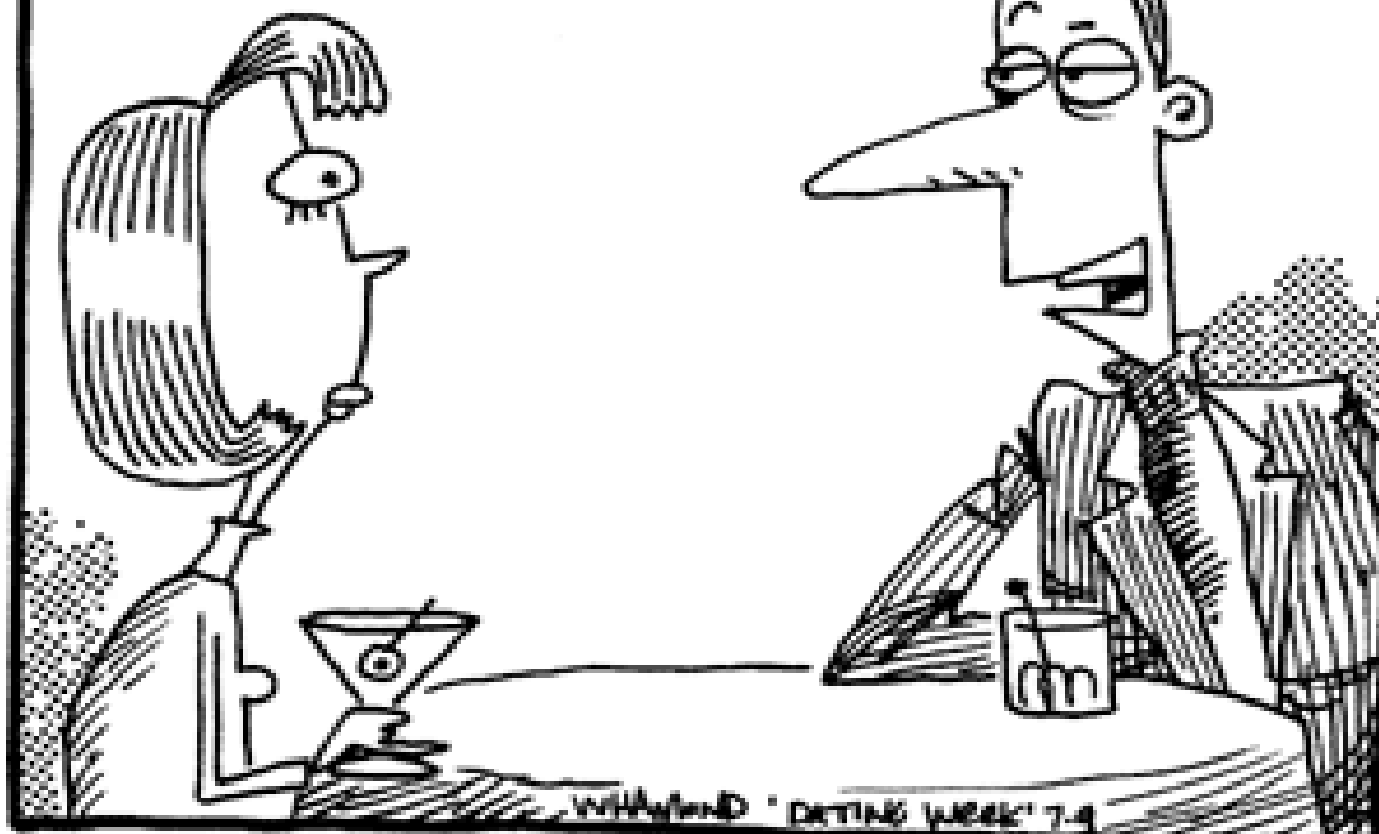


"I want you to put me in touch with reality, but be ready to break the connection *fast*."

TRUTH IN DATING:

THE PERSON I'M PRETENDING
TO BE REALLY LIKES THE
PERSON YOU'RE PRETENDING
TO BE...





