

Word
of Life
MAY 2024



«Whoever does not love,
does not know God,
for God is love»
(1Jn 4:8)

This Word of Life is from the **first letter of John to a Christian community** in Asia Minor.

John reminds them that **God was the first to love us by sending us Jesus**, who took on a human nature **with all its limitations and weakness.**



From his example,
we can understand...

...that loving requires courage, effort and the risk of having to face adversity and suffering. **But whoever loves like this participates in the life of God and experiences his freedom.**



How can we show people that God is love?

“By serving them (...) starting with very little things (...).”



“Let’s try to imitate Jesus, **by taking the initiative in loving** (...)



and embracing every small or big cross that this entails.

“In this way, we too will soon reach the point of having (...) **a very strong experience of union with God**, (...) with the fullness of light, peace and inner joy that Jesus wants us to have.”⁽¹⁾



MAURO tells us:

Practically every day at school I found a couple of bricks in my backpack. **I discovered who was doing it** and I really wanted to react. In fact, I don’t know how I managed to control myself.

One day, I was telling a friend of mine about what happened and he said: **“You’re right to be upset, but why don’t you try to talk to him about it?”** And remember not to get angry and speak with love.”



The next day at school I very calmly went up to this boy and spoke to him. I even invited him to an event of the Teens4Unity. From that time on, **I never found bricks in my backpack again.**



