



Living The

BLESSED LIFE

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common.

Acts 2:42-47

⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 4:32-35

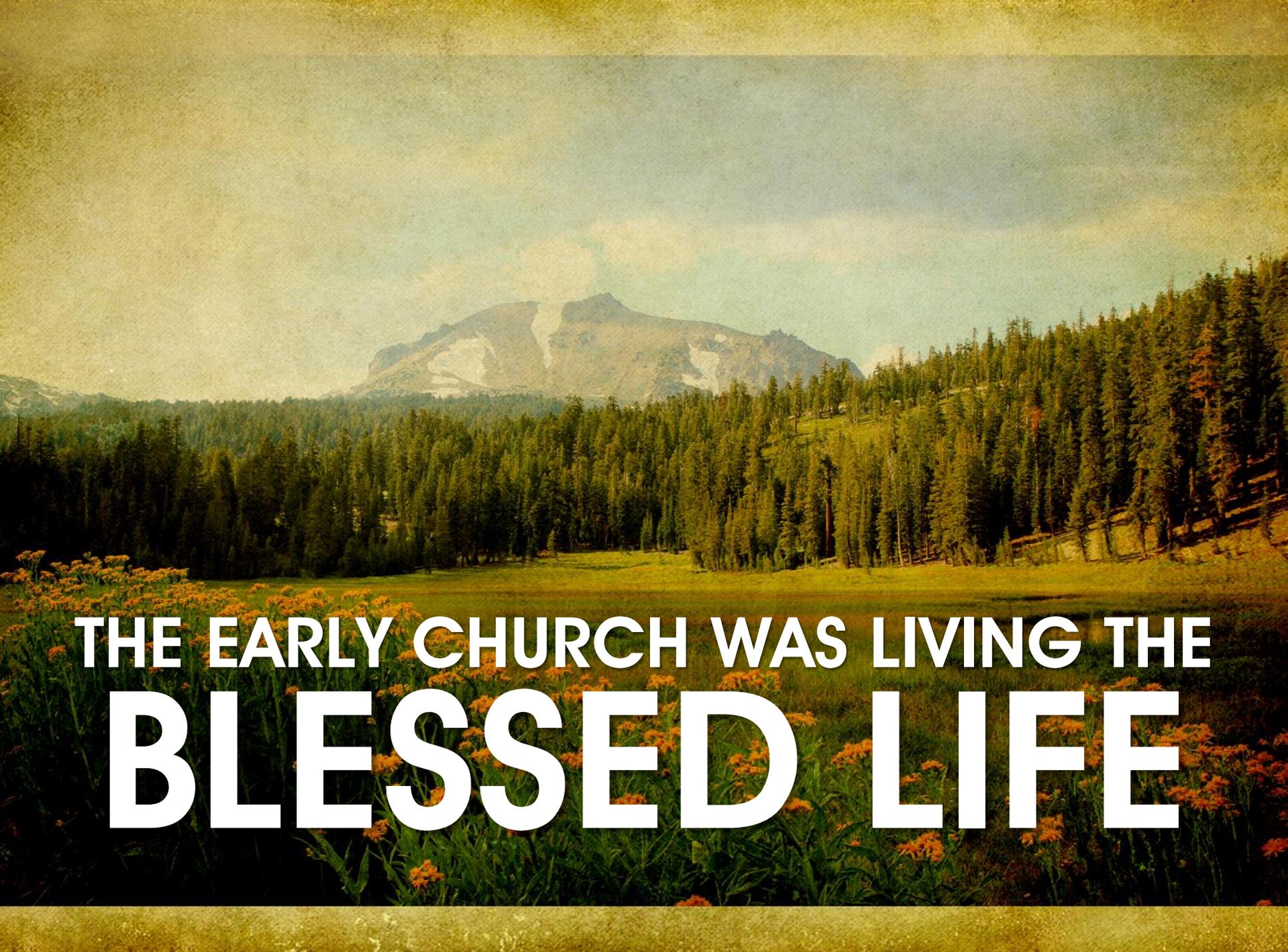
³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all

Acts 4:32-35

³⁴ that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales

³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.



