



# Keeping a Holy Lent #4 Scripture Reading



# Recap

- Fasting—something good, something noticeable, something that will pinch.
- Almsgiving—a specific form of fasting targeting wealth.
- Prayer—a focused, intentional conversation with God

# Scripture Reading

A wooden cross is centered in the background. A purple cloth is draped over the horizontal beam of the cross. A crown of thorns is placed on top of the vertical post of the cross. The background is a solid dark blue.

- A fourth traditional Lenten observance.
- The discipline of listening.



# What is Scripture Reading?

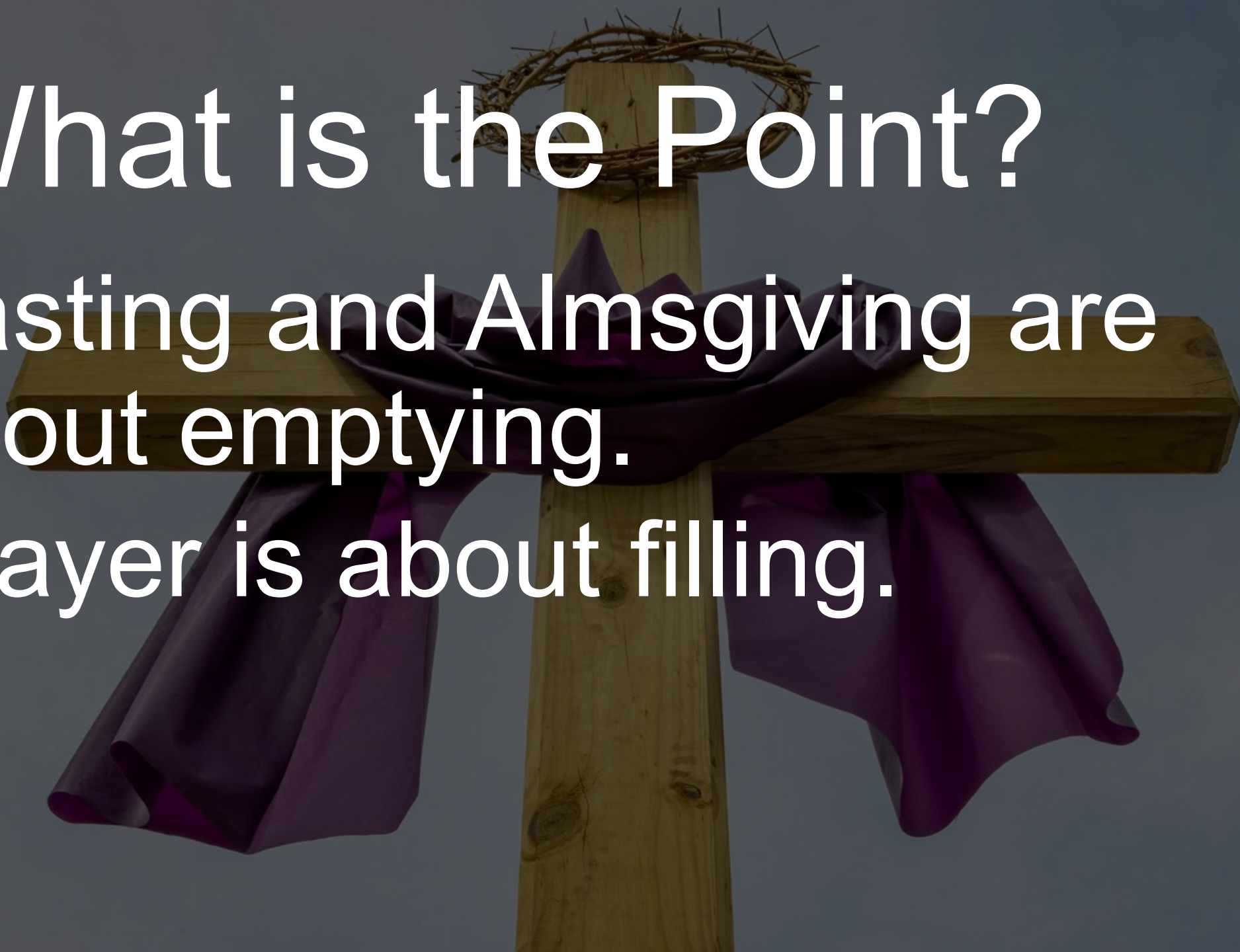
- Scripture Reading is not. . . .
  - A magic eight ball.
  - An academic activity

