TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

NEHEMIAH 8

All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.

NEHEMIAH 8:1

So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.

NEHEMIAH 8:2

He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

NEHEMIAH 8:3

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see
him because he was standing above them;
and as he opened it, the people all stood up.

NEHEMIAH **8:5**

Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

NEHEMIAH 8:6


RISE UP
AND BUILD


REVIVAL VS RENEWAL


RENEWAL IN THE CHURCH
LEADS TO
REVIVAL IN THE CITY.

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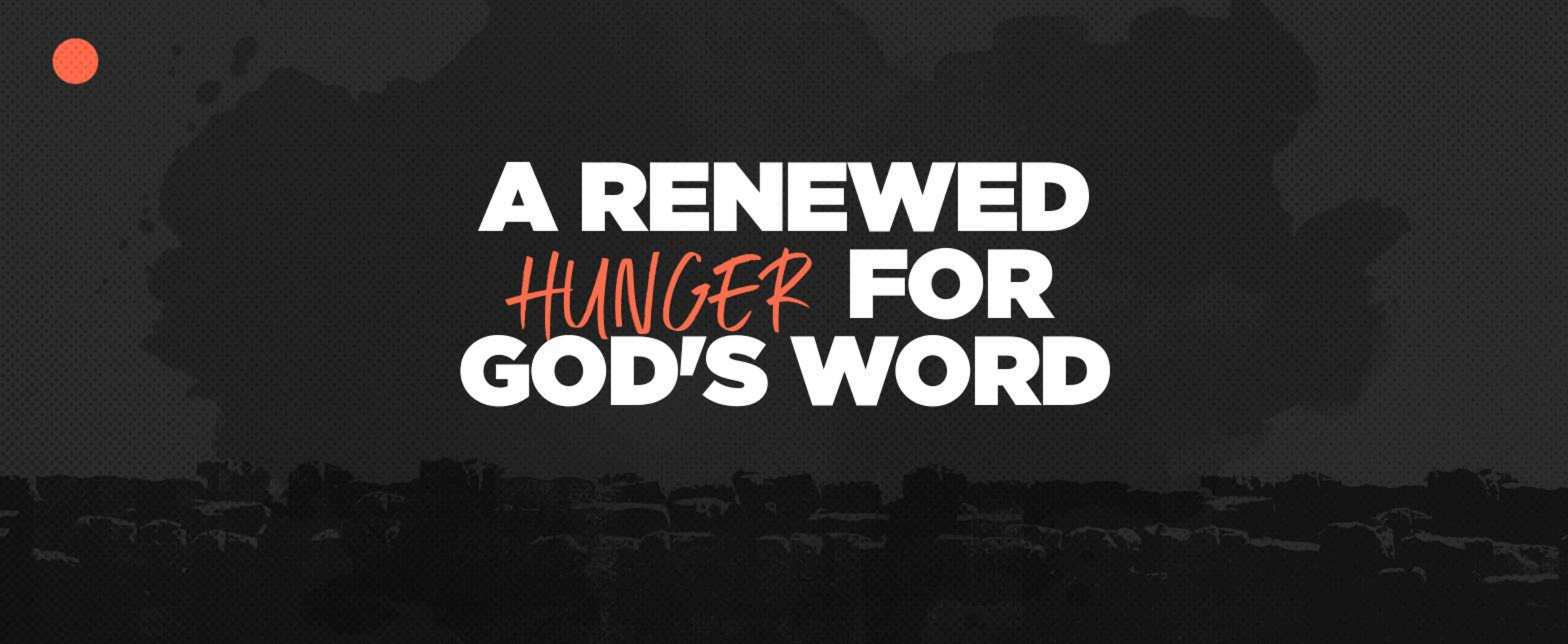
NEHEMIAH 8:3


A RENEWED
HUNGER FOR
GOD'S WORD



WE ARE A *STARVING* GENERATION

DROWNING IN **FREEDOM** BUT THIRSTING FOR **MEANING**.

