

How to have a Happy CHINESE NEW YEAR 2018 The Year of the Dog



Used with permission from Rich Mendola, copyright International Friendships, 2018. For more information contact Rich at rmendola@ifiusa.org

The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as simple outlines and others with more detail. They are positioned around the central text, creating a decorative border.

Xin Nian Kuai Le

新年快乐

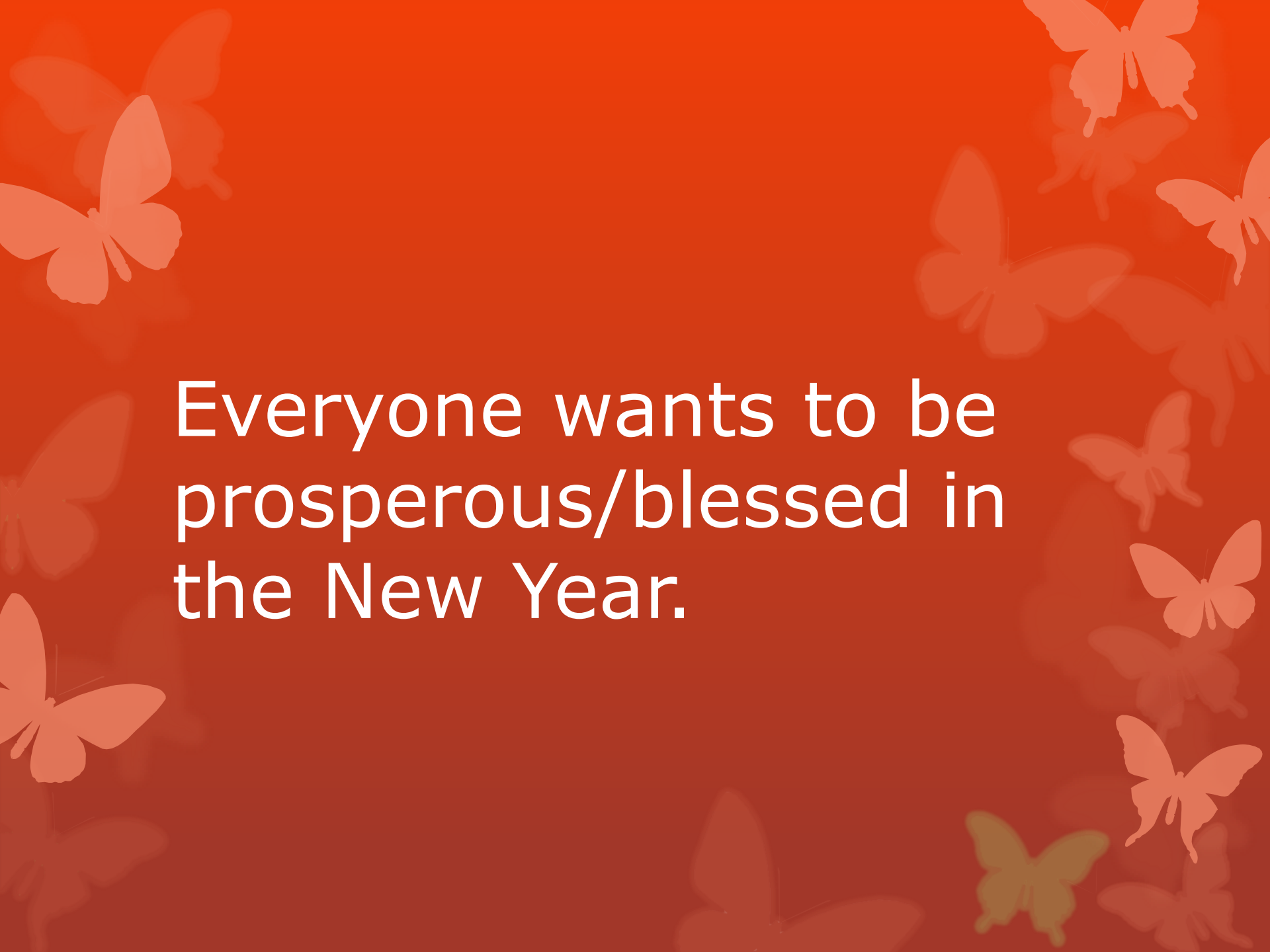
Happy New Year in Chinese

Gong Xi Fa Cai

恭喜发财

“congratulations on getting more wealth”

