

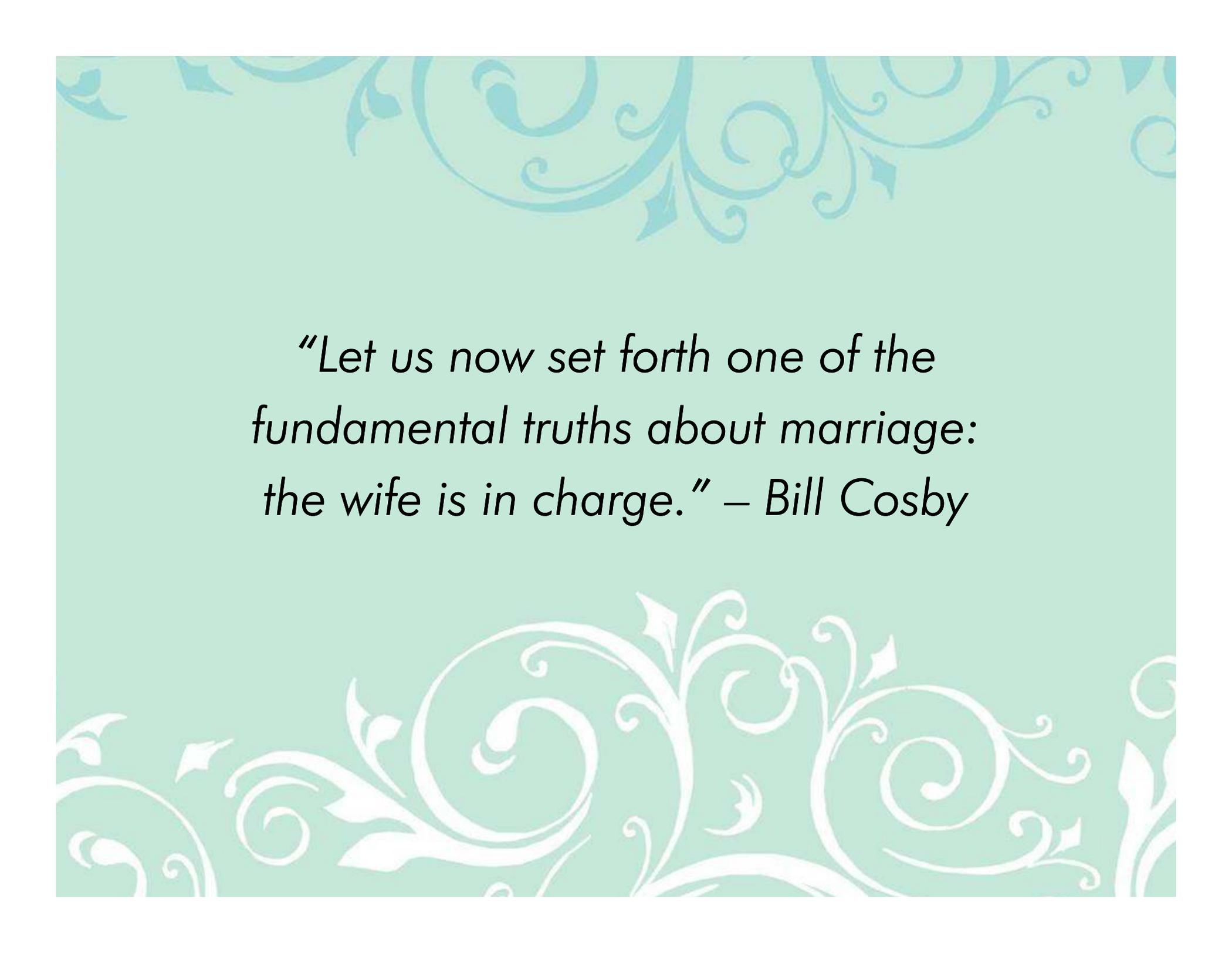


Welcome to
heart-to-heart



A Woman's Tendency To Control And The Power To Let Go

Week 3 | 10.27.10



*“Let us now set forth one of the
fundamental truths about marriage:
the wife is in charge.” – Bill Cosby*

“ ... your desire will be for your husband ... ”

Hebrew “desire” = control

GENESIS 3:16B (NIV)

22 Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water. 23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.)

24 So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?" 25 Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.

EXODUS 15:22-27 (NIV)

There the LORD made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them. ²⁶ He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."

²⁷ Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water.

