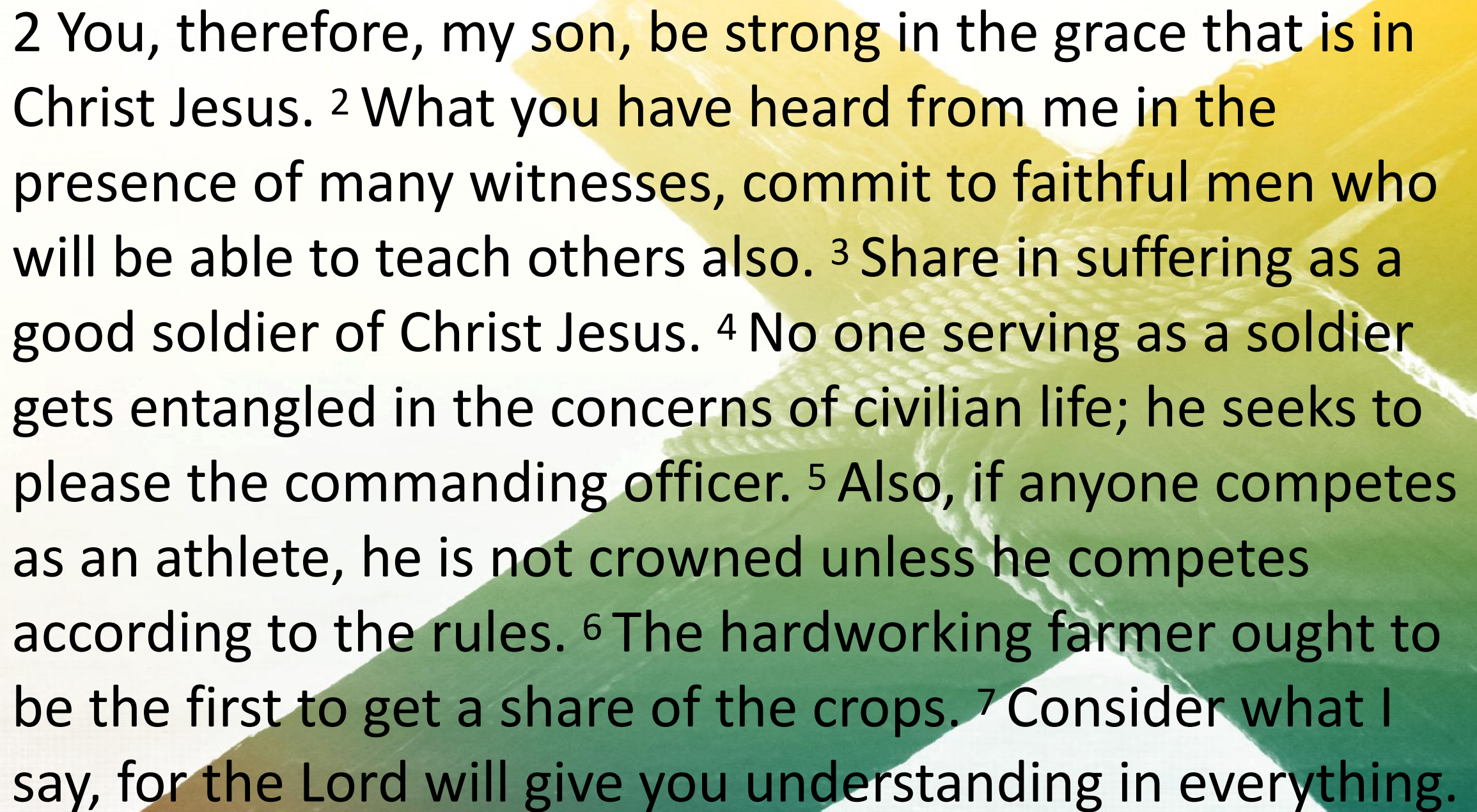


A close-up photograph of a thick, white rope tied in a knot, set against a background of a bright sun and a green-tinted sky. The rope is the central focus, with its intricate braiding clearly visible. The background features a bright sun in the upper left, creating a lens flare effect, and a sky that transitions from a pale yellow near the sun to a deep green at the bottom. The overall composition is abstract and evocative.

