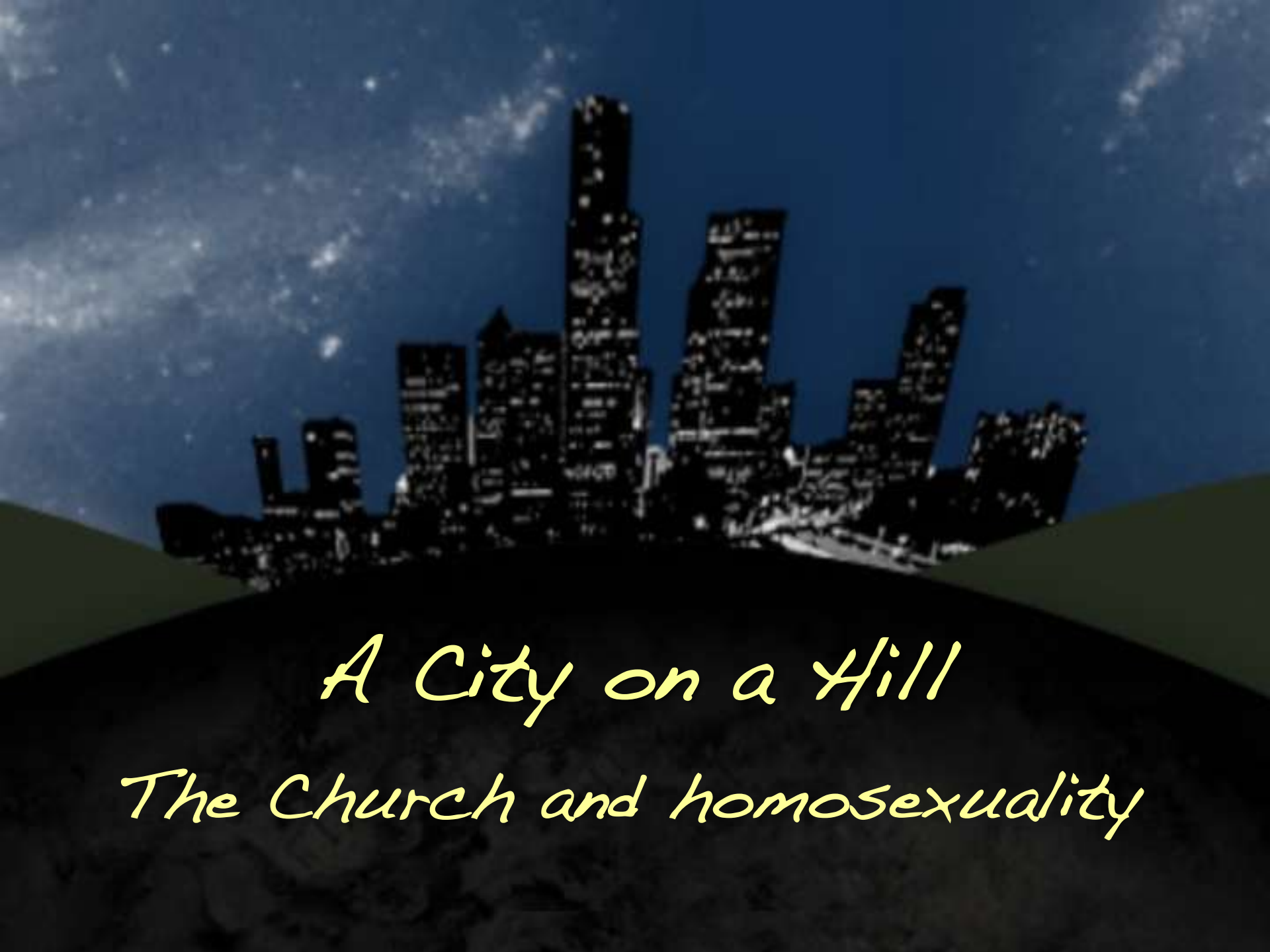


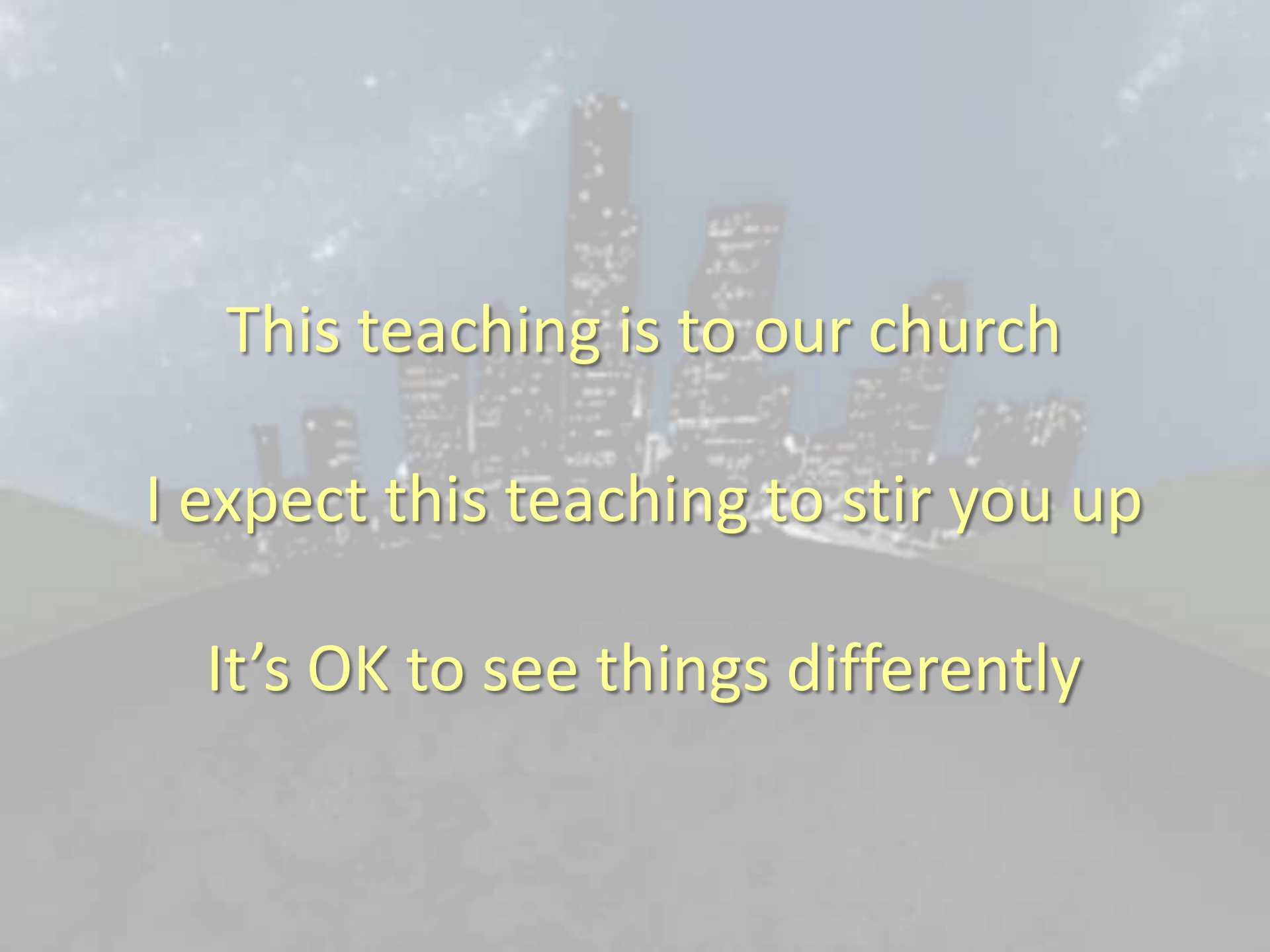


A City on a Hill



A City on a Hill

The Church and homosexuality

The background features a faded, grayscale image of a city skyline at night, with several tall buildings illuminated. A large, dark, curved shape, possibly representing a hill or a shadow, is positioned in the foreground, partially obscuring the lower part of the skyline. The overall tone is muted and atmospheric.

This teaching is to our church
I expect this teaching to stir you up
It's OK to see things differently