EXODUS 15:22-27 (NIV)

28 The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.

29 But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

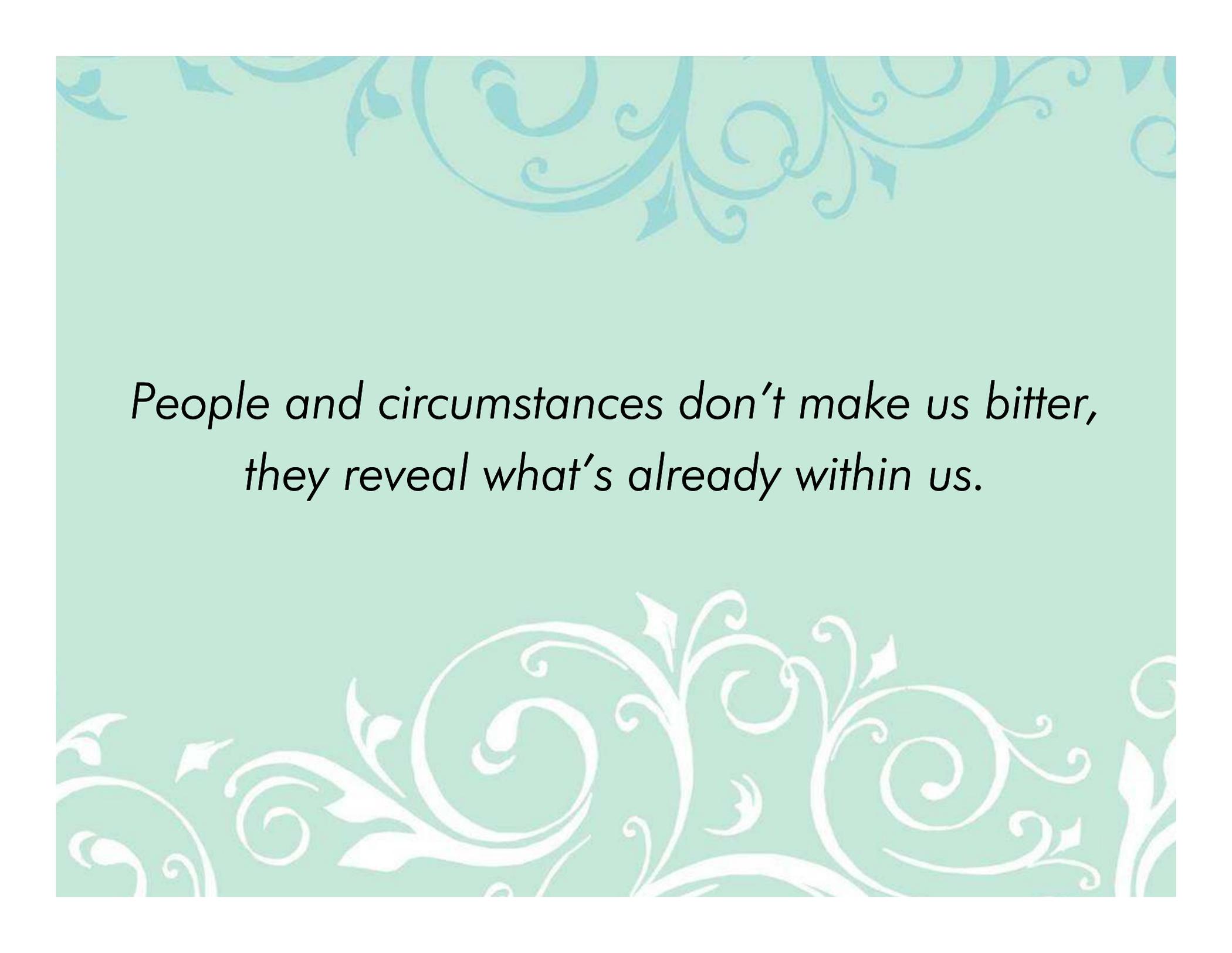
EXODUS 14:28, 29 (NIV)

“Feeling as though death was breathing down upon them, the Israelite’s need for water was immediate and great when suddenly the report must have filtered through the congregation that water lay ahead. I can see in my mind’s eye the people stampeding in the direction of the report, finding a pool, and diving in only to come up sputtering and spitting out bitter water.” – Pastor Jon Courson

