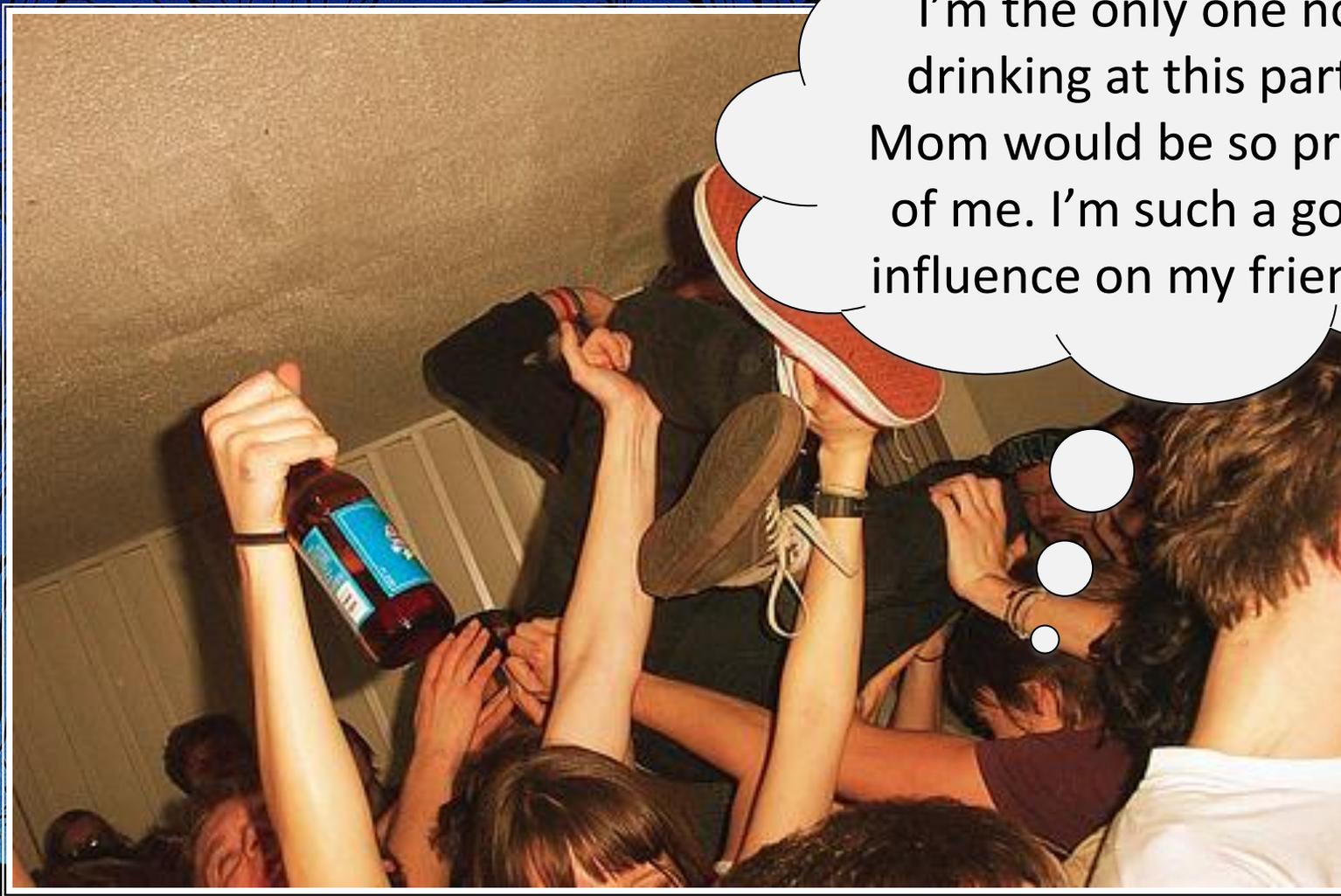


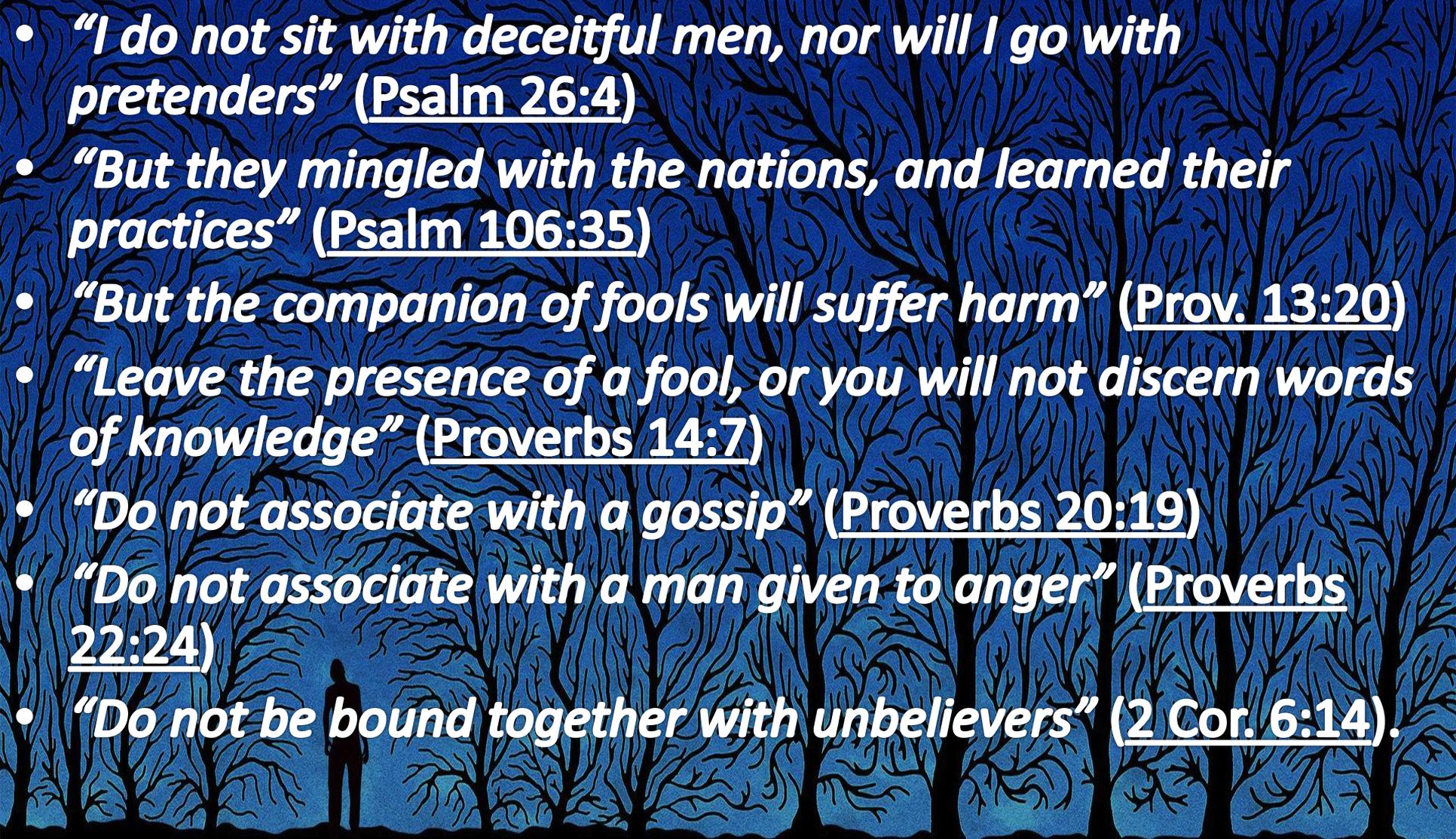


