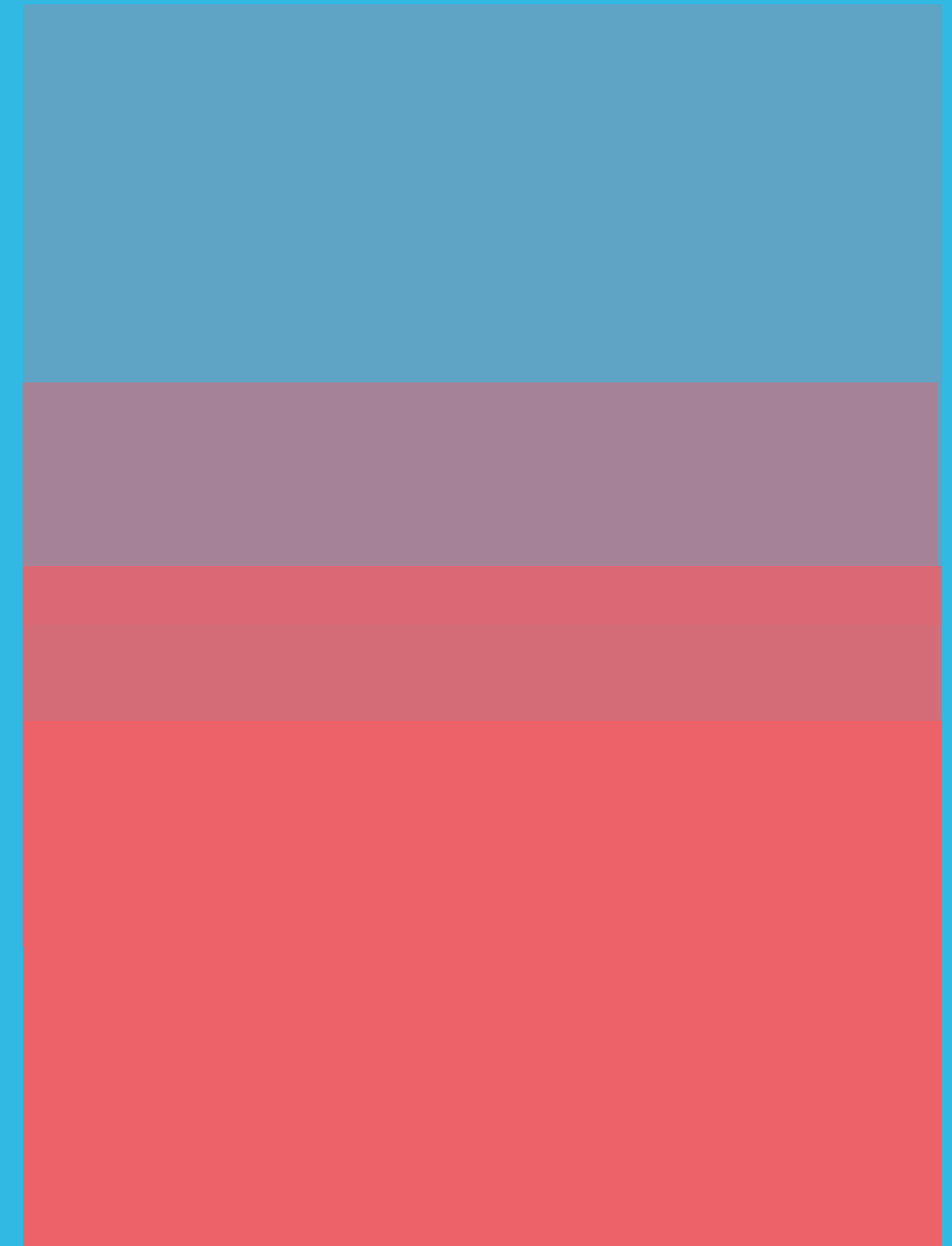


Summer