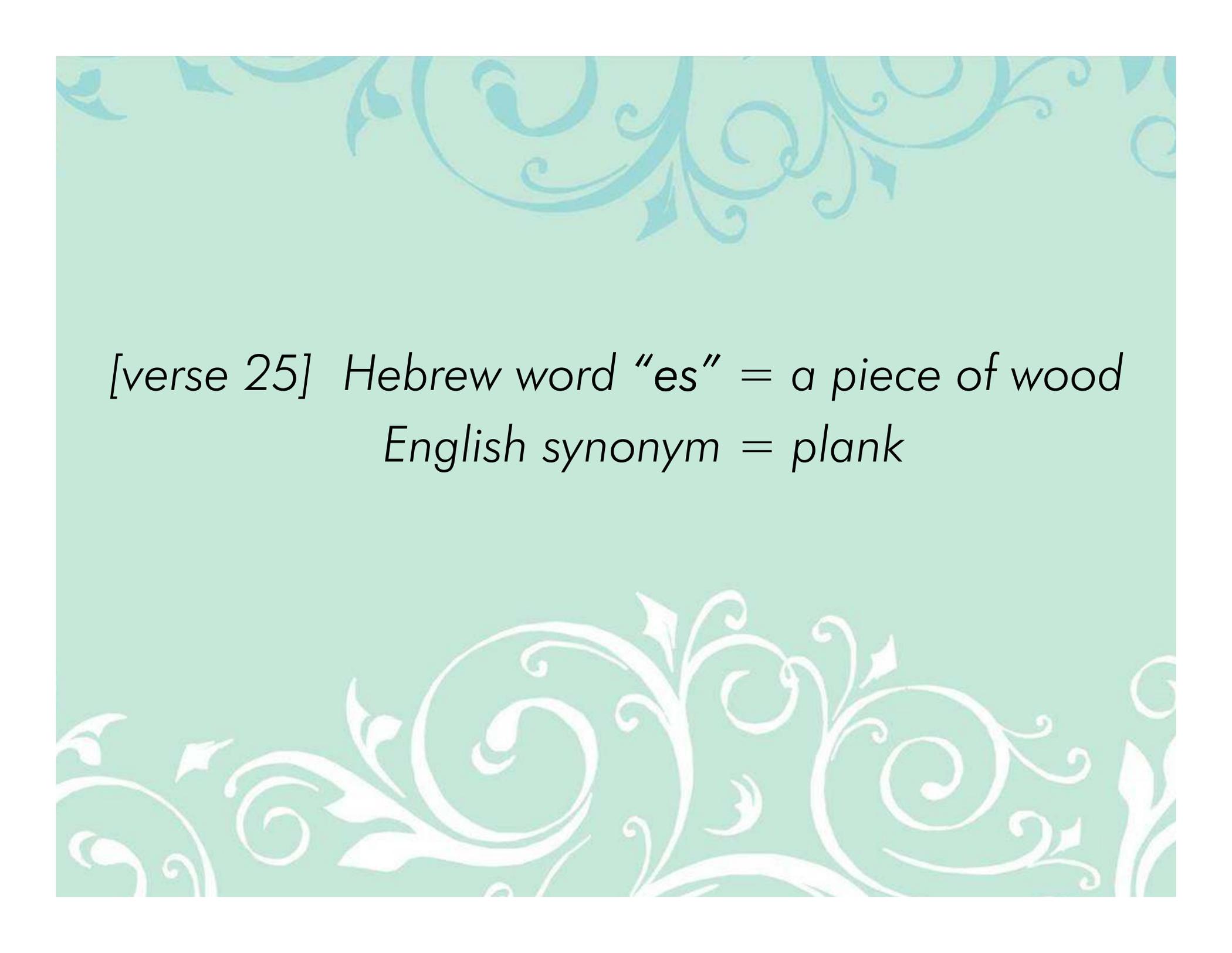


Hebrew "Marah" = bitter

*Application of Marah = a place of bitter
disappointment*



*People and circumstances don't make us bitter,
they reveal what's already within us.*



