

6 Then Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had blessed his people in Judah by giving them good crops again. So Naomi and her daughters-in-law got ready to leave Moab to return to her homeland. 7 With her two daughters-in-law she set out from the place where she had been living, and they took the road that would lead them back to Judah.

**RUTH 1: 6-7 NLT**

8 But on the way, Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back to your mothers' homes. And may the Lord reward you for your kindness to your husbands and to me. 9 May the Lord bless you with the security of another marriage." Then she kissed them good-bye, and they all broke down and wept. 10 "No," they said. "We want to go with you to your people."

**RUTH 1: 8-10 NLT**

11 But Naomi replied, “Why should you go on with me? Can I still give birth to other sons who could grow up to be your husbands? 12 No, my daughters, return to your parents’ homes, for I am too old to marry again. And even if it were possible, and I were to get married tonight and bear sons, then what? 13 Would you wait for them to grow up and refuse to marry someone else? No, of course not, my daughters! Things are far more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord himself has raised his fist against me.” 14 And again they wept together...

**RUTH 1: 11-14a NLT**

A field of golden wheat stalks under a soft, hazy sky. The wheat is in the foreground and middle ground, with some stalks in sharp focus. The sky is a pale, overcast grey. The overall mood is serene and natural.

Making your

**choice**

A close-up photograph of several golden wheat stalks in a field. The stalks are in sharp focus in the foreground, showing their intricate structure and the texture of the grain. The background is a soft, out-of-focus expanse of more wheat and a pale, hazy sky, creating a warm and serene atmosphere. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, earthy tones of gold, brown, and soft grey.

Some types of  
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- Moab can be toxic relationships.



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- Moab can be addictions.

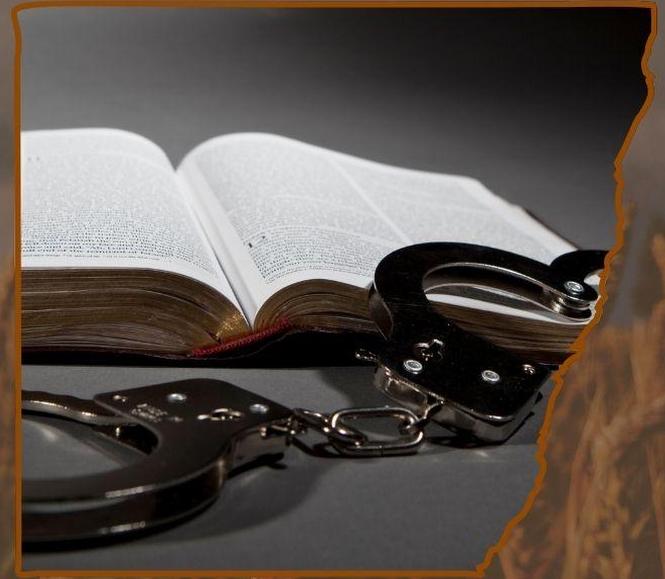
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# Some types of Moabs in our lives:

- Moab can be toxic relationships.
- Moab can be addictions.
- Moab can be unhealthy habits.
- Moab can be a desire to be comfortable.

Moab is anything in life  
that keeps you bound  
when God has called  
you to be free.



...and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye. But Ruth clung tightly to Naomi. 15 “Look,” Naomi said to her, “your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods. You should do the same.” 16 But Ruth replied, “Don’t ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.

**Ruth 1:14b-16 NLT**

17Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!" 18 When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more. 22 So Naomi returned from Moab, accompanied by her daughter-in-law Ruth, the young Moabite woman. They arrived in Bethlehem in late spring, at the beginning of the barley harvest.

