

ACC Sermon Series
Jan – Apr 2024
Sex, marriage & singleness

Sermon 5 of 10



SEX 2

1 Thess.

4:3–8

WHY IS SEX ONLY GOOD IN MATRIMONY 婚姻?

‘Why did God give sex as a good gift only for matrimony?’

‘Why does sex only feel good in matrimony?’


1 THESSALONIANS 4:3

It is God's will that you
should be sanctified: that
you should avoid sexual
immorality 淫行.

Romans 13:13



Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, **not in sexual immorality** and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy.




1 Corinthians 6:18

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

Ephesians 5:3



But among you **there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality**, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.



Colossians 3:5

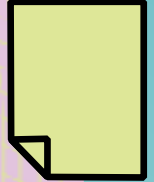
Put to death, therefore,
whatever belongs to your earthly
nature: **sexual immorality**,
impurity, lust, evil desires and
greed, which is idolatry.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:3–4

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honourable

How to control your body?

LEARN



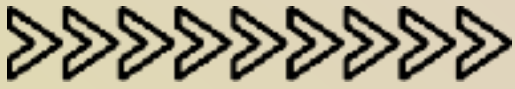
/ Sexual desire should
originate from love,
not lust 邪情私慾。

"...each of you should
learn to control your
own body in a way that
is holy and honourable,
not in passionate lust
like the pagans, who do
not know God..." 1 Thess. 4:4-5



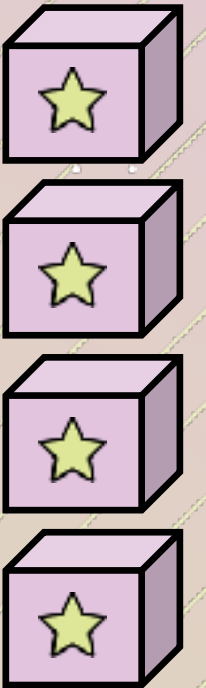
How does the bible define Love, and does this differ from non-biblical love? How do we explain to non-Christians what true love is? Can you know true love outside of the bible?

- ▶ **Biblical love: Defined by God**
- ▶ **Non-Biblical love: Defined by humans**



Love v. Lust

Sexual desire in marriage should originate from the foundation of covenant commitment and sacrificial love, not from lust.



...

LOVE



Love desires to give

Love wants more for
the other

Love points to
heaven & eternity

Love finds
satisfaction in
the other

...

LUST



Lust desires to get

Lust wants more for
itself

Lust points to
earth & quick fix

Lust is never
satisfied and leaves
you wanting more



LOVE



Committed

Biblical sex

Sees the whole
person

In control

Cares deeply:
for the other



LUST



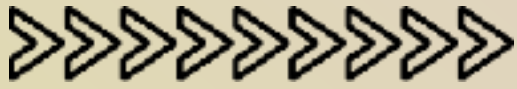
No commitment

Casual sex

Tends to see only
the physical

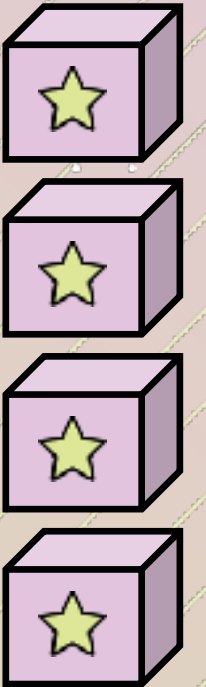
Out of control

No care at all:
objectifies the other



Love v. Lust

Whether we are married
or single, lust should
not control us.
If it does, we'll damage
others & ourselves.



1 THESSALONIANS 4:4–6a

“...each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honourable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; **and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister.**”

BIBLICAL SEX V. PORN

GOD CREATED SEX TO BE...

Restricted to marriage

Tender 溫柔

Private

From love

For the other

Participatory 參與性

Good

Deep 有深度的

Free

BUT PORNOGRAPHY IS...

