

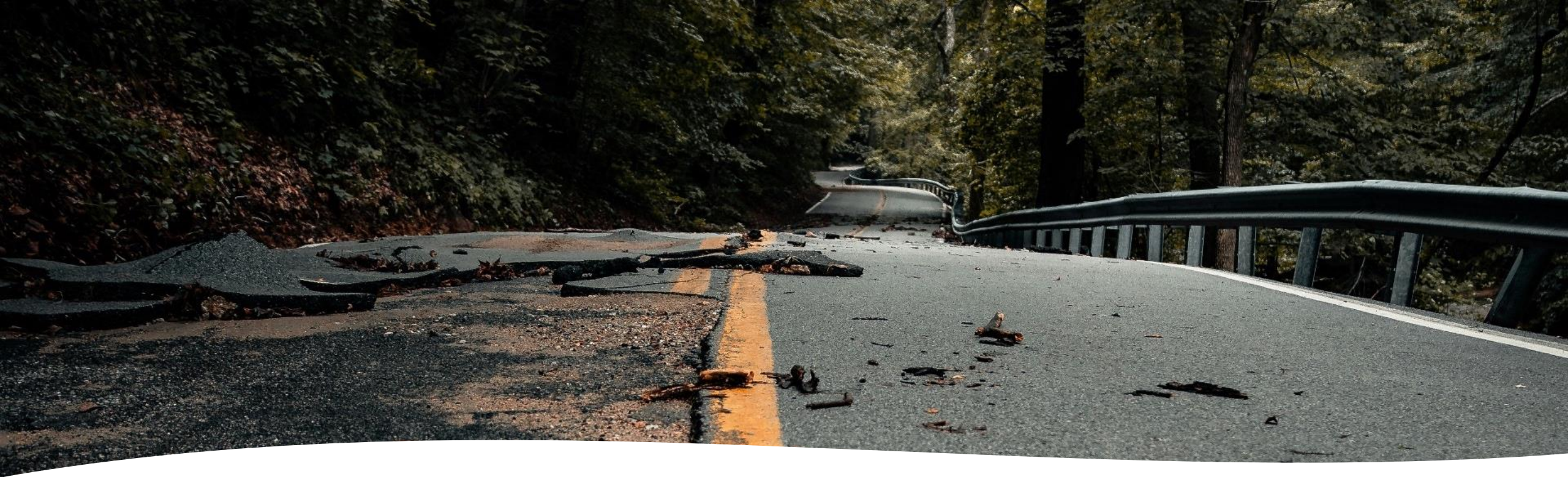


# *Pursuing Peace*

THE REDEMPTION OF CONFLICT

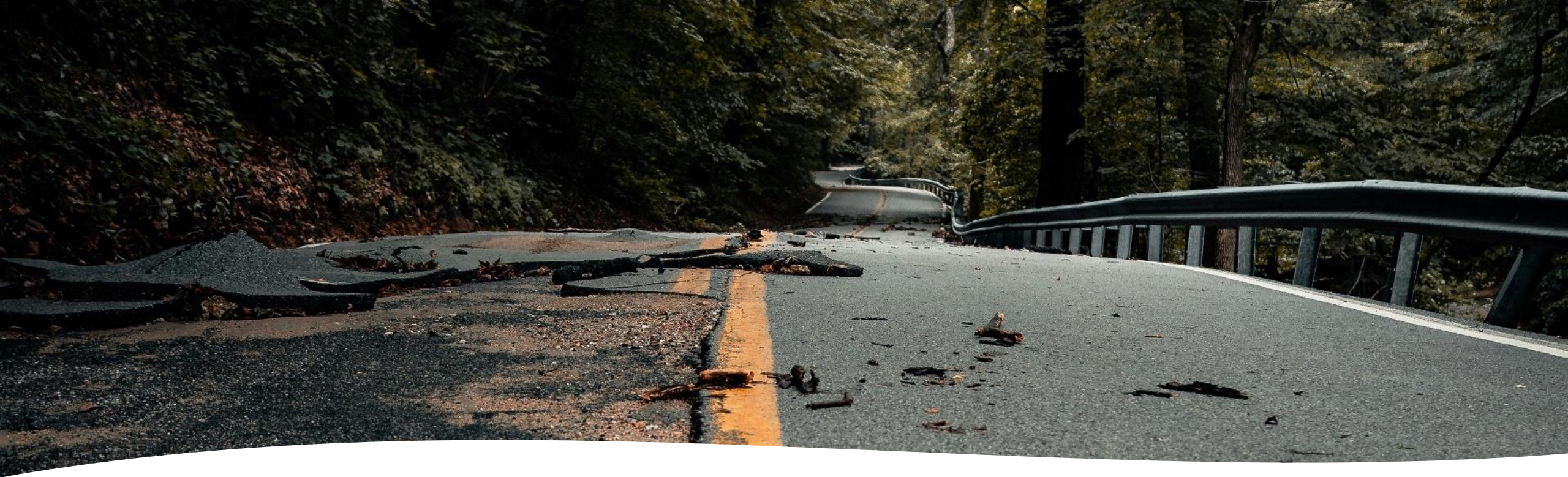
**Dressed to Forgive**

Colossians 3:12-14



## EVERY CONFLICT ARISES

When there is **gap** between  
**expectation** and **experience**.



