



Journey through Advent

Why explore the topic of waiting?

1 December 2024, 12 noon GMT

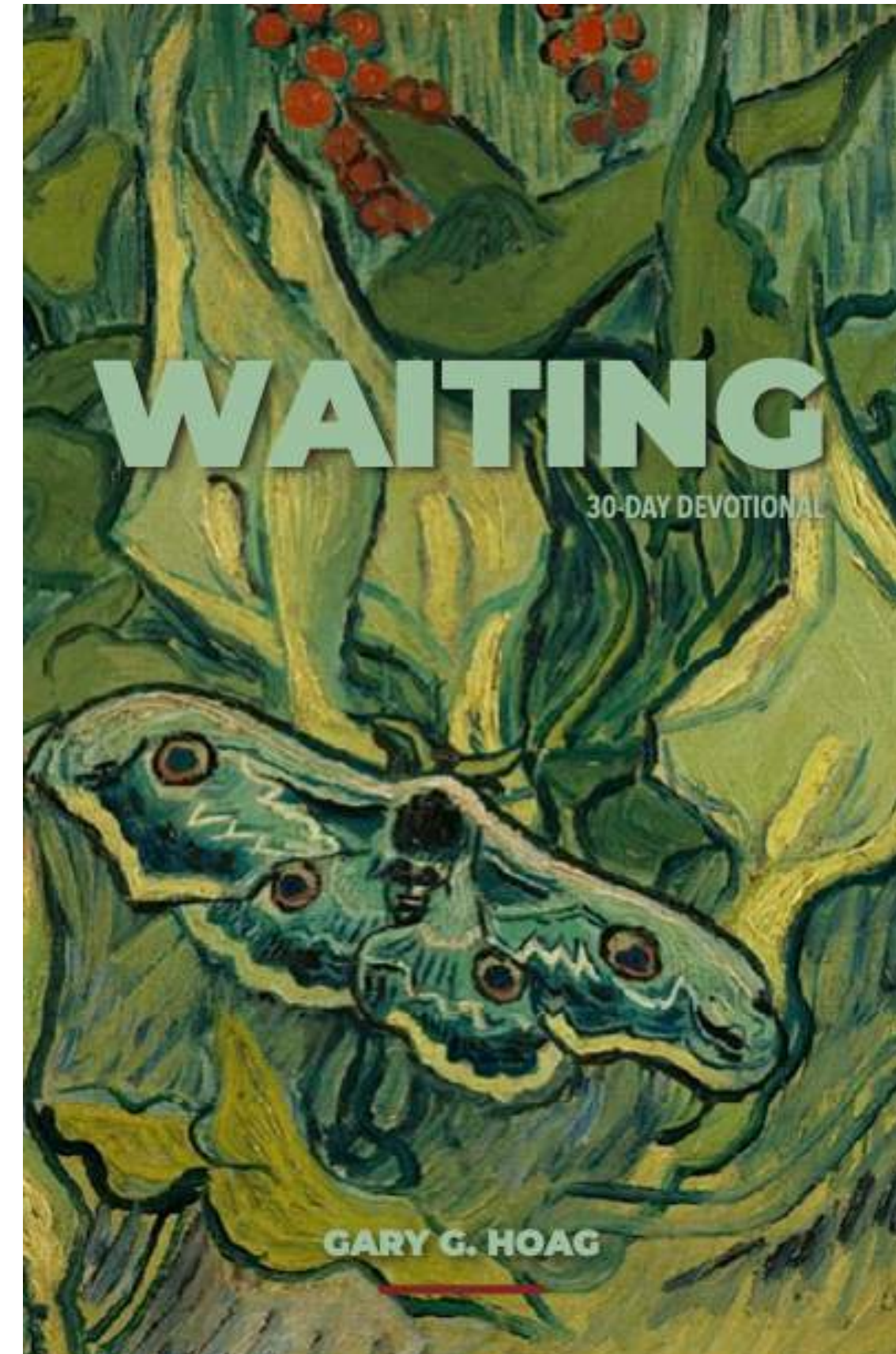
What is Advent?

In the four weeks leading up to Christmas, churches around the world wait for the arrival or “advent” of Jesus, the Messiah. It’s a time of hope, peace, joy, love, and waiting.

Journey with GTP

At GTP, we do not offer any training courses in December because we want everyone to use the time to connect with Jesus.

