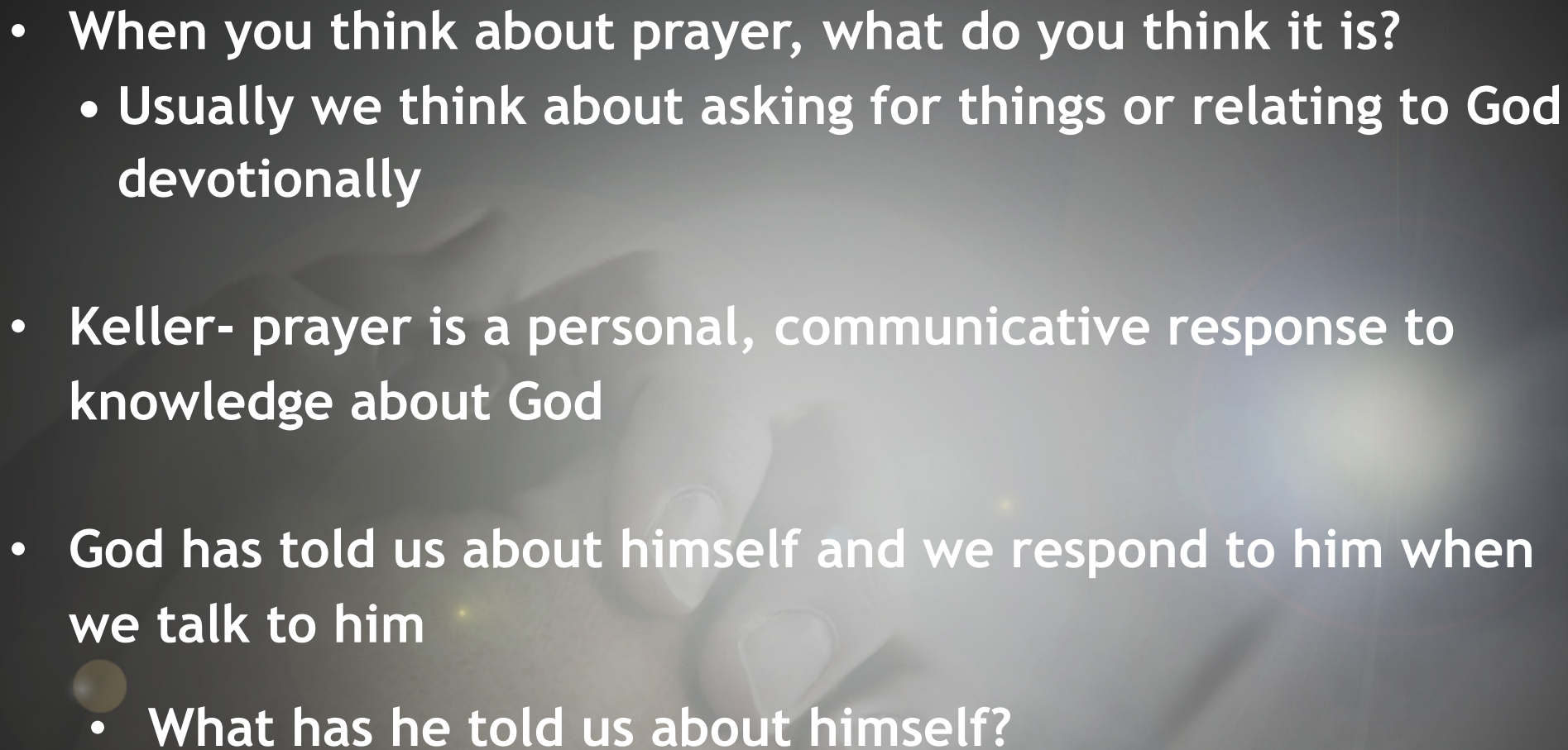


- When you think about prayer, what do you think it is?
 - Usually we think about asking for things or relating to God devotionally
 - Keller- prayer is a personal, communicative response to knowledge about God
 - God has told us about himself and we respond to him when we talk to him
 - What has he told us about himself?
- 
- A person wearing a white shirt is shown from the chest up, reading a book. The background is dark and out of focus, with some light spots. The text of the presentation is overlaid on the image in white.

- Even when we don't understand it, we can grasp and respond to this truth:
 - God meant for me to be saved and to be where I am now so I can pray
 - Where are you right now?
 - Who is around you in need?
 - What Scriptural promise can you pray over people/ circumstances?