Between strangers

Often violent

Public

From lust

For the camera

Voyeuristic 窺視癖的

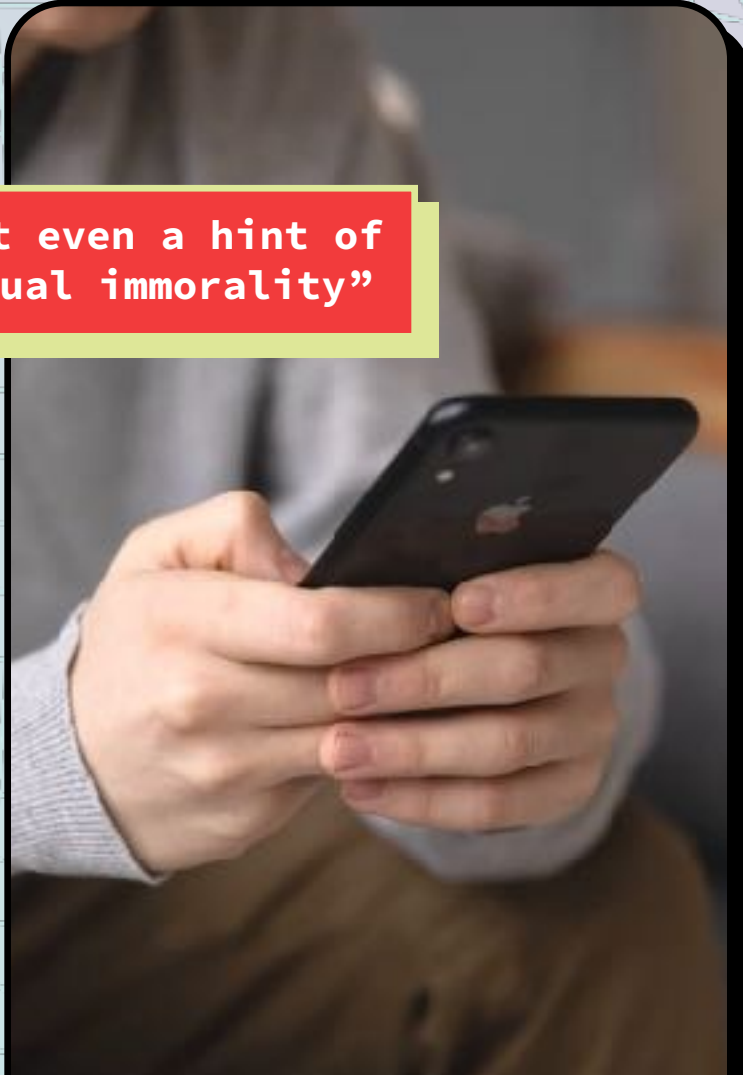
Cheap inferior fake

Superficial 流於表面

Commercialised 商業化

4 steps to resist porn

“Not even a hint of sexual immorality”



Book:
Captured by a better vision

1. BE AWARE OF THE DARK SIDE

Web: *Truth About Porn .org*

2. IT WILL DAMAGE YOU

4. TAKE ACTION

Like Joseph did, Gen. 39:12



3. TELL SOME ONE

Wise mature trusted Christian

ONLINE RESOURCES

Courses to quit porn

- Click to kick
- Ctrl Alt Del
- Fortify

For more help

- Naked truth project
- Fight the new drug
- XXXchurch
- Covenant eyes

For parents

- Defend Young Minds



**/How to avoid
sexual immorality**

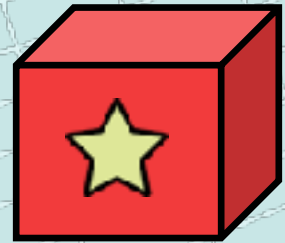
/How to avoid sexual immorality

KNOW YOUR TRIGGERS



H.A.L.T.

**Hungry, Angry,
Lonely, Tired.**





/How to avoid sexual immorality

HAVE A PLAN

Make an
IF > THEN
strategy



/How to avoid sexual immorality

STARVE THE LUST

**Don't
feed the
beast!**



/How to avoid sexual immorality

A BETTER SONG

God offers a
more beautiful
song!



