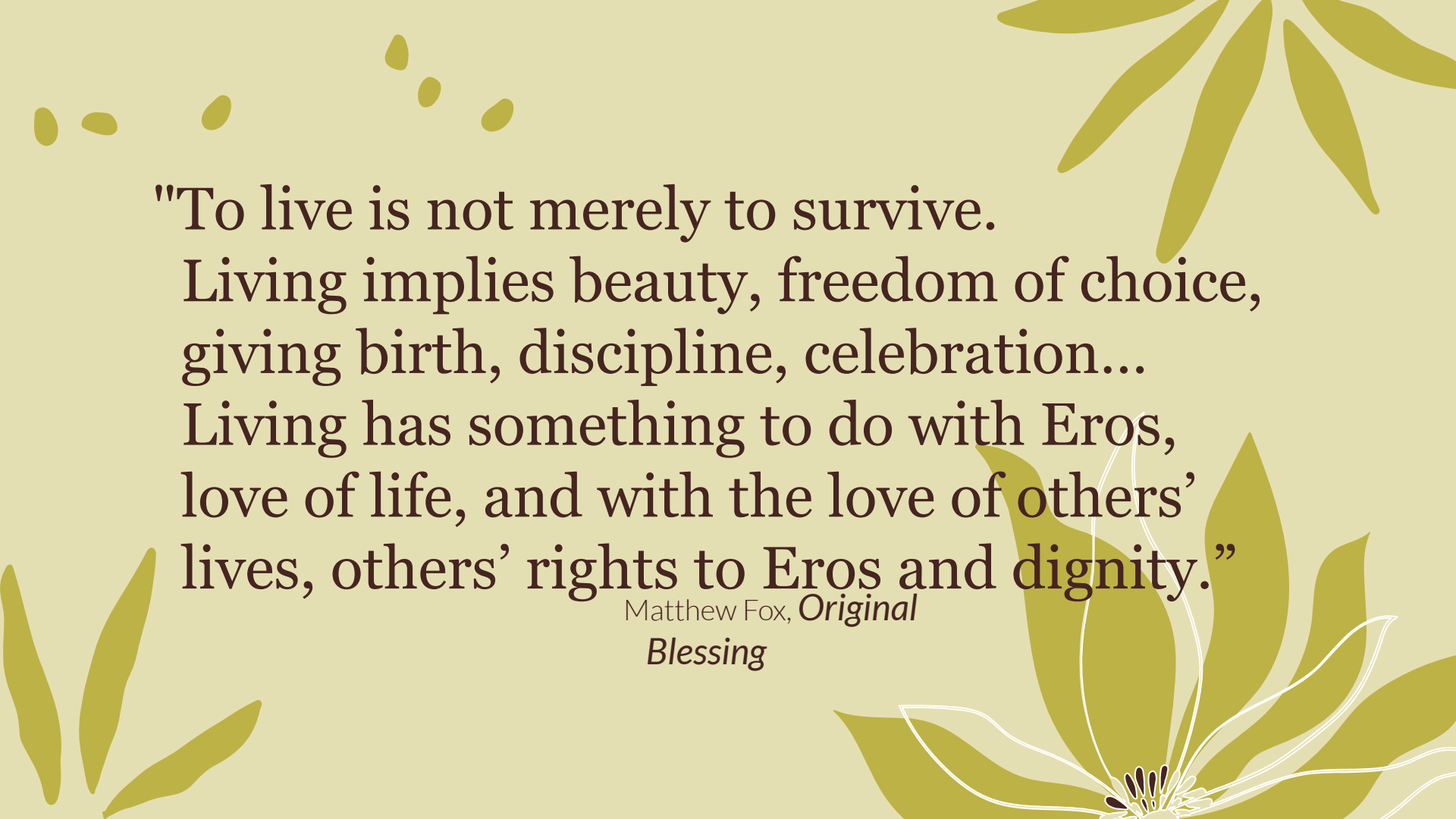


The background features several stylized green floral and leaf motifs. In the top left, there is a sunburst-like flower with many small petals. In the top center, there are a few simple, elongated leaves. In the bottom right, there is a larger, more detailed flower with several large, pointed petals and a central cluster of stamens. Scattered throughout the background are several small, teardrop-shaped green elements.

Crisis of Faith or Transcendent Experience?



