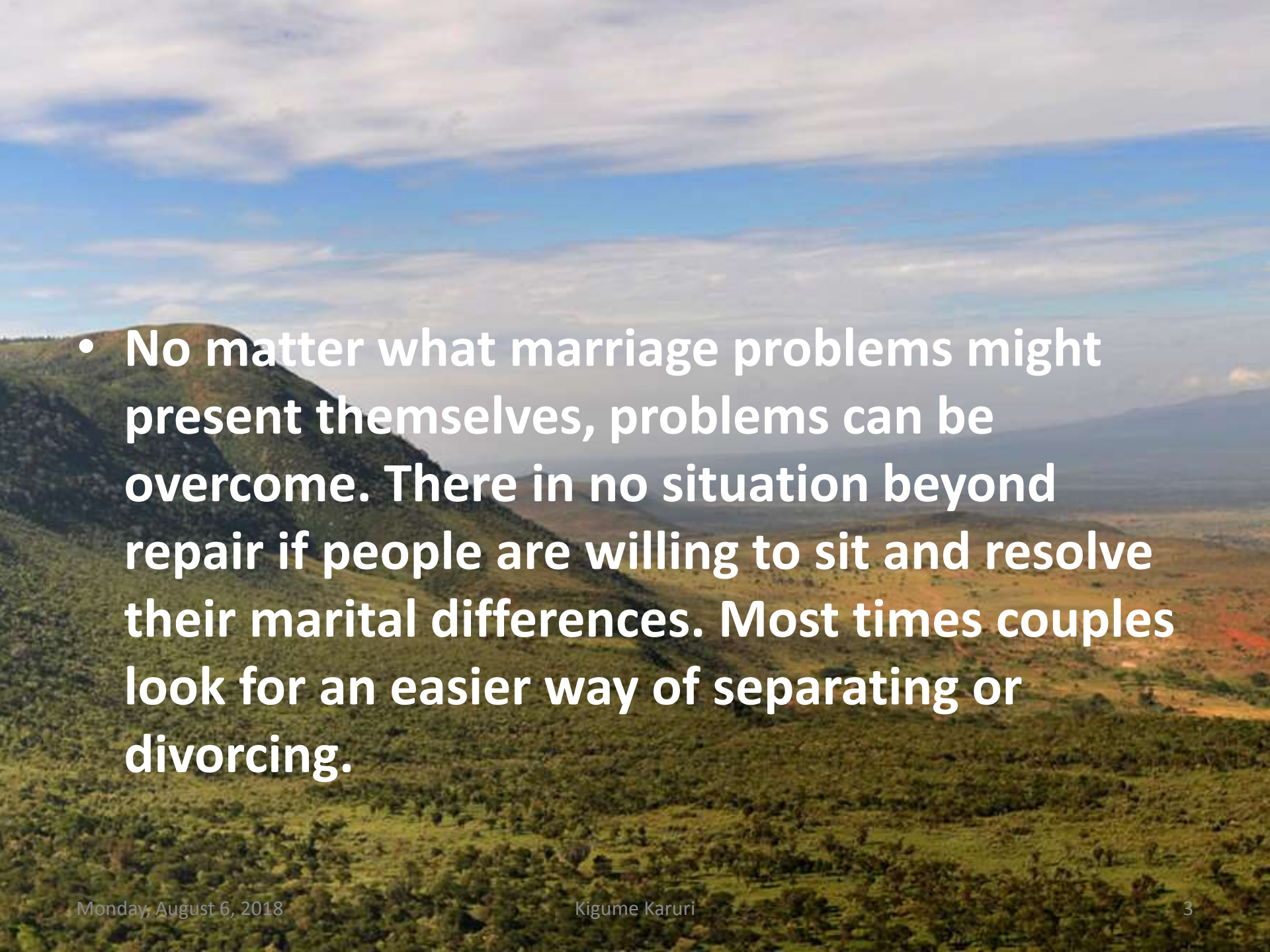


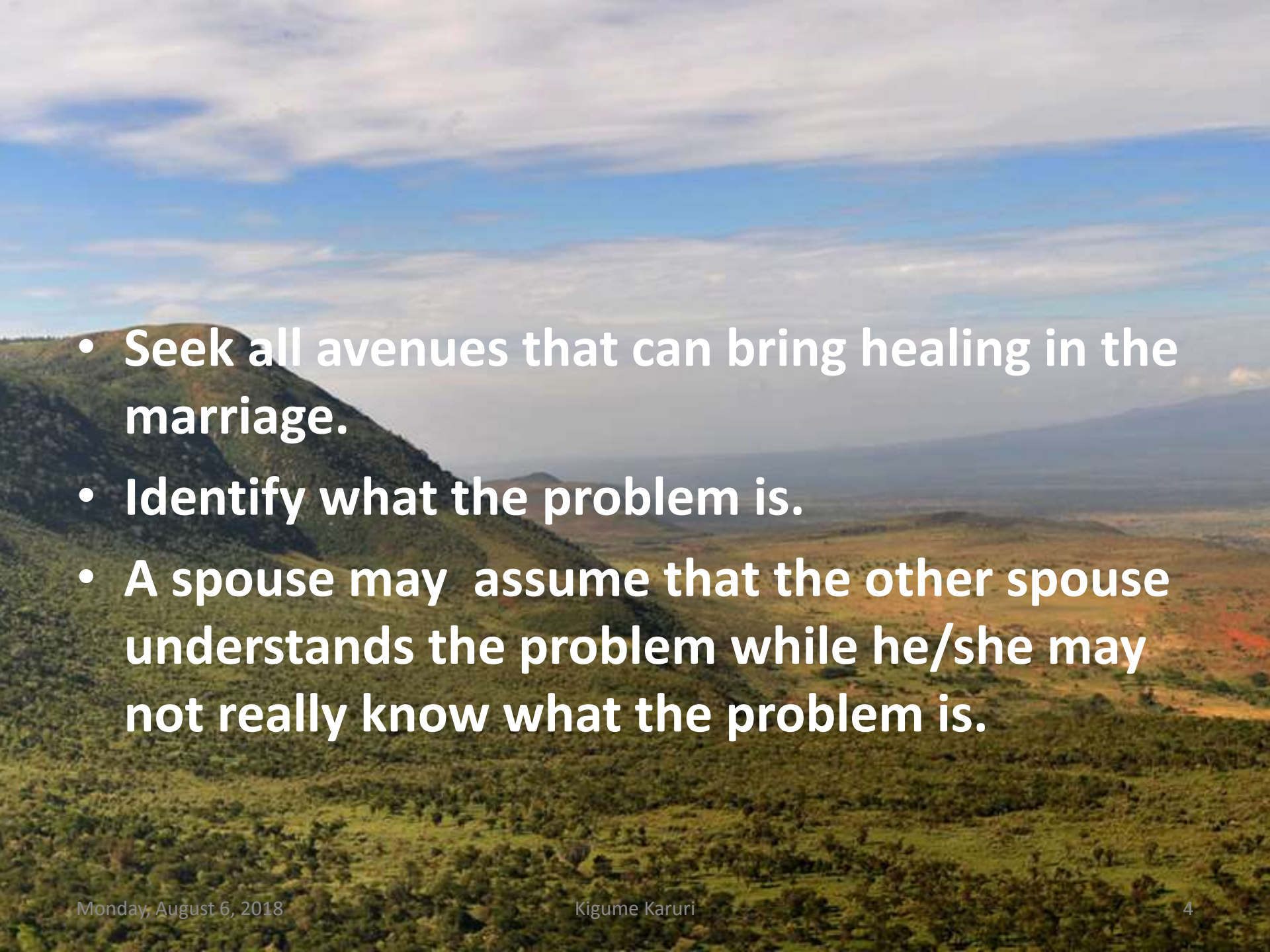


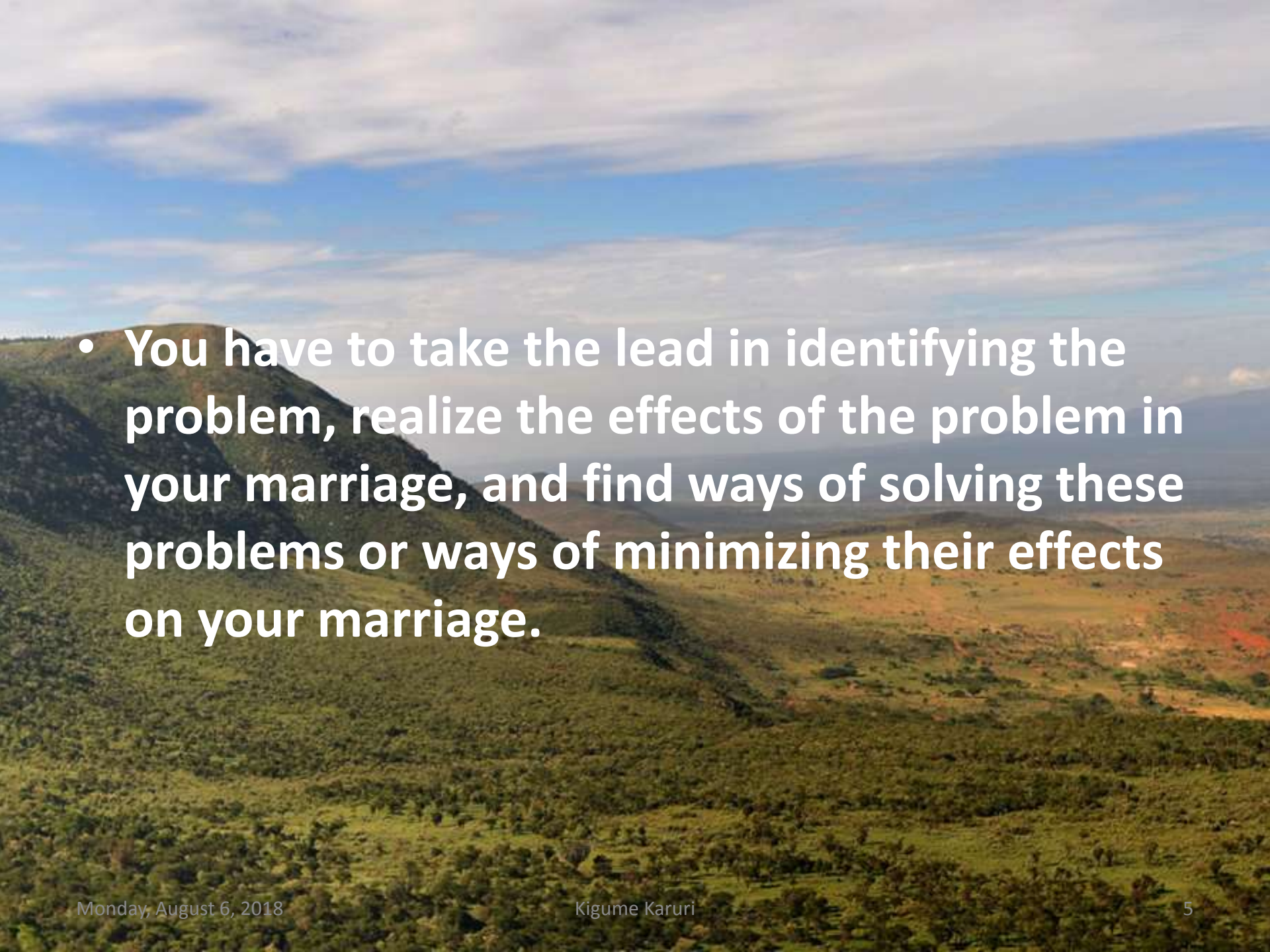
*There is great hope for YOUR
MARRIAGE*

**Marriage thrives in love and forgiveness.
There is no perfect marriage. All marriages
have faults and failures but love covers all
failures in marriage.**

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- 1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)
 - **8** *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*