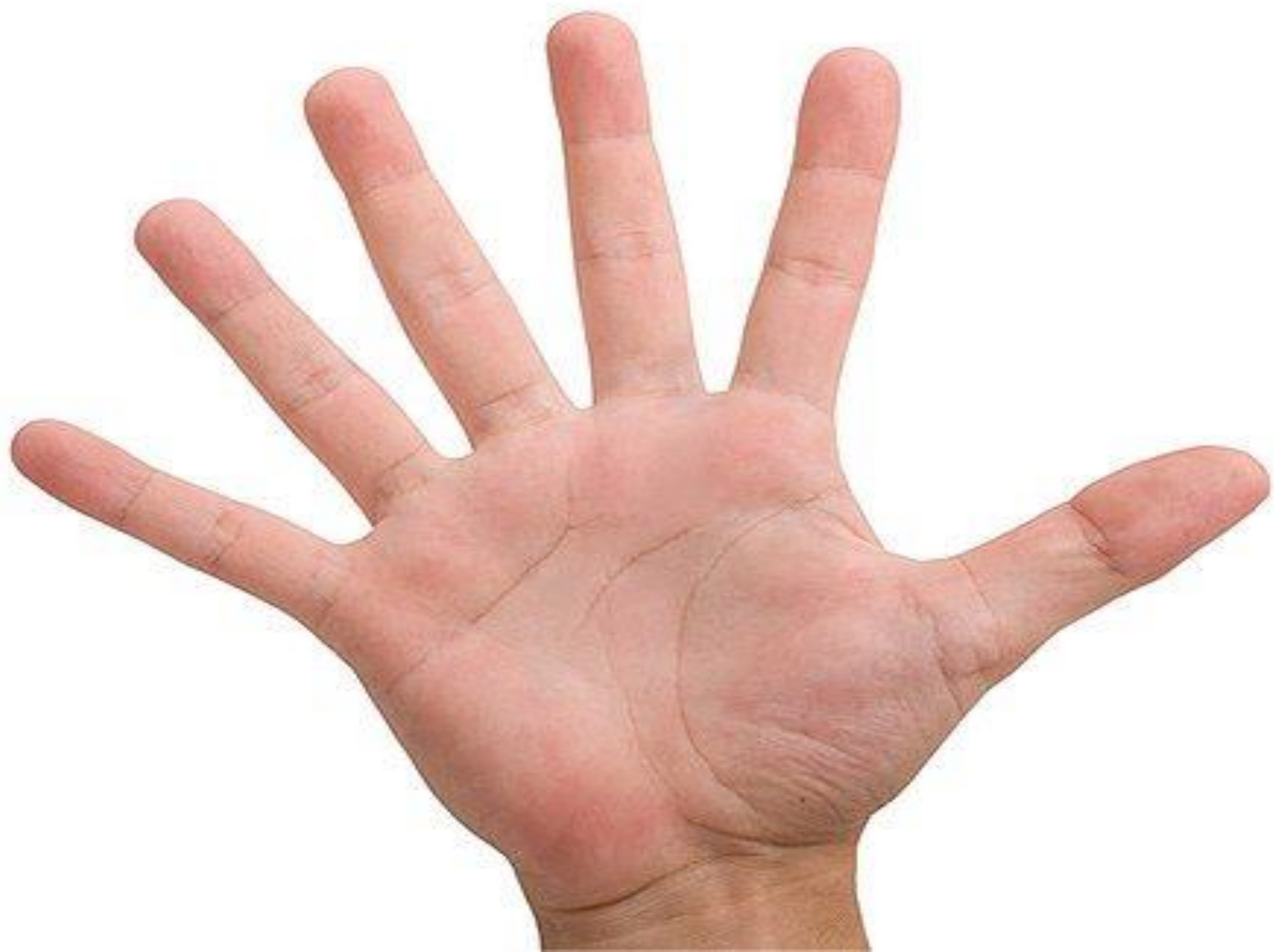


A person is kneeling on a grassy hill, facing away from the camera, with their hands clasped in prayer. The background shows a vast, open landscape under a bright, cloudy sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Reality Check

(Joshua 5)

Winning Strategies, No. 3



BIBLICAL SETTING



Shechem ■

HILL COUNTRY

Bethel ■

■ Ai?

