

# Future Hope

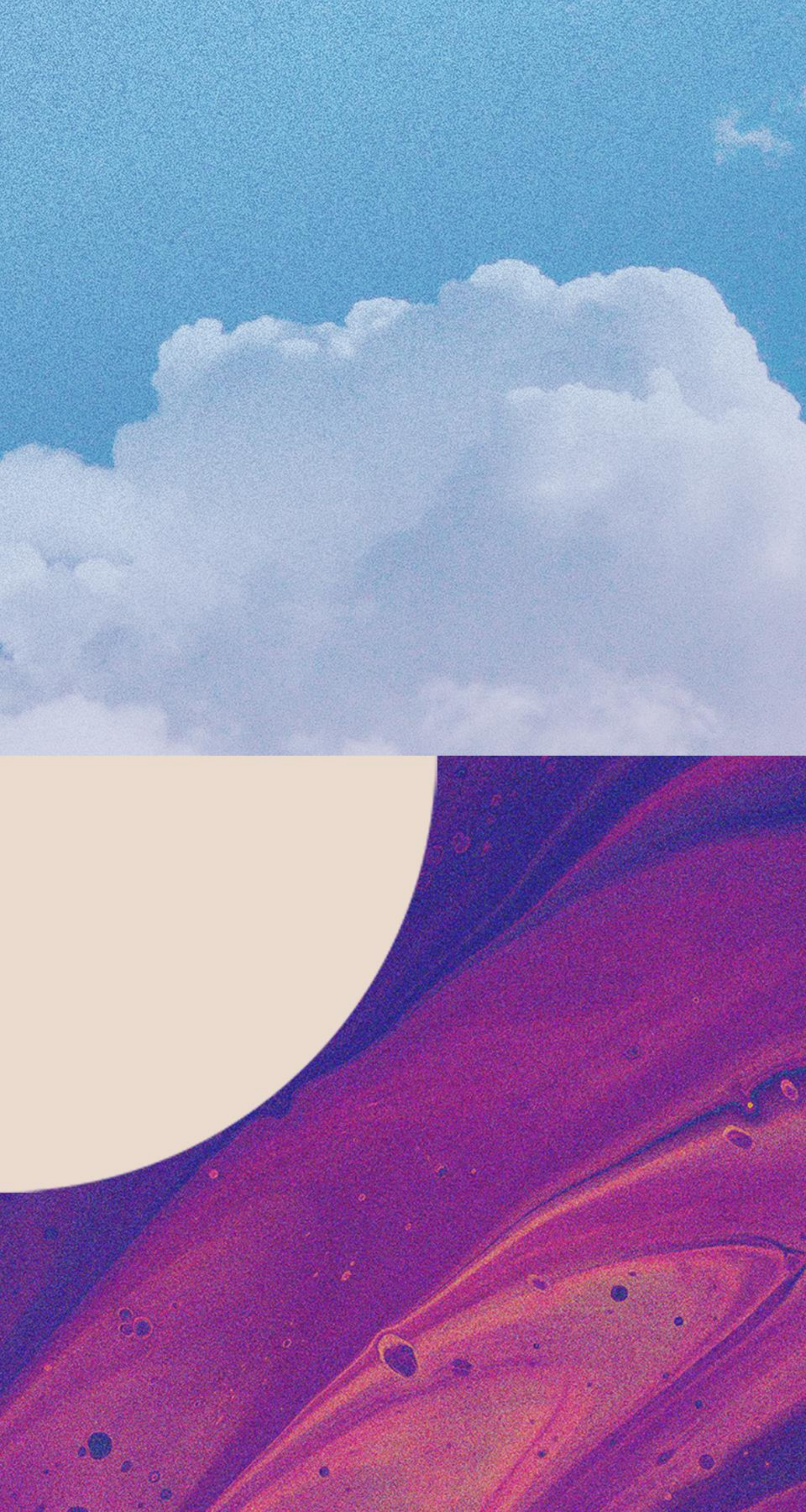


1 Thessalonians







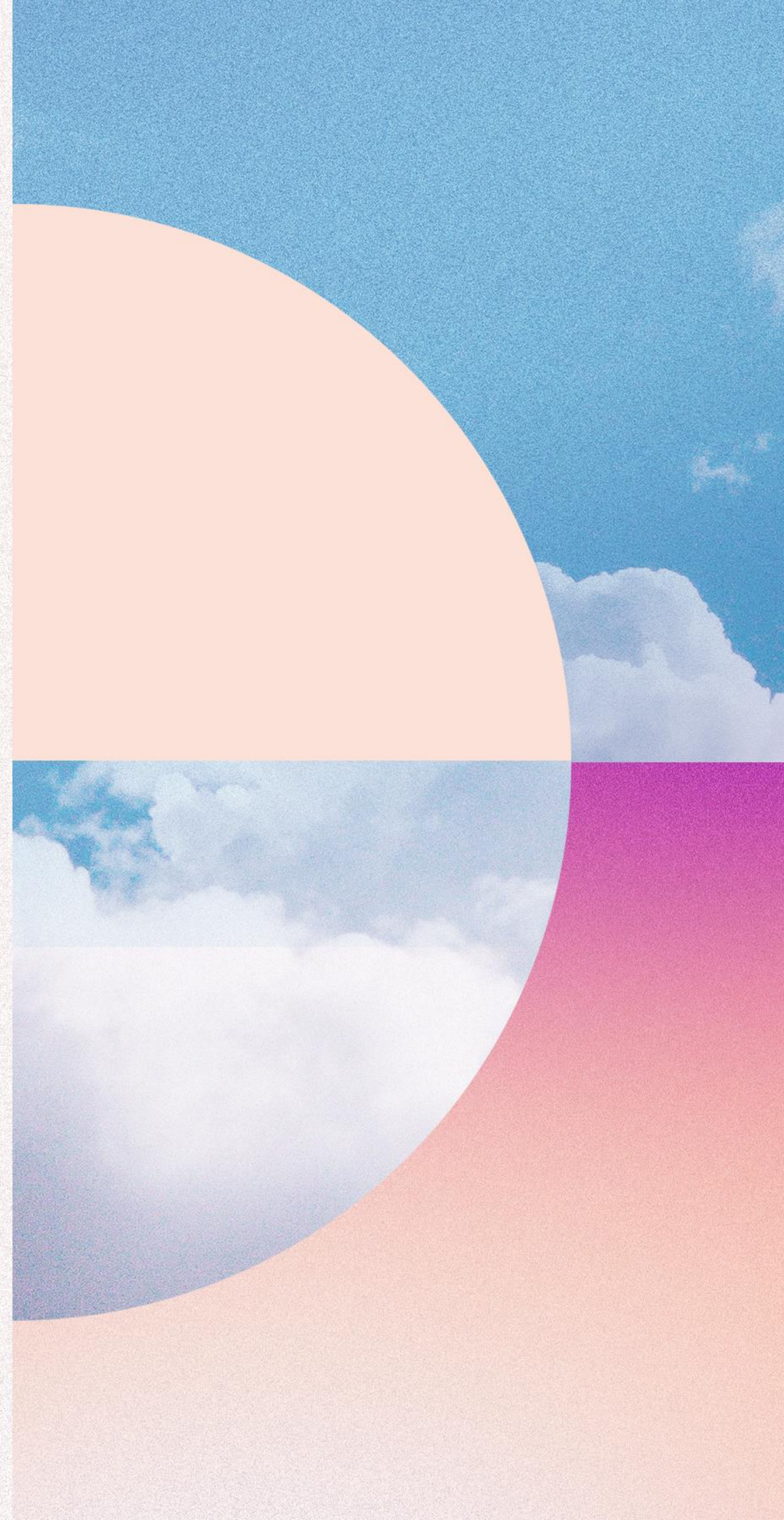