Chinese

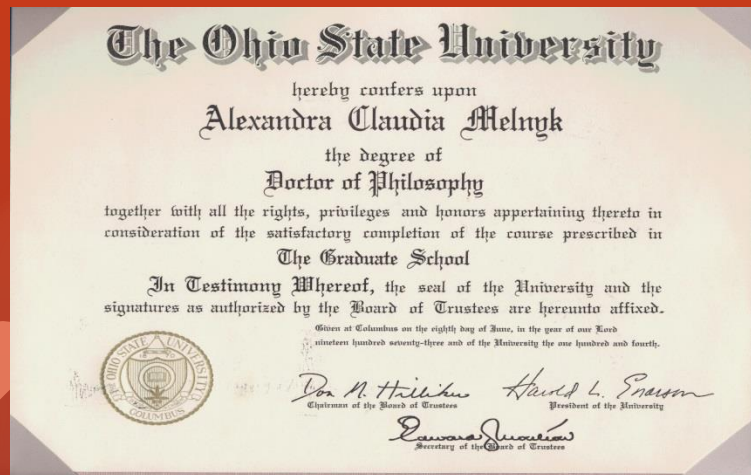
The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as light outlines and others as slightly more filled shapes. They are positioned around the central text, with some in the corners and others more centrally placed.

Everyone wants to be
prosperous/blessed in
the New Year.

We often relate blessings to Physical things: Wealth, Health (long life)



We often relate blessings to Social things: Success in others eyes



We often relate blessings to Family: Close relationships



There is also a type of spiritual blessing that is related to the Chinese New Year and is pictured in the character “Fu.”

