



*For Unto Us*

The Promise of Christmas  
in the Book of Isaiah



<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the Lord called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name

<sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. ...

*Isaiah 49:1-16*

...<sup>3</sup> He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."<sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the Lord's hand, and my reward is with my God. ...

*Isaiah 49:1-16*

... <sup>5</sup> And now the Lord says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord and my God has been my strength— <sup>6</sup> he says: ...

*Isaiah 49:1-16*

... "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." ...

*Isaiah 49:1-16*

...<sup>8</sup> This is what the Lord says: "In the time of my favor I will answer you, and in the day of salvation I will help you; I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people, to restore the land and to reassign its desolate inheritances ...

*Isaiah 49:1-16*

...<sup>9</sup> to say to the captives, 'Come out,' and to those in darkness, 'Be free!' They will feed beside the roads and find pasture on every barren hill.  
<sup>10</sup> They will neither hunger nor thirst, nor will the desert heat or the sun beat down on them. He who has compassion on them will guide them and lead them beside springs of water. ...

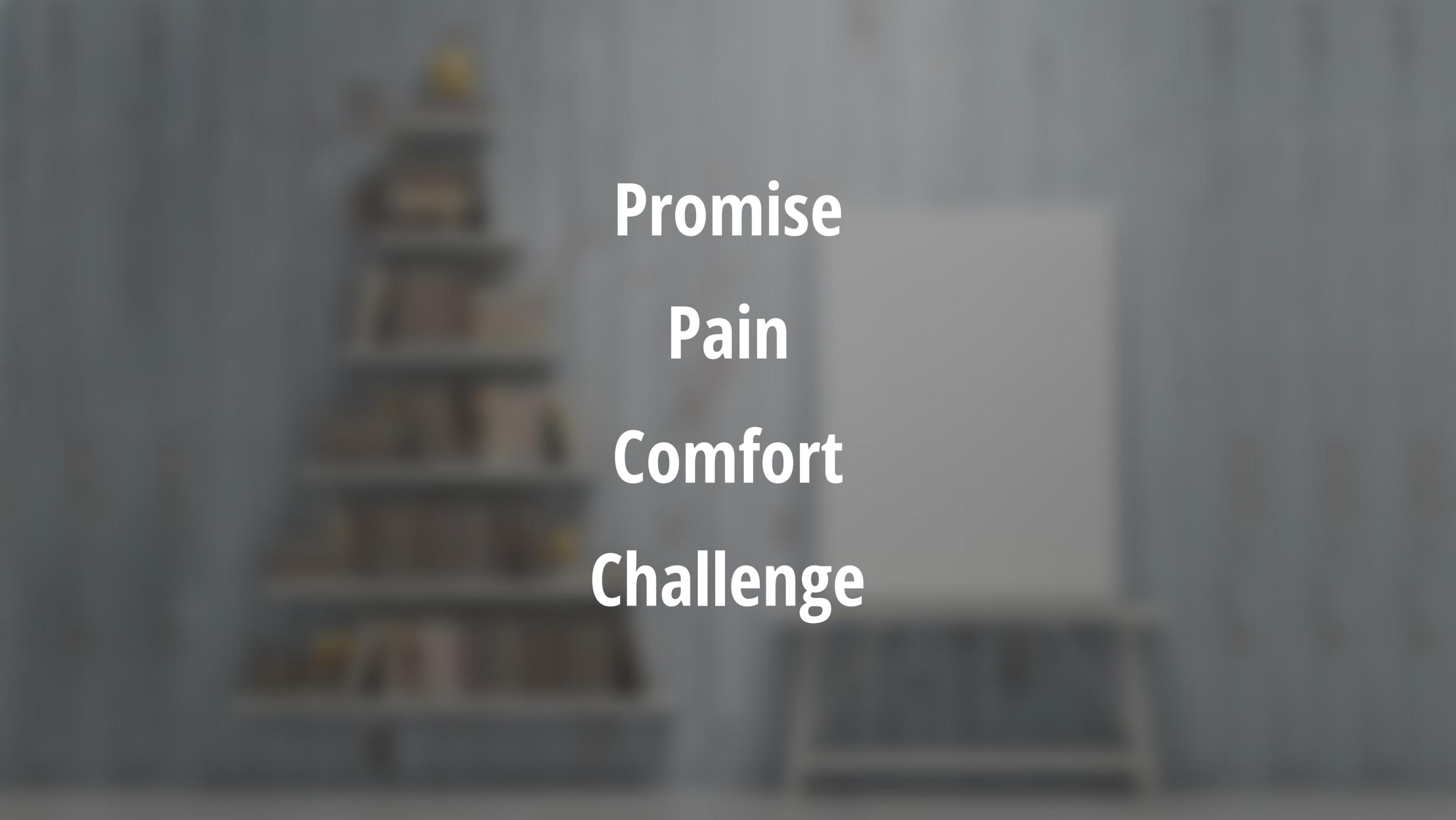
*Isaiah 49:1-16*

... <sup>11</sup> I will turn all my mountains into roads, and my highways will be raised up. <sup>13</sup> Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, you earth; burst into song, you mountains! For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones." ...

*Isaiah 49:1-16*

...<sup>14</sup> But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me."<sup>15</sup> "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!<sup>16</sup> See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me."