# What is Scripture Reading?

- Scripture Reading is. . .
  - The *ordinary* way of listening for God's voice.
  - *Ordinary* and *extraordinary*

# What is the Point?

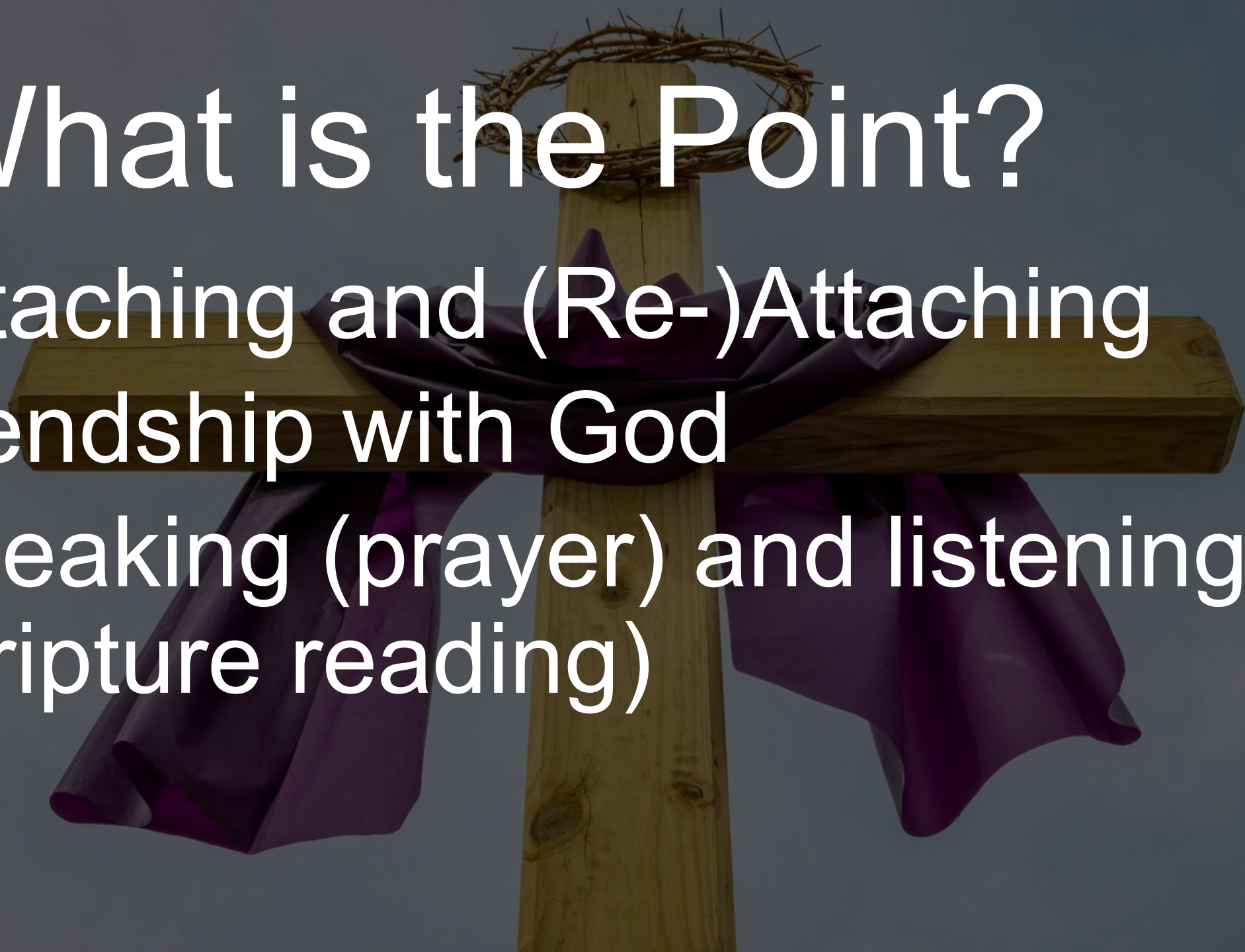
- Fasting and Almsgiving are about emptying.
- Prayer is about filling.