THE EARLY CHURCH WAS LIVING THE
BLESSED LIFE

Acts 2:42-44

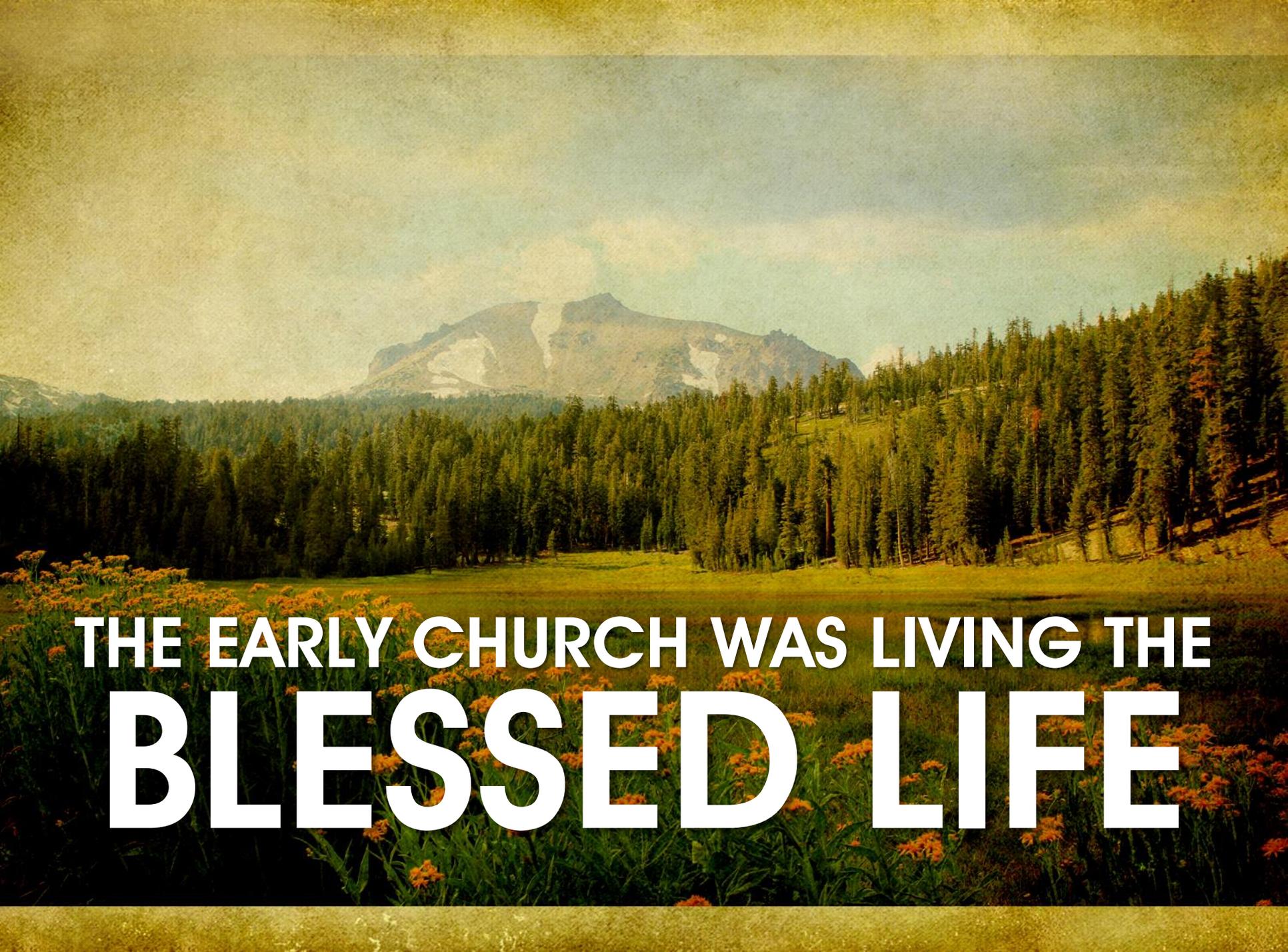
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