Bad Company

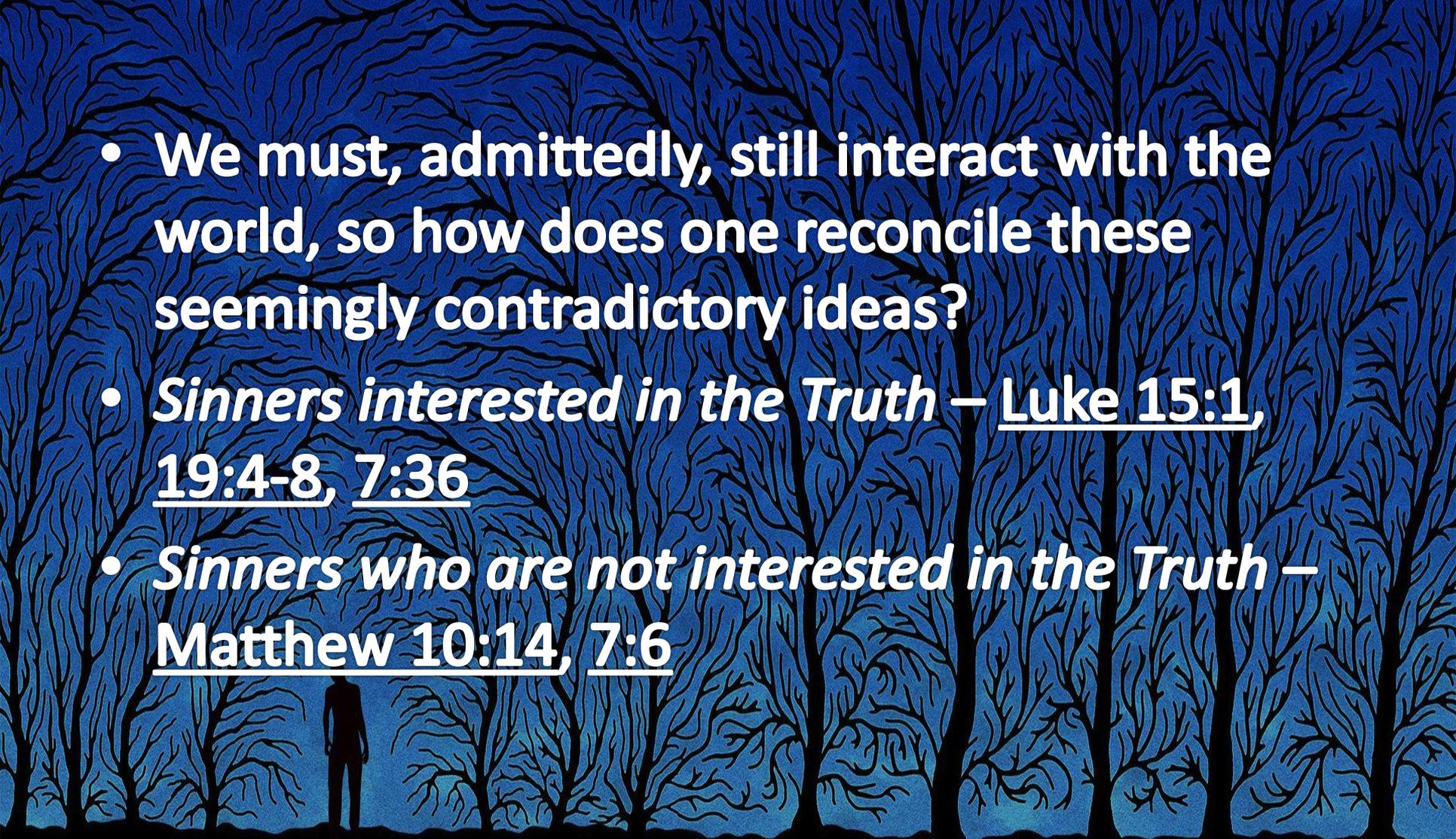


I'm the only one not drinking at this party. Mom would be so proud of me. I'm such a good influence on my friends!