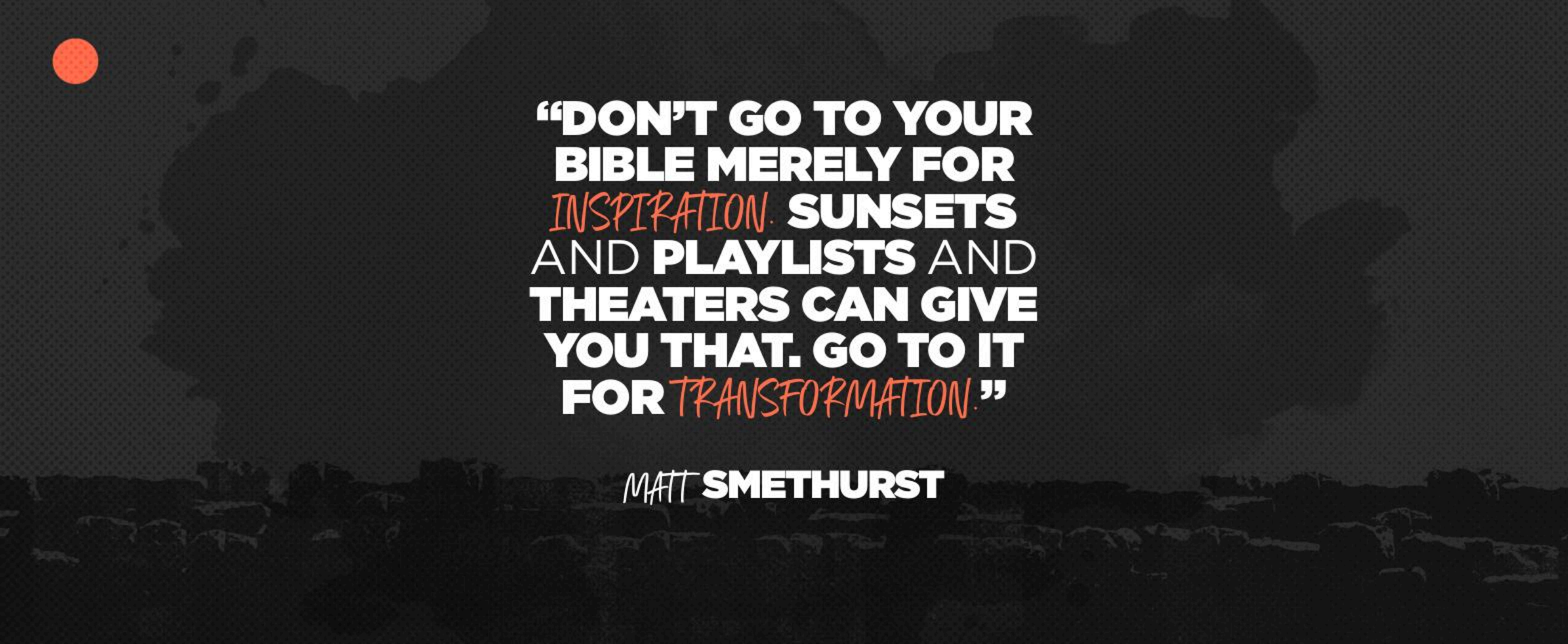
FILLED WITH **SOCIAL CONNECTION** BUT STARVING FOR **COMMUNITY**.

SURROUNDED BY **INFORMATION** BUT DESPERATE FOR **WISDOM**.

OBSESSED WITH **SUCCESS** BUT SEARCHING FOR **SIGNIFICANCE**.

OVERFLOWING WITH **ENTERTAINMENT** BUT ACHING FOR **JOY**.




"DON'T GO TO YOUR BIBLE MERELY FOR INSPIRATION. SUNSETS AND PLAYLISTS AND THEATERS CAN GIVE YOU THAT. GO TO IT FOR TRANSFORMATION."
MATT SMETHURST



"WHEN I DISCOVERED YOUR WORDS, I *DEVOURED* THEM. THEY ARE MY JOY AND MY HEART'S *DELIGHT*, FOR I BEAR YOUR NAME, O LORD GOD."