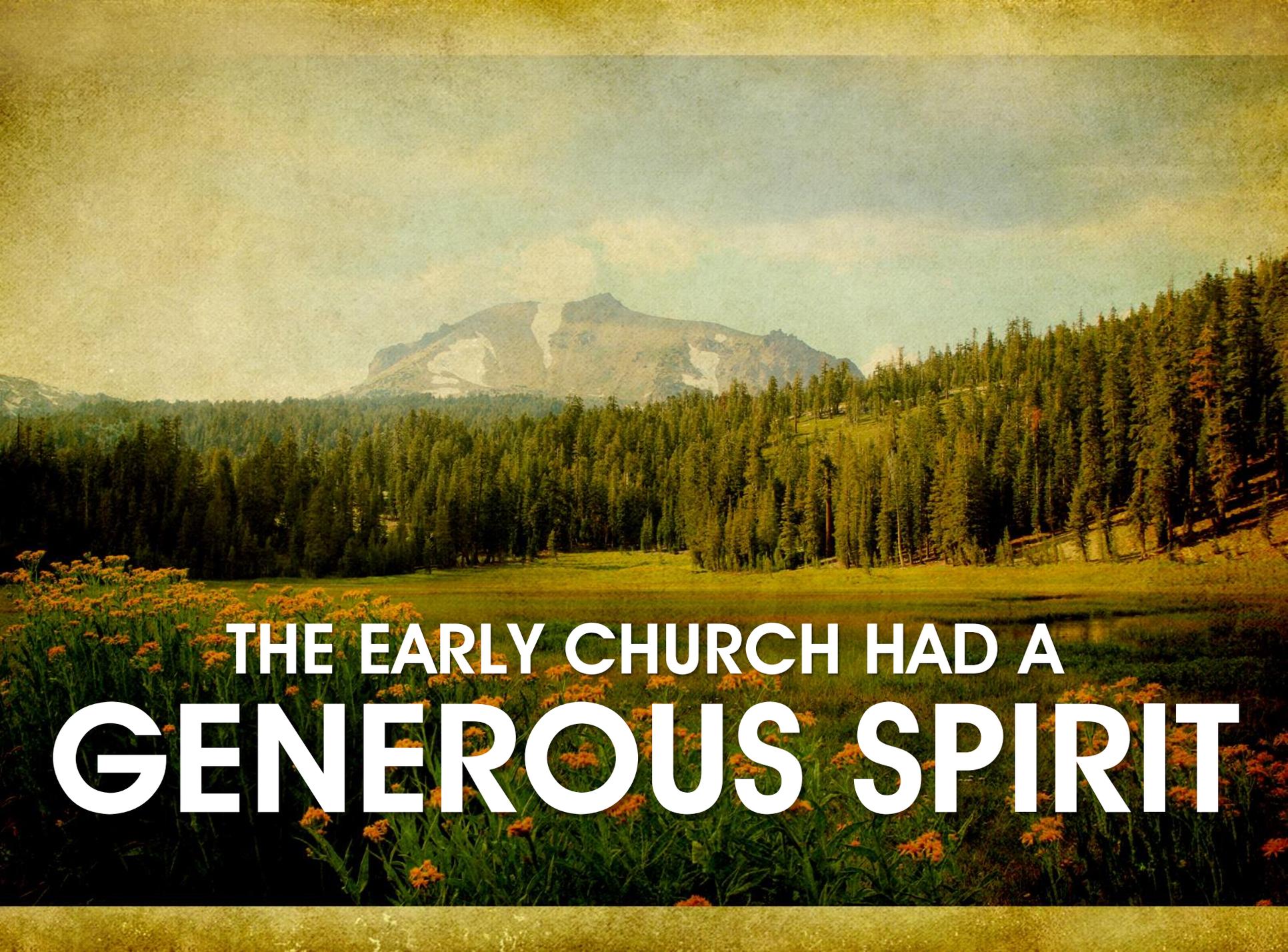
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Acts 4:33

