


What are 2 things
that shouldn't go
together but do?



We go together



SERMON ON THE MOUNT



*Great Teachings from the
Greatest Teacher*

A LOOK AT MATTHEW 5-7

Main Point

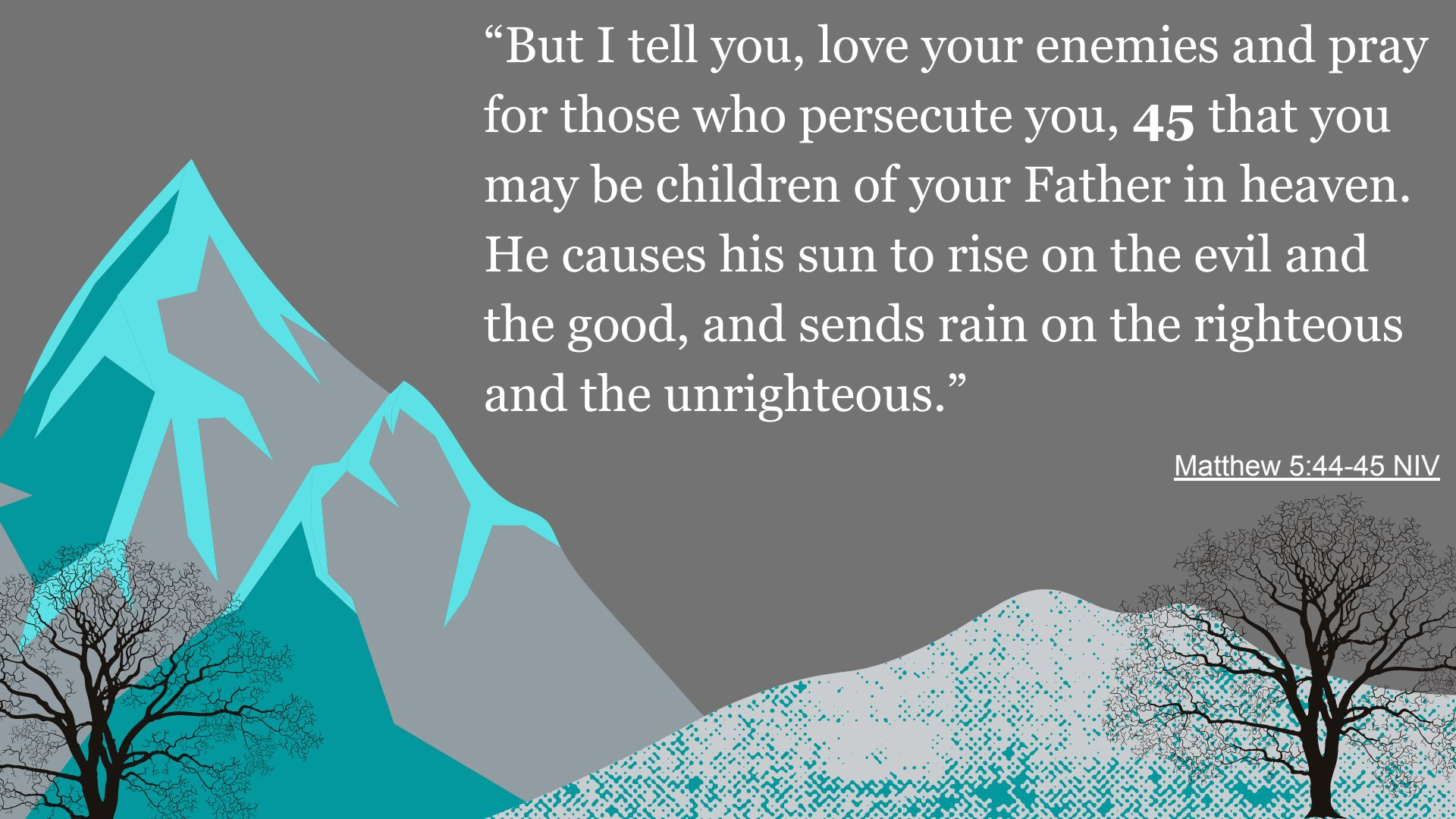
- Love is reflection of God



“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love
your neighbor and hate your enemy’”

Matthew 5:43 NIV



A stylized landscape illustration. On the left, a jagged mountain range is depicted in shades of teal and grey. In the foreground, two leafless trees with dark, intricate branch structures stand on either side of a central, rolling hill. The hill is covered in a dense, pixelated pattern of teal and white dots. The background is a solid dark grey.

