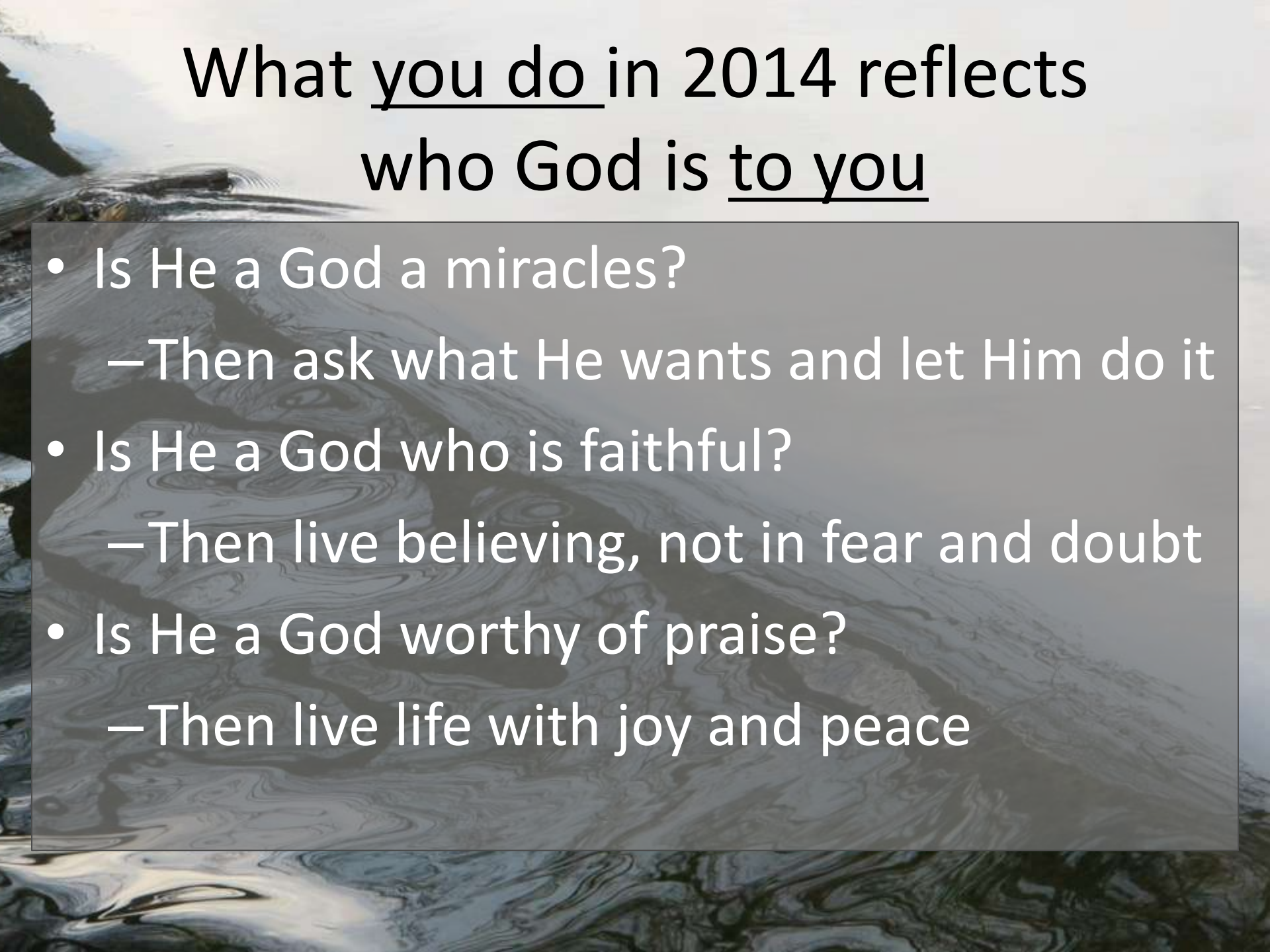
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  - Then ask what He wants and let Him do it