**Ruth 1:17-18, 22 NLT**

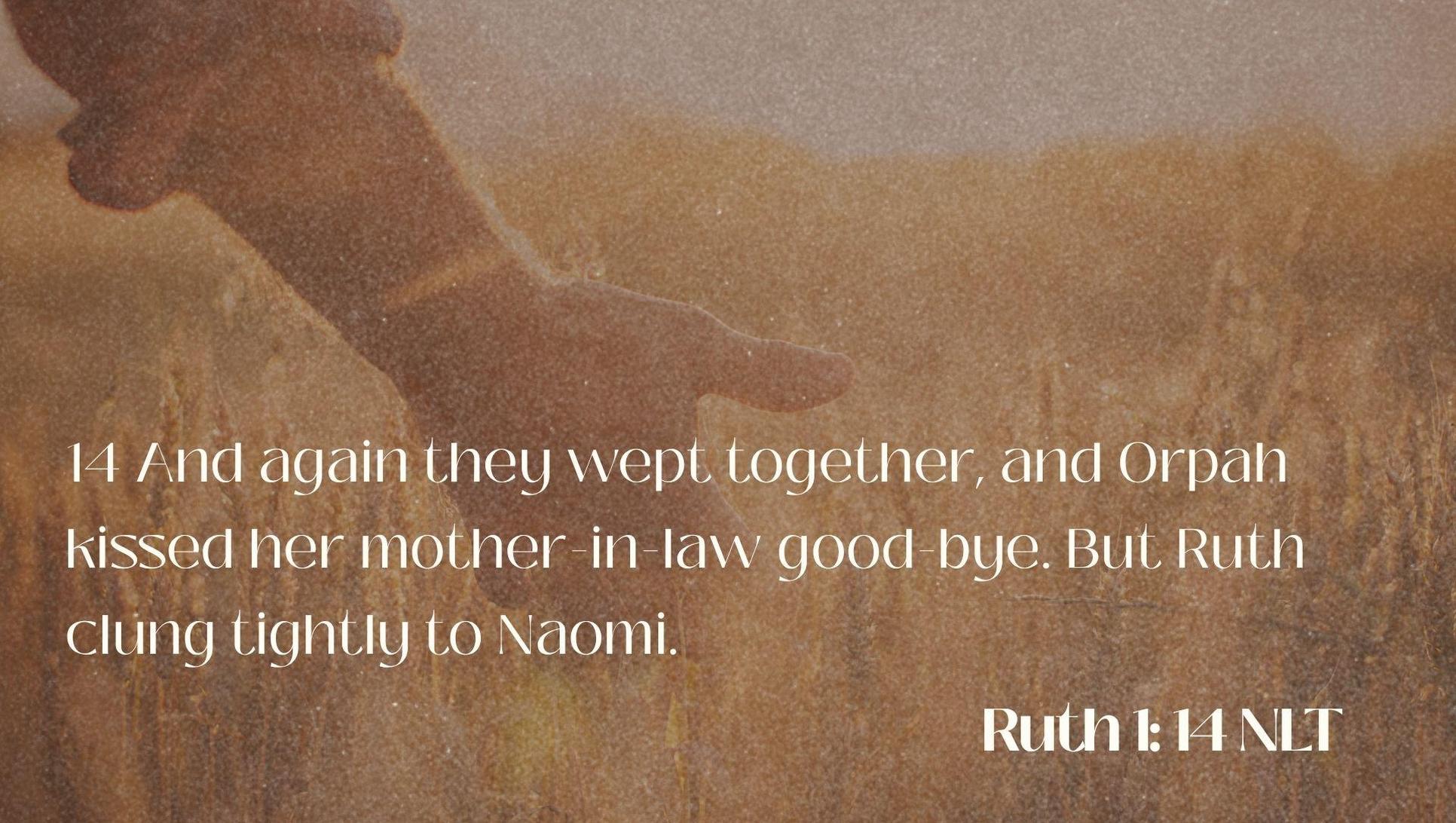
A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a large quantity of small, light-brown, oval-shaped seeds or grains. The hand is positioned in the lower right quadrant, with the palm facing upwards. The background is a dark, mottled brown with a grainy texture, suggesting a natural or agricultural setting. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the seeds and the skin of the hand.