# *Serving in View of Christ's Coming*

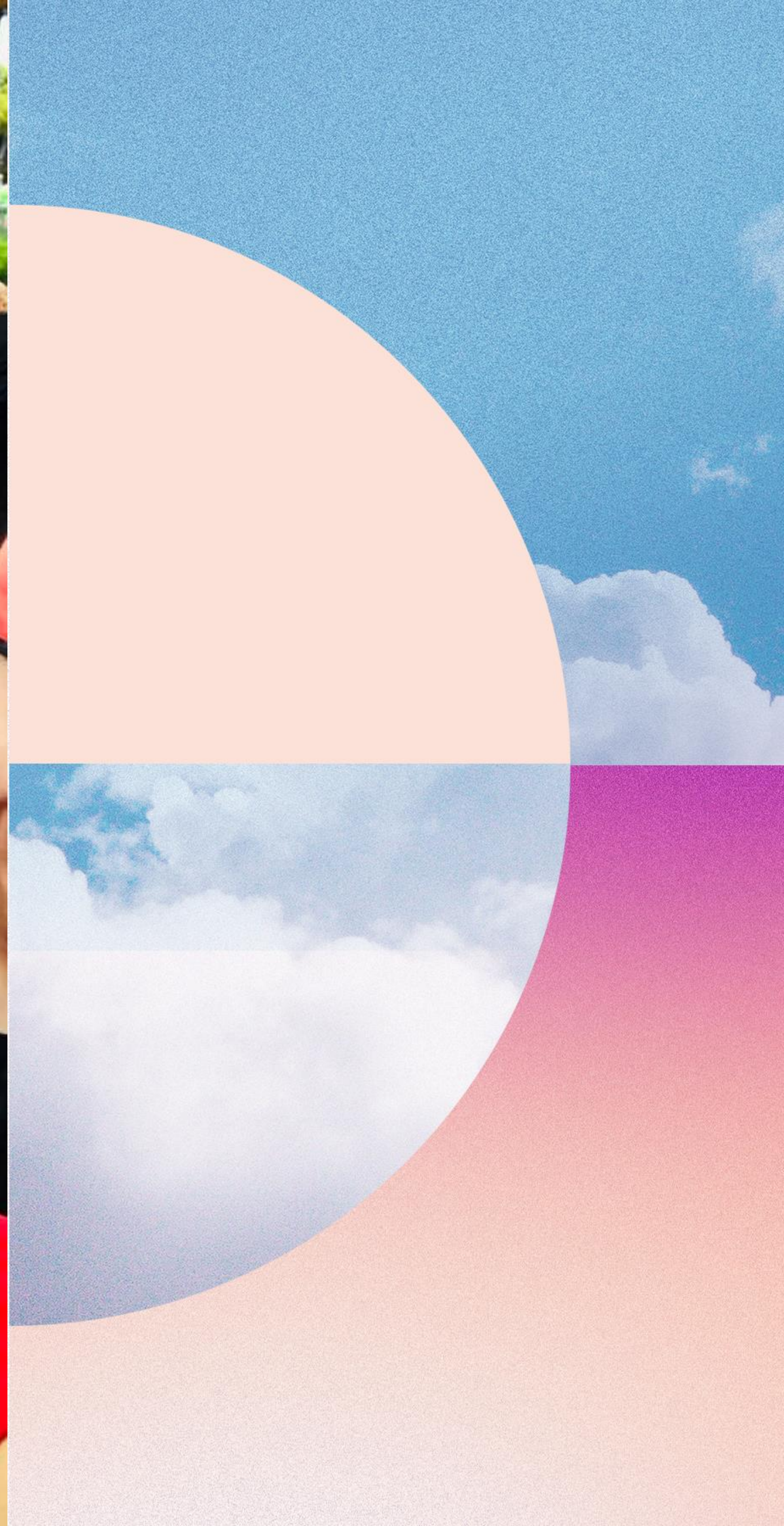


Tell us about the  
person in your family  
you feel closest to.