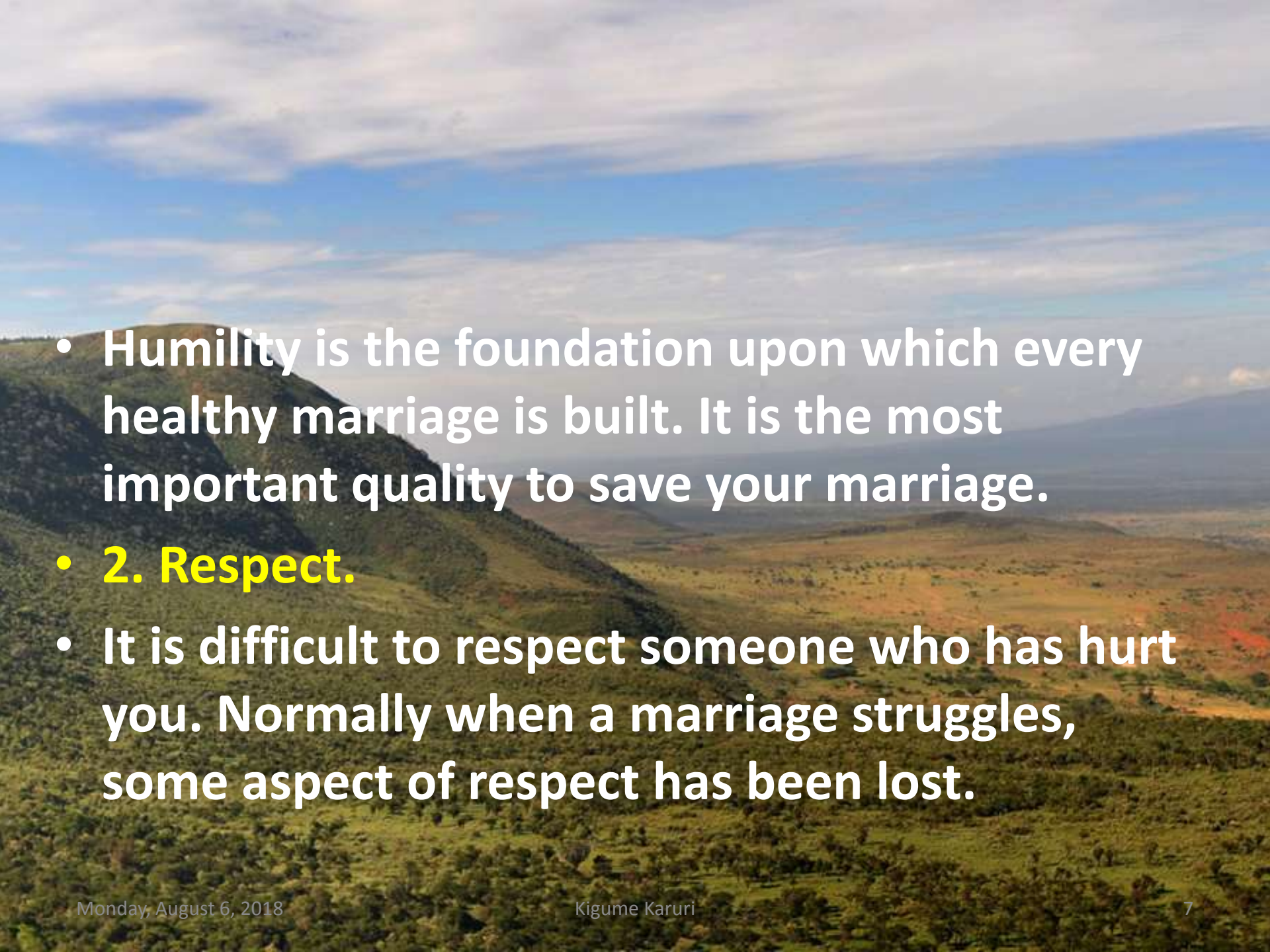
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- **No matter what marriage problems might present themselves, problems can be overcome. There is no situation beyond repair if people are willing to sit and resolve their marital differences. Most times couples look for an easier way of separating or divorcing.**

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- **Seek all avenues that can bring healing in the marriage.**
 - **Identify what the problem is.**
 - **A spouse may assume that the other spouse understands the problem while he/she may not really know what the problem is.**

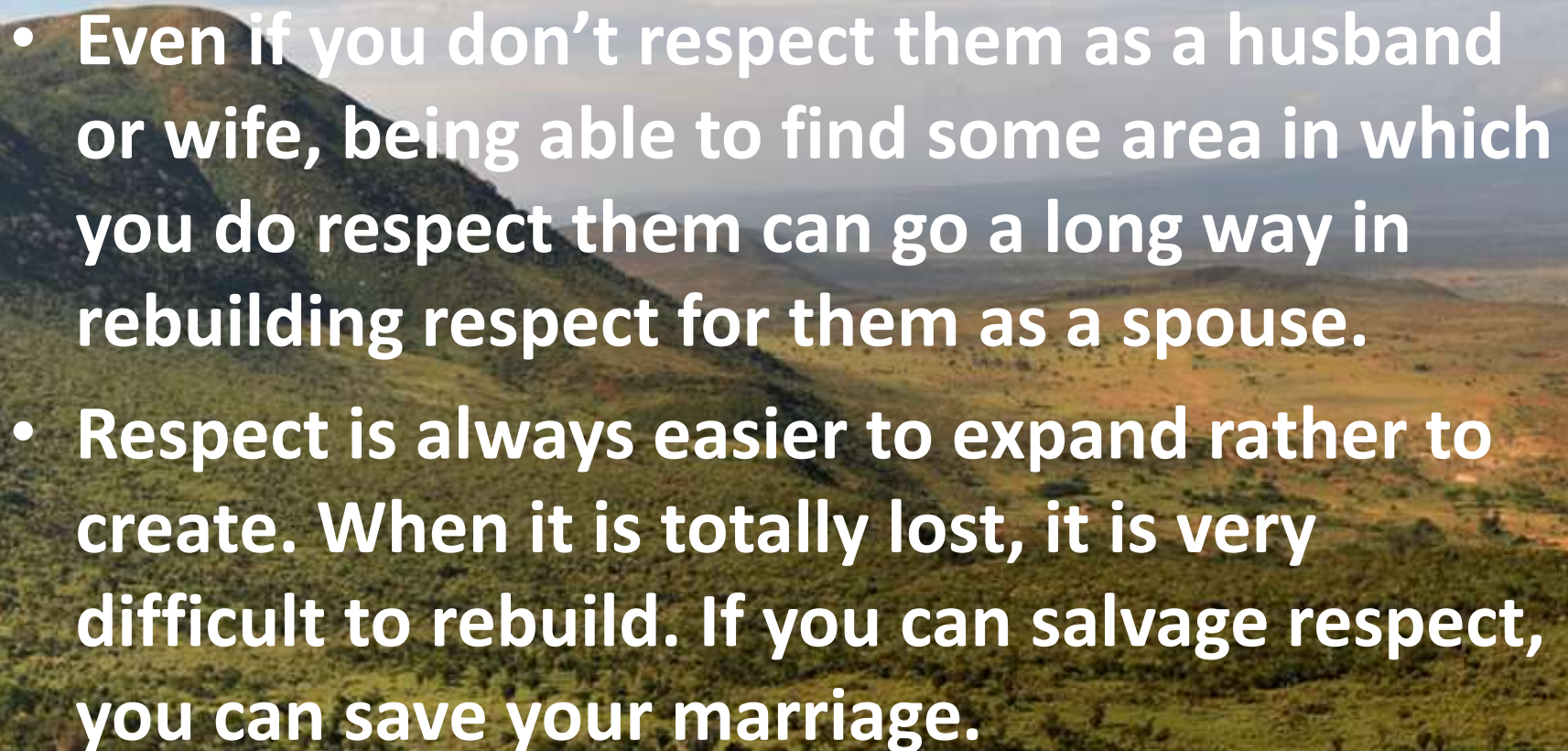
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- **You have to take the lead in identifying the problem, realize the effects of the problem in your marriage, and find ways of solving these problems or ways of minimizing their effects on your marriage.**

Qualities that can Save your Marriage

- **1. Humility**
- There is really one enemy of marriage and that is pride. When pride goes unchecked, a healthy marriage cannot exist.
- Humility gives us the ability to recognize our mistakes, admit our faults, seek help from others, forgive and seek forgiveness.