Things to remember as  
we make our choice of  
total commitment:

A field of golden wheat stalks under a dark, overcast sky. The wheat is in the foreground, slightly out of focus, with several stalks standing upright. The background is a dense field of similar wheat, extending to the horizon. The sky is a uniform, dark greyish-blue, suggesting an overcast day or dusk. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

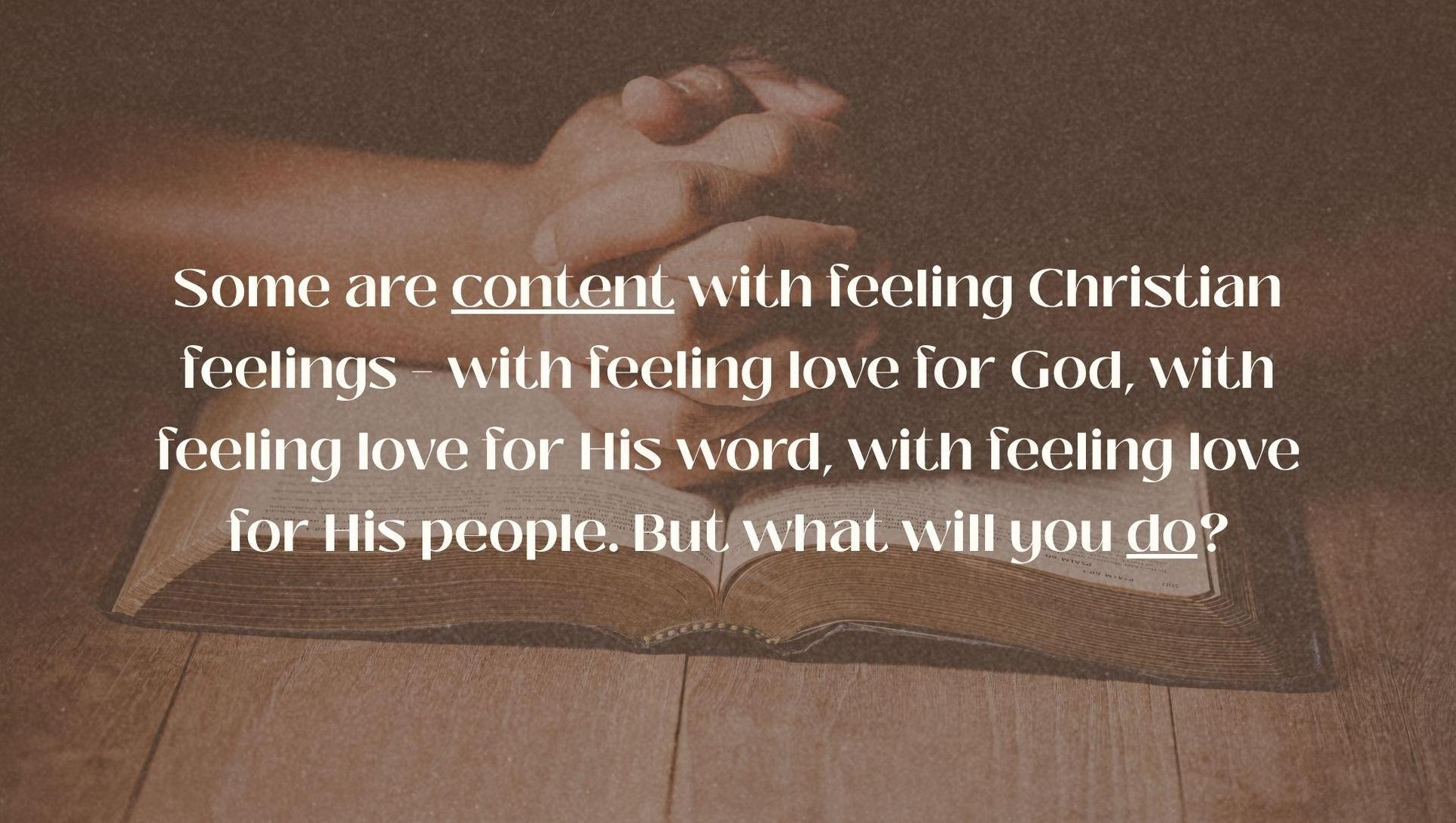
Things to remember as we make our choice of total commitment:

- Feelings are good, but not enough.



14 And again they wept together, and Orpah  
kissed her mother-in-law good-bye. But Ruth  
clung tightly to Naomi.

**Ruth 1: 14 NLT**

A pair of hands is clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a wooden surface. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

Some are content with feeling Christian feelings – with feeling love for God, with feeling love for His word, with feeling love for His people. But what will you do?

