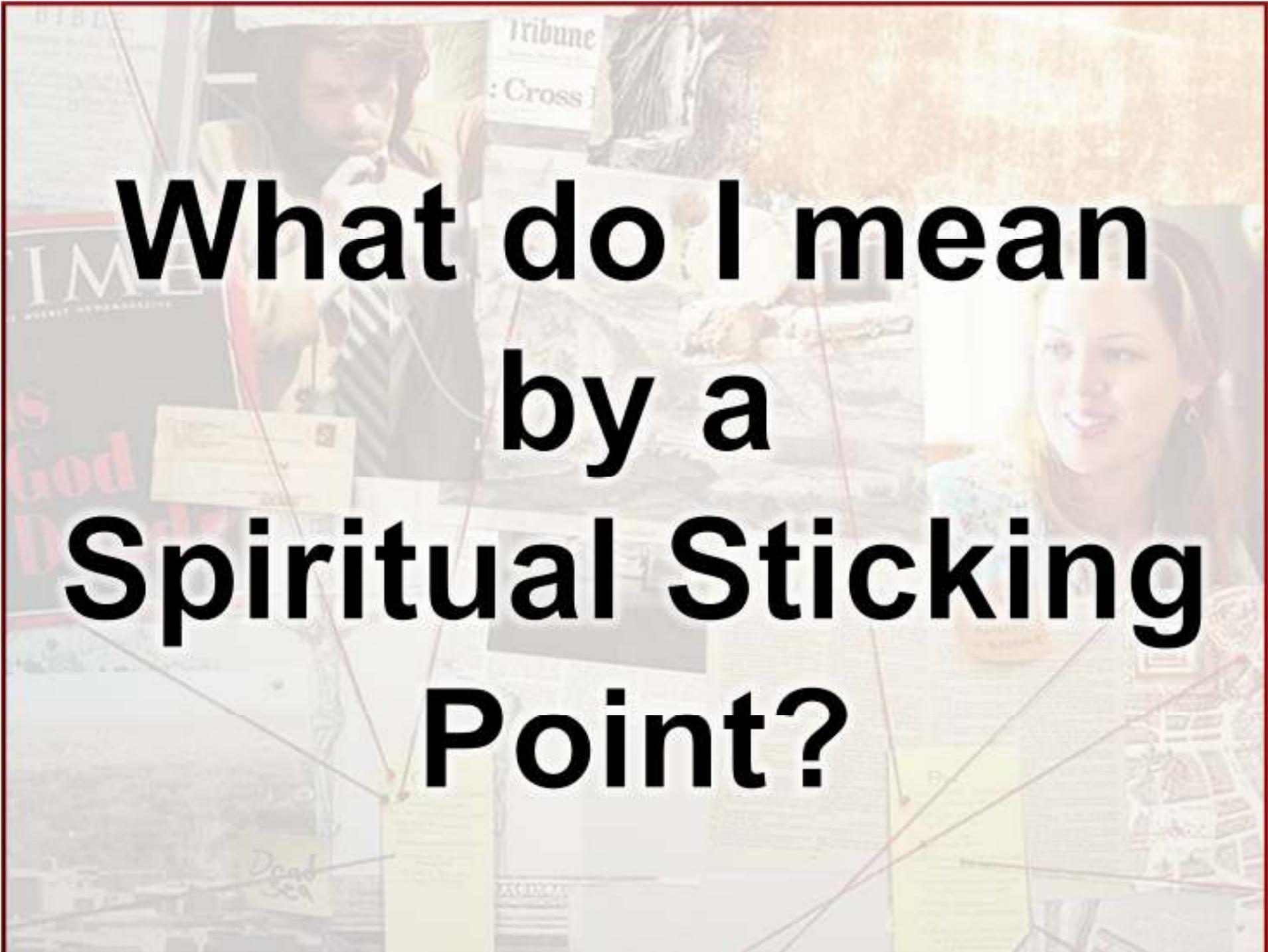




THE CASE FOR CHRIST

ONE MAN'S JOURNEY TO SOLVE THE BIGGEST MYSTERY OF ALL TIME



**What do I mean
by a
Spiritual Sticking
Point?**

Spiritual Sticking Point #1 I Can't Believe

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

John 20:24-25

I Can't Believe

**There are many stories in the Bible
that are hard to believe**

We call them Miracles

**We use them to show
God's power and control**

**These sensational stories can
become logical sticking points**

Meet Thomas in John 20



Spiritual Sticking Point #1 I Can't Believe

**You will seek me and find me
when you seek me with all your
heart.**

Jeremiah 29:13



