

Christianity and Homosexuality



Homosexuality & Church

▶ Open and Affirming (ONA)

▶ Anti-Gay

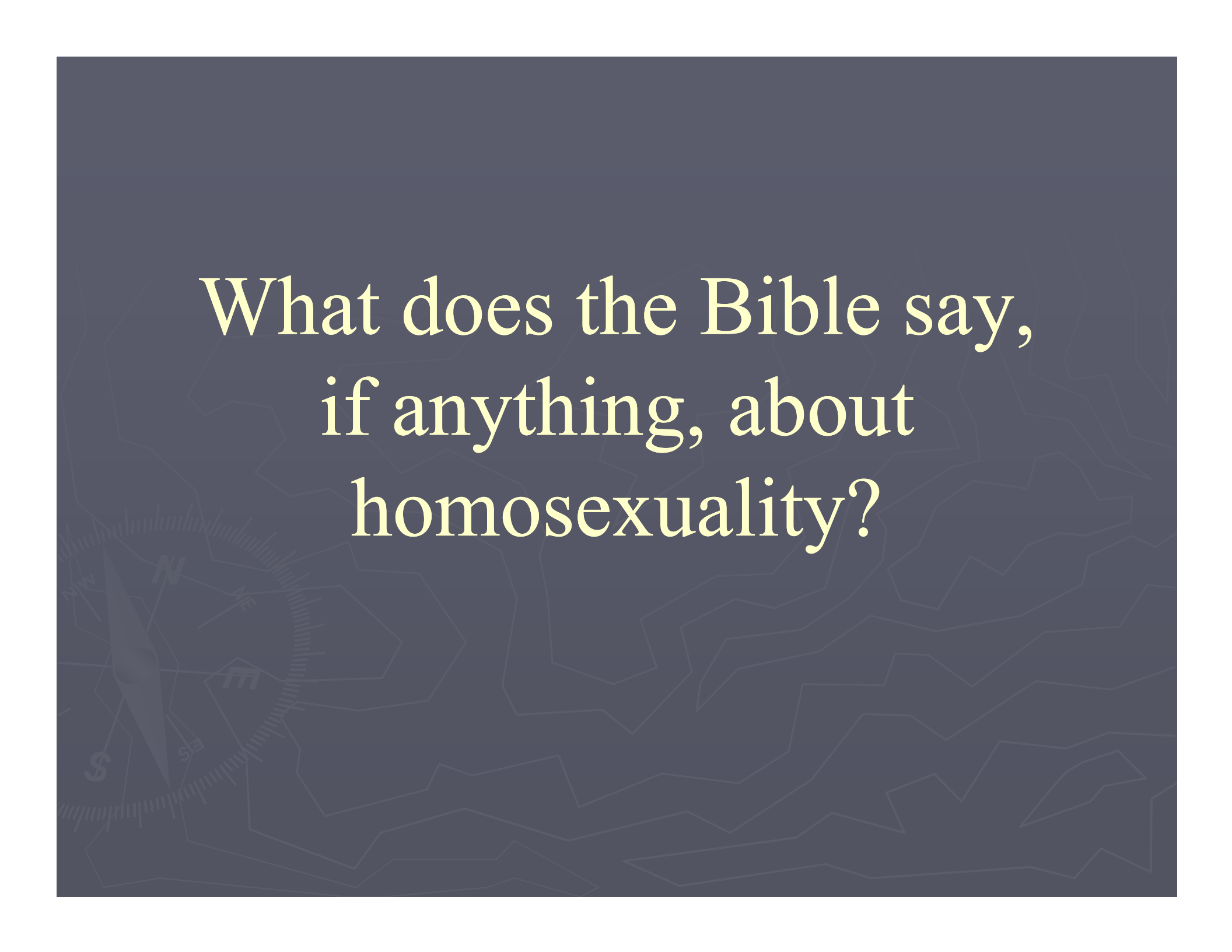
▶ Silent

Opening Comments

- ▶ Not attempting to be exhaustive
- ▶ Appreciate the complexity of the issues and discussion
- ▶ Goal is not to prove if homosexuality is right or wrong

Opening Comments

- ▶ Share my convictions not to get you to think as I think, but to get you to think
- ▶ Unashamedly committed to the certainty, sufficiency, inerrancy, and infallibility of the Bible

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What does the Bible say,
if anything, about
homosexuality?

On any topic the Bible may...

