

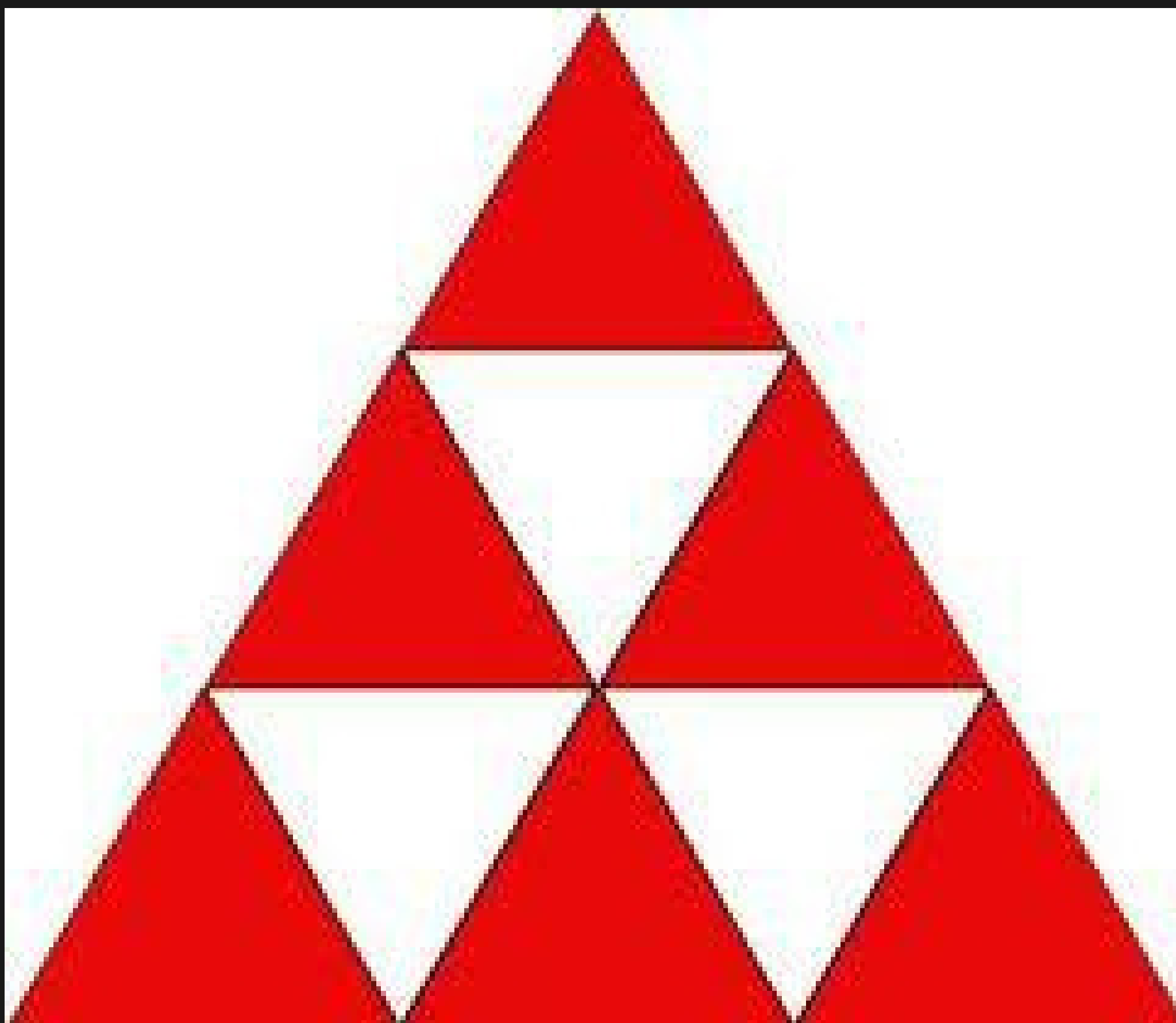
# The Counting Gospel 2.0

Kingwood  
Church of  
Christ

01

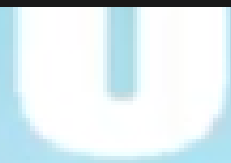
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**ANSWER:  
THERE ARE  
13 IN TOTAL**





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OOOOOOOOOO  
OQOOOOOOOO  
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# HOW MANY HOLES DOES THIS T-SHIRT HAVE?

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**HOW MANY HOLES DOES THIS T-SHIRT HAVE?**



**ANSWER**

**8**





# Luke 15

25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends.

