



# **Journey through Advent**

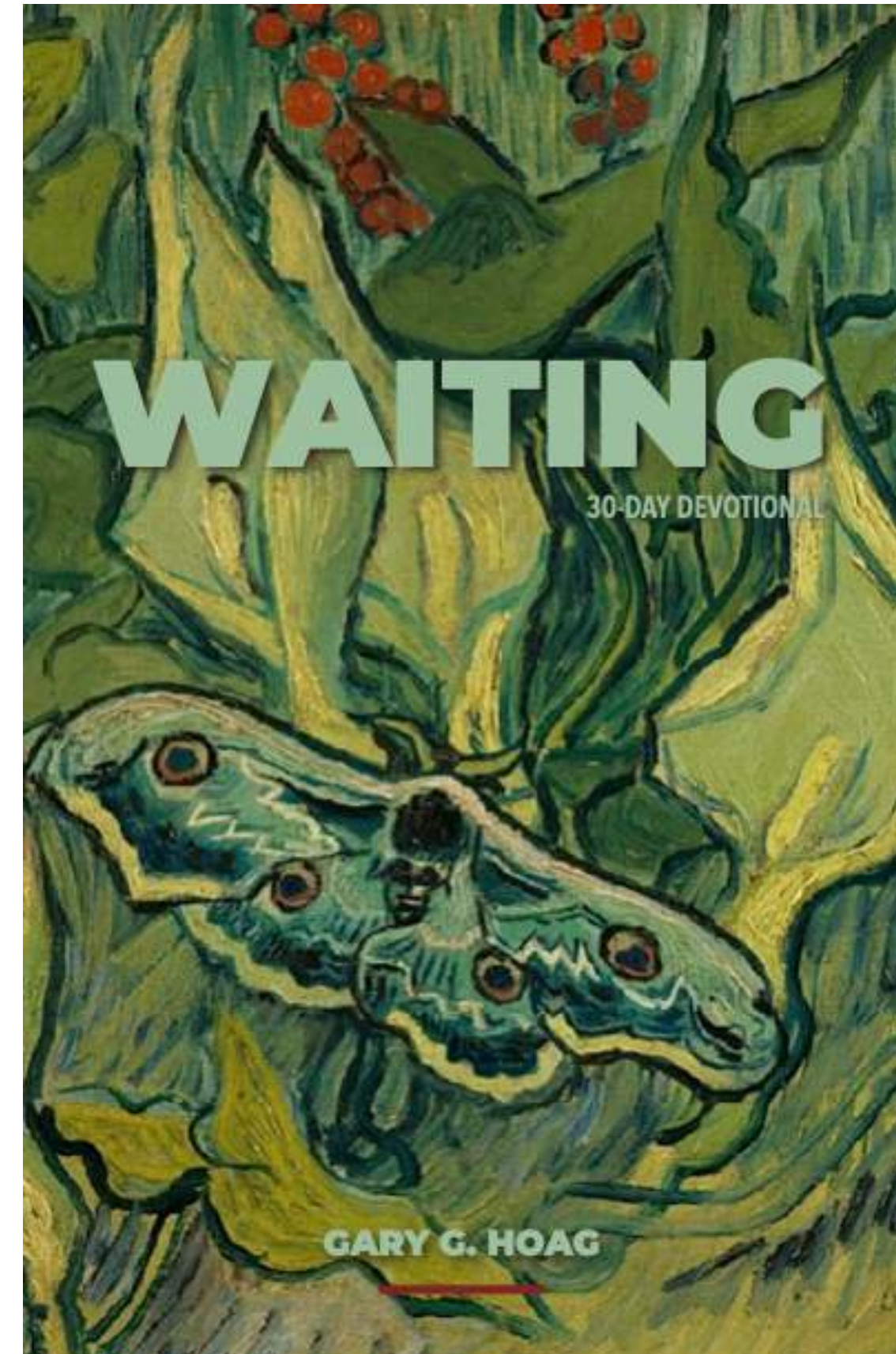
*How does waiting shape us?*

15 December 2024, 12 noon GMT

# Check in

For your check in today let's do something fun linked to your reading of WAITING.