- 
- Humility is the foundation upon which every healthy marriage is built. It is the most important quality to save your marriage.
 - **2. Respect.**
 - It is difficult to respect someone who has hurt you. Normally when a marriage struggles, some aspect of respect has been lost.

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- **However, there is a vast difference between not being able to respect what a person has done versus not being able to respect any part of the person.**
 - **Even if you don't respect something your spouse has done, they still deserve some level of basic human dignity.**

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- **Even if you don't respect them as a husband or wife, being able to find some area in which you do respect them can go a long way in rebuilding respect for them as a spouse.**
 - **Respect is always easier to expand rather to create. When it is totally lost, it is very difficult to rebuild. If you can salvage respect, you can save your marriage.**




- **3. Mercy.**

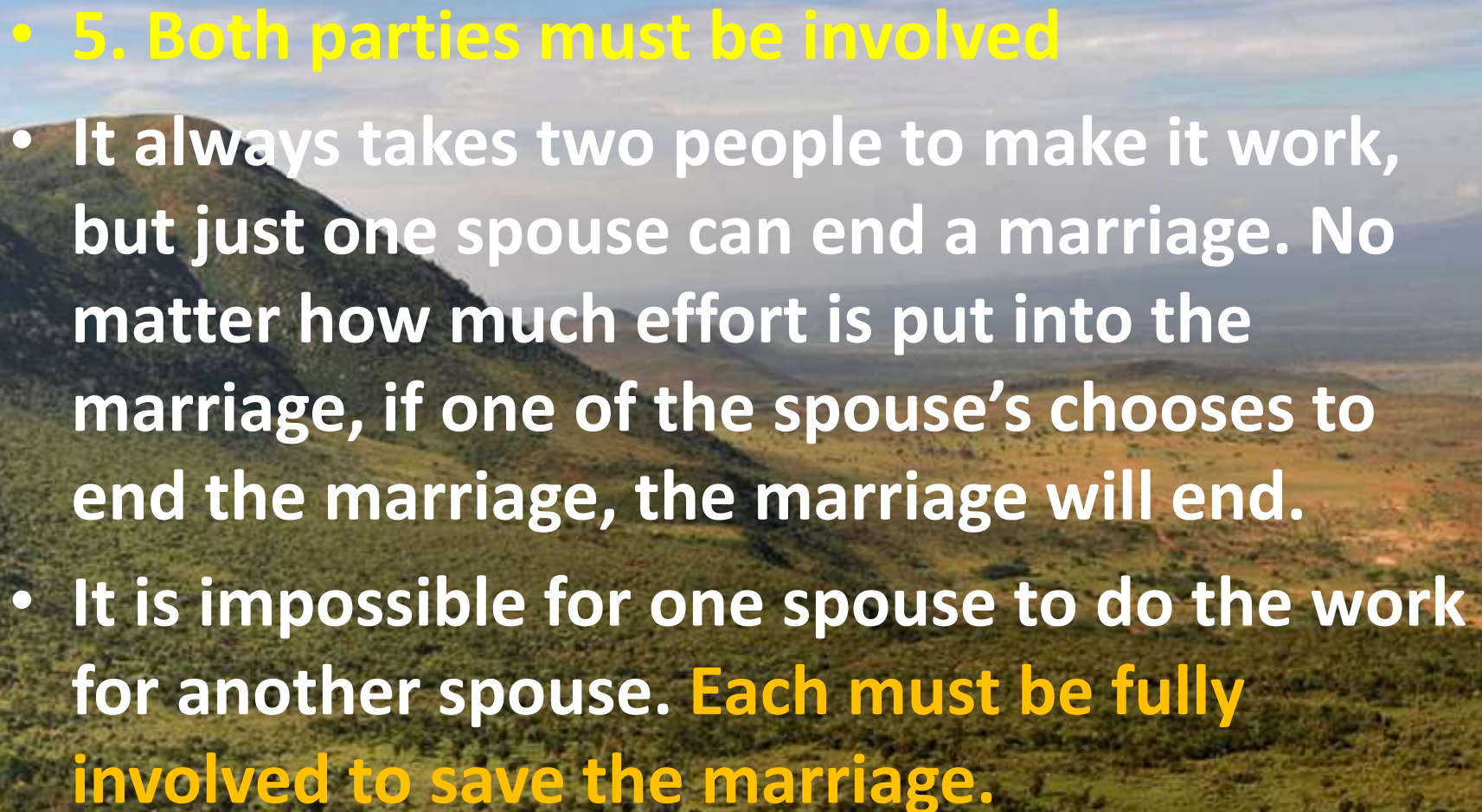
- Mercy is directly tied to humility. As pride grows, our understanding of our need for mercy diminishes. The less we think we need mercy, the less mercy we give to others. Problems in a marriage cannot be solved without the giving and receiving of mercy.



