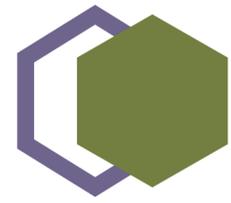




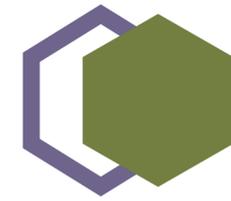
# **HOW TO BREAK DOWN STRONGHOLDS IN YOUR LIFE**

Joshua 5:13—6:27



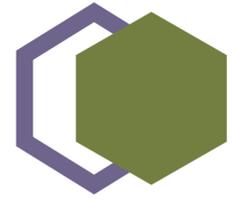
# MISSION IMPOSSIBLE





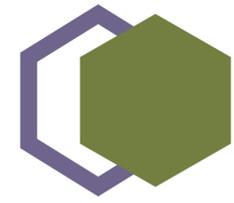
# JOSHUA'S MISSION IMPOSSIBLE





# OUR PERSONAL MISSION IMPOSSIBLE





# ARGYLE'S MISSION IMPOSSIBLE





How to achieve the impossible  
& break down strongholds

## 1. GET INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

5:13—15; Ark of the  
covenant



# JOSHUA 5:13–15

13 Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, ‘Are you for us or for our enemies?’

14 ‘Neither,’ he replied, ‘but as commander of the army of the Lord **I have now come.**’ Then Joshua fell face down to the ground in reverence, and asked him, ‘What message does my Lord have for his servant?’

15 The commander of the Lord’s army replied, ‘Take off your sandals, for **the place where you are standing is holy.**’ And Joshua did so.



## JOSHUA 6:3—13

3 March round the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. 4 Make seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march round the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. 5 When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, make the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in.'

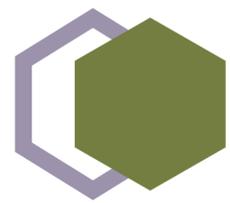
6 So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, 'Take up the ark of the covenant of the Lord and make seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.' 7 And he ordered the army, 'Advance! March round the city, with an armed guard going ahead of the ark of the Lord.'

8 When Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the Lord went forwards, blowing their trumpets, and the ark of the Lord's covenant followed them. 9 The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark. All this time the trumpets were sounding. 10 But Joshua

had commanded the army, 'Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then shout!' 11 So he had the ark of the Lord carried round the city, circling it once. Then the army returned to camp and spent the night there.

12 Joshua got up early the next morning and the priests took up the ark of the Lord. 13 The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went forwards, marching before the ark of the Lord and blowing the trumpets. The armed men went ahead of them and the rear guard followed the ark of the Lord, while the trumpets kept sounding.