- ✓ Be silent on an issue
- ✓ Speak through precedence and example
- ✓ Speak through imperatives or directives

There are *no* passages in the Bible that directly condone or affirm homosexuality. There are several that reveal God's displeasure with homosexuality – directly and through precedence.

Biblical Terminology

Homosexual
Lay with
Sodomy(ites)
Effeminate

The Bible and Homosexuality

Gen. 18:16-19:29

Rom. 1:24-32

Lev. 18:22

I Cor. 6:9-20

Lev 20:13

I Tim. 1:8-11

Deut. 23:17

II Peter 2:1-11

Judges 19:22-20:14

Jude 5-7

The Bible and Homosexuality

- ▶ Abomination
- ▶ Children of Belial
- ▶ Unnatural
- ▶ Vile Affection
- ▶ Reprobate
- ▶ Fornication
- ▶ Filthy Conduct
- ▶ False Doctrine

How do churches condone homosexuality?

1. Rejecting the sufficiency of the Bible



**God
is still
speaking,**

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



How do churches condone homosexuality?

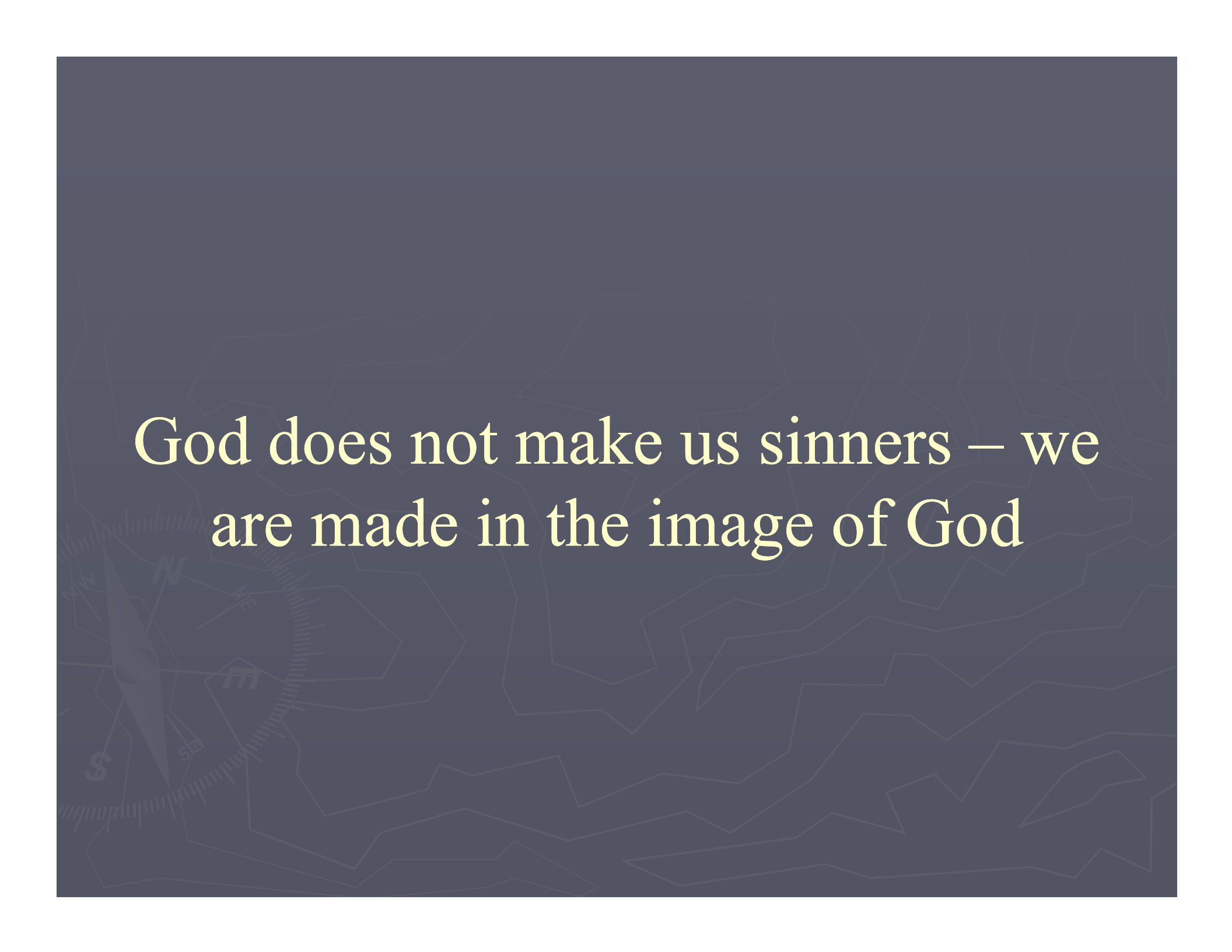
1. Rejecting the sufficiency of the Bible
2. Place principles about God over the Word of God
3. Limit Word through contextualization
4. Use biblical precedence with imagined information