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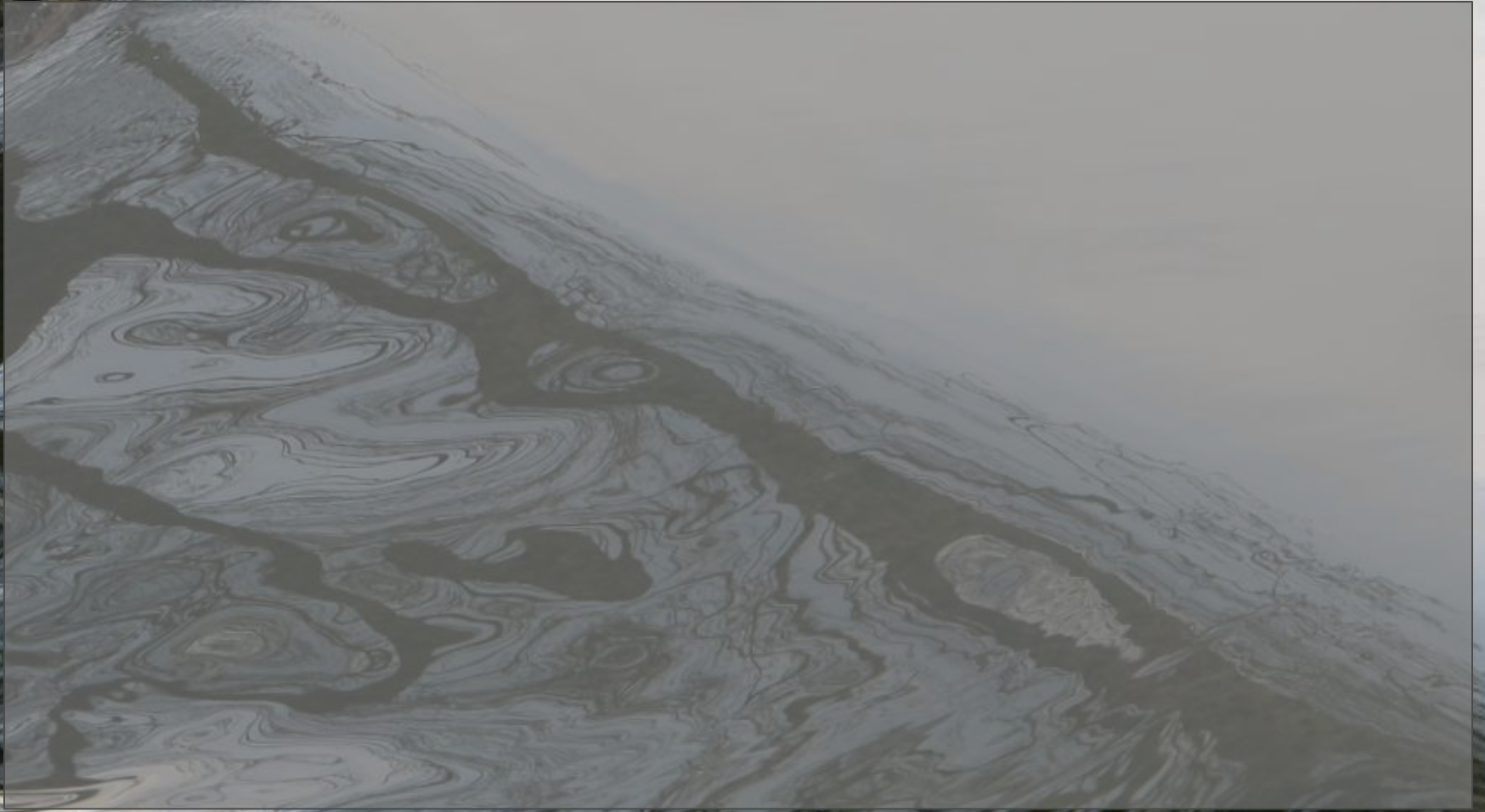
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  - Then live believing, not in fear and doubt



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- Is He a God a miracles?
  - Then ask what He wants and let Him do it
- Is He a God who is faithful?
  - Then live believing, not in fear and doubt
- Is He a God worthy of praise?
  - Then live life with joy and peace

“The right time is now...”