What made you that  
close?









→ 1 THESSALONIANS  
2:11-12

<sup>11</sup> For you know how, like  
a father with his children,  
<sup>12</sup> we *exhorted* each one of  
you and *encouraged* you  
and *charged* you to walk  
in a manner worthy of  
God, who calls you into his  
own kingdom and glory.





# 1 THESSALONIANS

Holiness Love Future Hope

FOLLOWING JESUS PRODUCES A COUNTER-CULTURAL (HOLY) WAY OF LIFE...

...THAT RESPONDS TO HOSTILITY WITH **LOVE** & GENEROSITY.

...THAT IS MOTIVATED BY **HOPE** IN THE COMING KINGDOM OF JESUS.

## 1-3 A CELEBRATION OF FAITHFULNESS

## 4-5 A CHALLENGE TO GROW

1:1-5 THANKSGIVING PRAYER

I THANK GOD FOR YOUR FAITH, LOVE, and HOPE!

1:6-10 THE THESSALONIANS' CONVERSION



"YOU TURNED AWAY FROM IDOLS TO SERVE THE LIVING & TRUE GOD, AND ARE WAITING FOR THE COMING OF GOD'S SON FROM HEAVEN." (1:9-10)



2:1-12 PAUL'S MISSION IN THESSALONICA

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS & LOVING SERVICE.

"WE WERE HAPPY TO SHARE NOT ONLY THE GOOD NEWS FROM GOD, BUT OUR VERY SELVES, BECAUSE WE CAME TO DEARLY LOVE YOU." (2:8)

3:11-13 PRAYER FOR ENDURANCE

MAY GOD INCREASE YOUR LOVE, HOLINESS, & HOPE!

2:13-16 THEIR COMMON PERSECUTION



THEIR SUFFERING IS A WAY OF PARTICIPATING IN THE STORY OF JESUS.

2:17-3:10 PAUL'S ANGUISH...



4:1-8 HOLINESS & SEXUAL PURITY

FOLLOWING JESUS' TEACHINGS ON SEX & MARRIAGE (MATTHEW 5:27-32, 19:1-12)



4:9-12 COMMITMENT TO LOVE & SERVICE

WORKING HARD SO THAT YOU CAN BE GENEROUS TO OTHERS (SEE 2 THESSALONIANS 3:11-13)



5:23-28 PRAYER OF HOPE

MAY GOD KEEP YOU HOLY AS YOU AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF JESUS.

4:13-18 FUTURE HOPE OF JESUS' RETURN



PEACE & SECURITY!

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE MESSIAH WILL RISE. (4:16)

CAESAR'S ARRIVAL MET BY HIS DELEGATES

JESUS' ARRIVAL MET BY HIS PEOPLE. (4:17)

5:1-11 THIS HOPE SHOULD MOTIVATE FAITHFULNESS



THE DAY OF THE LORD WILL BRING THEIR SUDDEN RUIN... (5:2-3)

...SO LIVE IN THE PRESENT AS IF THAT DAY IS ALREADY HERE. (5:4)



# THE CHURCH OF THESSALONICA

—SEE—  
**ACTS**  
—ch.17—

† = 

THEY DEFY  
CAESAR, SAYING  
JESUS IS KING!  
(ACTS  
17:7)

!?



SILAS & PAUL





1-3

# A CELEBRATION OF FAITHFULNESS



"YOU TURNED AWAY FROM **IDOLS** TO SERVE THE LIVING & **TRUE GOD**, AND ARE WAITING FOR THE COMING OF GOD'S SON FROM HEAVEN." (1:9-10)



"WE WERE HAPPY TO SHARE NOT ONLY THE GOOD NEWS FROM GOD, BUT **OUR VERY SELVES**, BECAUSE WE CAME TO DEARLY LOVE YOU." (2:8)

PAUL'S MISSION IN THESSALONICA

2:1-12

3:11-13

FOR MAY G





2:13-16

THEIR COMMON PERSECUTION



THEIR SUFFERING IS A WAY OF PARTICIPATING IN THE STORY OF JESUS.

THE THESSALONIANS  
ARE SUFFERING!

SEND  
TIMOTHY!

I'M  
ON IT!

...& TIMOTHY'S  
DISCOVERY

WE'RE GOING  
STRONG!

AND WE  
MISS PAUL!