- **4. Communication**

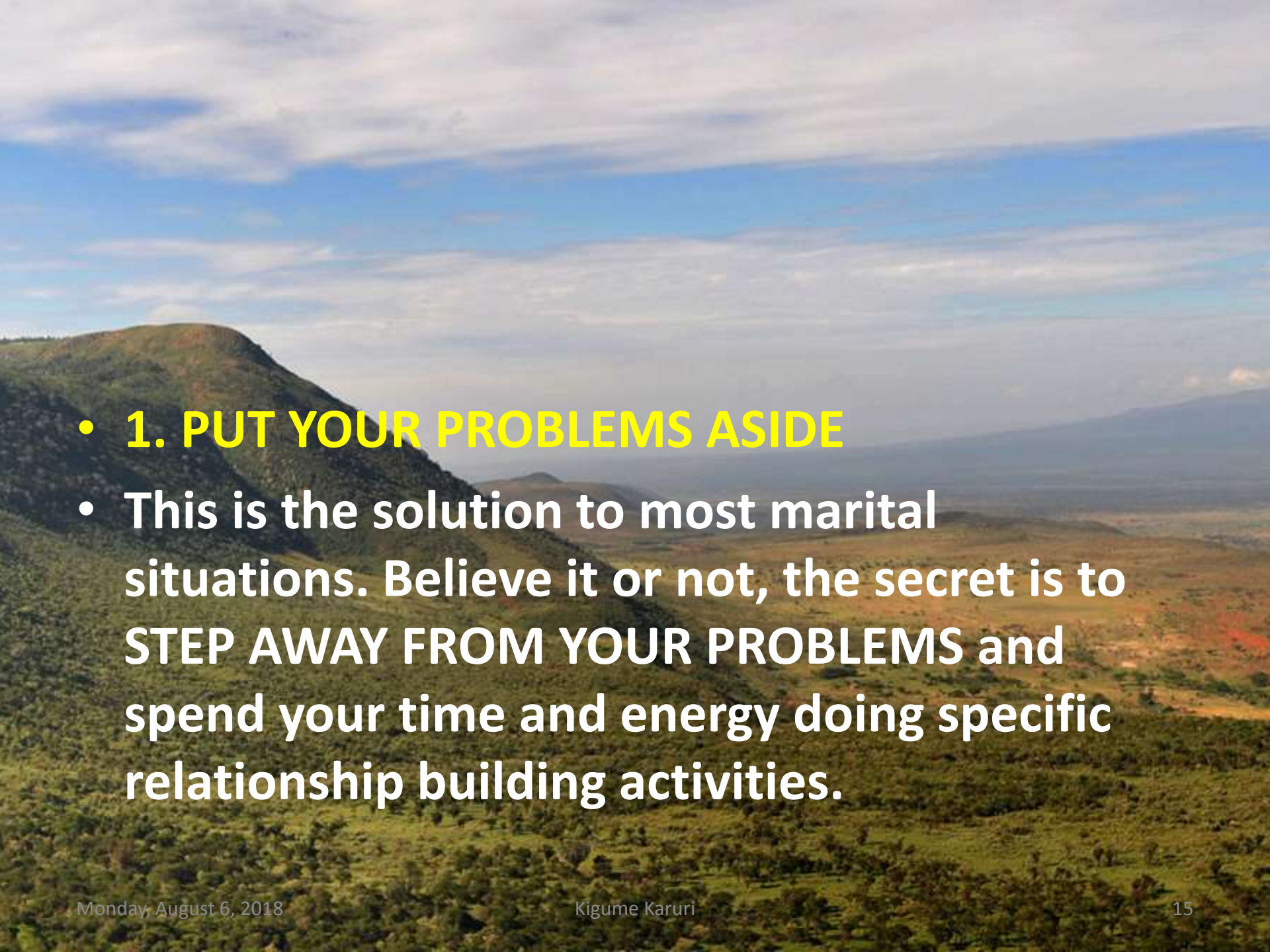
- Marriages cannot be saved without communication. If communication stops, the marriage suffocates because communication is the oxygen of marriage. **A key to marriage is not agreeing on every issue, but it is communicating about every issue.**

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- **Spouses need to be heard, understood, and having the ability to re-approach the topic if conditions change. Where communication is present, problems can be solved.**

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- **5. Both parties must be involved**
 - It always takes two people to make it work, but just one spouse can end a marriage. No matter how much effort is put into the marriage, if one of the spouse's chooses to end the marriage, the marriage will end.
 - It is impossible for one spouse to do the work for another spouse. **Each must be fully involved to save the marriage.**

You can always fix up your marriage


- There is always a solution to any of the marital issues we face and that all problems can be fixed if both parties are willing to do so.

- 
- **1. PUT YOUR PROBLEMS ASIDE**
 - This is the solution to most marital situations. Believe it or not, the secret is to **STEP AWAY FROM YOUR PROBLEMS** and spend your time and energy doing specific relationship building activities.



- **2. TALK & TOUCH**

- Talking and touching has a lot of effect on marriage. What you talk about and how you touch each other can bring closeness to the marriage.
- Talk and touch are **ACTIONS**. You'll never talk your way out of a situation you behaved yourself into. You must act.

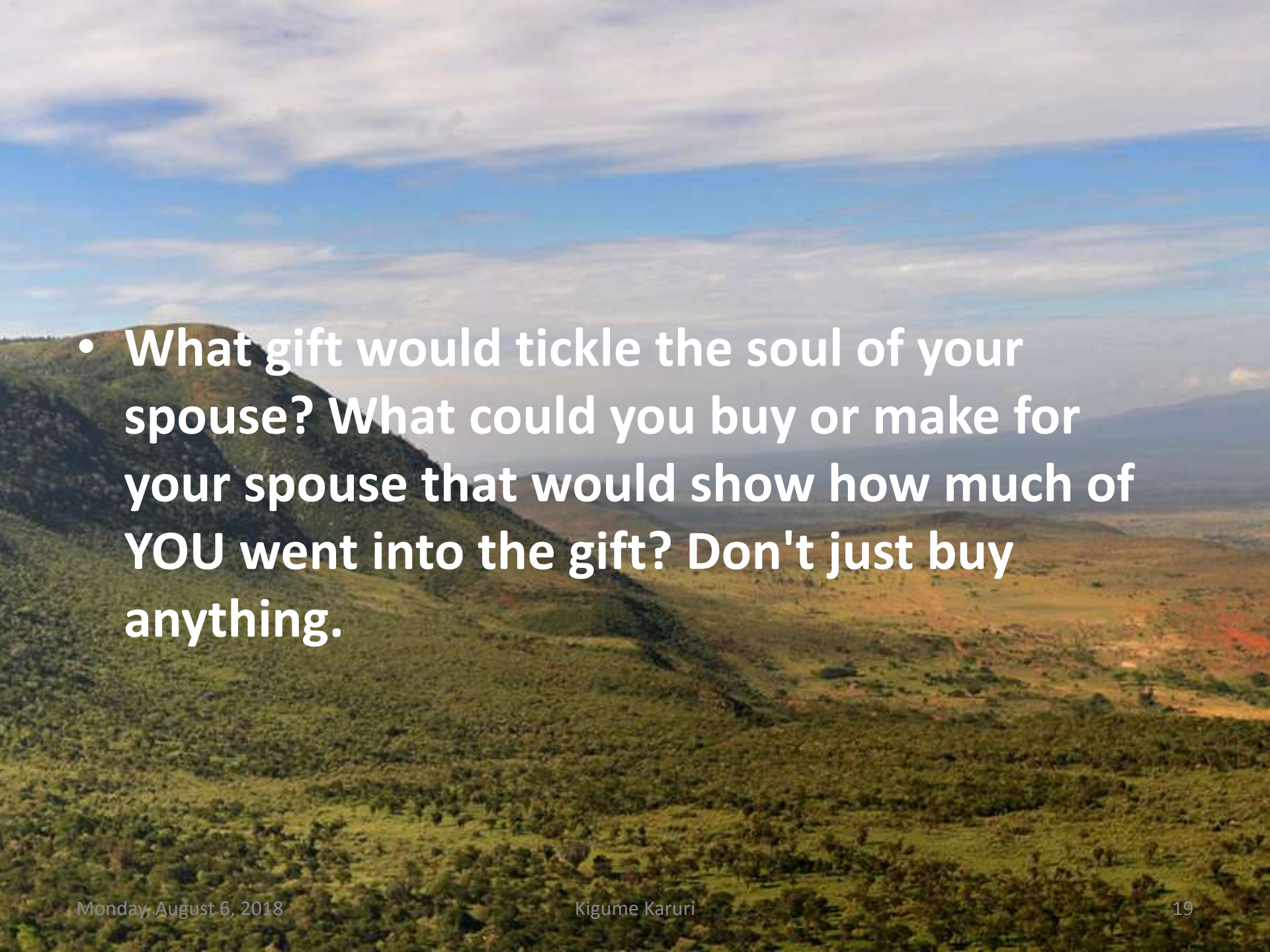
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- Failed marriages eventually succeed because at least one spouse commits to **doing SMALL THINGS in great ways** over an extended period of time.
 - Establish the **RIGHT HABITS** and do them **CONSISTENTLY**.