Gibeon ■

■ Gibeah

Jerusalem ■

Jericho ■

■ Gilgal?

■ Abel-shittim

■ Adam

AMMON

MOAB

Joshua 5:1a (NIV)

**Now when all the Amorite kings
west of the Jordan
and all the Canaanite kings
along the coast
heard how the Lord had dried up the
Jordan before the Israelites
until we had crossed over,**

Joshua 5:1b (NIV)

**their hearts melted
and they no longer had the courage to
face the Israelites.**



Joshua 5:2 (NIV)

**At that time the Lord said to Joshua,
“Make flint knives
and circumcise the Israelites again.”**



Reality Check: God wants me to...

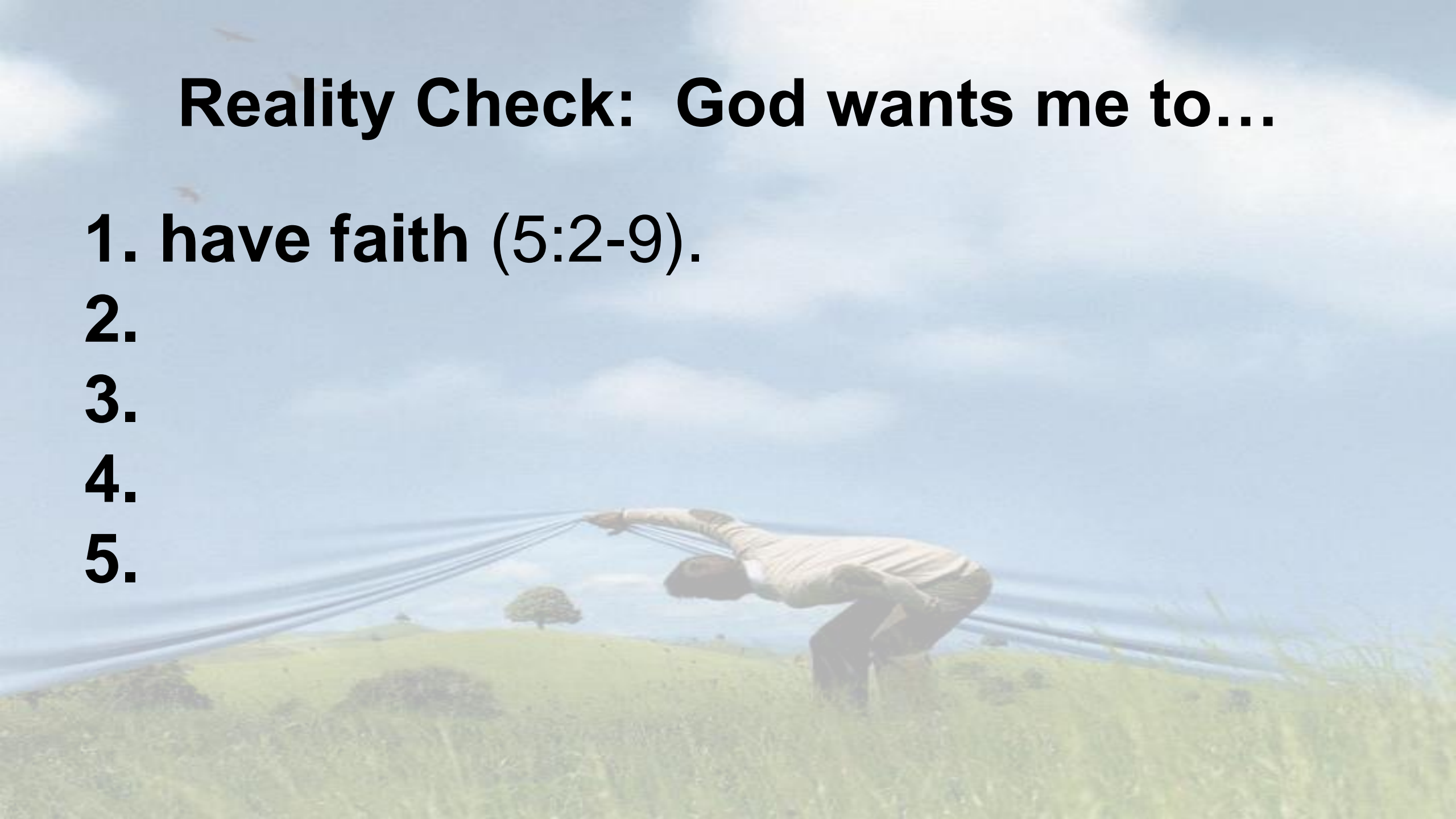
1. have faith (5:2-9).