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THE EARLY CHURCH WAS LIVING THE
BLESSED LIFE



THE EARLY CHURCH HAD A
GENEROUS SPIRIT

Acts 2:44-45

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Acts 4:32-35

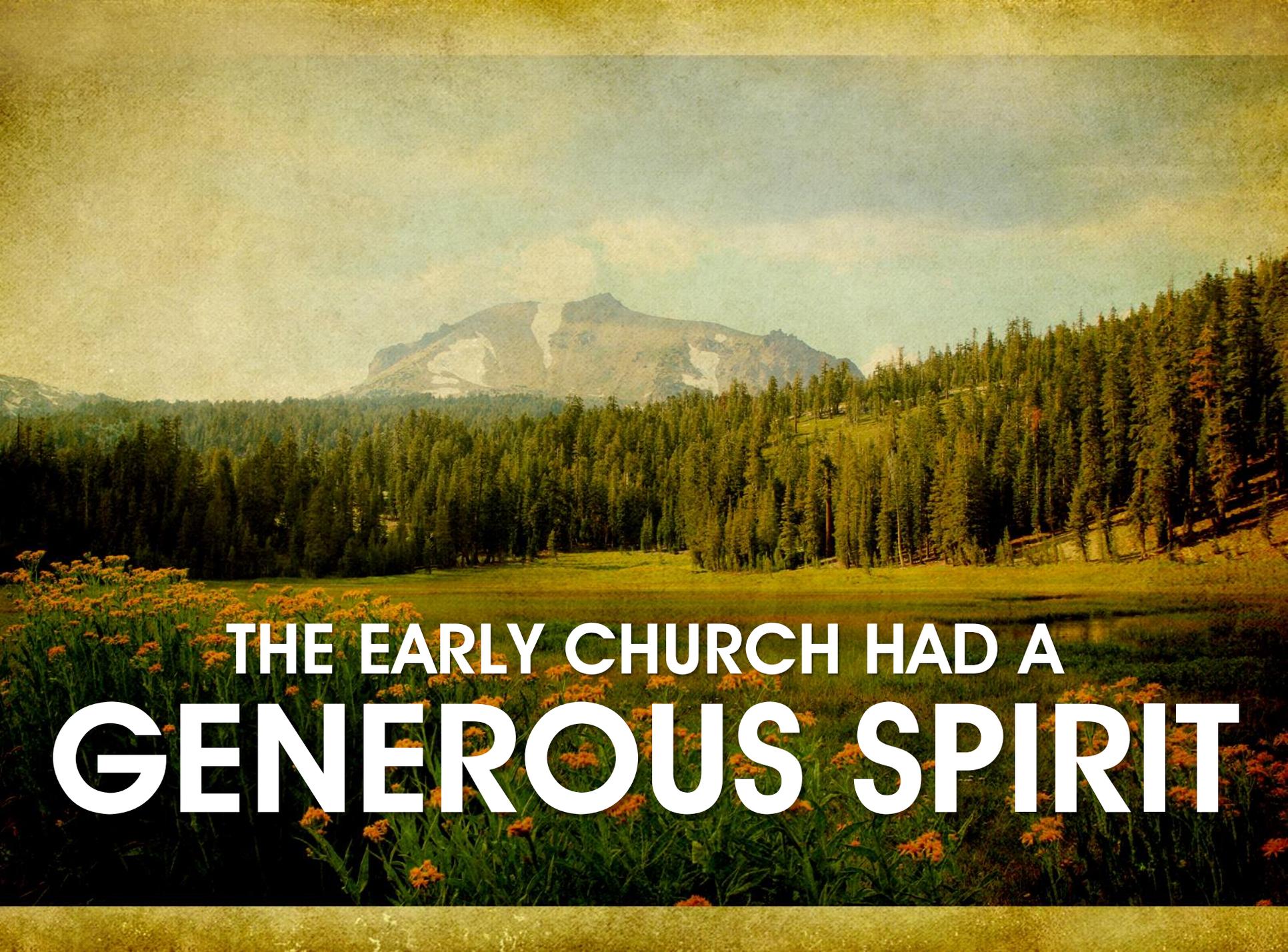
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THE EARLY CHURCH HAD A
GENEROUS SPIRIT