"To live is not merely to survive.
Living implies beauty, freedom of choice,
giving birth, discipline, celebration...
Living has something to do with Eros,
love of life, and with the love of others'
lives, others' rights to Eros and dignity."

Matthew Fox, *Original
Blessing*



Land Acknowledgement

The background is a light beige color. There are several decorative floral elements in olive green and white. In the top left, there are several pointed leaves. In the top right, there are more leaves. In the bottom left, there is a large flower with many petals, some outlined in white. In the bottom right, there are several small, dark green spots.

Overview

Outline

Activation vs Trigger

Person vs Loved One

Breath Exercise





ROBYN FERRIER (she/her)

End of Life Doula - Home Hospice Association
Spiritual Director - Emmaus Formation Centre
Grief Educator - David Kessler, grief.com
BA Psychology - Wilfrid Laurier University

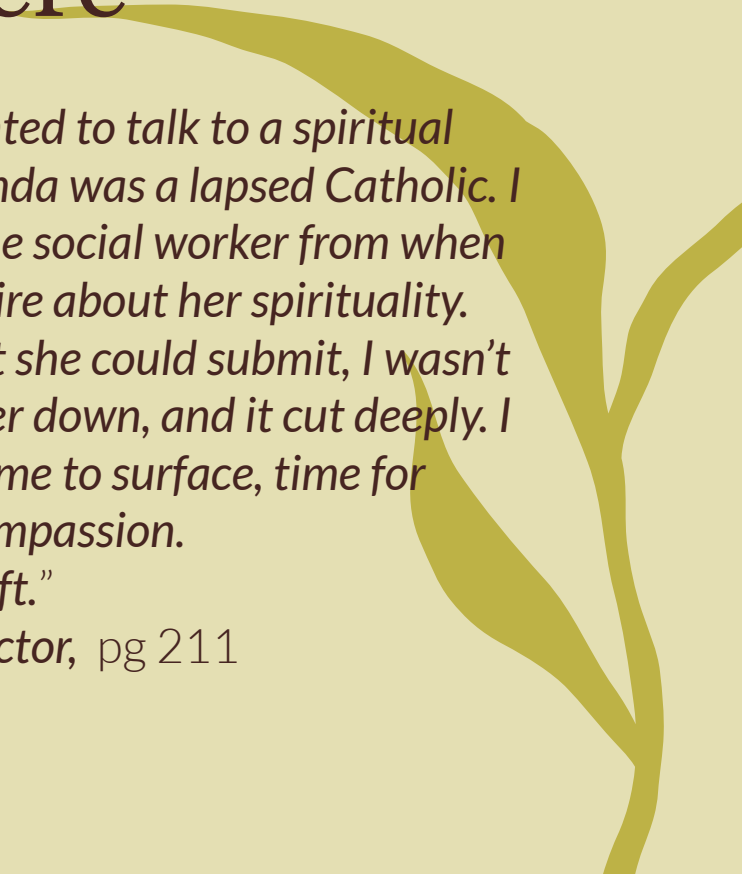


Why I am here

“Yolanda had a final surprise for me: she wanted to talk to a spiritual counsellor. Could I help her find one? I knew Yolanda was a lapsed Catholic. I knew she had a psychiatrist, as well as a long-time social worker from when she lived in Boston. But I had neglected to inquire about her spirituality. Through the hospital offered a questionnaire that she could submit, I wasn’t able to find anyone suitable. I felt that I had let her down, and it cut deeply. I know the conversations matter. They need time to surface, time for reflection, for silent listening, compassion.

Now there was no time left.”

Dr Jean Marmoreo, *The Last Doctor*, pg 211



The background features several decorative elements in an olive green color. In the top left, there are stylized leaves. In the top center, there is a flower with many petals and a central cluster of stamens. In the top right, there is a cluster of small, dark spots. In the bottom right, there is a branch with several long, pointed leaves.

Poll

Are you currently a professional in a caring profession?

If known, do any of your active/past clients include faith/spirituality as part of their daily life?

Have any of your active/past clients asked you for spiritual support on the MAiD journey?

Do you feel comfortable in this space with your client?





What do YOU believe?

What do I believe?

Why do I believe this?

Can I support/come alongside someone who believes differently than I do?

