



**VIRTUE=STRENGTH.™**



# RELIANCE

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

## INTRODUCTION

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

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

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.



## 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.

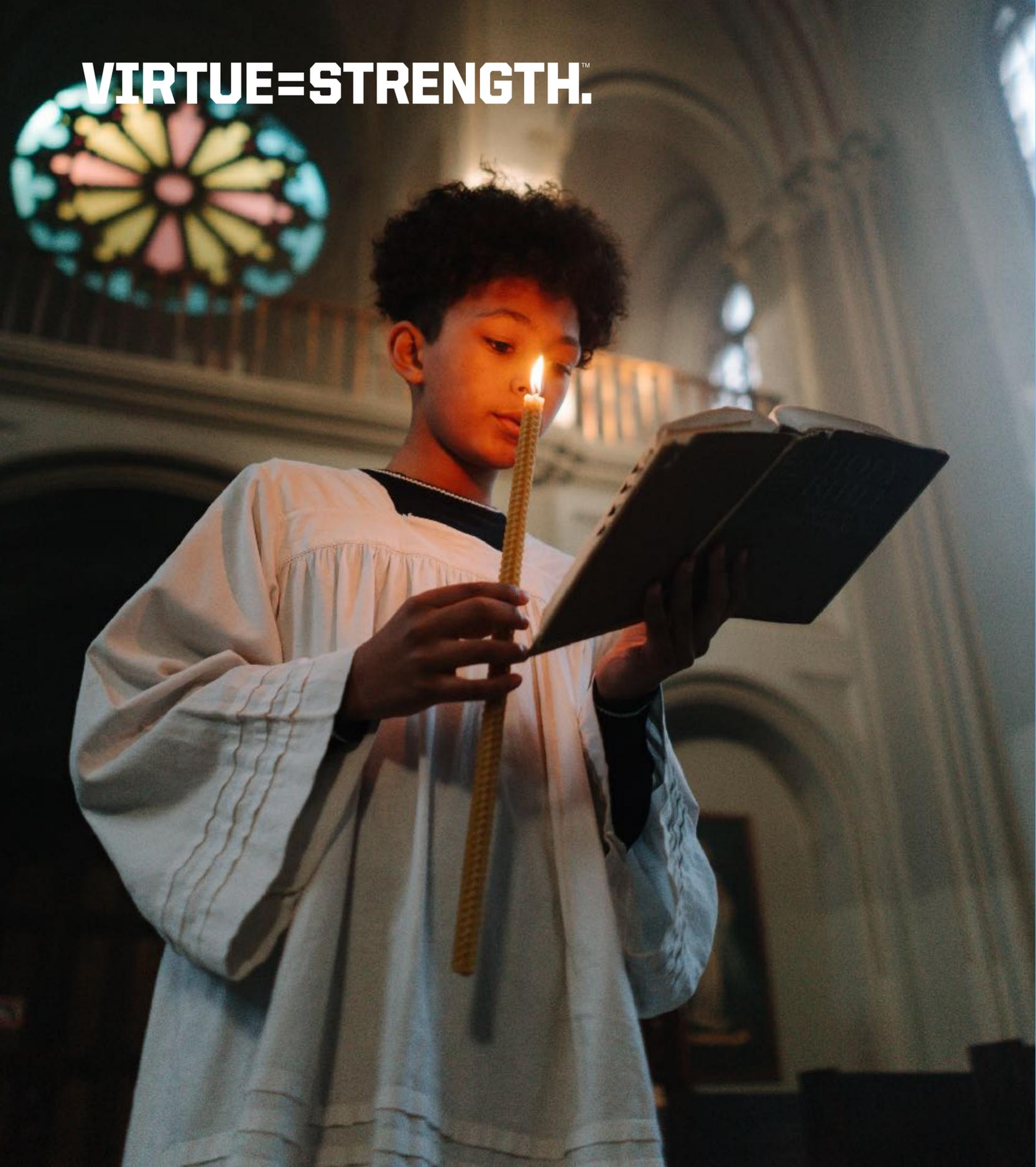
Ask God to help you rely on and trust Him and not doubt. Ask Him to help you with your unbelief (Mark 9:23-25).

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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RELIANCE

RESOLUTION

**WAY TO LIVE THE VIRTUE THIS WEEK**

Ask your parents what chores/tasks they would like done this week.