A field of golden wheat stalks under a dark, overcast sky. The wheat is in the foreground and middle ground, with some stalks in sharp focus. The background is a dark, hazy sky.

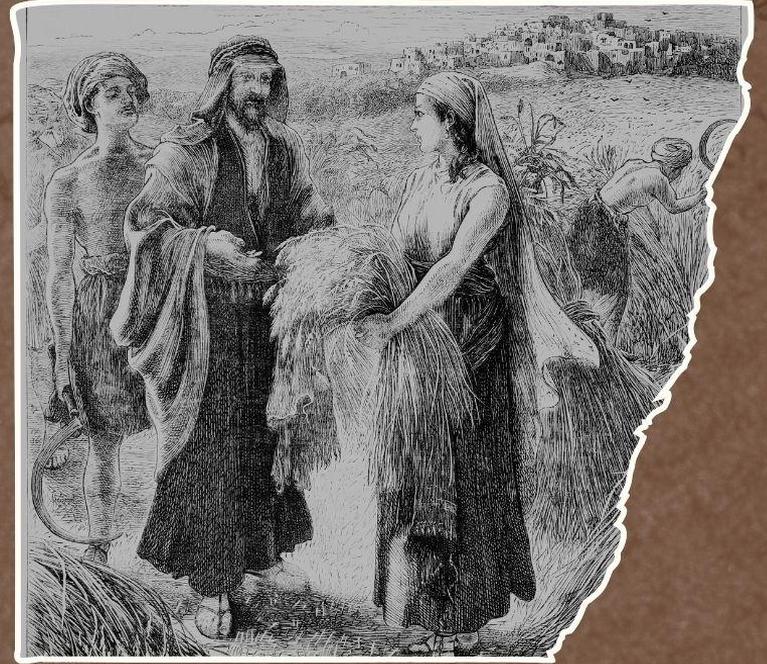
Things to remember as we make our choice of total commitment:

- Feelings are good, but not enough.
- An escape plan is not a good plan.

21 So Elisha returned to his oxen and slaughtered them. He used the wood from the plow to build a fire to roast their flesh. He passed around the meat to the townspeople, and they all ate. Then he went with Elijah as his assistant.

**1 Kings 19:21 NLT**

As long as you  
can turn back,  
you will never  
go all in.



A field of golden wheat stalks under a dark, overcast sky. The wheat is in the foreground, slightly out of focus, with several stalks reaching upwards. The background is a dark, textured sky, possibly at dusk or dawn. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

Things to remember as we make our choice of total commitment:

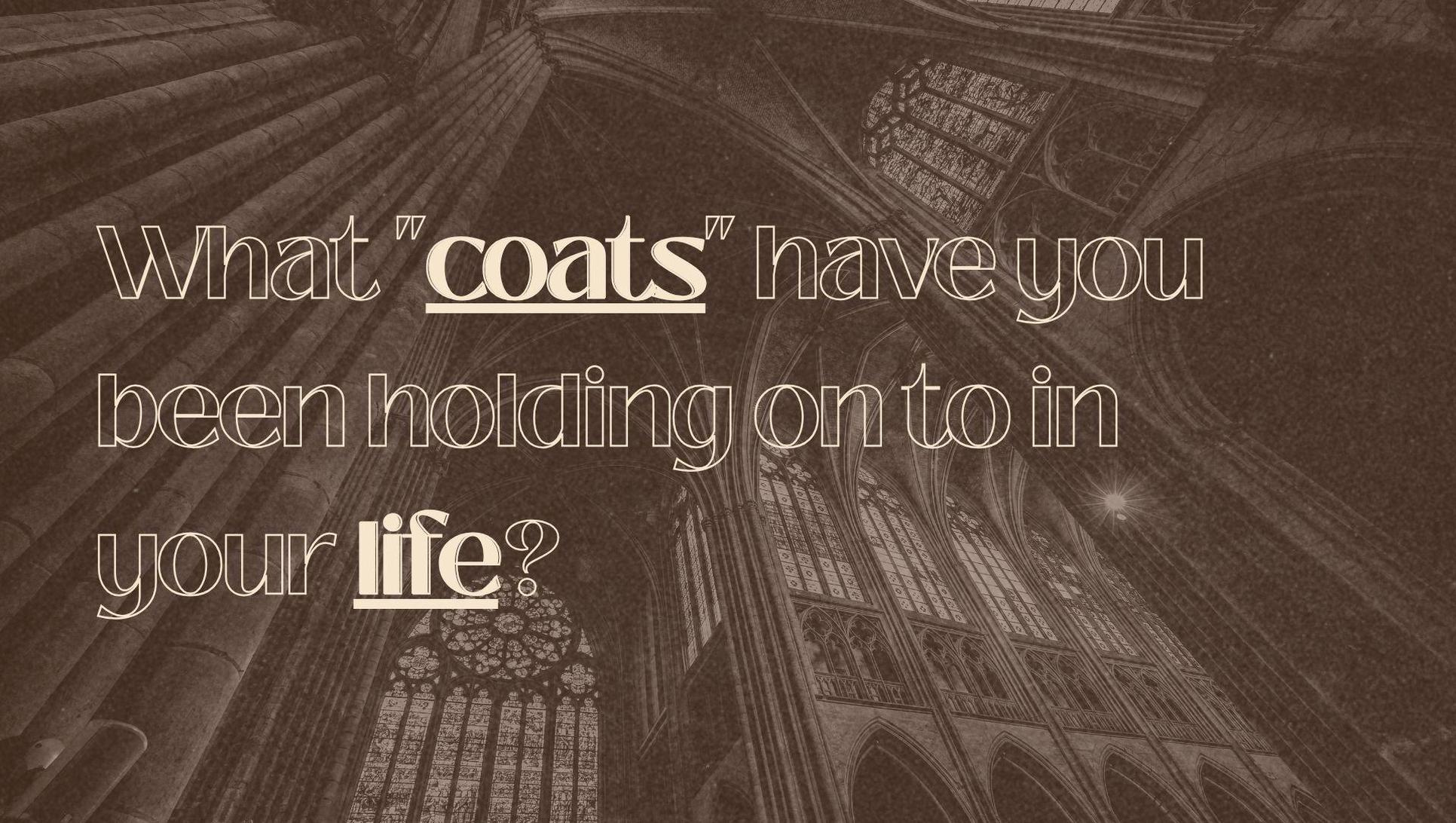
- Feelings are good, but not enough.
- An escape plan is not a good plan.
- Security found in other things is not really security at all.

47 When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 "Be quiet!" many of the people yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49 When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, "Tell him to come here."

**Mark 10:47-49 NLT**

So they called the blind man. "Cheer up," they said. "Come on, he's calling you!" 50 Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus.