**Your role here is
to encourage
them to keep
watching**

Spiritual Sticking Point #2

I Don't Want to Believe

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

Spiritual Sticking Point #2

I Don't Want to Believe

Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

John 3:18-21

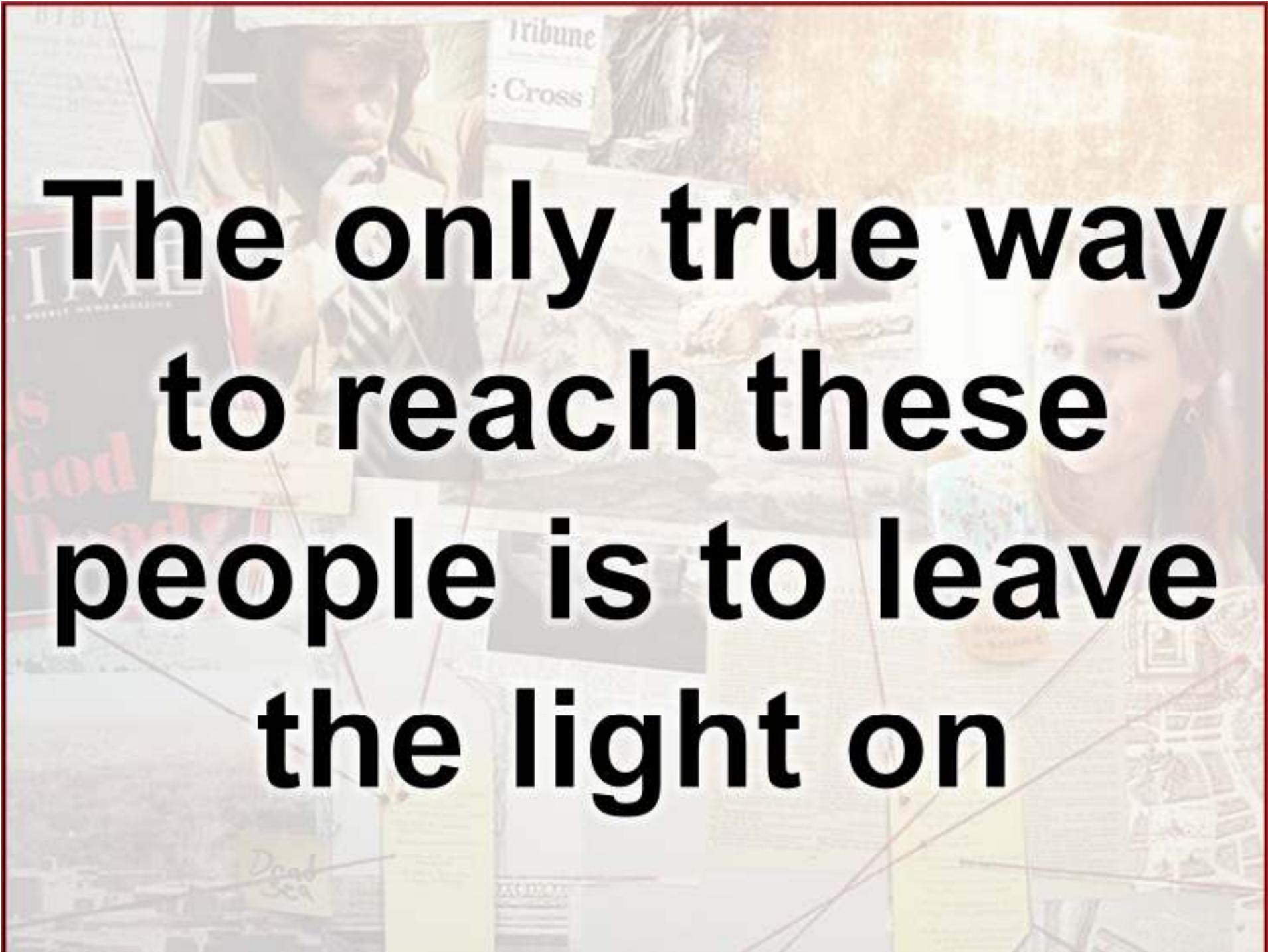
I Don't Want to Believe

IME They do not believe because
to express belief would require a change

They see light, they know its there

However, something in there life is
causing them to seek darkness

Preaching at their darkness
drives them away



**The only true way
to reach these
people is to leave
the light on**

Spiritual Sticking Point #3

