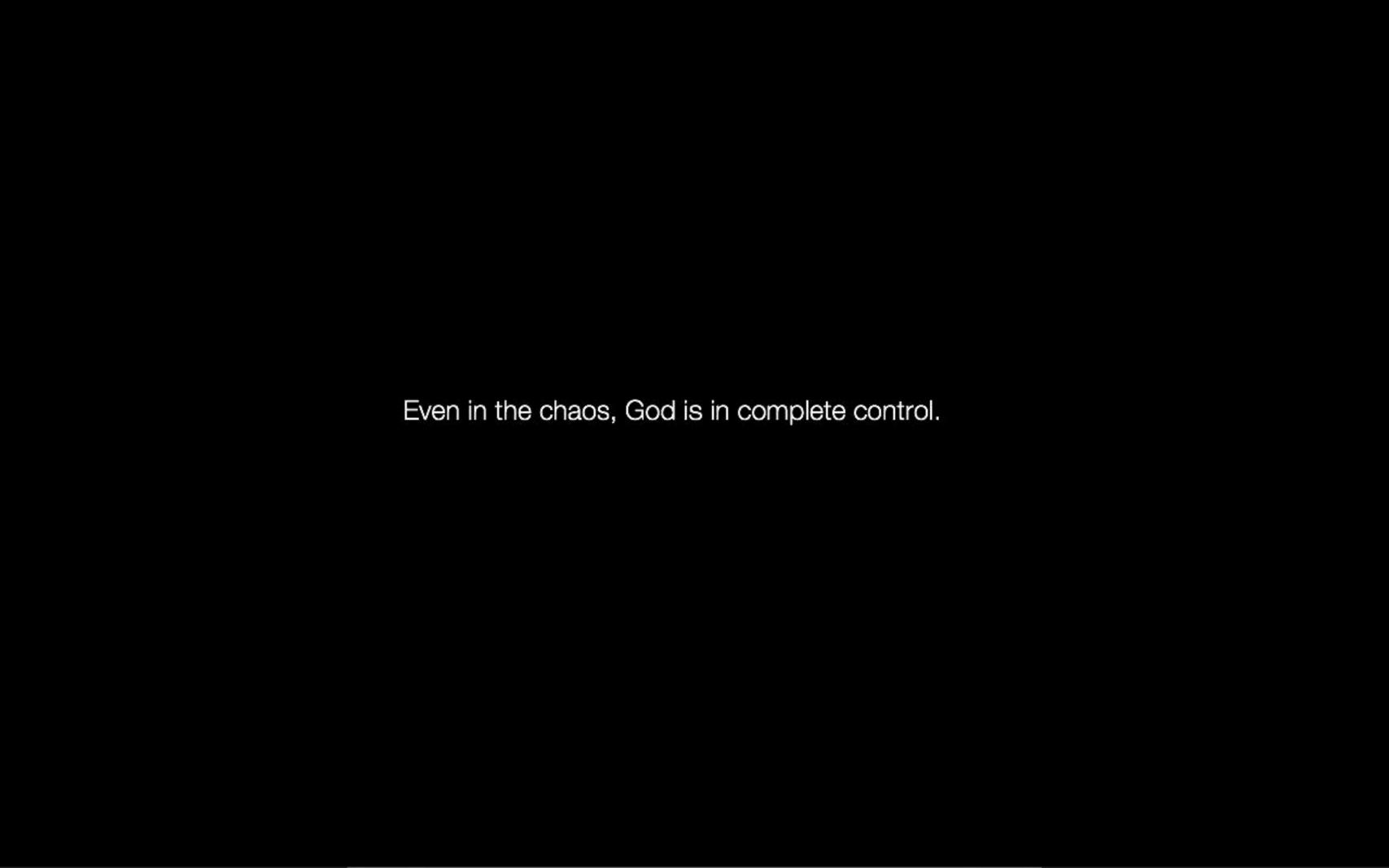
Lord of All Creation Exodus 7:14-18; 10:21-29



Sometimes God uses chaos to free us from idolatry.

It's possible that each of the plagues confront Egypt's counterfeit gods...

Turning water to blood is a challenge against the Egyptian gods, <u>Spelt/Hopi & Osiris</u>, who revealed his life by the Nile.

The plague of frogs is a challenge to the Egyptian goddess <u>Heget</u>, the goddess of fertility, water, & life.

The gnats are an attack on <u>Geb</u>, an Egyptian god who ruled the dust of the earth.

The flies are a challenge to Khepri, the god of rebirth, the sunrise, and creation.

The cow deaths are an attack on <u>Hathor</u>, the goddess of love, beauty, joy, fertility, and protection. Hathor is often depicted with cow horns or even as a cow.

The boils from dust was an attack on 'mother earth goddess, <u>lsis</u>, the goddess of magic, healing, and wisdom—who is also the goddess of health, nature, and marriage.

Even in the Chaos, YHWH is in complete control.

Those who cling to worthless idols forsake faithful love (Jonah 2:8).

Idolatry = failure to "see through" to the reality behind an object, by stopping with the object itself.