JEREMIAH 15:16




THE
WONDER
OF CHRISTMAS

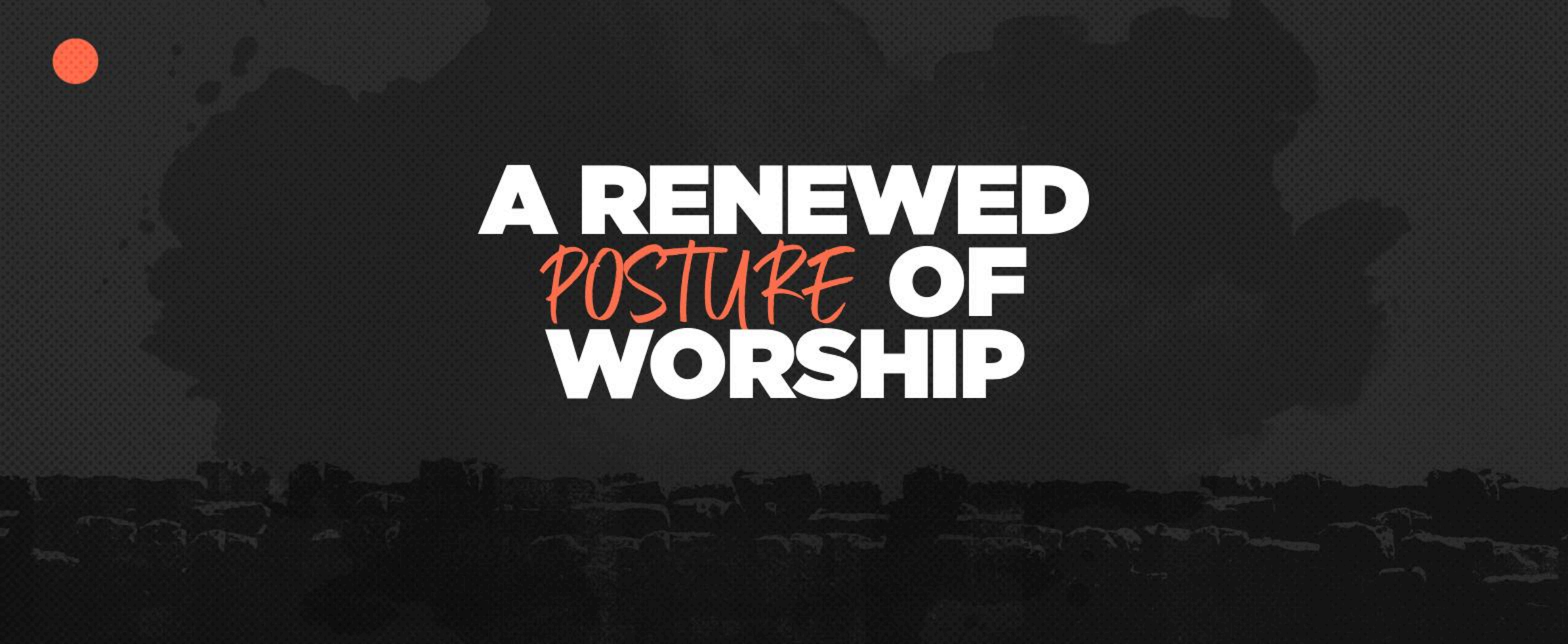


Ezra opened the book. All the people could see
him because he was standing above them;
and as he opened it, the people all stood up.