# Luke 15

30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

31 “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”



# The Lesson He Must Learn

02

The Older Brother



**WE HAVE NOT  
CONTROL  
OVER WHAT  
GOD IS DOING  
OR VALUES**





**WHEN WE KEEP SCORE WITH  
GOD AND HIS VALUE SYSTEM,  
WE PROCLAIM WE DON'T  
KNOW GOD**



# John 8

19 Then they asked him, “Where is your father?”

“You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied. “If you knew me, **you would know my Father also.**”



# 3 Individuals the Older Brother Kept Score On



**HIS  
BROTHER**

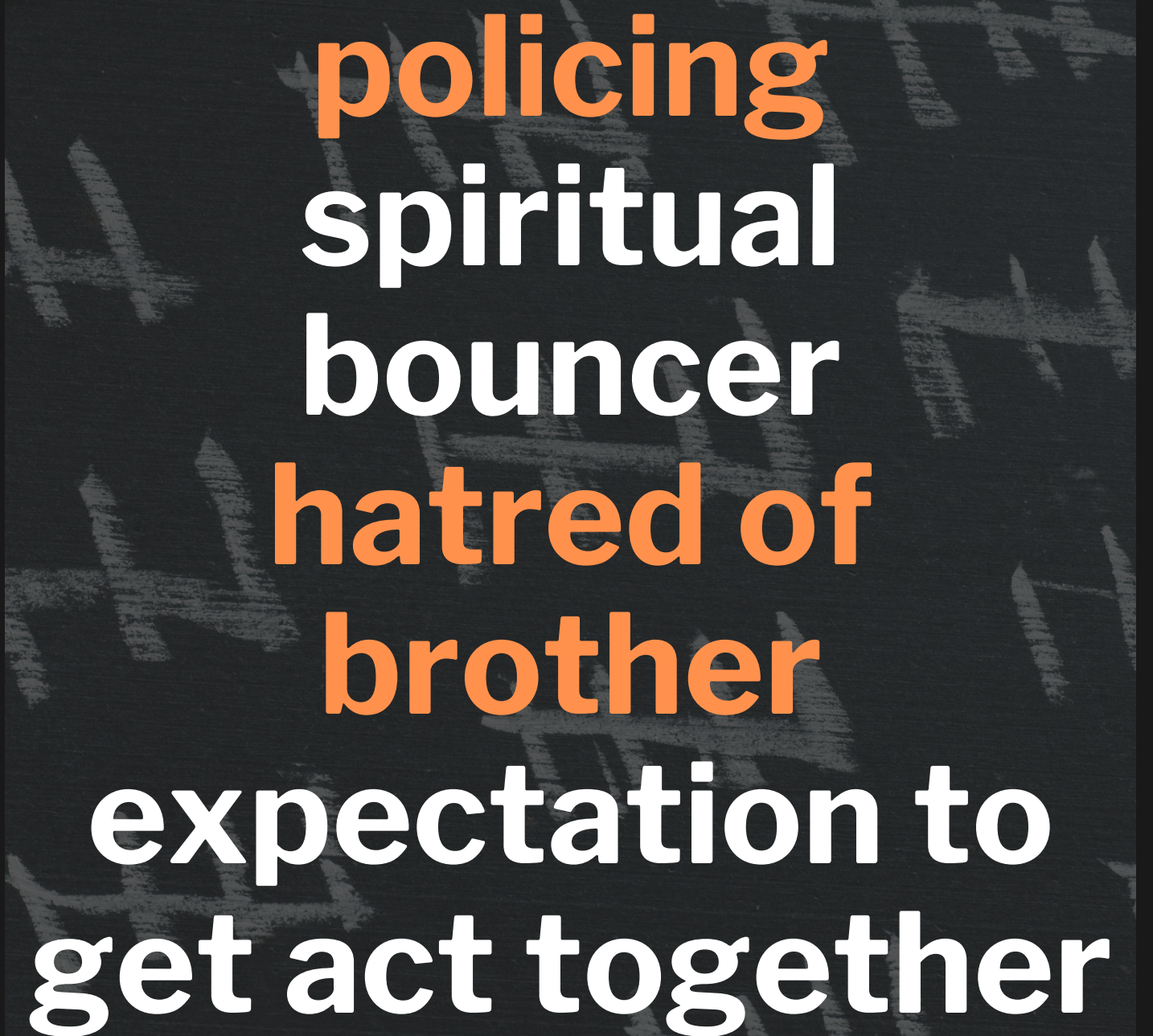


# Luke 15

30 But when this **son of yours** who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home...

02

**Led to:**



**policing**  
**spiritual**  
**bouncer**  
**hatred of**  
**brother**  
**expectation to**  
**get act together**



**KEEPING SCORE WITH OTHERS,  
ALWAYS REVEALS MORE  
ABOUT US THAN THEM**



# Matthew 7 (MSG)

It's easy to see a smudge on your neighbor's face and **be oblivious** to the ugly sneer on your own. Do you have the nerve to say, 'Let me wash your face for you,' when your own face is distorted by contempt? It's this whole traveling road-show mentality all over again, **playing a holier-than-thou part** instead of just living your part. Wipe that ugly sneer off your own face, and you might be fit to offer a washcloth to your neighbor.





