



Built in Christ Jesus:

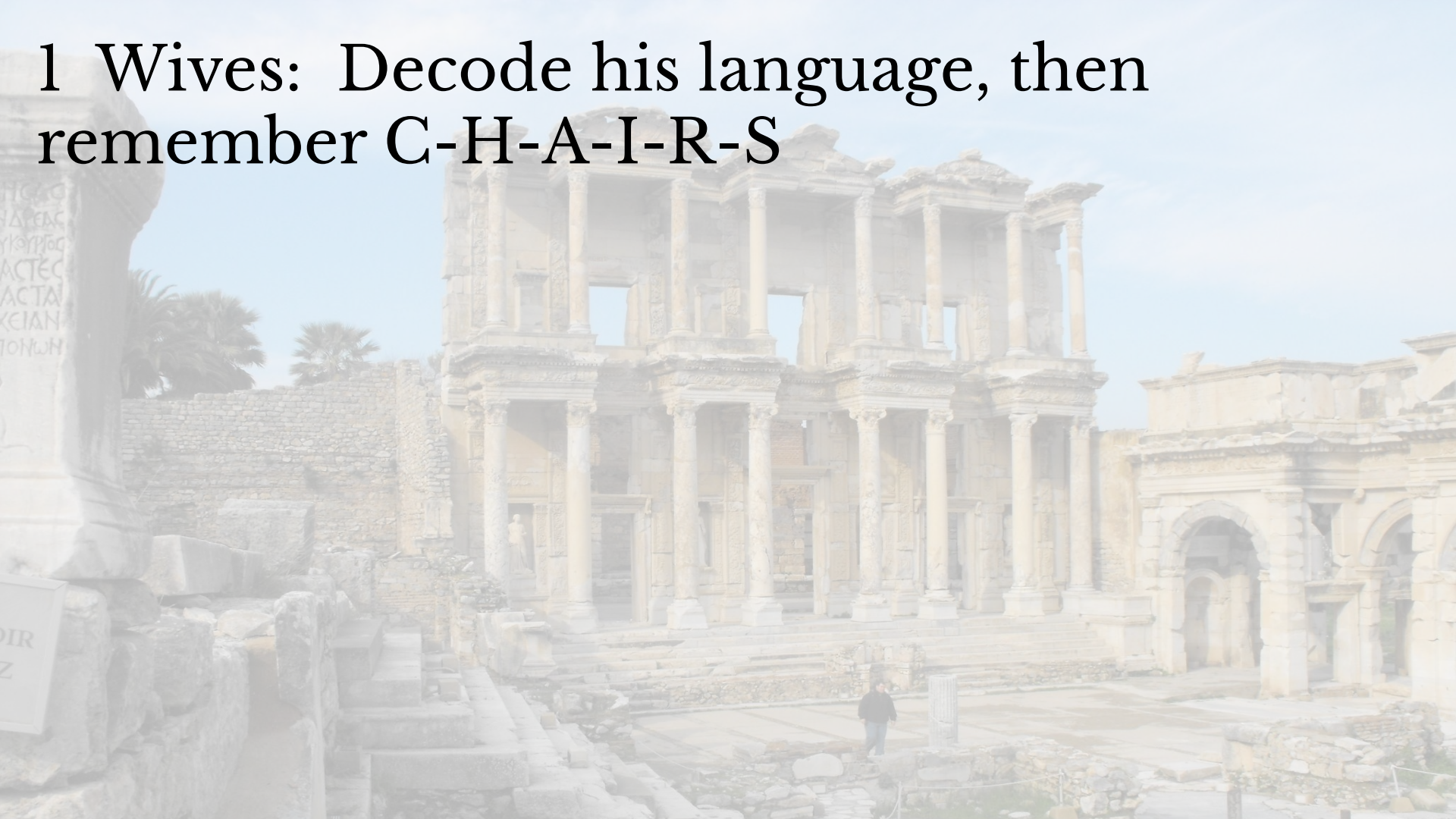
Practical Help for Living Out God's
Radical Plan for Marriage (Eph. 4-5)



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Practical Help for Living Out God's
Radical Plan for Marriage (Eph. 4-5)

1 Wives: Decode his language, then
remember C-H-A-I-R-S

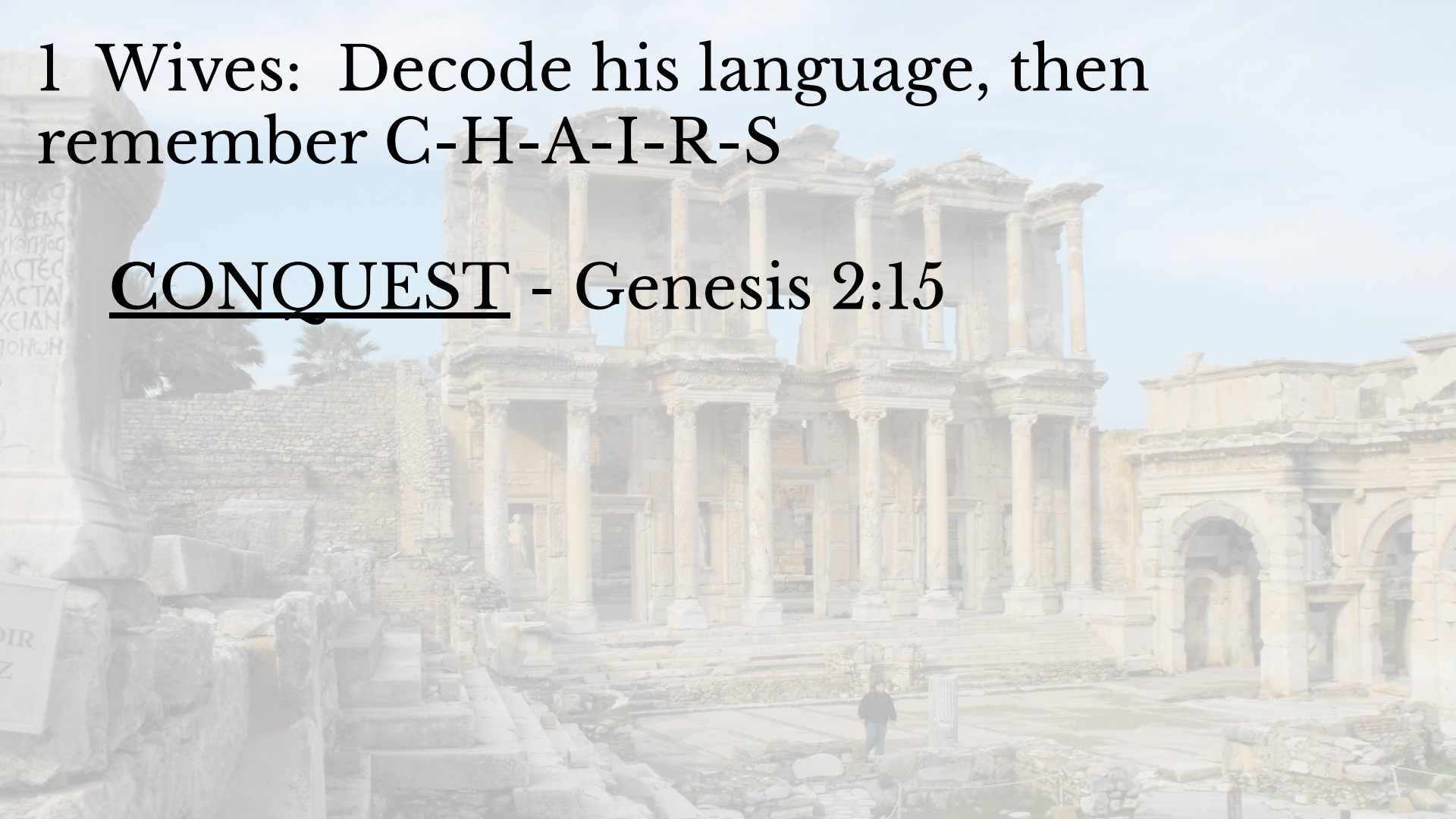


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Whatever offensive (or defensive) words might have been spoken, always listen for your spouse's basic need. At the very bottom of things, in every case and in every conversation, you can do your marriage a huge favor by assuming *she* is seeking to feel loved or *he* is seeking to feel respected— and then give your spouse some grace!