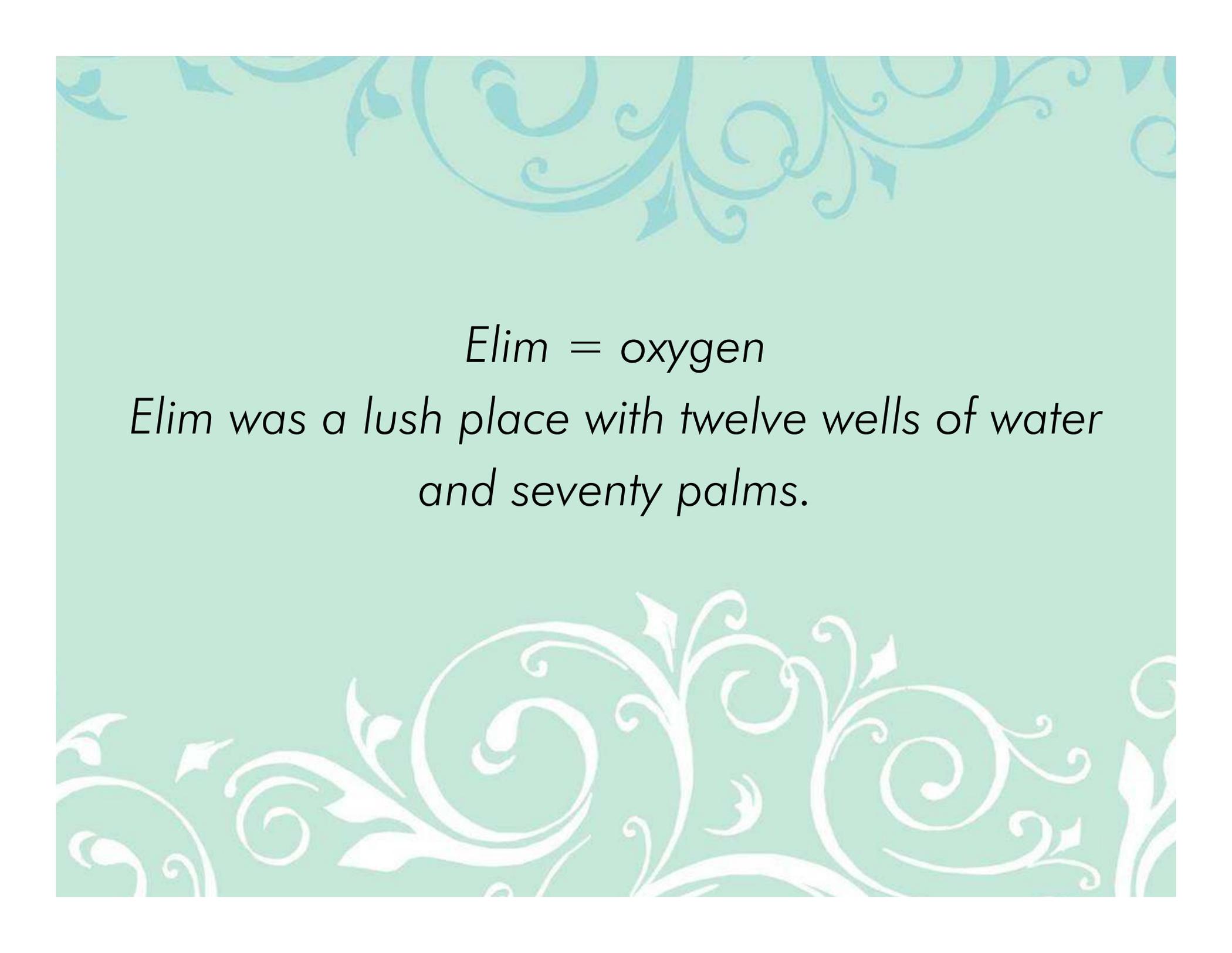
*[verse 25] Hebrew word "es" = a piece of wood
English synonym = plank*

“How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, & then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.”

LUKE 6:42 (NIV)



CONTROL keeps us from facing the truth;
particularly about ourselves.