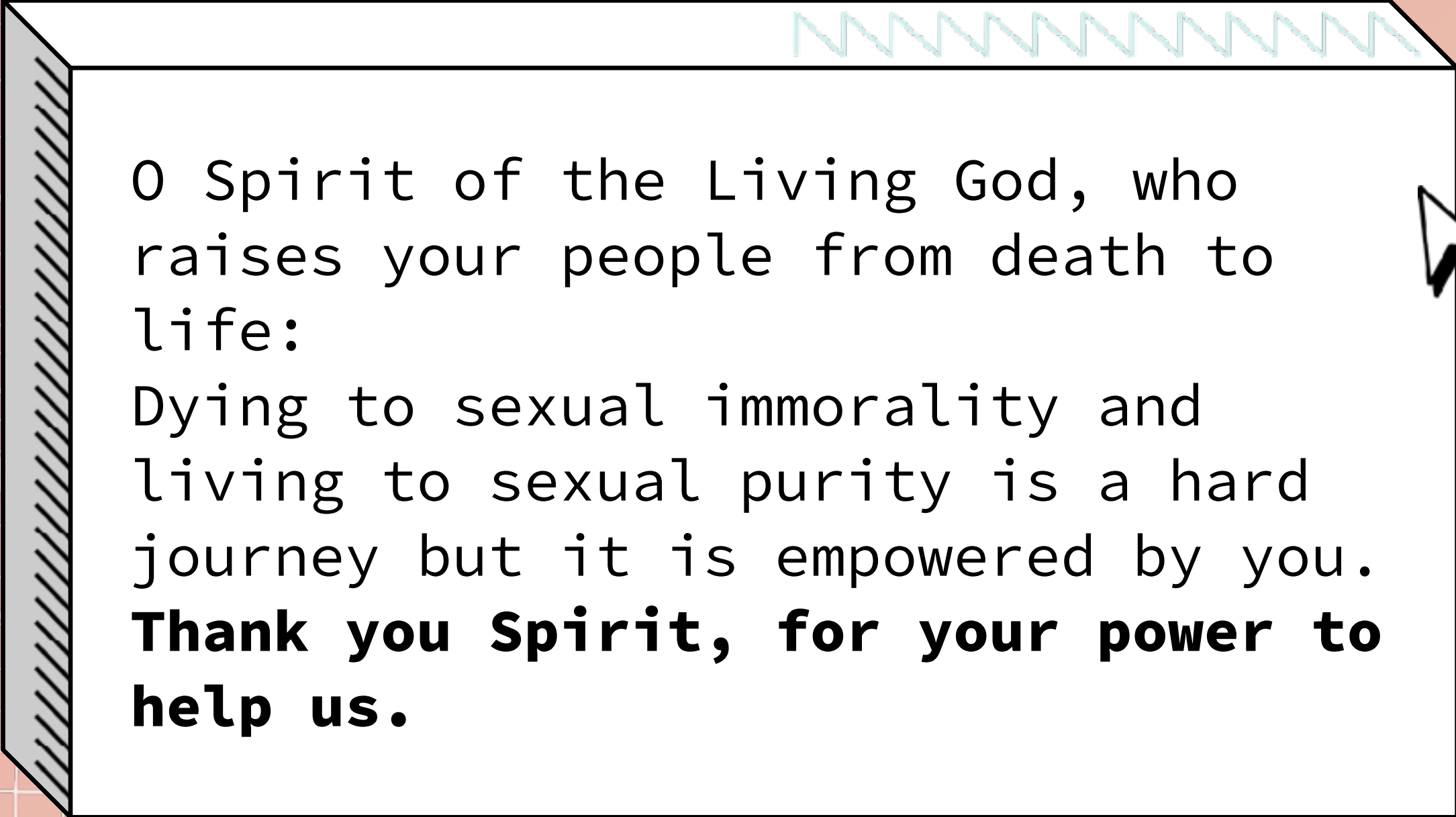
/How to avoid sexual immorality

DEPEND ON THE HOLY SPIRIT



☰
“For the Spirit
God gave us does
not make us timid,
**but gives us
power, love and
self-discipline.**”