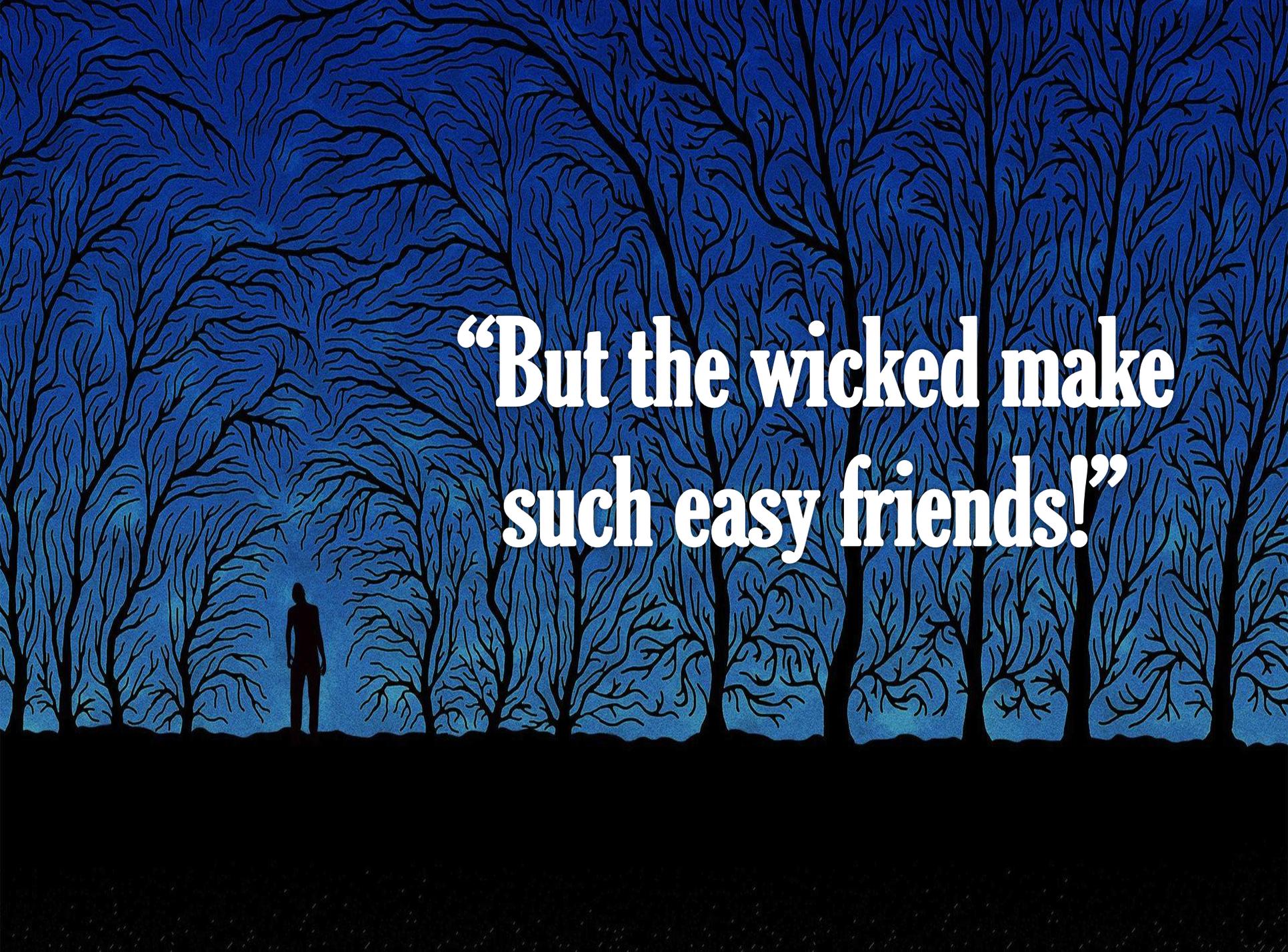
Who is being influenced?

- 
- *“I do not sit with deceitful men, nor will I go with pretenders”* (Psalm 26:4)
 - *“But they mingled with the nations, and learned their practices”* (Psalm 106:35)
 - *“But the companion of fools will suffer harm”* (Prov. 13:20)
 - *“Leave the presence of a fool, or you will not discern words of knowledge”* (Proverbs 14:7)
 - *“Do not associate with a gossip”* (Proverbs 20:19)
 - *“Do not associate with a man given to anger”* (Proverbs 22:24)
 - *“Do not be bound together with unbelievers”* (2 Cor. 6:14).