## EVERY CONFLICT IS AN OPPORTUNITY

1. to glorify God
2. to serve others
3. to grow to be like Jesus



## Matthew 18:21-22

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I **forgive** my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but **seventy-seven times**.”

# Forgiveness is **NOT**

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Forgiveness is **not condoning**

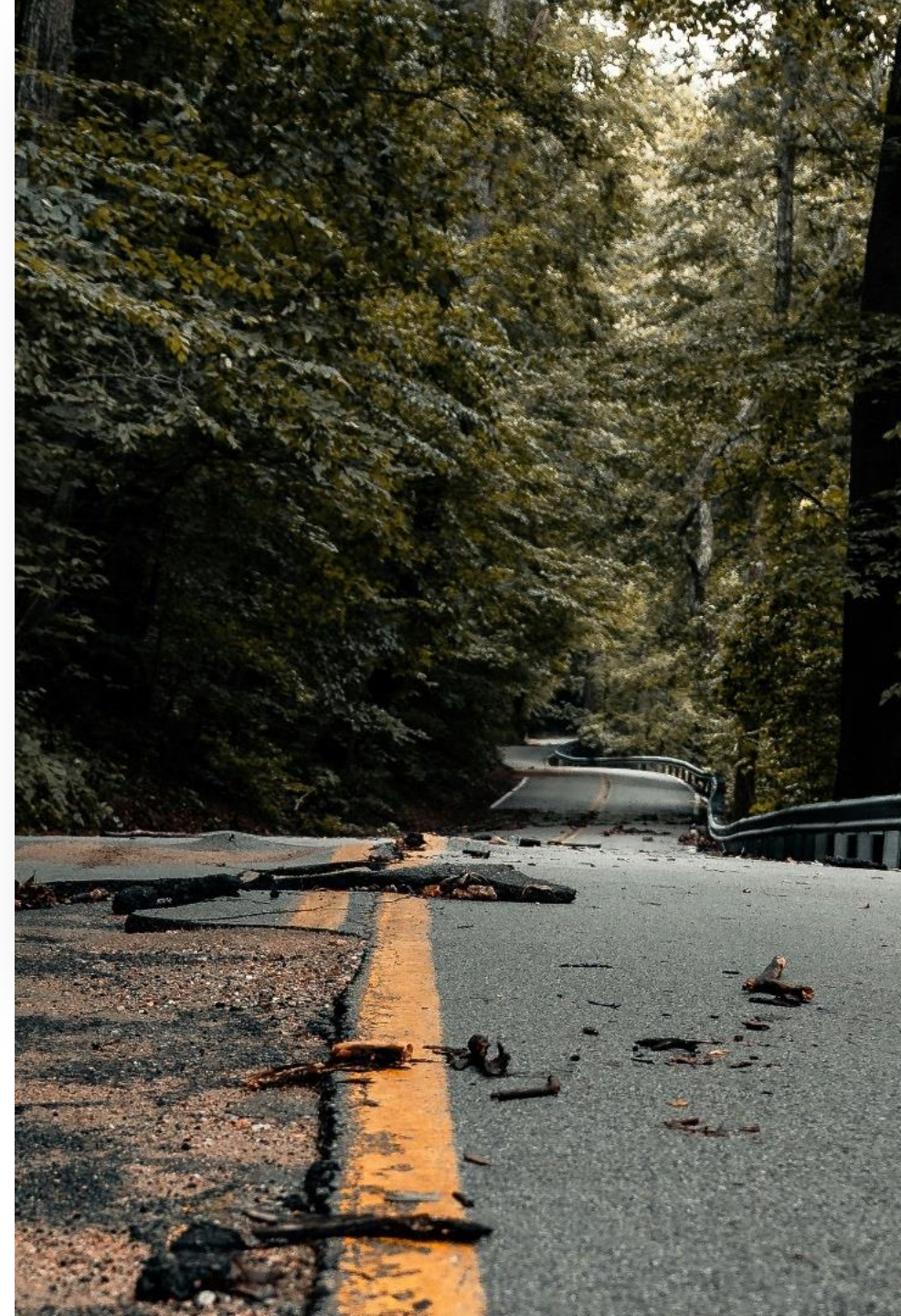
Forgiveness is **not forgetting**

