



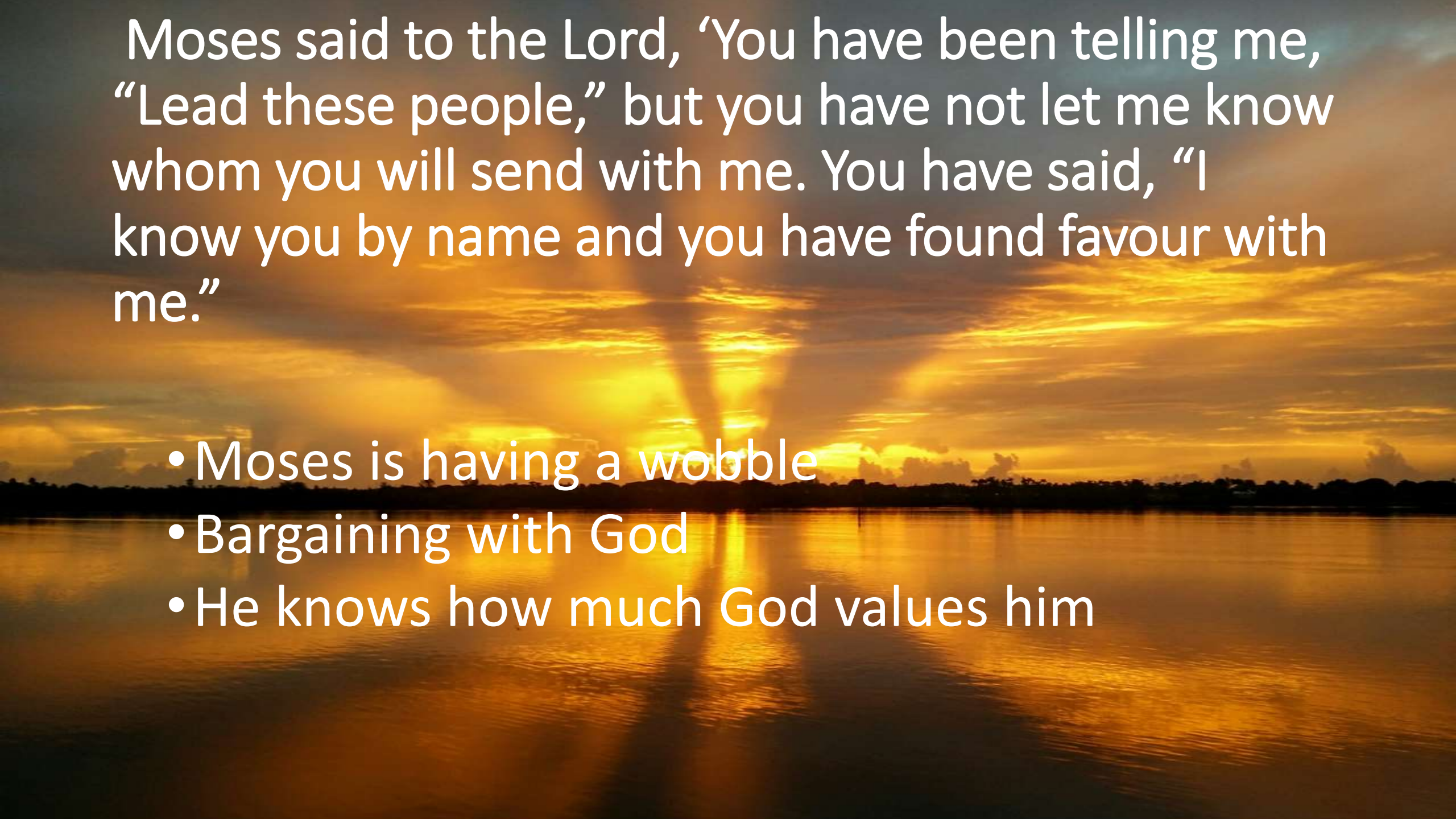
# Intimate relationship with God

Exodus 33: 12 - 23

# Why is this conversation taking place?


- Golden calf
- “Stiff-necked people” 33:3, 5
- God will not be travelling with them 33:2 – 3, 5
- Tent of meeting





Moses said to the Lord, “You have been telling me, “Lead these people,” but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, “I know you by name and you have found favour with me.”

