

MARCH 7

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### THE KEY IS WILLINGNESS

*Once we have placed the key of willingness in the lock and have the door ever so slightly open, we find that we can always open it some more.*

TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, p. 35

The willingness to give up my pride and self-will to a Power greater than myself has proved to be the only ingredient absolutely necessary to solve all of my problems today. Even the smallest amount of willingness, if sincere, is sufficient to allow God to enter and take control over any problem, pain, or obsession. My level of comfort is in direct relation to the degree of willingness I possess at any given moment to give up my self-will, and allow God's will to be manifested in my life. With the key of willingness, my worries and fears are powerfully transformed into serenity.

136

### *Giving Up Defects*

Looking at those defects we are unwilling to give up, we ought to erase the hard and fast lines that we have drawn. Perhaps in some cases we shall say, "This I cannot give up yet... ." But we should not say to ourselves, "This I will never give up!"

The moment we say, "No, never!" our minds close against the grace of God. Such rebellion may be fatal. Instead, we should abandon limited objectives and begin to move toward God's will for us.

TWELVE AND TWELVE, PP. 68-69