# 3 Individuals the Older Brother Kept Score On



**HIMSELF**

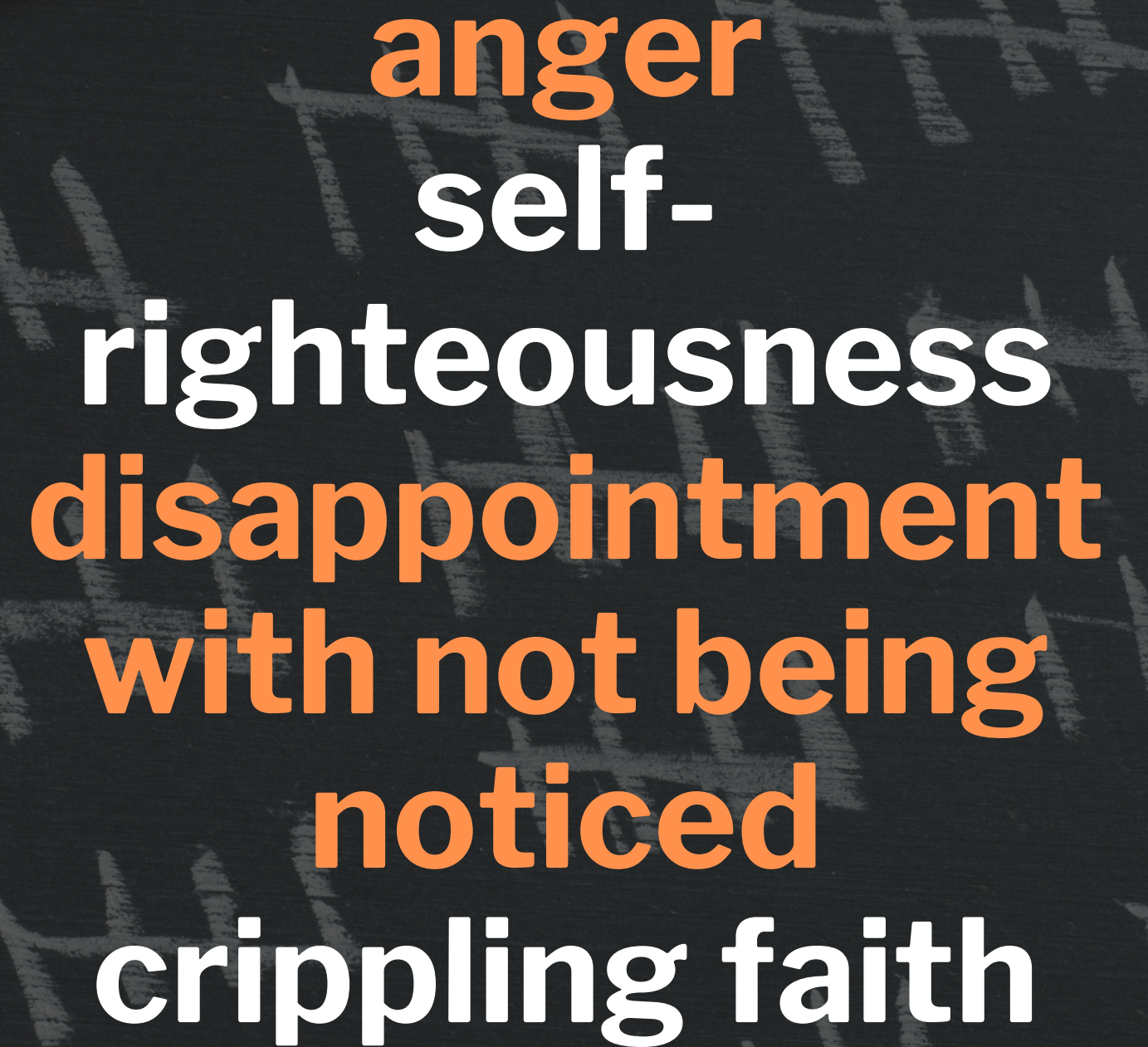
# Luke 15

29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! **All these years** I’ve been slaving for you and **never disobeyed** your orders. Yet you **never** gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends.