Series



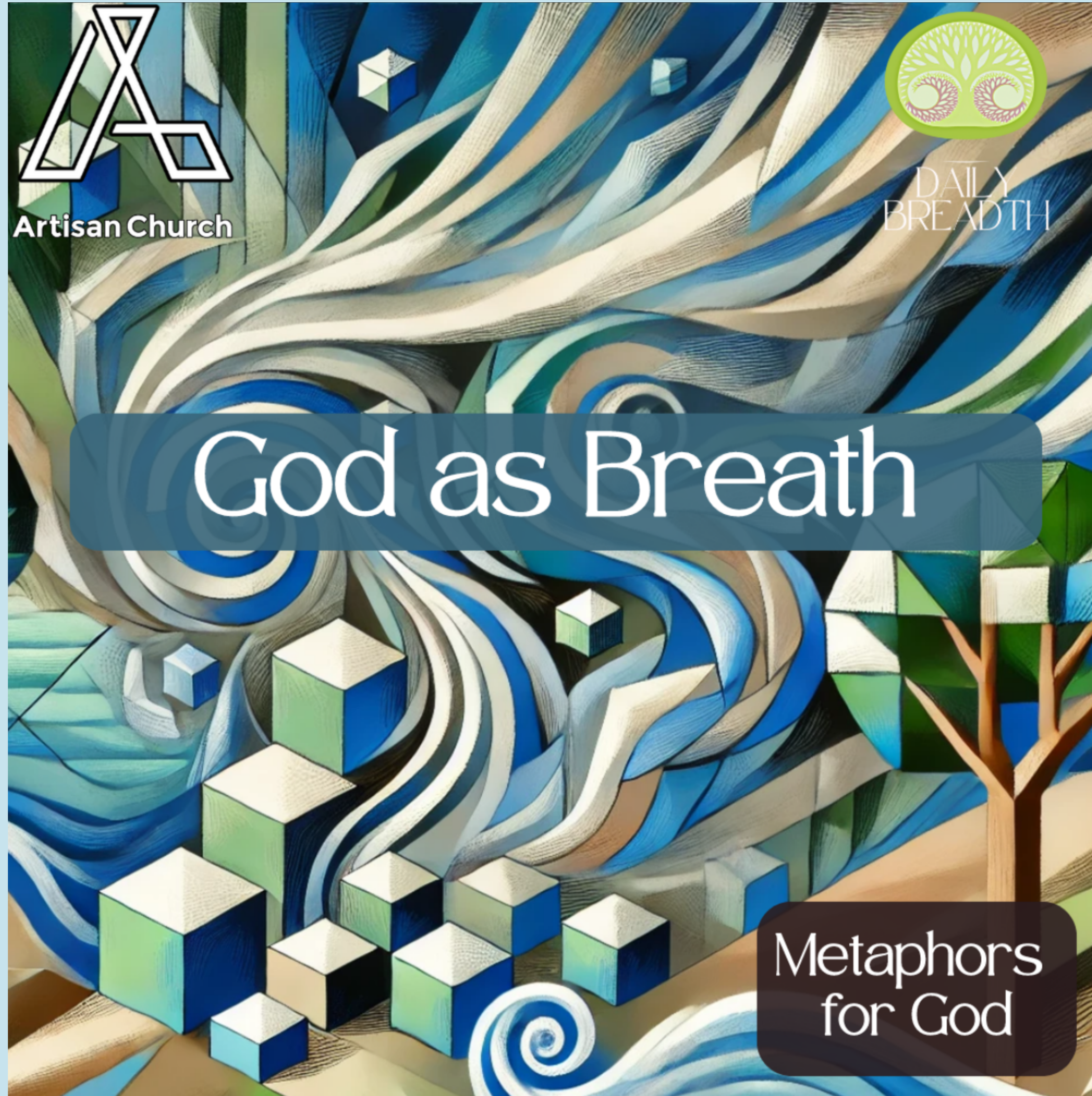
