



VIRTUE=STRENGTH.™



RELIANCE

The strength to entrust yourself completely to someone, especially God.



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RELIANCE

“COUNTING ON SOMEONE.”

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RELIANCE

OPENING PRAYER

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of
Mary,
I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and
sufferings of this day
for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart
in **union** with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
throughout the world,
for the salvation of souls, the reparation of
sins, the reunion of all Christians,
and in particular for the intentions of the
Holy Father this month.
Amen.



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RELIANCE

INTRODUCTION

This week our strength building on the virtue of Faith is RELIANCE.

The strength to entrust yourself completely to someone, especially God.

It is counting on someone.

Self-reliance is relying on one's own abilities and resources rather than on God or on others.

God-reliance is **pursuing** a relationship with God, striving to do His will, and relying on and trusting in Him for our every need and desire.

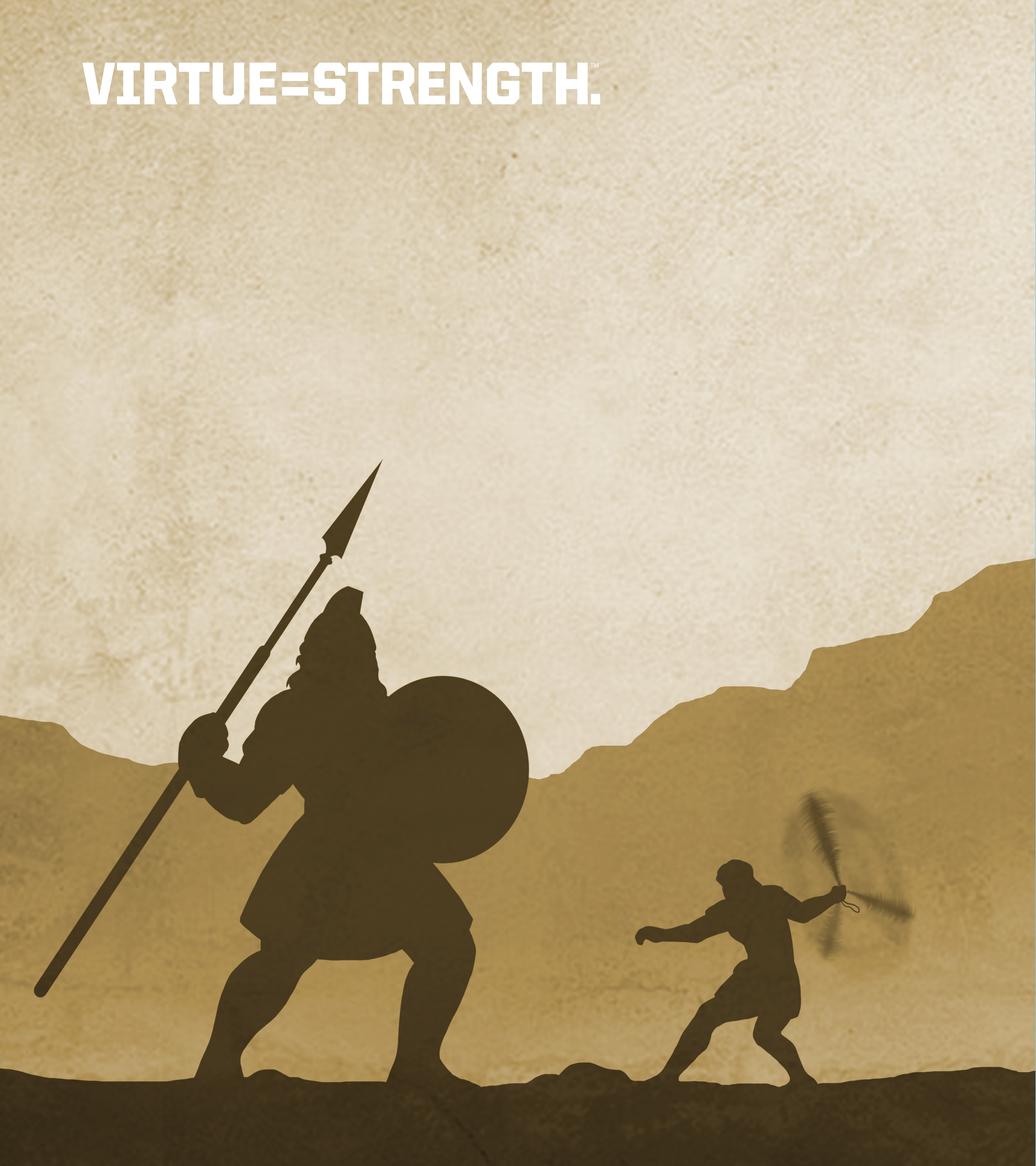
EXAMPLES OF RELIANCE

Examples:

- **Biblical Example:** David relying on God's strength to defeat Goliath (1 Samuel 17).
- **Everyday Example:** A student praying and trusting in God for guidance during exams.

Bible Quote:

- **Proverbs 3:5-6:** *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."*



HOW DO WE BECOME GOD-RELIANT?

Talk to God and tell Him all your fears, disappointments, anxieties, desires, dreams, frustrations, sins. Prayer is not just giving God a laundry list of what's wrong. Listen to His response.

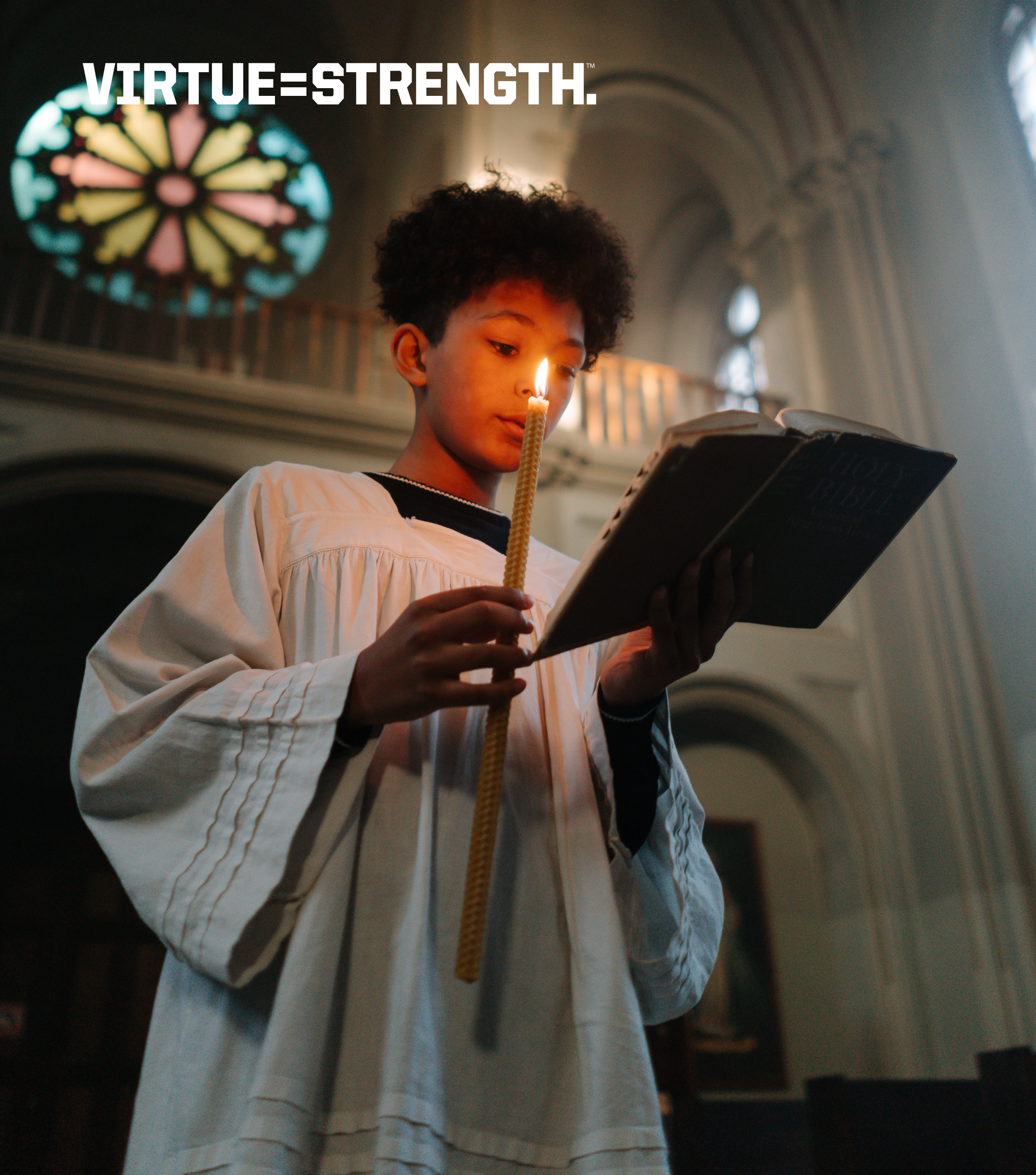
Ask God to help you rely on and trust Him and not doubt. Ask Him to help you with your unbelief (Mark 9:23-25).