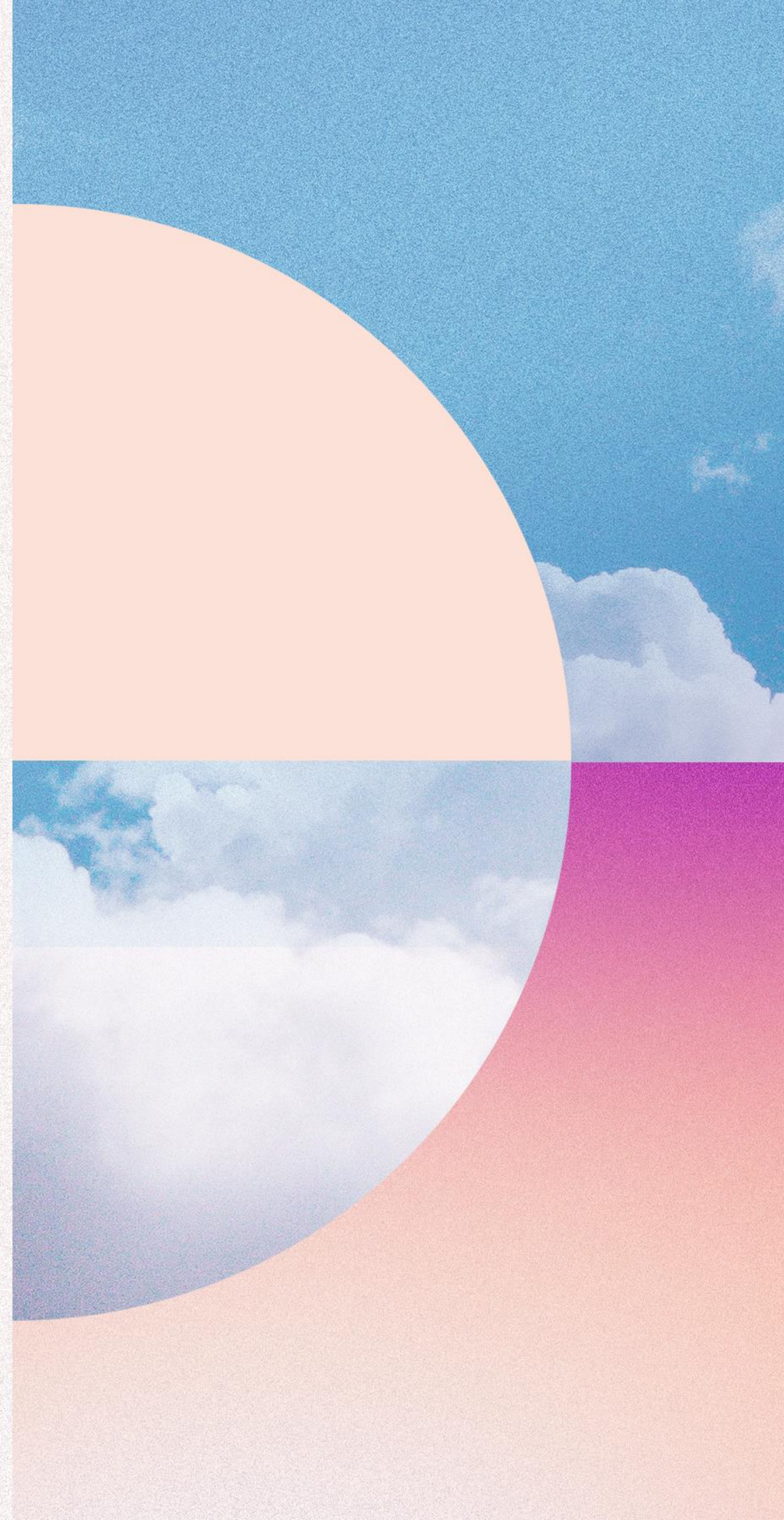


Today, we will look at  
what it means to be in  
church community  
while we wait for  
Christ's glorious return  
together.



## Point #1

Being in community  
means treating each  
other as family.