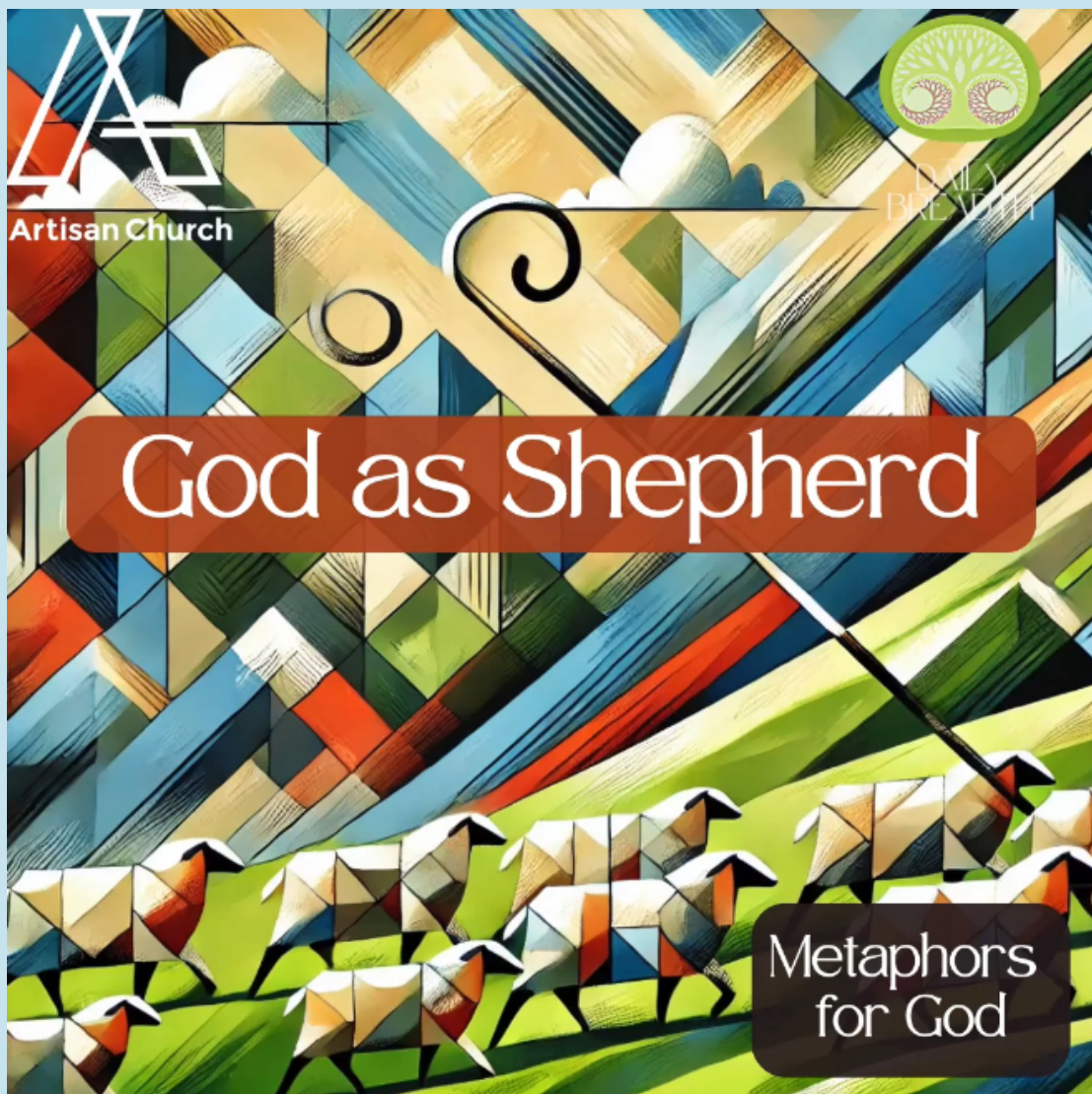