Elim = oxygen

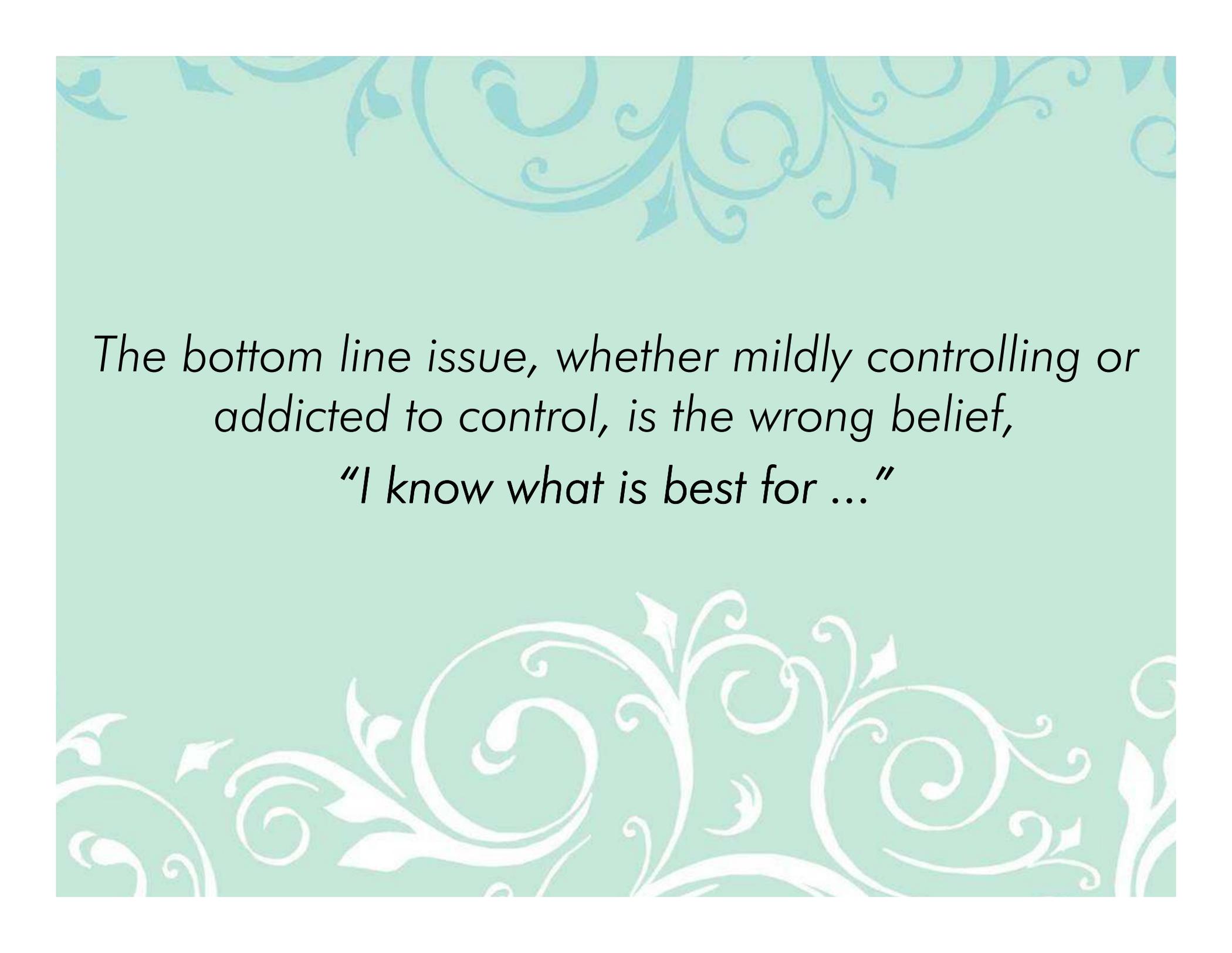
*Elim was a lush place with twelve wells of water
and seventy palms.*



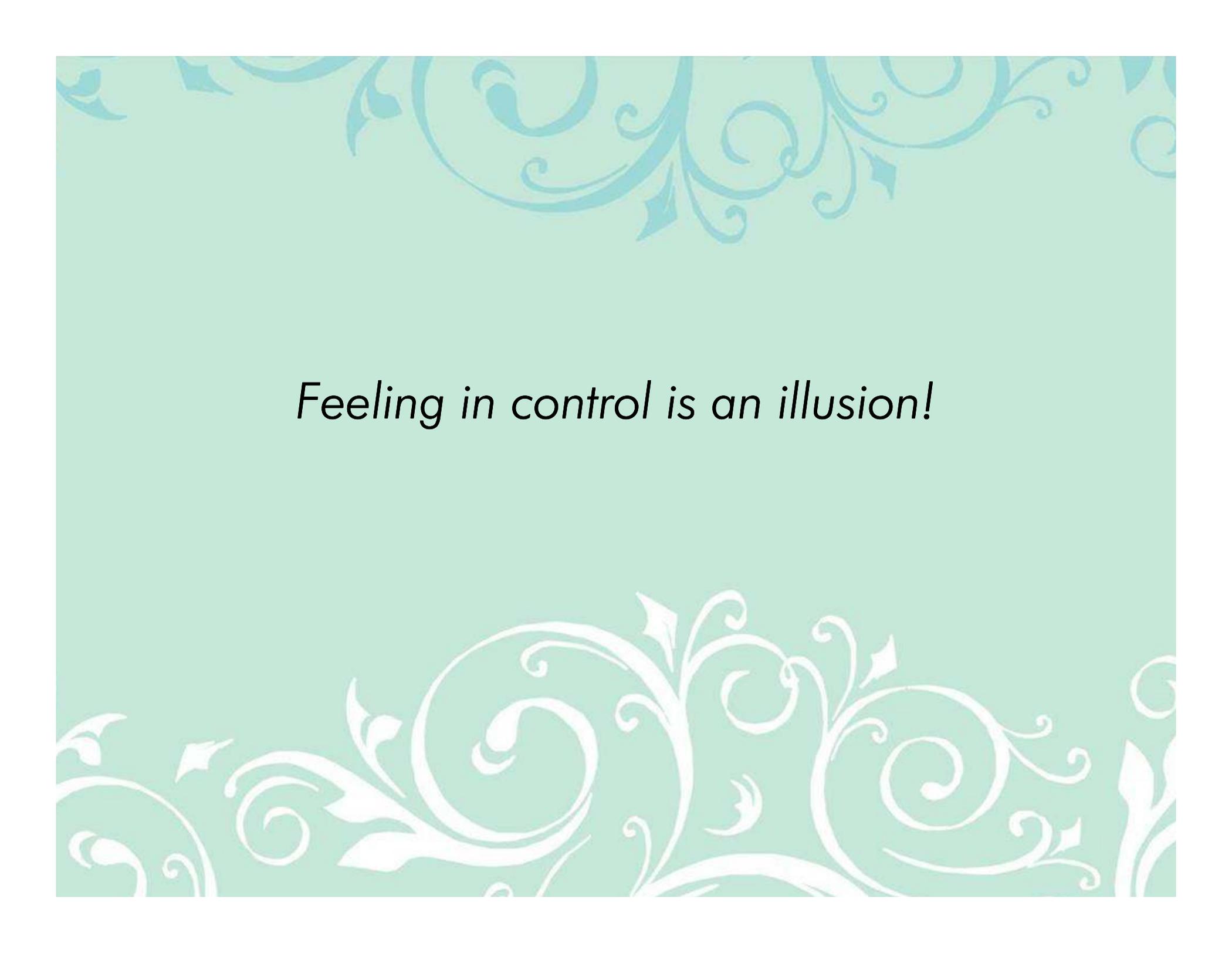
We clutch control because our heart is full of fear.