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CONQUEST - Genesis 2:15



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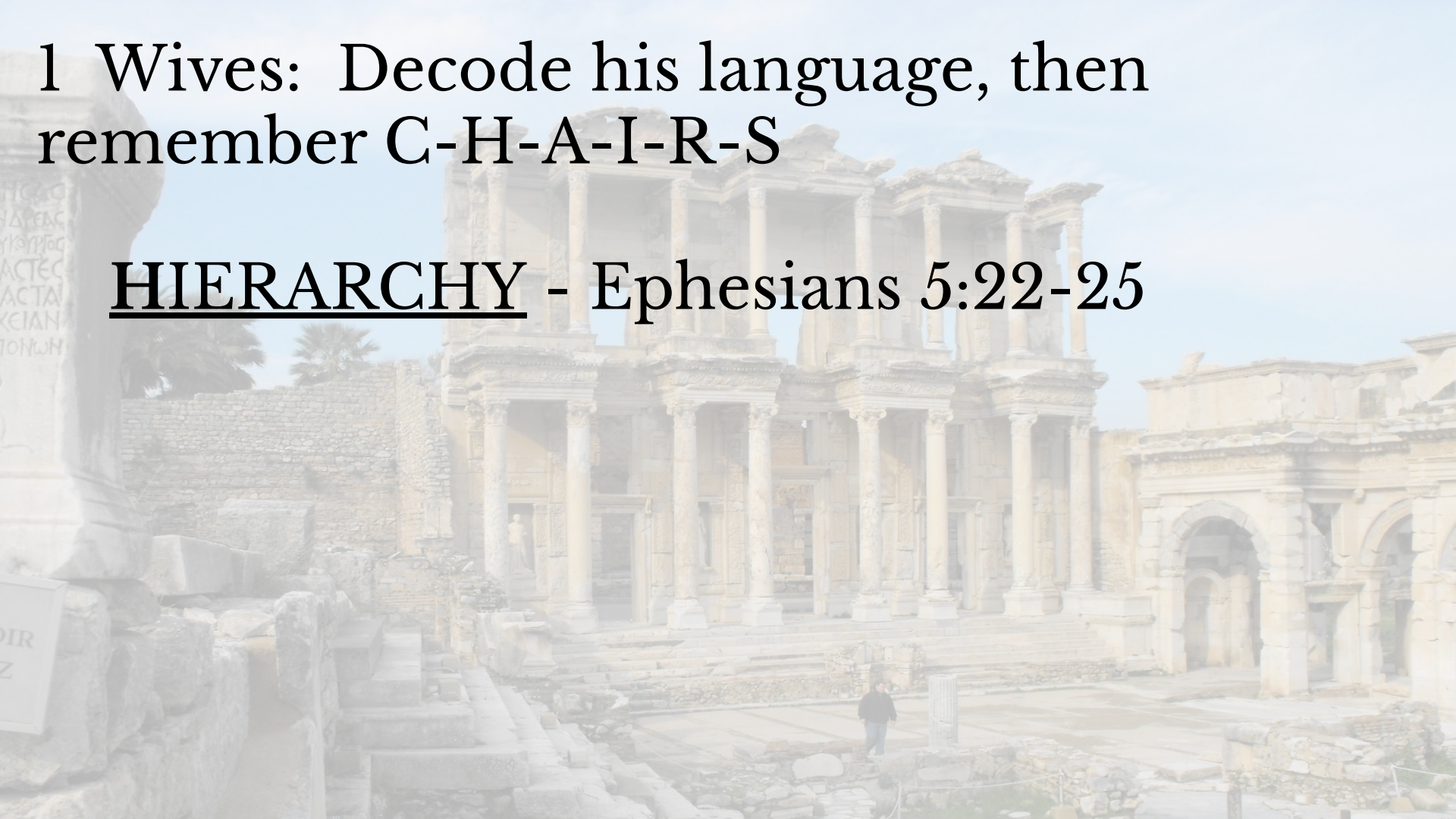
CONQUEST - Genesis 2:15

She appreciates his desire to work and
achieve.

If he feels his work is unappreciated,
You may hear it in unloving words.

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HIERARCHY - Ephesians 5:22-25



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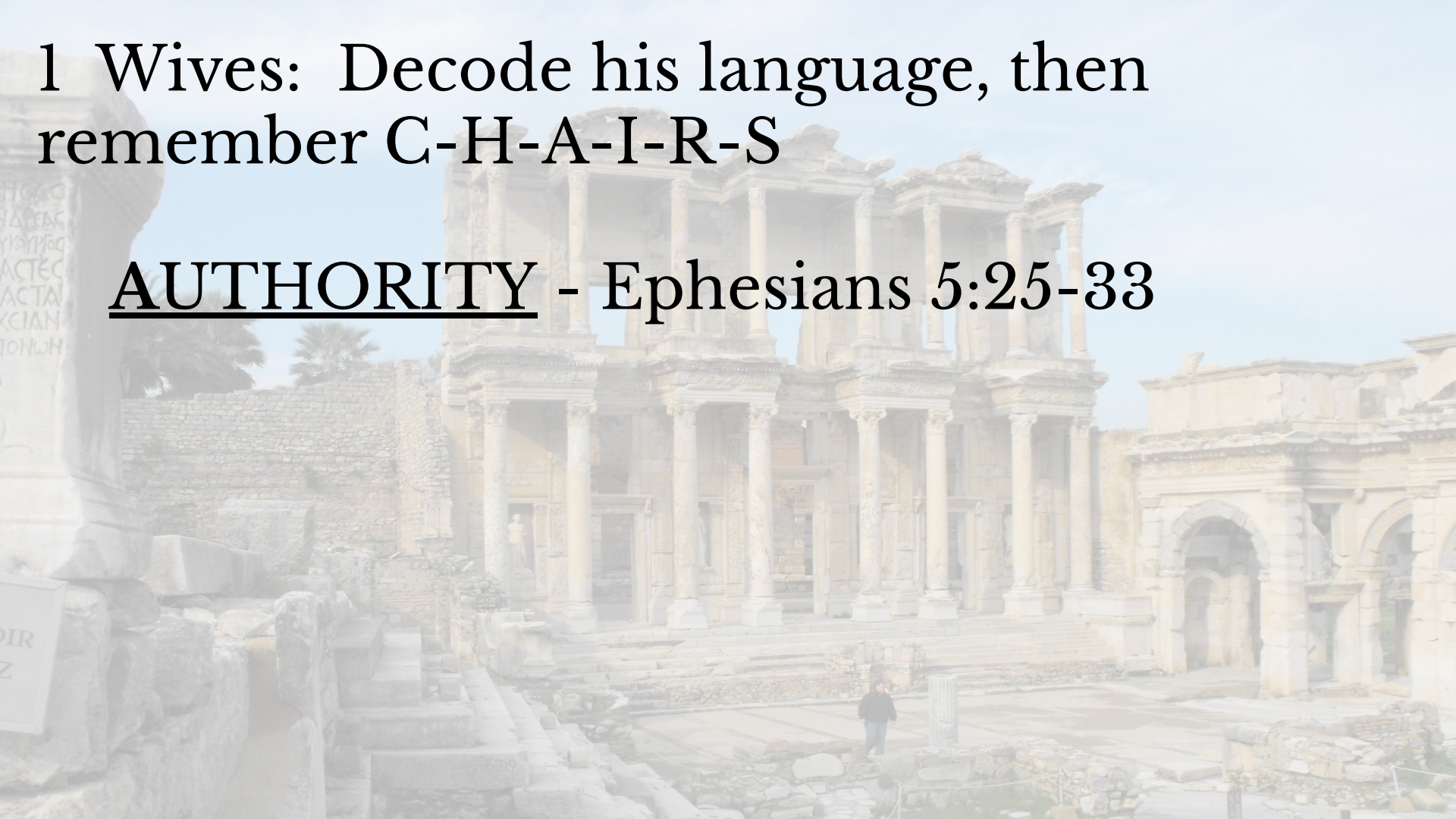
HIERARCHY - Ephesians 5:22-25

She appreciates his desire to protect and provide.

If his desire to protect and provide is being squelched, he may send a coded message.