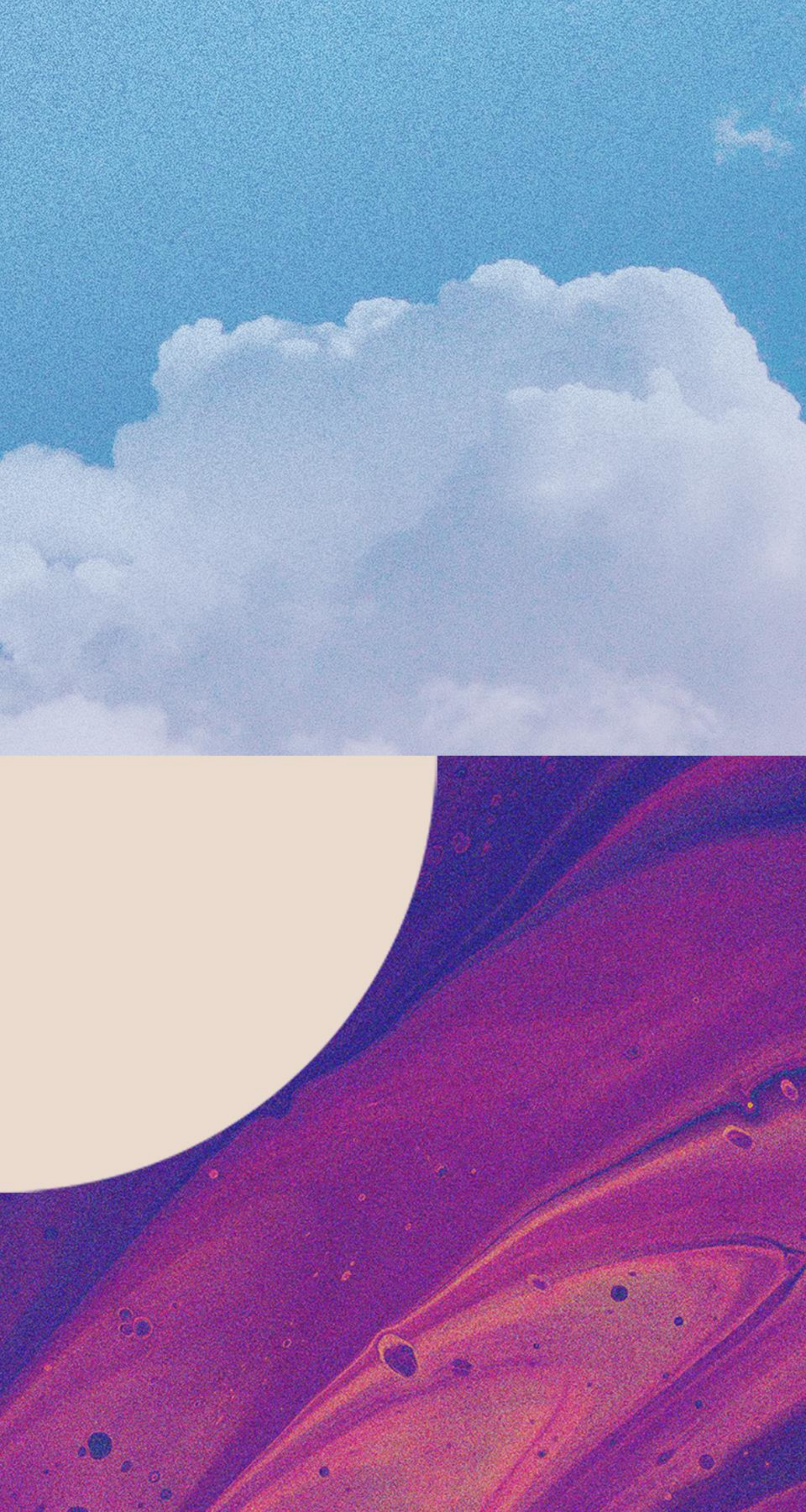


But we were gentle among you,  
like a nursing mother taking  
care of her own children.



1 THESSALONIANS  
2:7





Serving in View of  
Christ's Coming  
is  
caring for each other,  
encouraging each  
other, and charging  
each other to follow  
God.