**THIS GENEROUS SPIRIT WAS MOTIVATED BY THE
HOLY SPIRIT**

2 Corinthians 9:7-15

⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:7-15

⁹ As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

2 Corinthians 9:7-15

¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

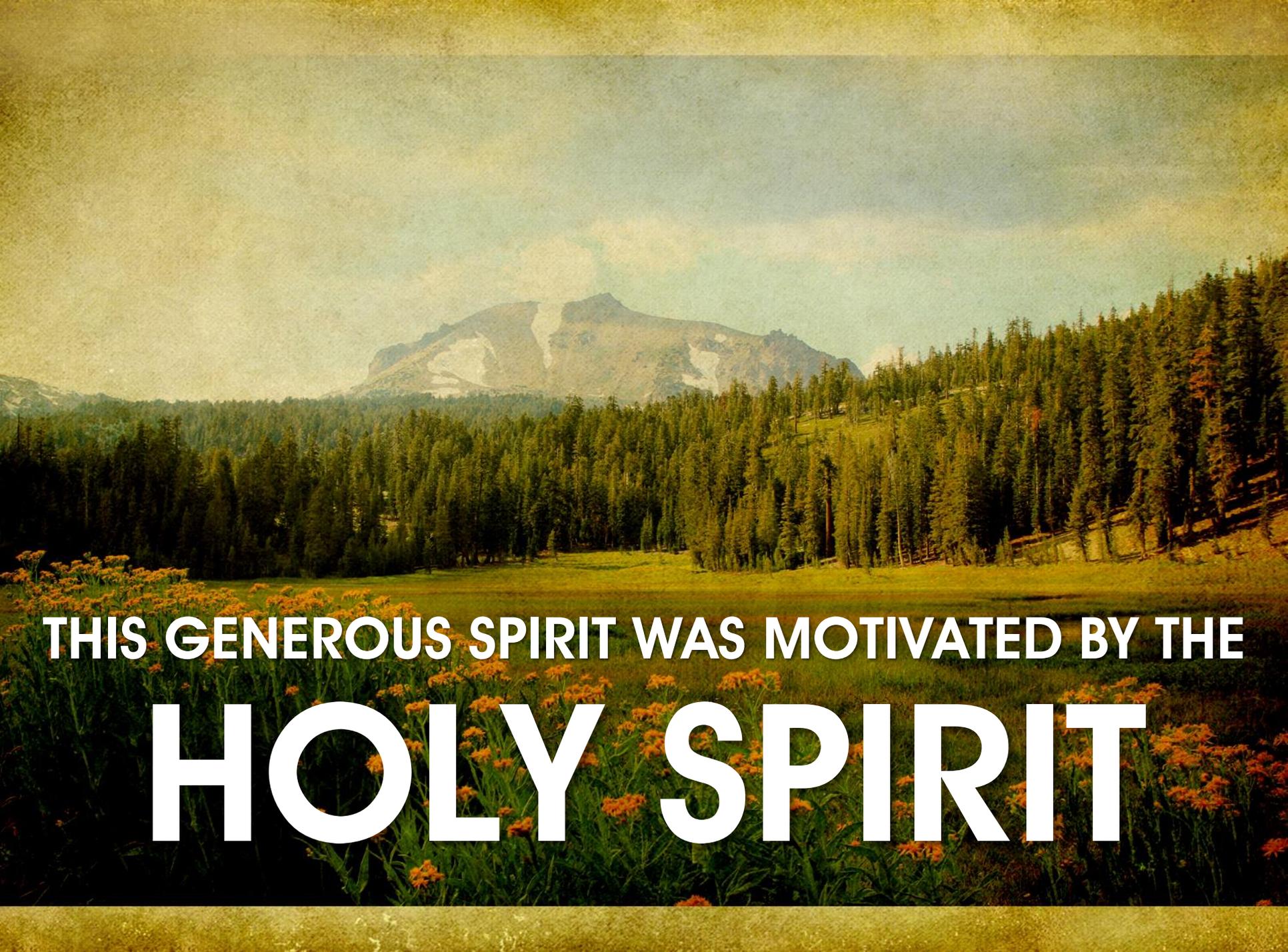
¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

2 Corinthians 9:7-15

¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.

¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!



**THIS GENEROUS SPIRIT WAS MOTIVATED BY THE
HOLY SPIRIT**

The background of the slide is a soft-focus landscape painting. It depicts a rolling green hillside covered in a dense forest of tall, thin trees. In the foreground, there is a field of vibrant orange flowers, possibly poppies, with green foliage. The overall color palette is warm and natural, with greens, oranges, and browns. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, sans-serif font with a subtle drop shadow.

Among born again Christians, which includes both evangelicals and non-evangelicals, 12% tithed in 2012, which is on par with the average for the past decade.

Located in Ventura, California, Barna Group has been conducting and analyzing primary research to understand cultural trends related to values, beliefs, attitudes and behaviors since 1984. If you would like to receive free e-mail notification of the release of each update on the latest research findings from Barna Group, you may subscribe to this free service at the Barna website (www.barna.org). Additional research-based resources are also available through this website. © Barna Group, 2013.