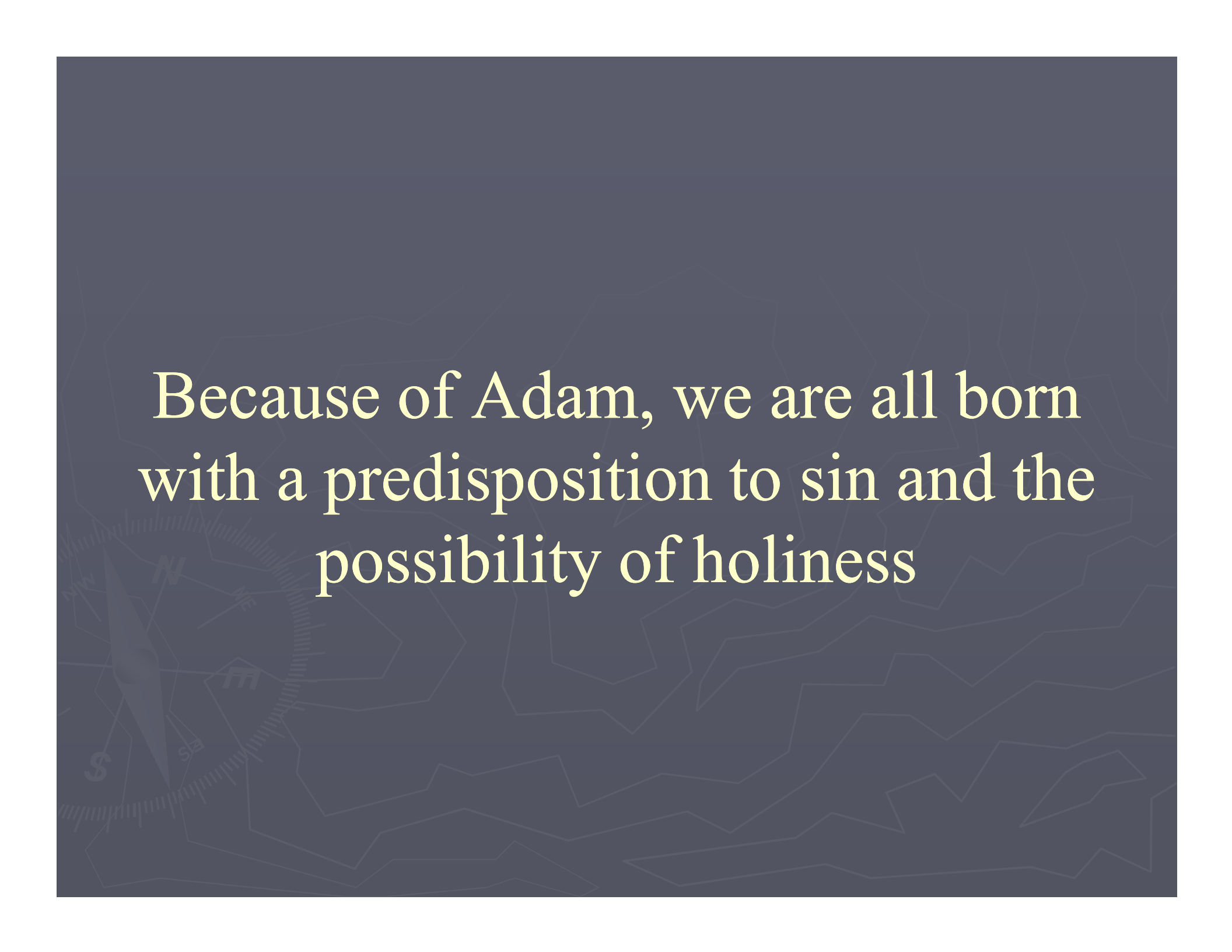
The Word of God defines
homosexuality as a sin

Homosexuality and Sin

- ▶ There is no hierarchy of sin
- ▶ Homosexuality uncovers the hypocrisy of the church
- ▶ Raises the genetic issue – did God make me this way?



