



Your Story
is Better Than You Think



OUR PREMISE

When you join God's family by believing in Jesus,
you become a part of His amazing, eternal Story.

John 1:1-18



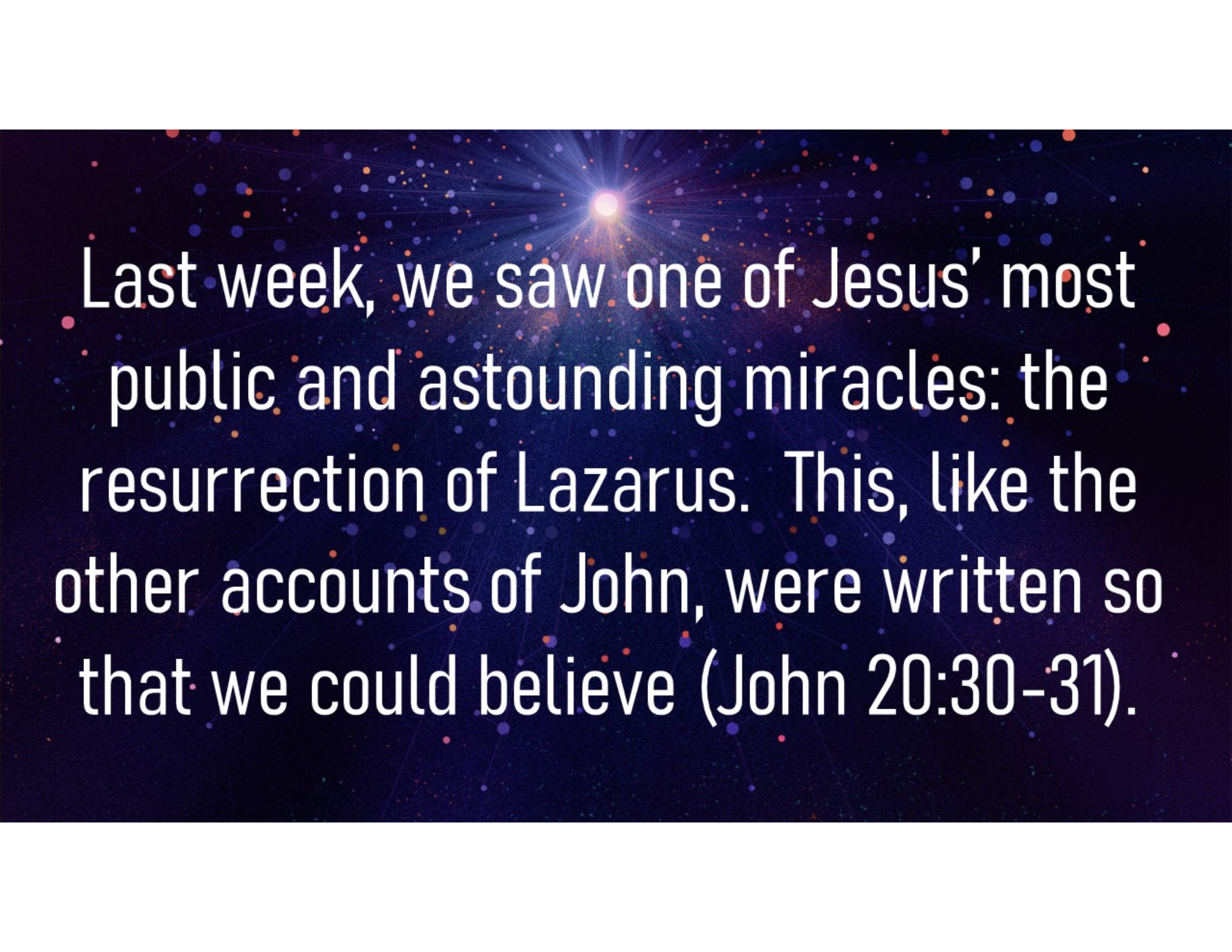
TESTIFY

Tell Someone Your
Story about Meeting Jesus

INTRODUCE

Ask If They Would
Like to Meet Him Too

John 1:19-51



Last week, we saw one of Jesus' most public and astounding miracles: the resurrection of Lazarus. This, like the other accounts of John, were written so that we could believe (John 20:30-31).