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AUTHORITY - Ephesians 5:25-33



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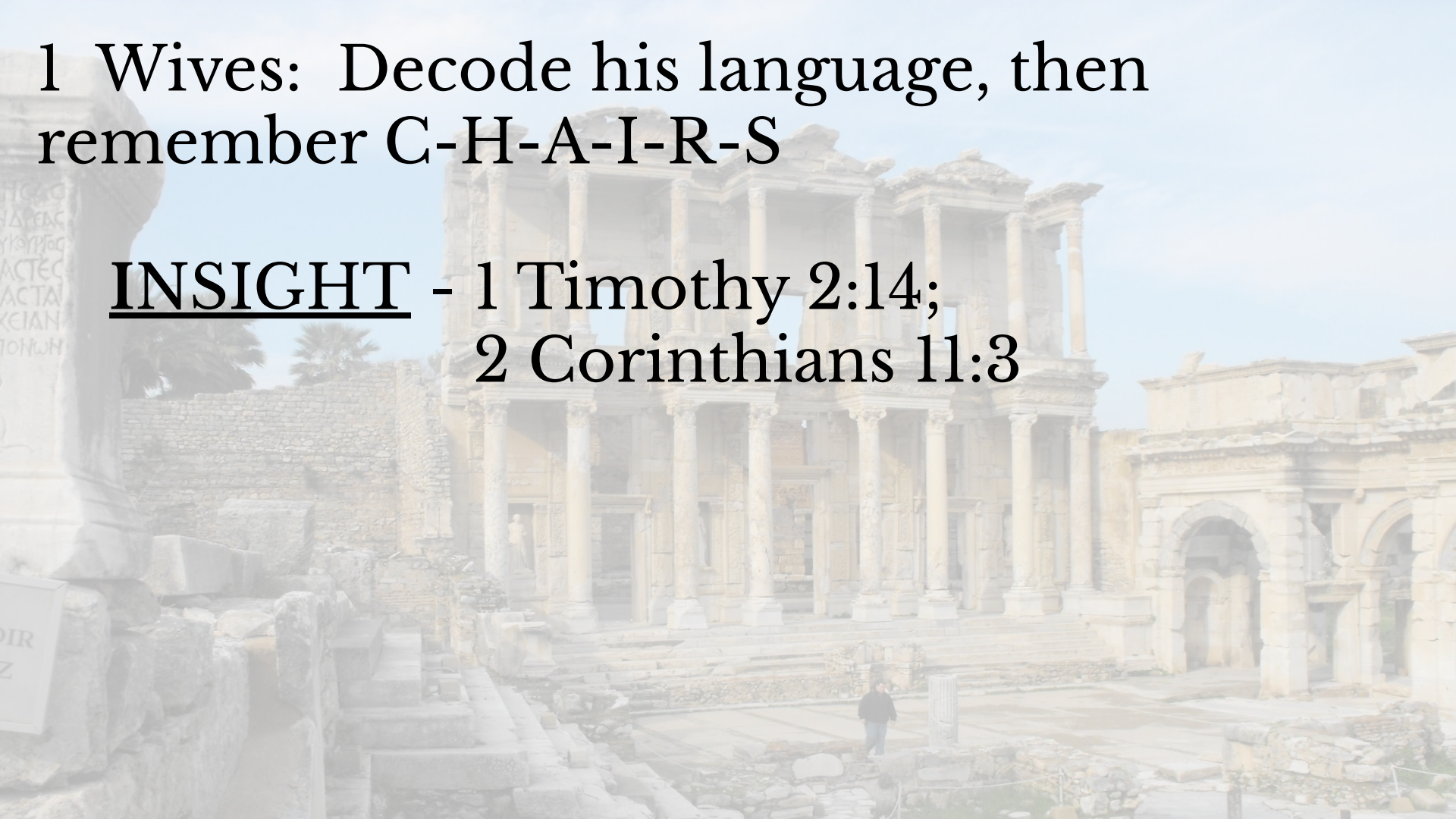
AUTHORITY - Ephesians 5:25-33

She appreciates his desire to serve and to lead.

She listens for and respects his desire to serve and to lead.

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INSIGHT - 1 Timothy 2:14;
2 Corinthians 11:3



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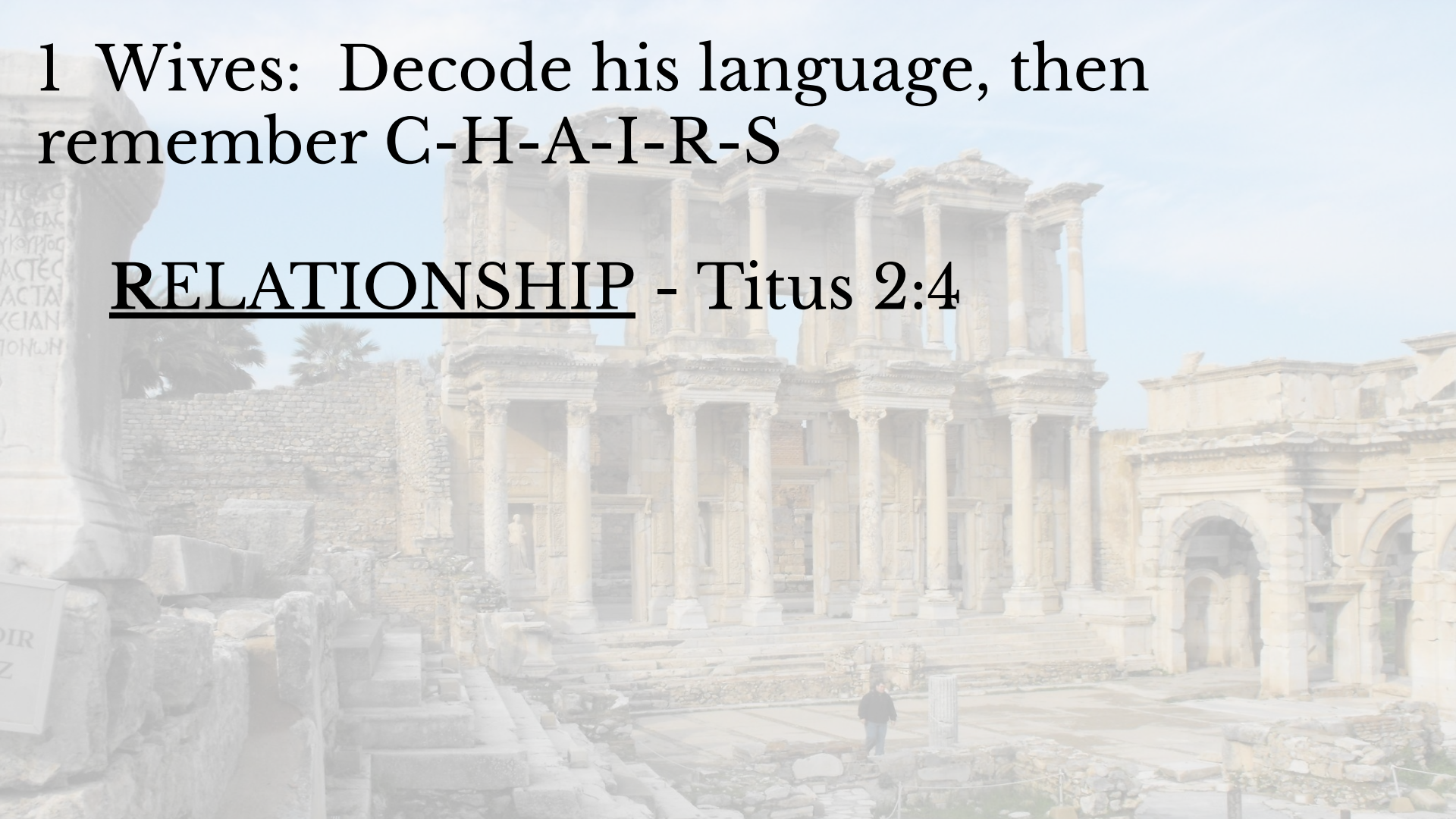
INSIGHT - 1 Timothy 2:14;
2 Corinthians 11:3

She appreciates his desire to
analyze and counsel.