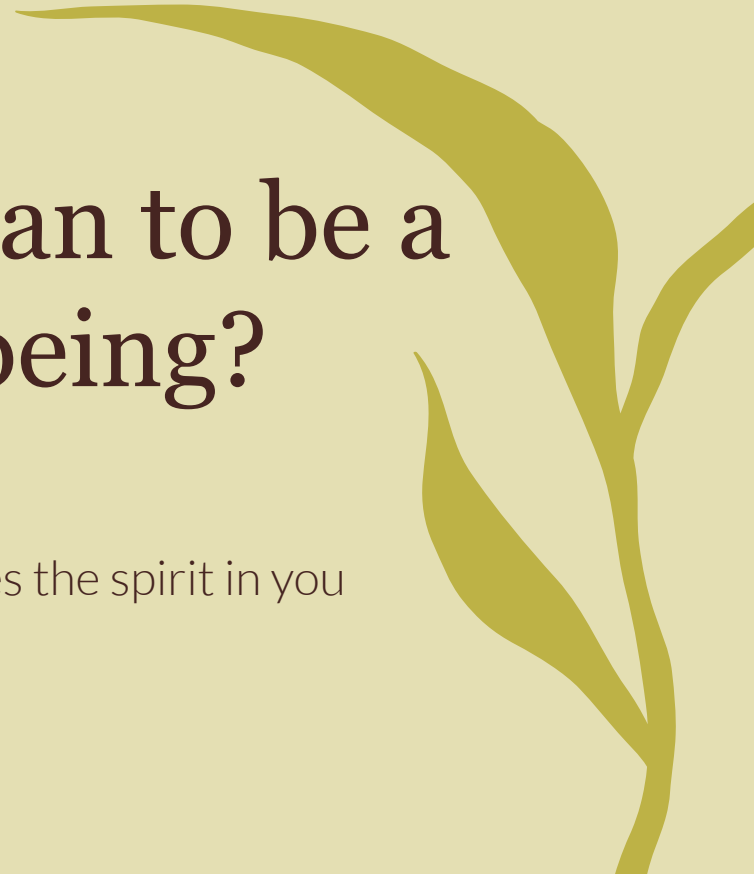
Can I listen attentively with grace and an open mind if individuals and/or their people don't agree with MAiD as an option in health and death care?