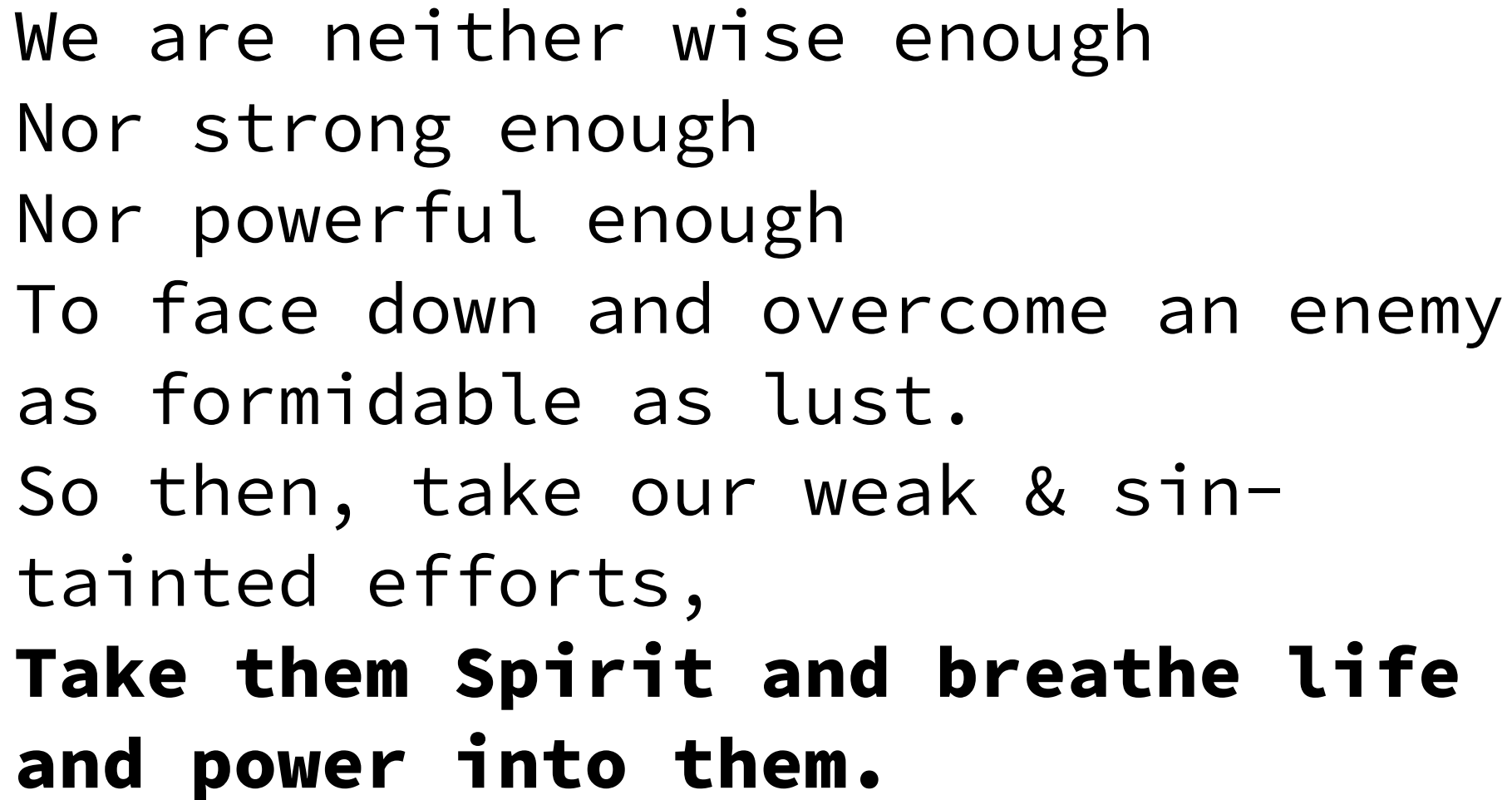
2 Timothy 1:7



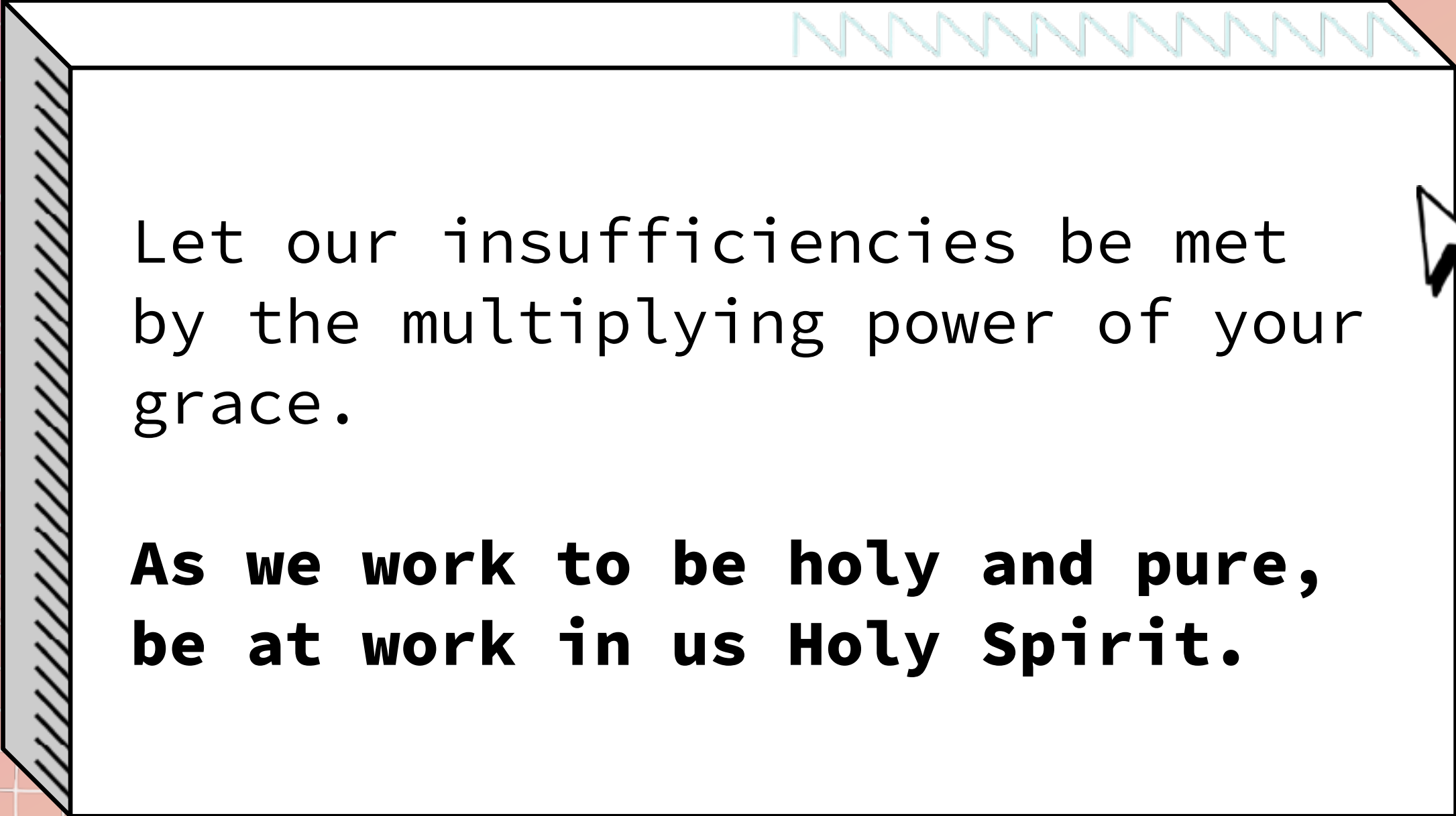
O Spirit of the Living God, who
raises your people from death to
life:

Dying to sexual immorality and
living to sexual purity is a hard
journey but it is empowered by you.

**Thank you Spirit, for your power to
help us.**

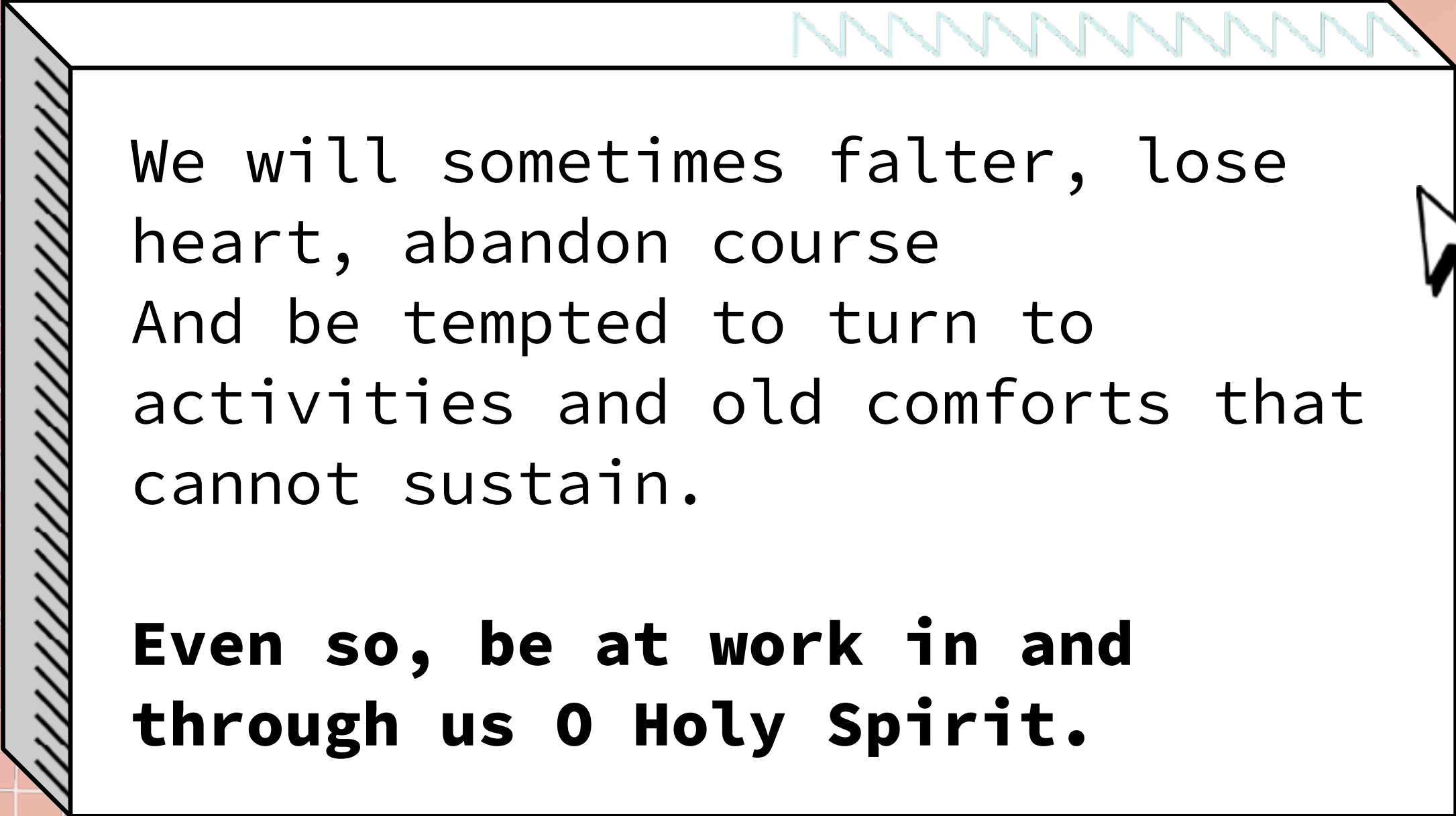


We are neither wise enough
Nor strong enough
Nor powerful enough
To face down and overcome an enemy
as formidable as lust.
So then, take our weak & sin-
tainted efforts,
**Take them Spirit and breathe life
and power into them.**



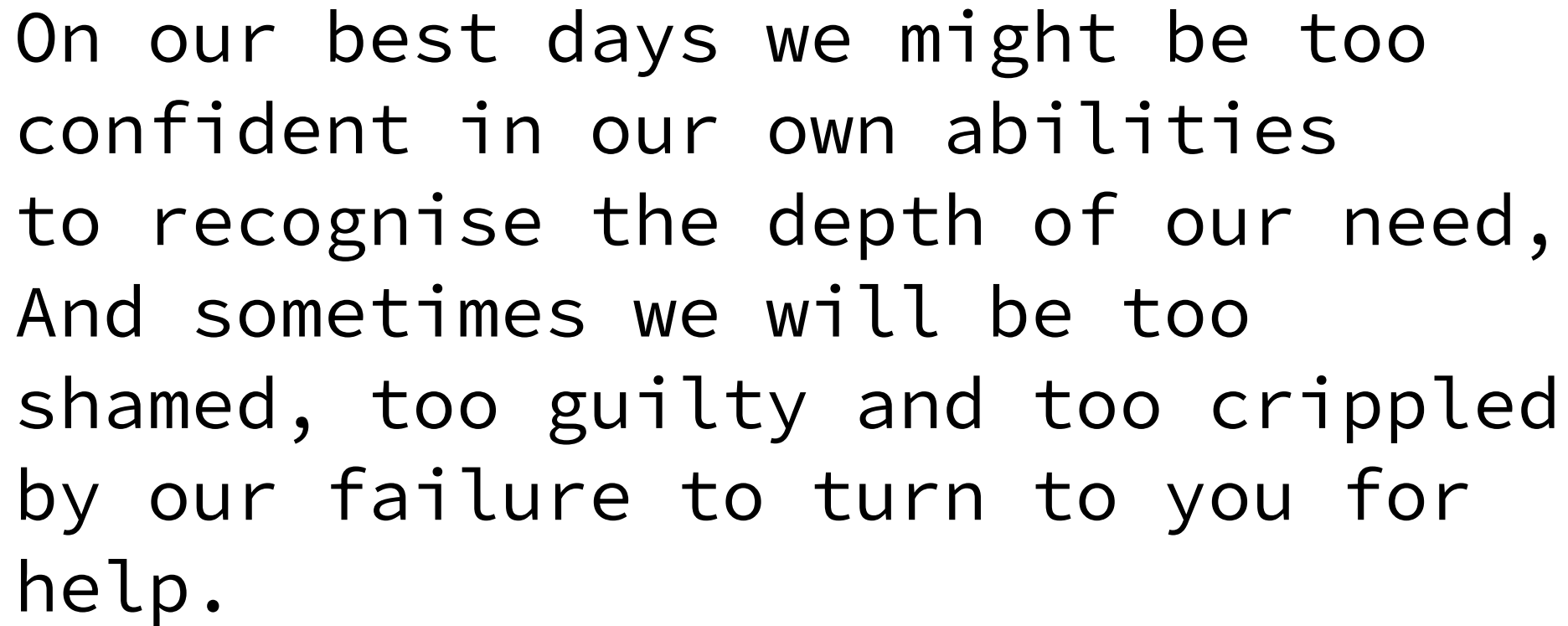
Let our insufficiencies be met
by the multiplying power of your
grace.