Old Testament

Genesis 1:27-28 & 31

Exodus 20:14

Leviticus 18:22

New Testament

Matthew 19:4-6

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

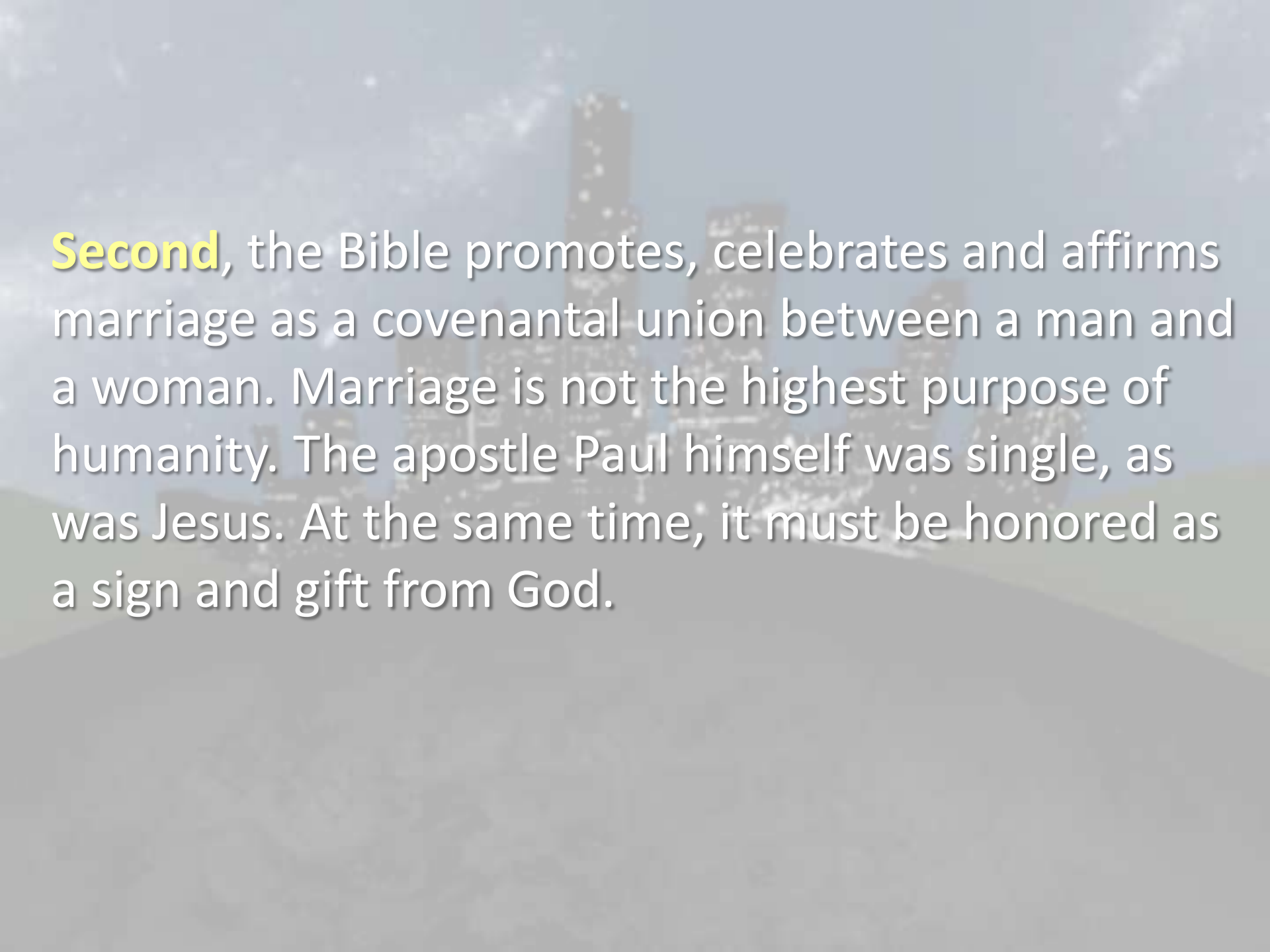
1 Timothy 1:8-10

Romans 1:18-32



Orientation?

First, we must be committed to both mission and holiness. The message of the kingdom is a message of welcome. Anyone can come to the feast- Jesus himself was accused of being a glutton and a drunkard. And at the same time, the message of the kingdom is repent, believe, and follow Jesus in every area of life. At times, it can feel as if these two principles are mutually exclusive. But we are convinced they are not. It is possible to offer the radical welcome of Jesus while calling people to high standards of discipleship.



Second, the Bible promotes, celebrates and affirms marriage as a covenantal union between a man and a woman. Marriage is not the highest purpose of humanity. The apostle Paul himself was single, as was Jesus. At the same time, it must be honored as a sign and gift from God.

Third, we believe that all humans are to be treated with kindness and compassion, as the image-bearers of God on earth. We are all sinful, and it is profoundly unbiblical to pick out one sin that is stigmatized above others. In the history of the church, homosexual persons experienced such sinful stigmatization. We repent and renounce this sort of sinful treatment.

Fourth, we believe that outside of the boundaries of marriage, the Bible calls for abstinence. We know that in our culture, premarital sex, along with many other forms of non-marital sex, has become normative. We want to lovingly help people of any sexual orientation to live up to this standard. We recognize that it can be a difficult journey, and there must be grace along the way. The powerful, beautiful gift of human sexuality must be stewarded with seriousness and compassion within our movement.