*Isaiah 49:1-16*

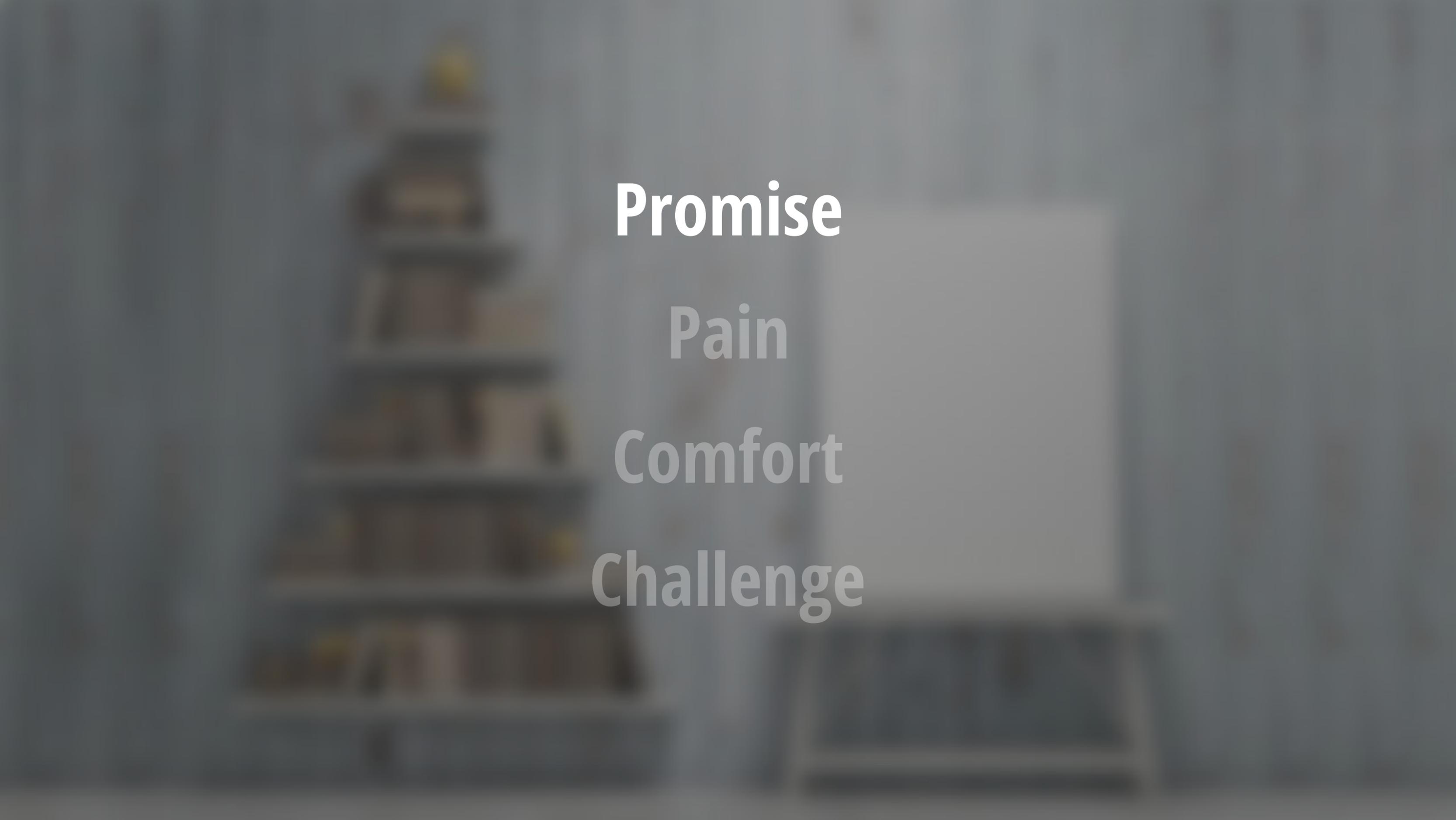


**Promise**

**Pain**

**Comfort**

**Challenge**



**Promise**

**Pain**

**Comfort**

**Challenge**

He says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