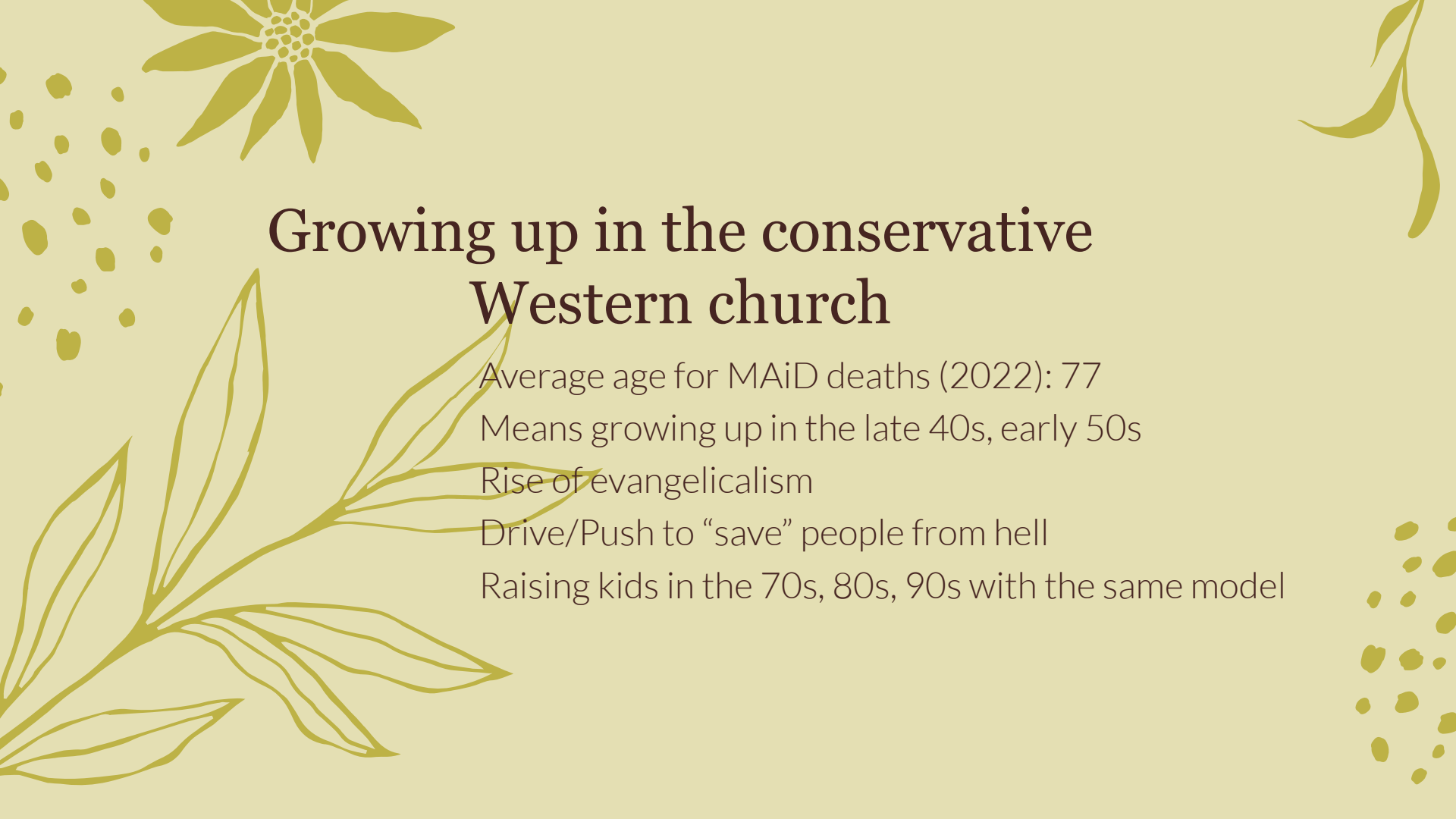




What does it mean to be a whole-istic being?

