



Walking Close to Jesus in 2015

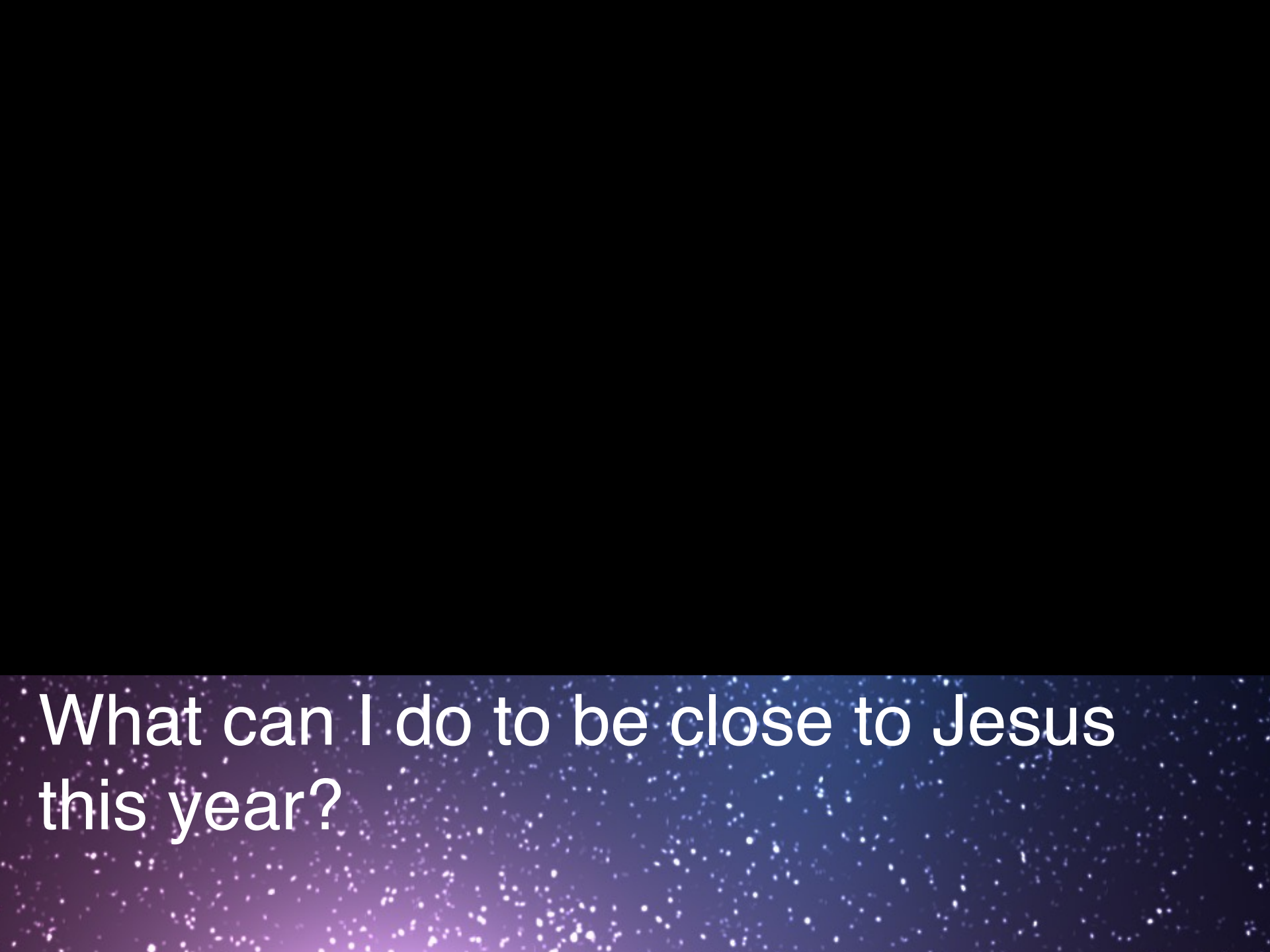
“Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Him.

² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, ‘This man receives sinners and eats with them.’ ³ So He told them this parable: ⁴ ‘What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?’

⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.” ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.” (Lk. 15:1-7)

Things that Tend to be Close to One-Another

- Playgrounds and kids.
- Schools and libraries.
- Walmart and Home Depot.
- McDonalds and Burger King.
- Highways and gas stations.
- Malls and teenagers.
- Men and recliners and the remote control.



What can I do to be close to Jesus
this year?

1. Jesus is close to the broken-hearted.

“The Lord is near to the broken-
hearted and saves the crushed in
spirit.” (Ps. 34:18)

2. Jesus is close to the “least of these.”

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these, my brothers, you did it to me.’” (Matt. 25:40)

3. Jesus is close to the persecuted.

“I am Jesus, whom you are
persecuting.” (Acts 9:5)

4. Jesus is close to the dying.

“But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.” (Acts 7:55)

“Precious in the sight of the Lord is
the death of His saints.” (Ps. 116:15)

5. Jesus is close to children.

“Whoever receives one such child in my name, receives me.” (Matt. 18:5)

Why do I Feel so Close to Jesus in Kenya?