*Isaiah 49:6*

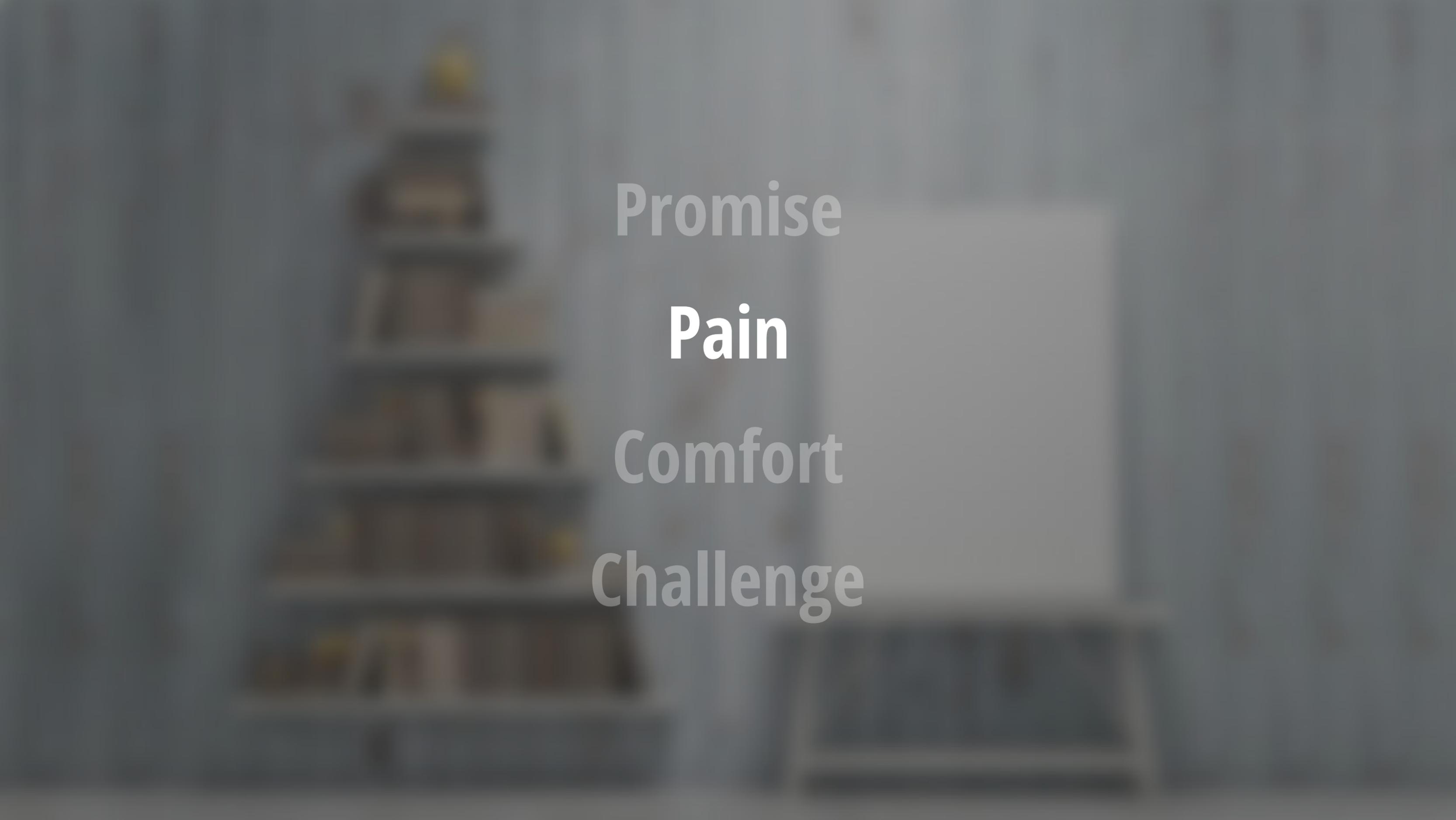
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*Isaiah 49:9-11*

... He who has compassion on them will guide them and lead them beside springs of water.