02

**Led to:**



**anger**  
**self-**  
**righteousness**  
**disappointment**  
**with not being**  
**noticed**  
**crippling faith**







**FOR THOSE WHO WANT A  
DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH  
GOD**

**SO OFTEN WE LOOK TO THE  
WORLD FOR INSTRUCTIONS**





# 3 Individuals the Older Brother Kept Score On



**FATHER**

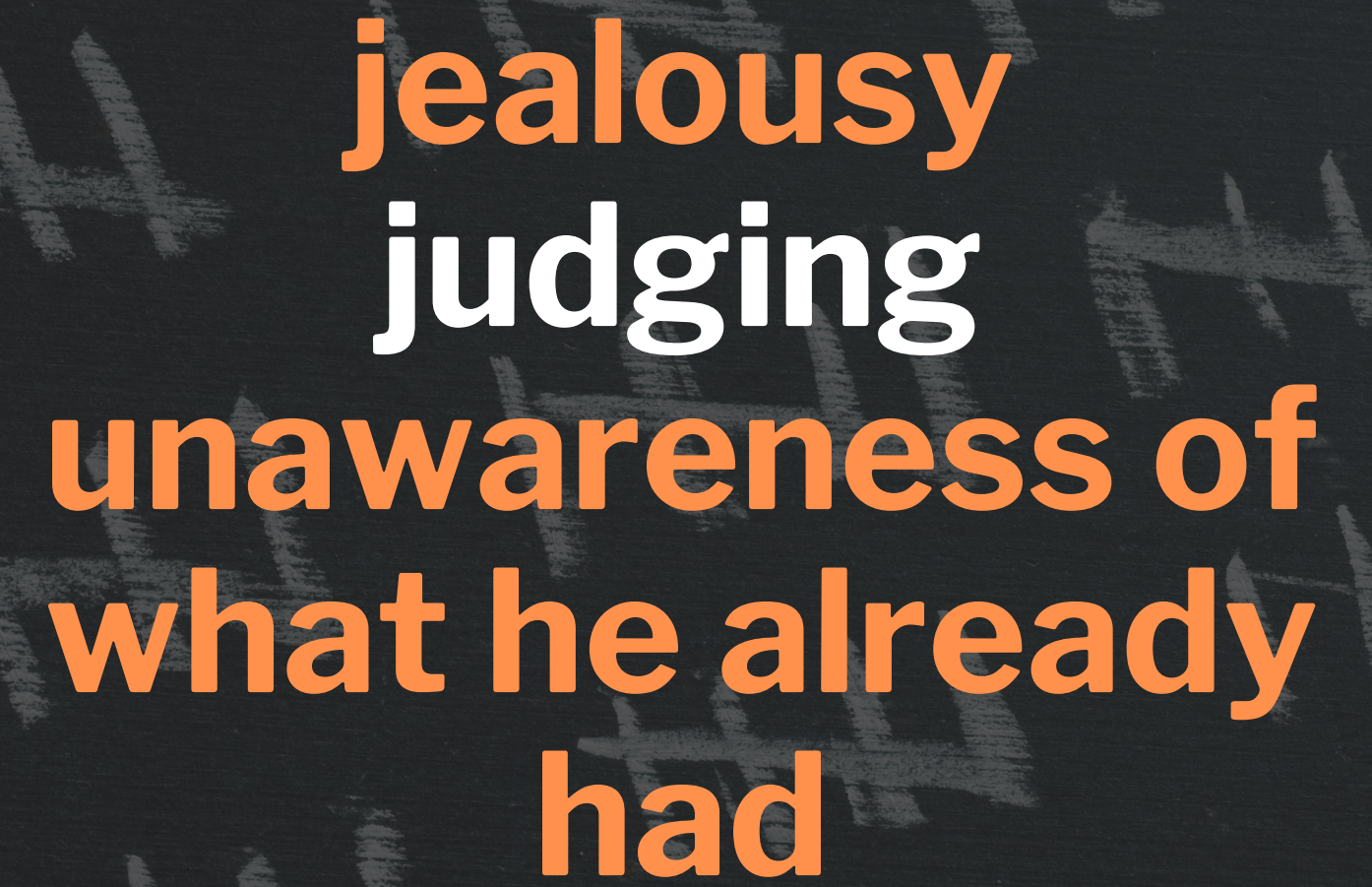


# Luke 15

30...you kill the fattened calf for him!’

02

**Led to:**



**jealousy**  
**judging**  
**unawareness of**  
**what he already**  
**had**



# Luke 15

29 But he answered his father, 'Look! **All these years** I've been slaving for you and **never disobeyed** your orders. Yet you **never** gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends.



**EVERYTHING GOD HAS IS MINE**  
**I MUST CELEBRATE**



**STOP COUNTING**  
**START CELEBRATING**



# Philippians 4 (MSG)

4 Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in him!





## 2 Corinthians 5 (TLB)

19 For God was in Christ, restoring the world to himself, **no longer counting men's sins against them** but blotting them out. This is the wonderful message he has given us to **tell others**.



# The Counting Gospel 2.0

Kingwood  
Church of  
Christ

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