- Read WAITING over 30 days
- Attend 3 Zoom meetings
- Put a check-in word in the chat



Read **WAITING** over 30 days

**Learn
about
waiting
from these
Bible
characters**

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Jeremiah | 11. Esther | 21. Mary and Martha |
| 2. Hannah and Samuel | 12. Moses | 22. Peter |
| 3. Abram | 13. Nehemiah | 23. Mary Magdalene |
| 4. Sarai | 14. Ruth | 24. Paul |
| 5. Isaiah | 15. Joshua | 25. Luke |
| 6. Micah | 16. Gideon | 26. Lydia |
| 7. Psalmist | 17. David | 27. John |
| 8. Rahab | 18. Adam and Eve | 28. James & Job |
| 9. Joseph | 19. Mary | 29. Phoebe |
| 10. Noah | 20. Simeon | 30. Jude |

Attend 3 Zoom Meetings

**Learn about
waiting from
brothers and
sisters
around the
world**

Experience short time of teaching and rich discussion on the following topics:

1 December 2024

- Why explore the topic of waiting?

15 December 2024

- How does waiting shape us?

30 December 2024

- What if we make the most of waiting opportunities?



**Why explore the
topic of waiting?**

Three Reasons



Why explore the topic of waiting?

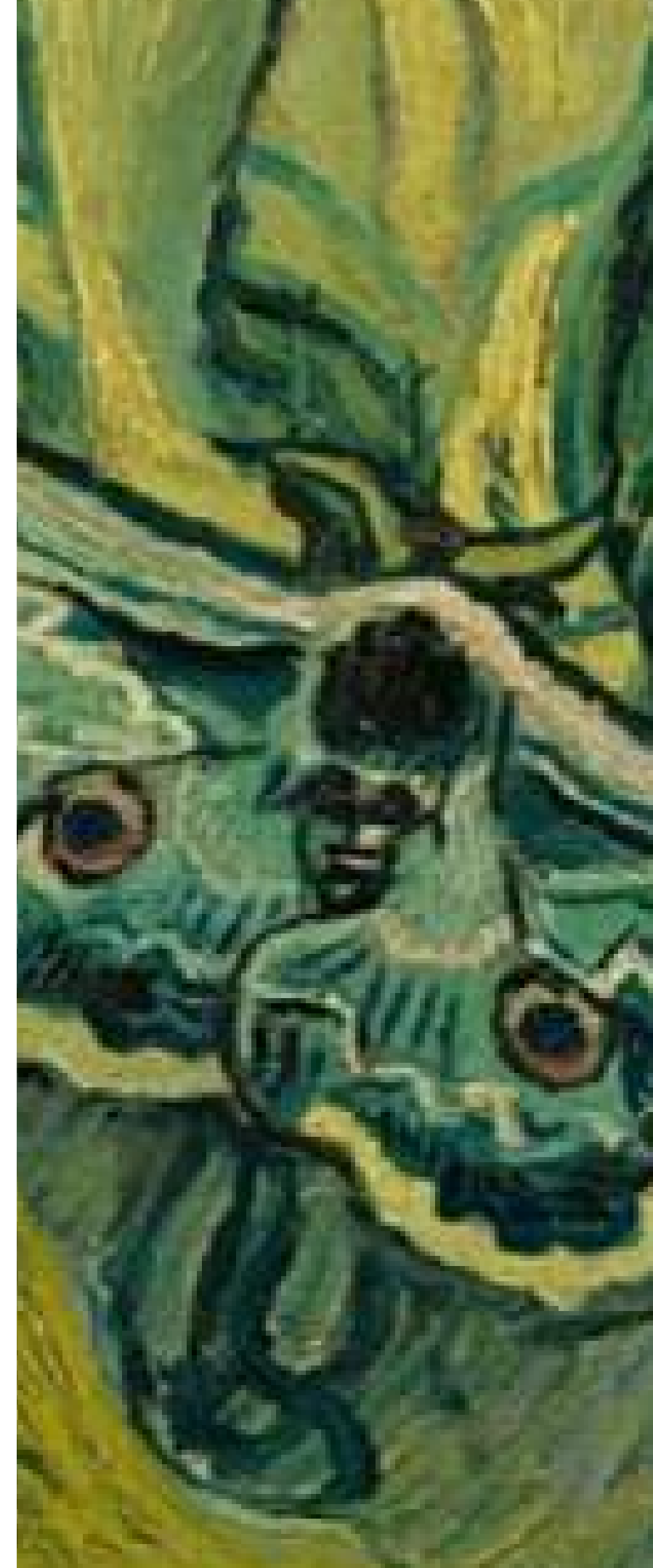
1. Timing

God's timing is not the same as ours.