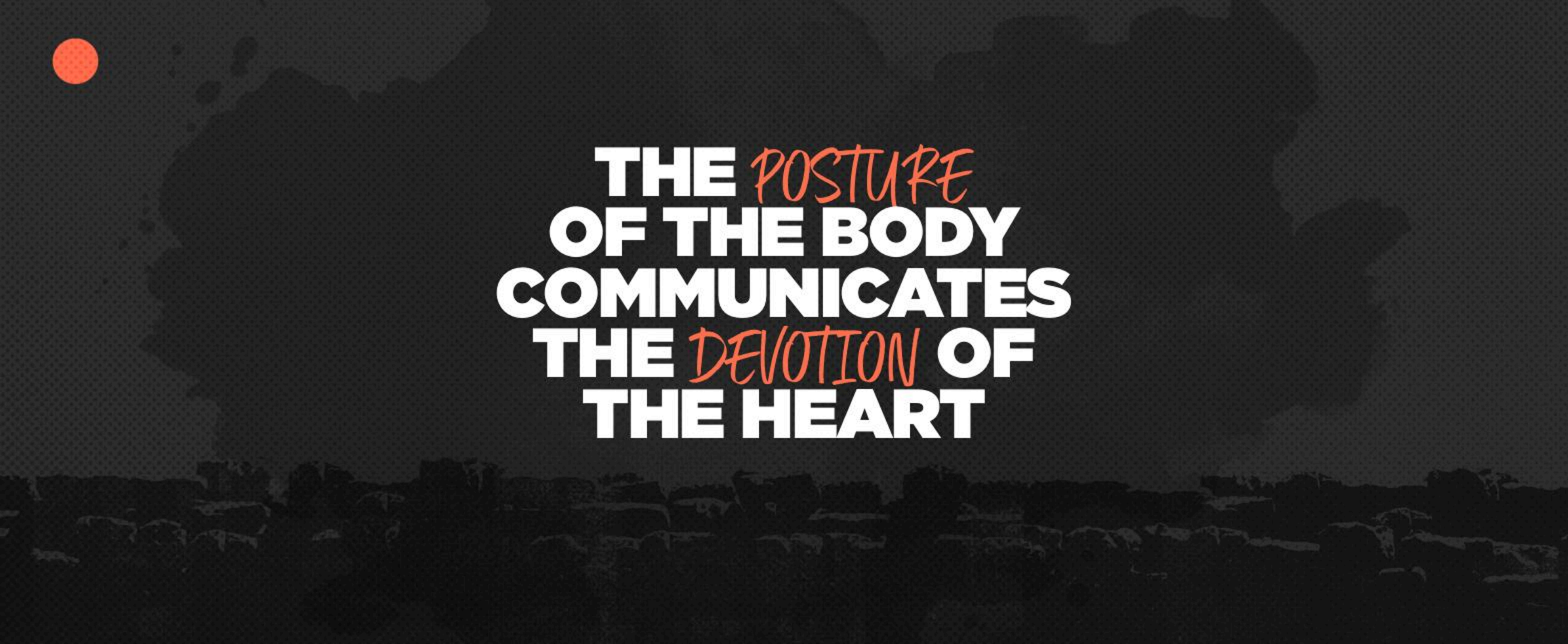
NEHEMIAH **8:5**

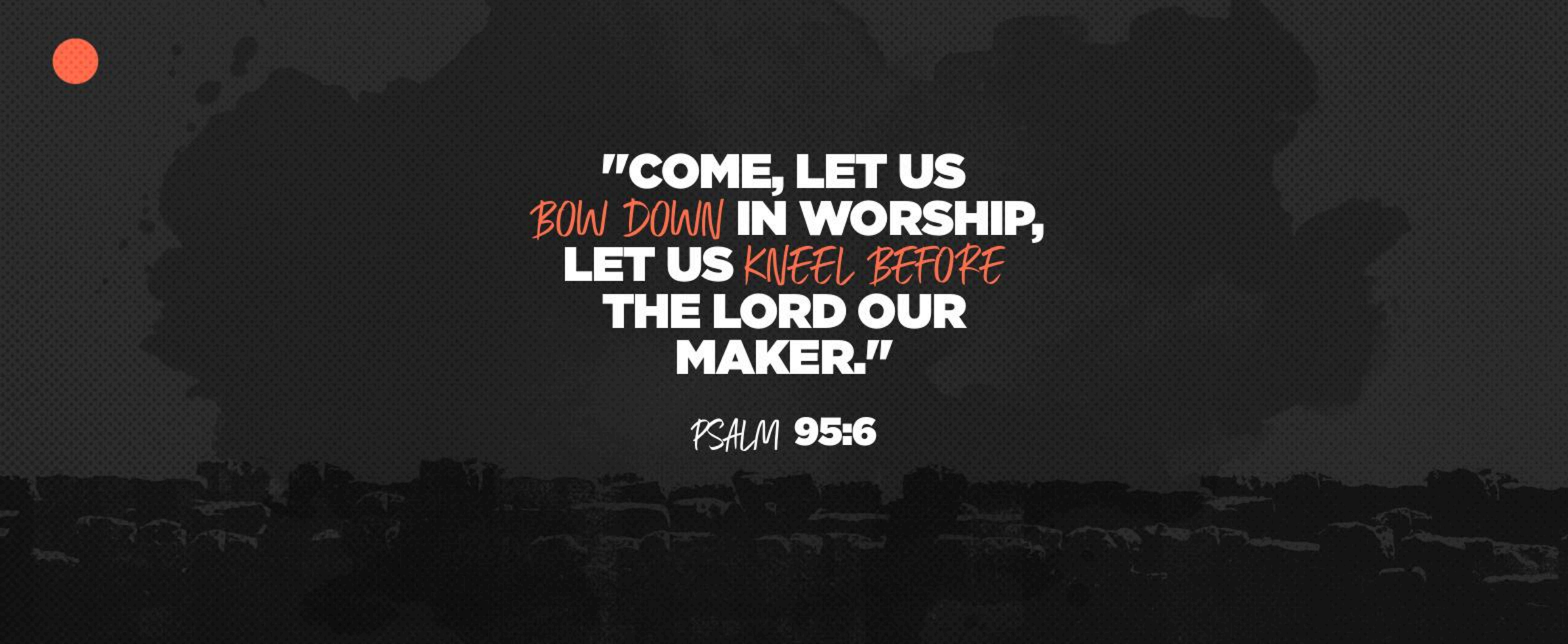
Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