- Rowan Williams

Sometimes God uses Chaos to cultivate deeper intimacy.

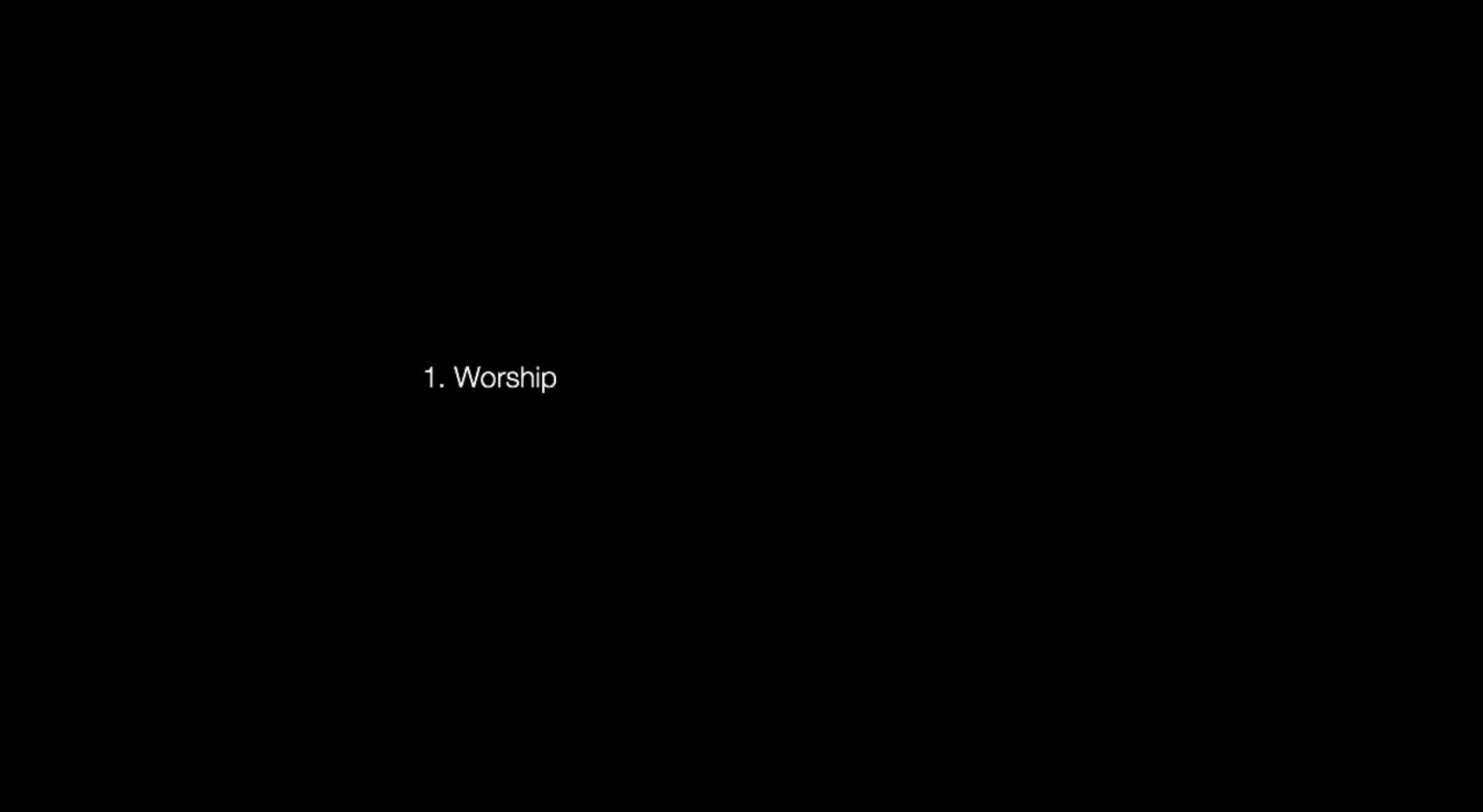
Exodus 7:15-16

Take in your hand the staff that turned into a snake. Tell him: Yahweh, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to tell you: Let My people go, so that they may worship Me in the wilderness.

Psalm 138:11-14

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me, and the light around me will be night"—even the darkness is not dark to You. The night shines like the day; darkness and light are alike to You. For it was You who created my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I will praise You because I have been remarkably and wonderfully made.

Two ways we can respond to God's invitation to cultivate intimacy.