Then strive to do those things the best you can without complaining but with joy.

Ask our Lord for His help and remember to rely on Him!

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RELIANCE

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## 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?”

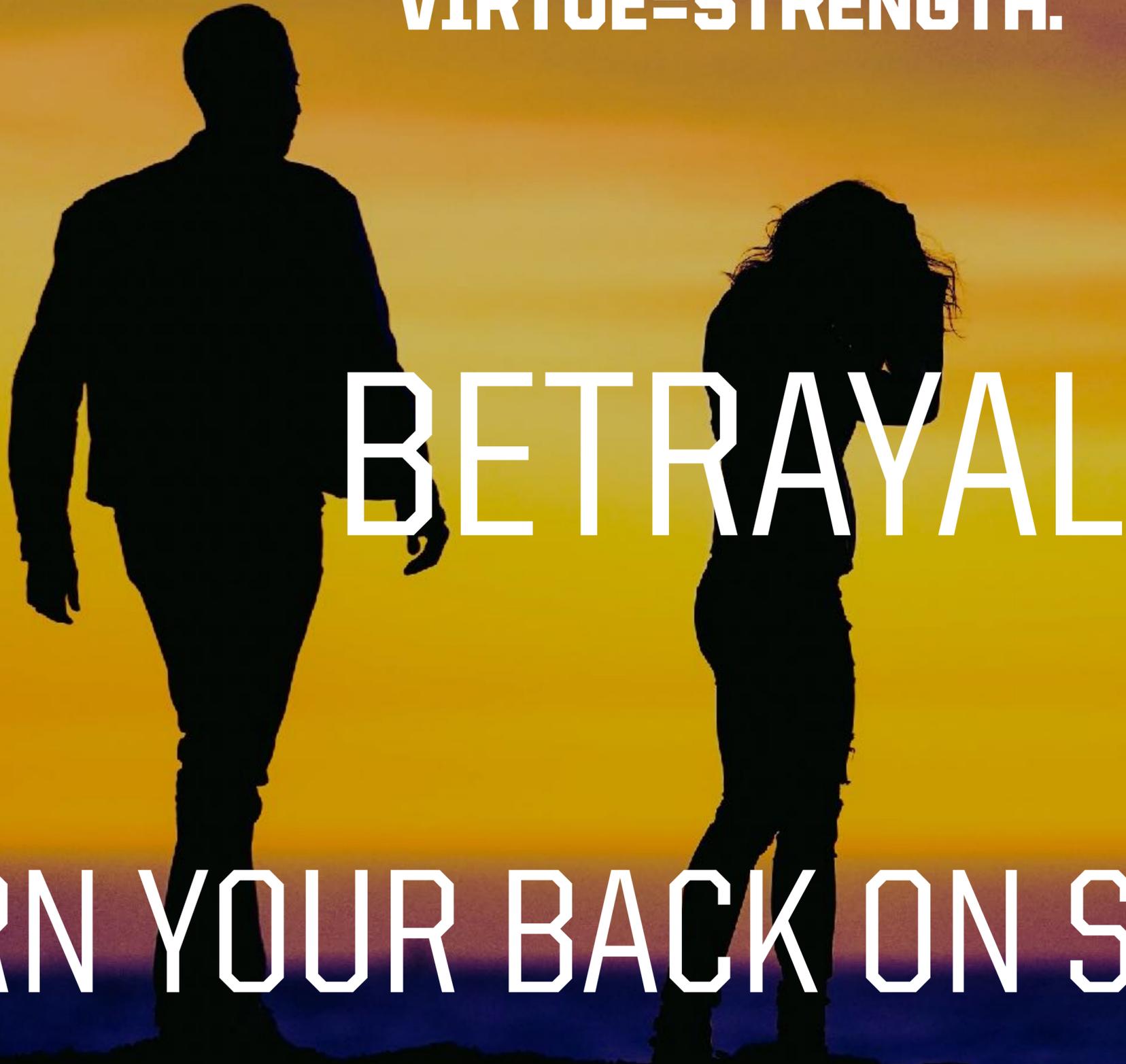
Doubt is creeping in.

What should you do?





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BETRAYAL

“TURN YOUR BACK ON SOMEONE.”

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**VICE**

## 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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