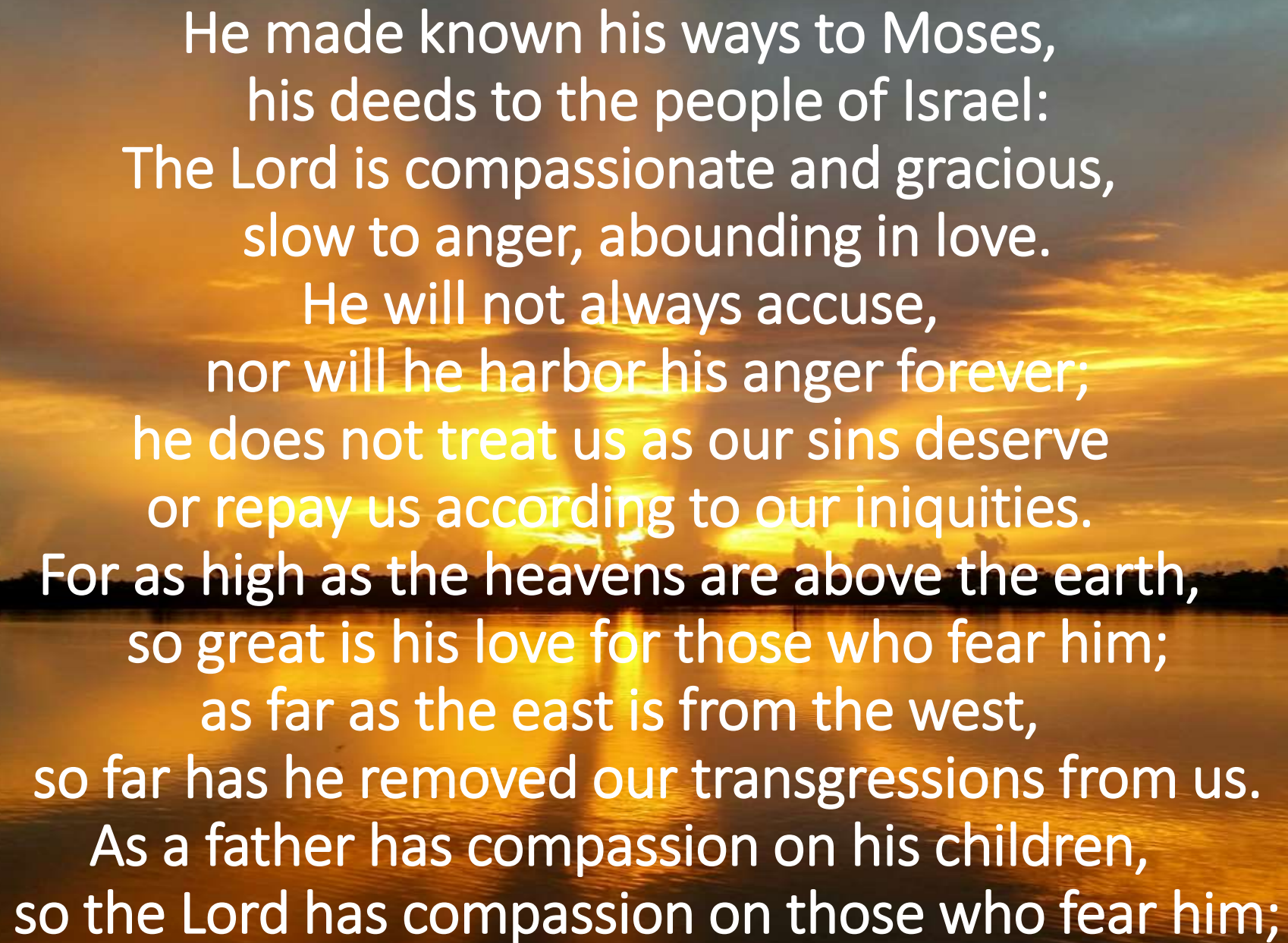
- Moses is having a wobble
- Bargaining with God
- He knows how much God values him

A sunset over a body of water with a dark silhouette of a forest in the background. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people.'

- Bargaining to blackmail?! **Your people**
- God's way? Psalm 103: 7 - 13



A sunset over a body of water with white text overlaid. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The text is centered and reads:

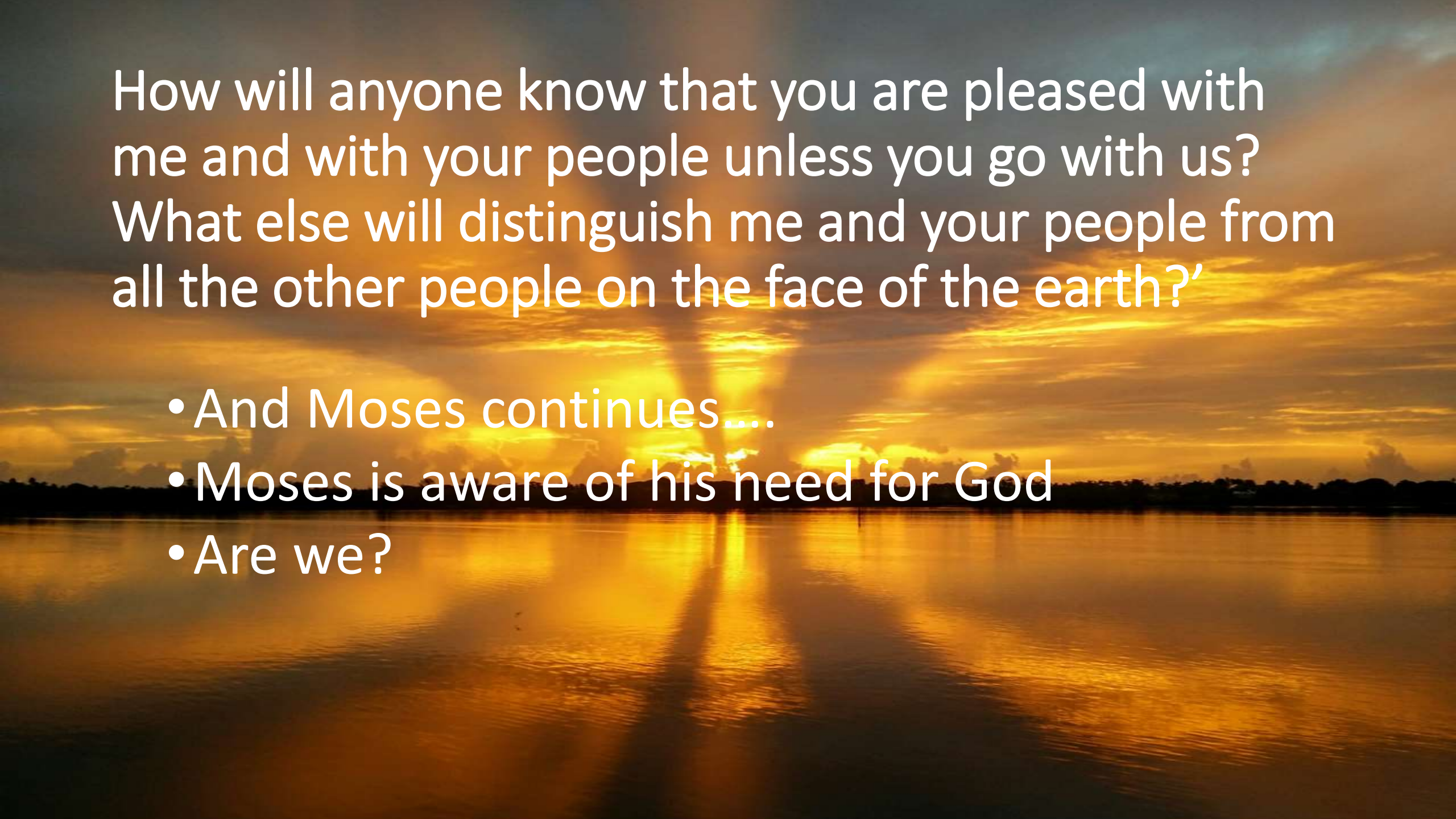
He made known his ways to Moses,  
his deeds to the people of Israel:  
The Lord is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;  
he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.  
As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;

The Lord replied, 'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.'

Then Moses said to him, 'If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.'