Fu



How to be prosperous in the New Year

Divine
Spirit
or God



one

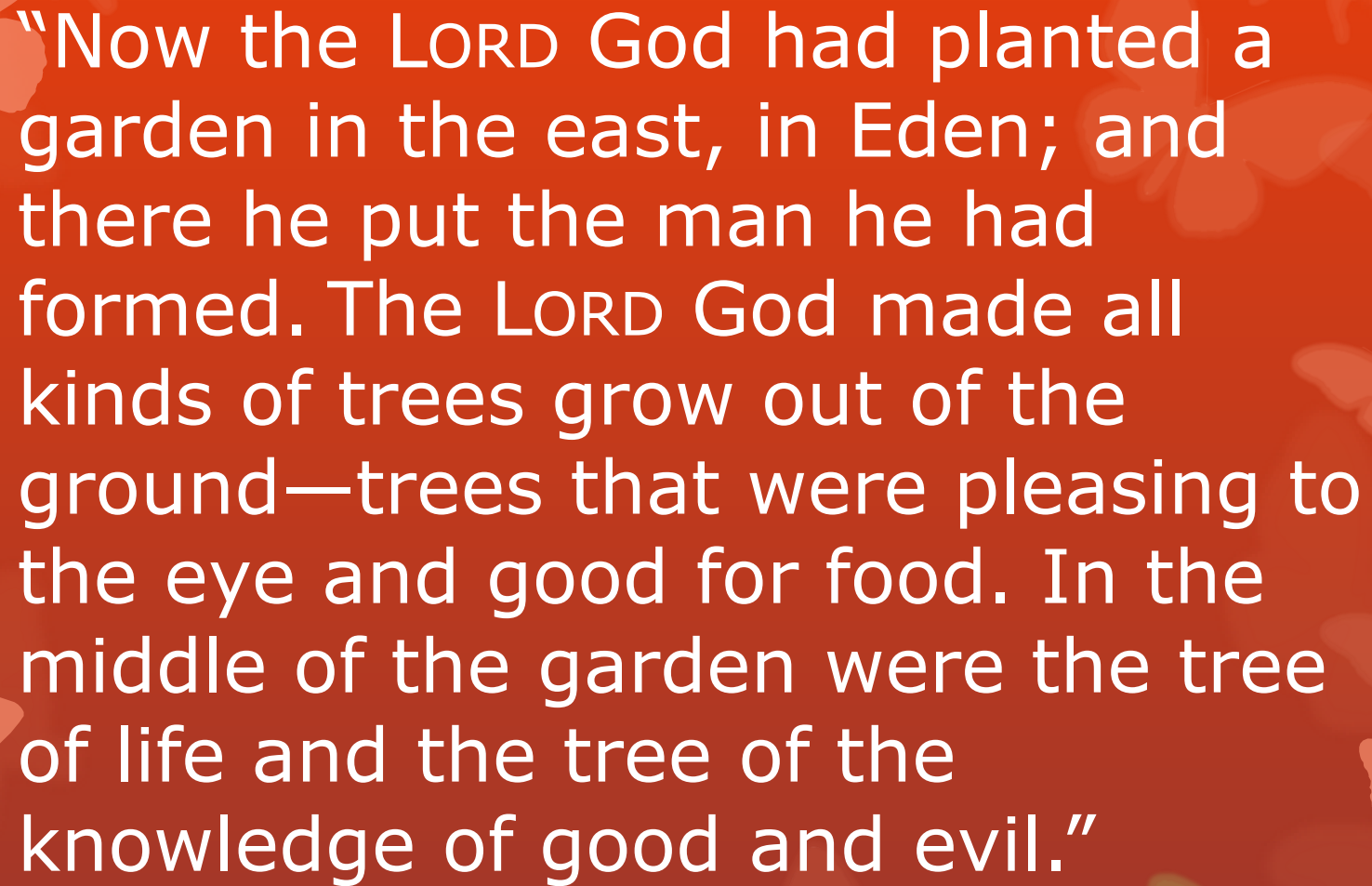


"mouth"
= person



field or
garden

One person in the garden with God = happiness
prosperity and blessing.

The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as simple outlines and others with more detail. They are positioned around the central text, with some near the corners and others more centrally placed.

“Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”

The background is a solid orange color with several white butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various positions, some larger and more prominent than others, creating a decorative pattern.

The ancient Chinese understood
that true blessing is having a
relationship with God!

Fu is often hung upside down indicating blessings that come down!)



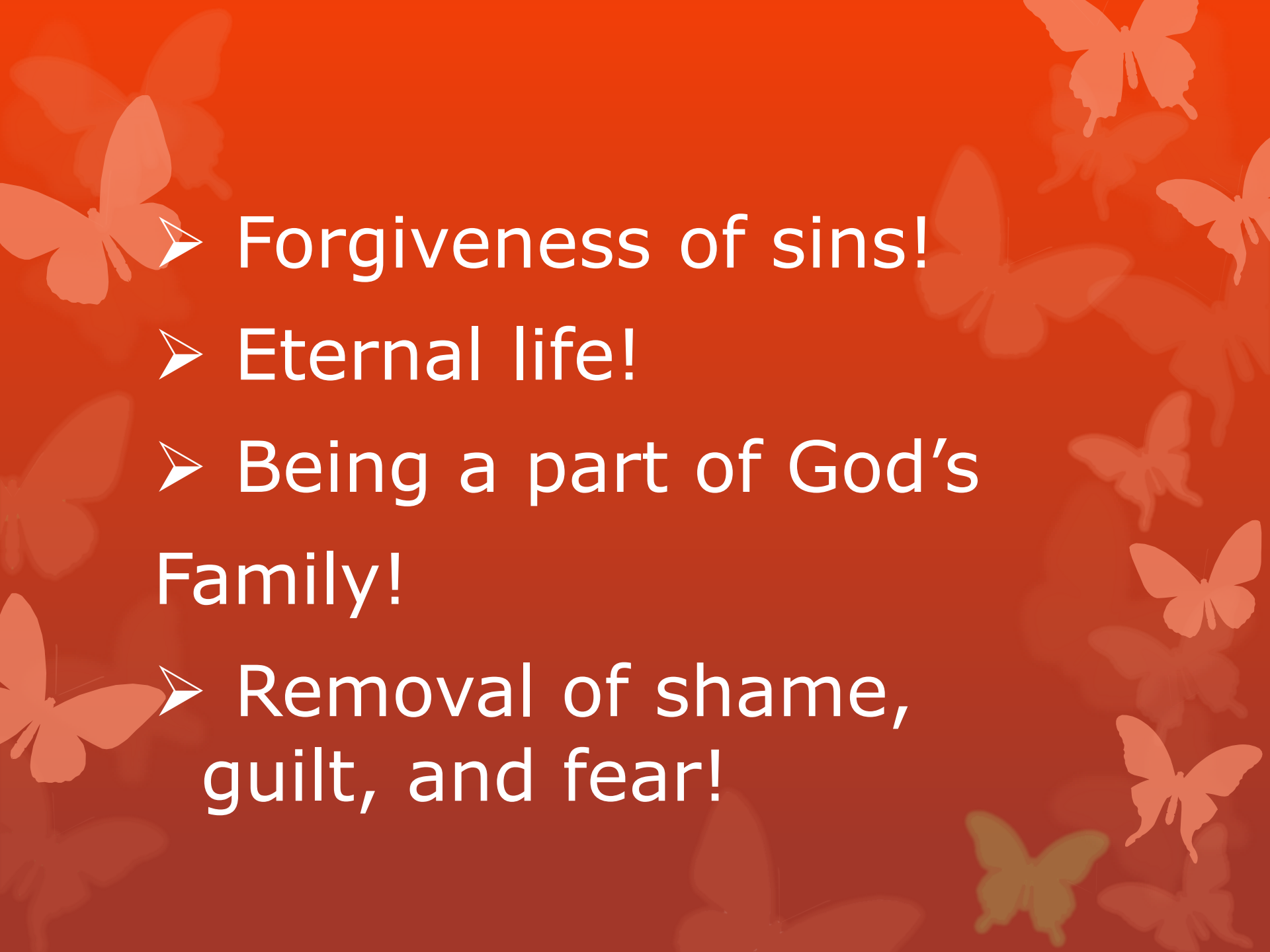
The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as simple outlines and others with more detail. They are positioned around the text, with some near the top corners and others near the bottom corners.

