

# WAYPOINT

## Week 3 - Hope - Points from the talk (3/23/22):

### Step Two: 'Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.'

- **Defeat → Victory; Despair in ourselves alone → Hope with God's help**
  - *"Lack of power, that was our dilemma. We had to find a power by which we could live, and it had to be a Power greater than ourselves"* (Big Book, p. 45)
  - Wizard of Oz!
    - Lev 26:19
      - *"I will break the pride of your Oz"*
    - Ps 62:11
      - *"Oz belongs to God"* (Heb: Oz = power)
    - CCC 274
      - *"Nothing is more apt to confirm our faith and hope than holding it fixed in our minds that nothing is impossible with God"*
- **Came to believe that God could do for us what we could not do for ourselves.**
  - Isaiah 40:29-31
    - *"He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint"*
  - 2 Cor 12:9
    - *"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness"*
  - Eph 3:20
    - *"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or imagine"*
  - Phil 4:13
    - *"I can do all things in him who strengthens me"*
- **Belief → Power**
  - My Quarterfinals wrestling match
    - God is our cheerleader!
- **God never gives up hope!**
  - Squirrels and birdfeeder
    - God hasn't given up hope! He's always trying!
  - Hebrews 12:1
    - *"since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us..."*

### **Week 3 - Discussion Questions:**

1. What struck you in the talk?
2. Are you ever tempted to give up hope in progressively overcoming your sins?
3. Why is hope important in the moral life?
4. Are we somehow tempted to think we are different than others? Has a defeatist mentality crept into our thinking?
5. Do you feel a renewed hope in reflecting on the lives of recovering addicts and saints?
6. If you have achieved goals and accomplished difficult things in your life, can you then imagine that with God's power you could achieve greater and greater freedom from your sins?

### **Closing Prayer**

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.