



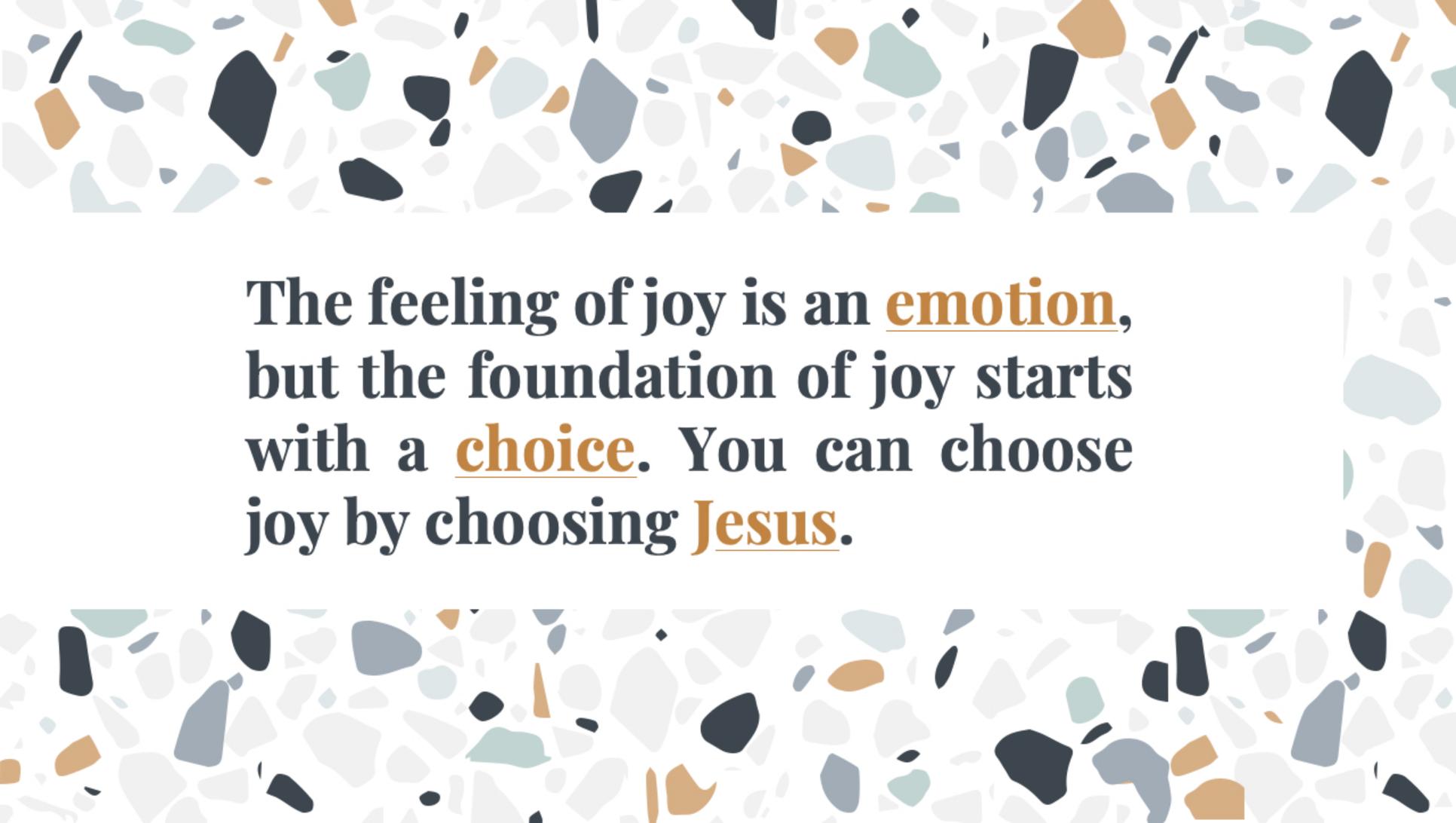
ALWAYS CHOOSE JOY

A Journey through Philippians



¹⁶ Always be joyful.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16 NLT



The feeling of joy is an emotion,
but the foundation of joy starts
with a choice. You can choose
joy by choosing Jesus.