Forgiveness is **not always reconciling**

Forgiveness is a **different issue to justice and consequences**

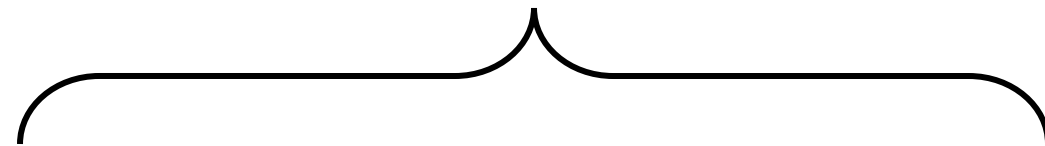
Forgiveness is **not impersonal**

Forgiveness is **not always immediate**





Forgiveness is the choice to **break the cycle of revenge / payback.**

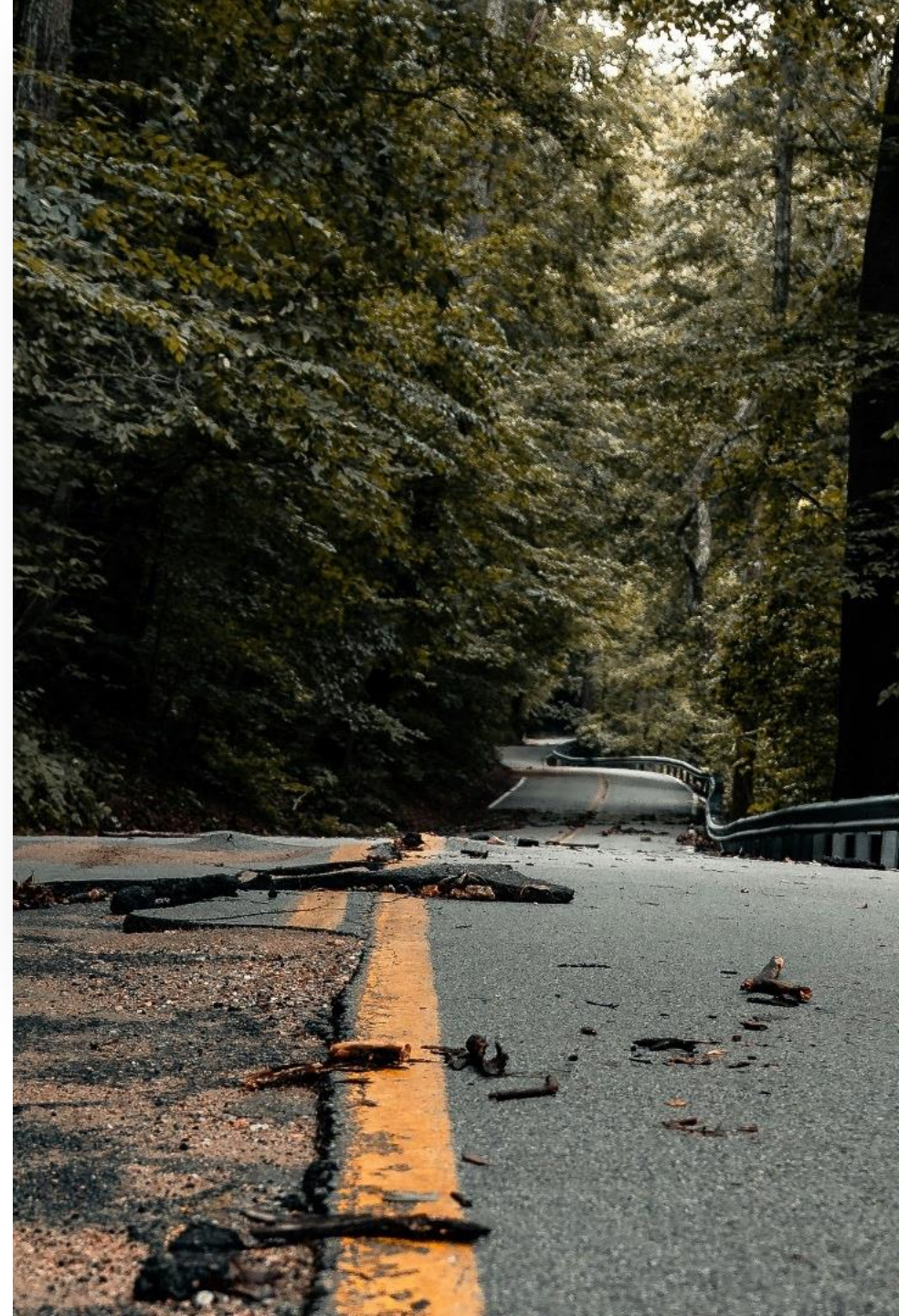


Entrusting (Perfect)  
Justice to God

Setting **yourself**  
free

But forgiveness is really hard.