Namaste: The spirit in me bows/sees the spirit in you





Growing up in the conservative Western church


Average age for MAiD deaths (2022): 77

Means growing up in the late 40s, early 50s

Rise of evangelicalism

Drive/Push to “save” people from hell

Raising kids in the 70s, 80s, 90s with the same model



Growing up in the conservative Western church

What it means to be a “good” Christian

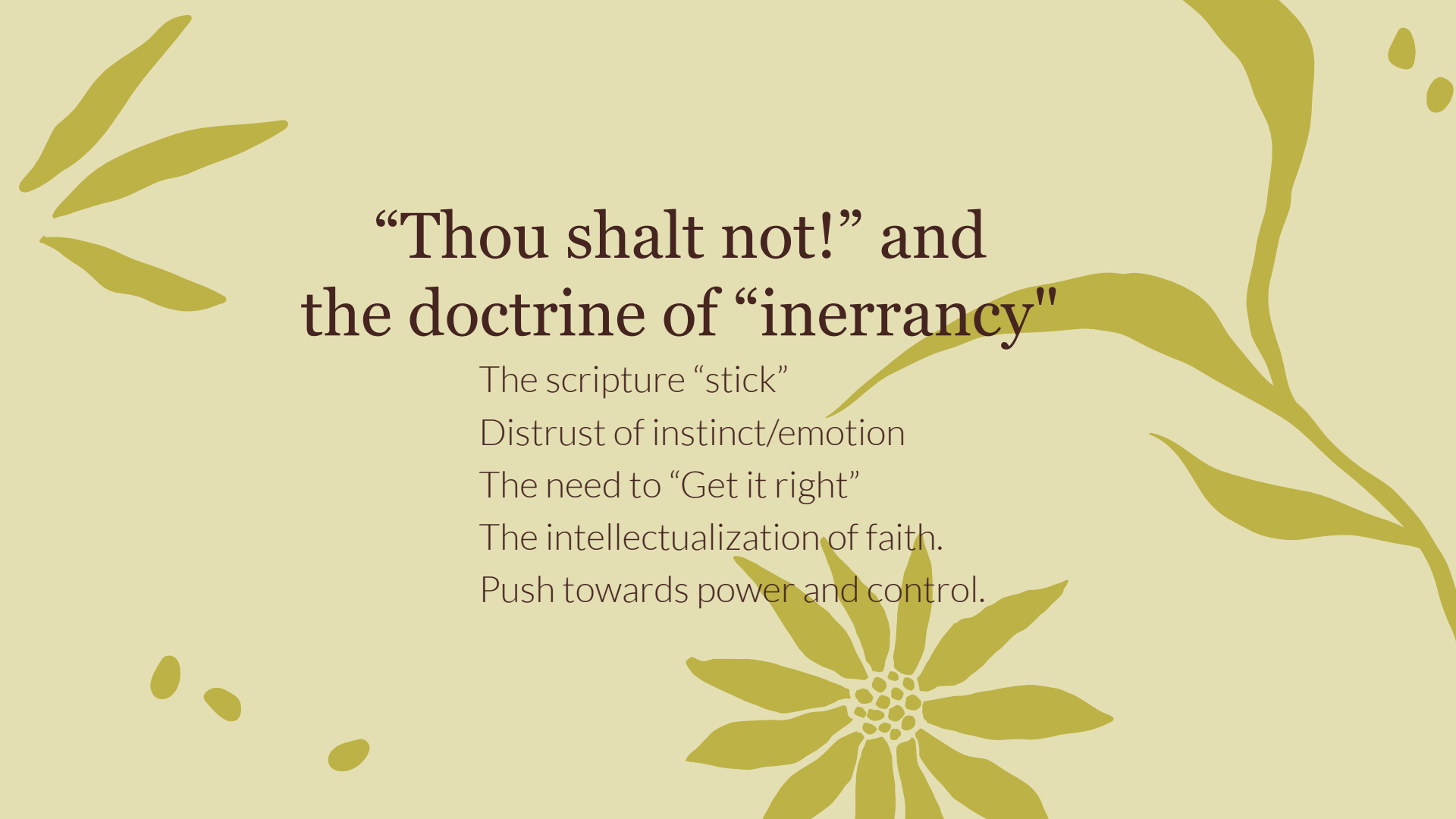
Pressure to serve everyone else

Who is God and what HE does to bad people

10 Commandments

What we are told about who we are

The pressure to strive

The background is a light green color with several stylized green elements. In the top left, there are three elongated, pointed leaf shapes. In the top right, there is a curved branch with several leaves and two small circular shapes. In the bottom center, there is a large, stylized flower with many petals and a central cluster of small circles. In the bottom left, there are three small, oval shapes.

“Thou shalt not!” and the doctrine of “inerrancy”

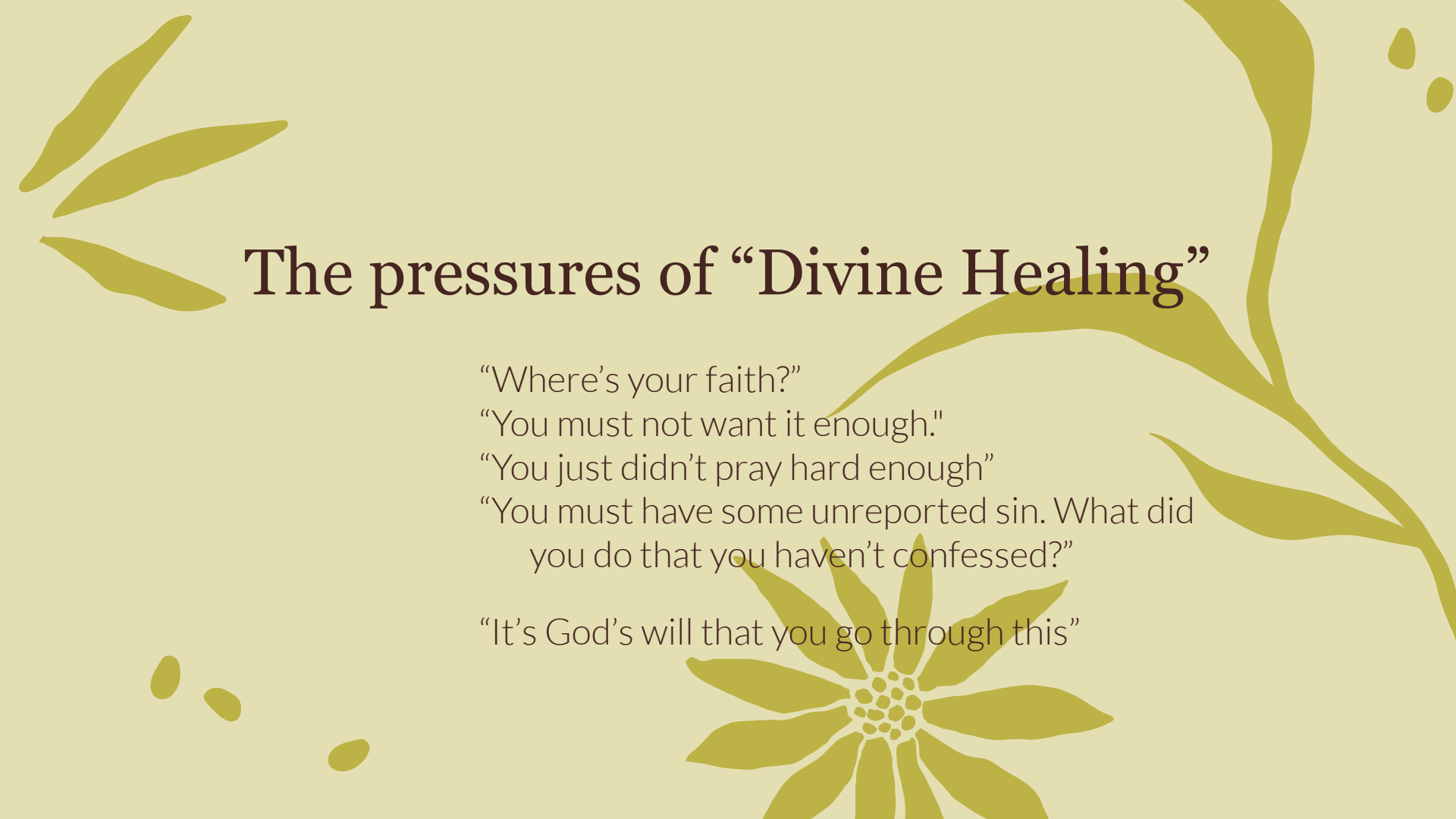
The scripture “stick”