Give everyone and everything to God. "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Get to know God's attributes. He is kind, loving, and merciful – not cruel, hateful, or merciless.

Like any relationship, the more we know God, the more we trust Him. We get to know Him by reading what He says in His Word.

Remember, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take" (Proverbs 3:5-6).



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VICE

VICE



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BETRAYAL

The weakness to violate a person's trust or confidence.



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BETRAYAL

“TURN YOUR BACK ON SOMEONE.”

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BETRAYAL

VICE

The weakness to violate a person's trust or confidence. It is turning your back on someone.

Some Examples of Betrayal:

- **Biblical Example:** Judas betraying Jesus for thirty pieces of silver (Matthew 26:14-16).
- **Everyday Example:** A friend breaking a promise and sharing a secret, leading to loss of trust.

Reasons for Betrayal:

- Seeking material rewards, power, or status.
- Feeling resentment towards someone else's success or happiness.
- Wanting to retaliate for a real or imagined wrong.
- Failing to stand up for someone due to fear of repercussions.
- Being pressured or influenced by others to act against someone.



THE EFFECTS OF BETRAYAL

When we betray others,
we violate their confidence in us.

When others betray us,
they pierce the veil of our innocent reliance.

Betrayal leads to the loss of reliance on an individual.

Various sorts of emotions can be felt upon
experiencing betrayal, including anger, fear, and
doubt.

When we feel betrayed, we can either choose to
forgive and let go or hold a grudge and seek revenge.

Our Lord and our Catholic Faith teach us to forgive
but this can be very difficult and we often need help
from those we can rely on.

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VICE

DEALING WITH BETRAYAL

Forgiveness and Reconciliation:

- **Seek Forgiveness:** For those who betray, seeking forgiveness and making amends is crucial.
- **Offer Forgiveness:** For the betrayed, offering forgiveness can lead to healing and peace, though it can be very difficult.

Building Trust:

- **Honesty and Transparency:** Rebuilding trust requires consistent honesty and open communication.
- **Counseling and Support:** Seeking spiritual and emotional support from trusted individuals or professionals.

Pray. Strengthen your RELIANCE on God!

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RELIANCE

CHALLENGE

Let's put our **VIRTUE** into action!

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HOW TO RELY MORE ON GOD

Prayer and Scripture Reading:

- Prayers of gratitude to recognize and appreciate God's blessings.
- Spend time each day reading the Bible to understand God's word and promises.