¹²Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. ¹³As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30 NIV





¹⁵It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. ¹⁶The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. ¹⁸But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30 NIV





And because of this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, ¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. ²⁰I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30 NIV





²¹For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²²If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30 NIV





²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30 NIV





²⁷Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30 NIV

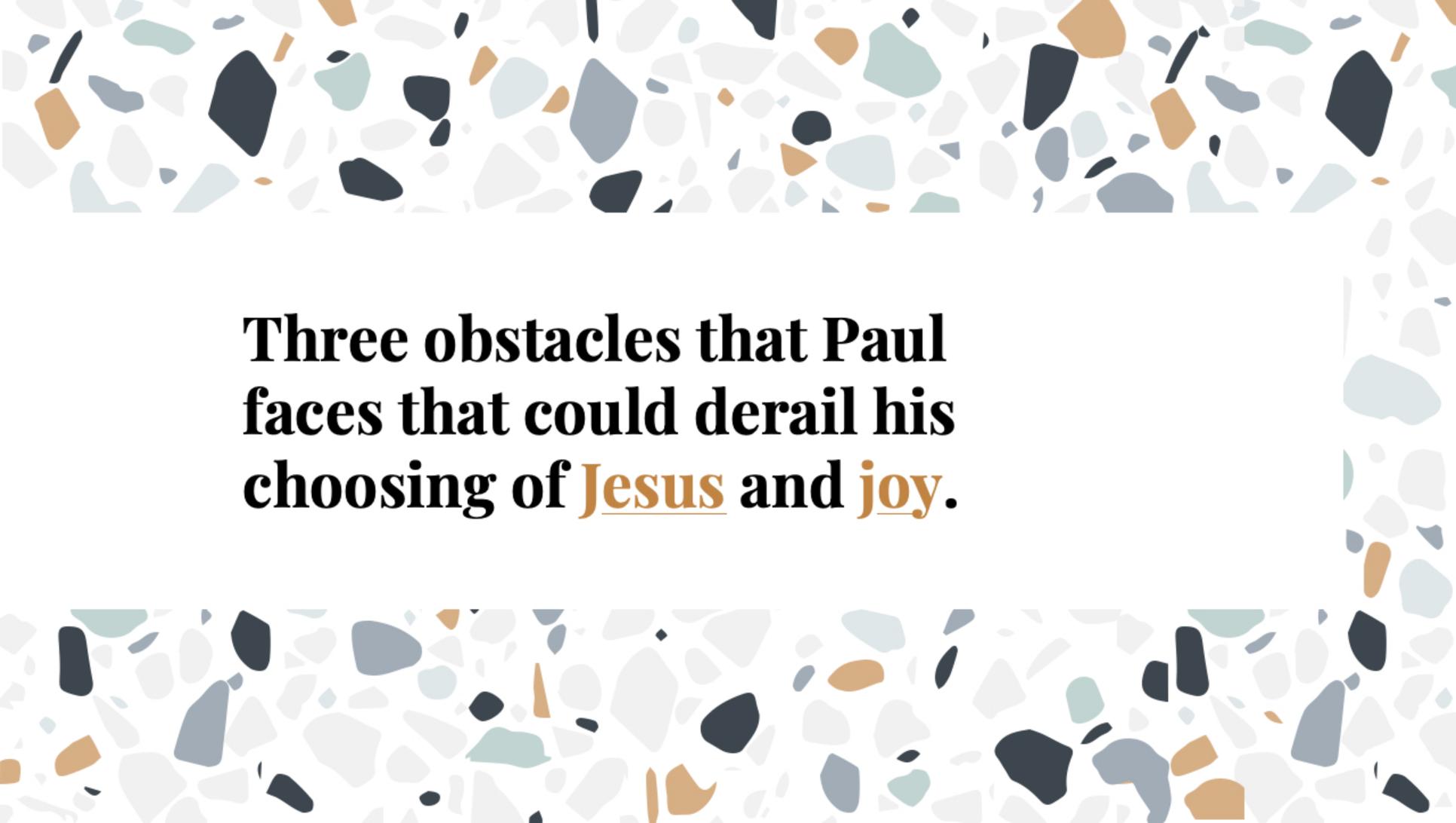




This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30 NIV





**Three obstacles that Paul
faces that could derail his
choosing of Jesus and joy.**



His chains

¹²Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. ¹³As a result, it has become clear throughout

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-14 NIV



His chains

the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-14 NIV



The chains that seemed to impede his progress actually propelled the gospel forward. So Paul's joy is connected with Jesus moving forward even though he can't move forward.





