

An open book with aged, yellowed pages is shown from a high angle. The pages are slightly curved, and the lighting is warm, creating a soft glow. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

1. God is love

1 John 4:8 "...God is love."

Psalm 136:1-3, "

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

His love endures forever.

² Give thanks to the God of gods.

His love endures forever.

³ Give thanks to the Lord of lords:

His love endures forever.

1. God is love

Ephesians 3:17-19 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.



2. God loves us

“Grace teaches us that God loves because of who God is, not because of who we are.”

-Philip Yancey

2. God loves us

Psalm 139:1-18

You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.

2

You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

3

You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

4

Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.

5

You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.

2. God loves us

6

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

7

Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

8

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

9

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,

10

even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.

2. God loves us

11

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"

12

even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

13

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.

2. God loves us

15

My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

16

Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

17

How precious to me are your thoughts,[a] God!
How vast is the sum of them!

18

Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand—
when I awake, I am still with you.



2. God loves us

“Though our feelings come and go, God’s love for us does not.”

-C.S. Lewis

3. God loves us through difficult times

Romans 8:38-39

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

3. God loves us through difficult times

**One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.**

**After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.**

3. God loves us through difficult times

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.

But I noticed that during the saddest and most
troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.

I don't understand why, when I needed You the most,
You would leave me."

3. God loves us through difficult times

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you

Never, ever, during your trials and testings.

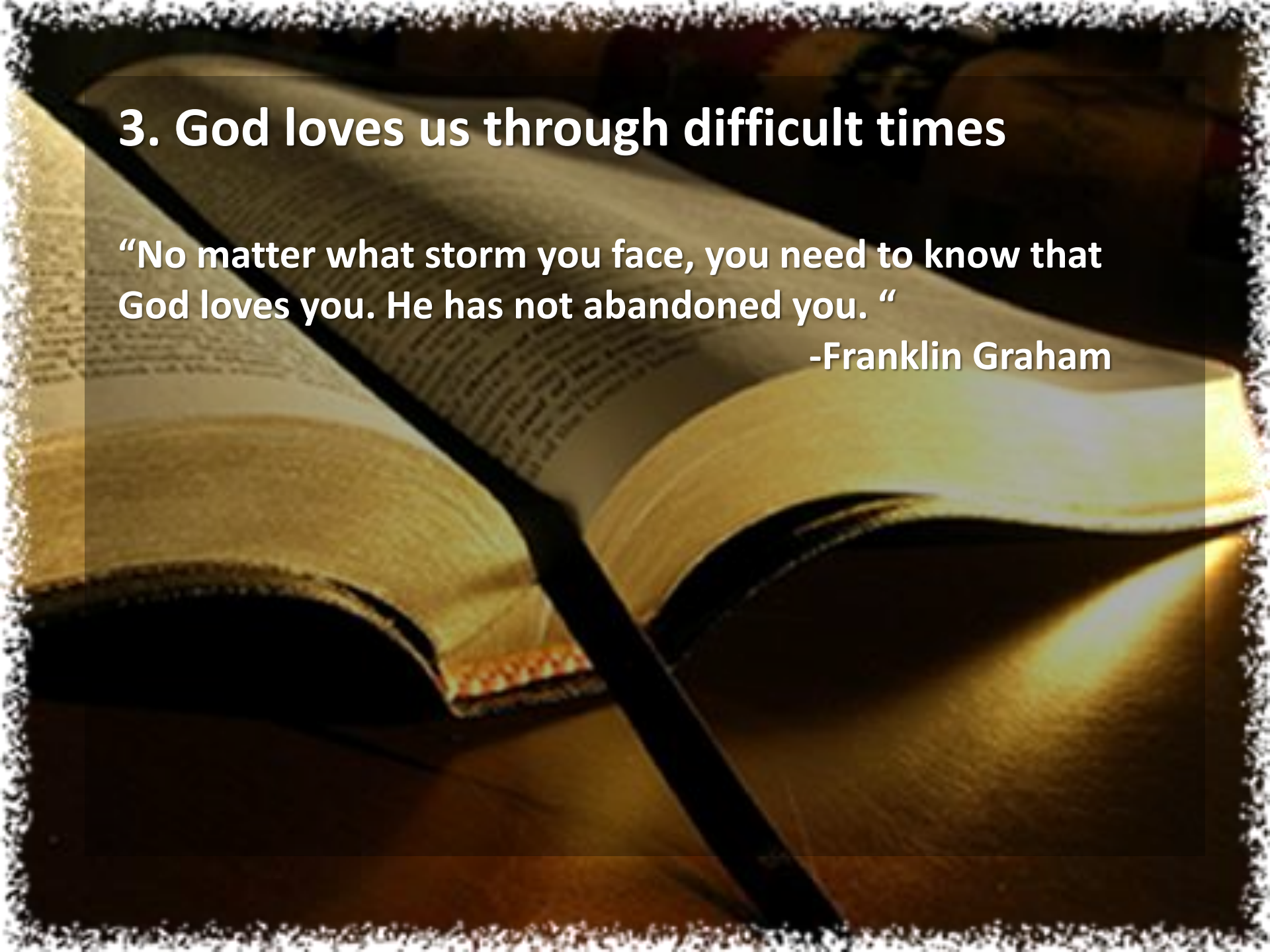
When you saw only one set of footprints,

It was then that I carried you."