2.

3.

4.

5.



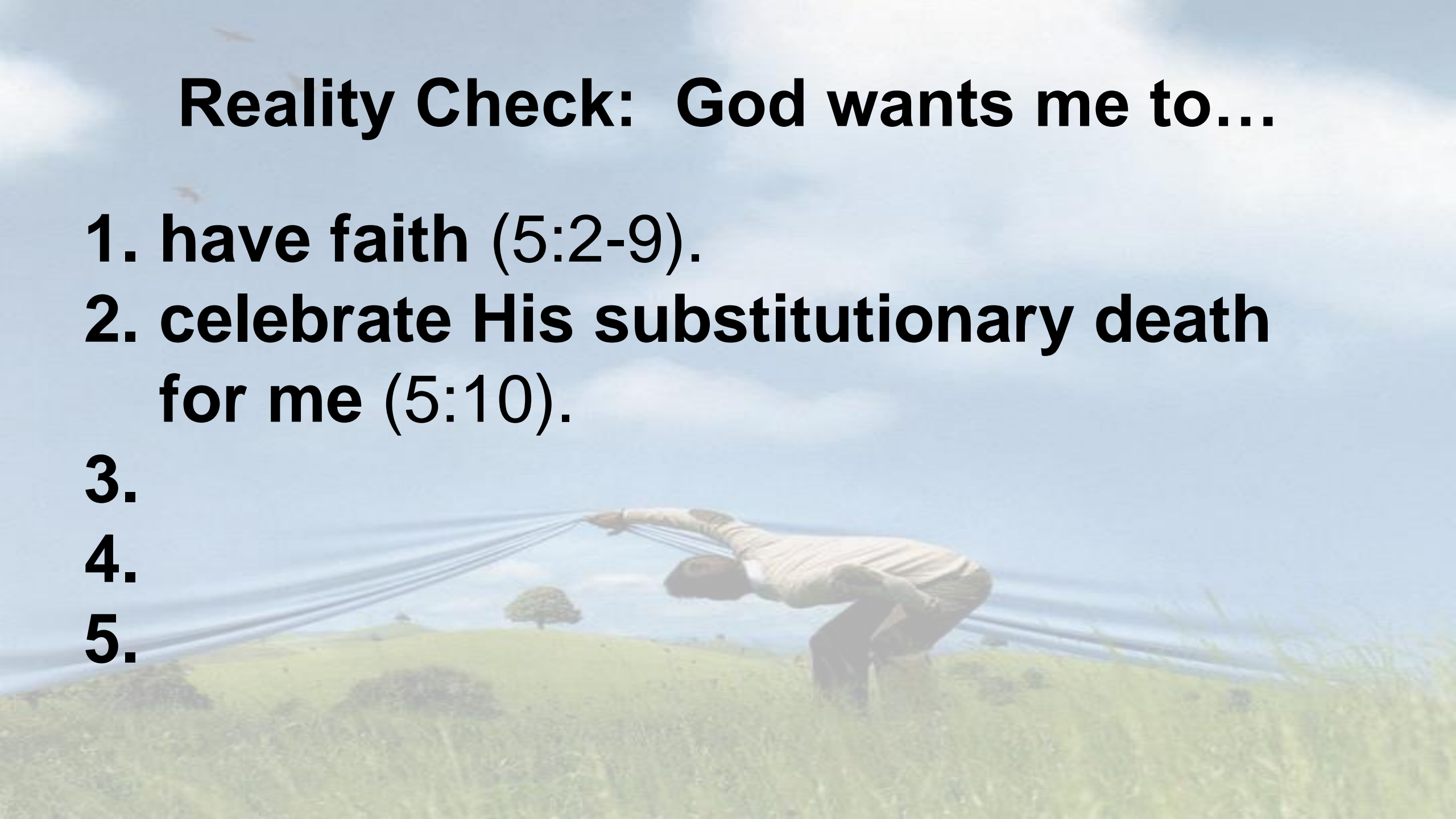
Joshua 5:10 (NIV)