# GOD'S PRESENCE PREPARES US TO BREAK DOWN STRONGHOLDS



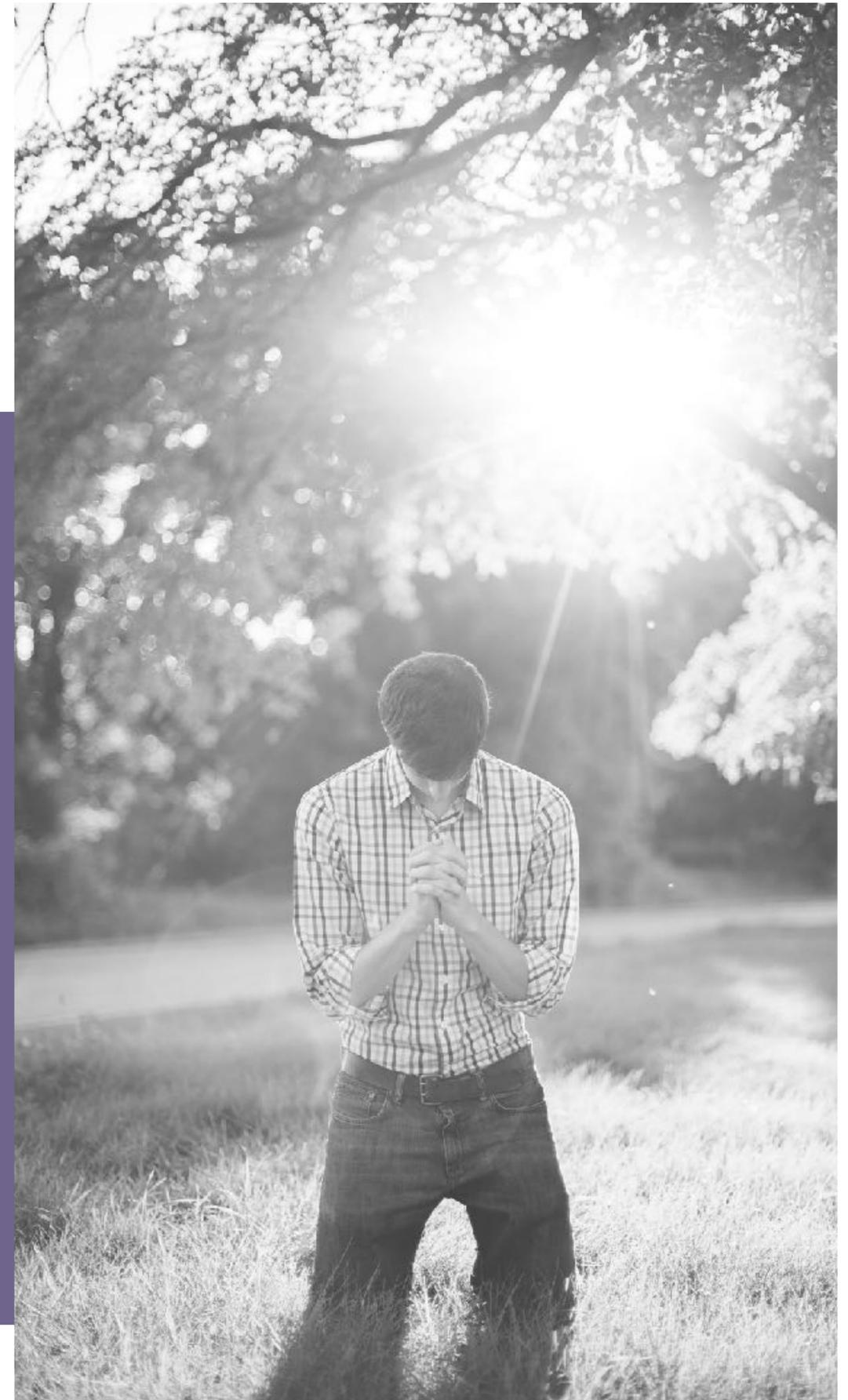
“Joshua fell face down to the ground in reverence.” 5:14. “The place where you are standing is holy.” 5:15.



Are you too busy? Working too hard?  
Do you need to slow down?



Discuss: What helps you be still and  
get into God's presence?





How to achieve the impossible  
& break down strongholds

## **2. GET PASSIVE: OWN THE IMPOSSIBLE**

6:1; Marching round  
and round



# JOSHUA 6:1

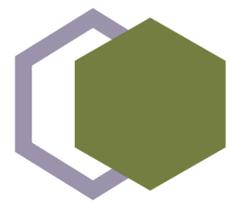
Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.



## JOSHUA 6:12–15

12 Joshua got up early the next morning and the priests took up the ark of the Lord. 13 The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went forwards, **marching** before the ark of the Lord and blowing the trumpets. The armed men went ahead of them and the rear guard followed the ark of the Lord, while the trumpets kept sounding. 14 So on the second day they **marched** round the city once and returned to the camp. **They did this for six days.** 15 On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and **marched** round the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day **they circled the city seven times.**