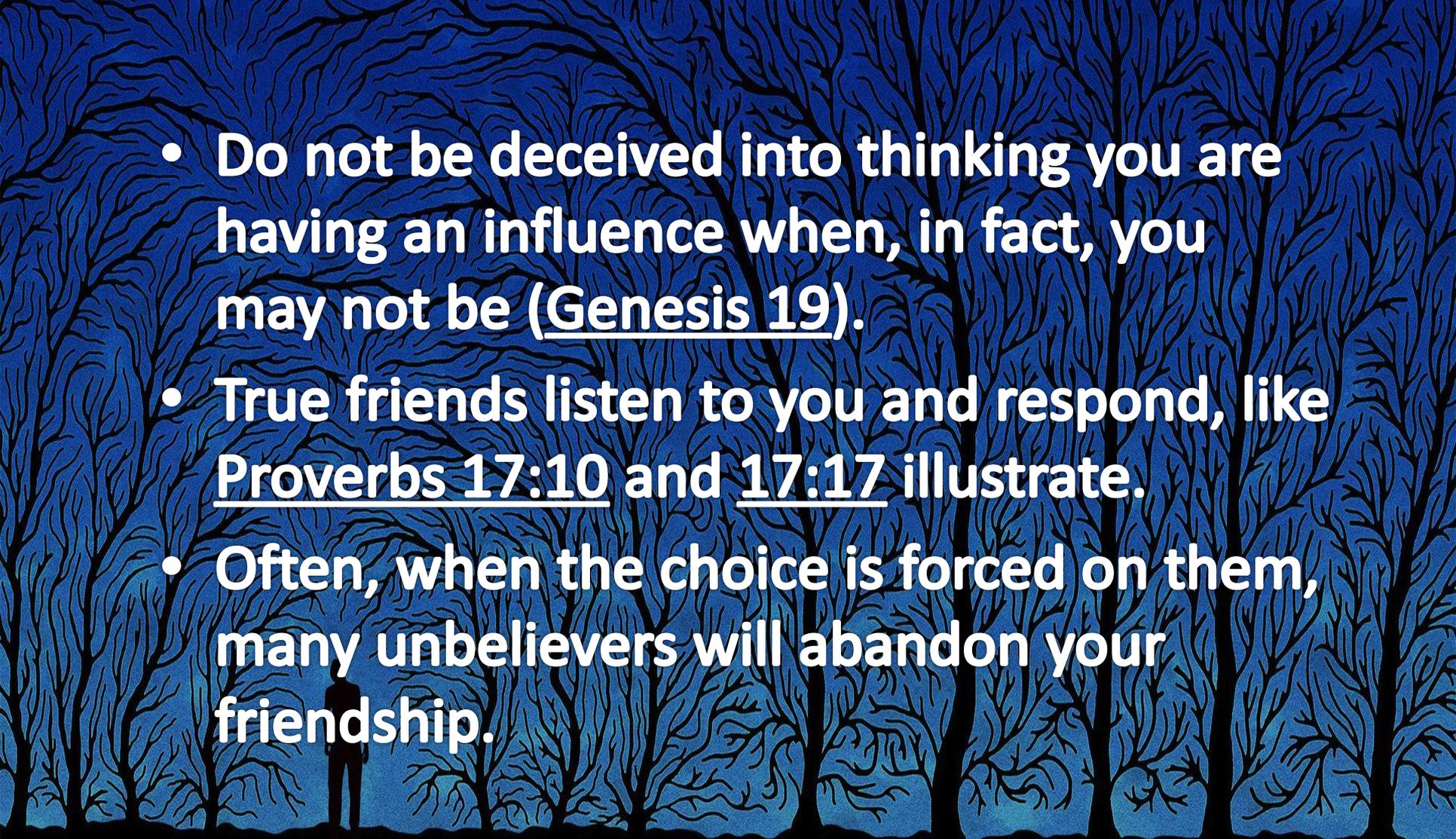
“Do not be deceived”

- 
- We must, admittedly, still interact with the world, so how does one reconcile these seemingly contradictory ideas?
 - *Sinners interested in the Truth* – Luke 15:1, 19:4-8, 7:36
 - *Sinners who are not interested in the Truth* – Matthew 10:14, 7:6

