

Acts.



When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete.¹⁴ Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the Northeaster, swept down from the island.¹⁵ The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along.¹⁶ As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure,¹⁷ so the men hoisted it aboard. Then they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Because they were afraid they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along.

ACTS 27:13-17 NIV



We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard.¹⁹ On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands.²⁰ When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.

ACTS 27:18-20 NIV



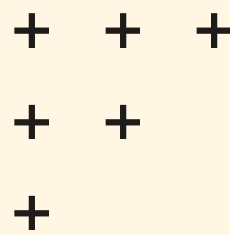
After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: “Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss.²² But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed.”

ACTS 27:21-22 NIV



“Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me ²⁴ and said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’ ²⁵ So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. ²⁶ Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island.”

ACTS 27:23-26 NIV



Marks of Group Chronic Anxiety

EDWIN FRIEDMAN | A FAILURE OF NERVE

- + **REACTIVITY :**
the last problem consumes focus
- + **HERDING :**
clustering around people who think alike
- + **BLAME DISPLACEMENT :**
always someone else's fault
- + **QUICK-FIX MENTALITY :**
no resilience for long, slow growth





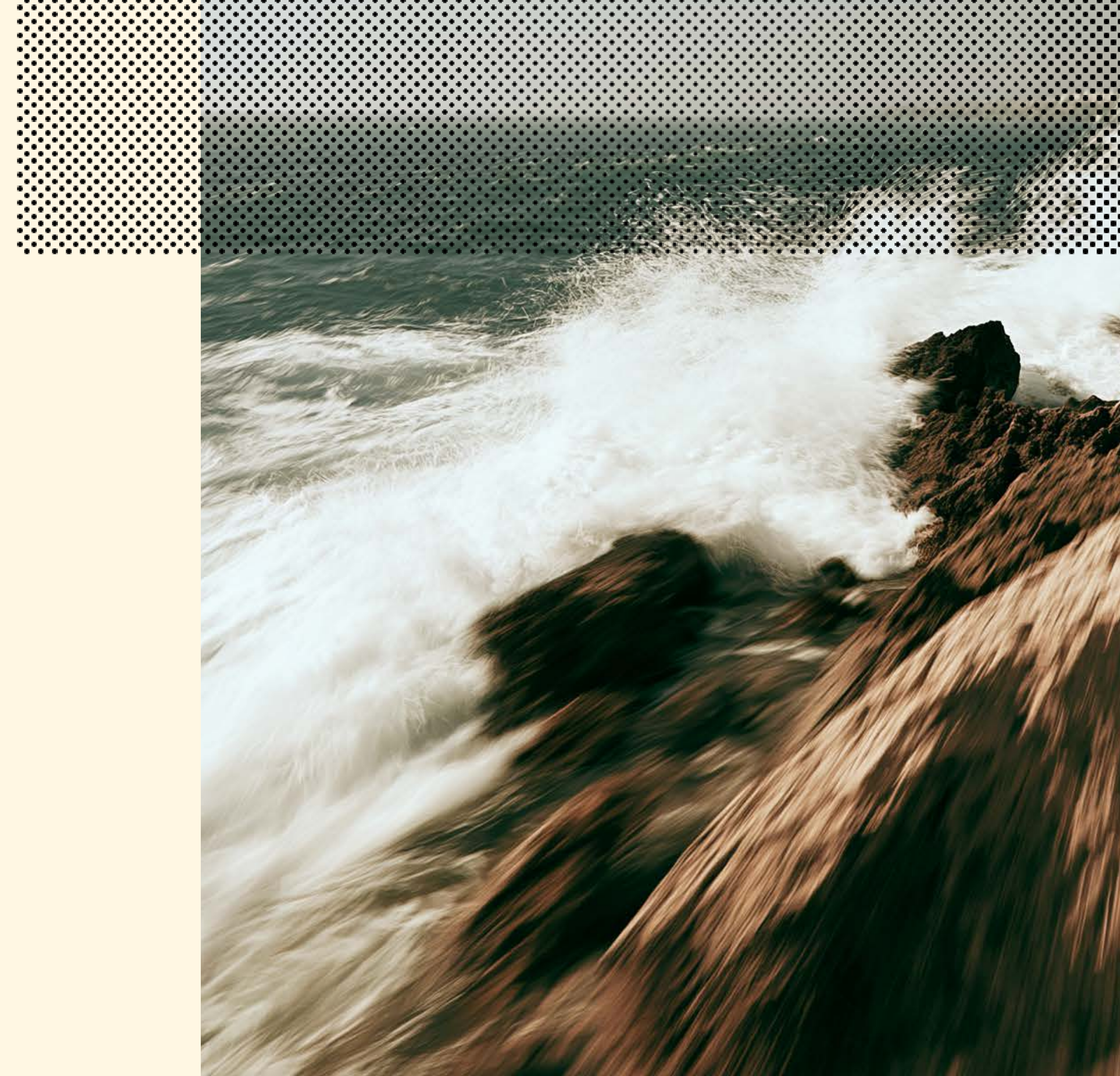
**Fellowship exists to produce and release
spiritual leaders who know and express the
authentic Christ in NWA and the world.**