# TO BREAK DOWN STRONGHOLDS, ADMIT YOU CAN'T



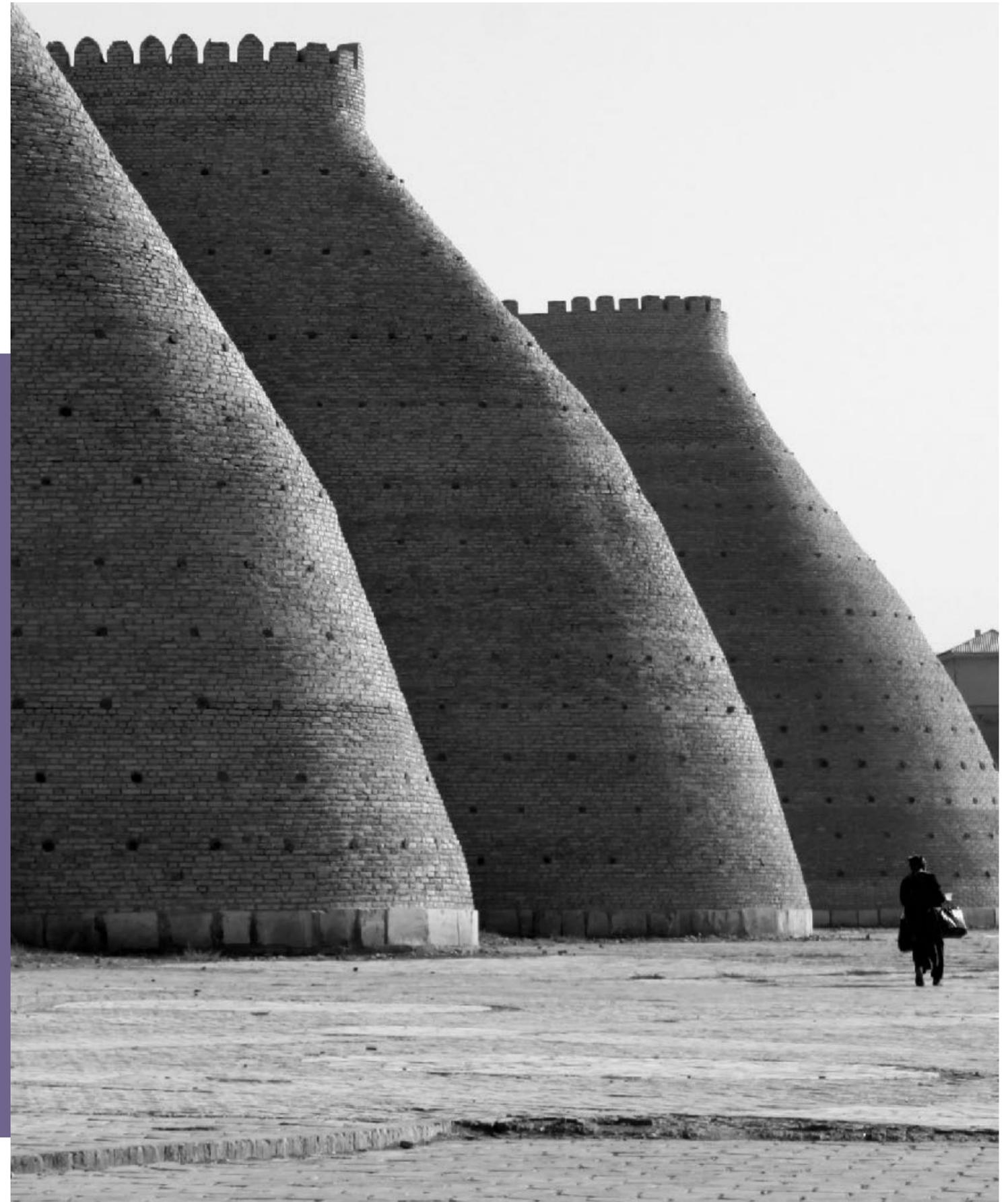
Admit you are not powerful  
enough



Admit you are a sinaholic~  
you need help



Admit you are helpless and  
dependent like a child





How to achieve the impossible  
& break down strongholds

### **3. GET ACTIVE: ATTEMPT THE IMPOSSIBLE**

6:2; Shout and attack



# JOSHUA 6:1, 2

1 Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

2 Then the Lord said to Joshua, 'See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.'

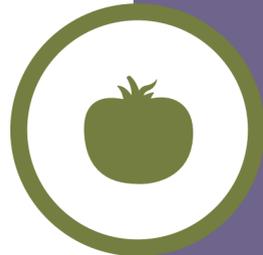


## JOSHUA 6:20—21

20 When the trumpets sounded, the army shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the men gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city. 21 They devoted the city to the Lord and destroyed with the sword every living thing in it — men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys.