So... how do I **prepare myself**  
to forgive?

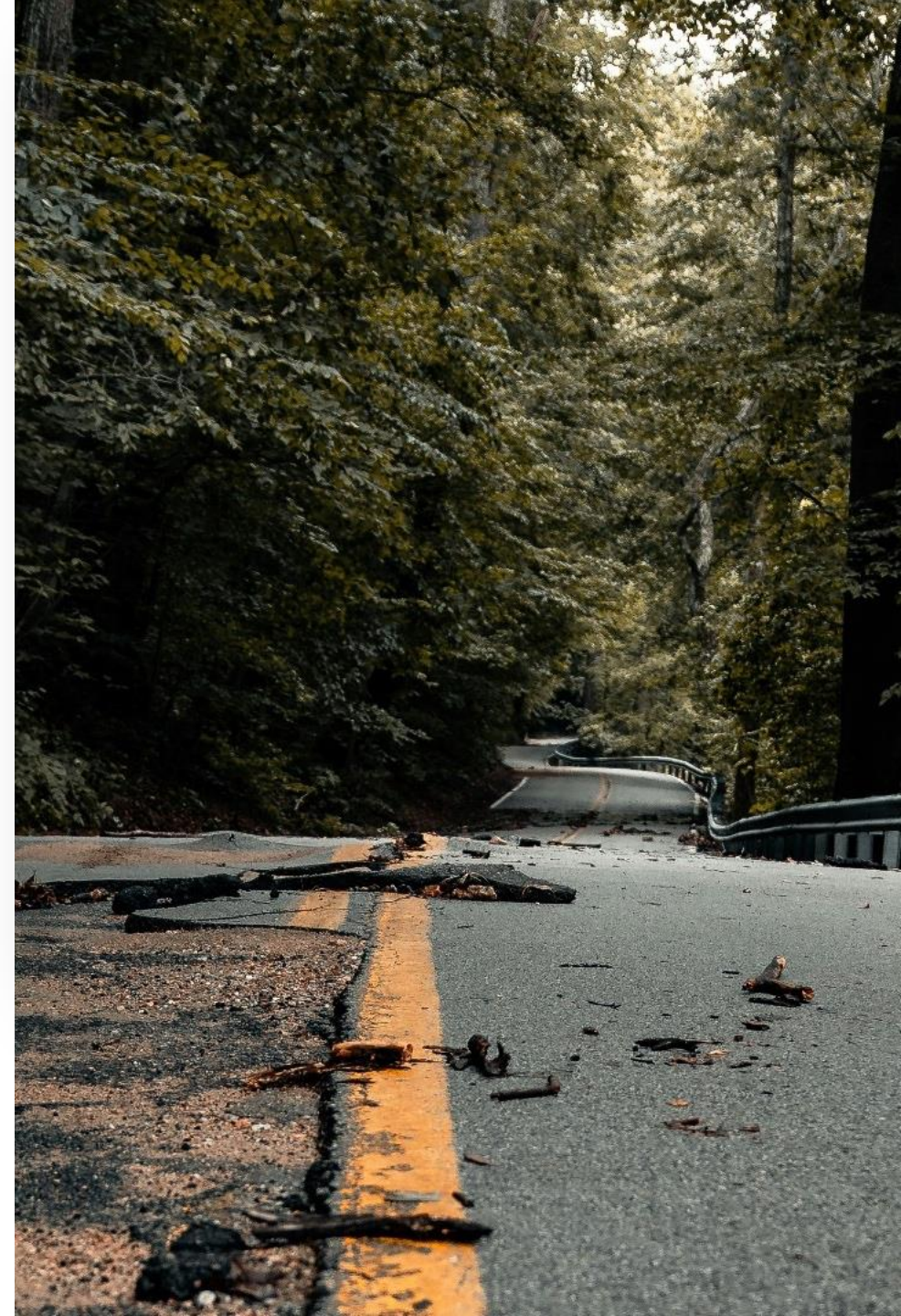


# Colossians 3:12-14

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

<sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

<sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.



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# ARE YOU DRESSED TO FORGIVE?

As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, **clothe yourselves**

WITH

**Compassion**



WITH

Kindness



WITH

Humility



WITH

Gentleness



WITH

Patience



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WITH  
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WITH  
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WITH  
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## Romans 12:14, 19-20

<sup>14</sup> **Bless those who persecute you.** Don't curse them; **pray that God will bless them...**

<sup>19</sup> Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord.

<sup>20</sup> Instead, "If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads."

# ARE YOU DRESSED TO FORGIVE?

As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, **clothe yourselves**





## James 4:1-2

<sup>1</sup> What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? <sup>2</sup> **You want what you don't have**, so you scheme and kill to get it.

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And over all these virtues **put on love**, which binds them all together in perfect unity. (Colossians 3:14)