I Don't Know What to Believe

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his

Spiritual Sticking Point #3

I Don't Know What to Believe

chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

I Don't Know What to Believe

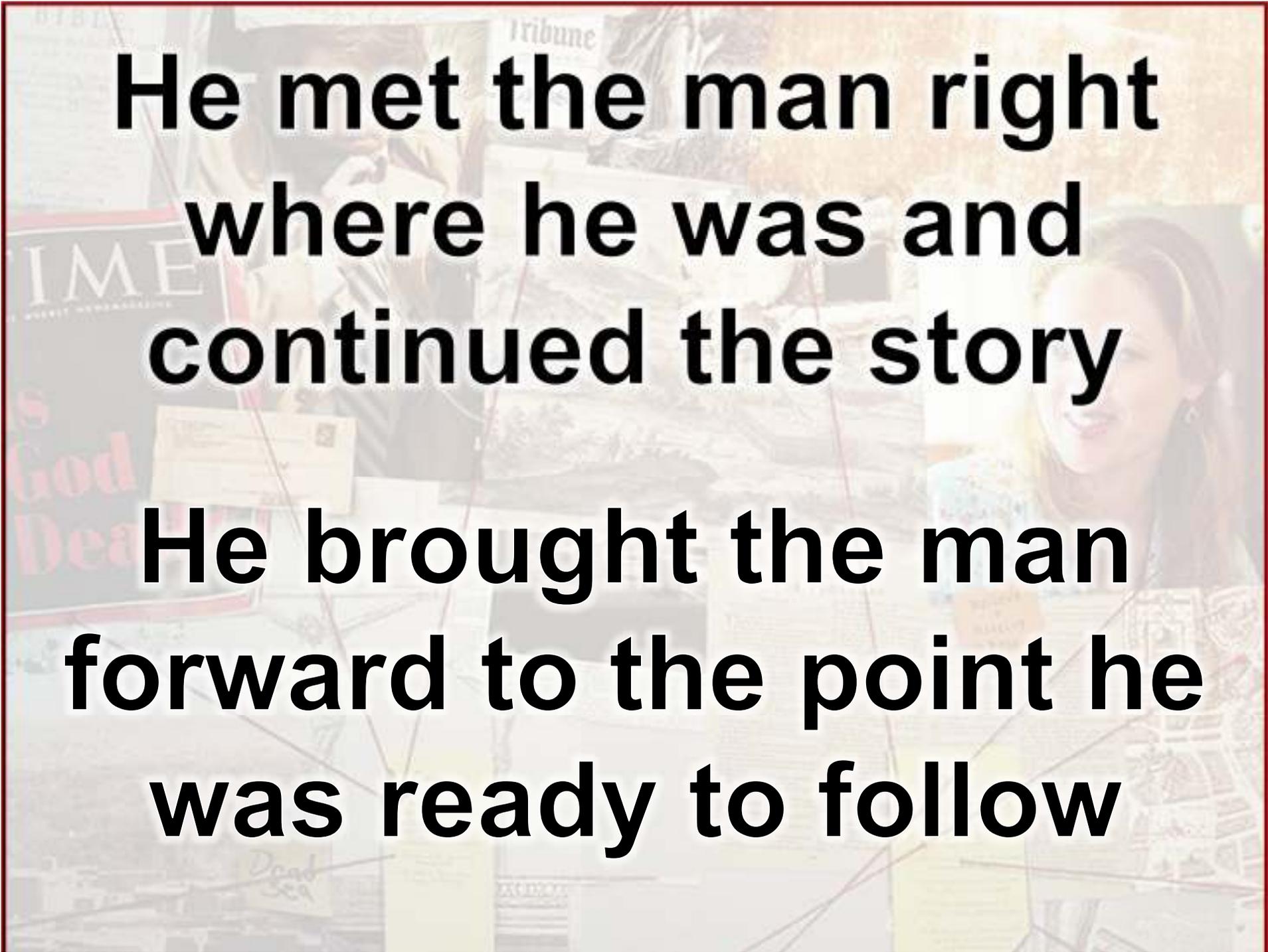
Here we meet the Ethiopian Eunuch

Notice he is a man interested in God

**He was stuck that he really
did not understand**

He needed explanation

**Here is where preaching and teaching
play a major role**



**He met the man right
where he was and
continued the story**

**He brought the man
forward to the point he
was ready to follow**

Spiritual Sticking Point #4

I Do Believe; Isn't That Enough?