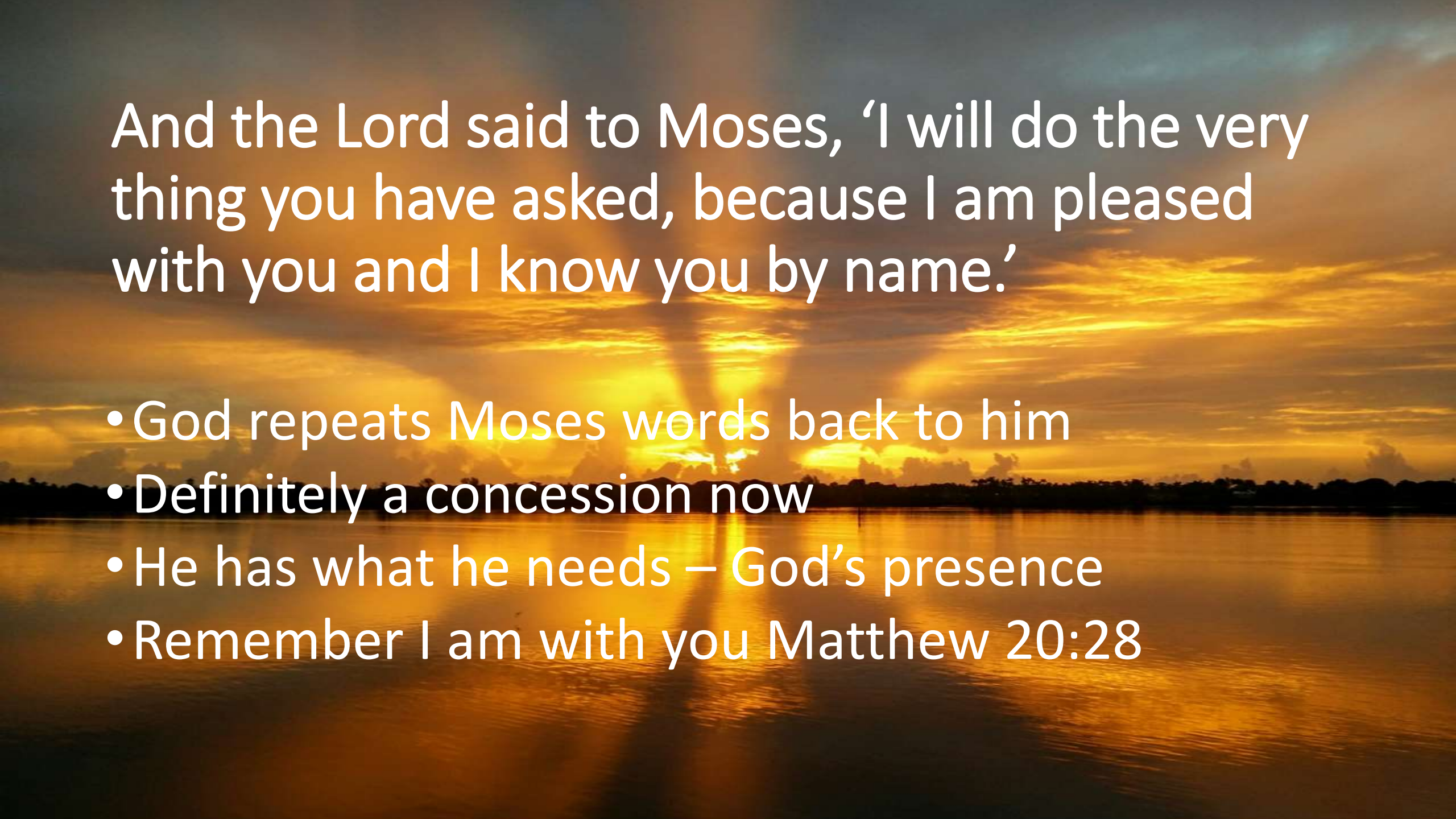
- Does God get angry and tell Moses not to be so cheeky? Compassion, love and kindness
- Does Moses win a concession from God?
- Hebrew: My presence will go...
- Moses knows he will have an angel with him but this isn't enough 33:2





How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?’

- And Moses continues....
- Moses is aware of his need for God
- Are we?



And the Lord said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.'