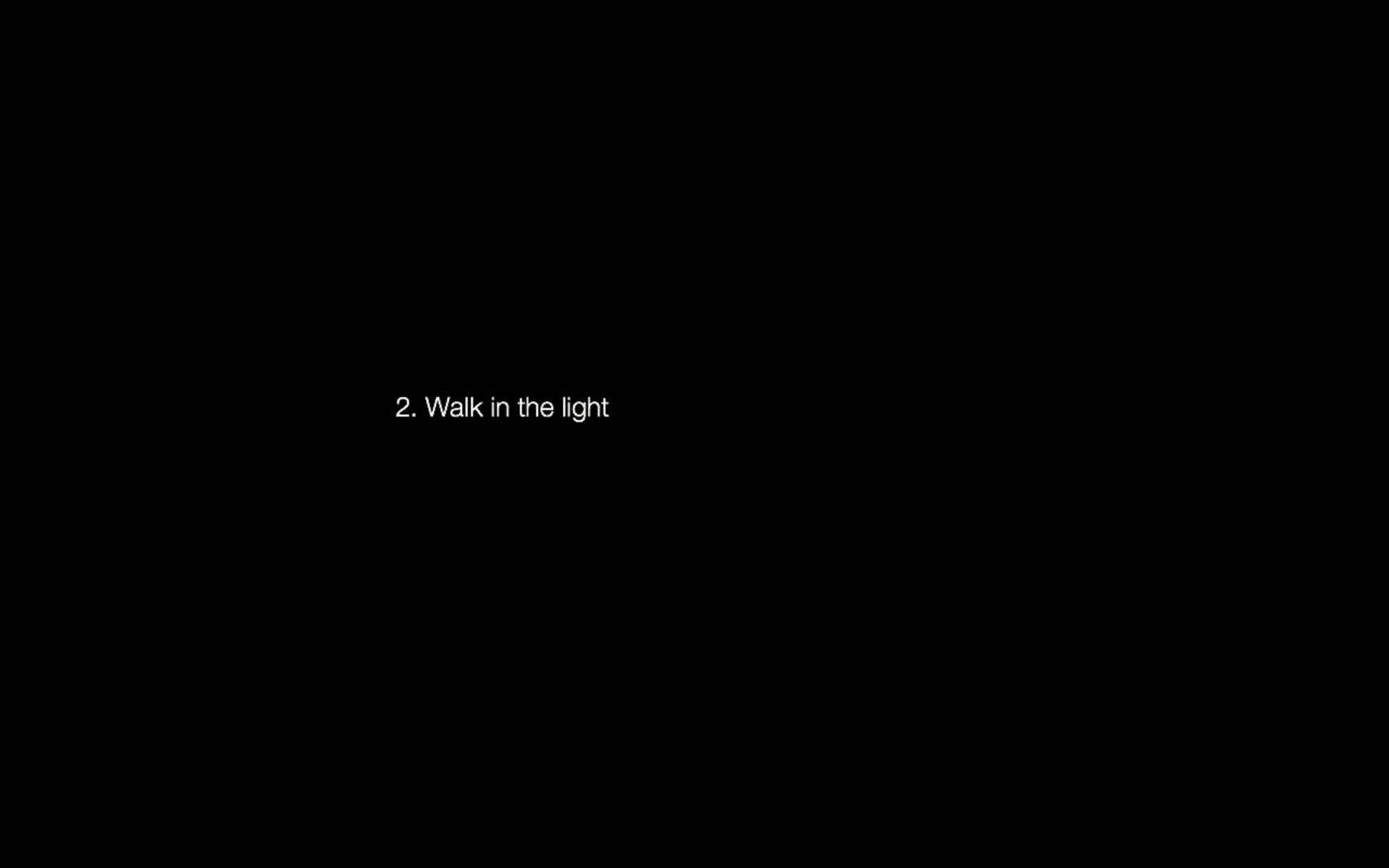
Worshipping God is where we renounce our idols and realize that God is in control, even in the chaos.

Worship = "Worth-ship:" a private act, which has two parts: seeing what God is worth and giving him what he's worth.

"As I was reading through the verses and reflecting on last Sunday's sermon, I thought about how Moses could have never had the courage to confront Pharaoh had he not experienced God at the burning bush. Moses was way more in awe/fear of God then Pharaoh. I'm reminded that it's really difficult for me to speak truth into my "monsters/pharaohs" if I haven't allowed myself time to be with God or ponder Him...

...I remember when I was having a hard time after [my daughter] was born and couldn't sleep bc of fear, [someone] gave me advice to "marvel at God" at night while trying to sleep. "Ponder how big He is, His creation-outer space for example and how perfect He orchestrated the sun, moon and stars, His sovereignty" I took comfort in this and could face the scary a little more."

-RCB Leader



(v. 21-22) "...that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness to be felt. So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was pitch darkness in all the land of Egypt three days." "...But all the people of Israel had light where they lived."

Exodus 10:34

Pharaoh summoned Moses and said, "Go, worship Yahweh. Even your families may go with you; only your flocks and herds must stay behind."

(v.25-26) Moses responded, "You must also let us have sacrifices and burnt offerings to prepare for Yahweh our God. Even our livestock must go with us; not a hoof will be left behind because we will take some of them to worship Yahweh our God. We will not know what we will use to worship Yahweh until we get there."

(v.27-29) But the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he was unwilling to let them go. Pharaoh said to him, "Leave me! Make sure you never see my face again, for on the day you see my face, you will die." "As you have said," Moses replied, "I will never see your face again."

What light has God revealed to you today? It might be just enough to see your next step. Will you walk in it?