- **3. GIVE EACH OTHER**

- Giving to each other is a part of building capacity in your relationship.

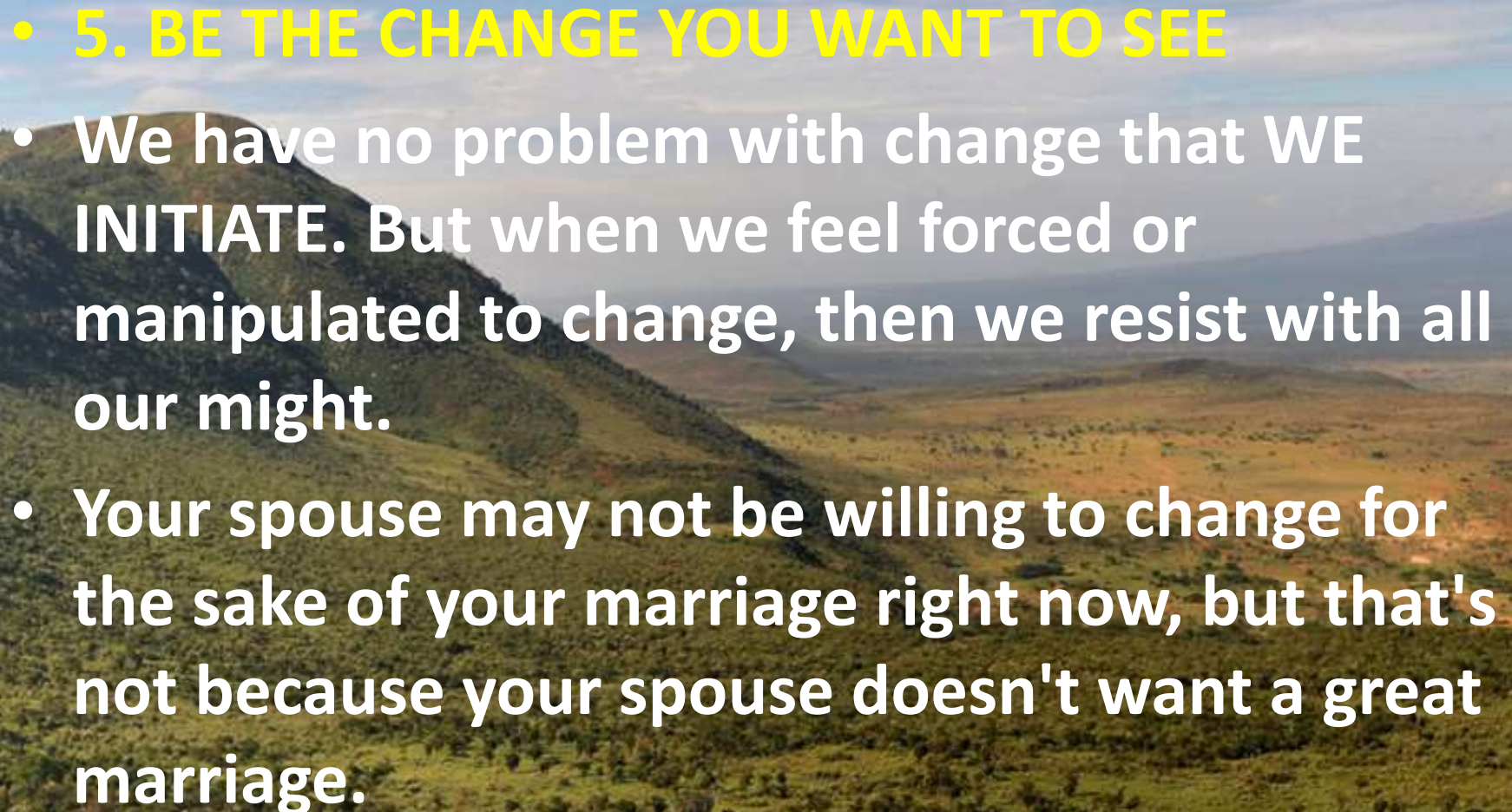
- Mature love asks more of you. To create a strong **LASTING** marriage, you first **CHOOSE LOVING ACTIONS**. Your feelings will follow.