**On the evening of the fourteenth day
of the month,
while camped at Gilgal
on the plains of Jericho,
the Israelites celebrated the Passover.**



Reality Check: God wants me to...

1. have faith (5:2-9).
2. celebrate His substitutionary death for me (5:10).
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



1 Corinthians 5:7b (NIV)

**For Christ,
our Passover lamb,
has been sacrificed.**



Joshua 5:11 (NIV)

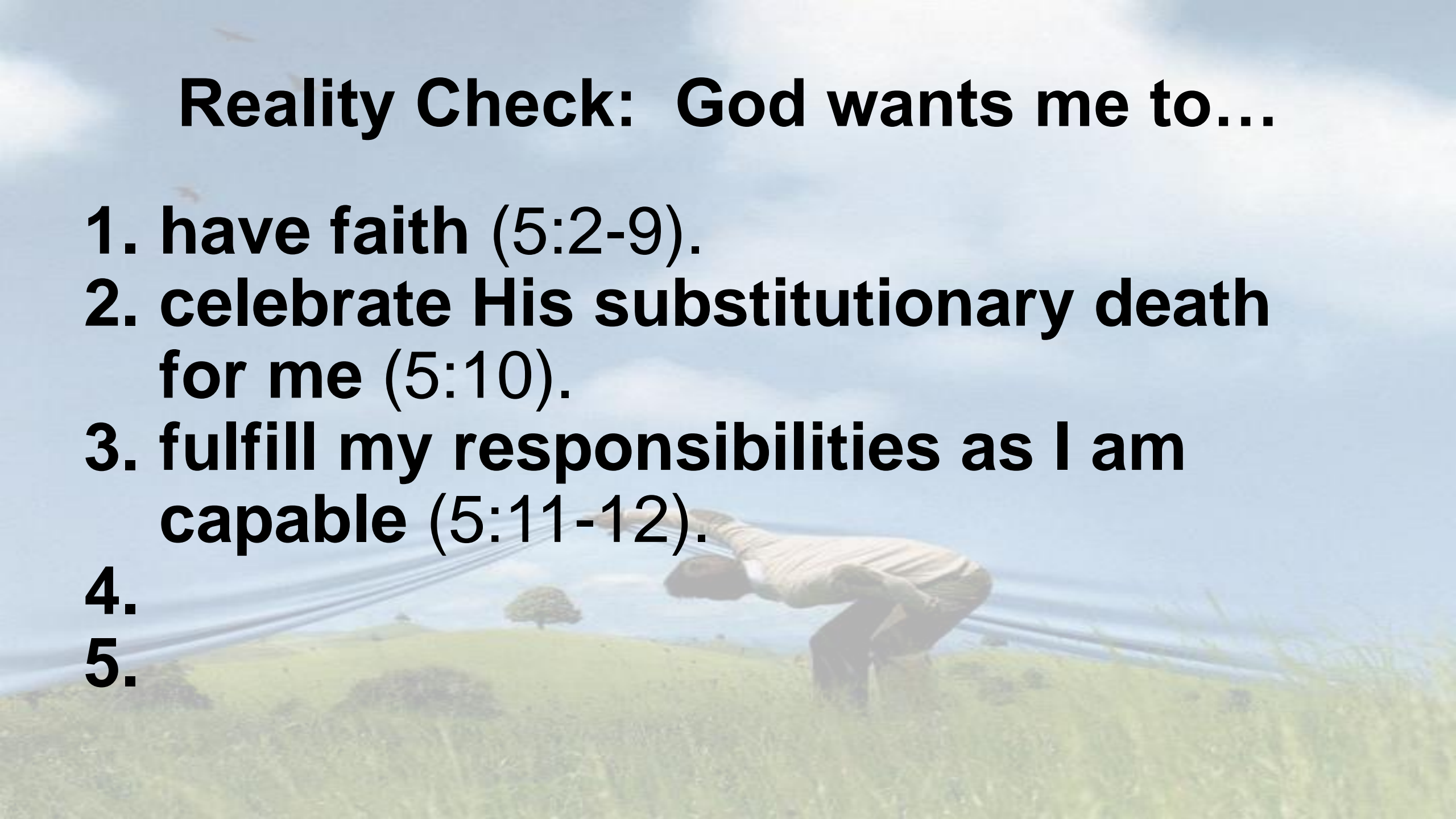
**The day after the Passover,
that very day,
they ate some of the produce
of the land:
unleavened bread and roasted grain.**