- Over the next 1-2 minutes, for your check in type the reading that impacted you most by the name of the biblical character and a word.
- And then put a word or phrase to summarize how it impacted you.
- Examples:
  - Noah. Waiting a week.
  - Rahab. Hospitality and Hope
  - Sarai. Stop (don't take matters into my own hands)





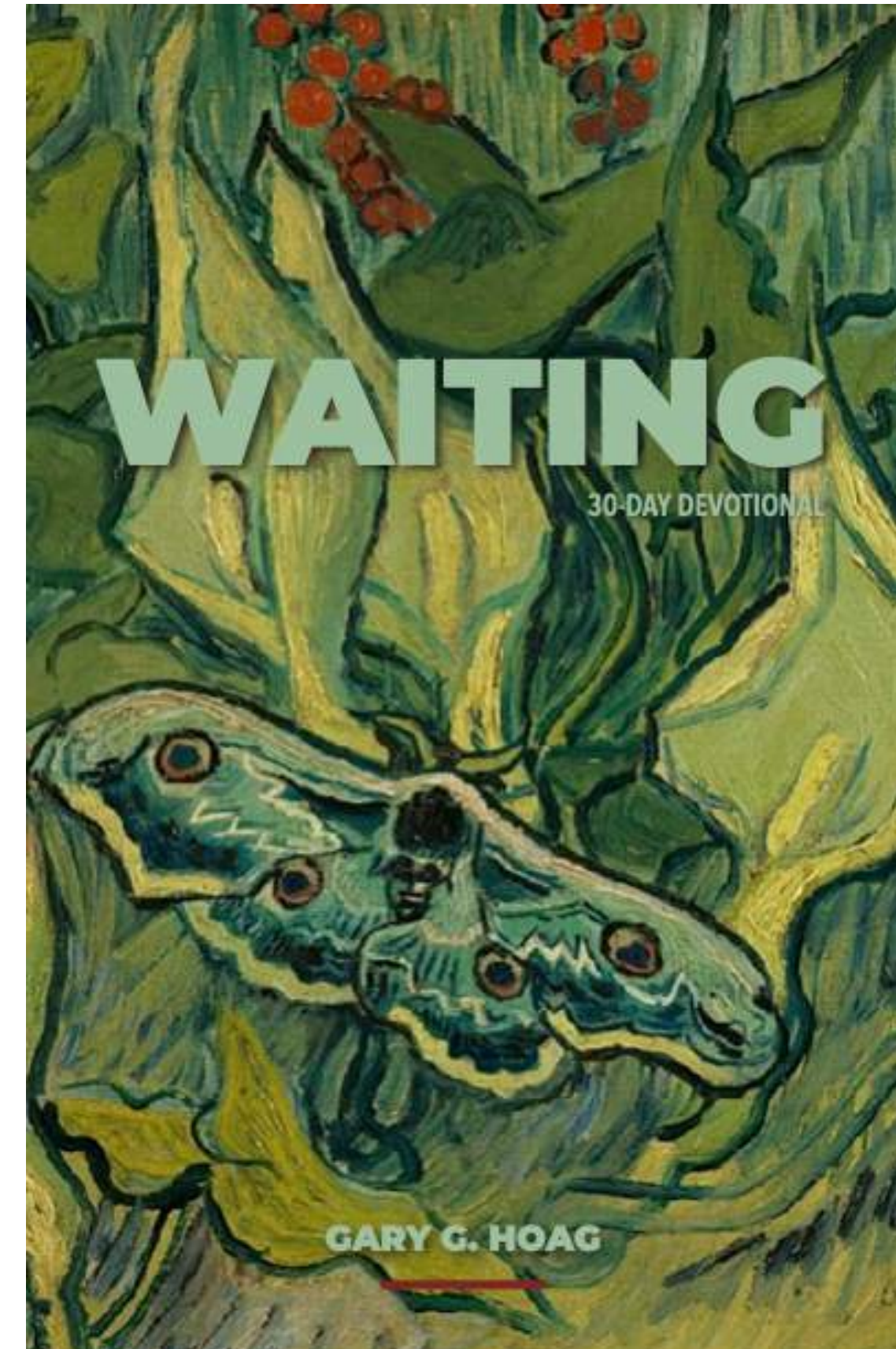
# What is Advent?