Distrust of instinct/emotion

The need to “Get it right”

The intellectualization of faith.

Push towards power and control.

The background is a light green color with several stylized green elements. In the top left, there are three elongated, pointed leaf shapes. In the top right, there is a larger, more complex leaf shape with several smaller, rounded leaflets. In the bottom center, there is a stylized flower with many pointed petals radiating from a central cluster of small dots. In the bottom left, there are four small, rounded leaf-like shapes.

The pressures of “Divine Healing”

“Where’s your faith?”

“You must not want it enough.”

“You just didn’t pray hard enough”

“You must have some unreported sin. What did you do that you haven’t confessed?”

“It’s God’s will that you go through this”



Your experience?

Has this been your experience?

Have you witnessed someone else express or experience this?

How does your spirit/soul respond when you hear these things?

OUTCOME

Secrecy
Guilt and Shame
Fear
Conspiracy Theories
Power and Control

OUTCOME

“..research recognizes that because self-judgment and self-criticism are so prominent in our culture, we view others with greater skepticism, judgement and objectification. This in turn causes us to become dishonest and fuels the propensity to hide ourselves because we know that being honest and showing up as ourselves only fuels condemnation. And if this is true of our broader culture, we can imagine the increased severity of it in an HCR , where shown up as ourselves, making a mistake or sharing an honest thought can carry eternal consequences.”

Laura Anderson, When Religion Hurts You, pg 131



Case Study

Freedom!

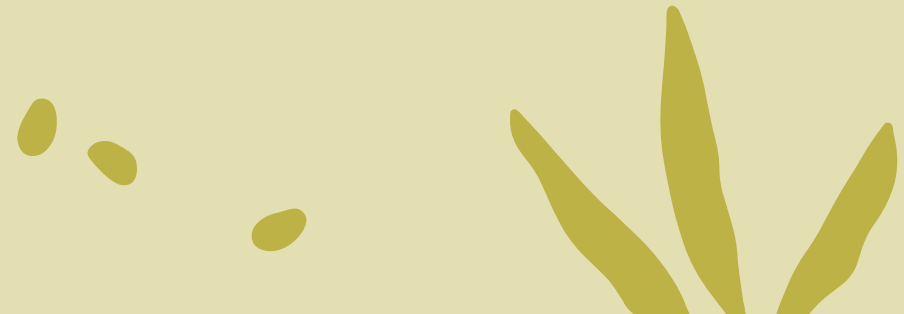
To choose
To die on their terms
From pain
From dissent
From pressures, rules, regulations
From power and control

What can we do to help them find this?