Don't let your "woman's intuition"
make you deaf to his desire to
analyze and counsel

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RELATIONSHIP - Titus 2:4



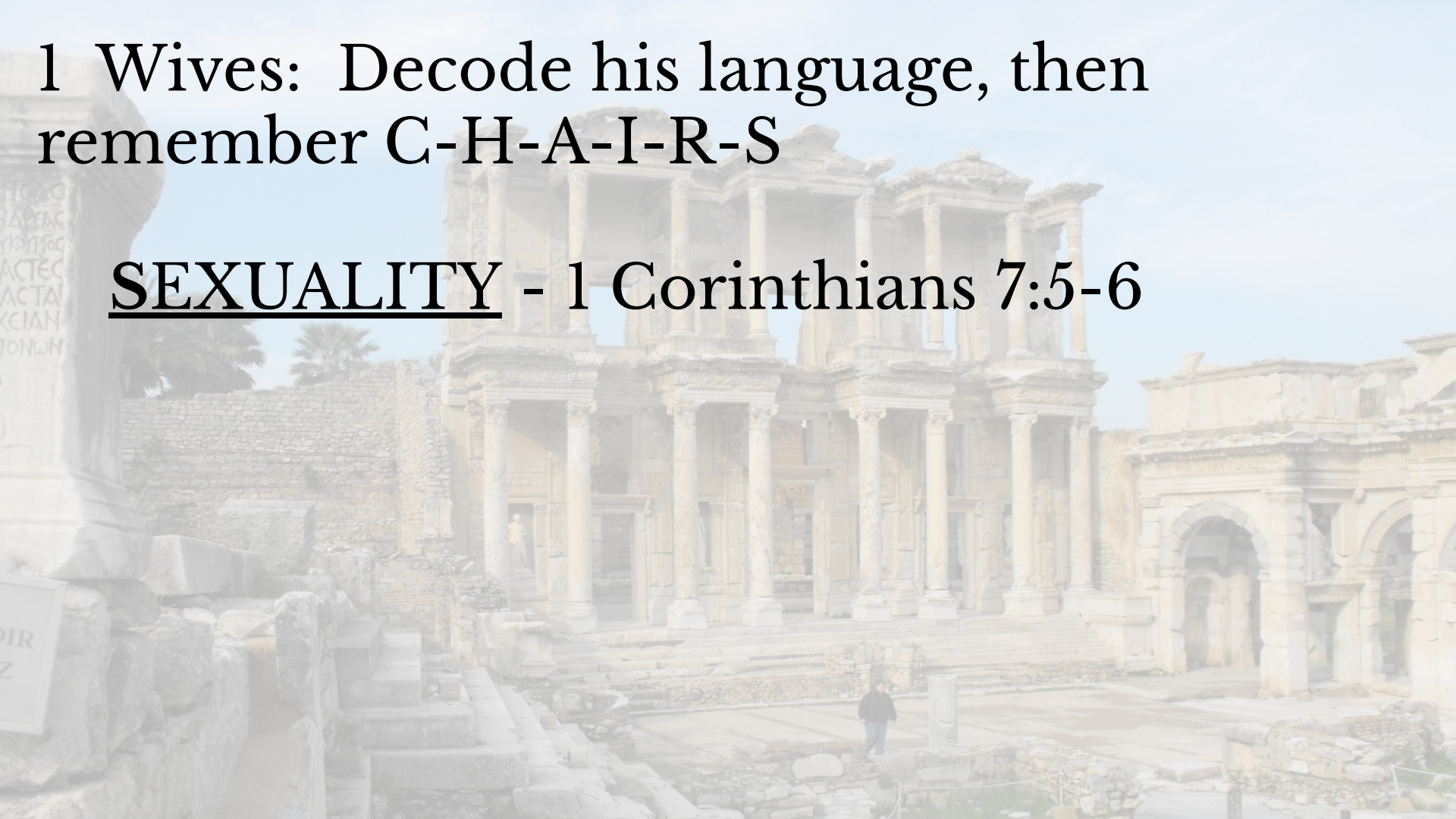
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RELATIONSHIP - Titus 2:4

She appreciates his desire for
shoulder-to-shoulder friendship.
His desire for shoulder-to-shoulder
friendship may seem a bit odd,
but keep your ears open for it anyway.

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SEXUALITY - 1 Corinthians 7:5-6



1 Wives: Decode his language, then remember C-H-A-I-R-S

SEXUALITY - 1 Corinthians 7:5-6

She appreciates his desire for sexual intimacy.

Listen carefully. His desire for sexual intimacy is much deeper than merely physical.

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SEXUALITY - 1 Corinthians 7:5-6

Sexual intimacy is symbolic of his
deeper need for respect

Proverbs 12:4

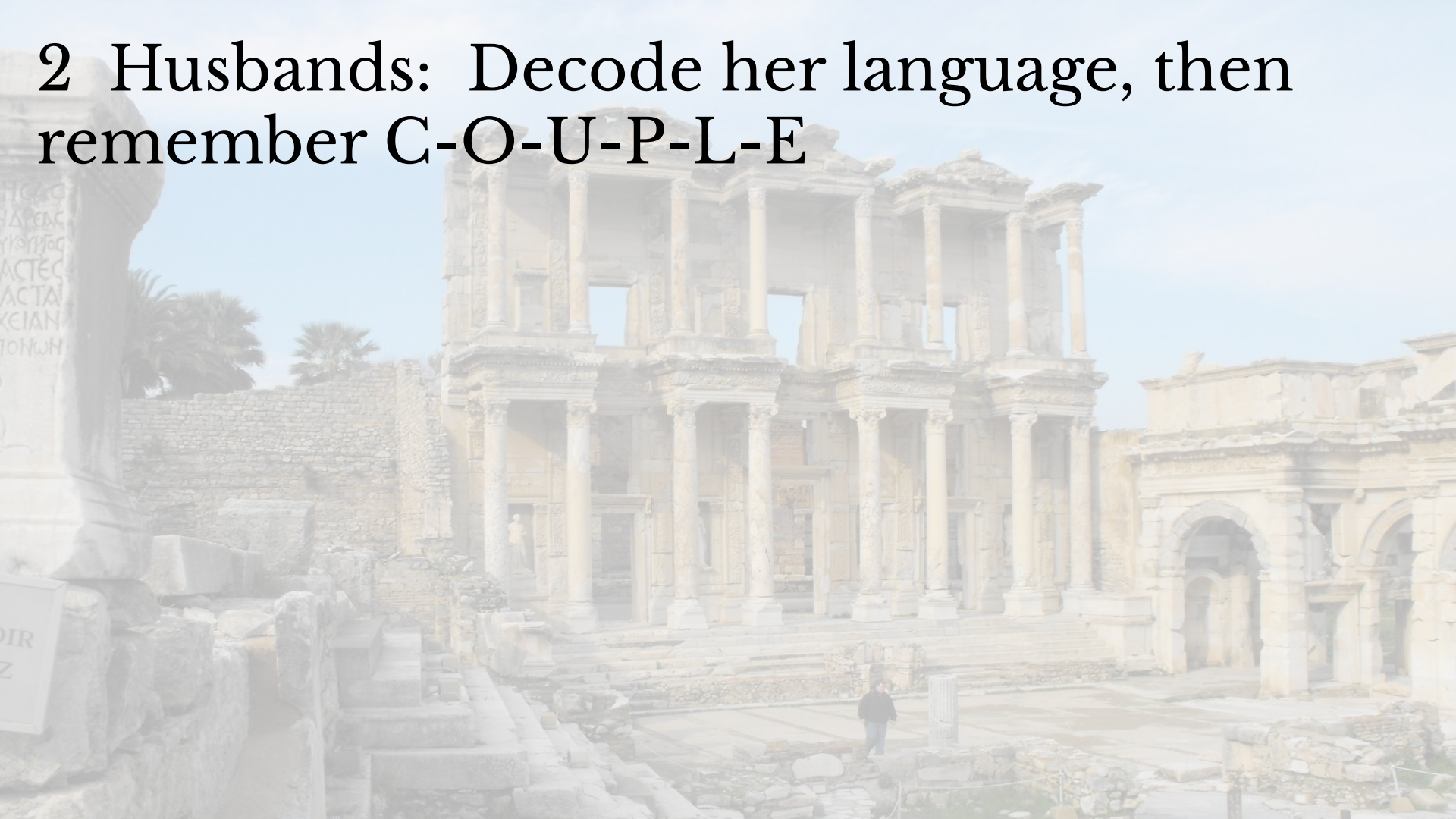
Song of Solomon 4:1-15

Proverbs 5:15-23

1 Wives: Decode his language, then remember C-H-A-I-R-S

More often than a wife may realize, her husband will make an unloving comment that is really a cry for respect that needs decoding. His remark may be directed at something she has said or done, or it could refer to something else that has happened. Instead of feeling hurt by her husband's seemingly unloving words, a wife can look for possible explanations for his behavior and seek to fulfill God's call to her to give him the gift of unconditional respect, which he does not deserve (Eph. 5:33).