⁸Always remember that Jesus Christ, a descendant of King David, was raised from the dead. This is the Good News I preach. ⁹And because I preach this Good News, I am suffering and have been chained like a criminal. But the word of God cannot be chained. ¹⁰So I am willing to endure anything if it will bring salvation and eternal glory in Christ Jesus to those God has chosen.

2 TIMOTHY 2:8-10 NLT





His critics

¹⁵It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. ¹⁶The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up

PHILIPPIANS 1:15-19 NIV



His critics

trouble for me while I am in chains.
¹⁸But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, ¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.

PHILIPPIANS 1:15-19 NIV



Paul didn't allow other people's acceptance to be the source of his joy. So because they didn't give the joy they couldn't take it away.





His crisis

²¹For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²²If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better

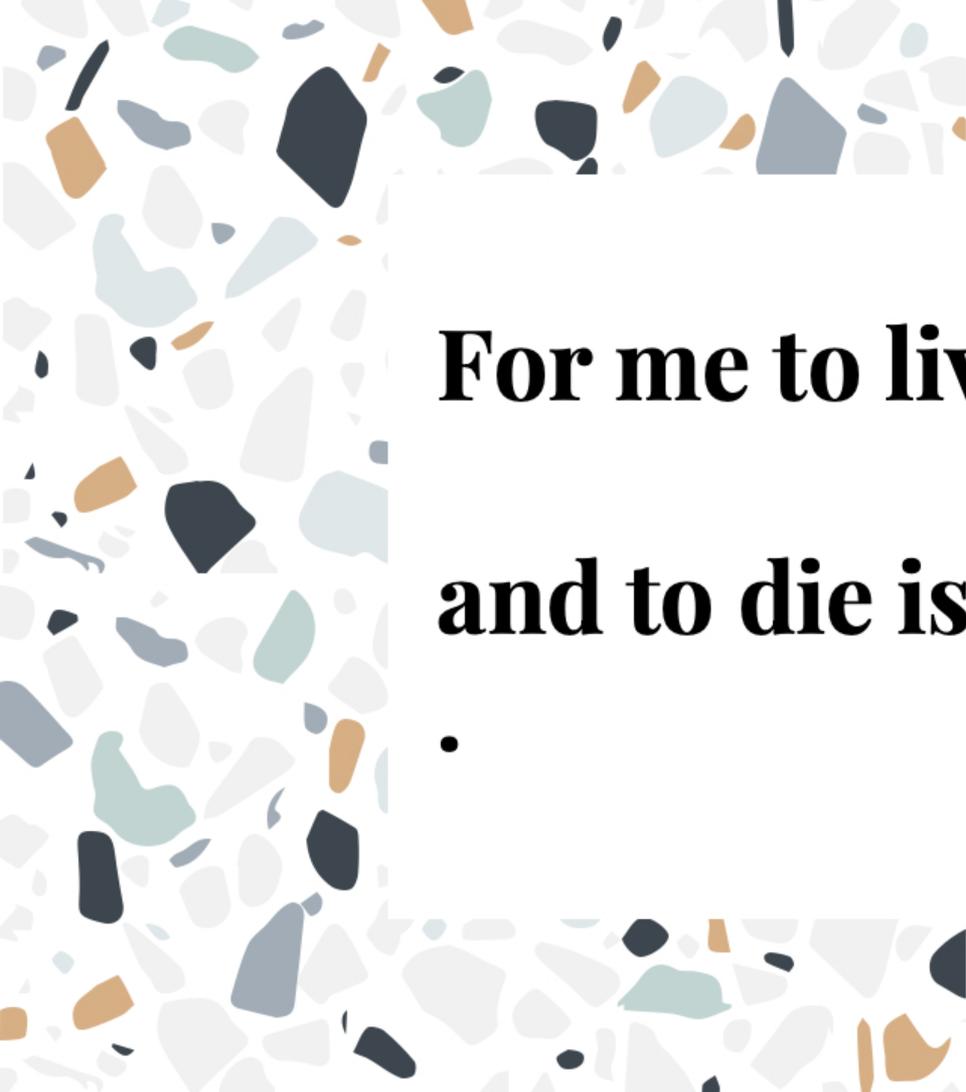
PHILIPPIANS 1:21-26 NIV



His crisis

by far; ²⁴but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

PHILIPPIANS 1:21-26 NIV



For me to live is _____

and to die is _____

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Because of
Paul's chains

Christ was
known



Because of
Paul's chains

Christ was
known

Because of
Paul's critics

Christ was
preached



Because of
Paul's chains

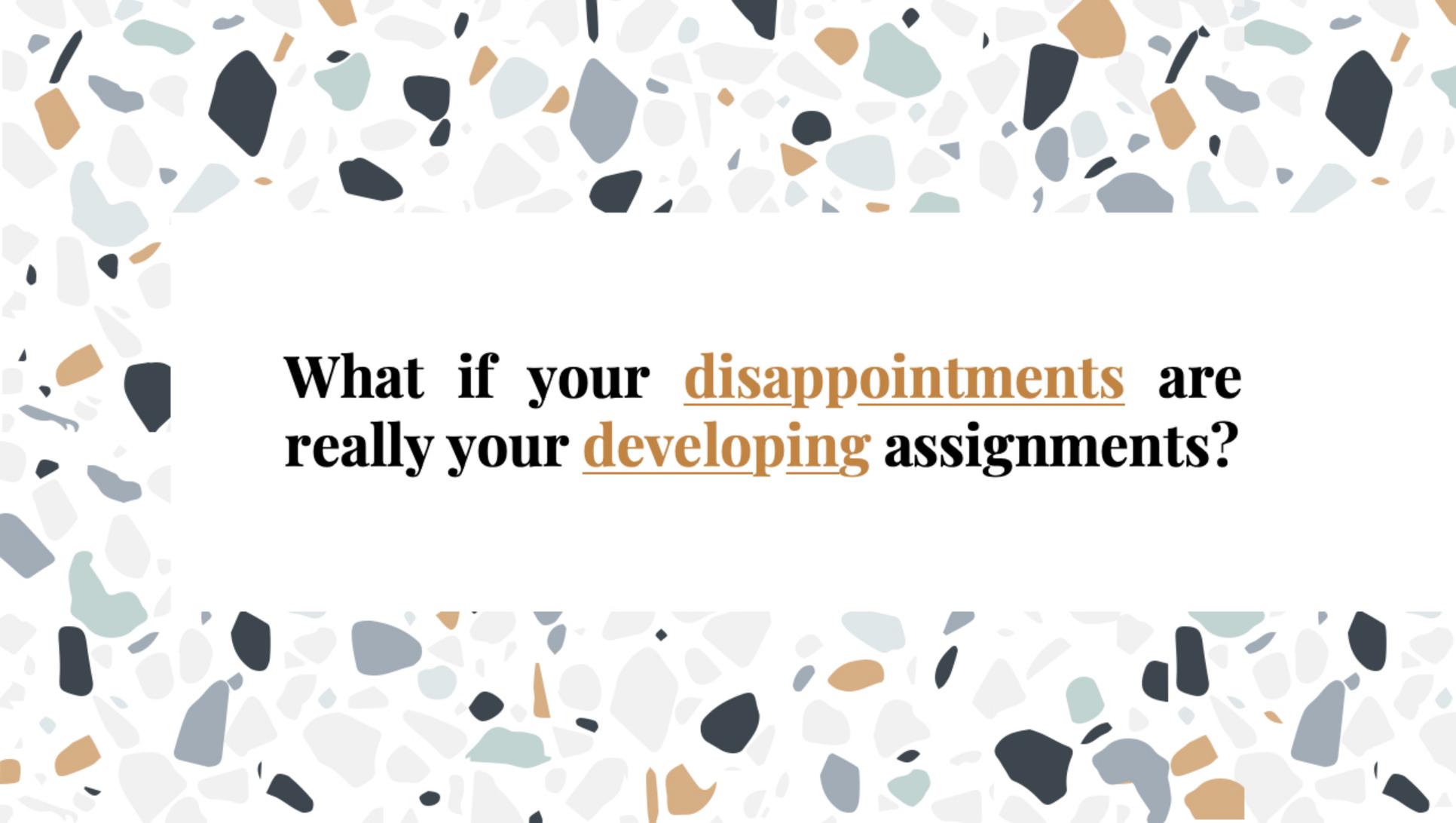
Christ was
known

Because of
Paul's critics

Christ was
preached

Because of
Paul's crisis

Christ was
magnified



What if your disappointments are really your developing assignments?