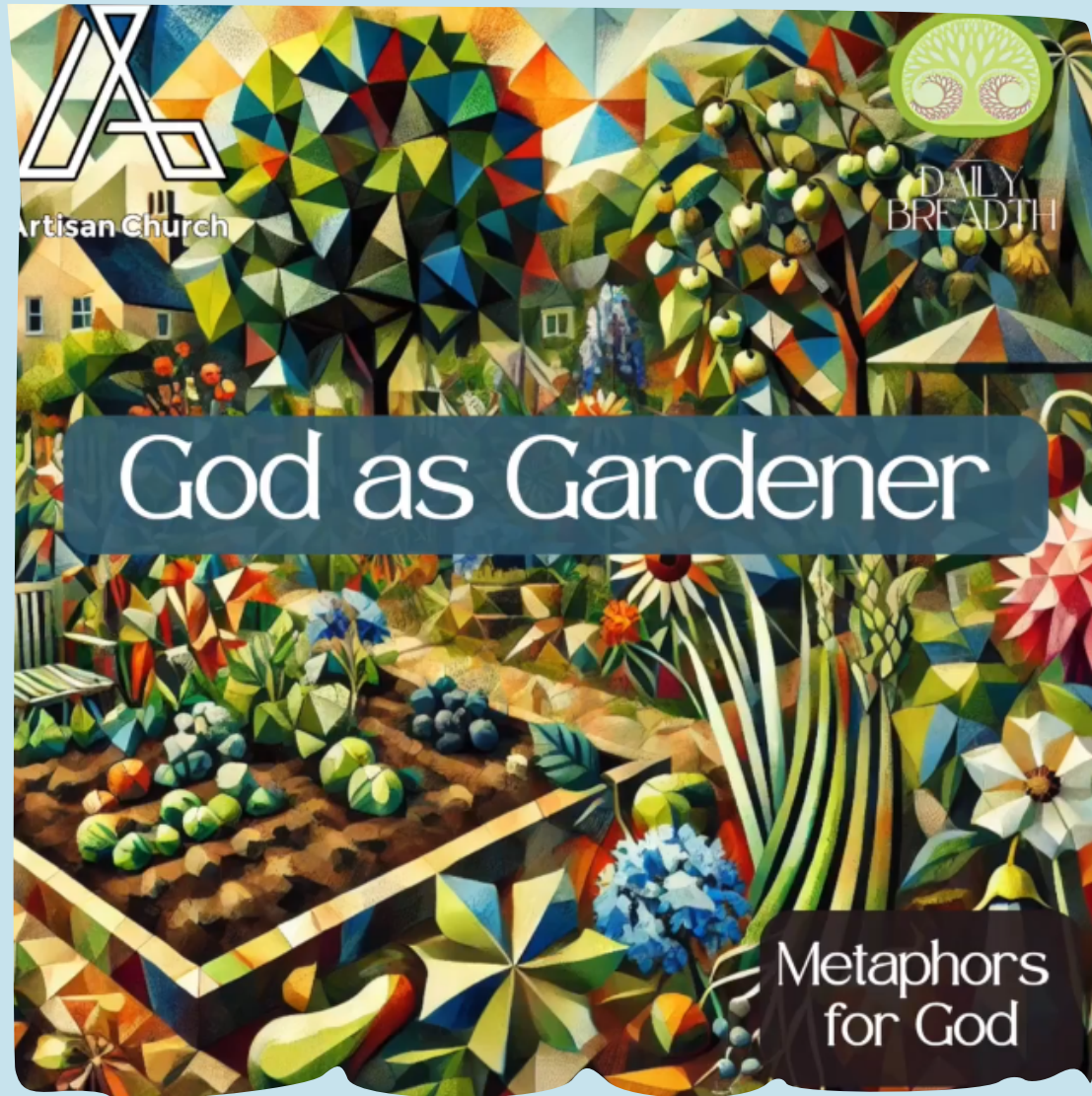
# Metaphors for God