Trust and Surrender

- Practice “letting go” and surrendering your worries and control to God, trusting in His plan for you.
- Repeat affirmations such as "Jesus, I trust in You" during moments of doubt or anxiety.
- Be patient and trust in God's timing, even when it doesn't align with your own plans.

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RESOLUTION

WAY TO LIVE THE VIRTUE THIS WEEK

Talk with someone you trust and admire and **ask** them how-why they trust and rely on God.

Make relying on God an intentional part of your life.

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WHAT DOES RELIANCE LOOK LIKE?



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RELIANCE

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WHAT DOES RELIANCE SOUND LIKE?

SAINT STORY

Saint Magdalene of Nagasaki

Magdalene was born in 1611 near Nagasaki, Japan, the daughter of devout Christian parents. While she was still young her mother, father, and siblings were martyred for the faith. In 1624 she became acquainted with two Augustinians, members of the Recollect Congregation, Francis of Jesus and Vincent of Saint Anthony, and was attracted by their deep spirituality. She became an Augustinian tertiary, teaching catechism to the young, seeking alms for the poor, encouraging her people in times of persecution.

In 1629 she sought refuge in the hills of Nagasaki, sharing the sufferings of her fellow Christians, baptizing the young and visiting the sick. Because many Christians were renouncing their faith in the face of torture, she decided to encourage them through her own acceptance of persecution. In September 1634, dressed in the habit of a tertiary, she turned herself in to the anti-Christian civil authorities. In October of that same year she was subjected to the torture of the pit for 13 days. On the last day the pit was filled with water and she was drowned. Her body was burned and her ashes were dispersed to prevent the Christians from having any relics of her.

Magdalene was beatified in 1981 and canonized by John Paul II on October 18, 1987.

She is one of the many saints that helped to spread the Catholic faith in Japan.



SMALL GROUP DIFFICULT SITUATION
DISCUSSION

You have been **praying**, asking God for something for a long time and it has not happened.

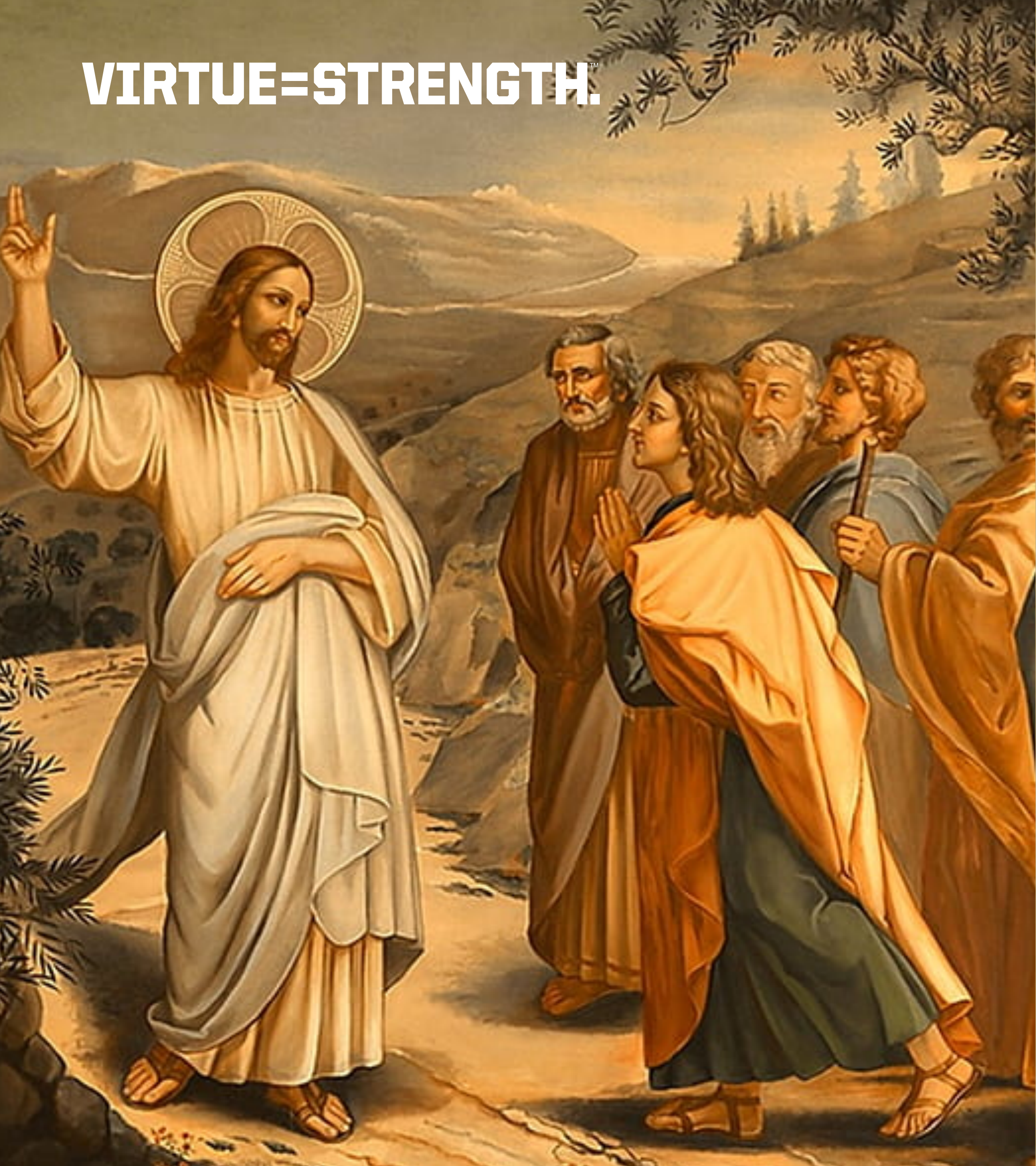
Your friends are even teasing you about it ...