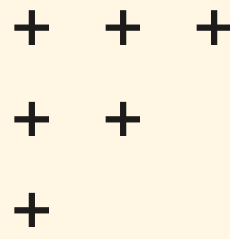


**A spiritual leader is a maturing
disciple with a ministry focus.**

**A leader is any person who maintains
their principles and a non-anxious
presence in times of stress.**

SUMMARY FROM EDWIN FRIEDMAN





Paul's Non-Anxious Leadership

Paul trusted what Jesus said over the stress around him.

Paul did not take on the anxiety of those around him.

Paul was still concerned about the problems around him.

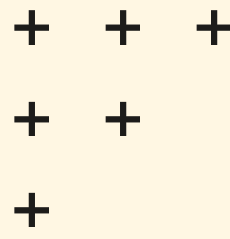
Paul was able to bring stable leadership to those in need.





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ACTS 27:23-26 NIV



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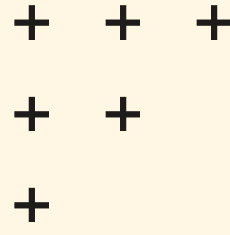
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Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. “For the last fourteen days,” he said, “you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food—you haven’t eaten anything.”³⁴ Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head.”³⁵ After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat.³⁶ They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves.

ACTS 27:33-36 NIV



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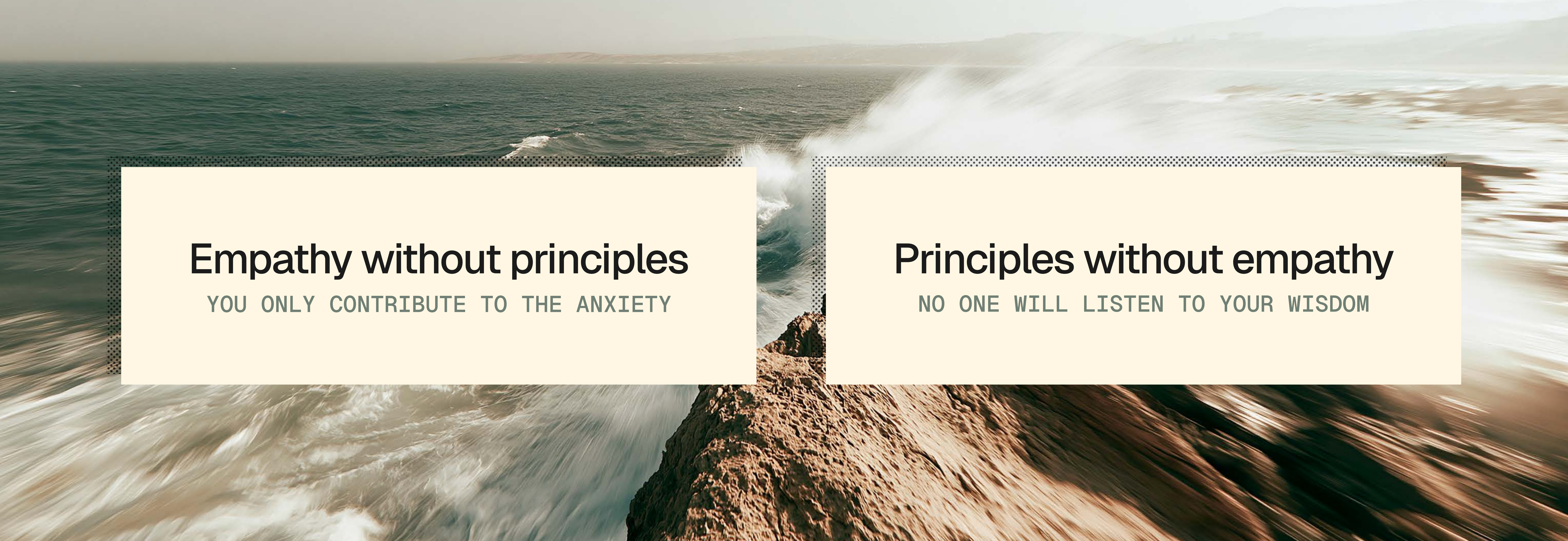
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Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight. ³⁰ In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. ³¹ Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, “Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved.” ³² So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away.