# TO BREAK DOWN STRONGHOLDS, PARTICIPATE WITH GOD



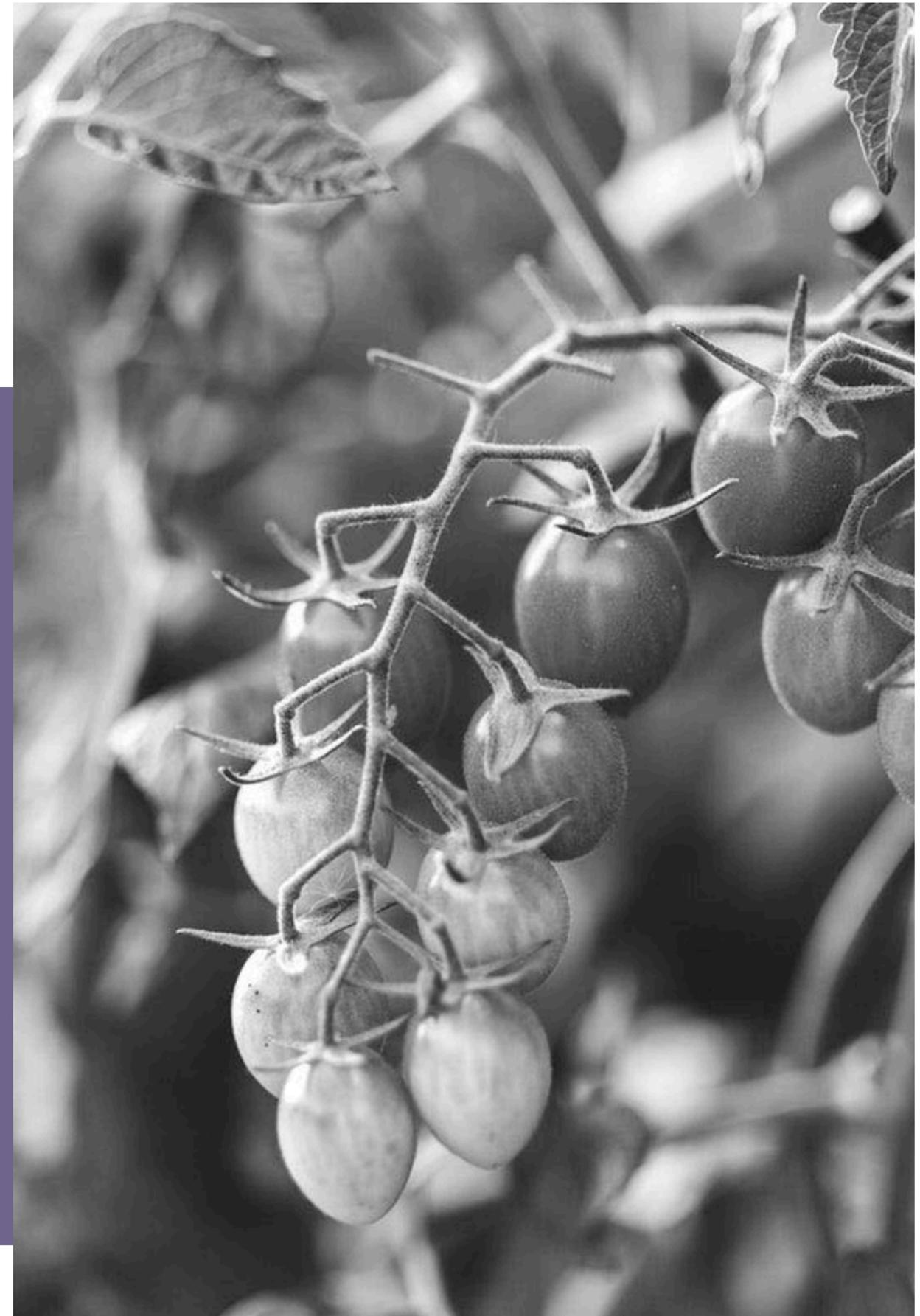
What transforms the tomato seed into a fruitful tomato plant?



We are not the power source; but we have to participate in the process.



Work and effort are involved but the power comes from Him.





How to achieve the impossible  
& break down strongholds

## EPILOGUE: WHAT ABOUT WHEN WE FAIL?

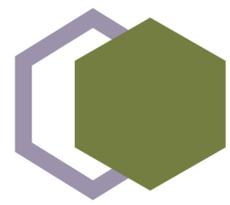
2 Corinthians 4:7



# JOSHUA 5:13

Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand.





# OUR FAILURES LEAD US TO OUR TREASURE



2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.



It's not about good-looking jars, but captivating treasure.



Let your failures and sin point you to his successes and perfection, counted as yours.