“Why do you keep praying to a God who doesn’t answer your prayers?”

Doubt is creeping in.

What should you do?





Mathew 6: 30-34

“If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will He not much more provide for you, O you of little faith?

So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’ or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’

All these things the pagans seek. Your Heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

But **seek first** the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides.

Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil.”

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*“We must often feel weary and tired
yet God*

brings us through all these things.”

- Saint Mary MacKillop

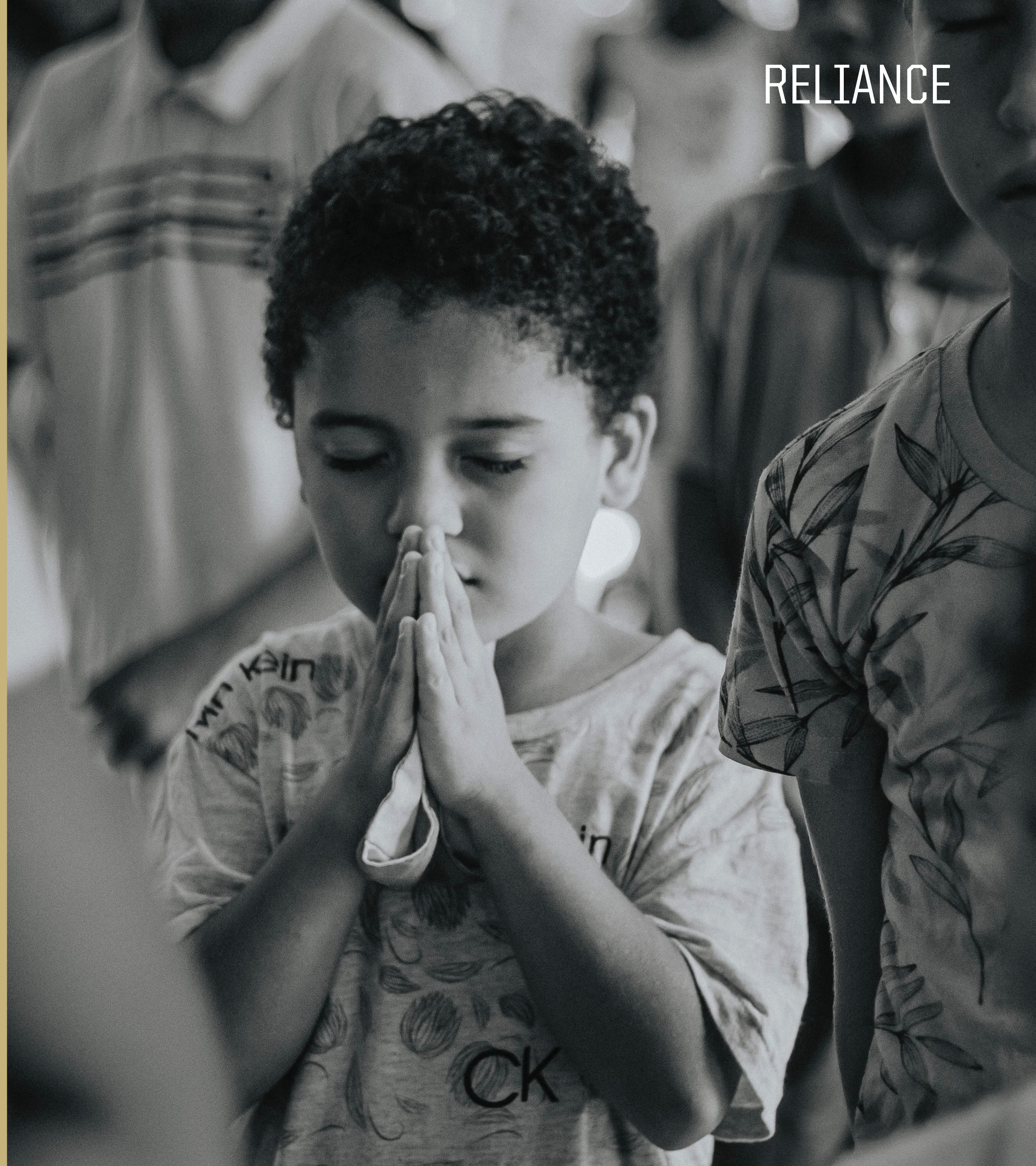


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*“Lay all your cares about the future
trustingly in God’s hands,
and let yourself be guided by the Lord
just like a little child.”*

- Saint Edith Stein



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“Do not fear what may happen tomorrow.

*The same loving Father who cares for you
today will care for you tomorrow and every
day.*

*Either He will shield you from suffering, or
He will give you unfailing strength to bear
it.*

*Be at peace, then, and put aside all
anxious thoughts and imaginings.”*

- Saint Francis de Sales



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*“Pray as though everything
depended on God.*

*Work as though everything
depended on you.”*

- St. Augustine

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*“We should not think that we
achieve success in
preaching through our own devices,
but we
should rely entirely on God.”*

- St. Basil

CLOSING PRAYER

O my God, when shall I behold Thine infinite beauty;
when shall I behold Thee face to face?