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 1-3 Zoom meetings



# 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?

Opening Prayer



**How does waiting  
shape us?**

**Three Ways**



# How does waiting shape us?

## 1. HUMILITY

**God works out His perfect plan for us.**

Ruth  
Simeon  
John

# Ruth - Redemption

“And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, ‘Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor.’ Naomi said to her, ‘Go ahead, my daughter.’ So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she was working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek.” Ruth 2:2-3

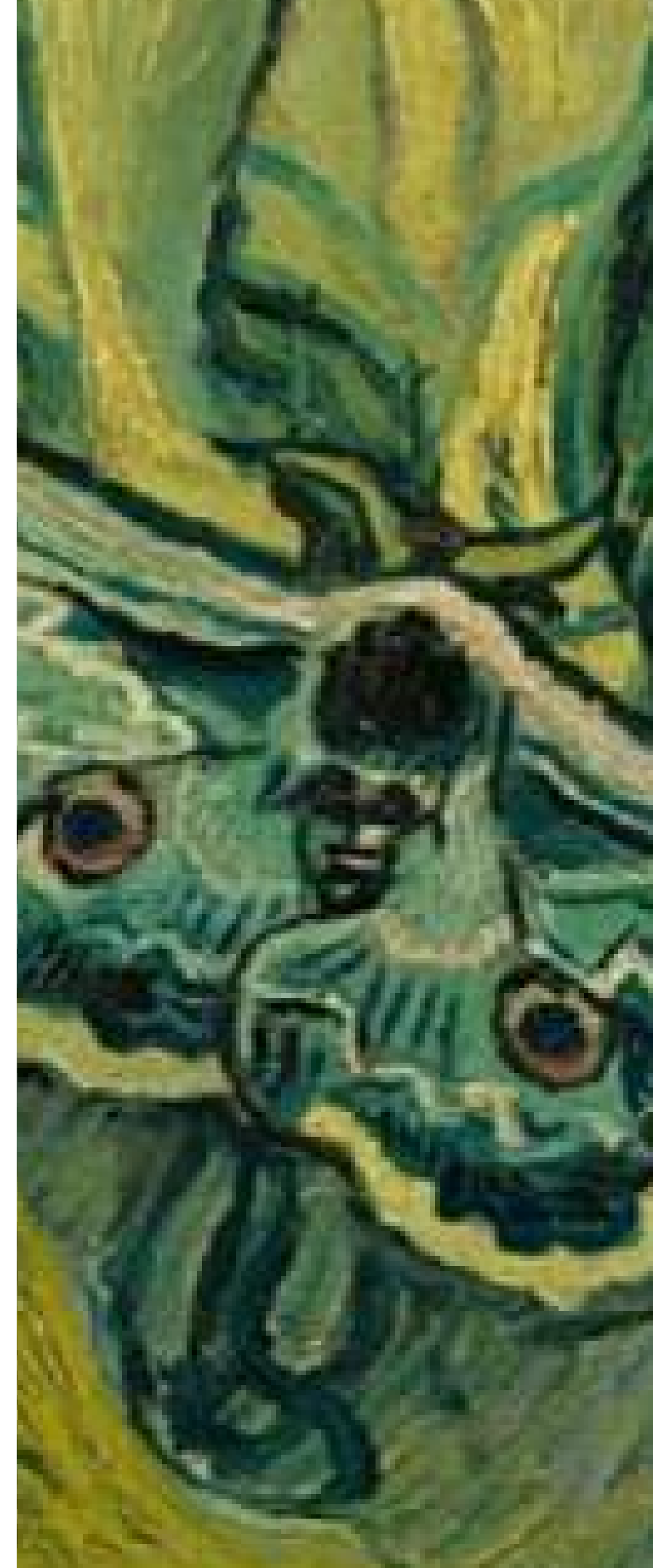




# Simeon - Consolation

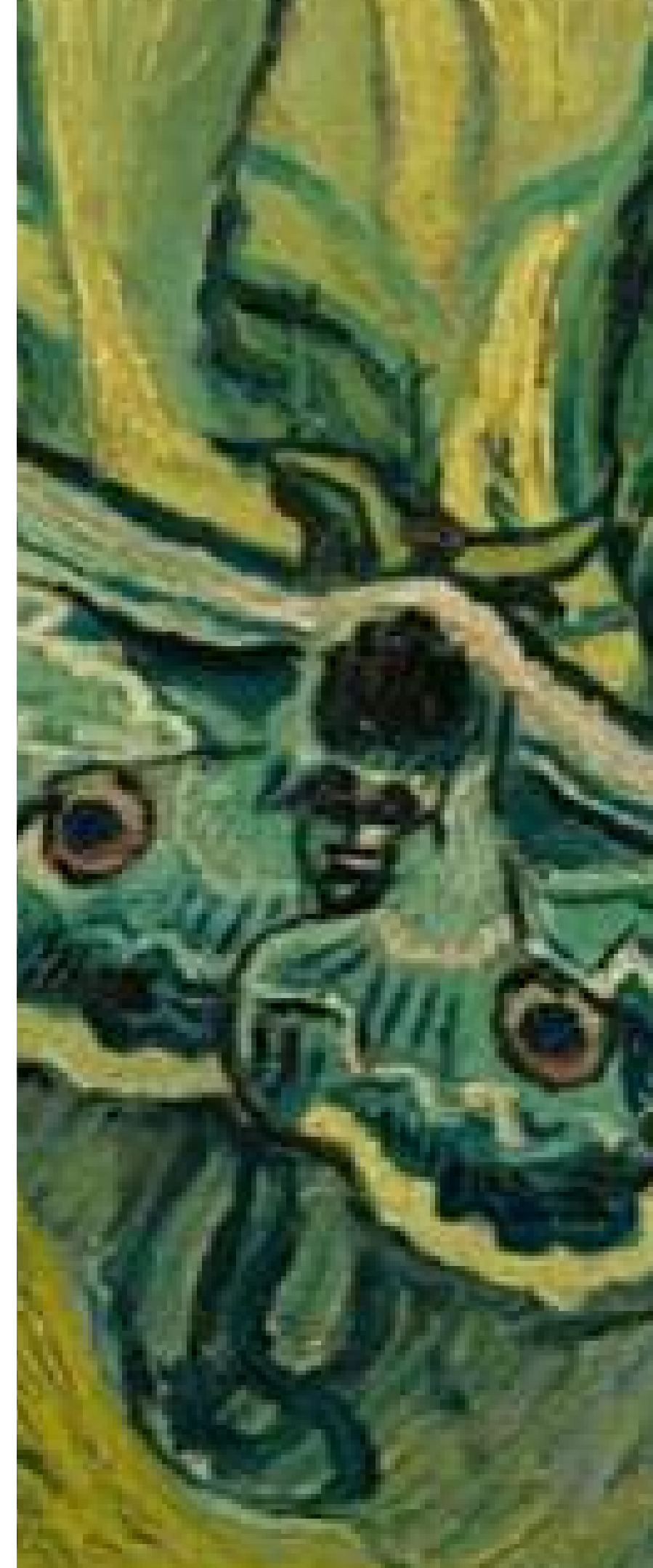
“Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him.”