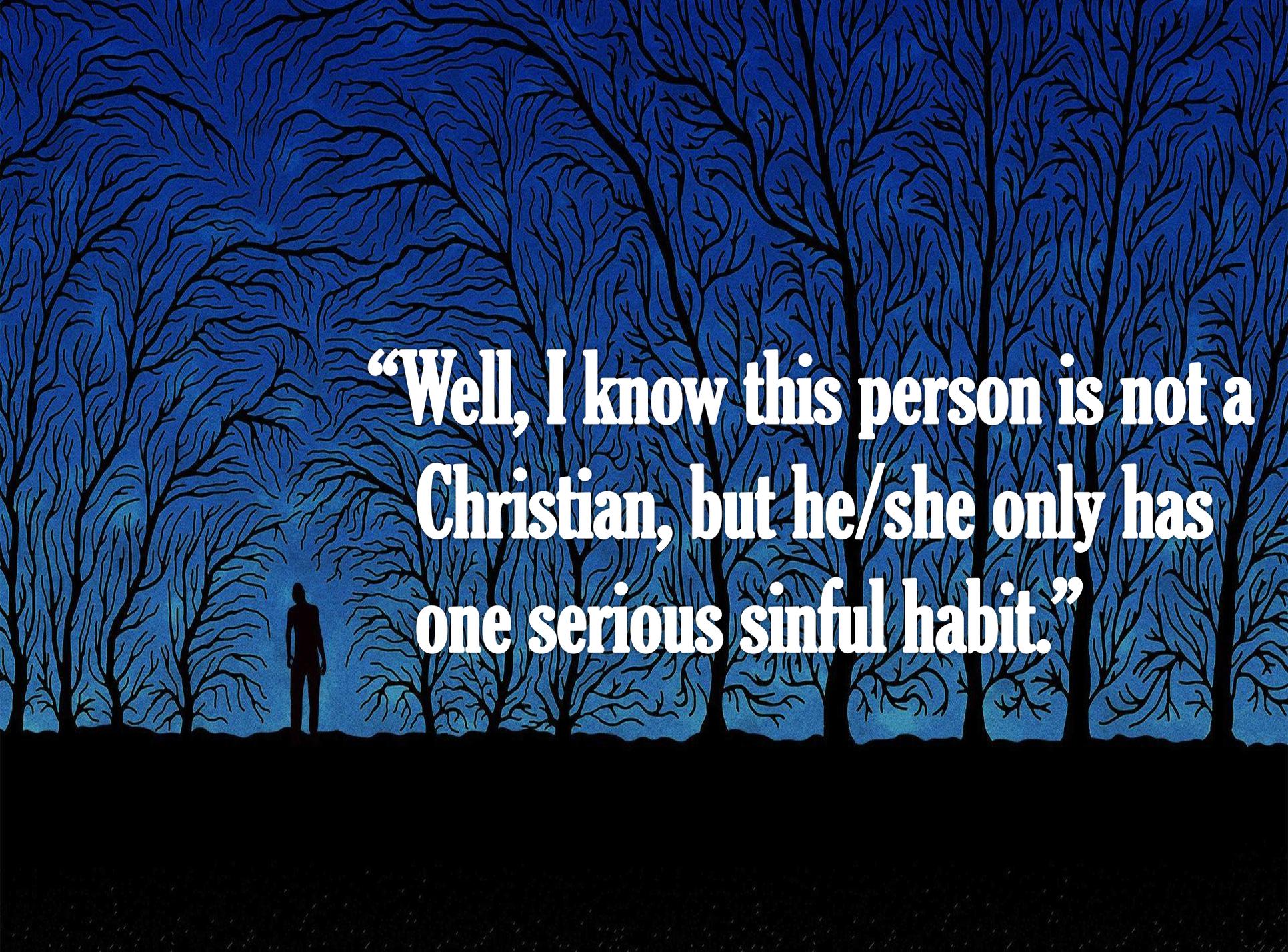
The Right Kind of Relationship

The background is a dense forest of trees rendered in a dark blue, almost black, silhouette style against a lighter blue background. The trees have intricate, branching patterns. In the lower-left quadrant, a small, dark silhouette of a person stands on a dark ground line, looking towards the right. The overall mood is somber and mysterious.