The Bible also describes blessings coming down:

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”

The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as simple outlines and others with more detail. They are positioned around the central text, with some in the corners and others more centrally placed.

What are some of the
spiritual blessings that come
from a relationship with
God?

- 
- The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as light outlines and others as slightly more filled shapes. They are positioned around the text, with some near the top corners and others near the bottom corners.
- Forgiveness of sins!
 - Eternal life!
 - Being a part of God's Family!
 - Removal of shame, guilt, and fear!

The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as simple outlines and others with more detail. They are positioned around the central text, with some in the corners and others more centrally placed.

The Chinese New Year is related to the Bible story of the Passover.

The Chinese New Year is actually called Guo Nian "the passover of the Nian (destroying beast)." Nian has come to mean "New Year."

(Guo=passing (over);
Nian is the
destroying beast)



Depictions of the Nian



There is also a story in the Bible called the "Passover." In the story, a destroying angel comes to kill but passes over the houses of people who followed certain instructions given by God.

Let's compare the 2 Passovers!

Protection

To be saved from the destroying angel, the Jewish people put the red blood of a lamb on the sides and top of the door.



To saved from the Nian,
the Chinese people put red
banners at the top and sides
of their doors

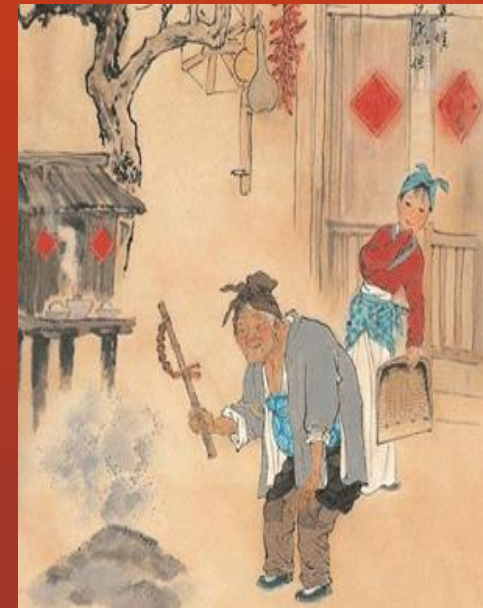


Cleansing

The Jewish people were told to clean their homes before celebrating the Passover



It is customary for Chinese people to clean their homes before the New Year celebration.



Family

On the eve of the Passover, the Jewish people must stay in their homes with their families and not go out.



Traditionally, on the eve of the Chinese New Year people stay at home with Their families.