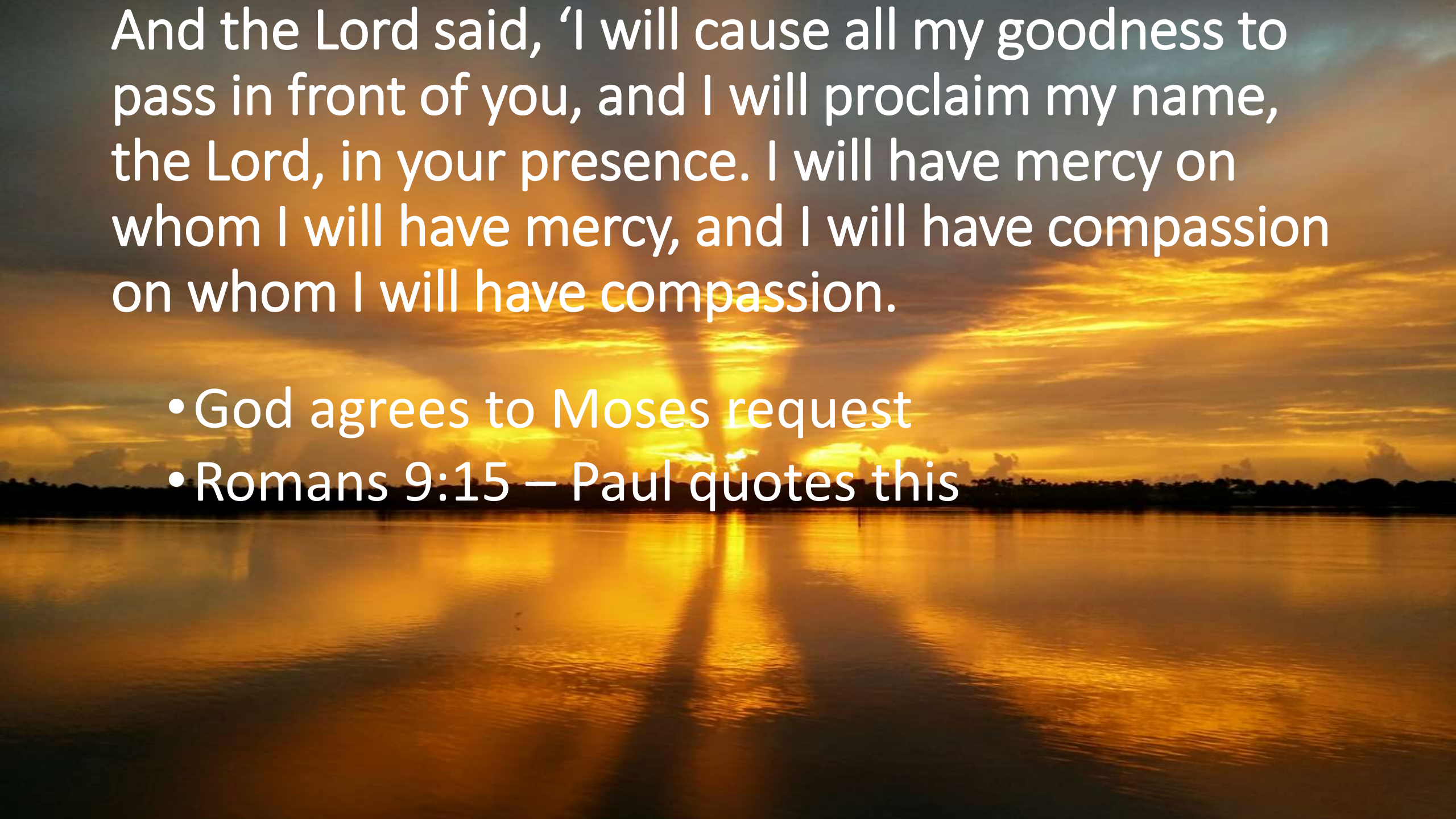
- God repeats Moses words back to him
- Definitely a concession now
- He has what he needs – God's presence
- Remember I am with you Matthew 20:28



A sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright path of light through the clouds that reflects on the water. The sky is filled with golden and orange hues, with some darker clouds. The water is calm, showing clear reflections of the sun and clouds.

Then Moses said, 'Now show me your glory.'