Hannah and Samuel
Abram and Sarai
Joseph

Hannah and Samuel - The Lord can do anything!

"The Lord brings death and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and raises up. The Lord sends poverty and wealth; He humbles and He exalts. He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; He seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor." 1 Samuel 2:6-8a



Abram and Sarai – Go! Stop!

“God also said to Abraham, ‘As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.’” Genesis 17:15-16



Joseph - 13 years

"Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. He said to them, 'Listen to this dream I had: We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it.'" Genesis 37:5-7





Why explore the topic of waiting?

2. Tactics

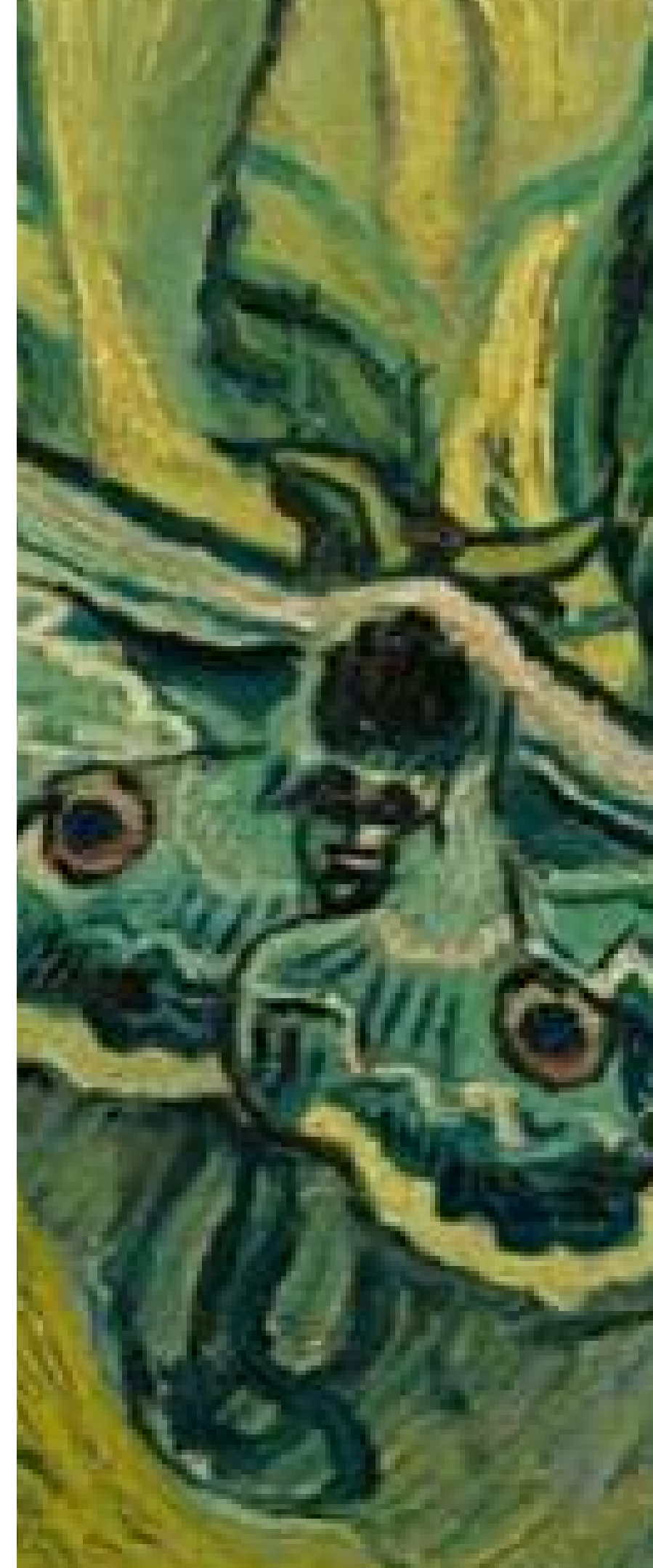
**God's tactics are rarely
repeated**

Isaiah
Gideon
Phoebe

Isaiah - Try the Patience of God

"Then Isaiah said, 'Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel.'"

Isaiah 7:13-14



Gideon - Abandoned or Available

“When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, ‘The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.’ ‘Pardon me, my lord,’ Gideon replied, ‘but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all His wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian.’” Judges 6:12-13



Pheobe - Receive Her

"I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of His people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me." Romans 16:1-2





Why explore the topic of waiting?