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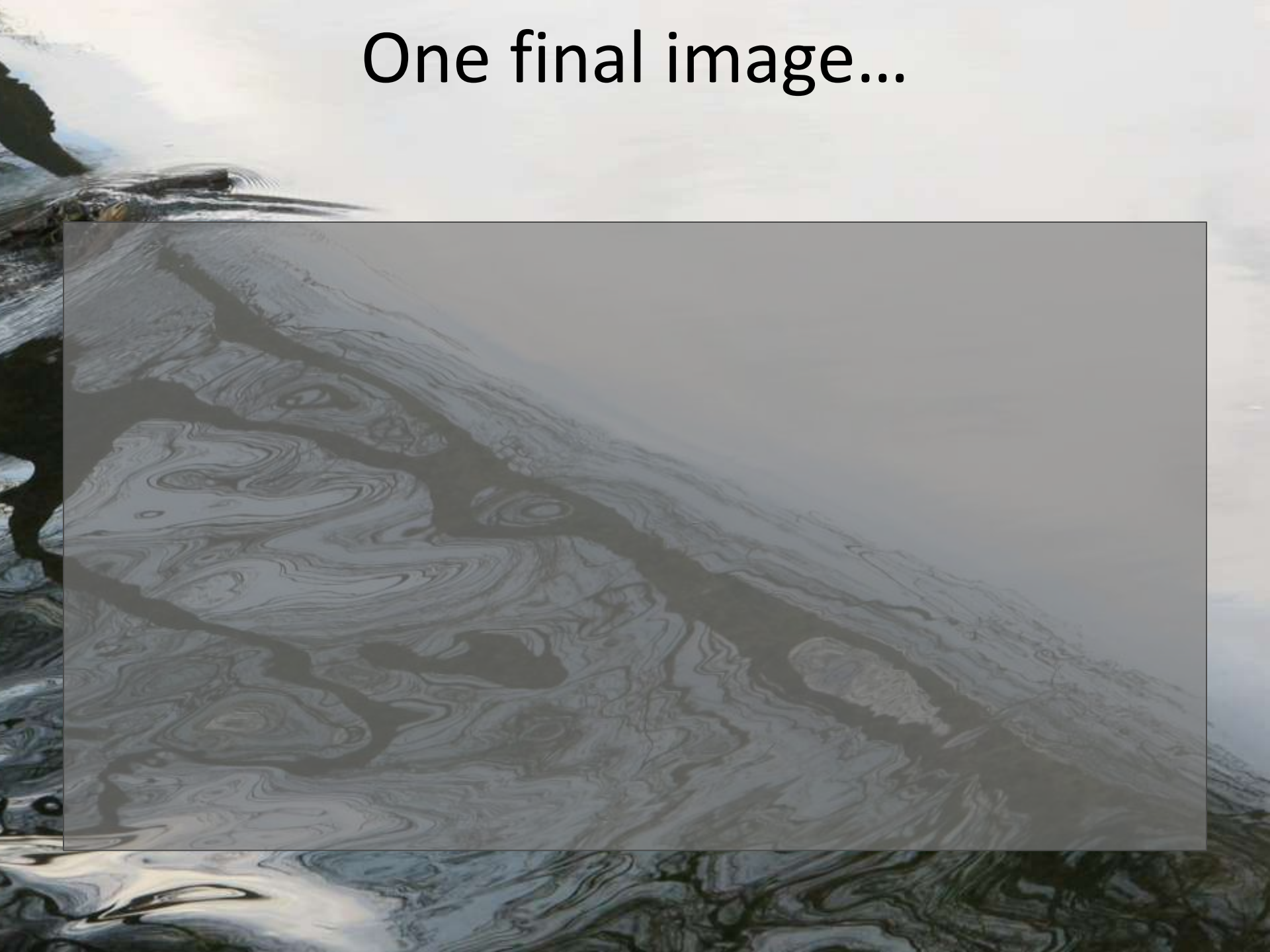
- Friday Fasts

- Everyone who has ears and understands...
- Pray and obey
- Approach it with joy and anticipation

# “The right time is now...”

- Friday Fasts
  - Everyone who has ears and understands...
  - Pray and obey
  - Approach it with joy and anticipation
- My Favorite Bible Verse
  - Time of testimony and encouragement

One final image...



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