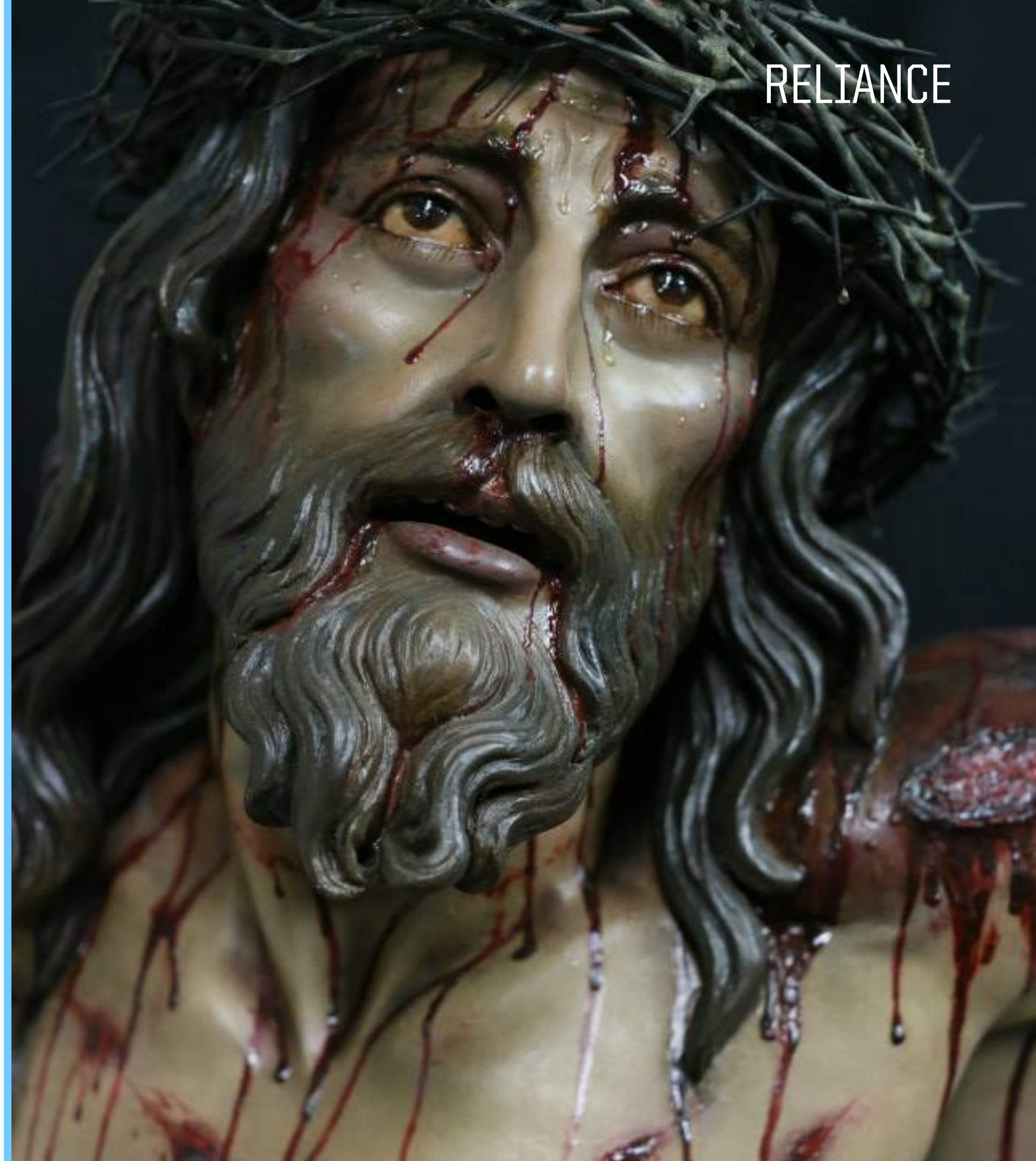
In paradise I shall love Thee, and Thou wilt love me
to all eternity, my God and my All!

My Jesus, when shall I behold Thee and kiss those
wounds which were inflicted on Thee for my sake?

O Mary, when shall I find myself at the feet of the
Mother who has loved and aided me so tenderly?

My sweet Protectress, turn thou on me thine eyes of
mercy.

Take me from this land of exile, and show me the
blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Amen.





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St. Michael chose to RELY on God instead of himself. He wanted to be united to God and not just do everything on his own.

The devil just cares about himself.

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STUDENT LEADER VIRTUE AWARD

RELIANCE

This certifies that

Helped lead our school with their virtuous example.

The strength to entrust yourself
completely to someone, especially God.