<sup>11</sup> I will turn all my mountains into roads, and my highways will be raised up."

*Isaiah 49:9-11*



Promise

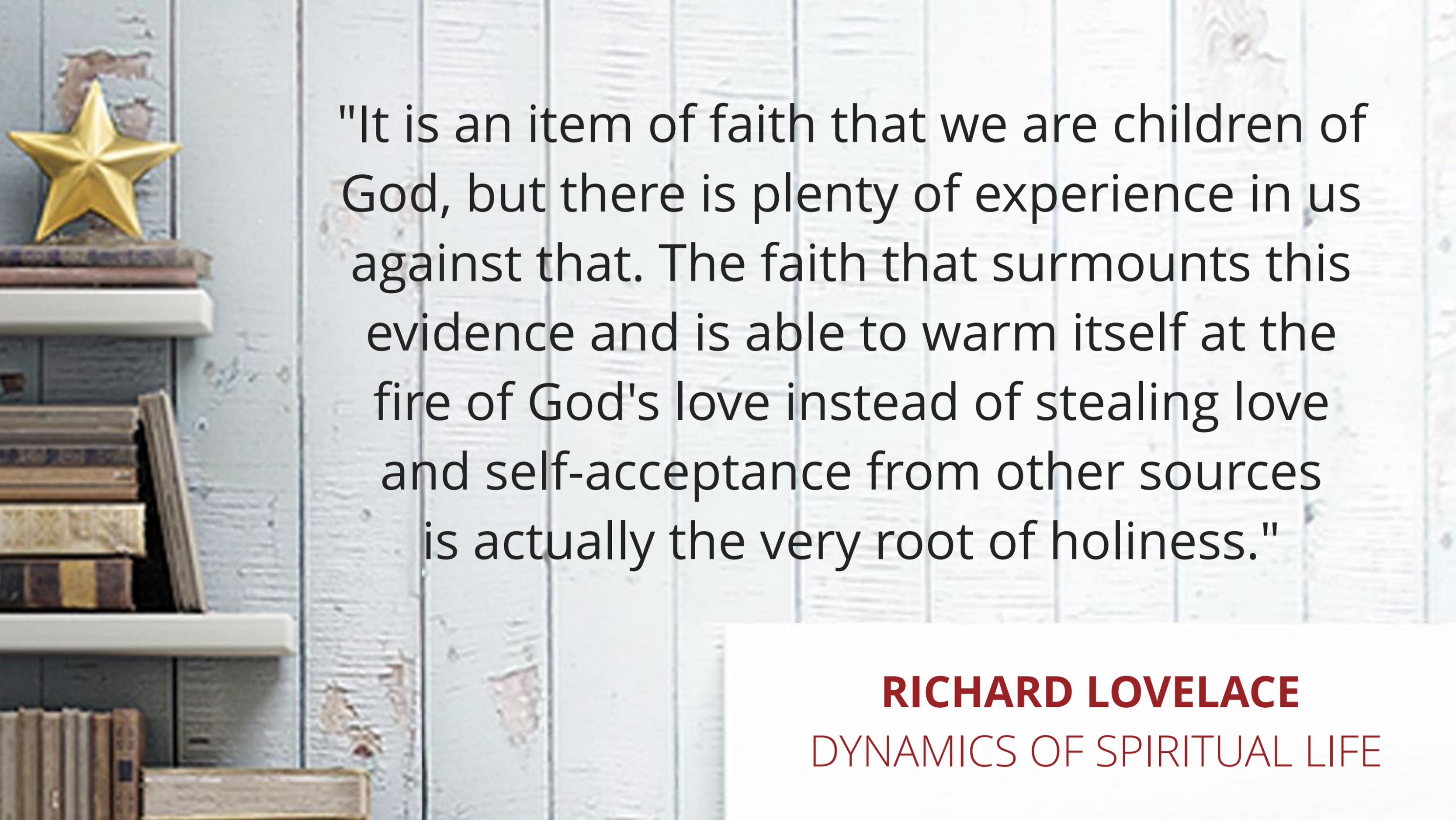
**Pain**

Comfort

Challenge

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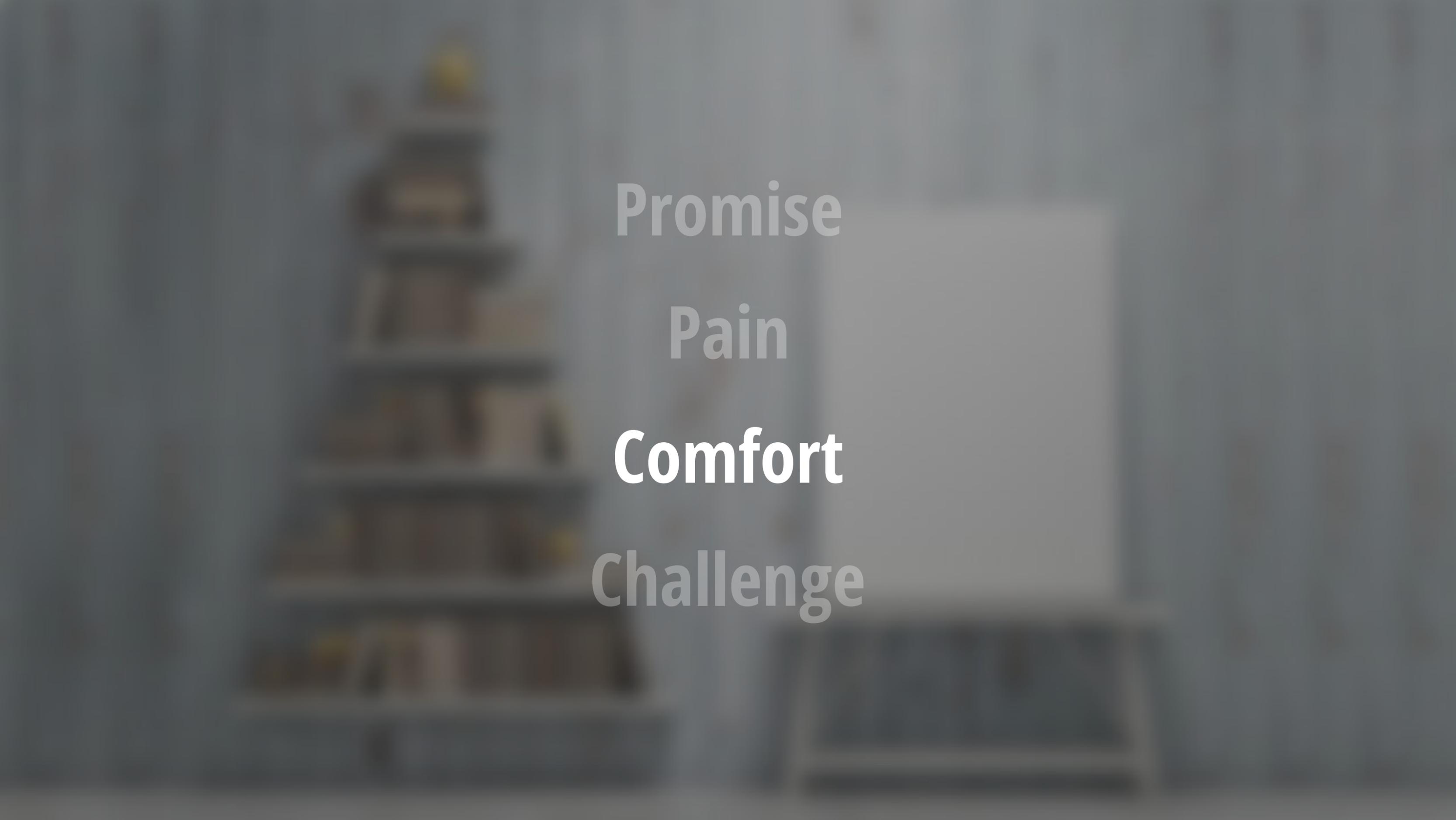
*Isaiah 49:14*



"It is an item of faith that we are children of God, but there is plenty of experience in us against that. The faith that surmounts this evidence and is able to warm itself at the fire of God's love instead of stealing love and self-acceptance from other sources is actually the very root of holiness."

