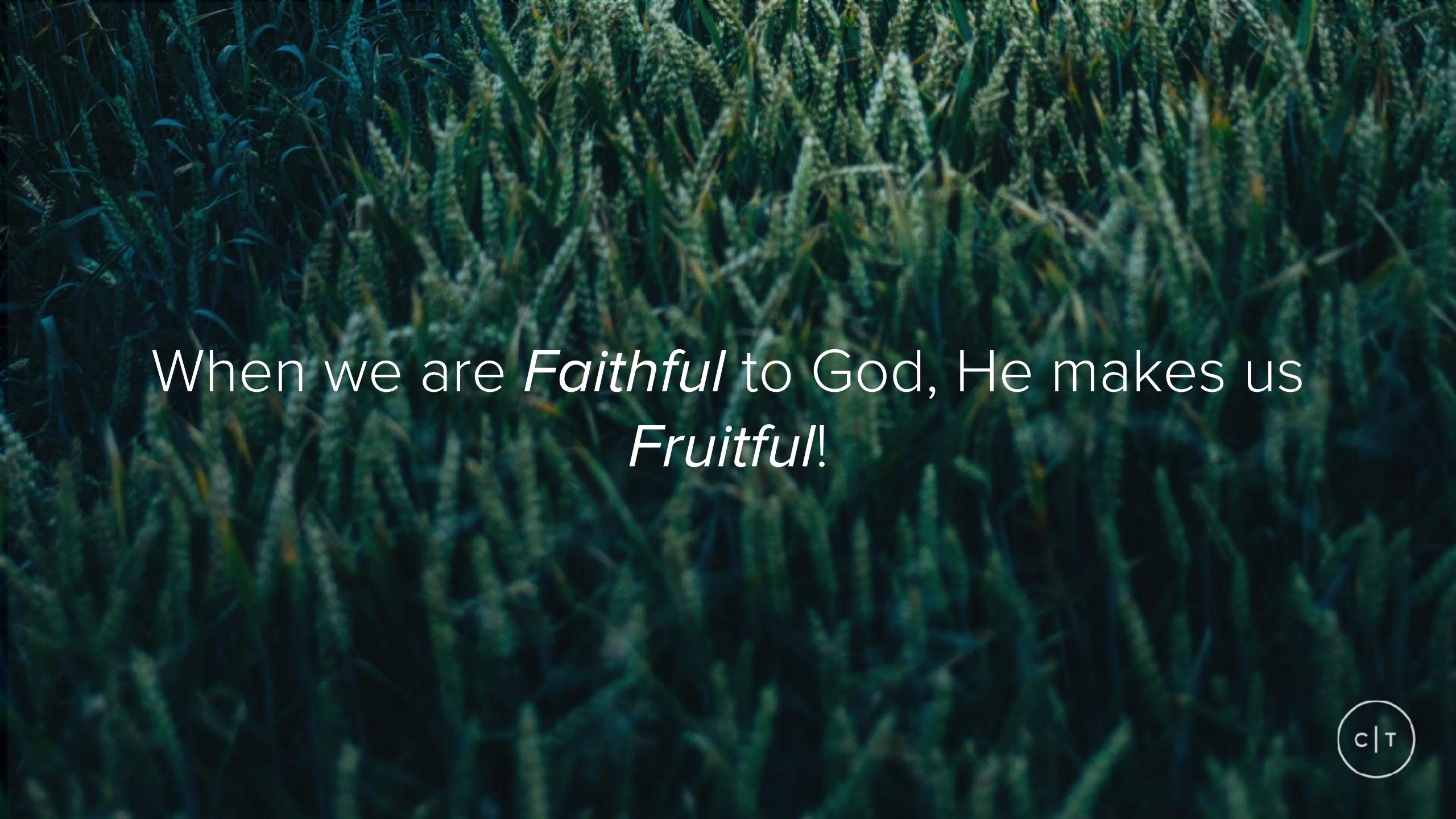


Let **love** and **faithfulness** never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man. Proverbs 3:3-4 (NIV)

Faithfulness: firmness, trustworthiness, dependability and reliability

Loyal Love: an unfailing kind of love, kindness, and goodness; often used to describe God's love





"It is easier to accept your limits if you have a biblical view of success. The world defines success in terms of what a person possesses, controls, or accomplishes. God defines success in terms of faithful obedience to his will. The world asks, 'What results have you achieved?' God asks, 'Were you faithful to my ways?"

 Ken Sande, The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict



In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. 2The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

Ruth 1:1-18 (NIV)



3Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband. Ruth 1:1-18 (NIV)



6When Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah. Ruth 1:1-18 (NIV)



®Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the Lord show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. May the Lord grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband." Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud 10 and said to her, "We will go back with you to your people." Ruth 1:1-18 (NIV)



But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? ¹²Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— 13Would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? Ruth 1:1-18 (NIV)

No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the Lord's hand has turned against me!" ¹⁴At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her. 15"Look," said Naomi, "your sister-inlaw is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her." Ruth 1:1-18 (NIV)

(c|T)

¹⁶But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. 7Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me." 18 When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

Ruth 1:1-18 (NIV)





Ruth Understood the Kindness of God

¹⁶But Ruth replied: Do not persuade me to leave you or go back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. 7Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord do this to me, and even more, if anything but death separates you and me.

Ruth 1:16-17 (NIV)



Ruth Understood the Kindness of God

Ruth discovered a world of truth of which she had never dreamed. She learned about a true and living God, a kind God, a pure and holy God, a God wholly unlike the dreadful, lustful and savage gods of her people.

- J.B. Phillips



Ruth Sold-Out to the Supremacy of God

¹⁶But Ruth replied: Do not persuade me to leave you or go back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord do this to me, and even more, if anything but death separates you and me.

Ruth 1:16-17 (NIV)