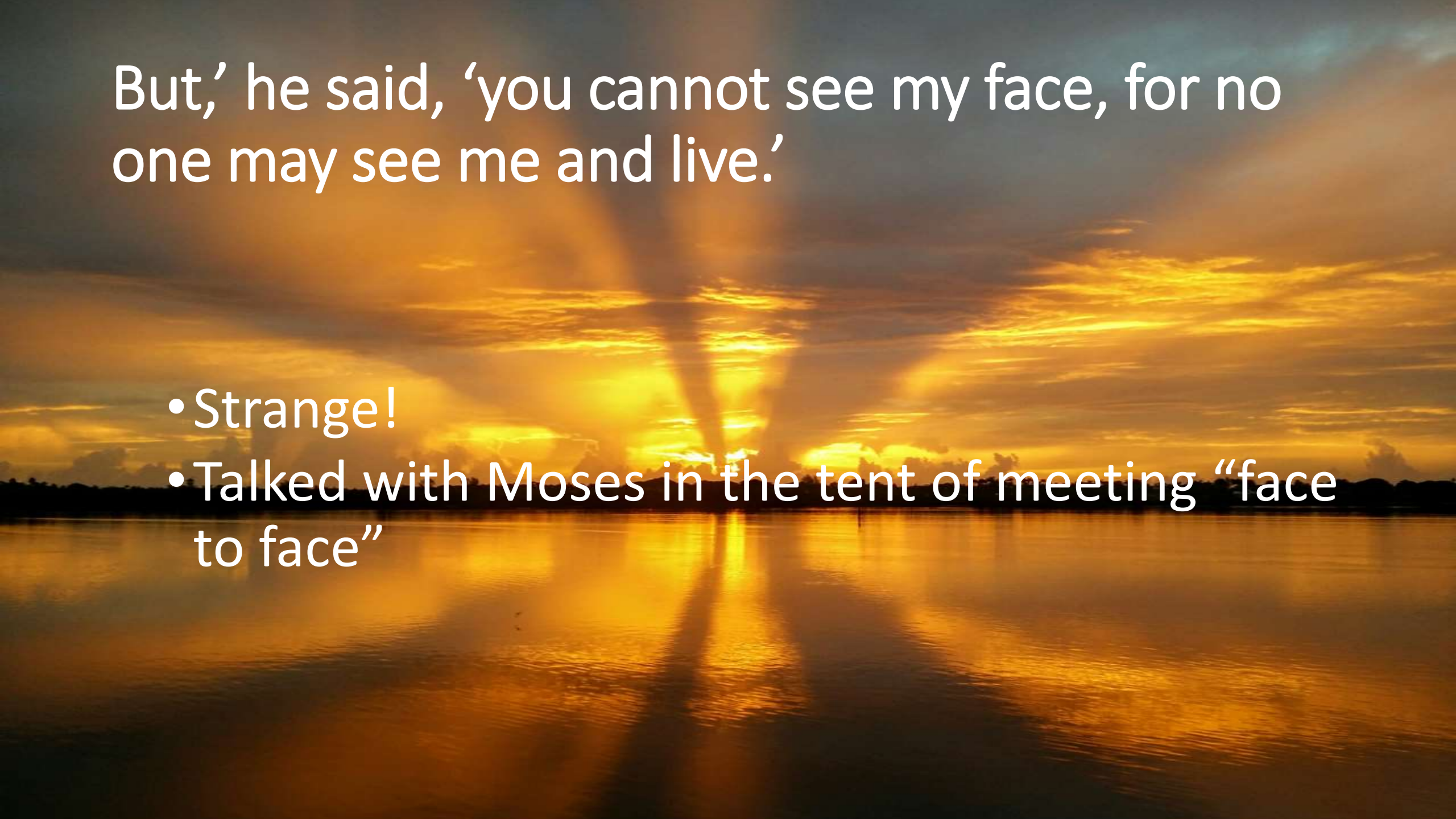
- He doesn't give up!
- Do we do the same?



And the Lord said, 'I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.'

- God agrees to Moses request
- Romans 9:15 – Paul quotes this



A sunset over a body of water. The sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds, and a bright light source is visible in the center, creating a vertical beam of light that reflects on the water. The water is calm, and the overall scene is peaceful and serene.