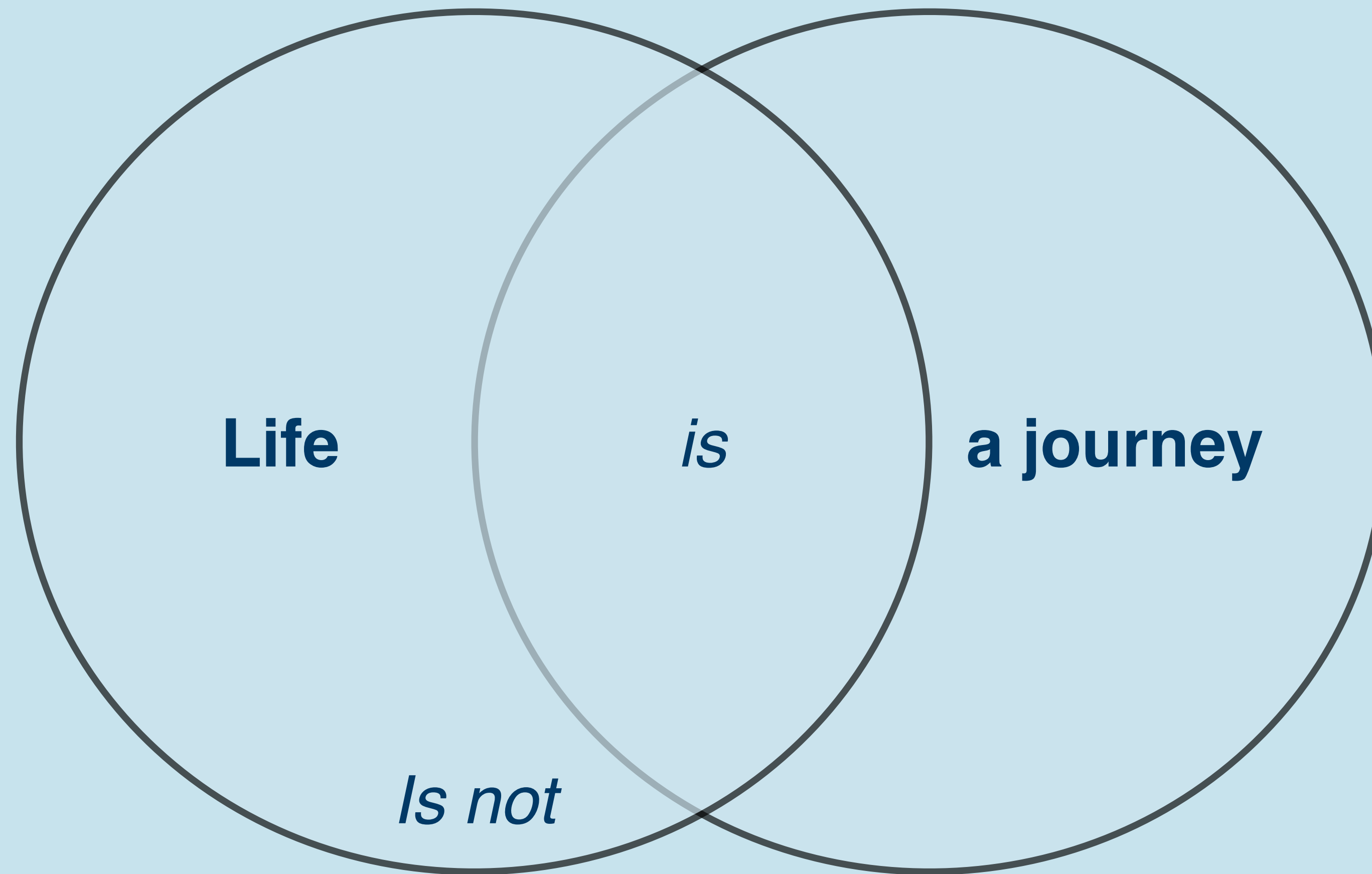




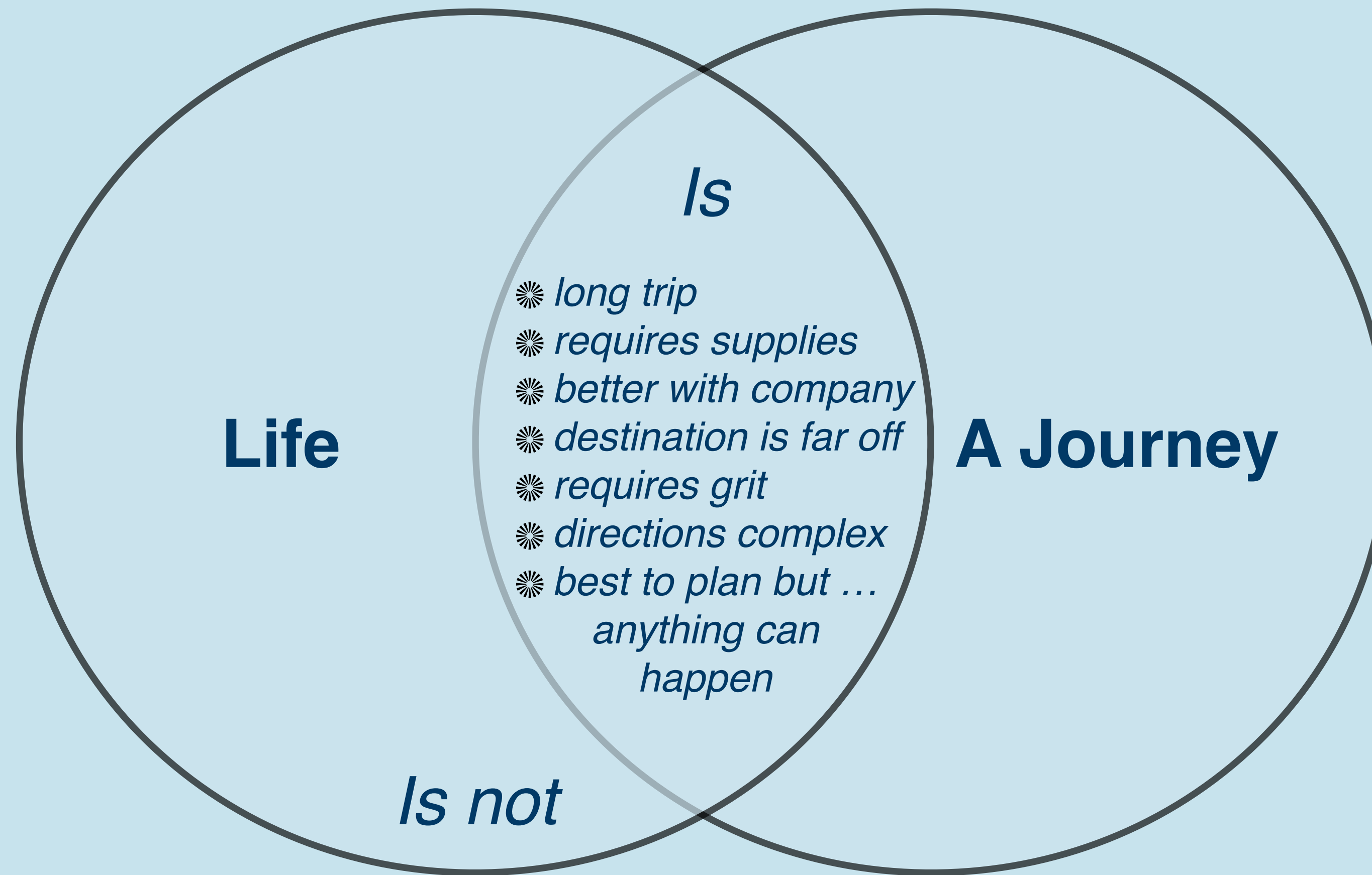