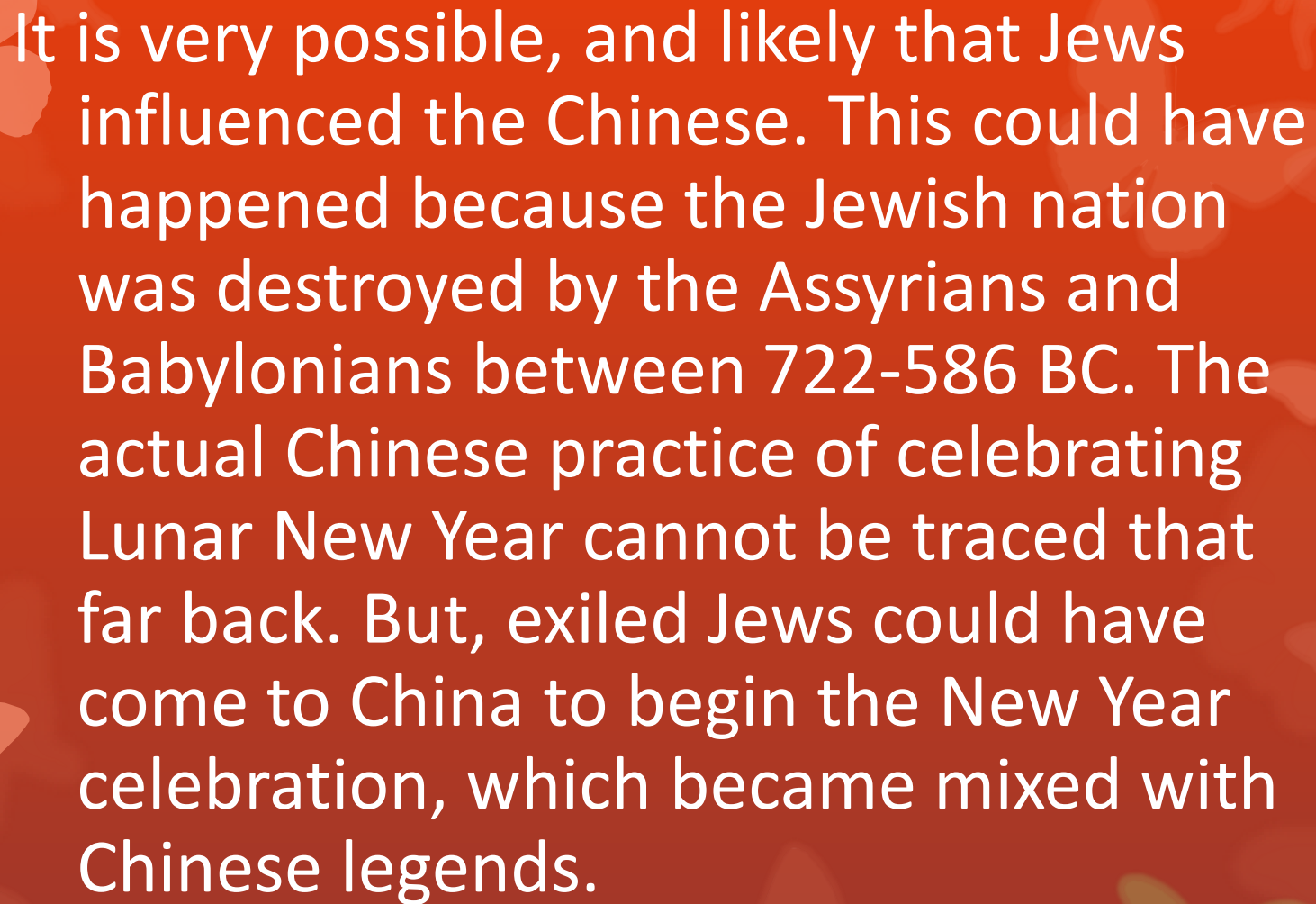
Special foods

On the eve of the Passover, the Jewish people eat a very special family meal of lamb and bread. Then on Passover day they go out to greet others.



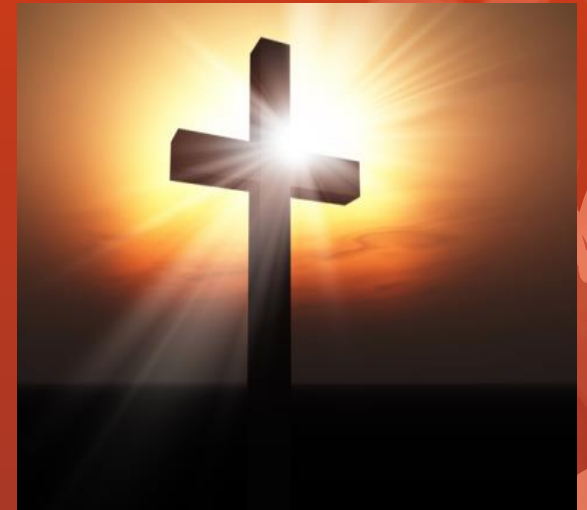
On Chinese New Year Eve, families eat special dumpling or noodle dishes. On New Year's day they go out to greet others.



The background of the slide is a solid orange color, decorated with several semi-transparent butterfly silhouettes in various shades of orange and yellow, scattered across the page.