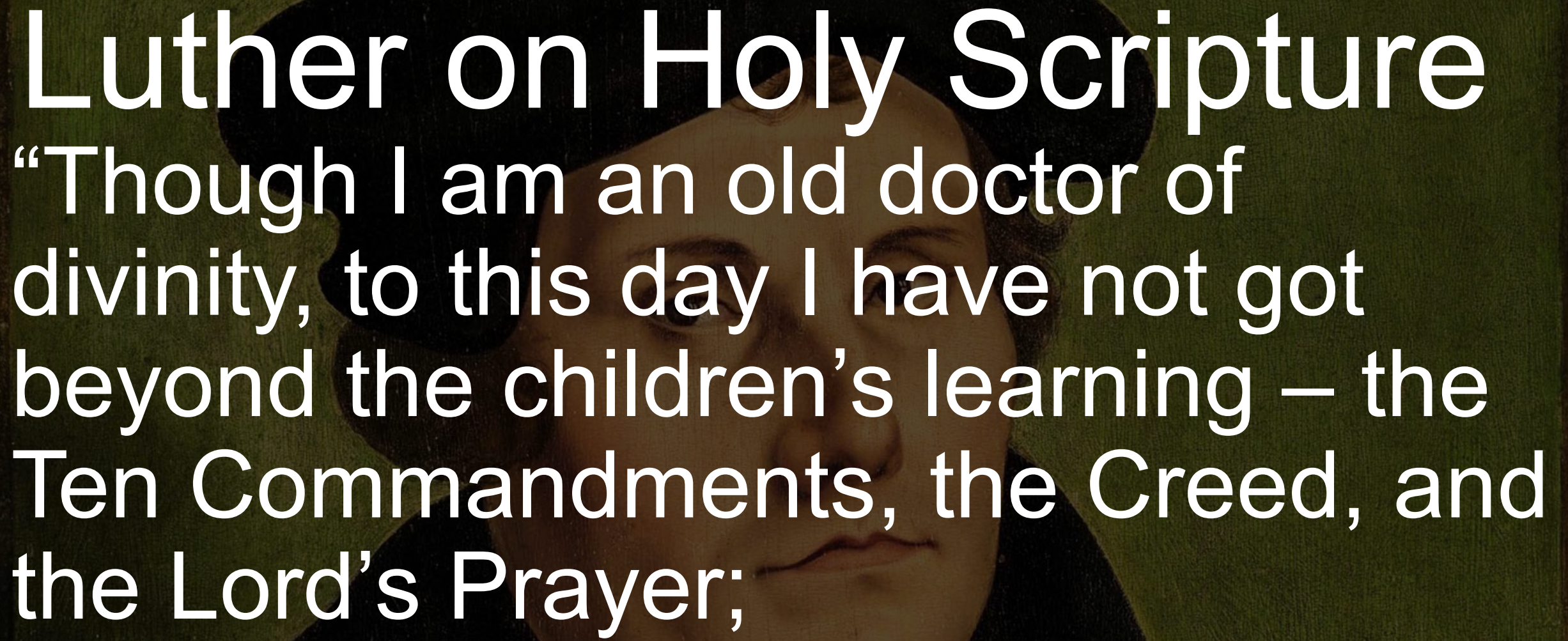


# What is the Point?

- Detaching and (Re-)Attaching
- Friendship with God
- Speaking (prayer) and listening (scripture reading)