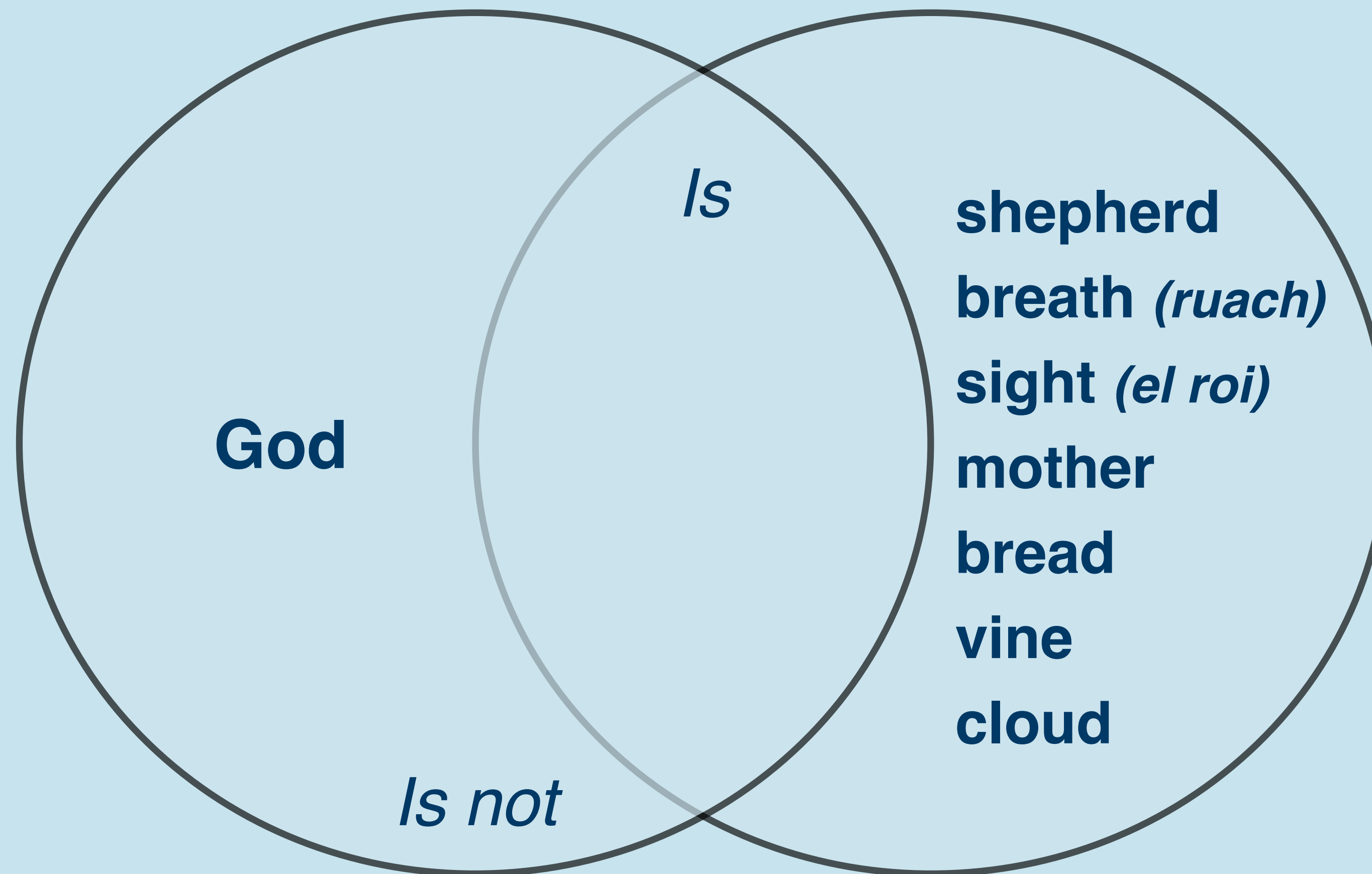




Metaphor: 2 overlapping domains of knowledge



Metaphor: 2 overlapping domains of knowledge



How do we know God?  
(i.e. experience and describe that experience)