It is very possible, and likely that Jews influenced the Chinese. This could have happened because the Jewish nation was destroyed by the Assyrians and Babylonians between 722-586 BC. The actual Chinese practice of celebrating Lunar New Year cannot be traced that far back. But, exiled Jews could have come to China to begin the New Year celebration, which became mixed with Chinese legends.

God's provision of protection, cleansing from sin, a special meal, and a new family, is found through the death of Jesus Christ.



The Year of the Dog




President Trump and the year of the dog.



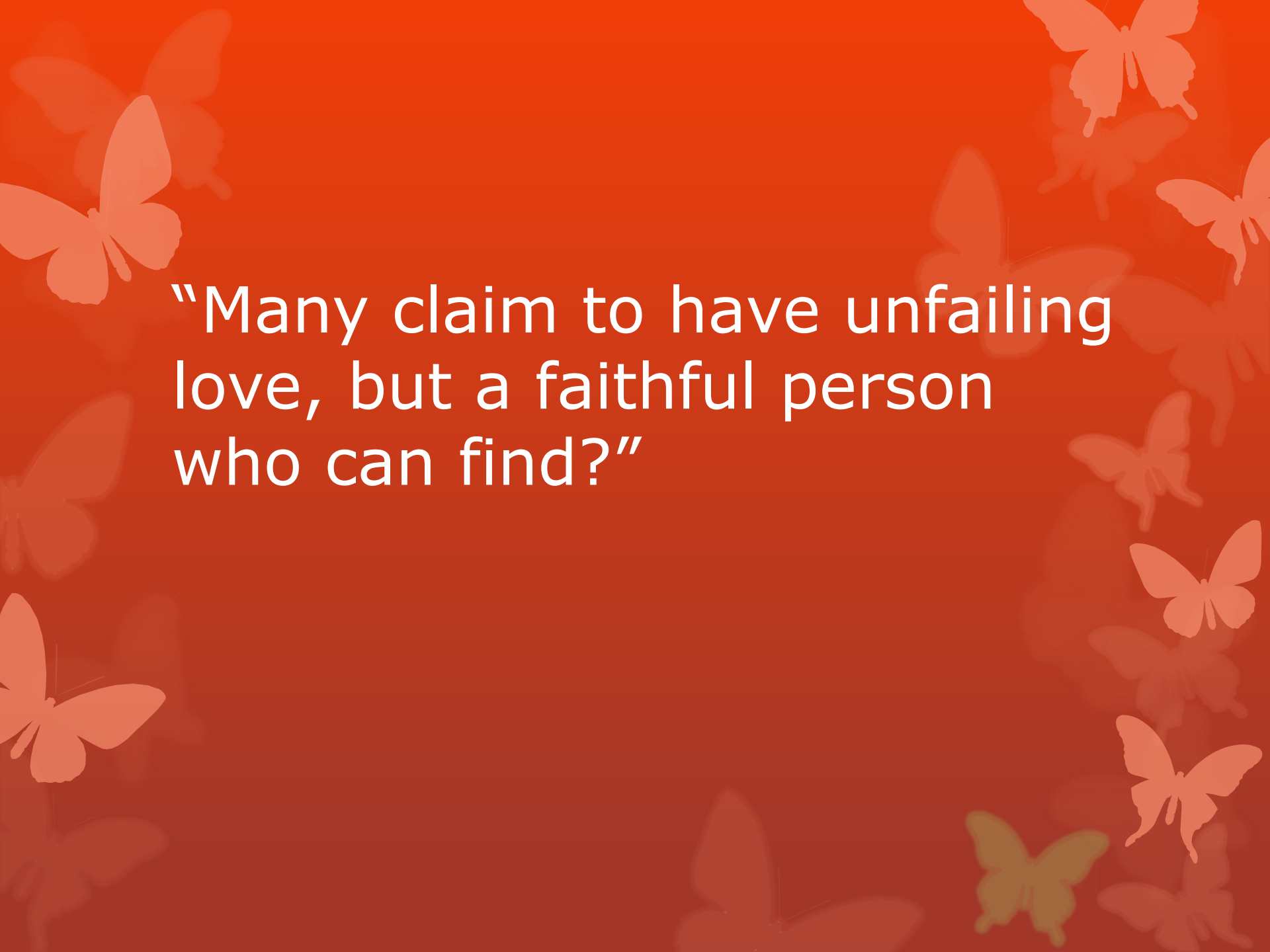
© VCG via Getty Images

Wàng Cái (旺财)
“make me prosperous”