**THE CHURCH IS MORE IN LOVE
WITH THE WORLD THAN WITH
GOD**



**GOD SHOULD GET
FIRST PLACE**

Proverbs 3:9-10

⁹ Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops;

¹⁰ then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Genesis 14:18-20

¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High,

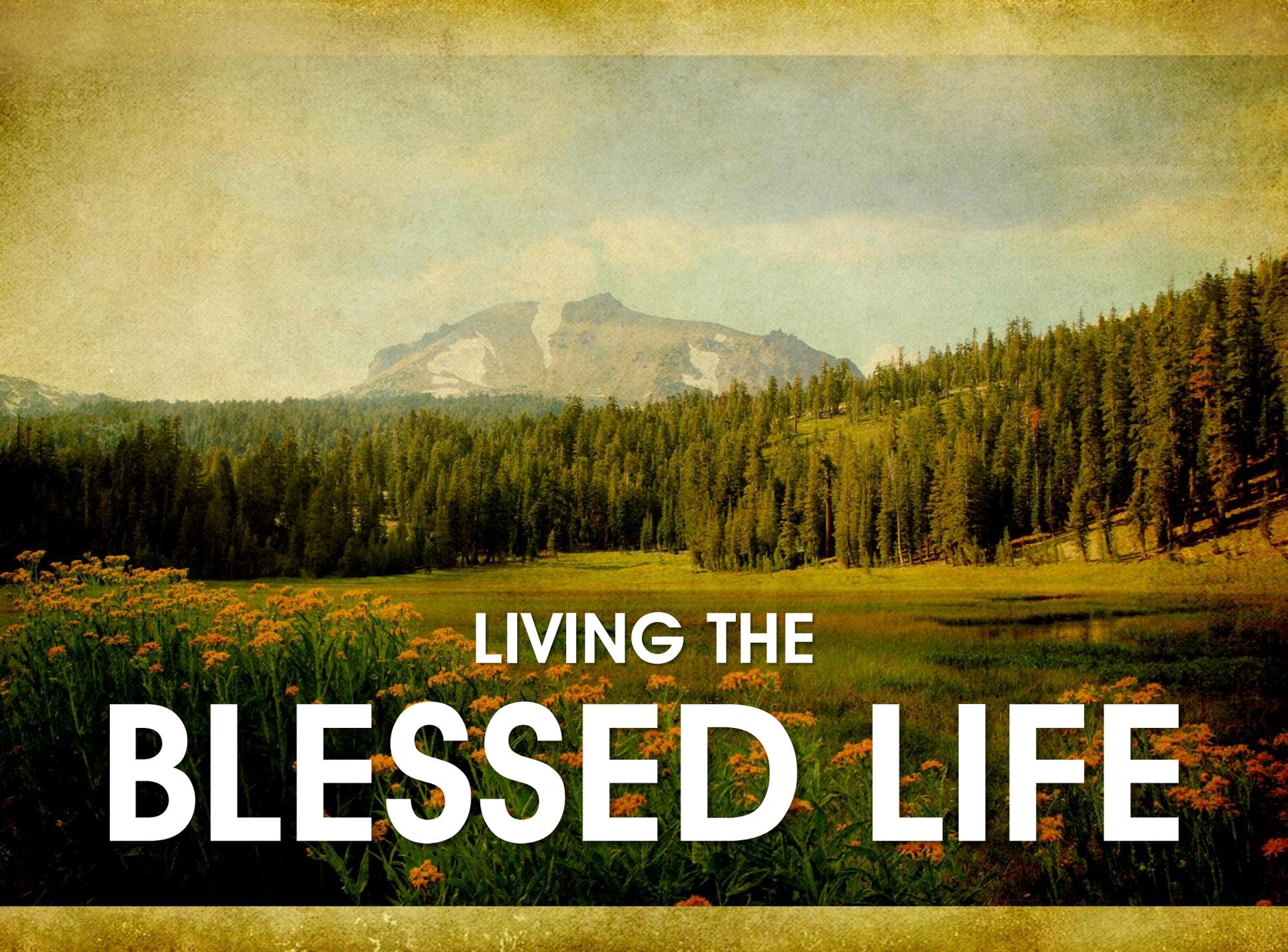
¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.