By chapter 12, we see:

- a growing group of followers and fans, getting more excited about the Messiah: “This is really it, guys!”
- a hardening opposition to Jesus among top leaders, filled with illogical, murderous intent: “We’ve *got* to kill him. And Lazarus too! It’s our only hope!”



In chapter 12, the question is no longer:
“Could this be the Messiah?”

It has become:
“Will I choose to believe in Him?”

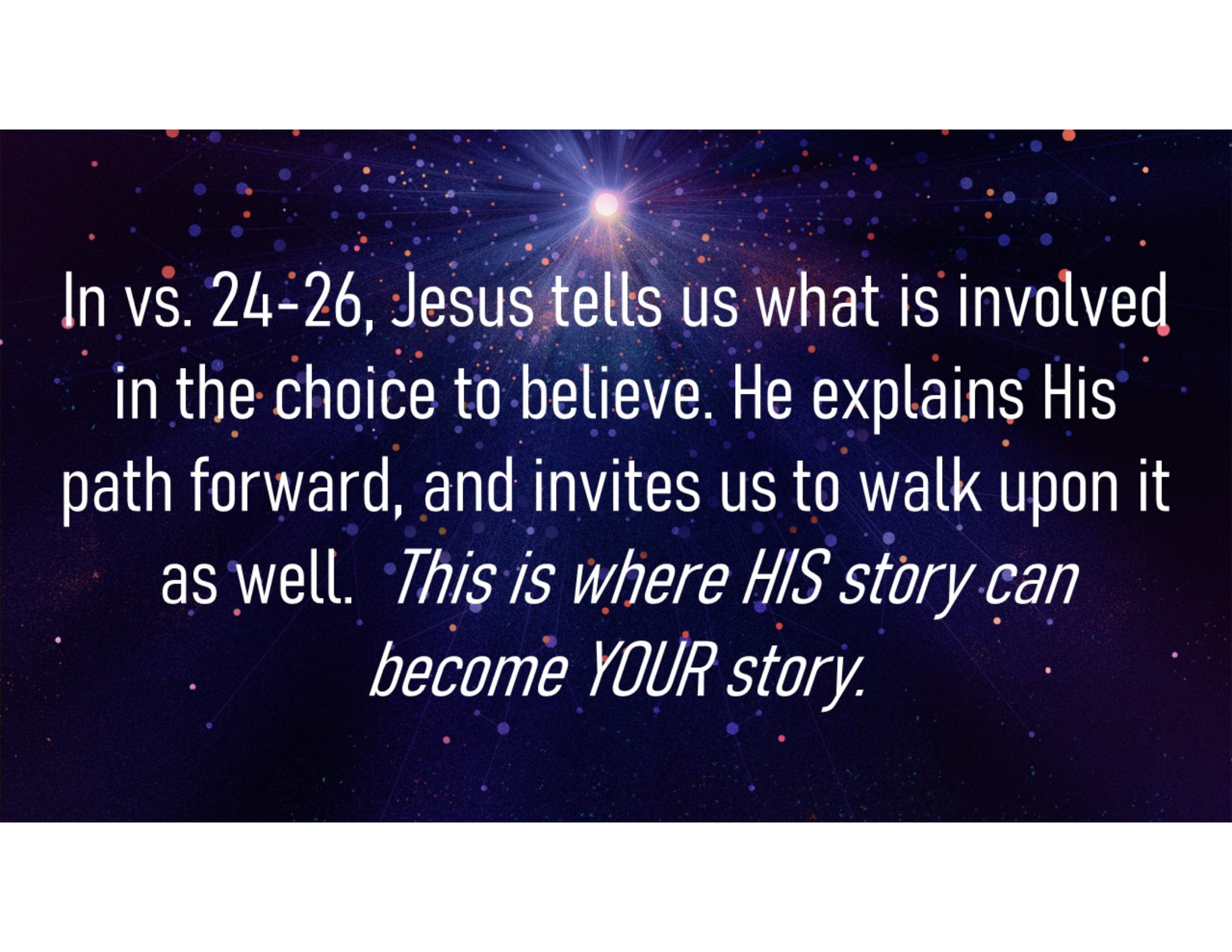
The Greeks get curious (vs. 20-23):



“We’re hearing an amazing story about Jesus - a Messiah or even a king? We want to meet Him.”