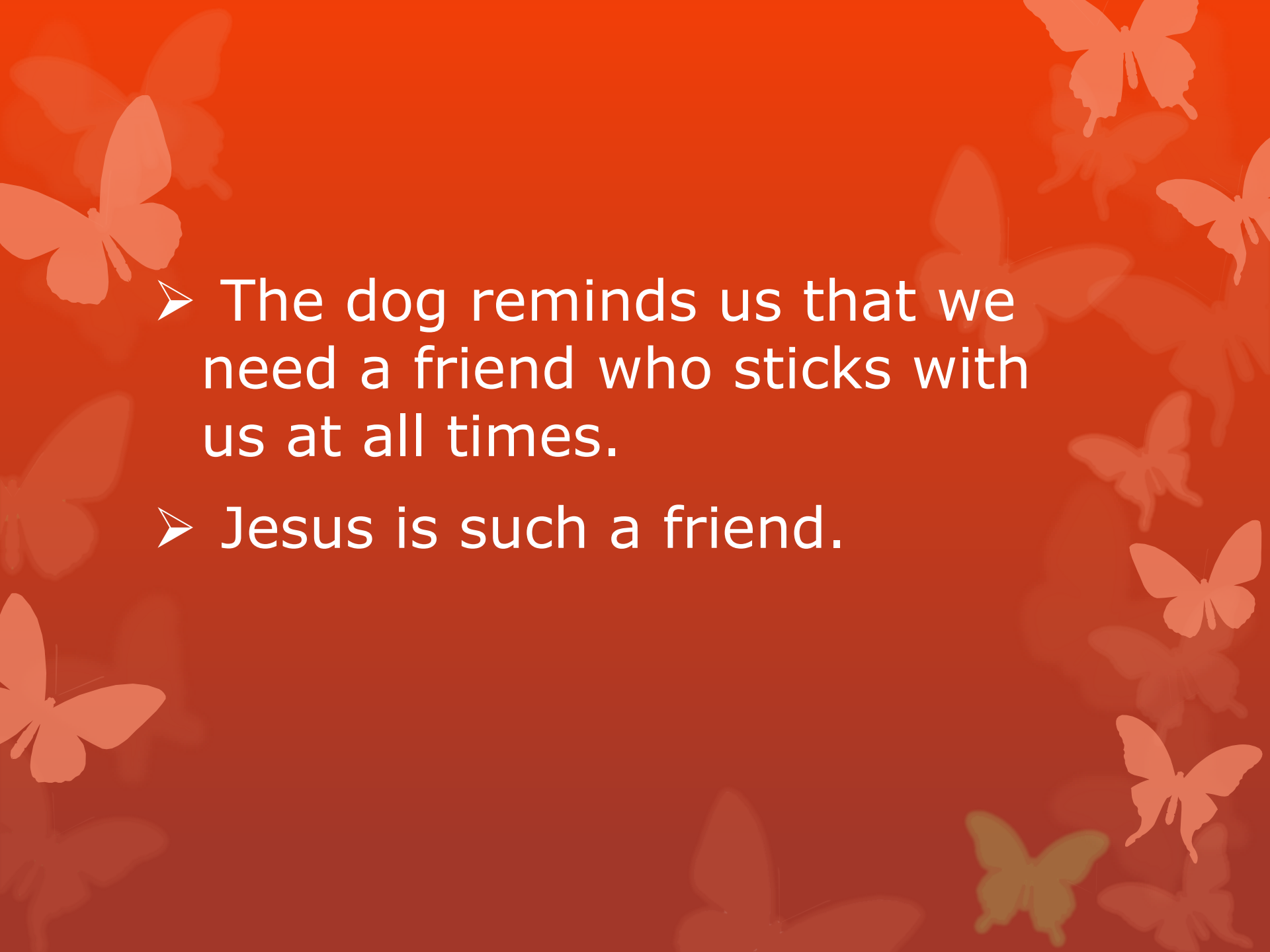


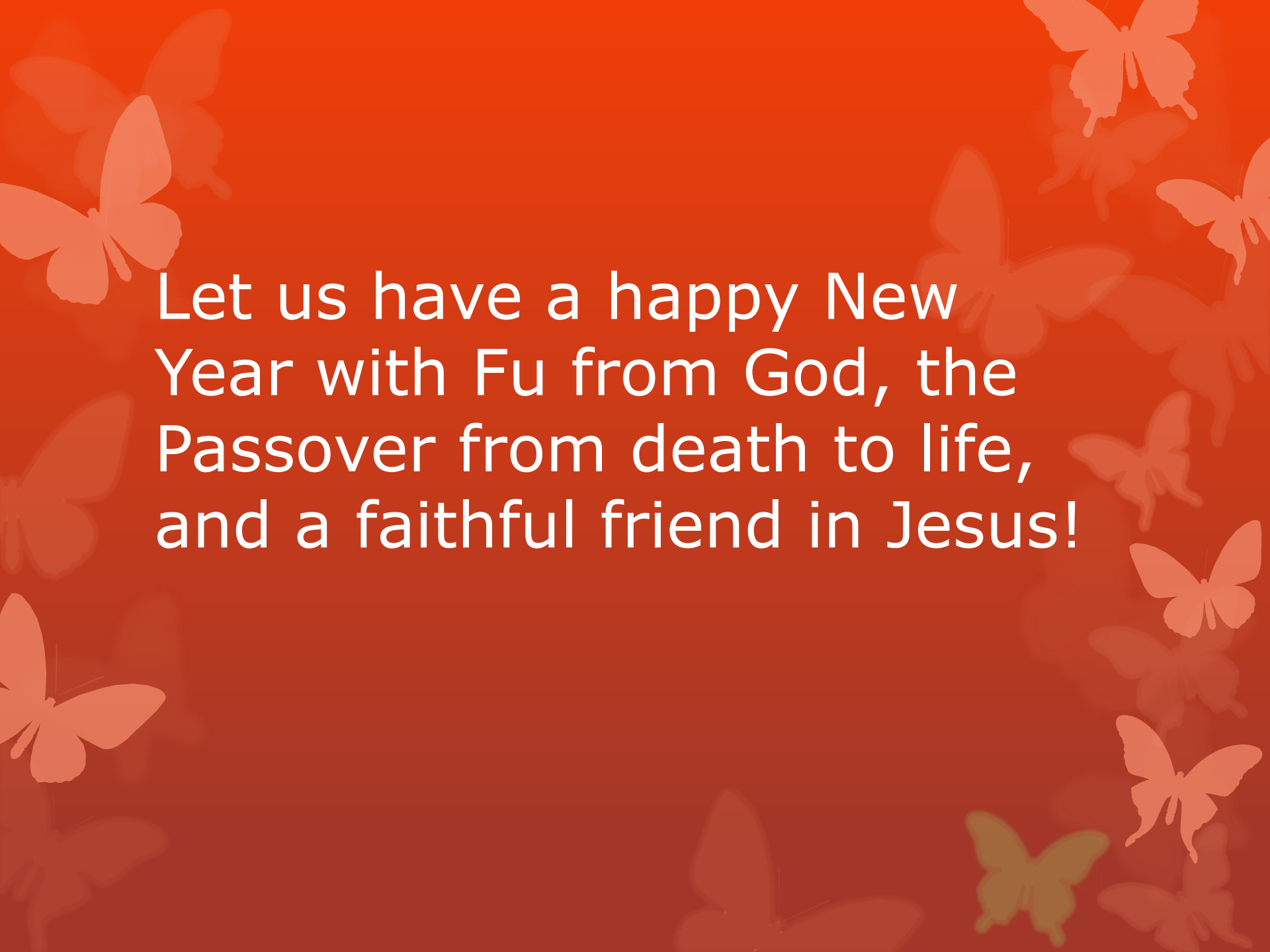
- 
- The background of the slide is a solid orange color, decorated with numerous semi-transparent butterfly silhouettes in various shades of orange and yellow, scattered across the entire surface.
- Dogs are sometimes called a man/woman's best friend.
 - Dogs are considered loyal and faithful to their masters.

“Honest and loyal, Dogs are the truest friends and most reliable partner”

The background is a solid orange color with several white butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are of various sizes and orientations, some appearing to fly towards the center. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

“Many claim to have unfailing love, but a faithful person who can find?”

- 
- The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as simple outlines and others with more detail. They are positioned around the text, with some in the corners and others more centrally placed.
- The dog reminds us that we need a friend who sticks with us at all times.
 - Jesus is such a friend.

The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as faint, light-colored shapes and others as more prominent, darker silhouettes. They are positioned around the central text, with some near the corners and others more centrally placed.

Let us have a happy New
Year with Fu from God, the
Passover from death to life,
and a faithful friend in Jesus!

The background is a solid orange color with several butterfly silhouettes scattered across it. The butterflies are in various shades of orange and yellow, some appearing as simple outlines and others with more detail. They are positioned around the central text, creating a decorative border.

Xin Nian Kuai Le

新年快乐

Happy New Year in Chinese