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

John 1:10-12

I Do Believe; Isn't That Enough?

These are probably the most difficult people to get unstuck

They have an intellectual belief

And since they have a belief they believe that is enough

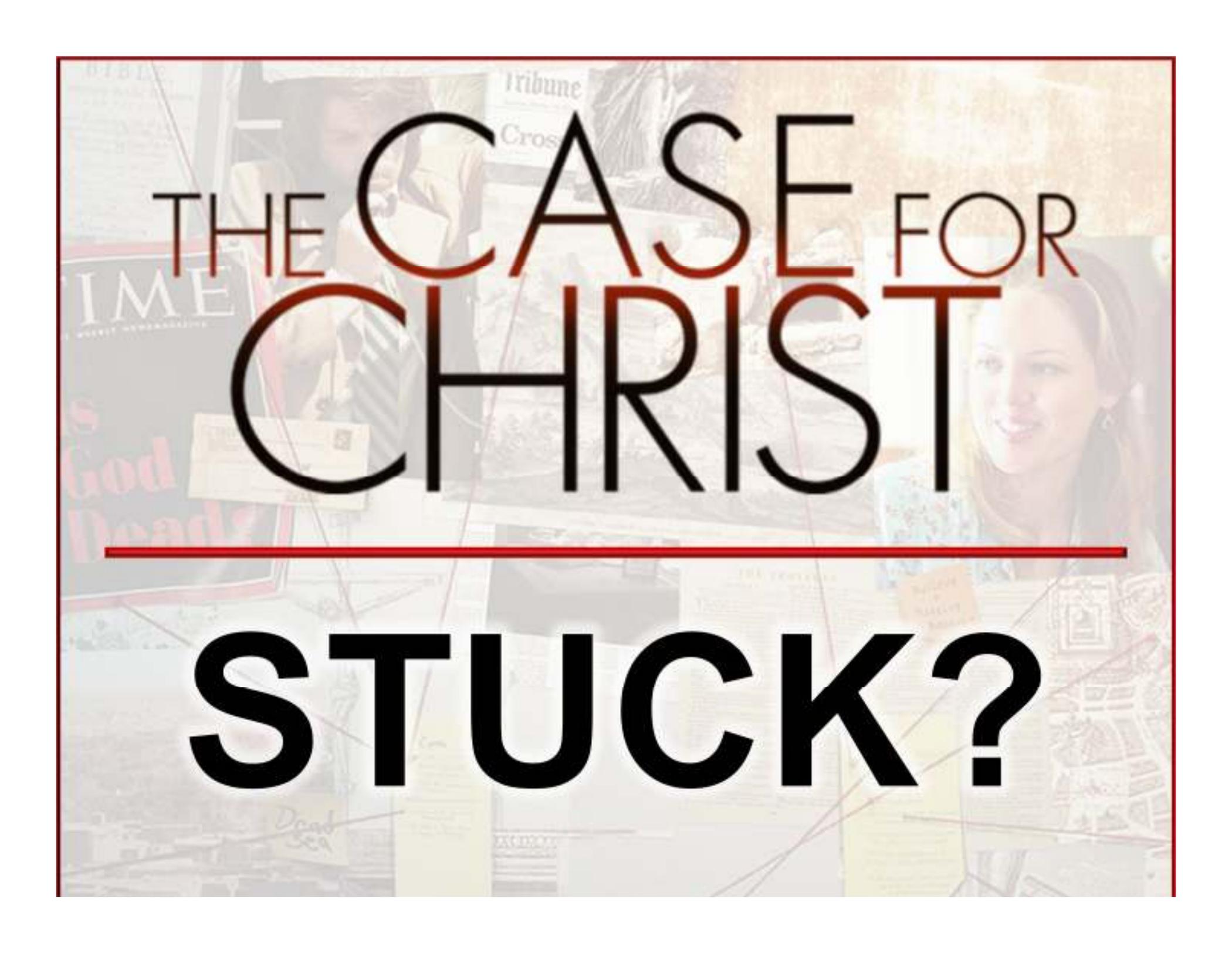
**You believe that there is one God.
Good! Even the demons believe that—
and shudder**

James 2:19



**Believe
+ Receive
= Become**

**Once in your heart
then it becomes
part of your life**



THE CASE FOR
CHRIST

STUCK?