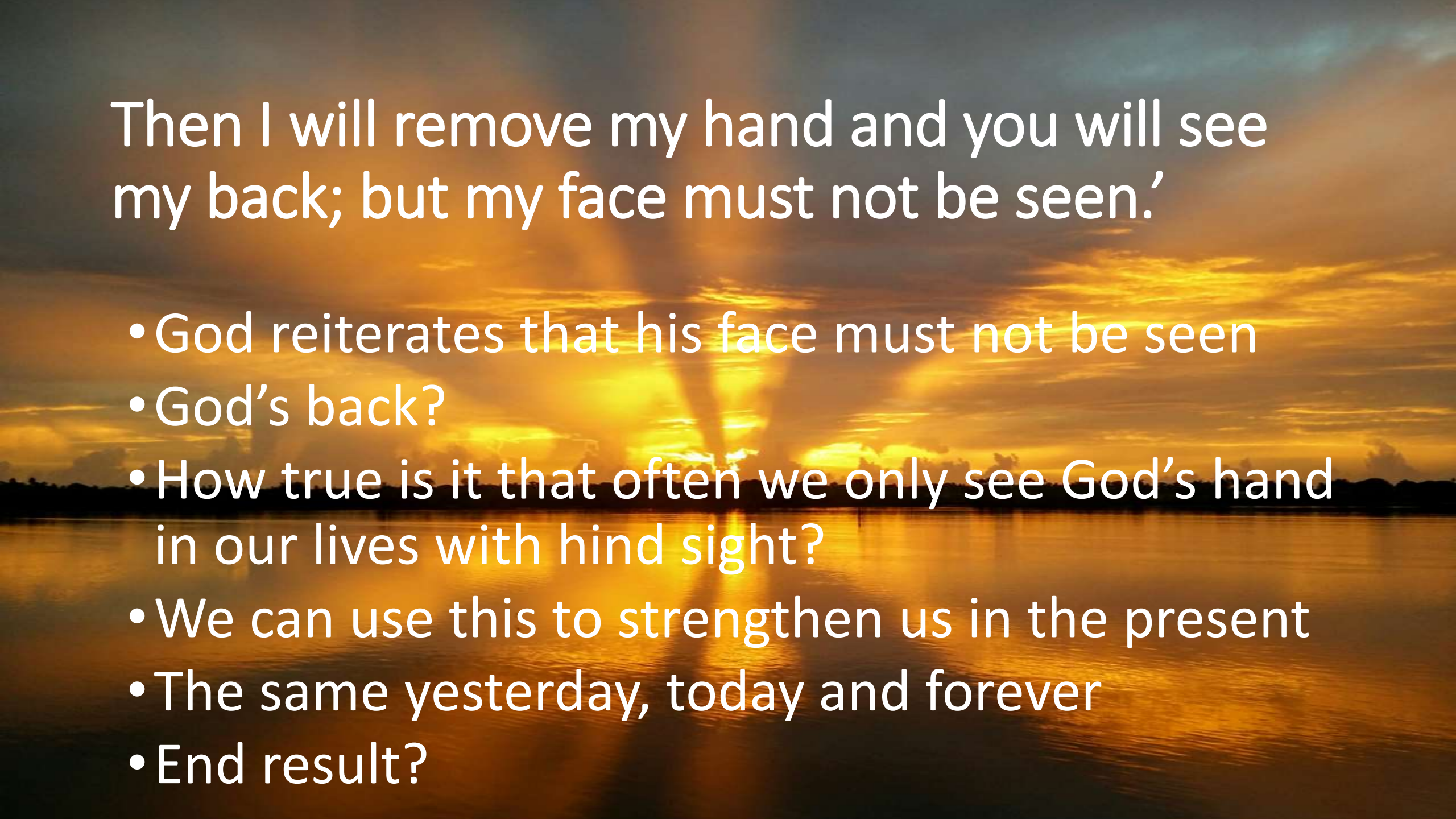
But,' he said, 'you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.'

- Strange!
- Talked with Moses in the tent of meeting “face to face”

Then the Lord said, 'There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by.'

- Moses is to be near God
- God cares for Moses





Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.'

- God reiterates that his face must not be seen
- God's back?
- How true is it that often we only see God's hand in our lives with hind sight?
- We can use this to strengthen us in the present
- The same yesterday, today and forever
- End result?

# God's intimate relationship with God

- The LORD speaks to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend
- The Lord says to Moses "I know you by name and you have found favour with me"
- The Lord will go with Moses and give him rest
- The Lord covers Moses with his hand
- Moses has confidence in his relationship with God
- God replies to Moses and agrees to his requests