“But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **45** that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

Matthew 5:44-45 NIV

“If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?”

Matthew 5:46-47 NIV



Old Testament Teaching

- *“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.” - Leviticus 19:18*
- Love is more of an action than an emotion
- Israelite neighbor was a fellow Israelite



Old Testament Teaching

- Hate was lovelessness
- “Hate your enemy” does not occur in the Bible



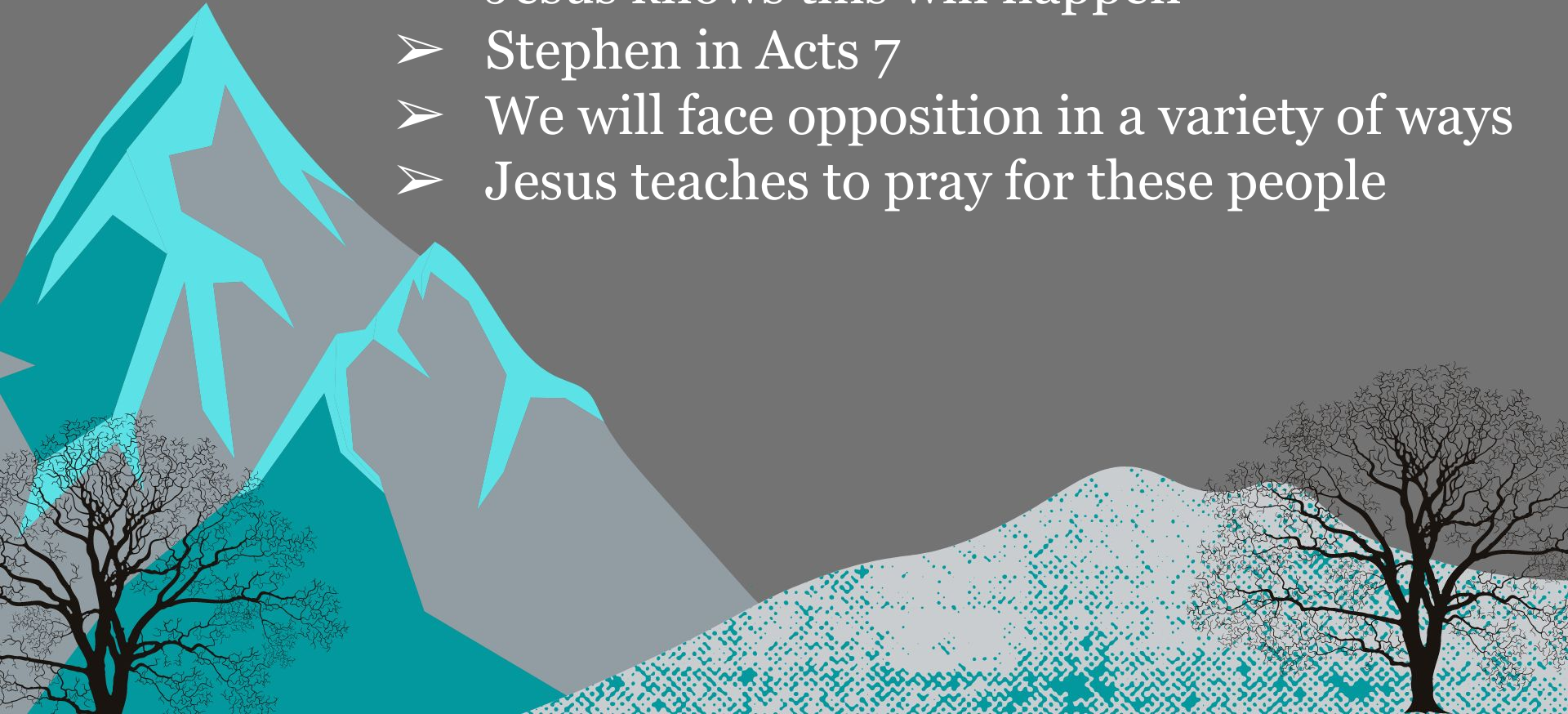
Jesus' Teaching

- Love your enemy
- Love is not exclusive



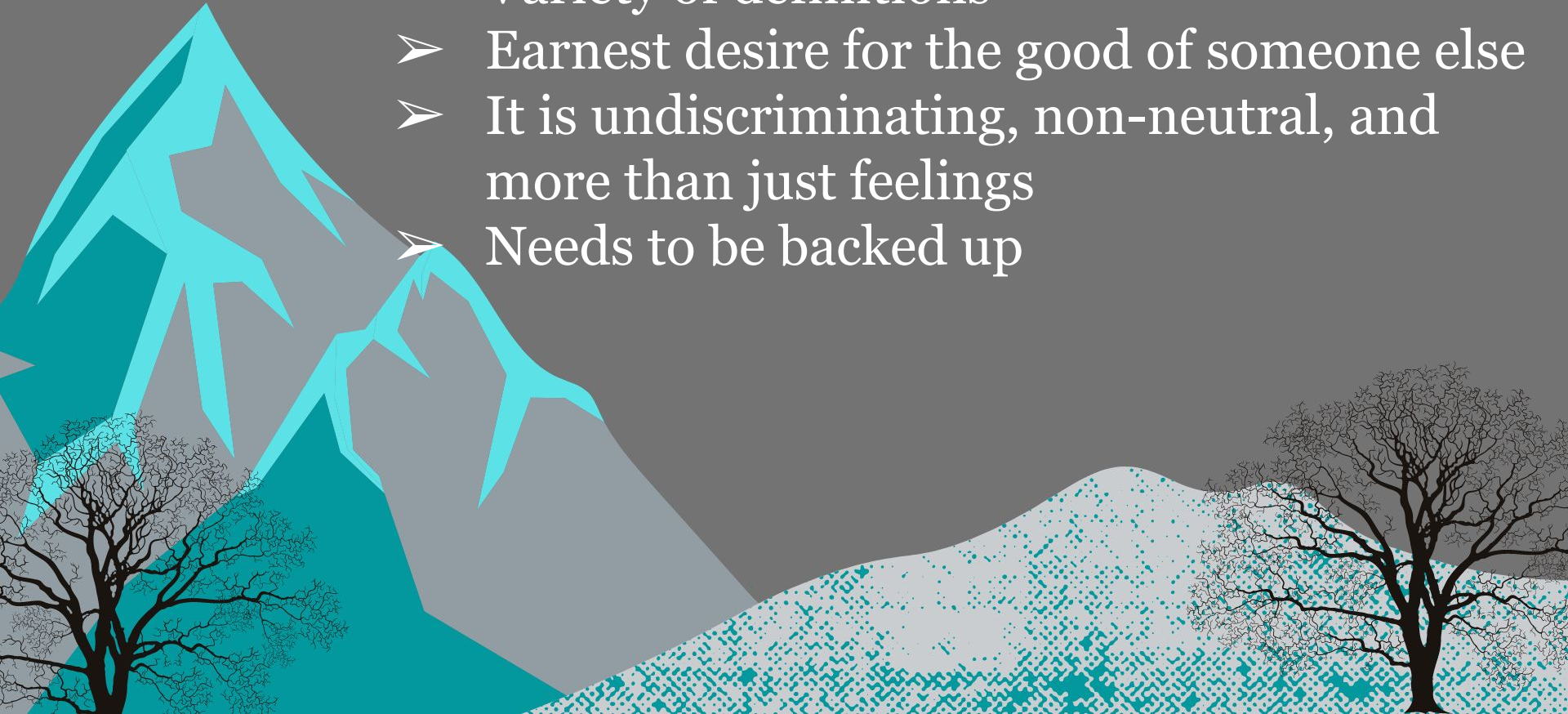
Pray For Those Who Persecute You

- Jesus knows this will happen
- Stephen in Acts 7
- We will face opposition in a variety of ways
- Jesus teaches to pray for these people