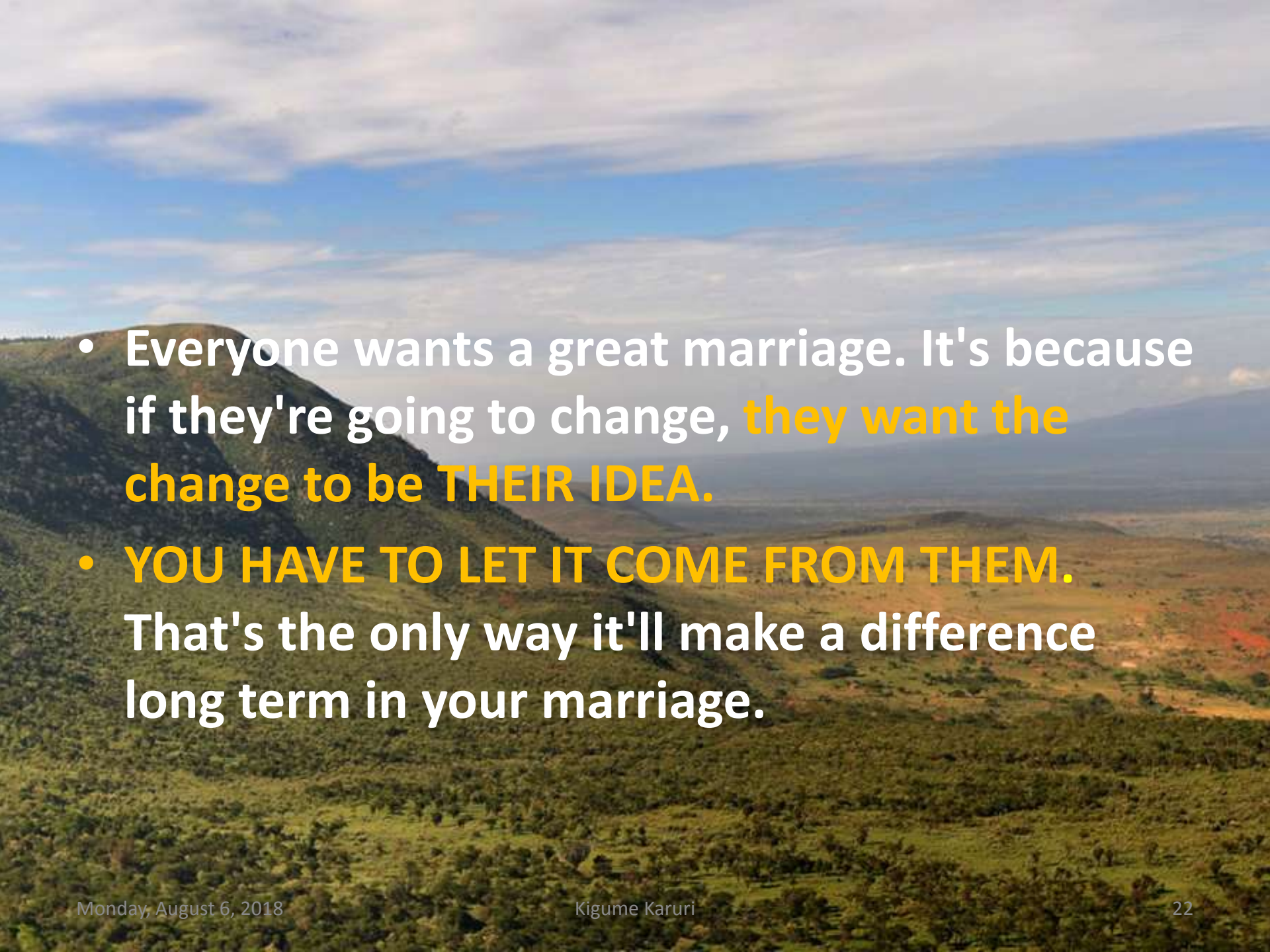
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- **What gift would tickle the soul of your spouse? What could you buy or make for your spouse that would show how much of YOU went into the gift? Don't just buy anything.**