2 Husbands: Decode her language, then
remember C-O-U-P-L-E

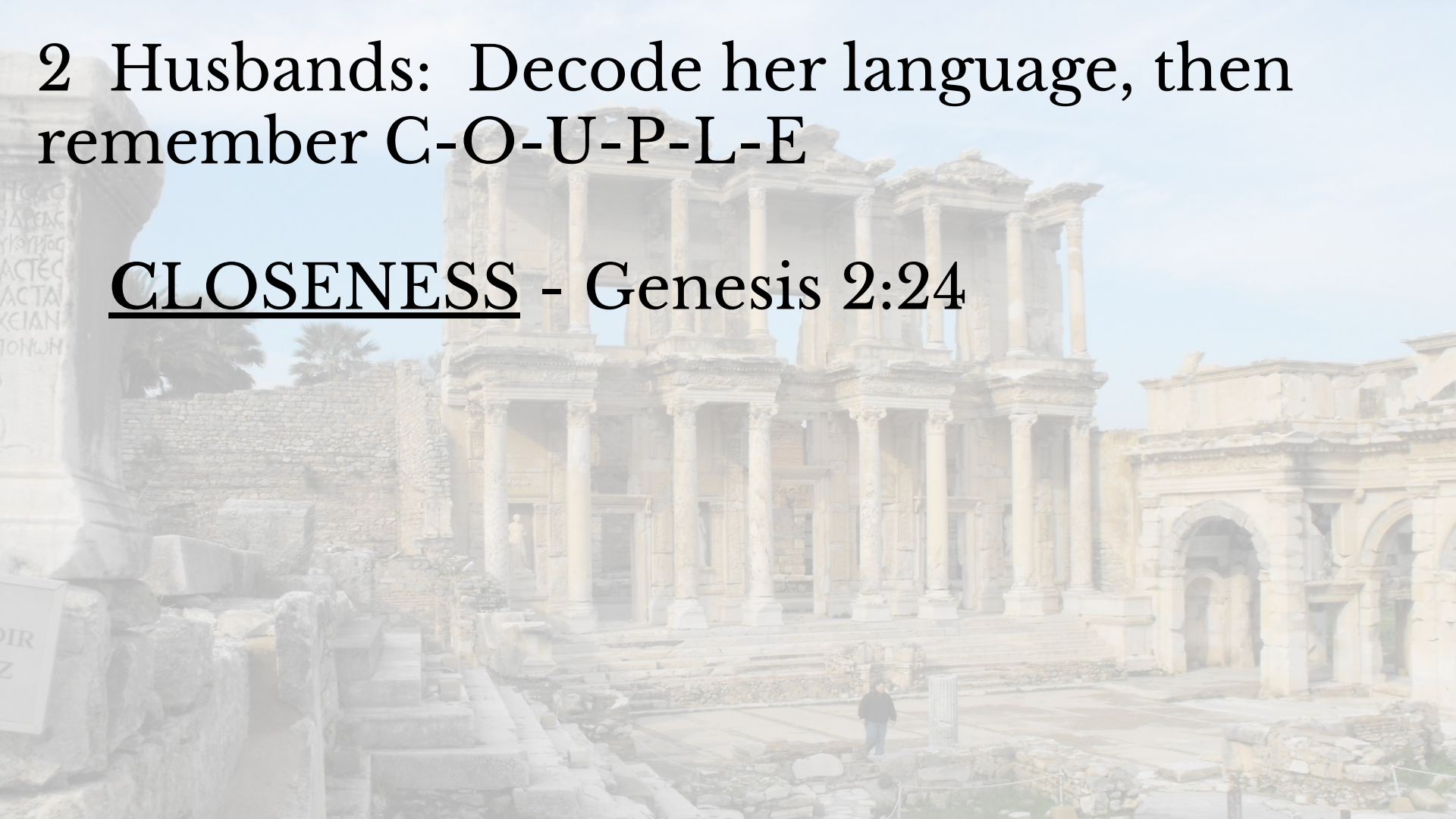


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CLOSENESS - Genesis 2:24



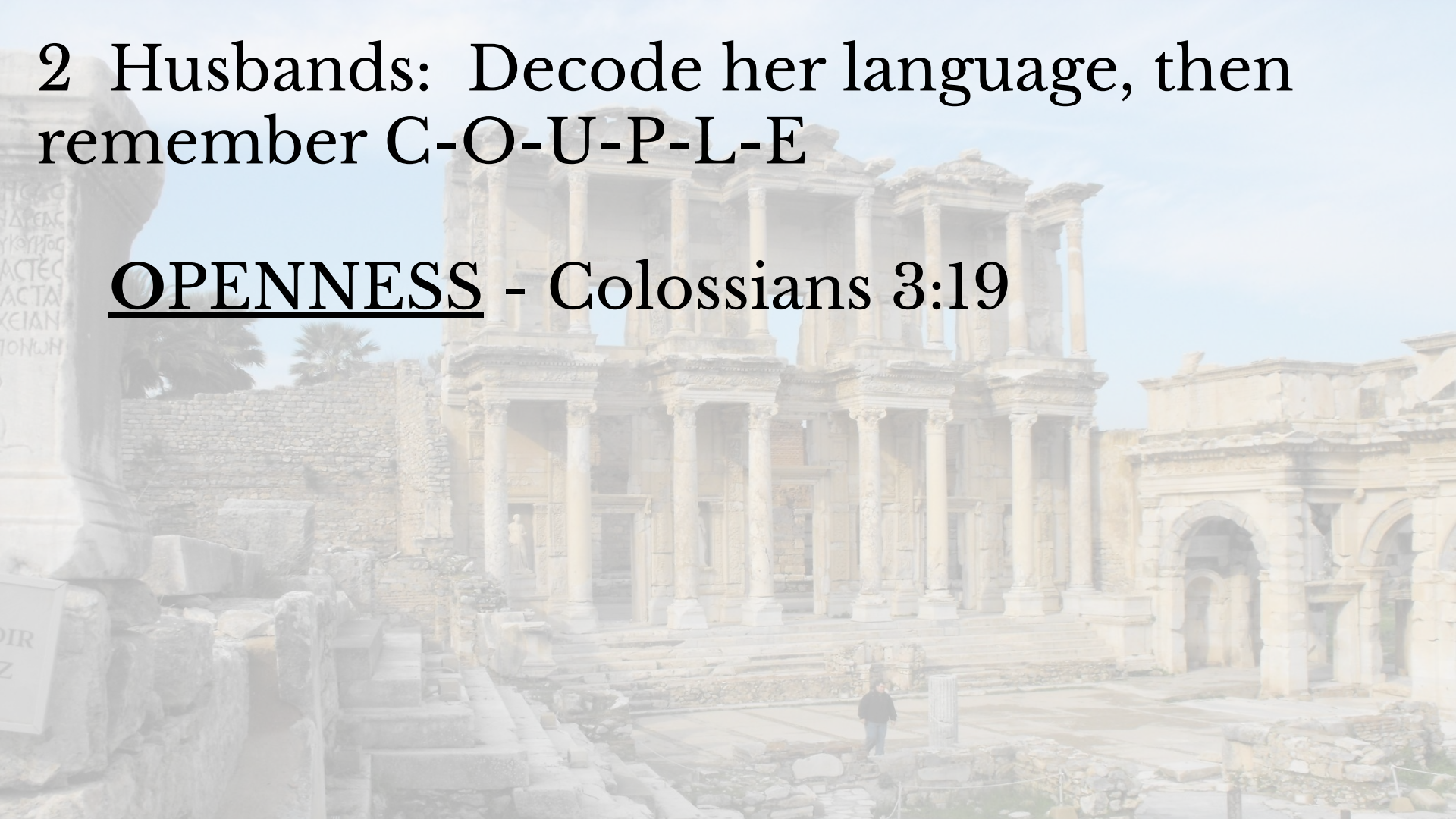
2 Husbands: Decode her language, then
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CLOSENESS - Genesis 2:24

A loving husband is to cleave to his wife,
taking time to talk, being affectionate,
and drawing close to her heart
(and *not* just when he wants
physical intimacy!)

