

**BELIEVE**

The Gospel of **John**

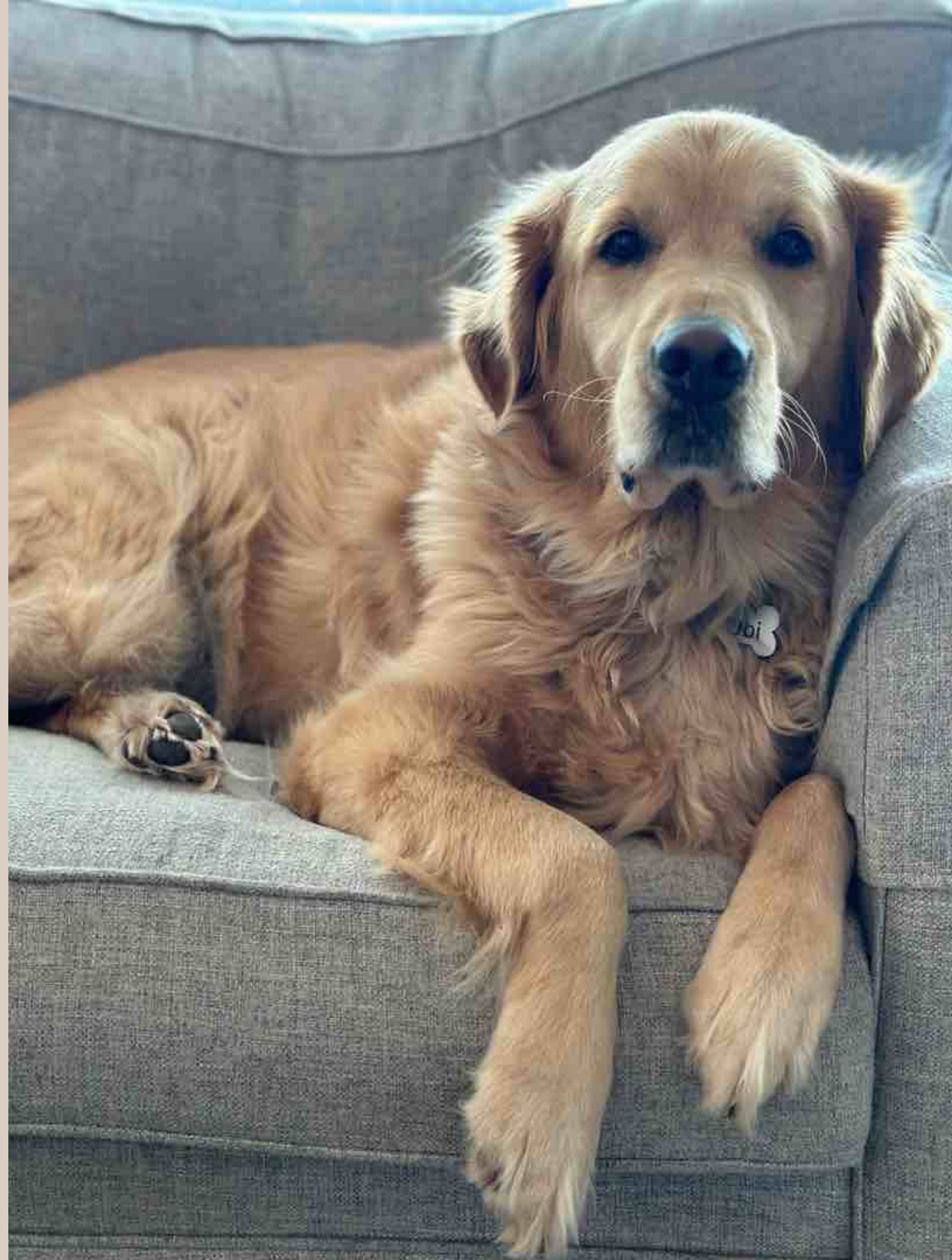
**When the prize is worth it,  
the price is never too high.**













# 'It was an indescribable feeling' mother donates kidney to 3-year-old daughter

Source: The University of Kansas Health System



COVERING DOUGHERTY COUNTY



MOTHER DONATES KIDNEY TO 3-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER  
ALBANY

**When the prize is worth it,  
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<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table.