3. God loves us through difficult times

“No matter what storm you face, you need to know that God loves you. He has not abandoned you. “

-Franklin Graham



4. God's ultimate act of love was the cross



4. God's ultimate act of love was the cross

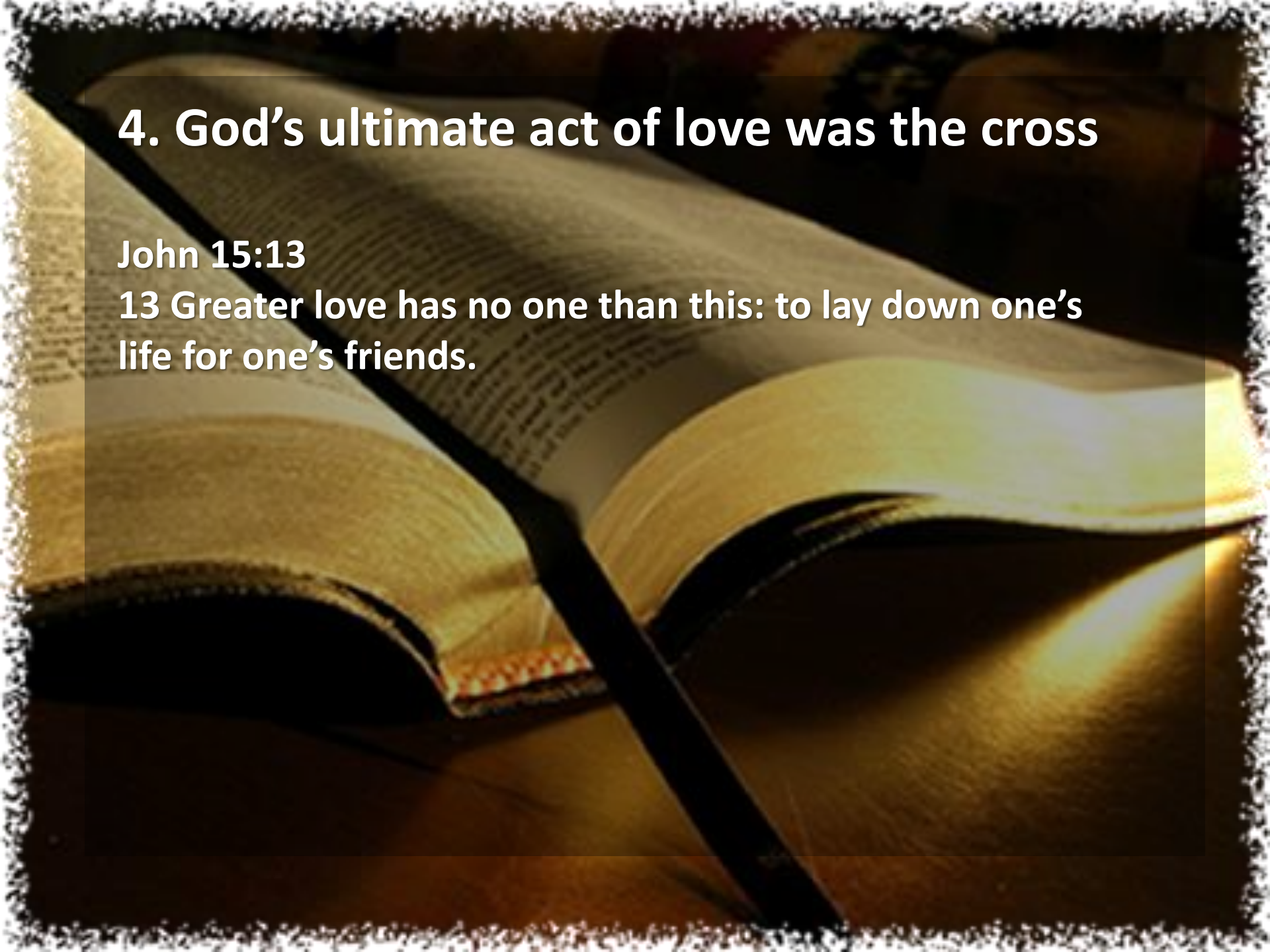
Romans 5:6-8

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

4. God's ultimate act of love was the cross

John 15:13

13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.



An open book with a cross resting on it. The book is open, showing two pages of text. A dark cross is placed diagonally across the pages. The lighting is warm, highlighting the texture of the paper and the edges of the pages. The background is dark, making the book and the cross stand out.

4. God's ultimate act of love was the cross

“God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, ‘I love you’”

-Billy Graham