3. TRUST

**Through waiting we
demonstrate trust in God.**

Jeremiah

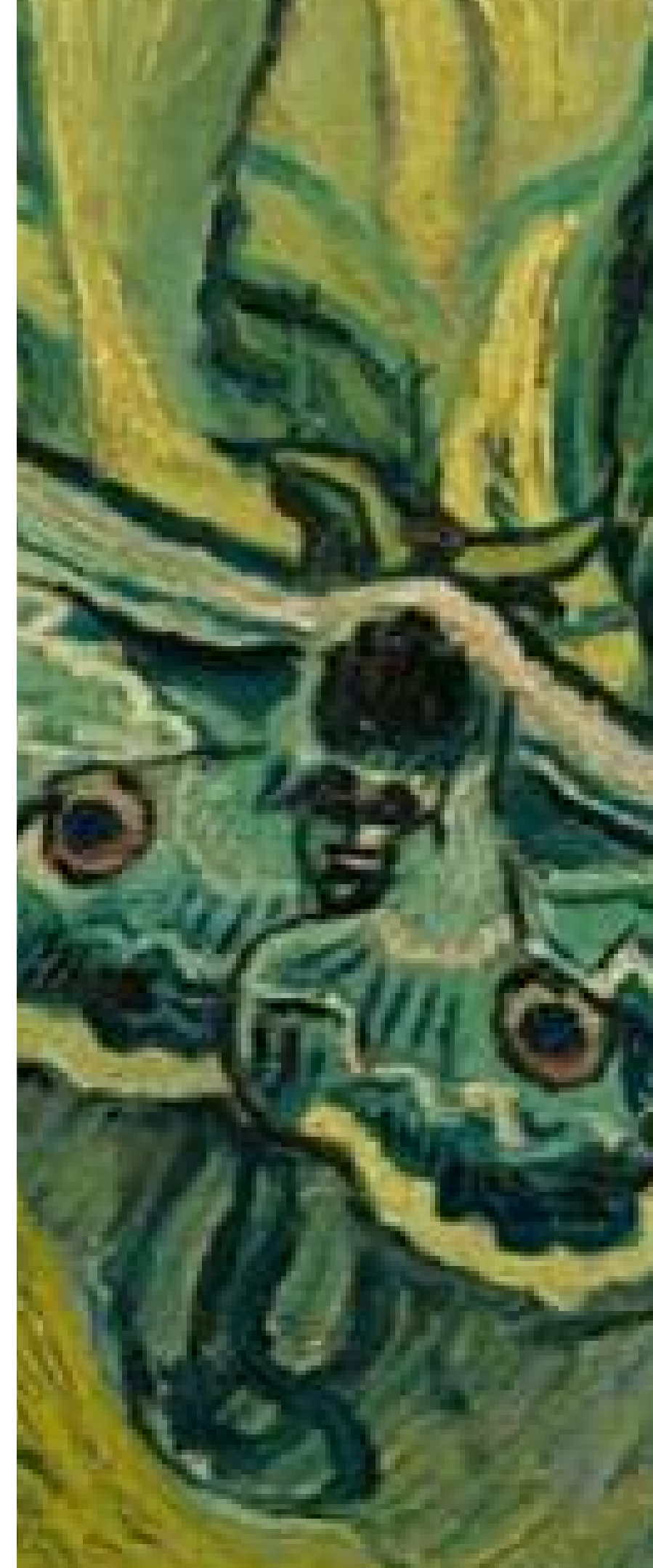
Joshua

Mary

Jeremiah - My Portion

"I say to myself, 'The Lord is my portion; therefore, I will wait for Him.' The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord."

Lamentations 3:24-26



Joshua - With you!