²⁰ And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Leviticus 27:30

³⁰ "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.





LIVING THE
BLESSED LIFE

2 Corinthians 9:7-11

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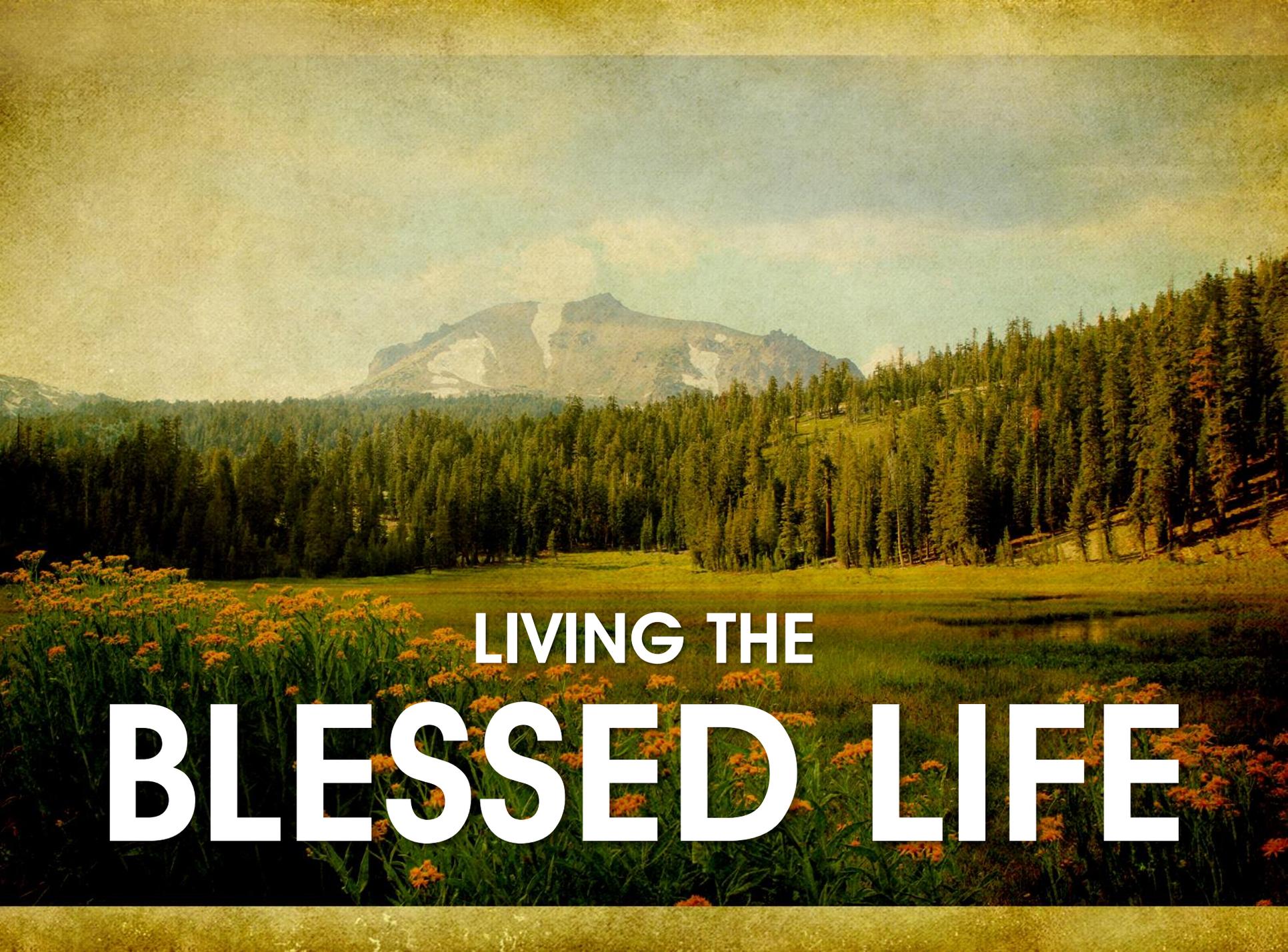
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GOD BLESS
HAVE A FANTASTIC WEEK!