Joshua 5:12 (NIV)

**The manna stopped the day after they ate
this food from the land;
there was no longer any manna
for the Israelites,
but that year
they ate of the produce of Canaan.**

Reality Check: God wants me to...

1. **have faith (5:2-9).**
2. **celebrate His substitutionary death for me (5:10).**
3. **fulfill my responsibilities as I am capable (5:11-12).**
- 4.
- 5.



Rev. William J.H. Boetcher

- 1) You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.**
- 2) You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.**
- 3) You cannot help little men by tearing down big men.**
- 4) You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.**

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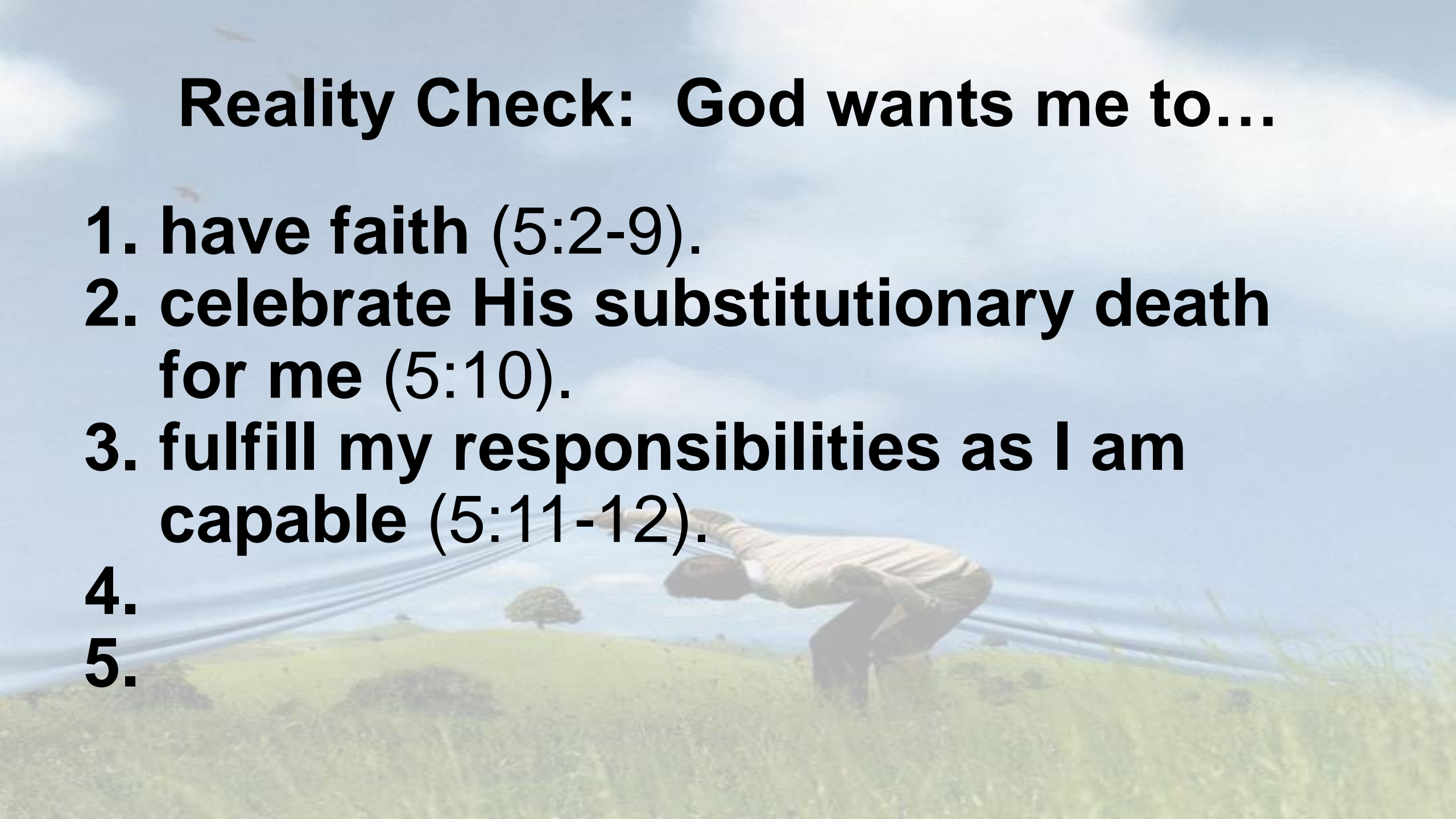
- 5) You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.**
- 6) You cannot establish sound security on borrowed money.**
- 7) You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.**
- 8) You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than you earn.**

Rev. William J.H. Boetcher

- 9) You cannot build character and courage by destroying men's initiative and independence.**
- 10) You cannot help people permanently by doing for them what they can and should do for themselves.**

Reality Check: God wants me to...

1. **have faith (5:2-9).**
2. **celebrate His substitutionary death for me (5:10).**