**As we work to be holy and pure,
be at work in us Holy Spirit.**



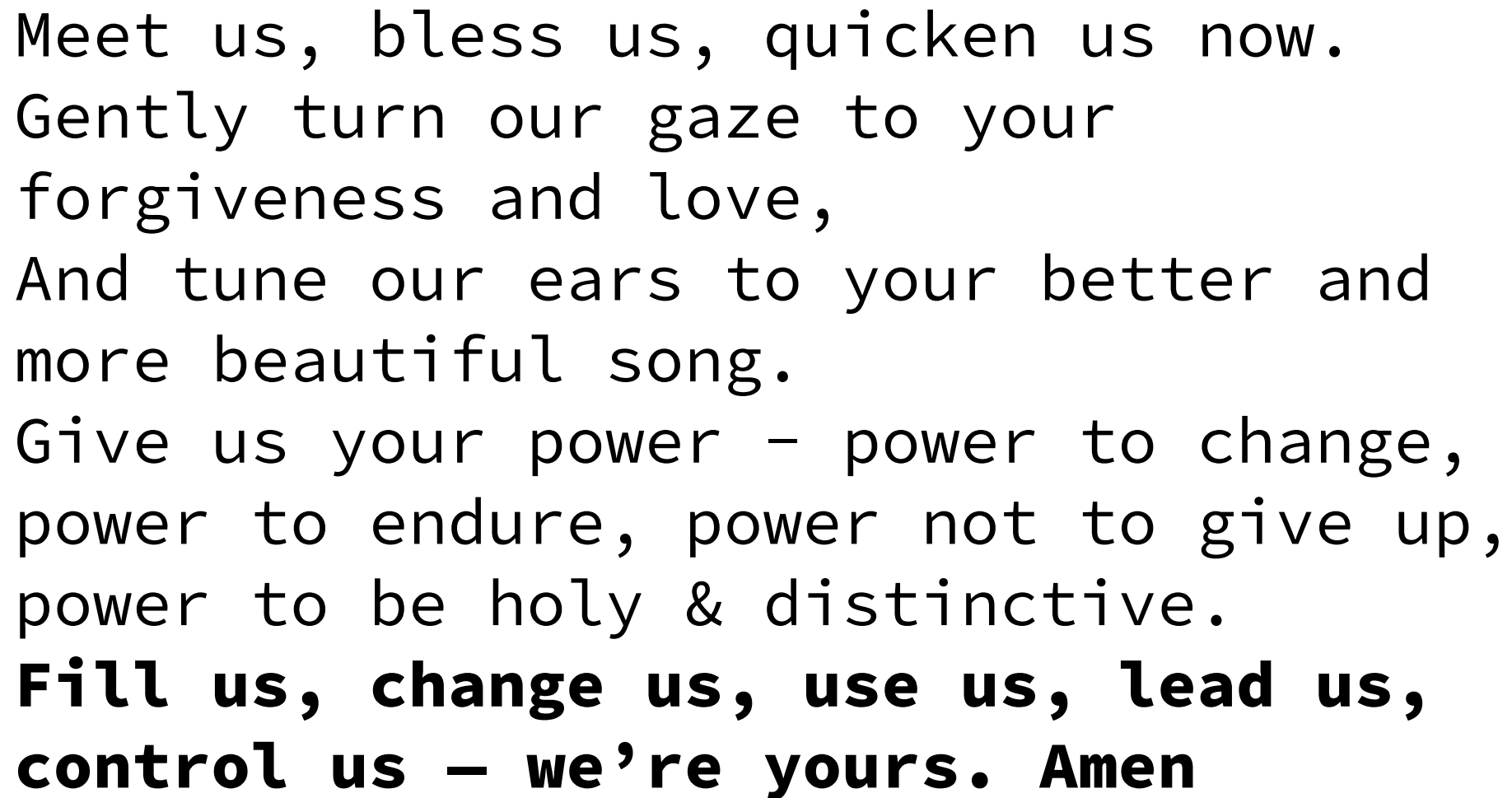
We will sometimes falter, lose
heart, abandon course
And be tempted to turn to
activities and old comforts that
cannot sustain.