NEHEMIAH 8:6


A RENEWED
POSTURE OF
WORSHIP



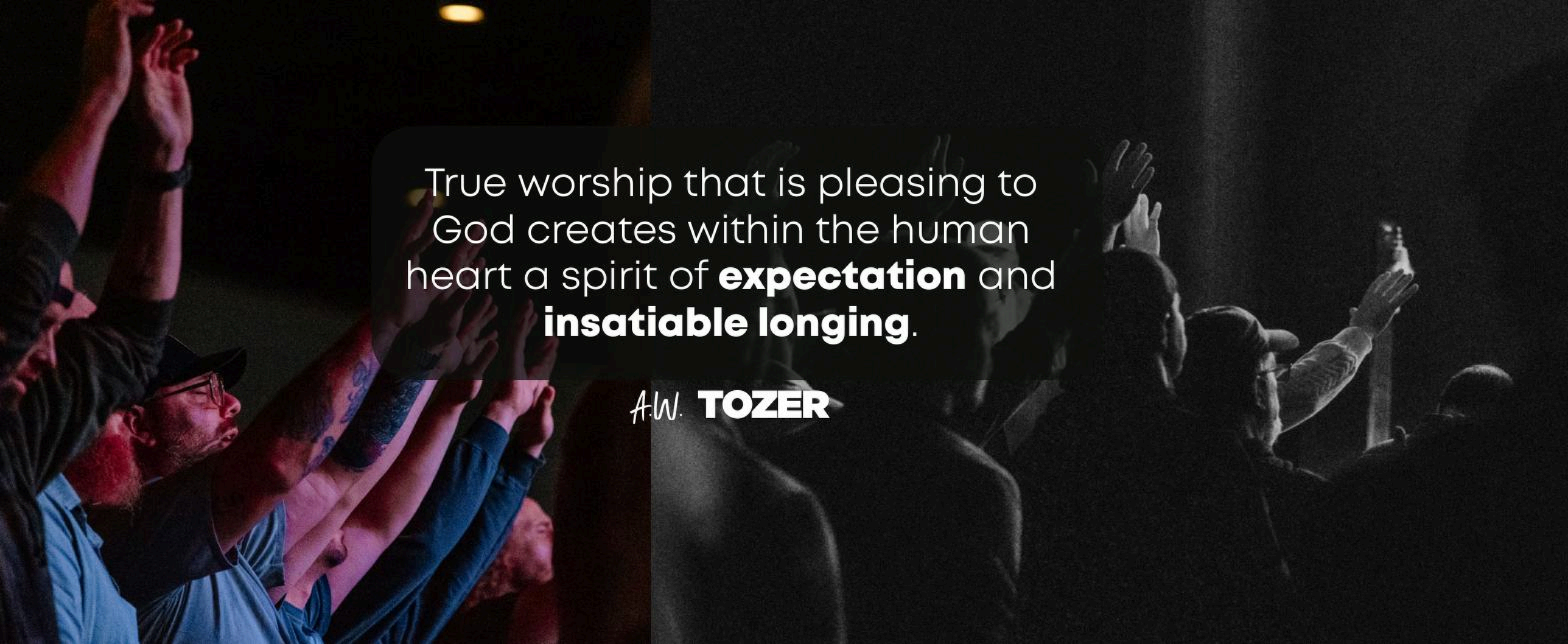

THE POSTURE
OF THE BODY
COMMUNICATES
THE DEVOTION OF
THE HEART


"COME, LET US
BOW DOWN IN WORSHIP,
LET US KNEEL BEFORE
THE LORD OUR
MAKER."
PSALM 95:6




All the people **lifted their hands**
and responded, “Amen! Amen!”
NEHEMIAH 8:6




True worship that is pleasing to God creates within the human heart a spirit of **expectation** and **insatiable longing**.
A.W. TOZER




The Renewal
GATHERING
JANUARY 28, 29, & 31ST



The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah—**instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there.** They read from the Book of the Law of God, **making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood** what was being read.

NEHEMIAH **8:7-8**


RENEWAL
COMES IN
COMMUNITY



"We were made in the image of the triune God. We **find our identity through relationships**. Through our union with Christ by faith, Christians are being remade in the image of the triune God. The church should be a community of unity without uniformity and diversity without division."

TIM **CHESTER**




DISCIPLESHIP NIGHTS
8-WEEK SESSION | STARTING JAN 26TH



DISCIPLESHIP VISION NIGHT

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1ST @ 6PM



Nehemiah said, “Go and **enjoy** choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for **the joy of the Lord is your strength**.”

NEHEMIAH **8:10**

The Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Be still, for this is a holy day. Do not grieve.” Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and **to celebrate with great joy**, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them.

NEHEMIAH **8:11-12**

RENEWAL LEADS TO KINGDOM LIVING