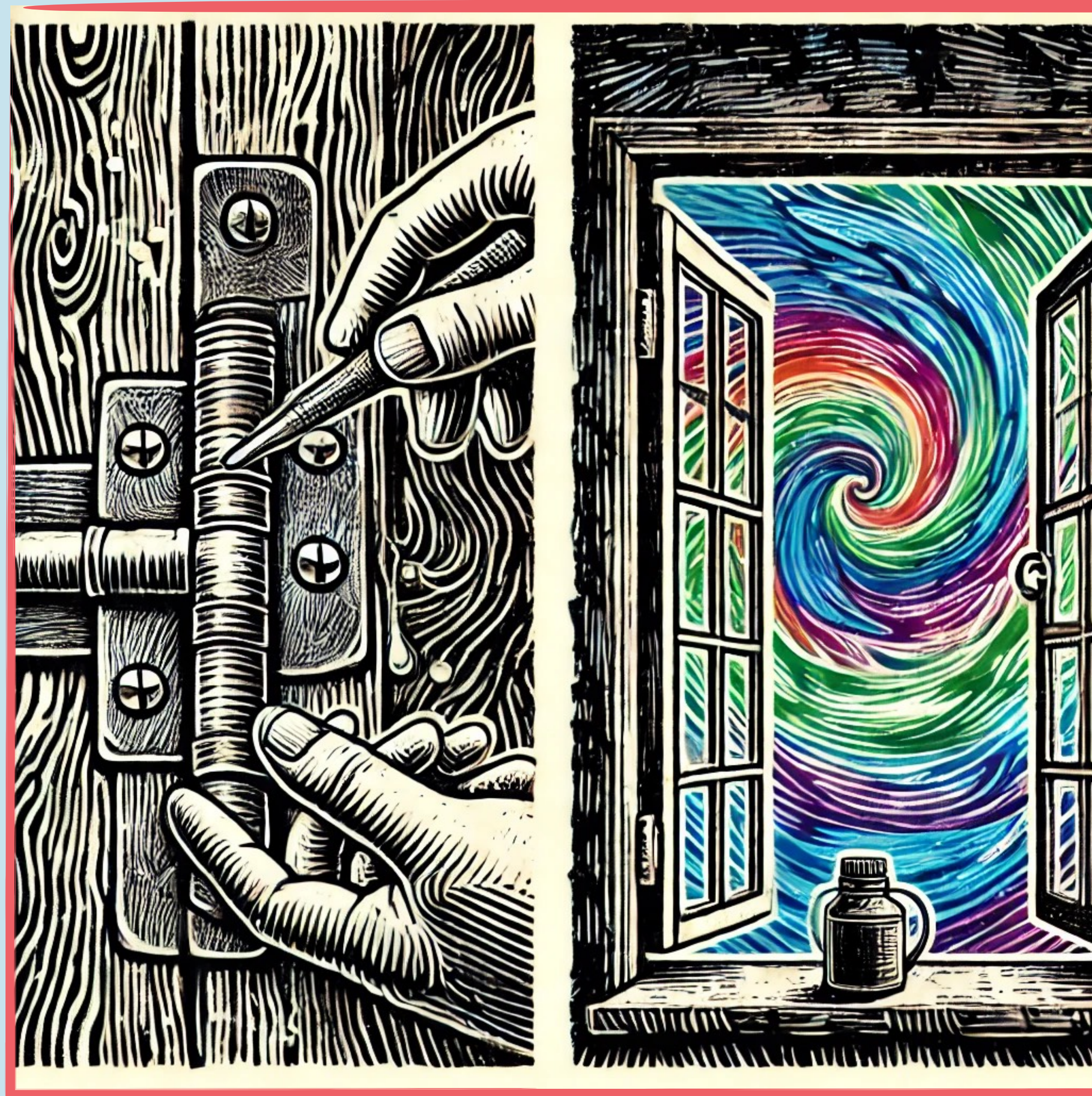




Metaphors  
are windows  
that help us  
access God in  
everyday life



Sometimes  
the hinges  
(i.e. metaphors)  
get fused and  
need oiling





## Breath

“the grace of the Spirit is at the heart of creation, at the heart of the church, and at the heart of Christian life”

“our yearning for life is a yearning to be filled with the Spirit...that we might live”





*ruach*  
the Hebrew word:  
spirit-wind-breath







*ruach*  
in Ezekiel 37:  
valley of bones



**“So what is a good nickname for a positive force greater than ourselves, bigger than we can imagine, way bigger than we are comfortable with, better than we can hope for, deeper than where we can fall, beyond mind and awe, where we can still also believe in geology, evolution, astronomy?”**

**Anne Lamott**



**“The best name ever is Gitchi Manitou, which means ‘Great Spirit’ in several Native American languages. ‘Jah’ is beautiful because reggae is percussive with hope. Over the decades, I’ve suggested many names - Ed, Bubbe, Little Tree....”**



**“My friend Don, who was dying of emphysema and alcoholism at the time, decided to experiment with the idea that a caring force outside himself was with him in his last months. He called this higher power his old HP. Then he began to call it his Old Hewlett-Packard. It was silly and made him smile instead of worry so much. That’s a very God thing, and ‘my old HP’ is a great name for God.”**



**“Saint John wrote that God is Love, that anytime you experience kindness and generosity, hope, patience and caring, you are in the presence of God. Anytime you express these, you are drawing something I would call God into the world.”**

**Anne Lamott**