Luke 2:25



# John - Patient Endurance

"I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus." Revelation 1:9





# How does waiting shape us?

## 2. HOPE

**God demonstrates His  
faithfulness to His promises.**

Micah

Nehemiah

Paul



# Micah - Watch in Hope

"But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me." Micah 7:7



# Nehemiah - Four Months

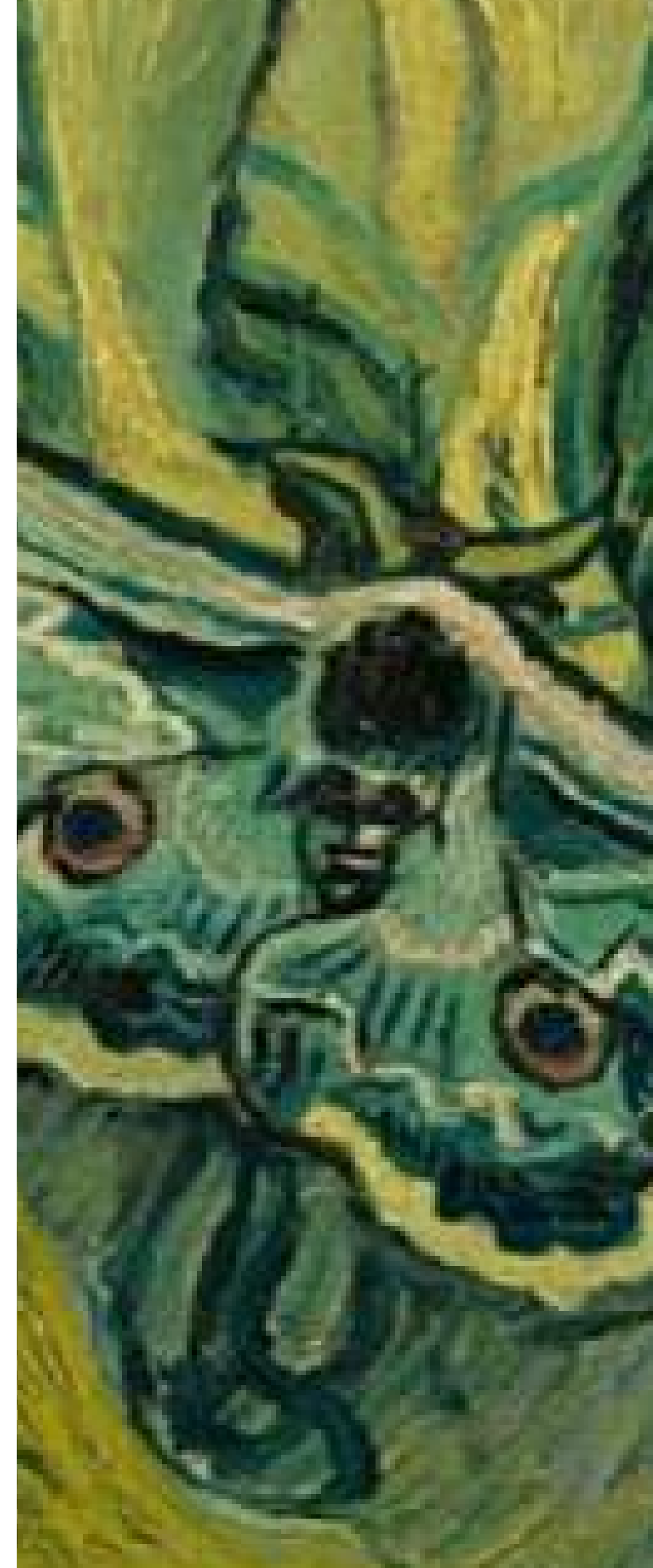
"They said to me, 'Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.' When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven."