1. Chiara Lubich, Word of Life, May 1991.

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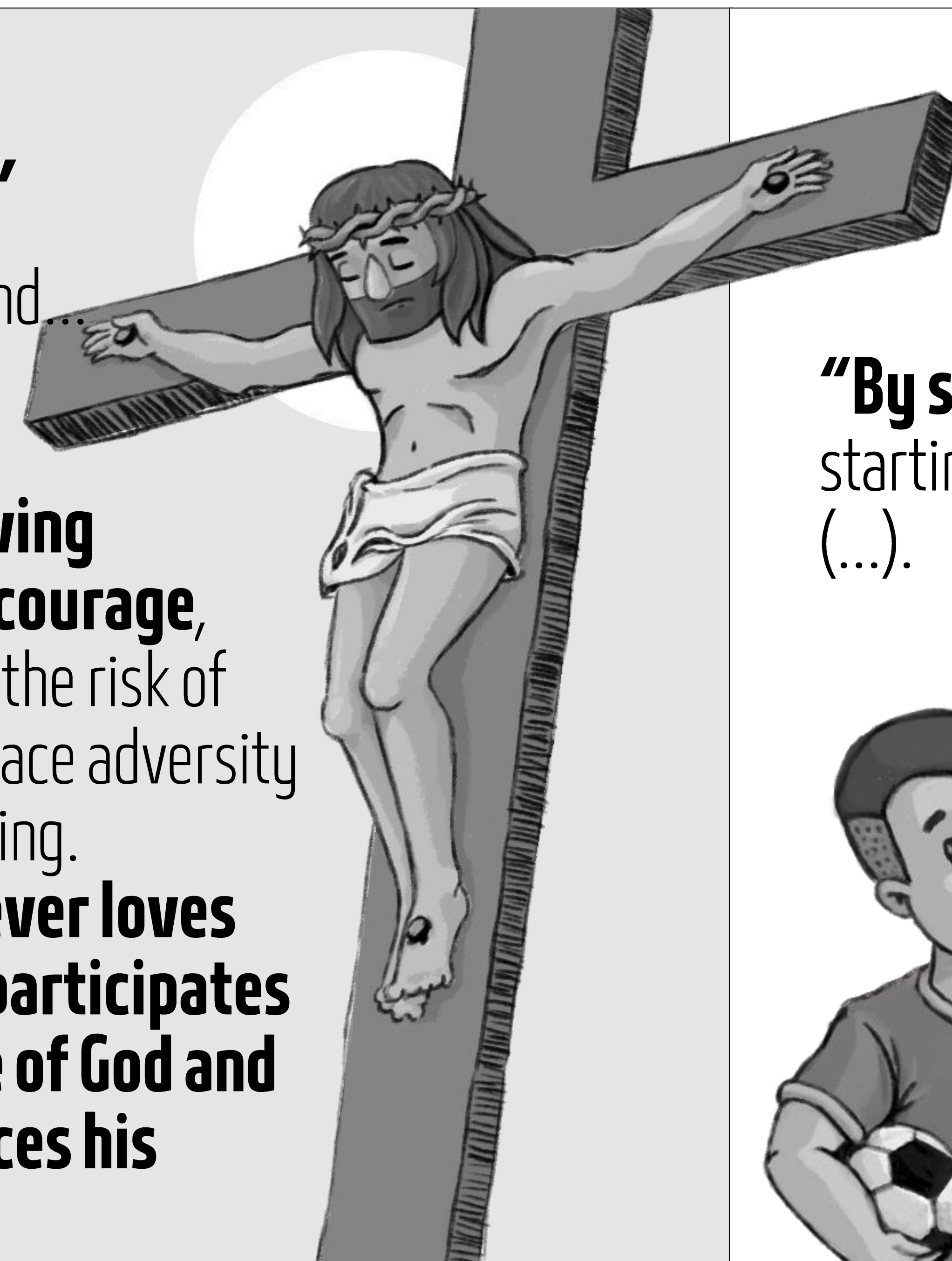
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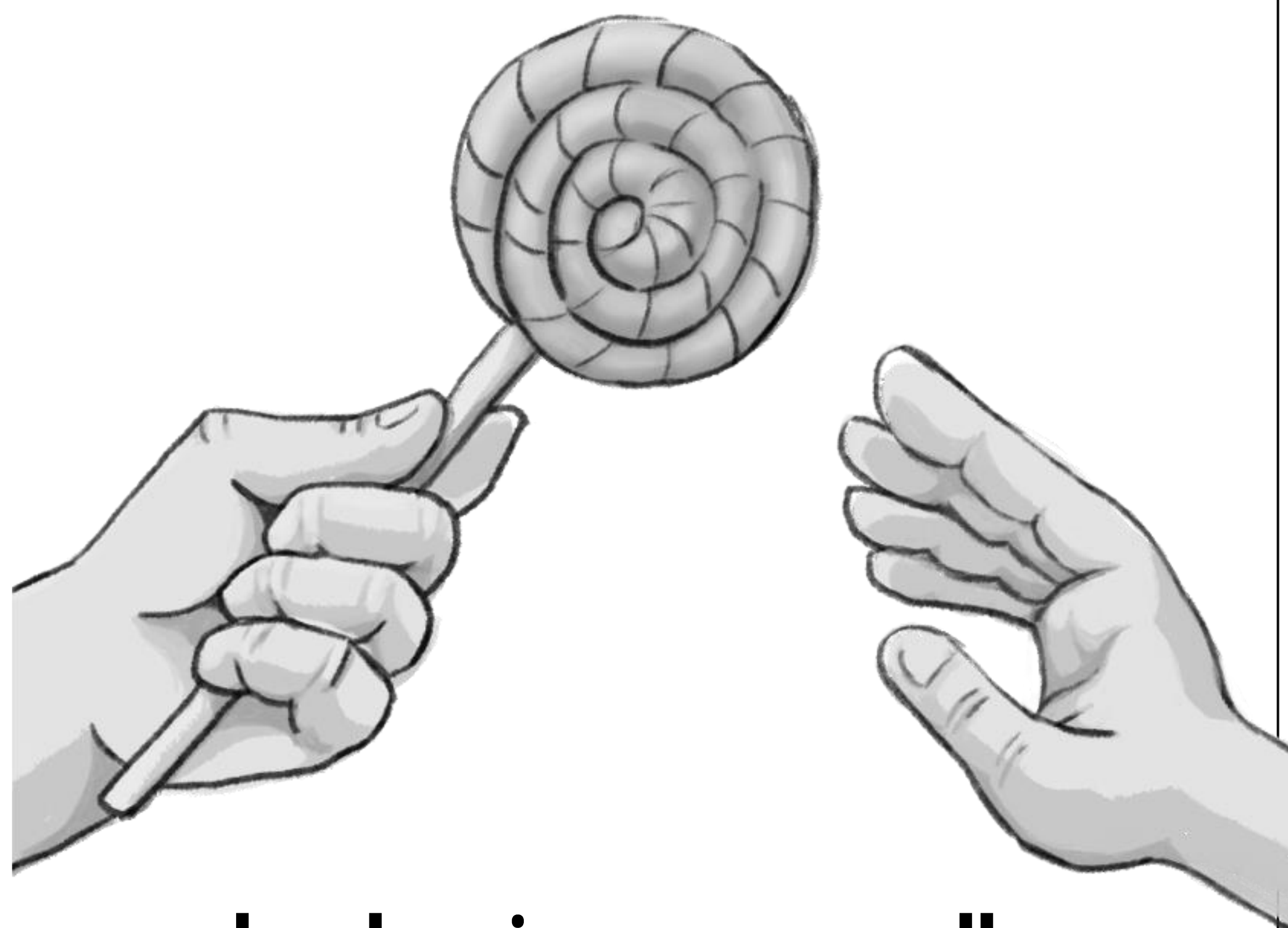