**RICHARD LOVELACE**

DYNAMICS OF SPIRITUAL LIFE



Promise

Pain

**Comfort**

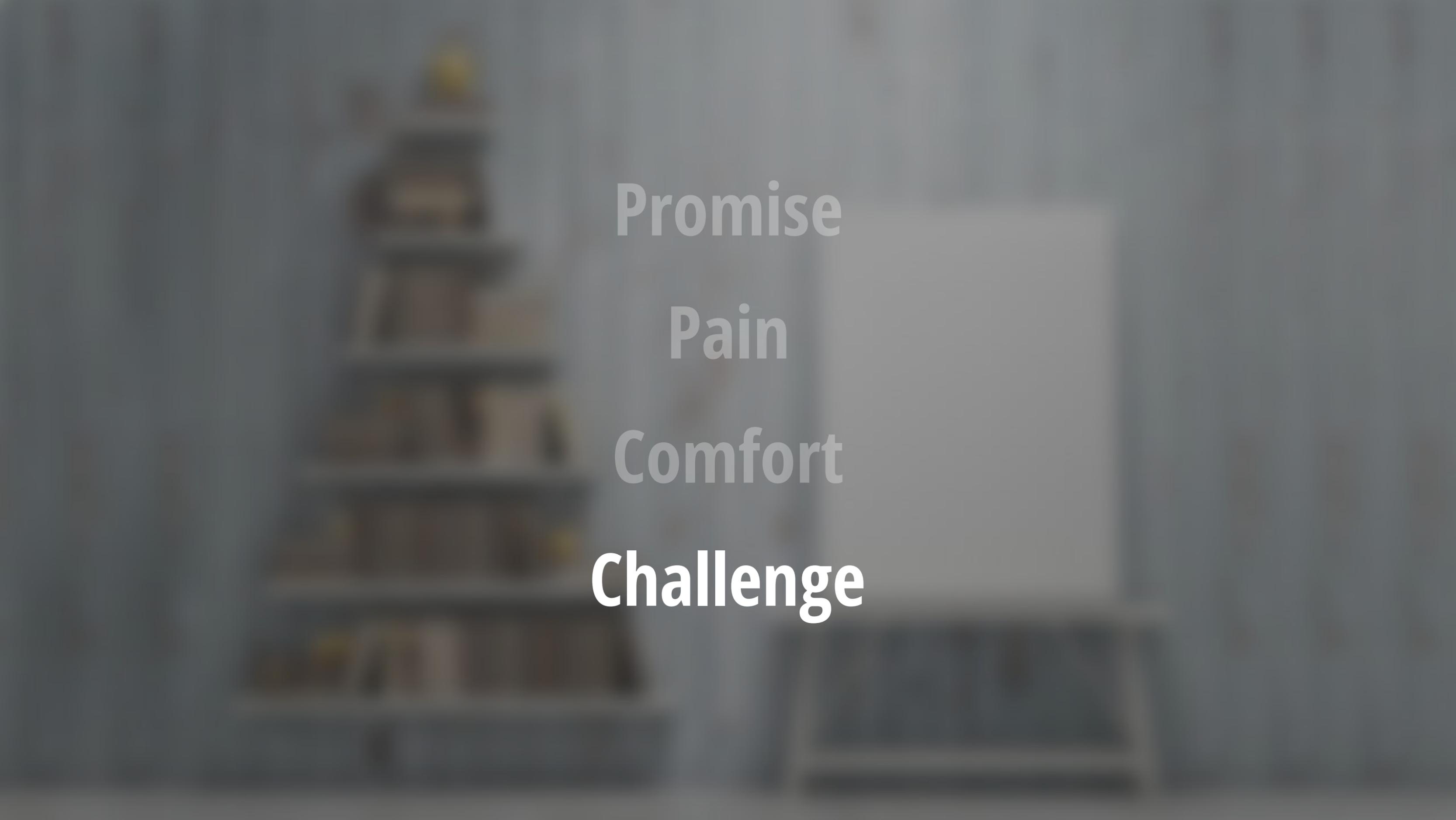
Challenge

"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and  
have no compassion on the child she has borne?  
Though she may forget, I will not forget you!"

*Isaiah 49:15*

"Though she may forget,  
I will not forget you!"

*Isaiah 49:15*



Promise

Pain

Comfort

**Challenge**

"See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me."

*Isaiah 49:16*

<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."  
<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

*John 20:27-28*



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