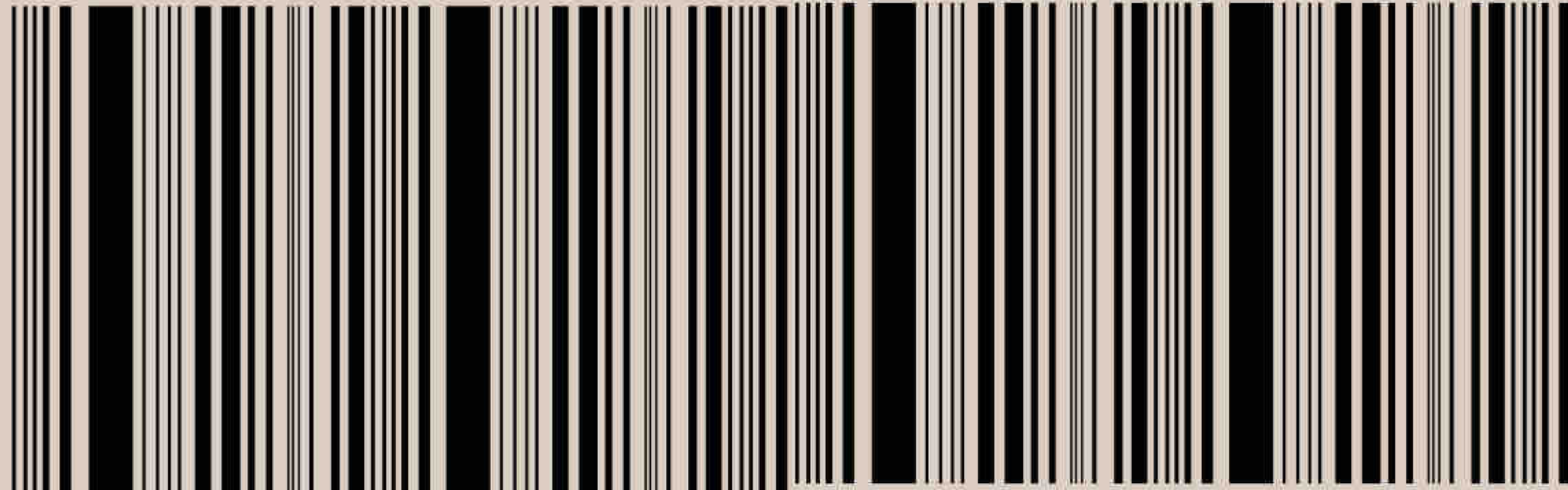
<sup>3</sup> Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.



<sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” <sup>6</sup> He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the money he used to help himself to what was put into it. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me.”

**John 12:4-8 ESV**





**BELIEVE**

The Gospel of **John**







# Anointing Jesus

## I. Martha's Service



# I. Martha's Service

a. Delight in serving

<sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, **work heartily**, as for the Lord and not for men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ

**Colossians 3:23-24 ESV**





<sup>9</sup> And let us not grow weary of **doing good**, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, as we have opportunity, let us **do good** to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**Galatians 6:9-10 ESV**



*"We can do little things for God; I turn the cake that is frying on the pan for love of Him, and that done, if there is nothing else to call me, I prostrate myself in worship before Him, who has given me grace to work; afterwards I rise happier than a king."*

## **Brother Lawrence**

Practice the Presence





# I. Martha's Service

- a. Delight in serving
- b. Danger in serving

<sup>38</sup> Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. <sup>39</sup> And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. <sup>40</sup> **But Martha was distracted with much serving.** And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."

**Luke 10:38-40 ESV**





<sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, <sup>42</sup> but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”

**Luke 10:41-42 ESV**









## Questions:

1. Do you find joy in serving God, or do you see it as a burden?
2. Are you so focused on doing things for God that you miss being with God?

# Anointing Jesus

I. Martha's Service

II. Mary's Sacrifice

<sup>3</sup> Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.



## **II. Mary's Sacrifice**

a. Appropriate

# Worship/Sacrifice

- Recognize His worth

<sup>8</sup> Indeed, I count **everything** as loss because of the **surpassing worth** of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

**Philippians 3:8 ESV**





# Worship/Sacrifice

- Recognize His worth
- Respond to His worth

<sup>44</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and **sells all that he has** and buys that field. <sup>45</sup> “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, <sup>46</sup> who, on finding one pearl of **great value**, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

**Matthew 13:44-46 ESV**



*"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."*

**Jim Elliot**





## II. Mary's Sacrifice

- a. Appropriate
- b. Extravagant

# Extravagant Sacrifice

## 1. Financial

<sup>24</sup> But the king said to Araunah, “No, but I will buy it from you for a price. I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God that **cost me nothing.**”

**2 Samuel 24:24 ESV**





# Extravagant Sacrifice

1. Financial
2. Dignity

# Mary at Jesus' Feet

- **Luke 10:39** – Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching
- **John 11:32** – Mary came to where Jesus was, saw him, and she fell at his feet.
- **John 12:3** – Mary...wiped his feet with her hair.

# Extravagant Sacrifice

1. Financial
2. Dignity
3. Affection



<sup>10</sup> But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. <sup>11</sup> For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. <sup>12</sup> In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. <sup>13</sup> Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.”

**Matthew 26:10–13 ESV**



*Worship is seeing what God is worth and giving him what he's worth. The English word “worship” comes from the older English worth-ship. It means to see God is all worthy (Rev 4:11) and to give God what he is worth—everything you have and are (Phil 3:8).*

**Tim Keller**



# Question:

What are we willing to sacrifice to show our love and devotion to Jesus?



# Anointing Jesus

- I. Martha's Service
- II. Mary's Sacrifice
- III. Judas' Selfishness

# III. Judas' Selfishness

a. Demonstrated his hypocrisy

<sup>27</sup> “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. <sup>28</sup> So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

**Matthew 23:27–28 ESV**





...this people draw near with their mouth  
and honor me with their lips,  
while their hearts are far from me...

**Isaiah 29:13 ESV**



# III. Judas' Selfishness

- a. Demonstrated his hypocrisy
- b. Had real consequences

<sup>14</sup> Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup> and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup> And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

**Matthew 26:14–16 ESV**





<sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

**1 Timothy 6:10 ESV**



## Questions:

1. Are there areas in my life where my actions don't match my words?
2. Am I allowing greed to dictate my actions, potentially harming my relationships and integrity?

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