# **An Inconvenient Faith**

This was likely  
Paul's last letter





2 You, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. <sup>3</sup> Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup> No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the commanding officer. <sup>5</sup> Also, if anyone competes as an athlete, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. <sup>6</sup> The hardworking farmer ought to be the first to get a share of the crops. <sup>7</sup> Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

2 Tim. 2:1-7 CSB



I. Suffer as a good soldier of Christ Jesus



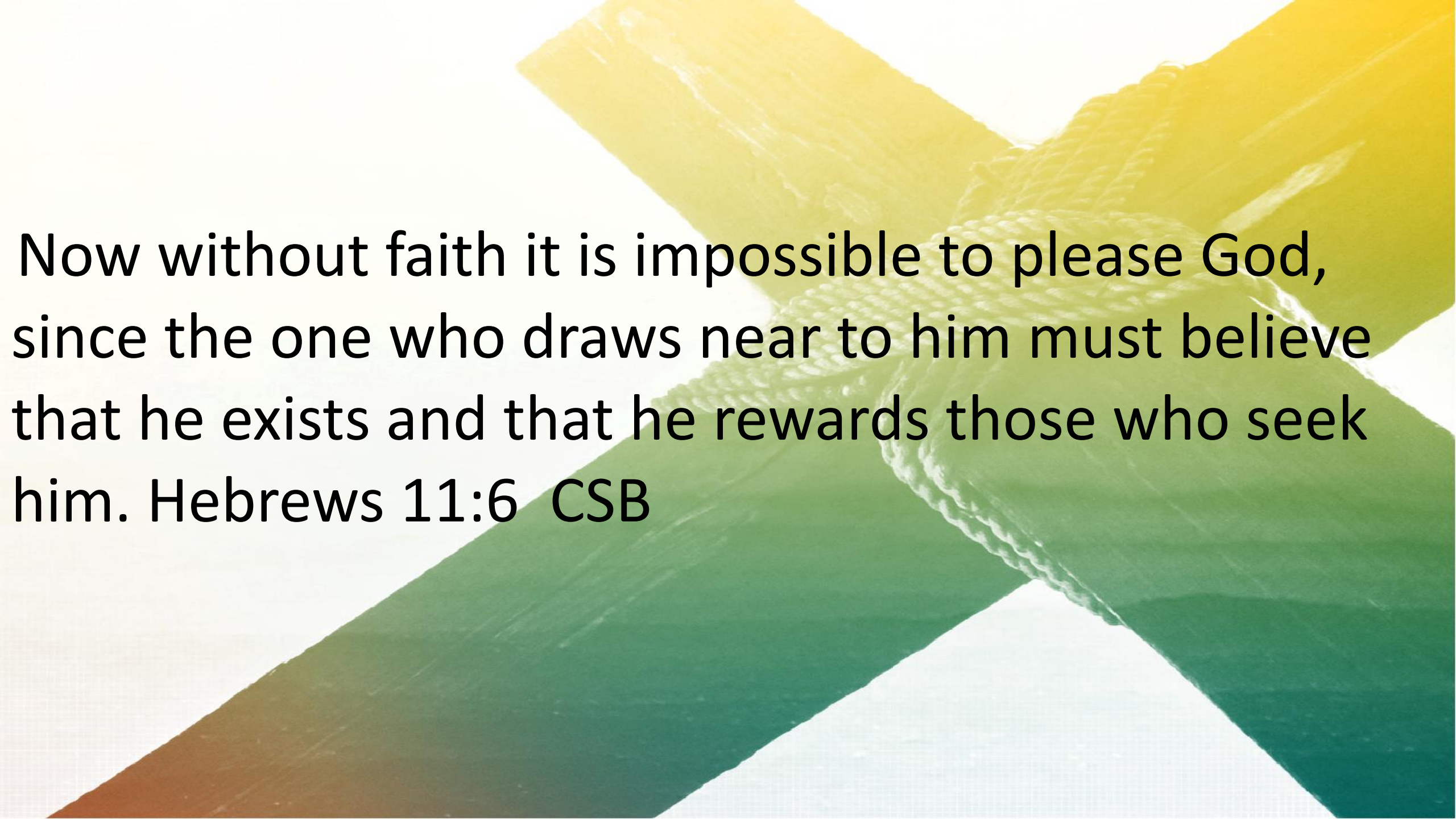
Soldier – Discipline

Train

Fight

Focus


Seek to please Christ



Now without faith it is impossible to please God,  
since the one who draws near to him must believe  
that he exists and that he rewards those who seek  
him. Hebrews 11:6 CSB

## II. Compete as an athlete

The background of the slide is a photograph of a thick, white rope coiled around a wooden post. The rope is the central focus, with its texture clearly visible. The background behind the rope is a bright, hazy sky, possibly a sunset or sunrise, with a color gradient from light green at the bottom to yellow at the top. The overall composition is simple and clean, with the text overlaid on the left side.