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- Broken-hearted.
- Least of these.
- Persecuted.
- Dying.
- Children.

6. Jesus is close to the lost.

“Does not the shepherd leave the 99 and go after the one that is lost, until He finds it? And when He has found it, He lays it on His shoulders, rejoicing...Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.”

(Lk. 15:4-6)

53 Baptisms in 2014.

7. Jesus is close to the seeking heart.

“you will seek Me and find Me, when
you seek Me with all your heart.”

(Jer. 29:13)

8. Jesus is close to the humble heart.

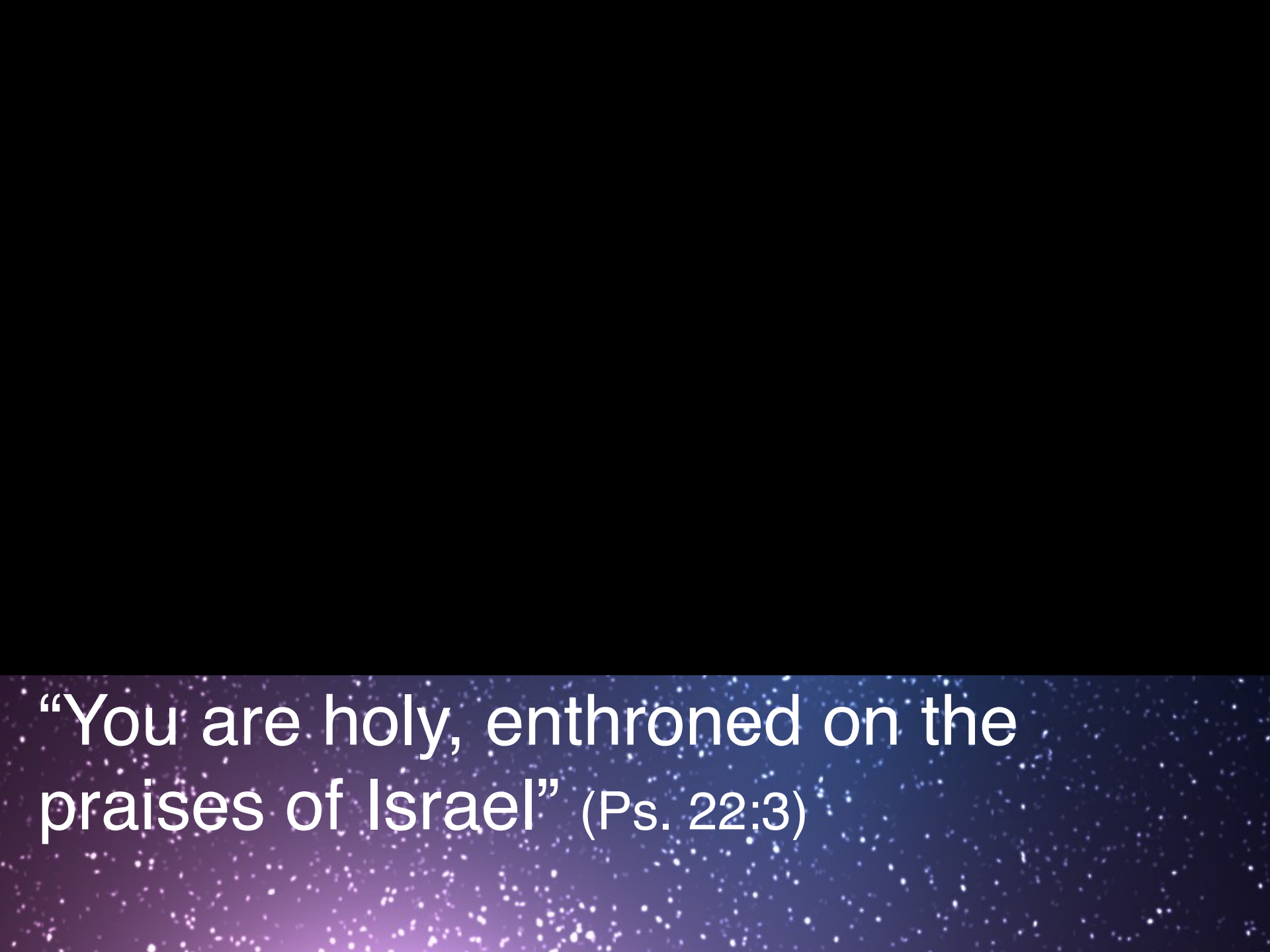
“God opposes the proud but gives
grace to the humble.” (James 4:6)

9. Jesus is close to the righteous.

“The eyes of the Lord are toward the
righteous and his ears toward their
cry.” (Ps. 34:15)

“If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love...” (Jn. 15:10)

10. Jesus is close to the worshipper.



“You are holy, enthroned on the
praises of Israel” (Ps. 22:3)

“The Father is seeking such people to worship Him.” (Jn. 4:23)

“Where 2 or 3 are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

(Matt. 18:20)