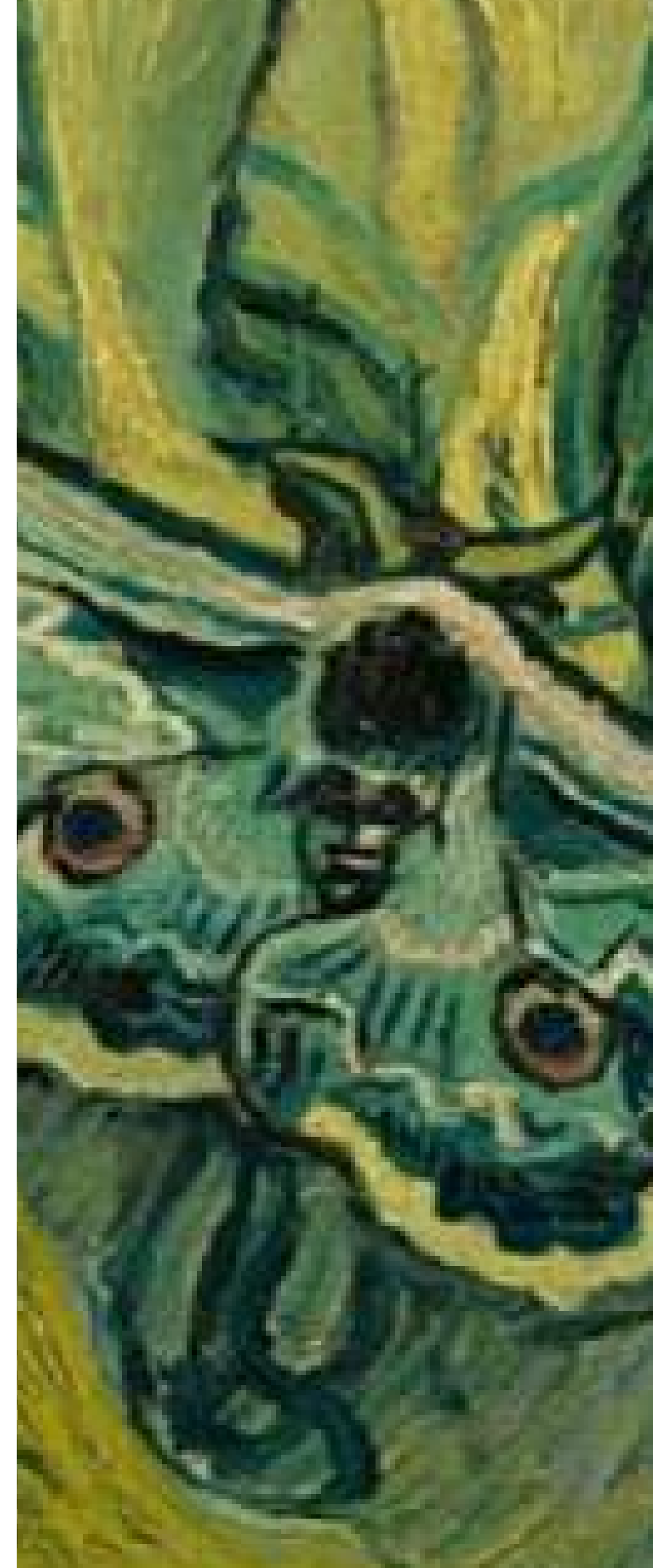
"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9



Mary - Mindful and Mighty

"And Mary said: 'My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is His name.'"

Luke 1:46-49





**Why explore the
topic of waiting?**

**Timing, Tactics,
and Trust**

Breakout Discussion

*Share an example from your life of waiting on God's **TIMING**, on His varied **TACTICS**, or when you feel He wanted you to show your **TRUST** in Him?*

Three Tips for Growing while Waiting

1. Scripture Reading

Renews your mind.
Replaces your thoughts with God's thoughts. Inspires you with examples that grow your faith.

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2. Journaling with God

When we journal our inner man or woman communes with God, processes His ways, and finds clarity and peace.

Three Tips for Growing while Waiting

Scripture Reading

Read it daily. It renews your mind with God's thoughts, and it grows your knowledge of the object of your faith.

2. Journaling with God

When we journal our inner man or woman communes with God, processes His ways, and finds clarity and peace.

3. Spiritual Friendship

Take turns sharing. If you journey through WAITING with a friend, you learn twice as much. We are better together.

Three Tips: Chat Response

**1. Scripture
Reading**

**2. Journaling
with God**

**3. Spiritual
Friendship**

Pick one of the tips. What if you did it?

Example: Tip #1 - Reading Scripture daily will reduce my anxiety while I wait for God's provision and this discipline will fill me with peace instead.



Journey through Advent

Read WAITING daily. Download it at

www.gtp.org/resources/ebooks/waiting

Join us for the next two Zoom meetings

15 December 2024, 12 noon GMT

- How does waiting shape us?

30 December 2024, 12 noon GMT

- What if we make the most of waiting opportunities?

Do Advent with GTP and invite a friend.

Put a check-out word in the chat. Closing Prayer



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