Athlete – Dedication  
Train  
Know the rules







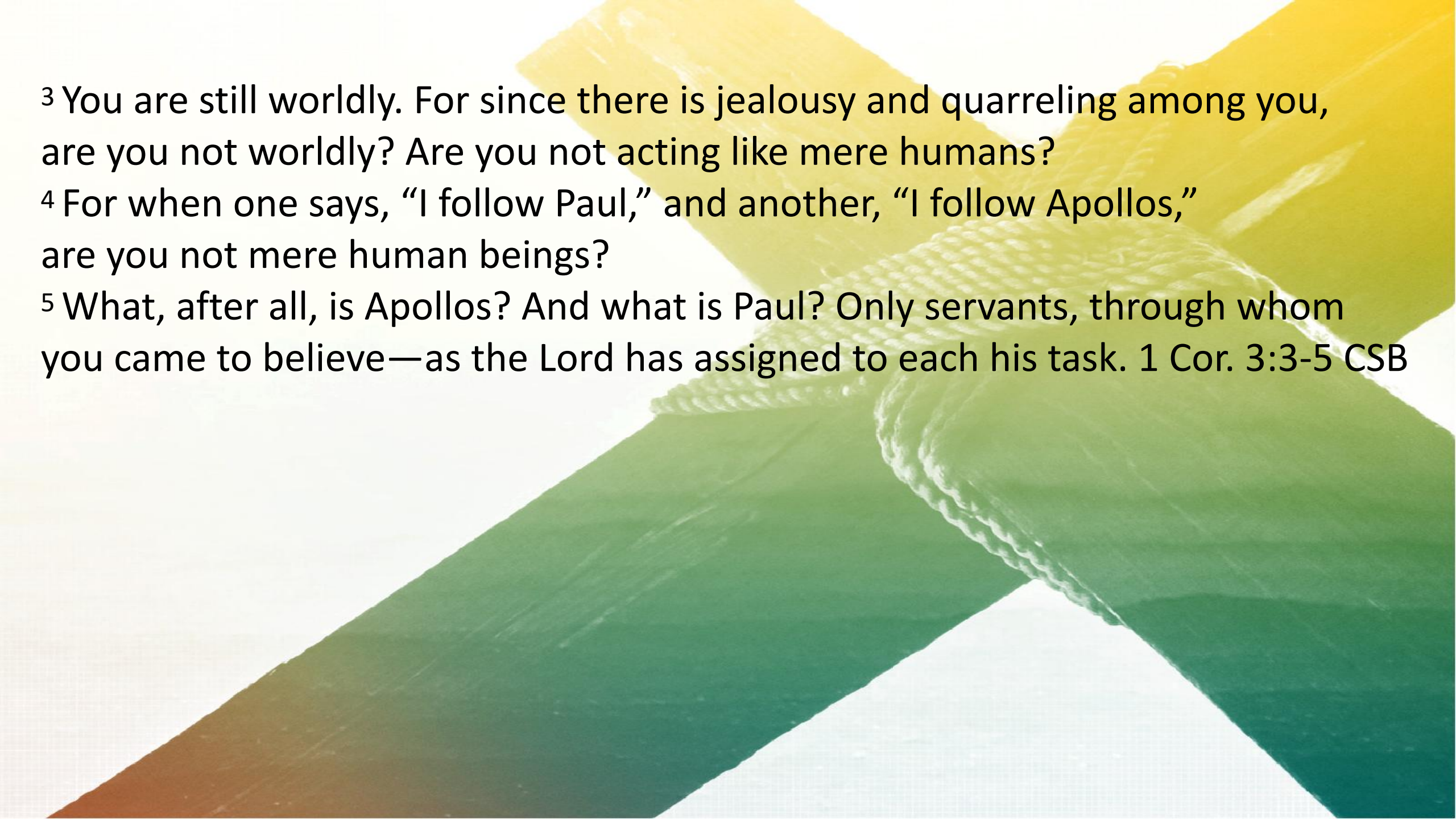
**The one who has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me.**

**And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I also will love him and will reveal myself to him. John**

**14:21 CSB**

The background of the slide features a close-up, low-angle view of a sailboat's mast and rigging. The mast is a thick, dark wooden pole, and the rigging consists of numerous ropes and pulleys. The scene is set against a bright, hazy sky, likely during a sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden light. The colors transition from a pale yellow at the top to a deep orange and red at the bottom, creating a dramatic and serene atmosphere.

**But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. Titus 3:9 NASB**




<sup>3</sup> You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?

<sup>4</sup> For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings?

<sup>5</sup> What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. 1 Cor. 3:3-5 CSB



III. Work hard as a farmer



Farmer – Devotion

Patience

Hard work

Planning



True Christianity calls us to  
Commitment  
Teamwork  
Dedication  
Intentionality  
Intensity  
Unity



Soldiers – get in the battle

Athletes – get in the game

Farmers – get to work



The background of the image is a gradient of colors, transitioning from a bright yellow at the top to a deep green at the bottom. A thick, white, braided rope is draped across the center, forming a large, loose knot. The rope's texture is clearly visible, and it appears to be resting on a surface that is not fully defined, but the overall composition is clean and minimalist.

Who sits on the throne of your life?

A close-up photograph of a thick, white rope tied in a knot, set against a background of a bright sun and a green-tinted sky. The rope is the central focus, with its intricate braiding clearly visible. The background features a bright sun in the upper left, creating a lens flare effect, and a sky that transitions from light green to a darker green. The overall composition is abstract and evocative.

# **An Inconvenient Faith**