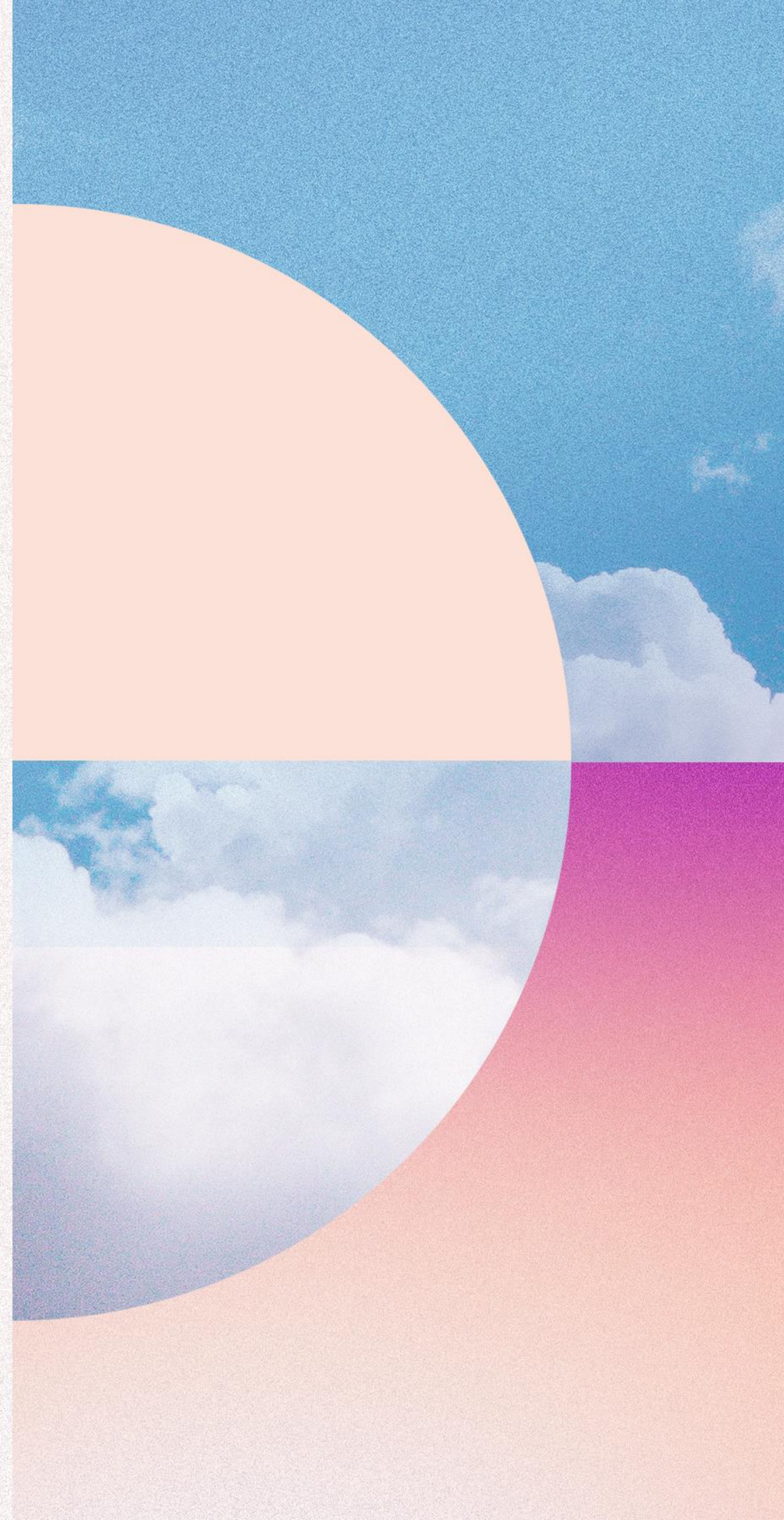




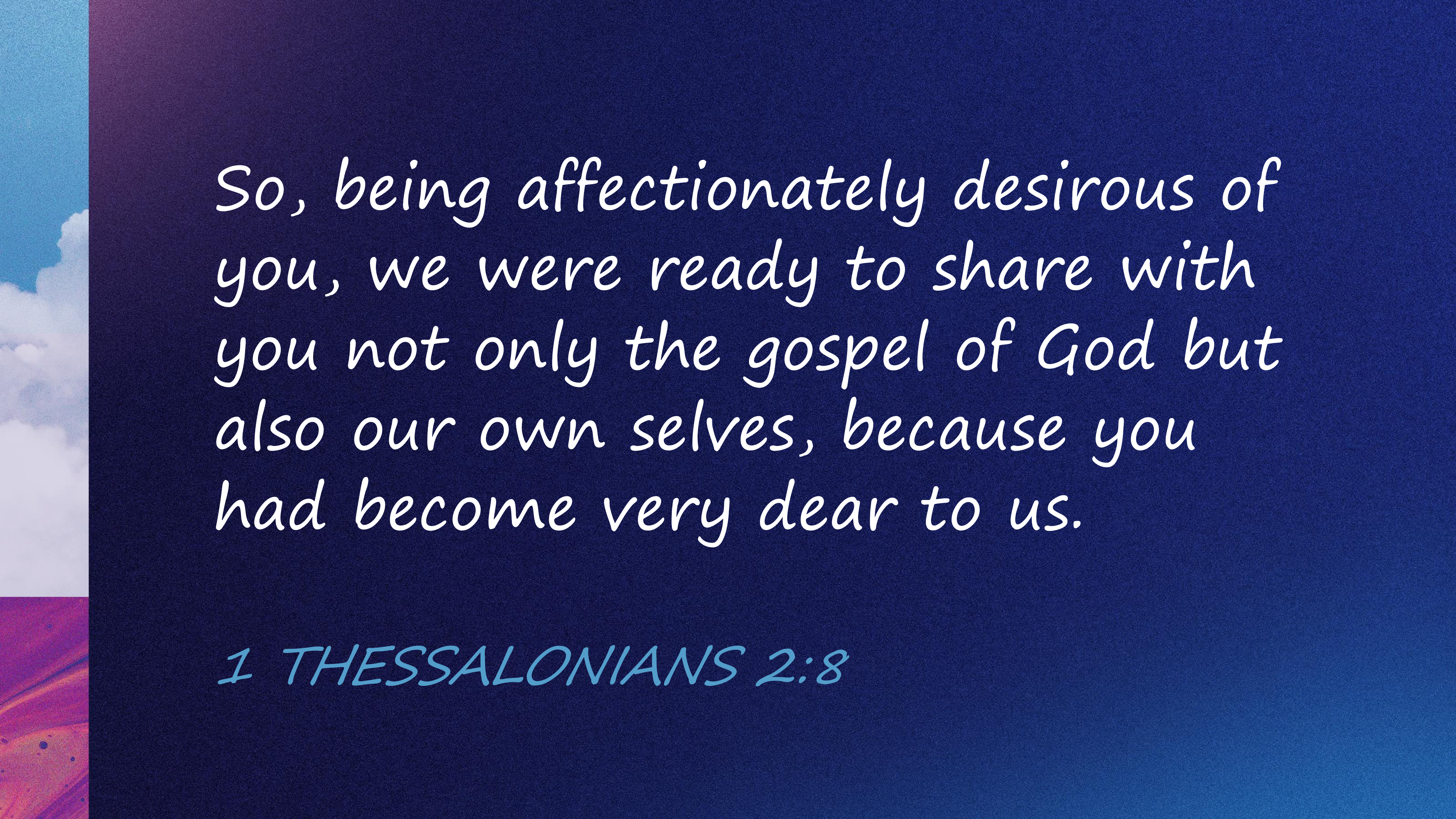


Point #2

Being in community  
means sharing lives.