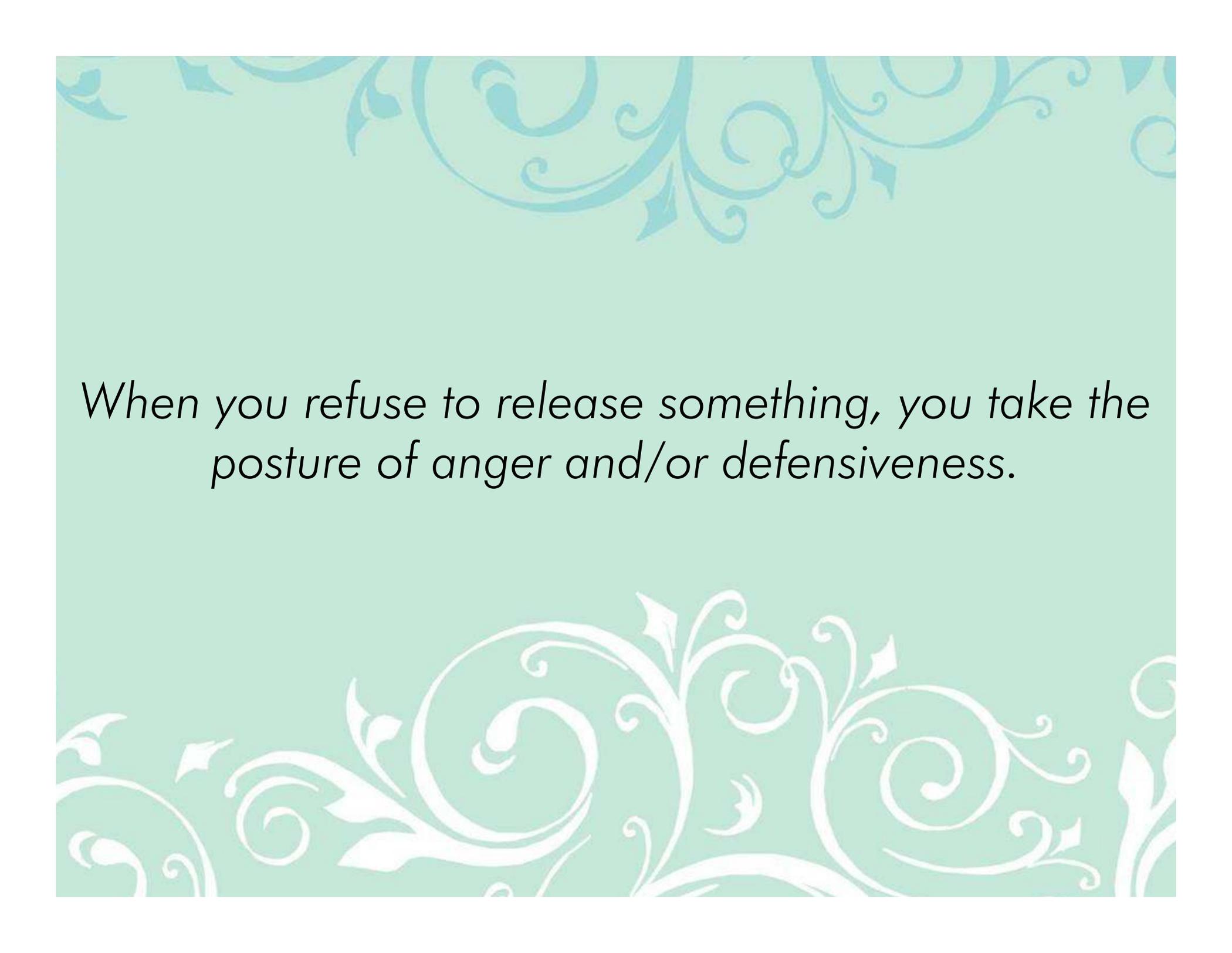
Dennis (brother-in-law) and Ron



*The bottom line issue, whether mildly controlling or
addicted to control, is the wrong belief,
“I know what is best for ...”*