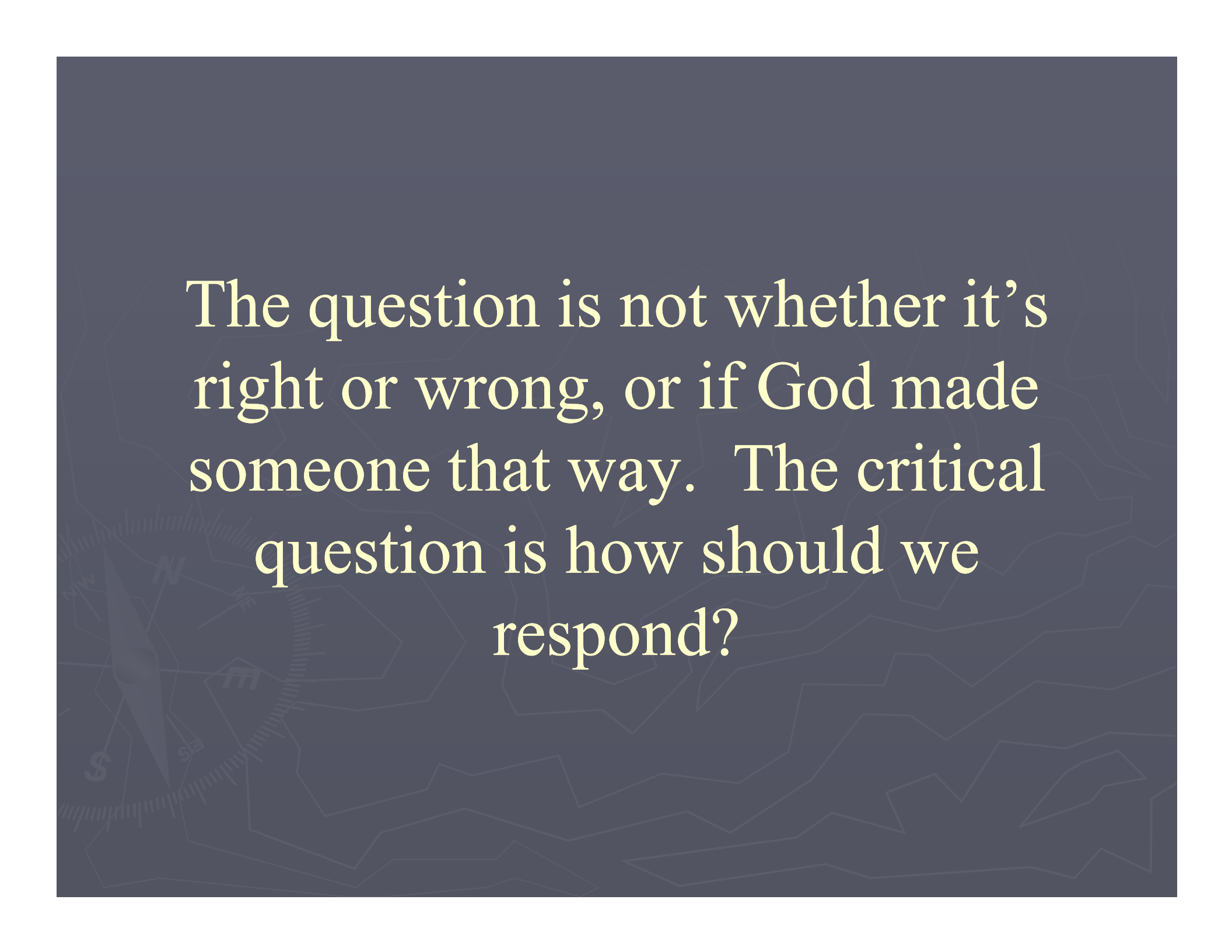
God does not make us sinners – we
are made in the image of God



Because of Adam, we are all born
with a predisposition to sin and the
possibility of holiness

How?

- ▶ Some people are born with a predisposition to homosexuality
- ▶ Some people are subconsciously shaped by their context
- ▶ Some people fell into bondage



The question is not whether it's right or wrong, or if God made someone that way. The critical question is how should we respond?