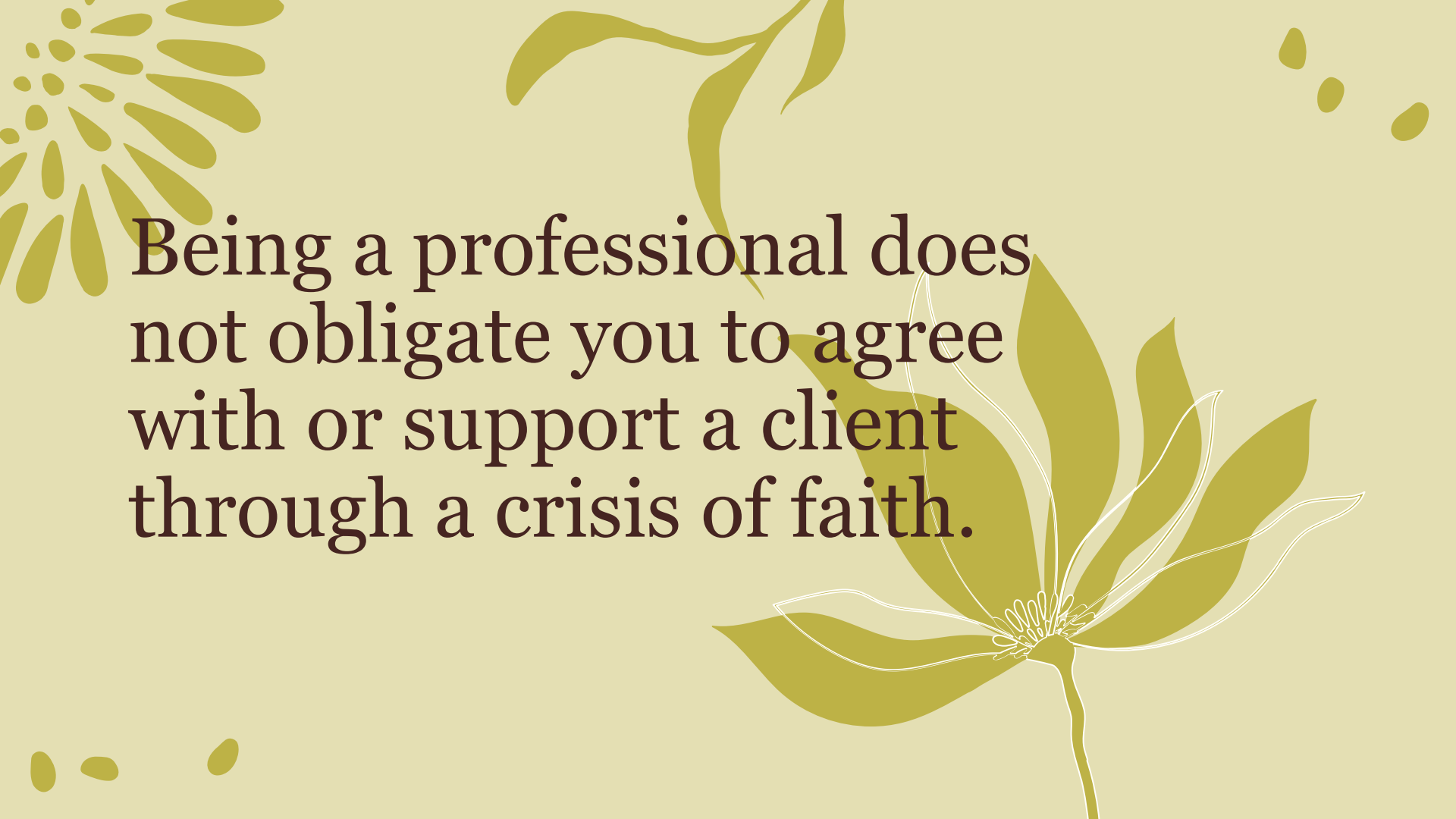
Meditation Tool





What about the after life?

How might this be a part of your
conversation with the client or
the client with their people?