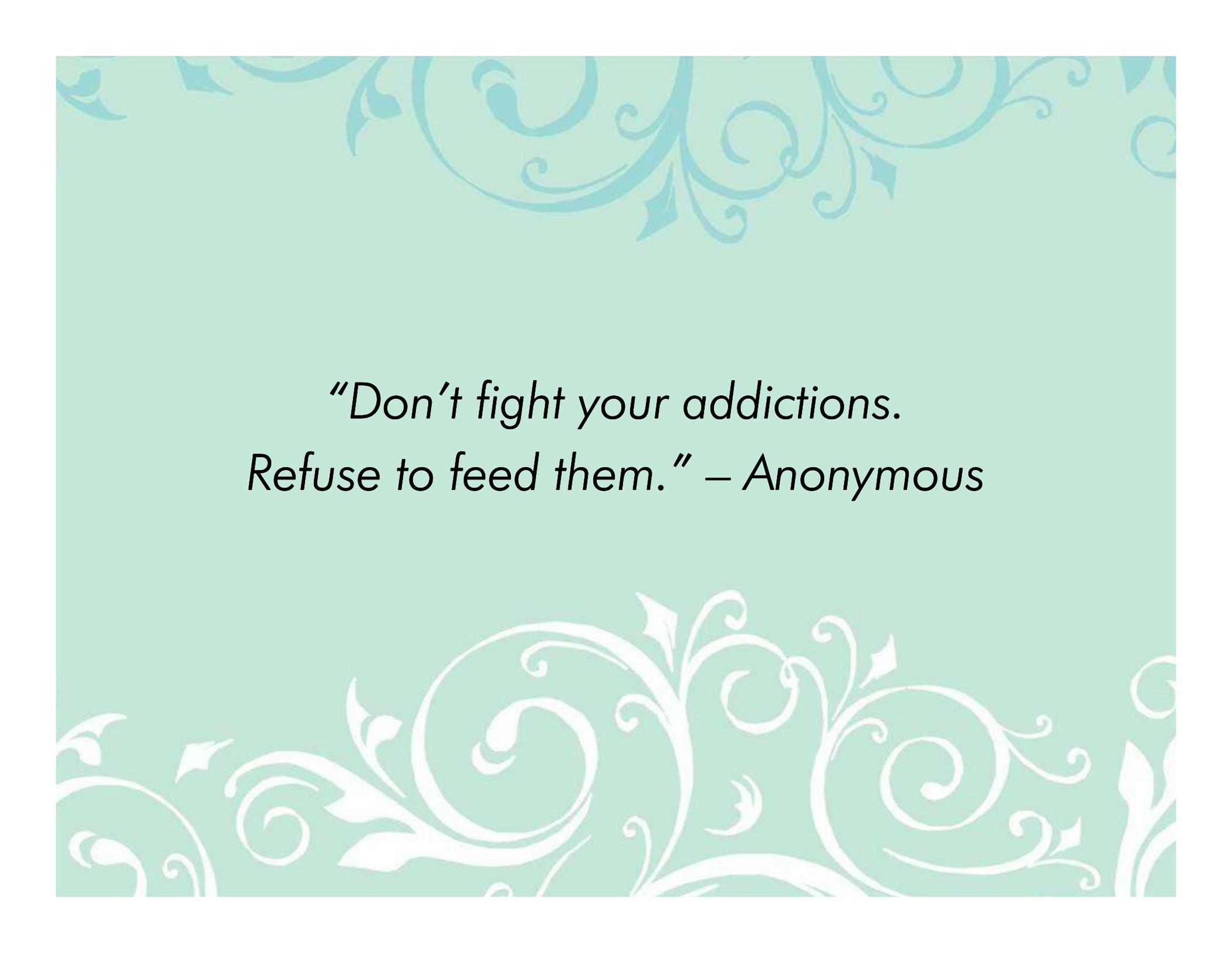
Feeling in control is an illusion!



When you refuse to release something, you take the posture of anger and/or defensiveness.



*Our expectations keep us addicted to control,
or at least attached to it.*



*“Don’t fight your addictions.
Refuse to feed them.” – Anonymous*

*How do we let go of expectations
that cause us to be controlling?*

1. Say and believe,

“No one owes me anything!”