2 Husbands: Decode her language, then
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OPENNESS - Colossians 3:19



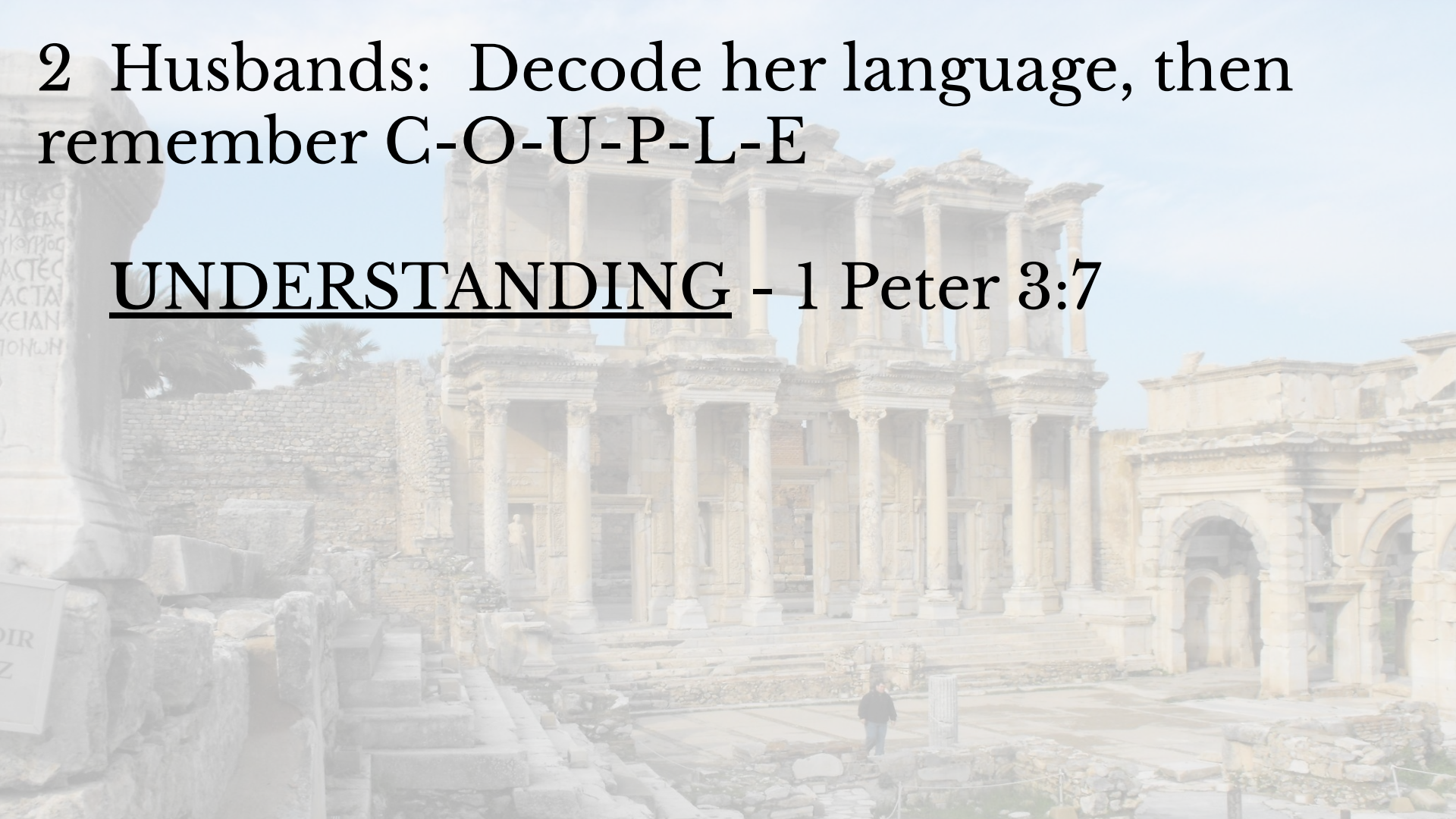
2 Husbands: Decode her language, then remember C-O-U-P-L-E

OPENNESS - Colossians 3:19

A loving husband is to be kind and gentle, opening up to his wife, and sharing his thoughts and ideas, instead of acting preoccupied, disinterested, or as if he is mad at her.

2 Husbands: Decode her language, then
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UNDERSTANDING - 1 Peter 3:7



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UNDERSTANDING - 1 Peter 3:7

A loving husband is to live with his wife
“in an understanding way,”
willing to listen when she is concerned
or has a problem, instead of trying to
fix her.

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UNDERSTANDING - 1 Peter 3:7

As he listens, he lets her know he is interested by paying attention and giving appropriate feedback.

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PEACEMAKING - Matthew 19:6



2 Husbands: Decode her language, then remember C-O-U-P-L-E

PEACEMAKING - Matthew 19:6

A loving husband is willing to say, “Honey, I’m sorry for -X-; will you please forgive me?”, because he knows that he and his wife are to no longer be two, but one, living in peace and harmony.

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LOYALTY - Malachi 2:14-15



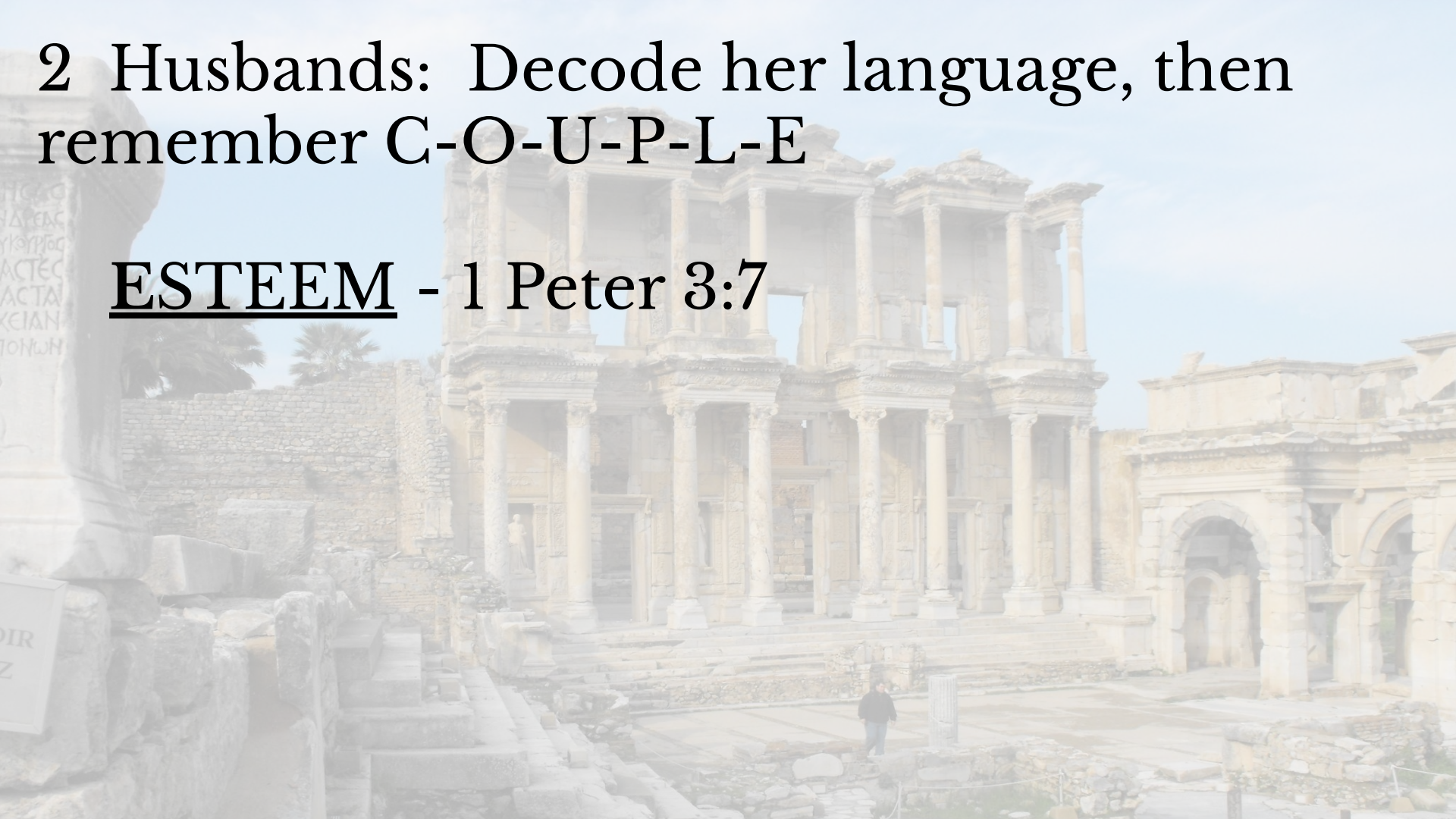
2 Husbands: Decode her language, then remember C-O-U-P-L-E

LOYALTY - Malachi 2:14-15

A loving husband is always assuring his wife of his love and commitment, making her feel secure in the Covenant they have together because she knows he would never “deal treacherously” with her.