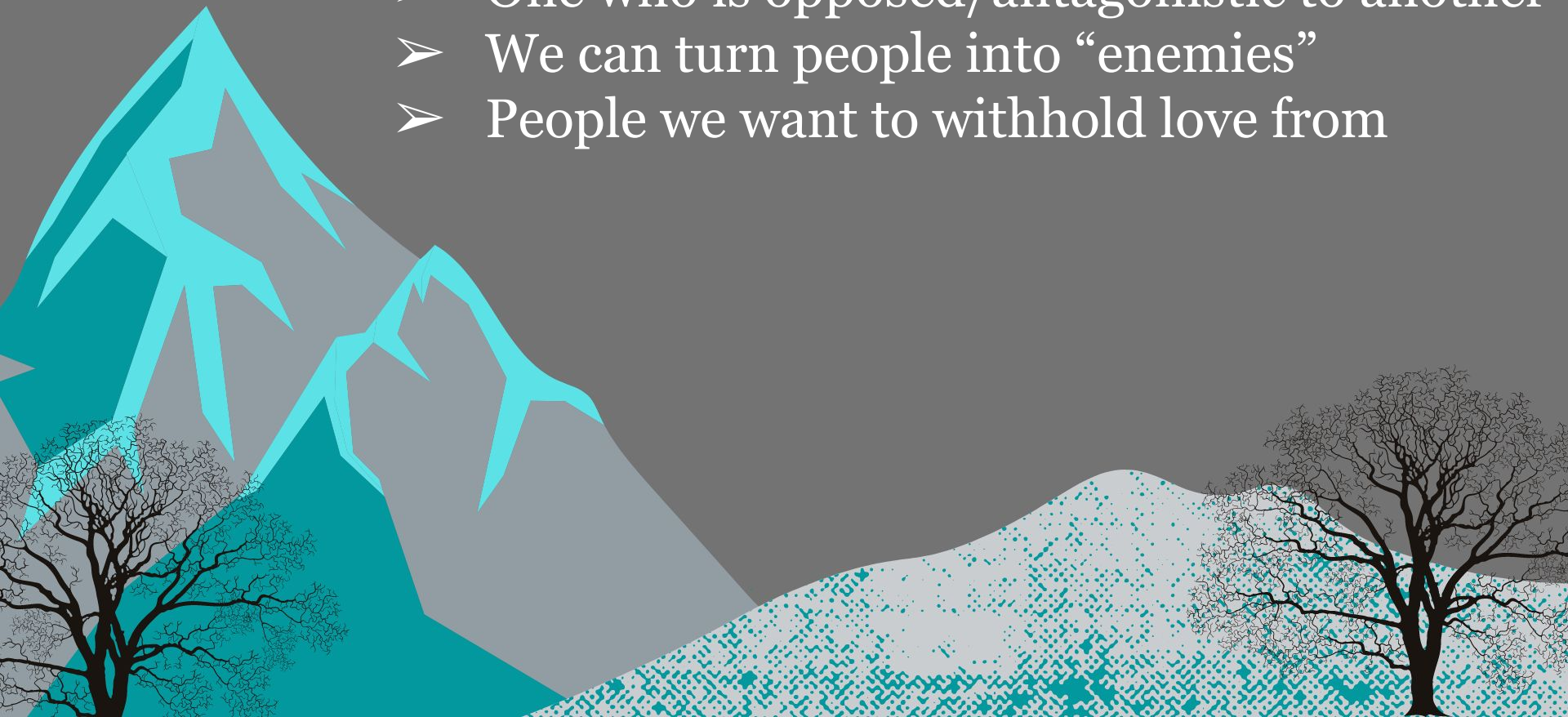
What Is Love?

- Variety of definitions
- Earnest desire for the good of someone else
- It is indiscriminating, non-neutral, and more than just feelings
- Needs to be backed up



Who Are Our Enemies?

- One who is opposed/antagonistic to another
- We can turn people into “enemies”
- People we want to withhold love from



How Do These Come Together?

- God brings these two together
- Don't have to be best friends
- Do have to treat them well
- Start with praying for them



Why Do We Have To Love Them?

- It reflects God
- It sets us apart
- It brings us closer to God



Closing

- *“Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”*

Matthew 5:48



Closing

- Jesus gave us a path to righteousness
- Anger, desires, respect, follow through, alternative responses, and loving enemies
- Is there anything you need to unlearn?
- Be the best student of the greatest teacher