“Let’s hold off on that meeting for now. It is almost time for me to be glorified, way beyond your expectations for messiahs and kings. This story is about to get a lot better than you think.”



In vs. 24-26, Jesus tells us what is involved in the choice to believe. He explains His path forward, and invites us to walk upon it as well. *This is where HIS story can become YOUR story.*



Your better story begins with:

DEATH to your “self” and what you
thought your life was about (vs. 24)



Your better story begins with:

DEVALUING the priorities and comforts
of this world (vs. 25)



Your better story begins with:

WILLINGLY WALKING toward servanthood,
persecution, pain, challenge, holiness, and
the Cross (vs. 26)



How will this “better story”
end for me, if I follow Jesus?



Your better story will result in:

The MULTIPLIED FRUIT of a life that
really mattered (vs. 24)



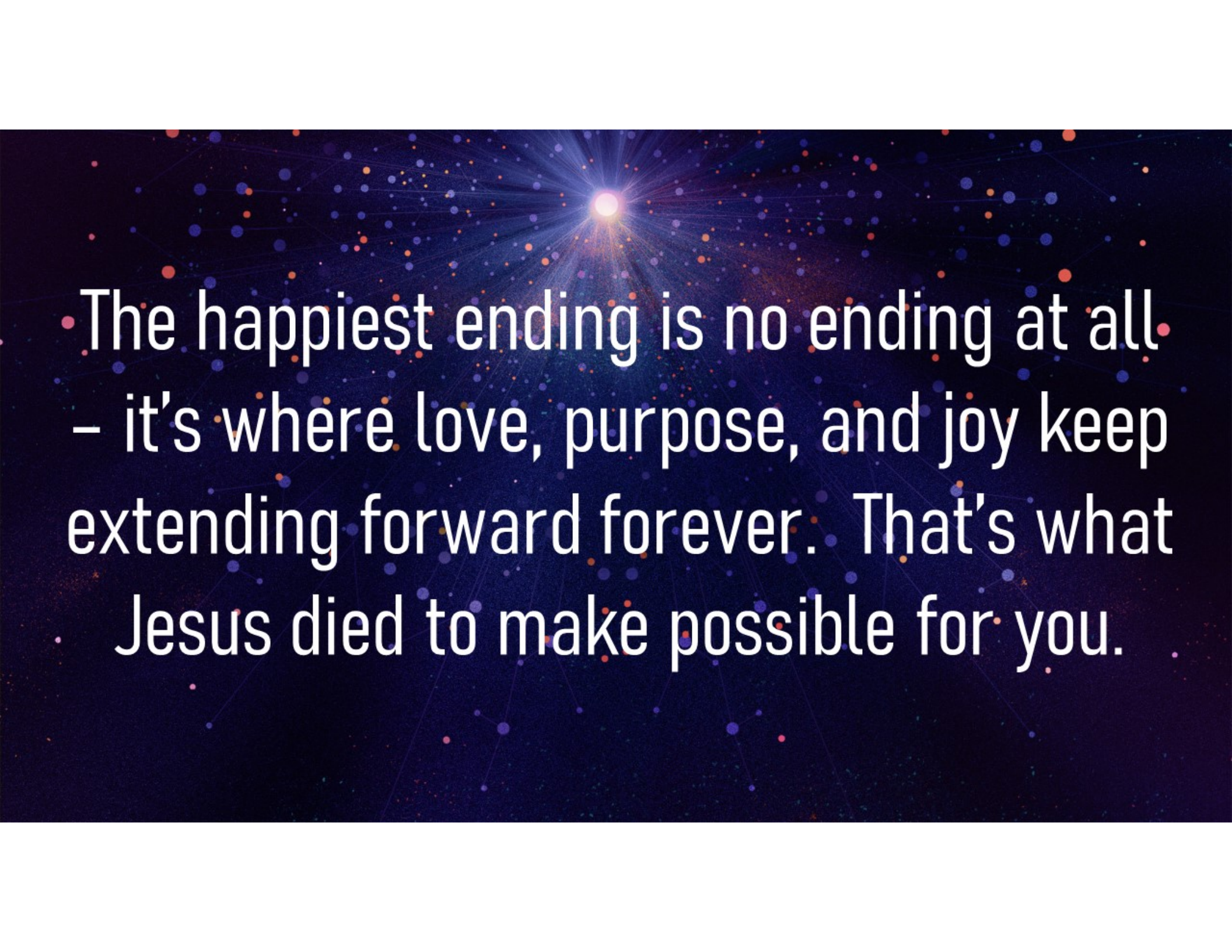
Your better story will result in:

The ETERNAL JOY of a life
that never has to end (vs. 25)

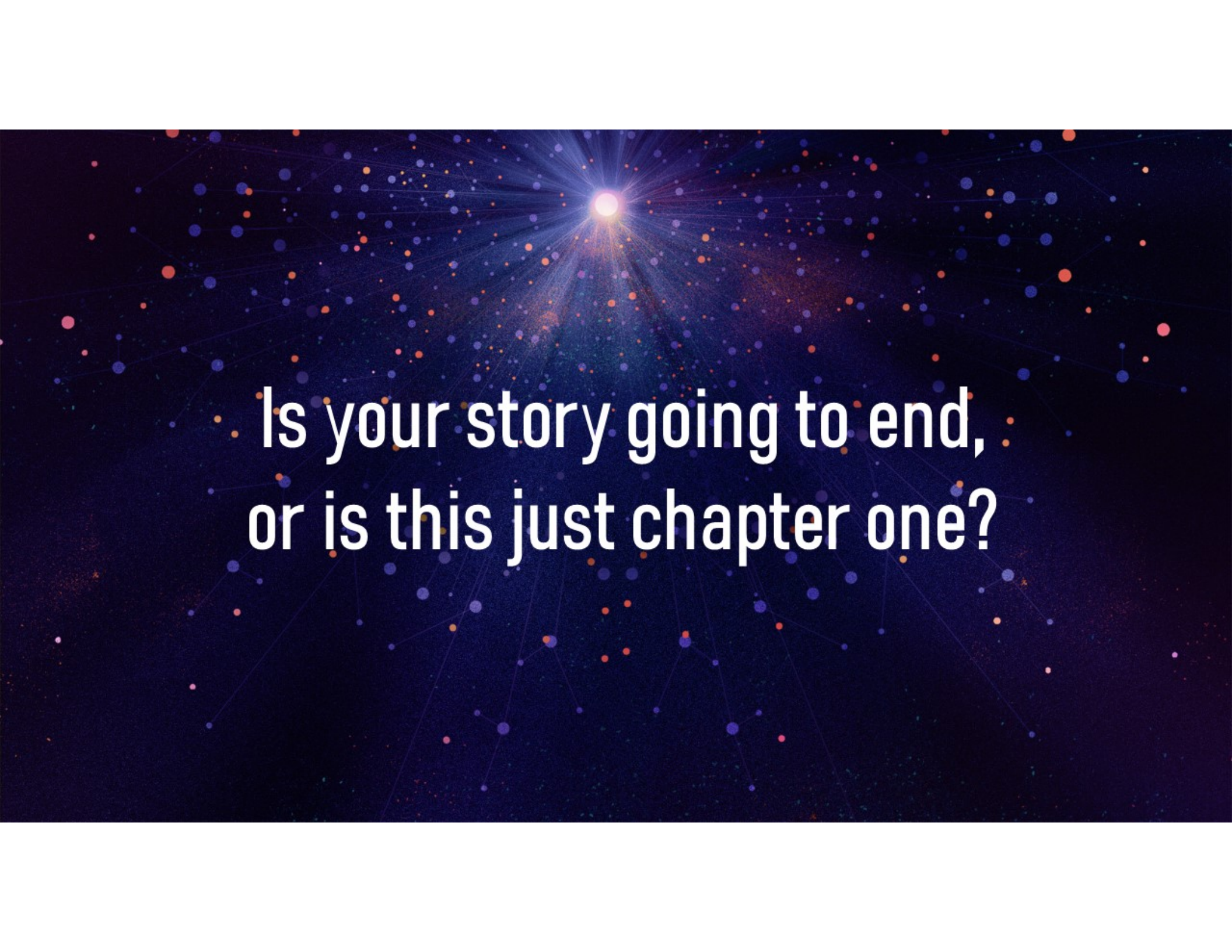


Your better story will result in:

BEING HONORED by God Himself
as a faithful servant (vs. 26)



The happiest ending is no ending at all
– it's where love, purpose, and joy keep
extending forward forever. That's what
Jesus died to make possible for you.



**Is your story going to end,
or is this just chapter one?**



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