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ESTEEM - 1 Peter 3:7



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ESTEEM - 1 Peter 3:7

A loving husband honors and cherishes
his wife in specific ways, making her
feel she is first in his heart and
honored as a
“fellow heir of the grace of life.”

2 Husbands: Decode her language, then remember C-O-U-P-L-E

Often a wife will make comments that sound disrespectful to the husband. Many of these remarks are really cries for love that need decoding. She talks this way because she sees– or *thinks* she sees– that her husband is not fulfilling God’s call to “love his wife as he loves himself” (Eph. 5:28). Whatever a wife might say that sounds negative or critical, underlying her words is her primary need for love, which can usually be met by practicing C-O-U-P-L-E.

3 Everyone: Remember the “Jesus Way” of
Talking: T-U-F-T-S

HIS LOVING WORDS BLESS
REGARDLESS
OF HER RESPECTFUL WORDS.

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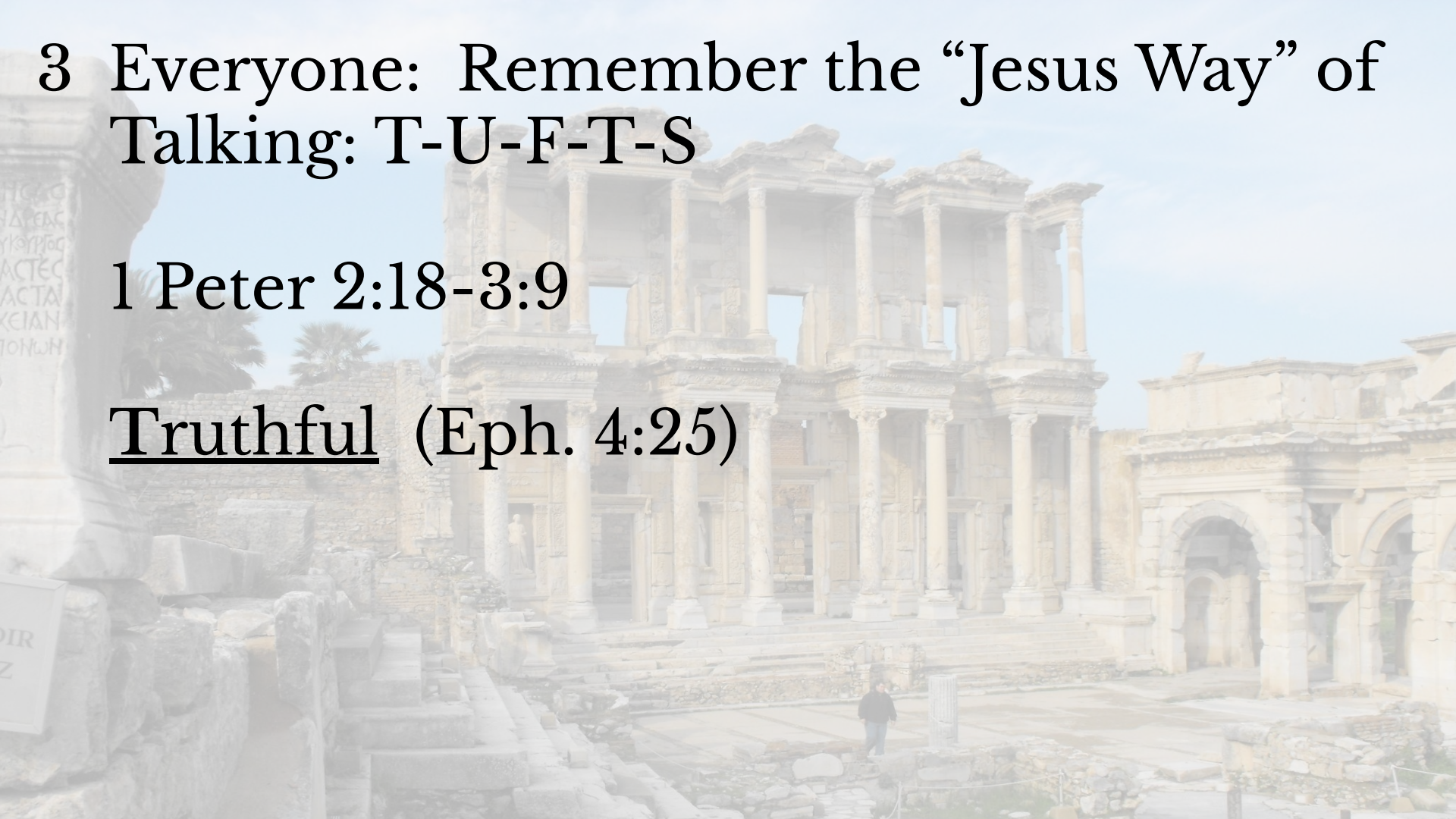
1 Peter 2:18-3:9



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1 Peter 2:18-3:9

Truthful (Eph. 4:25)

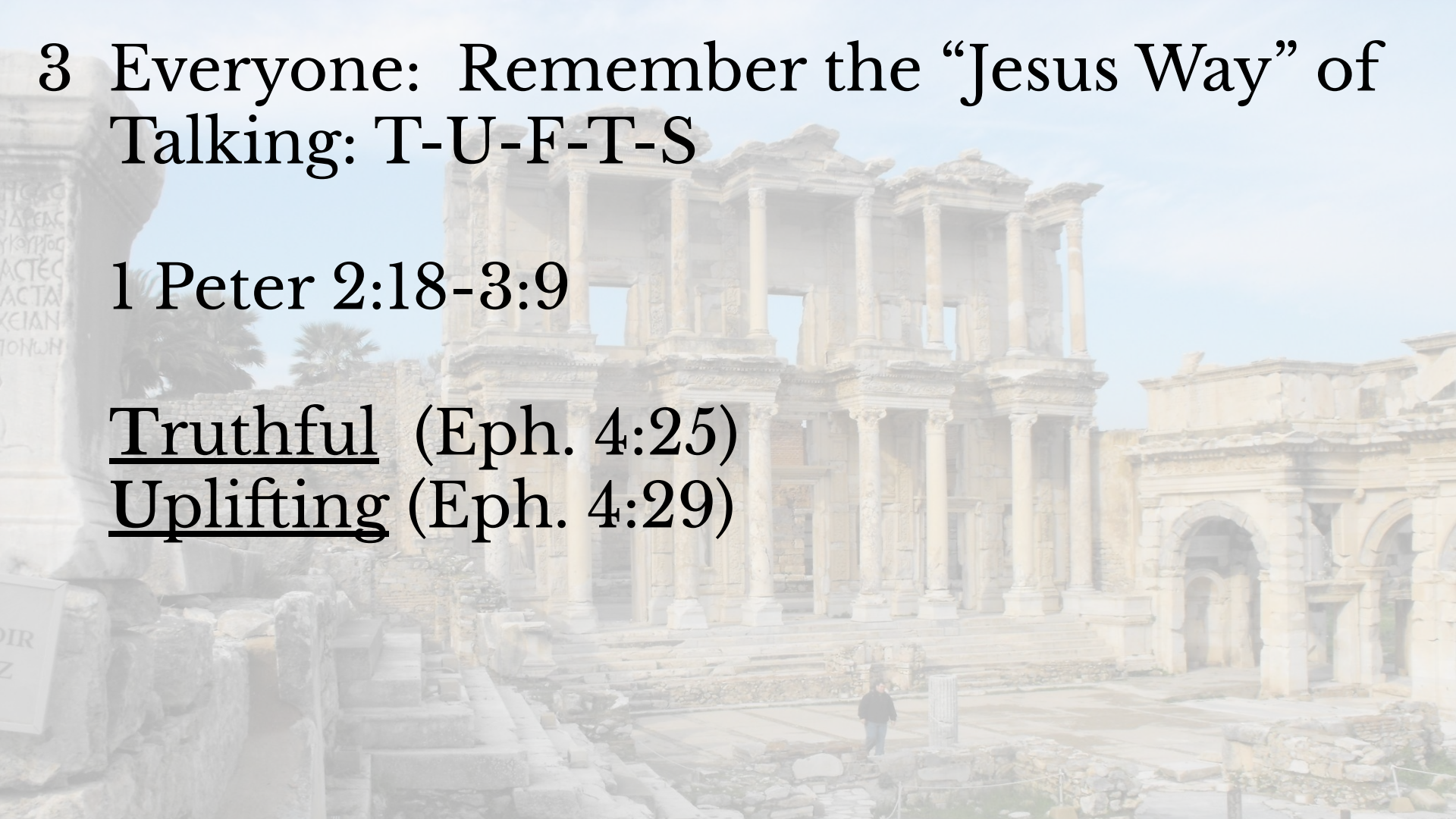


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Truthful (Eph. 4:25)