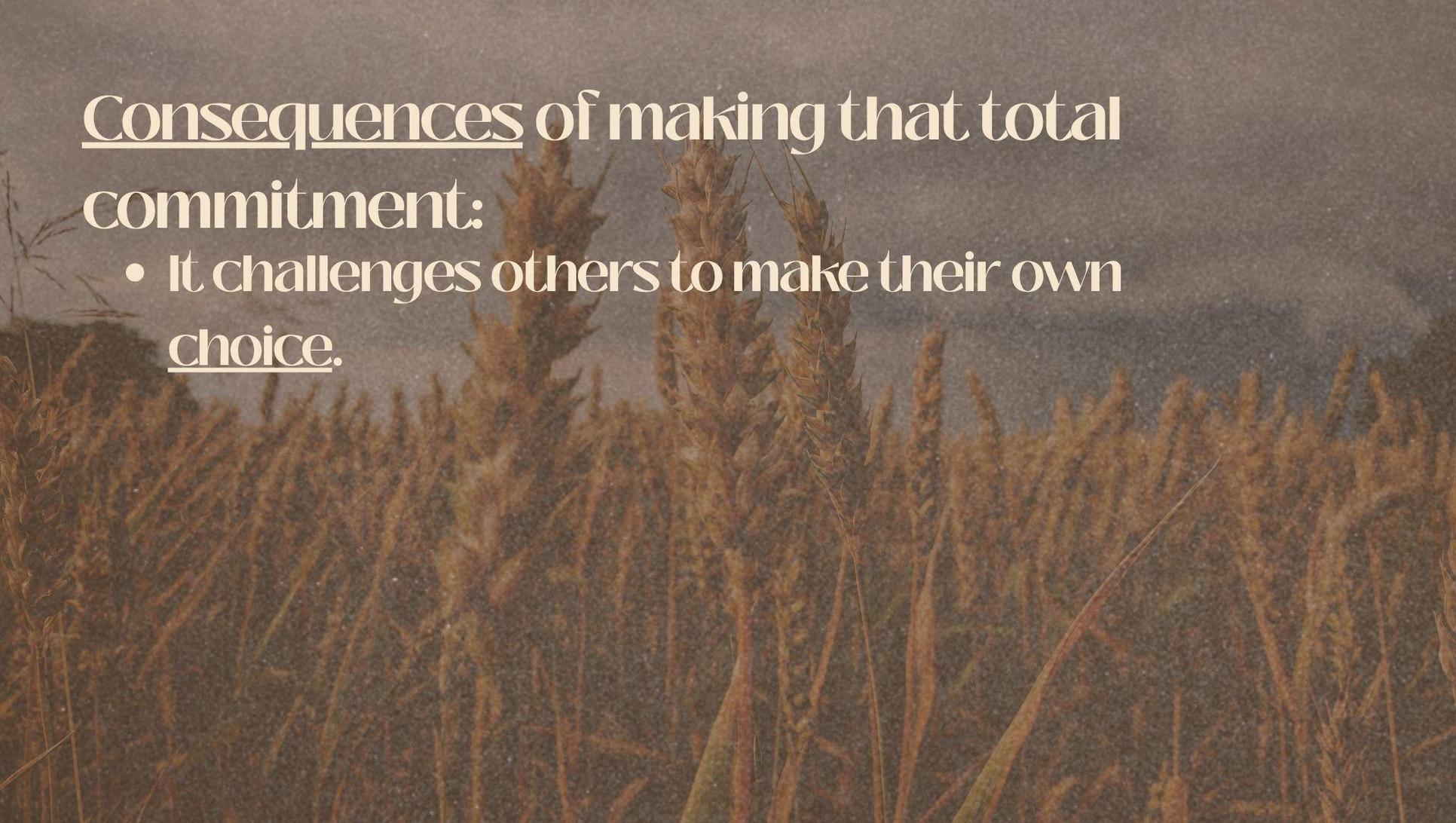
**Mark 10:50 NLT**



What "coats" have you  
been holding on to in  
your life?

A photograph of a field of golden wheat stalks under a dark, overcast sky. The wheat stalks are in the foreground and middle ground, with some in sharp focus and others blurred. The sky is a uniform, dark greyish-blue. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

Consequences of making  
that total commitment:

A field of golden wheat stalks under a dark, overcast sky. The wheat is in the foreground, with several stalks in sharp focus. The background is a dense field of similar wheat, slightly blurred. The sky is a dark, muted blue-grey color, suggesting a cloudy or overcast day. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

Consequences of making that total  
commitment:

- It challenges others to make their own choice.



...your God will be my God.

**Ruth 1:16b**

Ten years of Naomi's compromise in Moab never made Ruth confess her allegiance to the God of Israel.

Yet as soon as Naomi stood and said, "I'm going back to the God of Israel, I'll put my fate in His hands"

Ruth stood with her. If you think you will persuade your friends or relatives to follow Jesus by your compromise, you are mistaken.



A photograph of a field of golden wheat stalks. The stalks are in the foreground and middle ground, with some in sharp focus and others blurred. The background is a dark, overcast sky. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

## Consequences of making that total commitment:

- It challenges others to make their own choice.
- It prepares our hearts for what is to come.

22 So Naomi returned from Moab,  
accompanied by her daughter-in-law  
Ruth, the young Moabite woman. They  
arrived in Bethlehem in late spring,  
at the beginning of the barley harvest.

**Ruth 1:22 NLT**