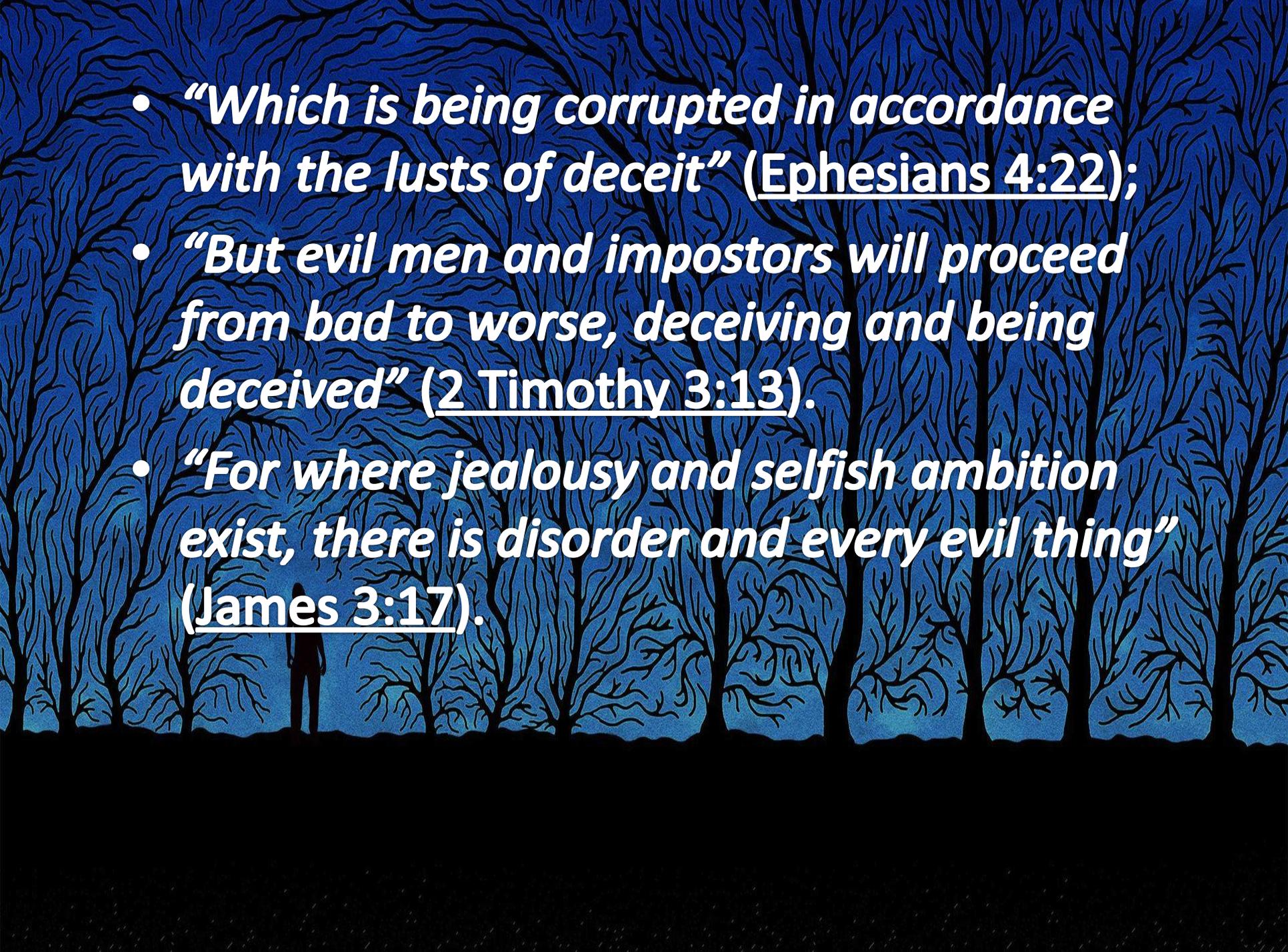
**“But the wicked make
such easy friends!”**