Nehemiah 1:3-4



# Paul - Overflow

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13







# How does waiting shape us?

## 3. HELP

**God shows us His  
unmatched power.**

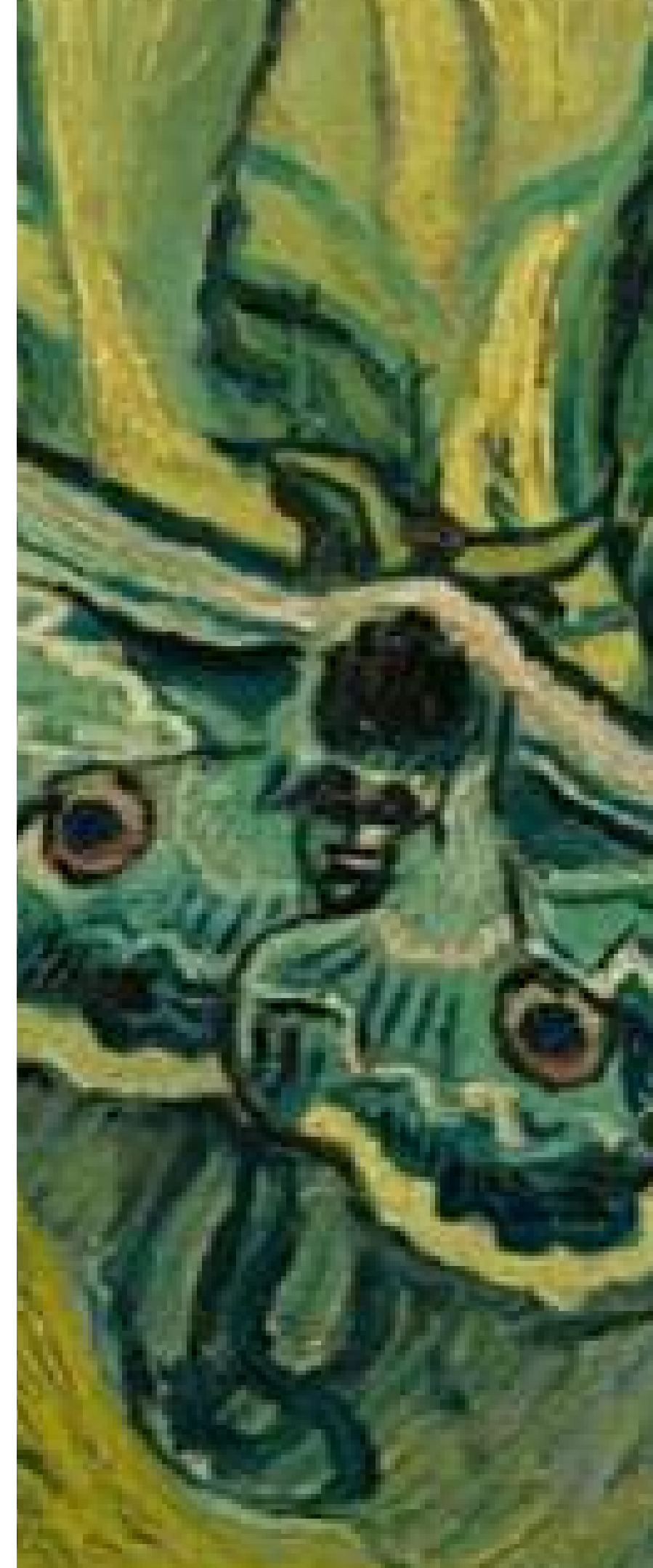
Rahab

David

Mary & Martha

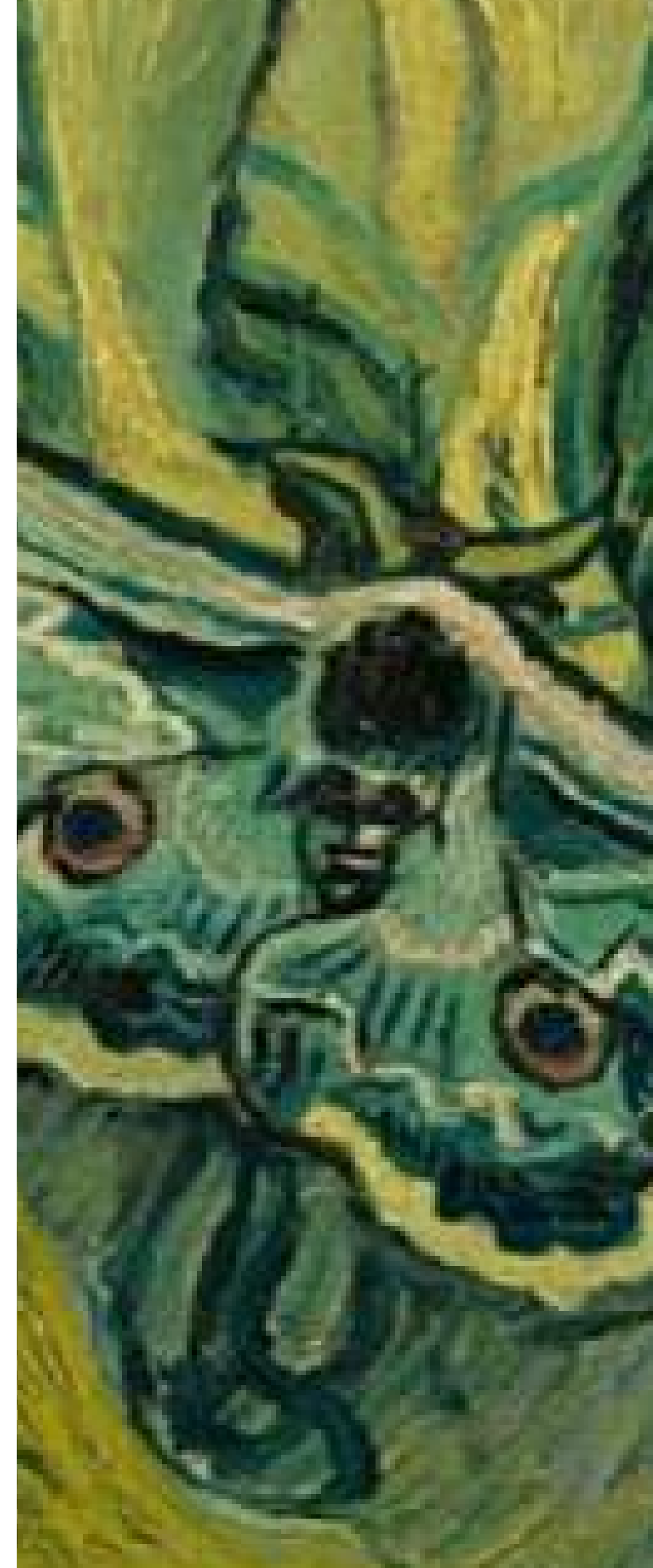
# Rahab - Hospitality and Hope

"Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you." Joshua 2:12a



# David - Do Not Fret

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes." Psalm 37:7





# Mary & Martha - Listening & Distracted

"As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, He came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to Him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what He said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to Him and asked, 'Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!'" Luke 10:38-40





**How does waiting  
shape us?**

**Humility (Plan), Hope  
(Promises), and Help  
(Power)**



# **Breakout Discussion**

*Share a time when waiting shaped your  
**HUMILITY** to see God's plan,  
strengthened your **HOPE** in His promises,  
or resulted in **HELP** by His great power.*



# Three Tips for Growing while Waiting

## 1. Centering Prayer

A centering prayer is a name for God and a request to God.

You pray it to maintain focus in living out your faith.

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## 3. Small Groups

When we sit at the feet of Jesus waiting for Him and not on Him together, He teaches us things to share with others.

# Three Tips: Chat Response

**1. Centering  
Prayer**

**2. Fasting and  
Confession**

**3. Small  
Groups**

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

Example: Tip #1 - Waiting can cause me to either fret or fear but if I pray "Jesus help me as I hold onto your promises" it grows my faith.





# Journey through Advent

Read WAITING daily. Download it at

[www.gtp.org/resources/ebooks/waiting](http://www.gtp.org/resources/ebooks/waiting)

Join us for the next two Zoom meetings

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



**GTP.ORG**