Luke 11:1-4

11:1 It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples.” 2 And He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. 3 ‘Give us each day our daily bread. 4 ‘And forgive us our sins, For we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.’”

Luke 11:5-13

⁵ Then He said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves; ⁶ for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; ⁷ and from inside he answers and says, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been shut and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

⁹ “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened.

Luke 11:5-13

¹¹ Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? ¹² Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? ¹³ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Truths that encourage us to pray

1. I'm praying to my Father
2. God wants me to talk to him about my moment to moment, everyday life
3. God is better at giving good things than the best earth-dad
4. Prayer actually changes things
5. Pray with real trust
6. Prayer is an opportunity to ask for more of God, or to give him more of me

Hebrews 4:14-16

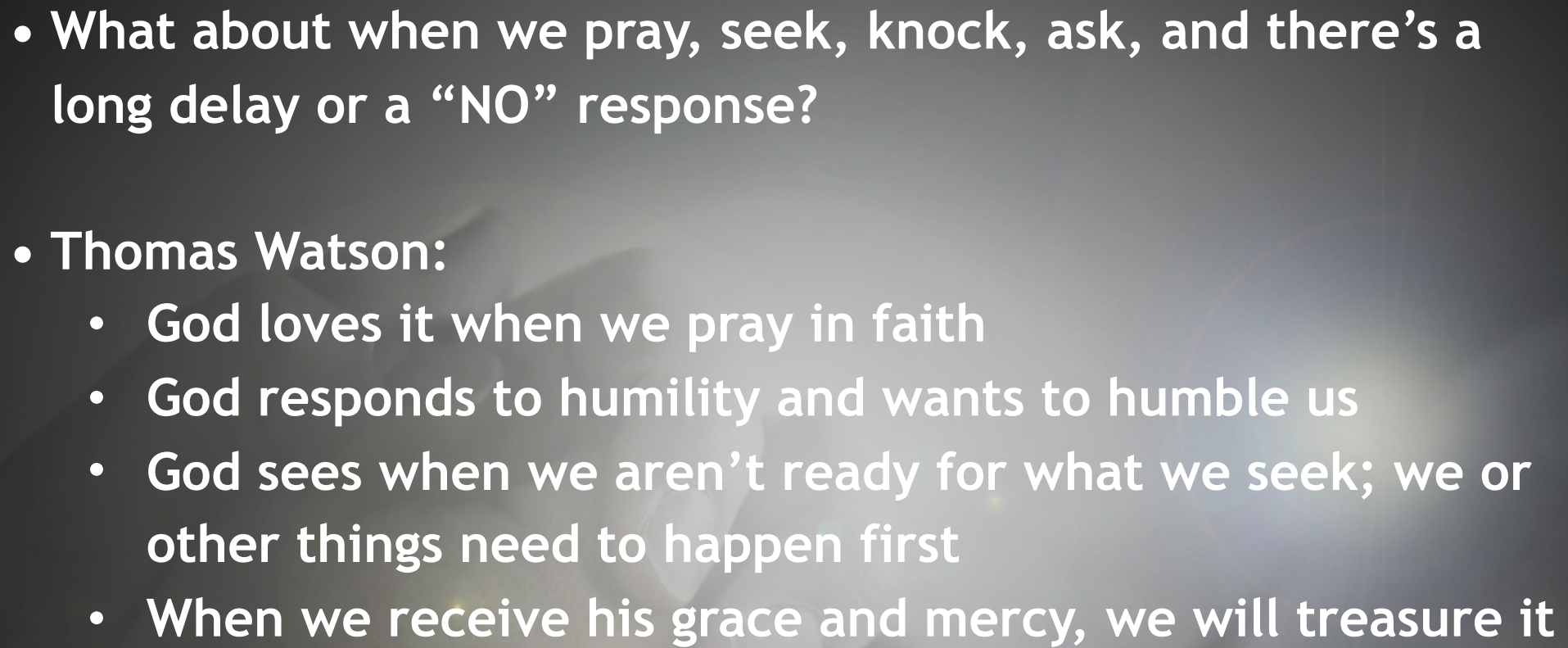
¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