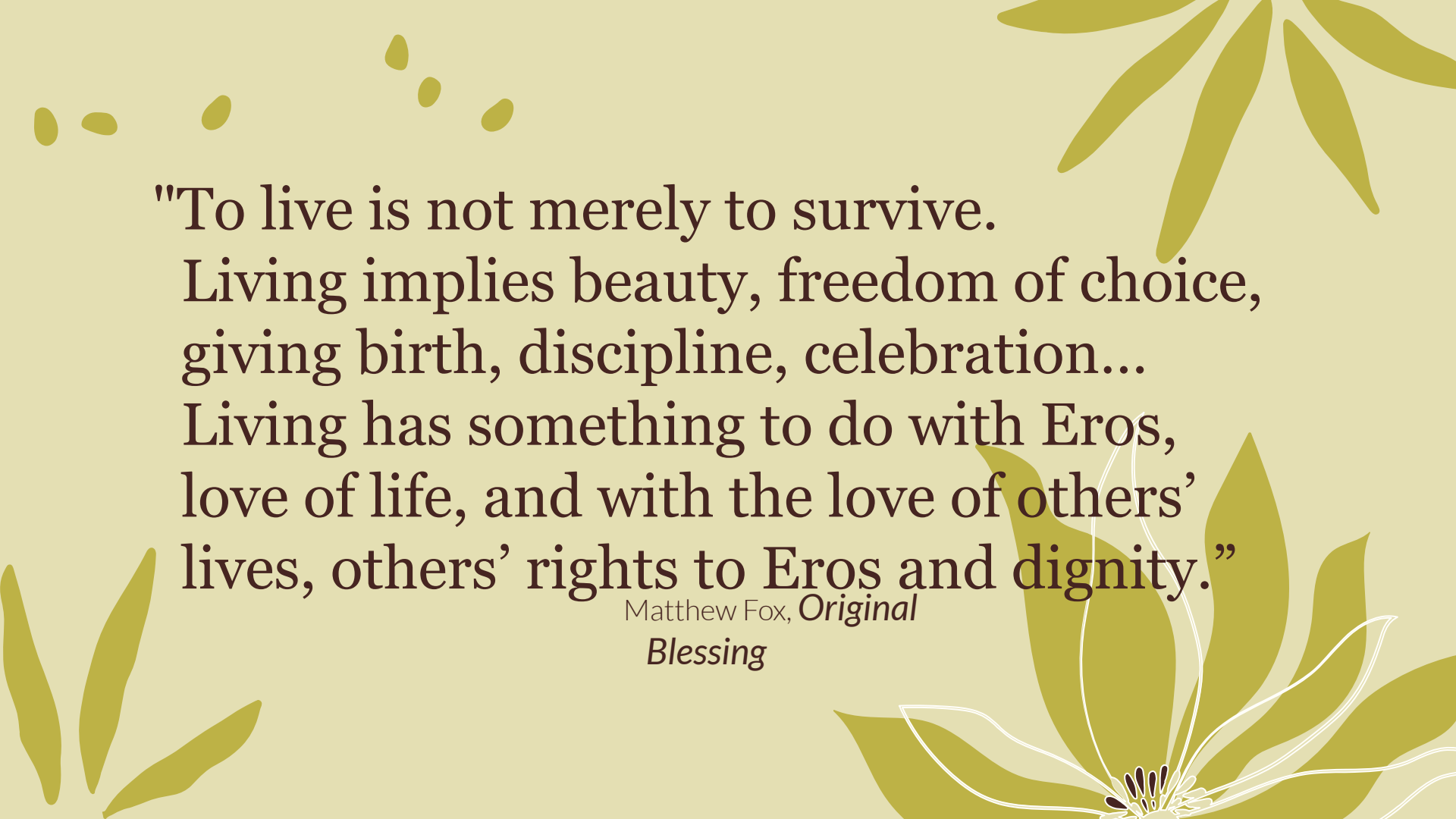
The background is a light, muted green color. It features several stylized green floral and leaf motifs. In the top left corner, there is a cluster of teardrop-shaped petals radiating from a central point. In the top center, there are several long, slender, curved leaves. In the bottom right, there is a larger, more detailed flower with multiple broad, pointed petals and a central cluster of stamens. Scattered throughout the background are several small, solid green teardrop shapes.

Being a professional does not obligate you to agree with or support a client through a crisis of faith.



Questions?



The background features a light green color with stylized green leaves and a white-outlined flower with a dark center. The text is centered in a dark brown serif font.

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