Uplifting (Eph. 4:29)



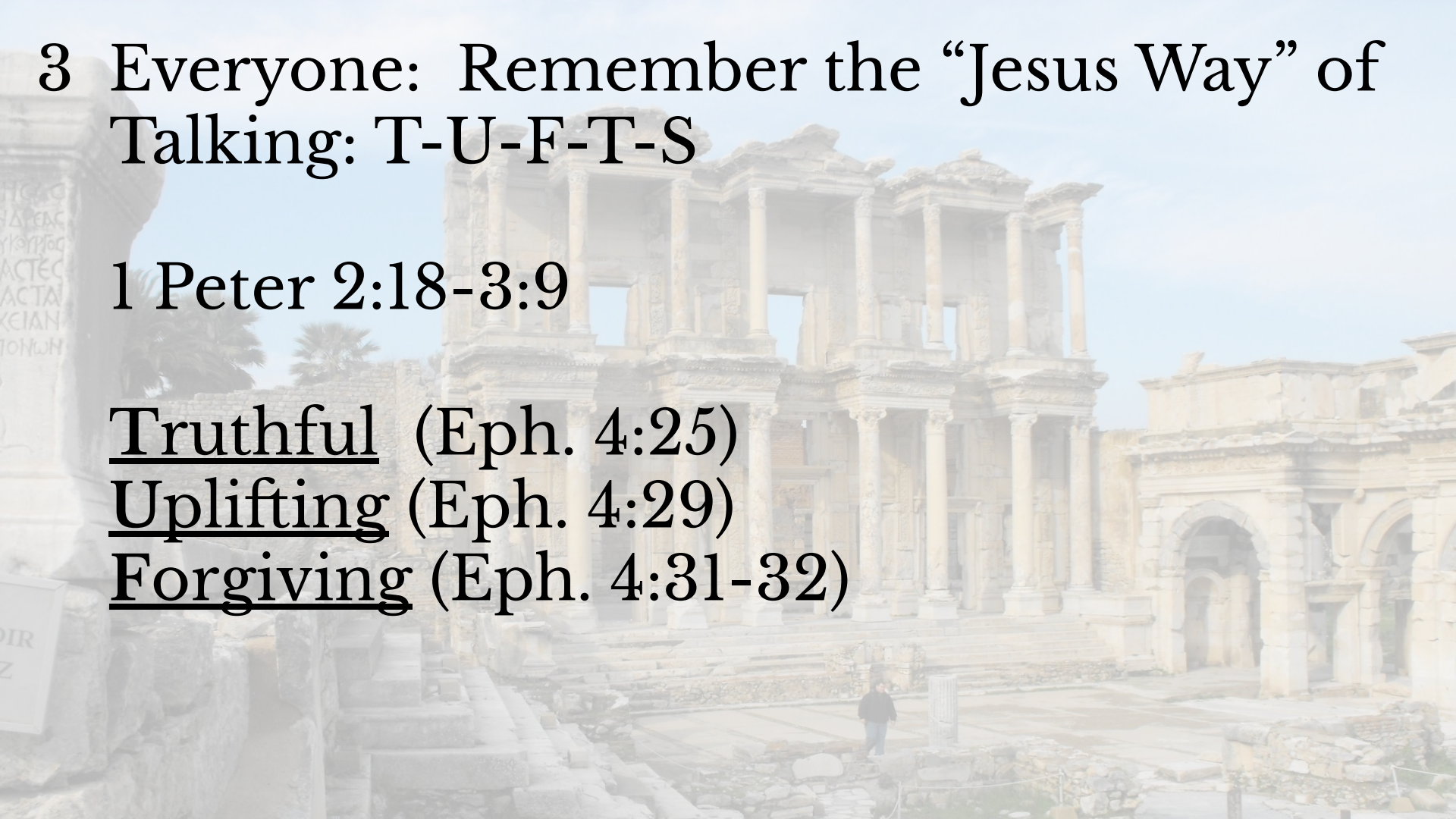
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Truthful (Eph. 4:25)

Uplifting (Eph. 4:29)

Forgiving (Eph. 4:31-32)



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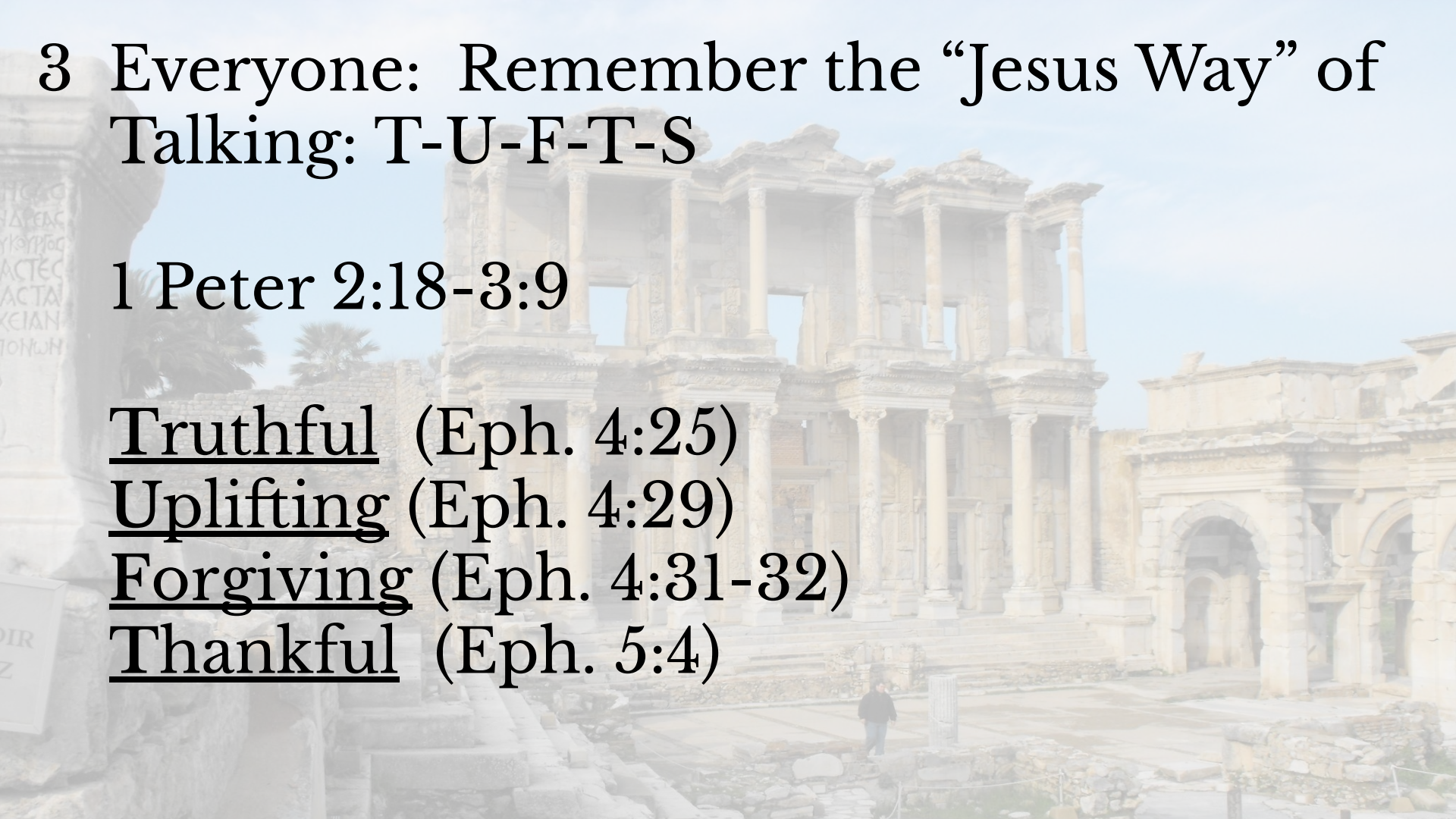
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Forgiving (Eph. 4:31-32)

Thankful (Eph. 5:4)



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Truthful (Eph. 4:25)

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Forgiving (Eph. 4:31-32)

Thankful (Eph. 5:4)

Scriptural (Eph. 5:19)