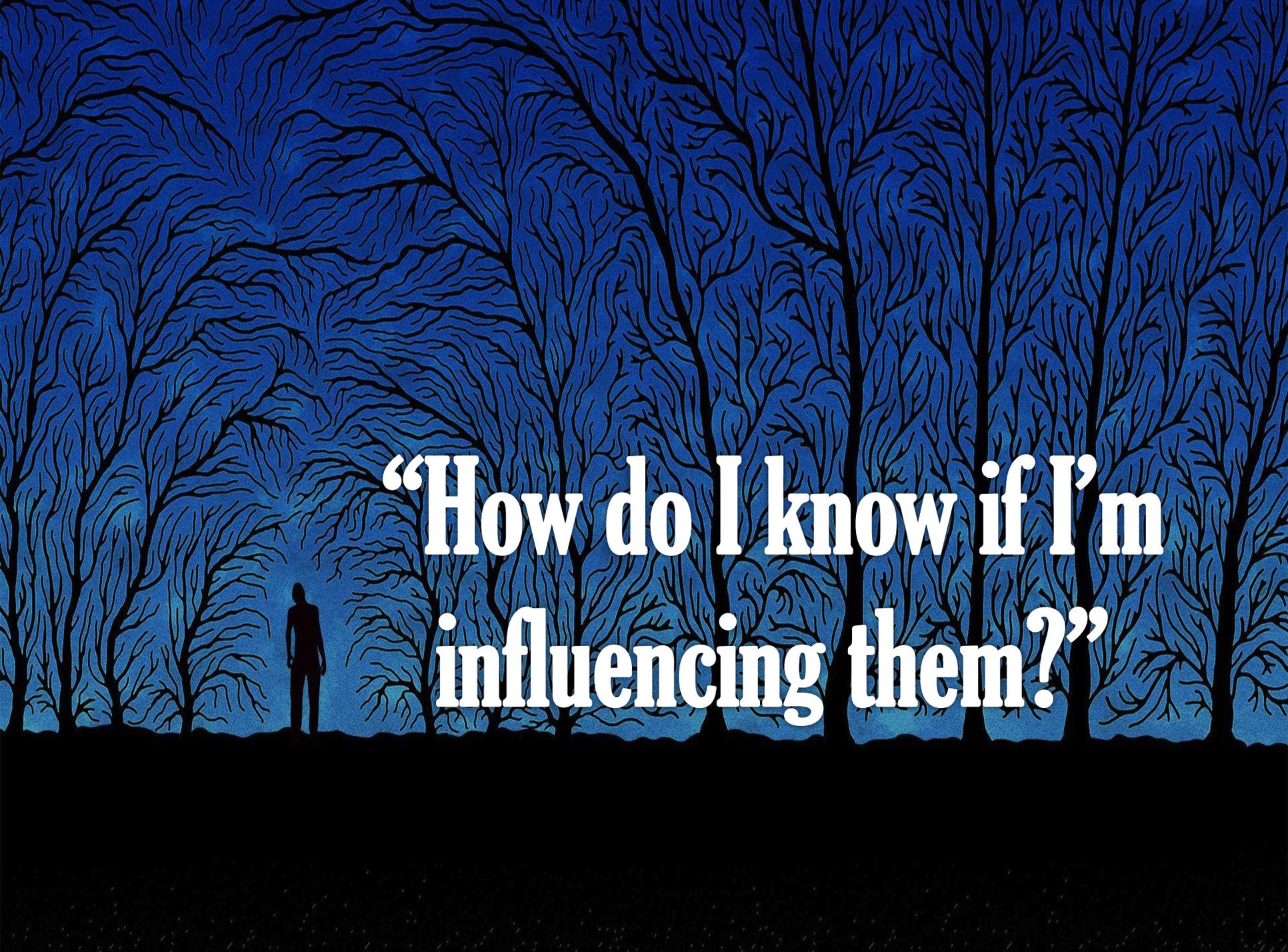
- 
- A blue-toned illustration of a forest with a person standing in the distance. The trees are stylized with intricate branch patterns. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.
- Do not be deceived into thinking you are having an influence when, in fact, you may not be (Genesis 19).
 - True friends listen to you and respond, like Proverbs 17:10 and 17:17 illustrate.
 - Often, when the choice is forced on them, many unbelievers will abandon your friendship.

Real Influence

The background is a blue-toned illustration of a dense forest of bare trees. The trees are rendered in black outlines against a lighter blue background. In the lower-left foreground, a small, dark silhouette of a person stands on a dark ground line, looking towards the forest. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

**“Well, I know this person is not a
Christian, but he/she only has
one serious sinful habit.”**

- 
- *“Which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit” (Ephesians 4:22);*
 - *“But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived” (2 Timothy 3:13).*
 - *“For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing” (James 3:17).*

The image features a dense forest of trees rendered in a dark blue color against a lighter blue background. The trees are stylized with intricate branch patterns. In the lower-left portion of the forest, a small, dark silhouette of a person stands looking towards the viewer. The overall mood is contemplative and somewhat somber.

**“How do I know if I’m
influencing them?”**