ACTS 27:29-32 NIV

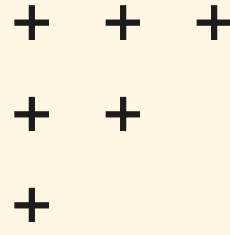


Empathy without principles

YOU ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE ANXIETY

Principles without empathy

NO ONE WILL LISTEN TO YOUR WISDOM



Paul's Non-Anxious Leadership

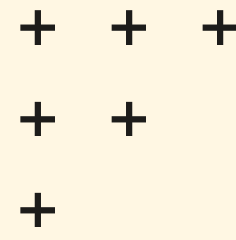
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Paul's Non-Anxious Leadership

**Paul trusted what
Jesus said over the
stress around him.**

**Paul did not take on
the anxiety of those
around him.**

**Paul was still
concerned about the
problems around him.**

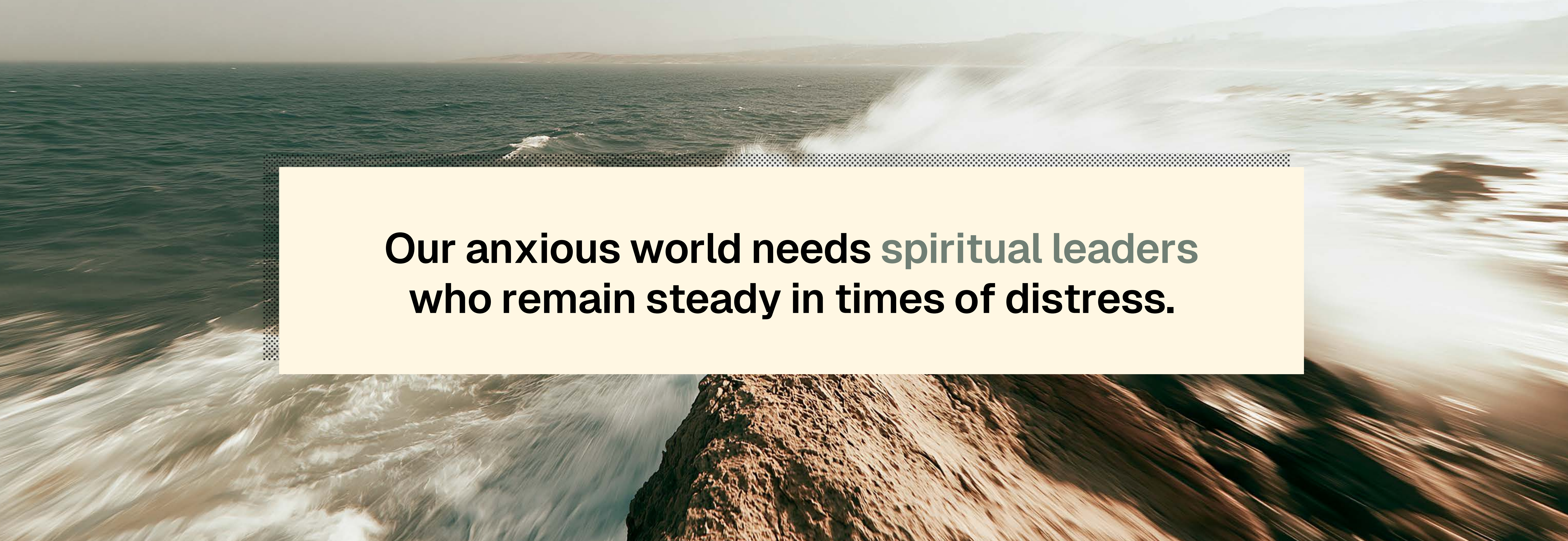
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those in need.**





For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:38-39 NIV



**Our anxious world needs spiritual leaders
who remain steady in times of distress.**