3. **fulfill my responsibilities as I am capable (5:11-12).**
- 4.
- 5.



Joshua 5:13 (NIV)

**Now when Joshua was near Jericho,
he looked up and saw a man
standing in front of him
with a drawn sword in his hand.
Joshua went up to him and asked,
“Are you for us or for our enemies?”**

Joshua 5:14 (NIV)

“Neither,” he replied,

**“but as commander of the army of the Lord
I have now come.”**

**Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in
reverence, and asked him,**

**“What message does my Lord
have for his servant?”**

THEOPHANY



A VISIBLE MANIFESTATION OF GOD

Reality Check: God wants me to...

- 1. have faith (5:2-9).**
- 2. celebrate His substitutionary death for me (5:10).**
- 3. fulfill my responsibilities as I am capable (5:11-12).**
- 4. remember He runs the show (5:13-14).**
- 5.**



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"Basically, we're looking for an innovative pastor with a fresh vision who will inspire our church to remain exactly the same."

Joshua 5:15 (NIV)

**The commander
of the Lord's army replied,
"Take off your sandals,
for the place where you are standing
is holy."
And Joshua did so.**



Reality Check: God wants me to...

- 1. have faith (5:2-9).**
- 2. celebrate His substitutionary death for me (5:10).**
- 3. fulfill my responsibilities as I am capable (5:11-12).**
- 4. remember He runs the show (5:13-14).**
- 5. revere His holiness (5:15).**