# How do we achieve/maintain an intimate relationship with God?

- Do we want to?
- Invite his presence to be with us/in us
- Spend time with Him

We can never draw  
close to God & get to  
know Him well, unless we

*Spend time alone with Him.*





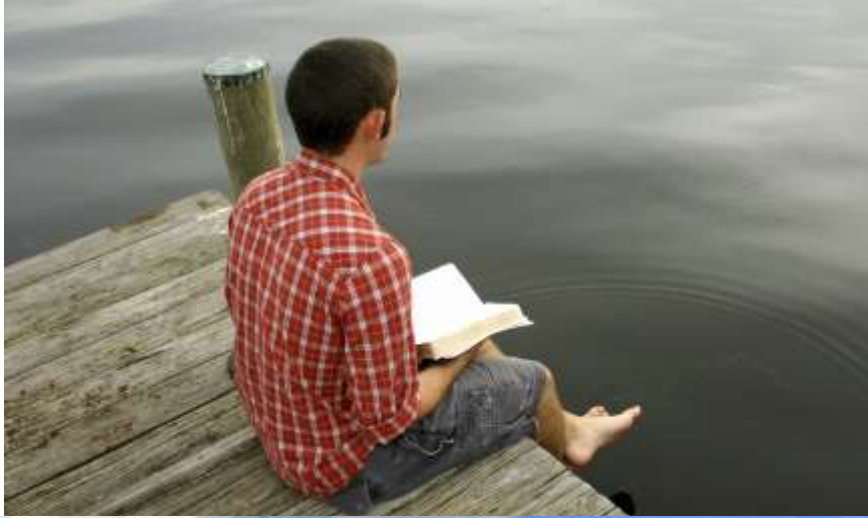


Common Worship

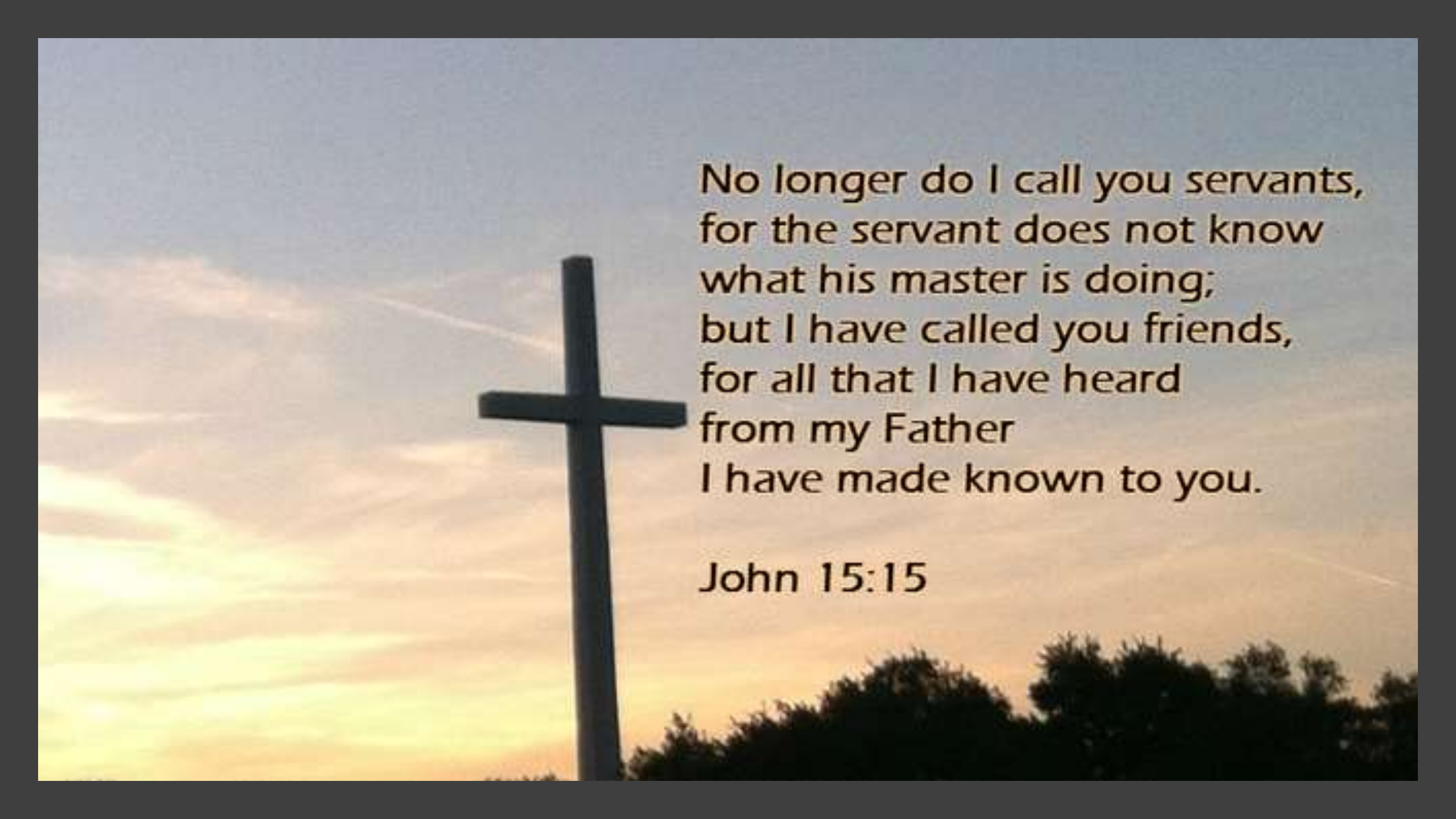
Services and Papers for the Church of England

# Daily Prayer

CHURCH HOUSE PUBLISHING







No longer do I call you servants,  
for the servant does not know  
what his master is doing;  
but I have called you friends,  
for all that I have heard  
from my Father  
I have made known to you.

John 15:15



# My intimate relationship with God

- The LORD will speak to you face to face, as one speaks to a friend
- The Lord will say “I know you by name and you have found favour with me”
- The Lord will go with you and give you rest
- The Lord will cover you with his hand
- You will have confidence in your relationship with God

Spend time with  
God