*How do we let go of expectations
that cause us to be controlling?*

2. Practice the discipline of gratitude.

*Gratitude is to get your eyes, mind and attention off
of what you don't have that you think you deserve!*

*How do we let go of expectations
that cause us to be controlling?*

3. Take the posture of open hands.

25 *"To whom will you compare me?*

Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One.

26 *Lift your eyes and look to the heavens:*

Who created all these?

*He who brings out the starry host one by one,
and calls them each by name.*

*Because of his great power and mighty strength,
not one of them is missing.*

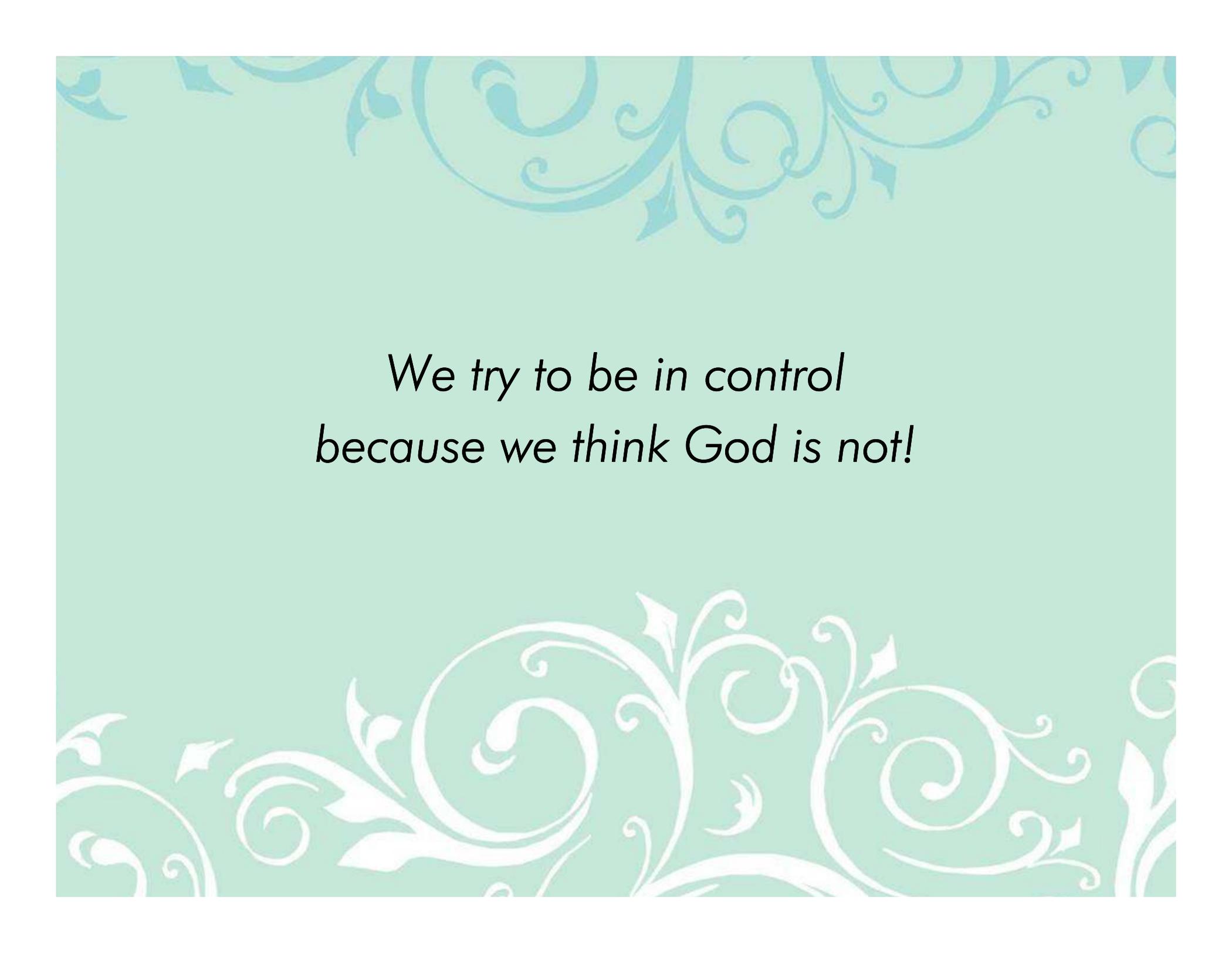
ISAIAH 40:25-29 (NIV)

*27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and complain, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD;
my cause is disregarded by my God"?*

*28 Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.*

*29 He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.*

ISAIAH 40:25-29 (NIV)



*We try to be in control
because we think God is not!*