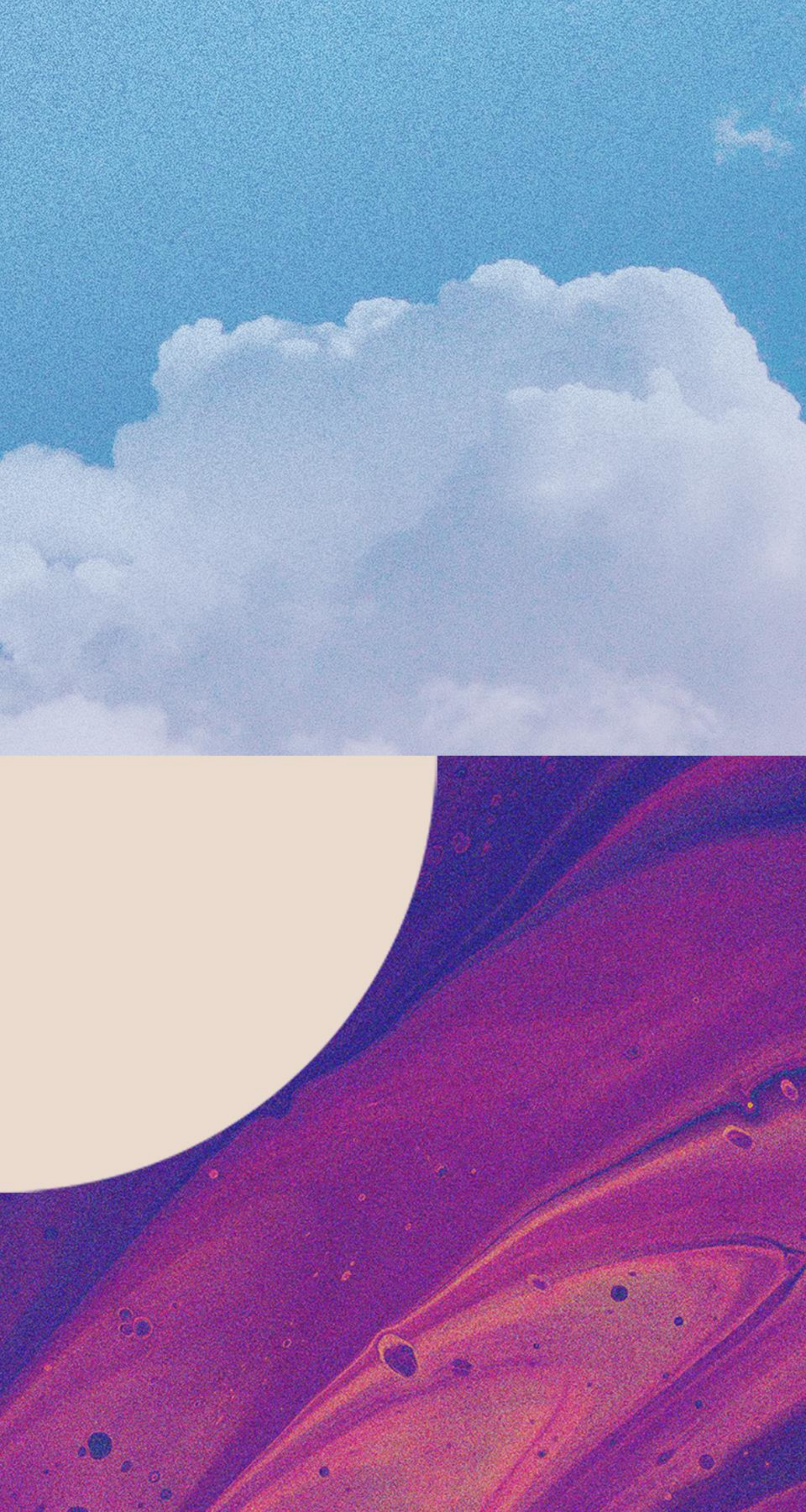




So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

*1 THESSALONIANS 2:8*





Serving in View of  
Christ's Coming  
is  
sharing our whole  
selves and lives with  
each other.