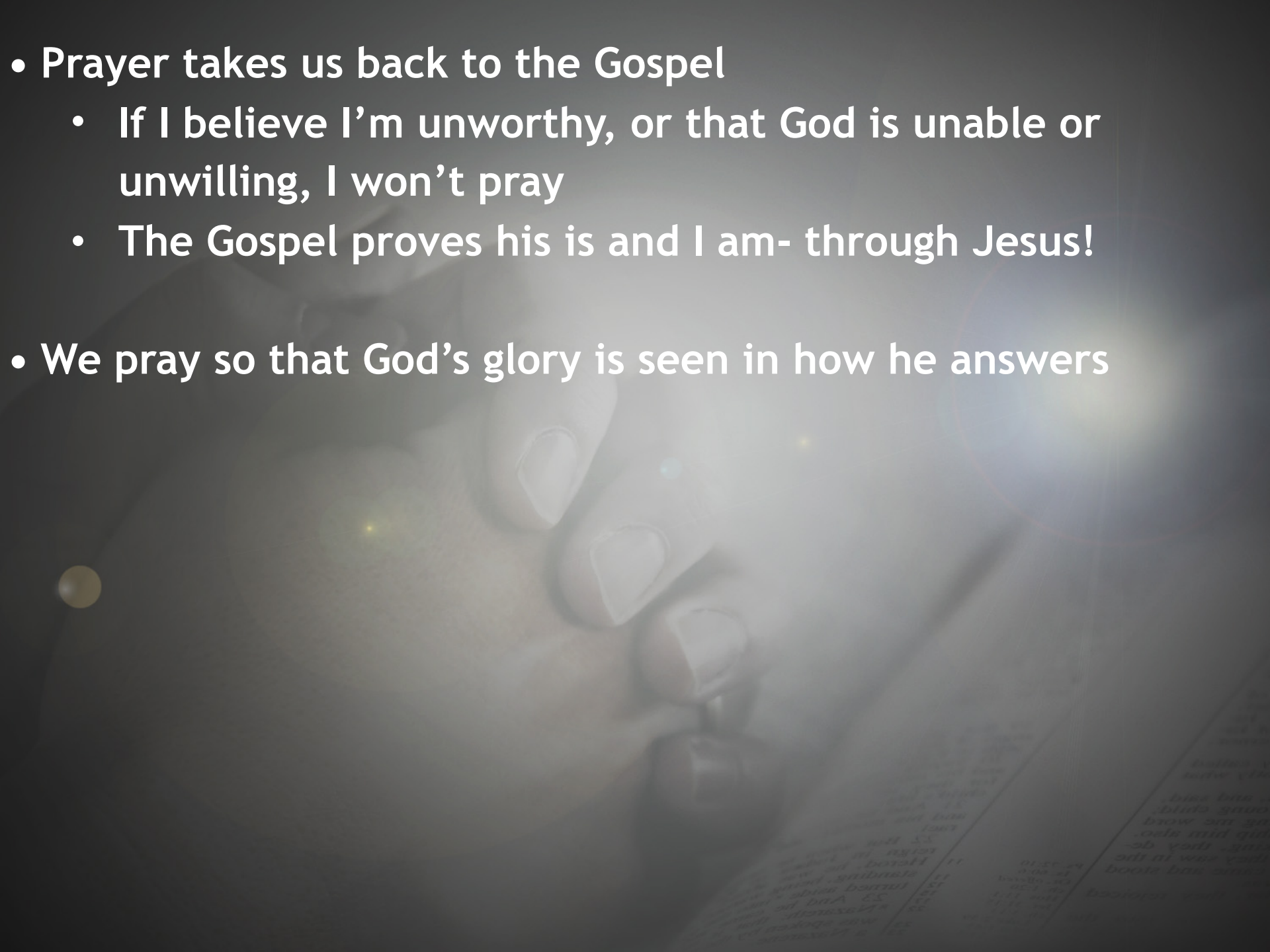
7. In prayer we are entering God's throne room

8. We pray with confidence

9. We get real help in our time of need when we pray

10. Prayer humbles me in order to receive God's mercy and grace

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- What about when we pray, seek, knock, ask, and there's a long delay or a "NO" response?
 - Thomas Watson:
 - God loves it when we pray in faith
 - God responds to humility and wants to humble us
 - God sees when we aren't ready for what we seek; we or other things need to happen first
 - When we receive his grace and mercy, we will treasure it

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- Prayer takes us back to the Gospel
 - If I believe I'm unworthy, or that God is unable or unwilling, I won't pray
 - The Gospel proves his is and I am- through Jesus!
 - We pray so that God's glory is seen in how he answers