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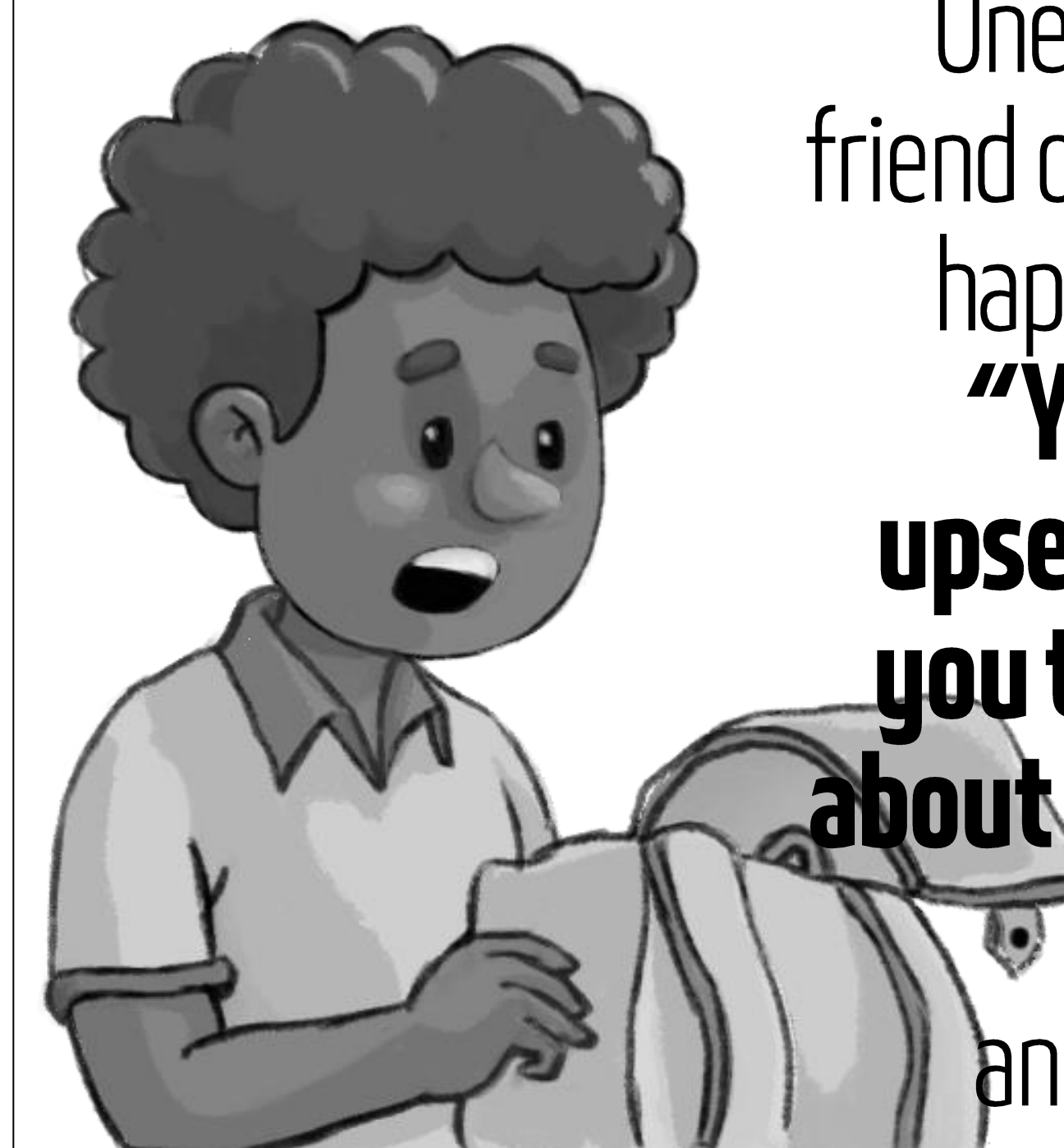
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1. C. Lubich, Parola di Vita di maggio 1991, in eadem, Parole di Vita, a cura di Fabio Ciardi (Opere di Chiara Lubich 5), Citta Nuova, Roma 2017, p. 477.