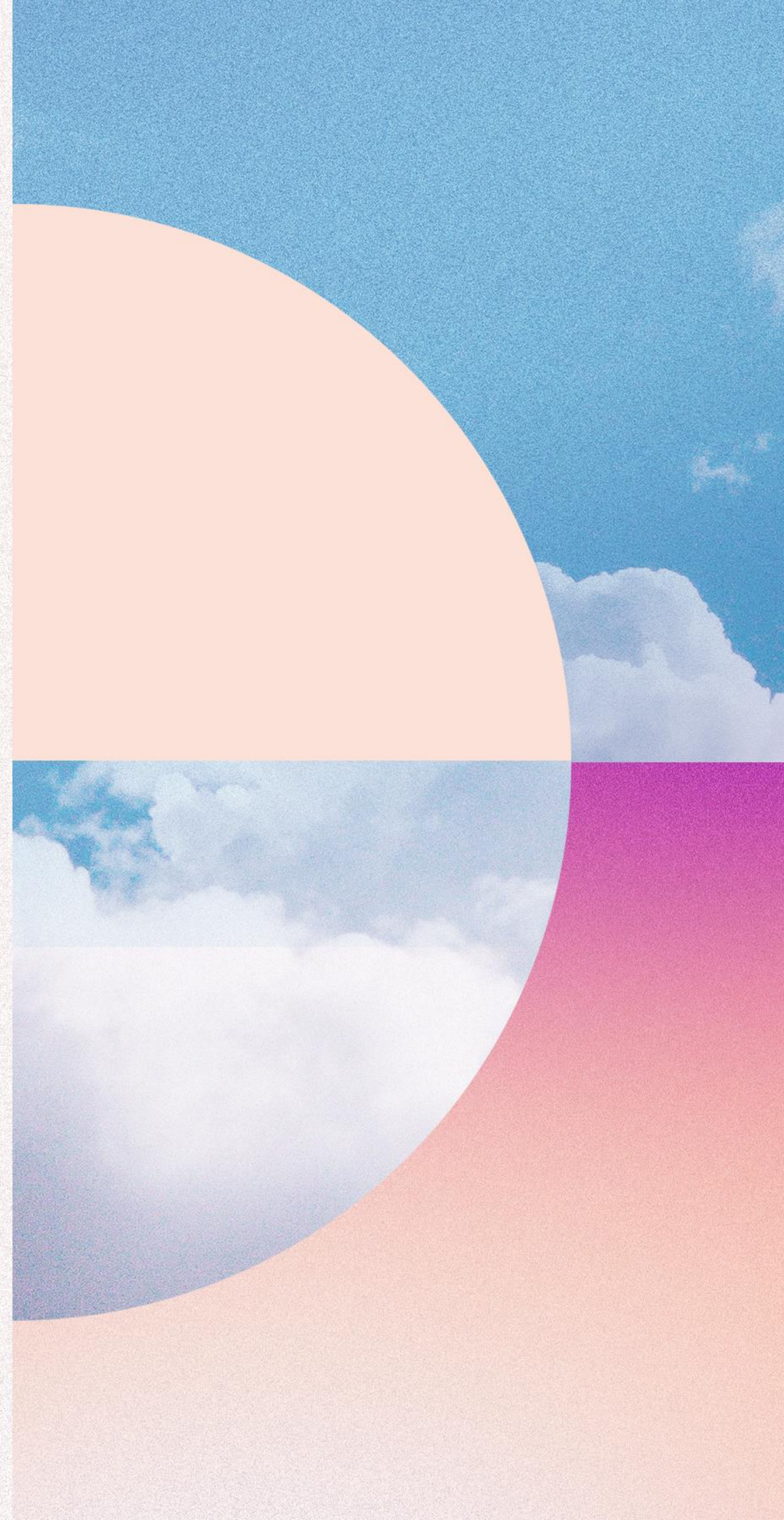






## Point #3

Being in community  
means serving one  
another.

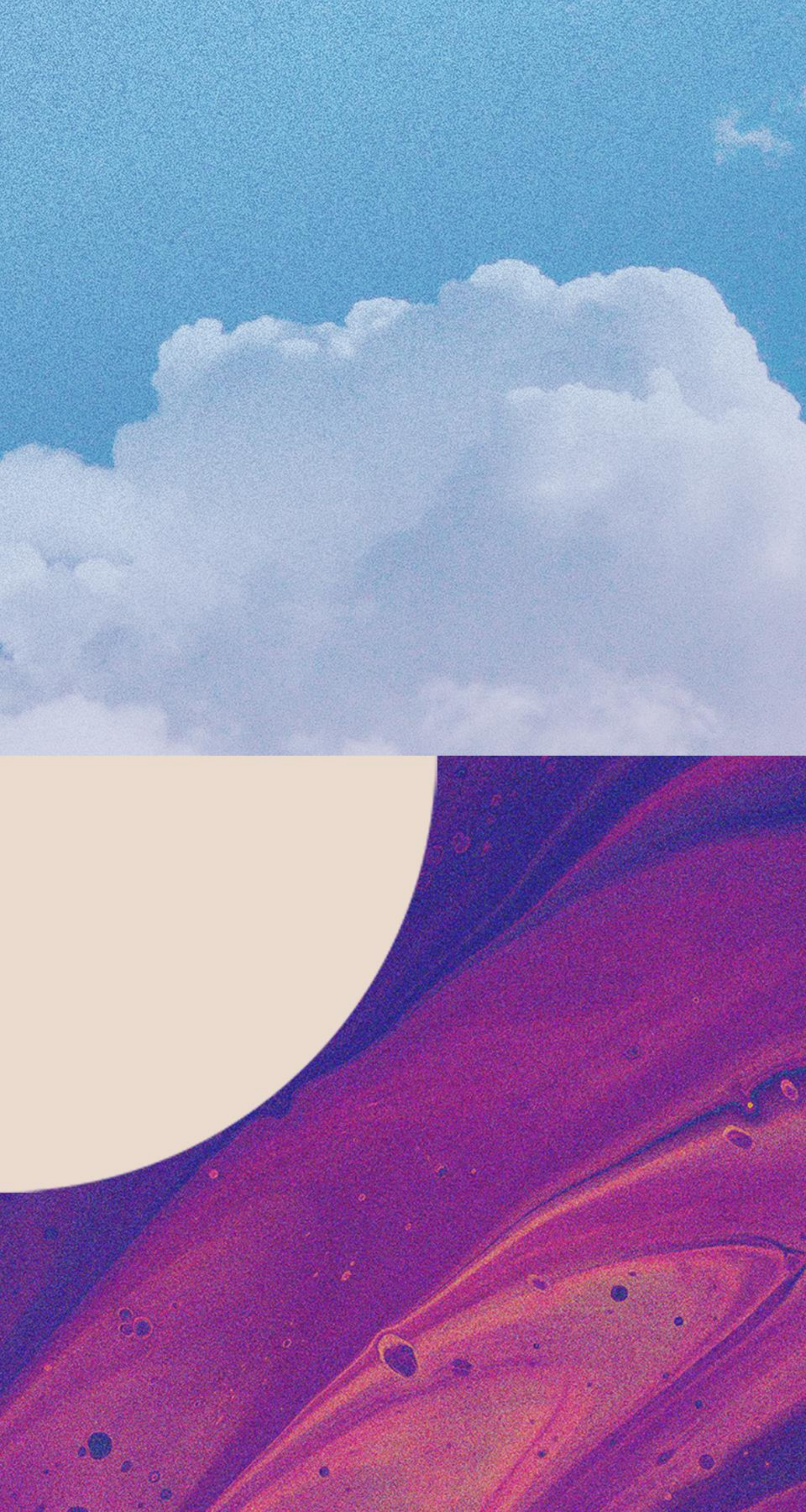




For you remember, brothers,  
our labor and toil: we worked  
night and day, that we might  
not be a burden to any of you,  
while we proclaimed to you the  
gospel of God.

↑ 1 THESSALONIANS  
2:9





Serving in View of  
Christ's Coming  
is  
serving others without  
expecting anything in  
return.



How? *Papaano?*



## PRAYER

- Thank God for placing us in communities and families. Thank God for those who are like fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters to you.
  - Pray for those in your small group and church community to be grounded in the faith. Pray that you would **continue** to honor God and make disciples.
  - Pray that the church would be an example to the world of authentic community, love, and service. Pray that the church would live out Christ's prayer for unity (John 17:21).





JOHN 17:21

21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.



Being in community  
means...  
treating each other as  
family,  
sharing lives,  
and serving one  
another.