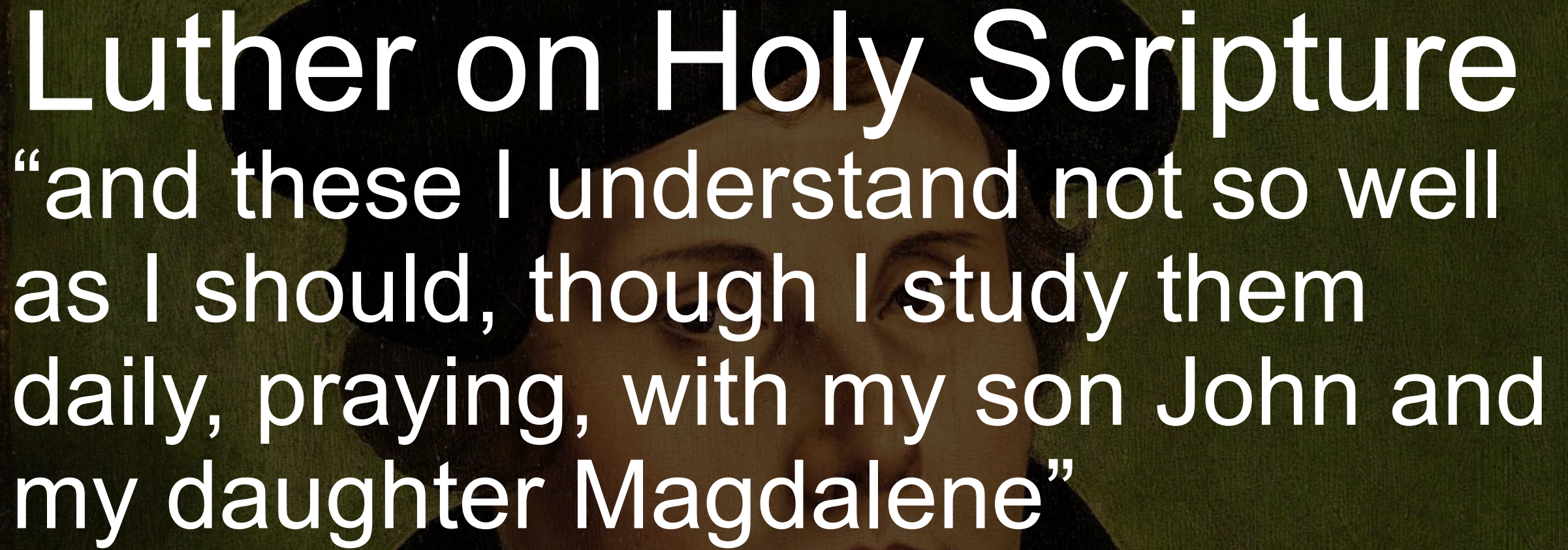


A portrait of Martin Luther, a German monk, theologian, and reformer. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a black cap and a dark, high-collared garment. The background is a dark, textured green. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

# Luther on Holy Scripture

“Though I am an old doctor of divinity, to this day I have not got beyond the children’s learning – the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord’s Prayer;



A portrait of Martin Luther, a German monk, priest, and theologian. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a black cap and a dark, high-collared garment. The background is a dark, textured green. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font.

# Luther on Holy Scripture

“and these I understand not so well  
as I should, though I study them  
daily, praying, with my son John and  
my daughter Magdalene”



A portrait of Martin Luther, a German theologian and reformer, is visible in the background. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark cap and a dark garment. His face is pale, and he has a serious expression. The background of the portrait is a dark, textured green.

# Luther on Holy Scripture

“He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction”



# How to Read

- Read in the community of faith.
- Read as *families*.
- Read in secret.



# How to Read



- Read your Bible. Pray every day and you'll grow grow grow!
- "I hear not Paul, Peter, or a man speak, but God himself."