**Even so, be at work in and
through us O Holy Spirit.**

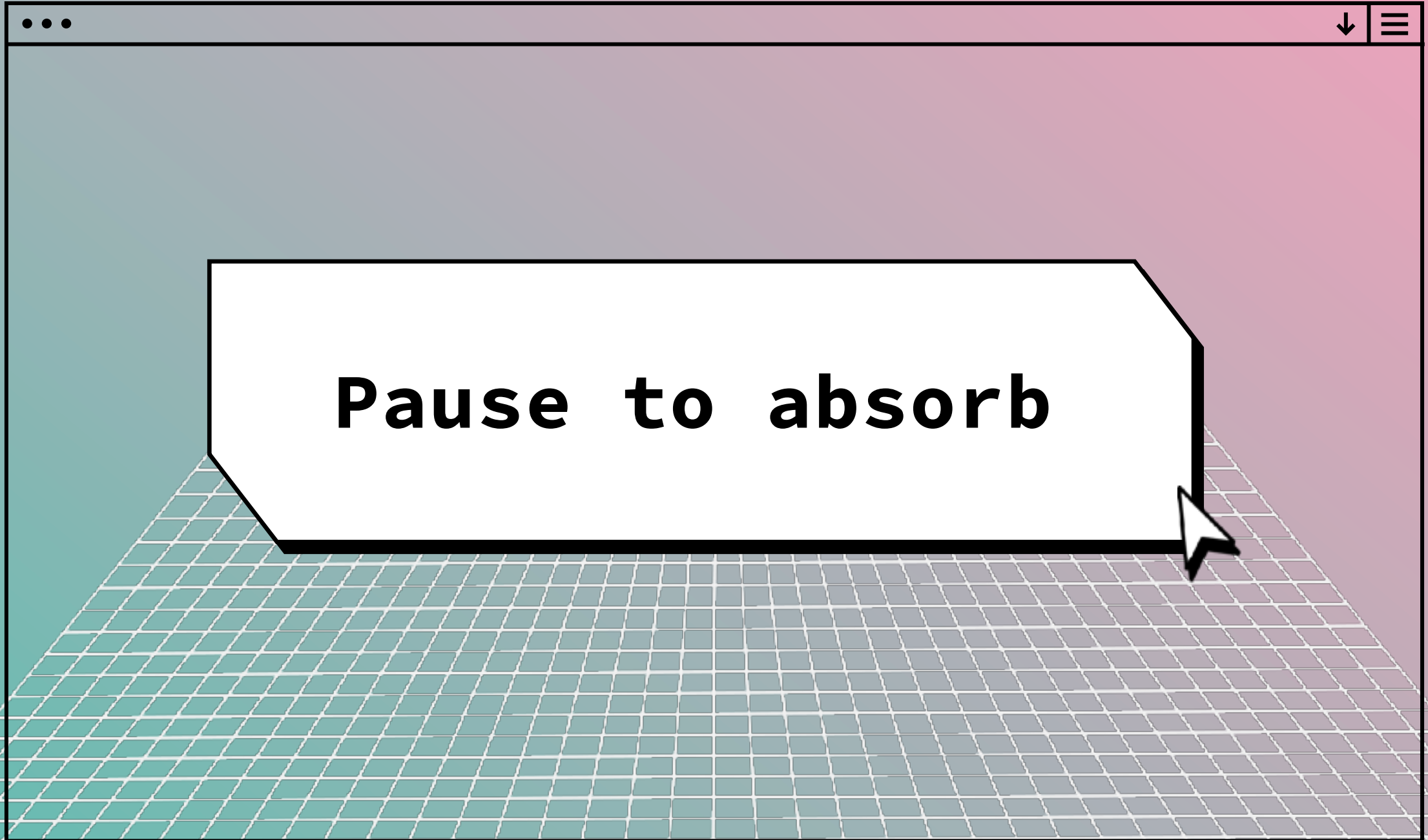


On our best days we might be too
confident in our own abilities
to recognise the depth of our need,
And sometimes we will be too
shamed, too guilty and too crippled
by our failure to turn to you for
help.

**Even so, comfort us and remind us
of your grace Holy Spirit.**



Meet us, bless us, quicken us now.
Gently turn our gaze to your
forgiveness and love,
And tune our ears to your better and
more beautiful song.
Give us your power – power to change,
power to endure, power not to give up,
power to be holy & distinctive.
**Fill us, change us, use us, lead us,
control us – we're yours. Amen**



Pause to absorb



Why was Adam and Eve's nakedness shameful after eating the fruit and not before?

They were married before and after, so what was in the fruit that made sex sinful?

Why did they cover themselves in fig leaves after eating the fruit?

Naked > Clothed

A Bible theme of hope



Naked no sin



Fig leaves



Animal skins



Christ naked
on cross



So we can be
clothed with
righteousness
and glory