Everyone is challenged by scripture regarding their sexuality

Youth

Dating

Married

Married or single with pornographic a click away

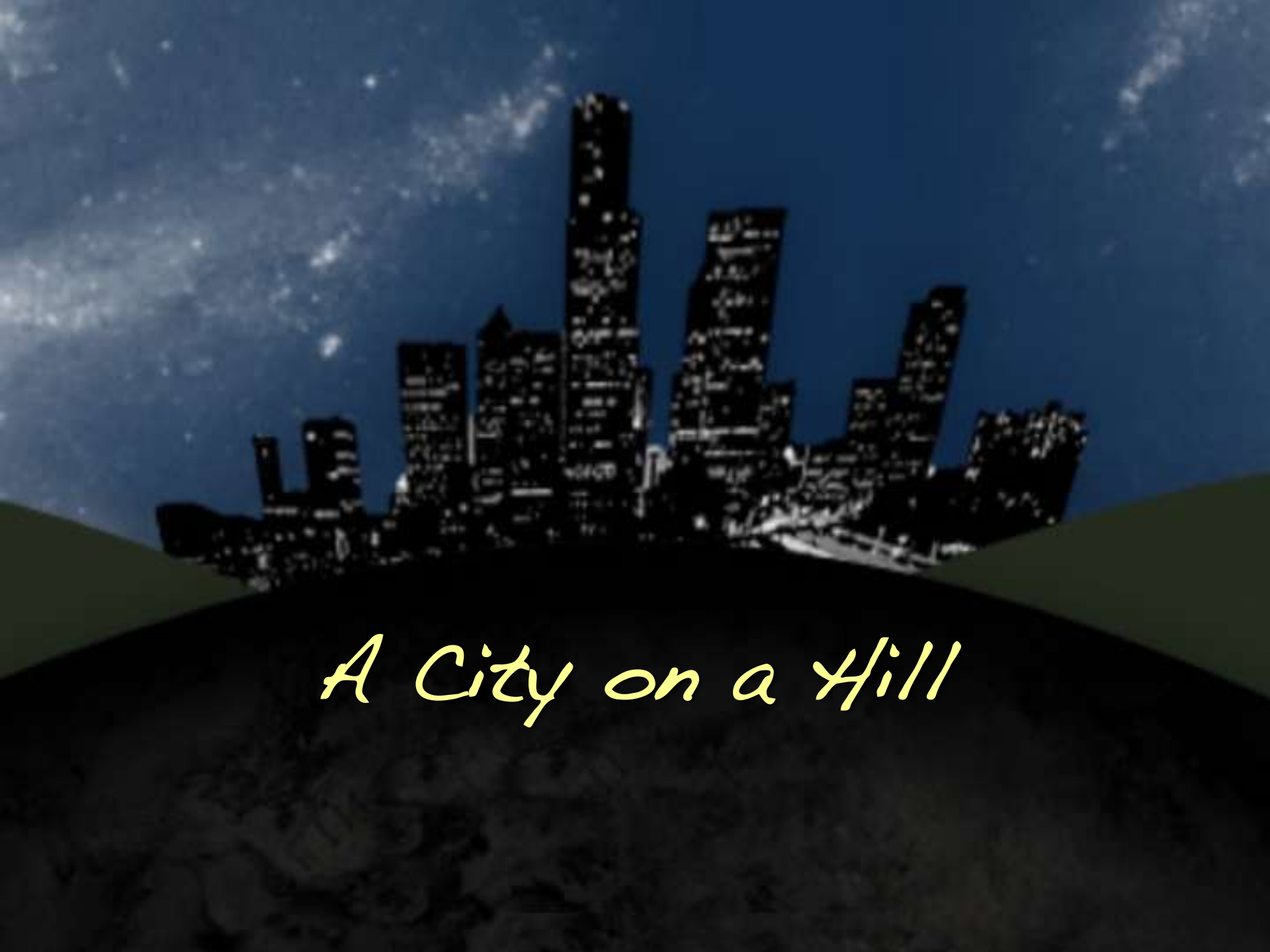
Singles who desire to be married but aren't

Someone who has lost their spouse

Those with same sex attraction

Matthew 11:19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

- * **Let scripture and the life of Jesus determine how to live, not culture**
- * **Humbly live out what you believe**
- * **Understand the difference between the church and the world**
- * **Love and build friendships with those outside the church and be known for mercy not judgment.**



A City on a Hill