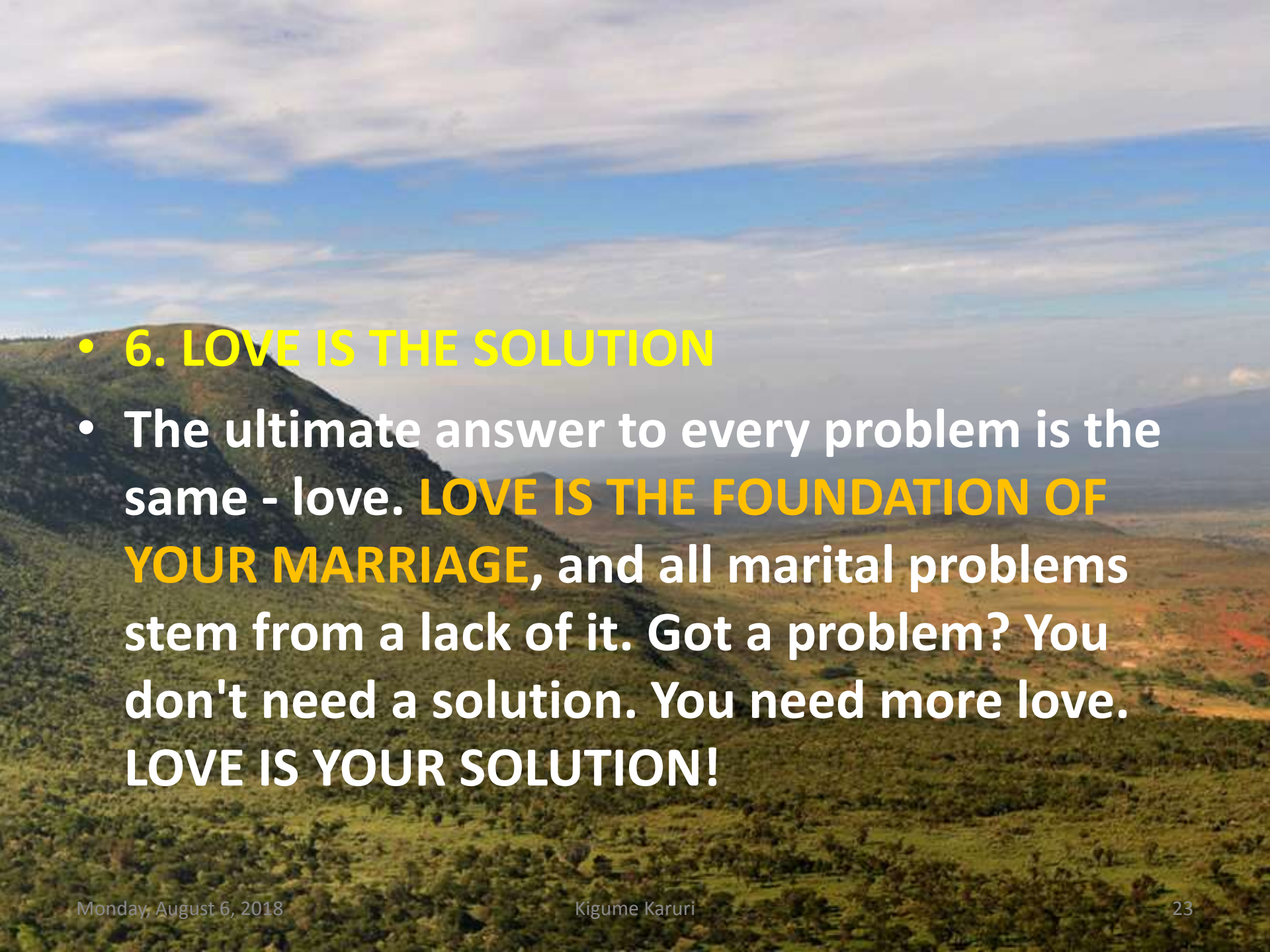


- **4. GET INVOLVED WITH EACH OTHER**

- **When it comes to your marriage, "YOU ARE WHAT YOU DO." In other words, how you and your spouse SPEND YOUR TIME determines the strength of your marriage. Spend it together and you'll feel connected. Do your own thing too often and you might feel worlds apart.**

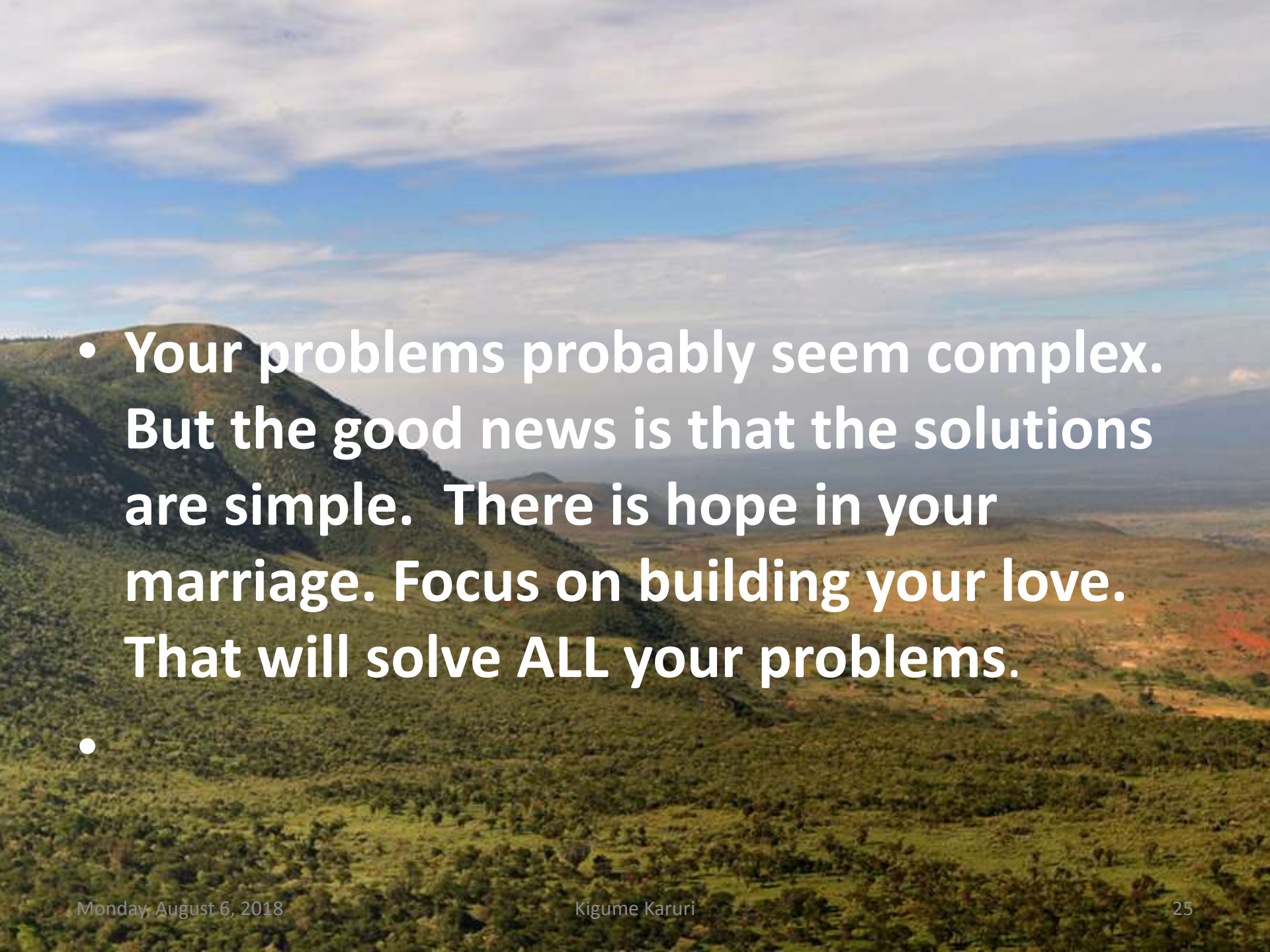
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- **5. BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE**
 - We have no problem with change that WE INITIATE. But when we feel forced or manipulated to change, then we resist with all our might.
 - Your spouse may not be willing to change for the sake of your marriage right now, but that's not because your spouse doesn't want a great marriage.

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- Everyone wants a great marriage. It's because if they're going to change, **they want the change to be THEIR IDEA.**
 - **YOU HAVE TO LET IT COME FROM THEM.** That's the only way it'll make a difference long term in your marriage.

- 
- **6. LOVE IS THE SOLUTION**
 - The ultimate answer to every problem is the same - love. **LOVE IS THE FOUNDATION OF YOUR MARRIAGE**, and all marital problems stem from a lack of it. Got a problem? You don't need a solution. You need more love. **LOVE IS YOUR SOLUTION!**

Finally

- There is great hope for hurting marriages. If both parties are willing to do the work necessary, communicate, give and receive mercy, respect one another, and have humility, you can save your marriage. It's always more work than expected

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- **Your problems probably seem complex. But the good news is that the solutions are simple. There is hope in your marriage. Focus on building your love. That will solve ALL your problems.**