John 8:2-12



John 8:2-12

² Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. ³ Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst,

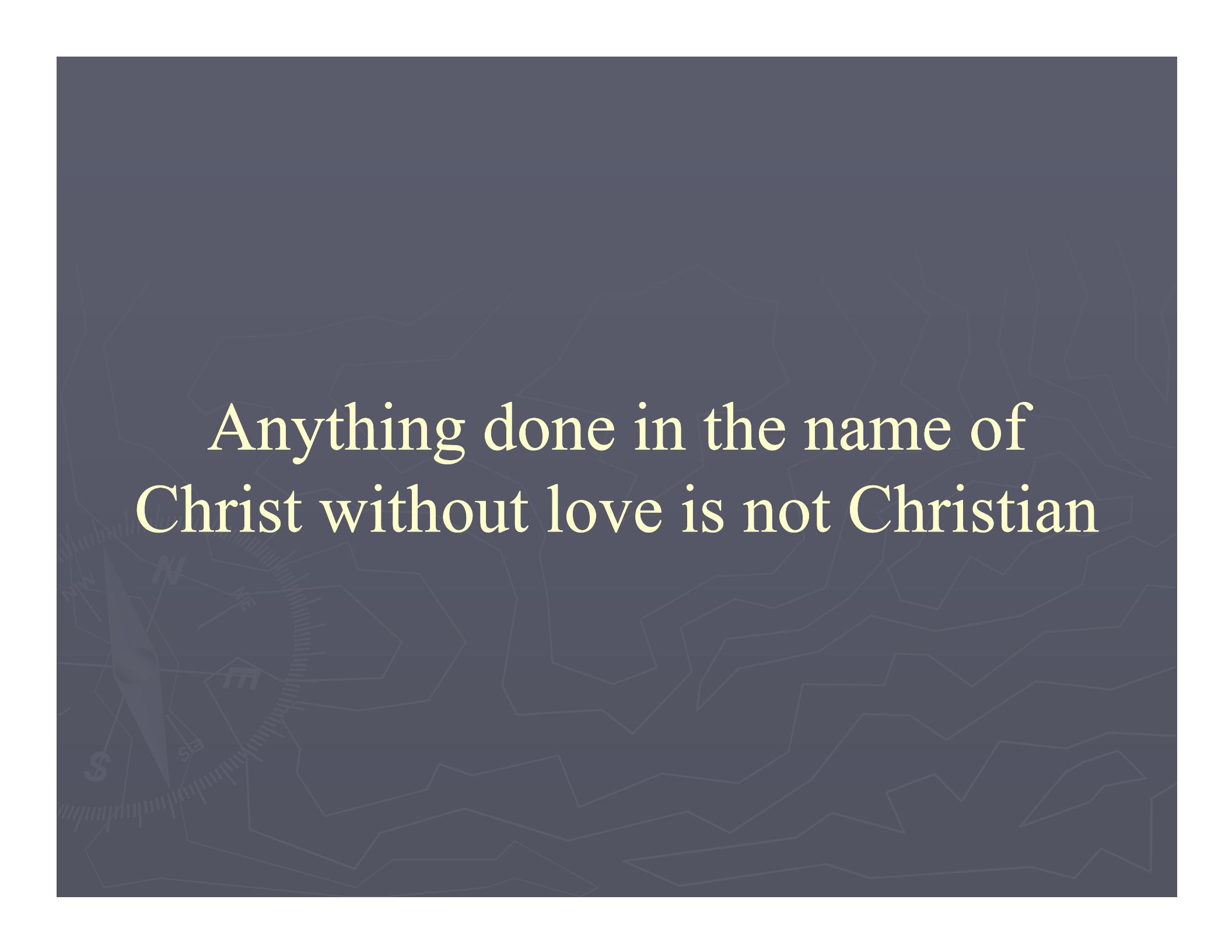
⁴ they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. ⁵ Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?” ⁶ This they said, testing Him, that they might have *something* of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with *His* finger, as though He did not hear.

⁷ So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first."⁸ And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹ Then those who heard *it*, being convicted by *their* conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest *even* to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. ¹⁰ When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?"

11 She said, "No one, Lord."
And Jesus said to her, "Neither
do I condemn you;
go and sin no more."

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again,
saying, "I am the light of the world.
He who follows Me shall not walk in
darkness, but have the light of life."

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Anything done in the name of
Christ without love is not Christian