

**“IS THERE HOPE? THE FASCINATION OF THE DISCOVERY”**

# **11. “But they say that [saying so to yourself] is asking for trouble”**

“We realize that the one true foolishness is to force reality into the narrow confines of our ‘already known,’ thinking that we already know everything, dictating the limits to the possible, and thus not expecting anything. ‘I have a sense,’ Michel Houellebecq has his troubled main character say in his most recent novel, ‘that even when you plunge into true night, polar night—the one that lasts for six months in a row—the concept or the memory of the sun remains. I had entered an endless night, and yet there remained, deep within me, there remained something less than a hope, let’s say an uncertainty. One might also say that even when one has personally lost the game, when one has played one’s last card, for some people—not all, not all—the idea remains that something in heaven will pick up the hand [...], even when one has never at any moment in one’s life sensed the intervention or even the presence of any kind of deity, even when one is aware of not especially deserving the intervention of a favourable deity, and even when one realizes, bearing in mind the accumulation of mistakes and errors that constitute one’s life, that one deserves it less than anyone.’ The one true foolishness is to deny the possibility of the event. Giussani spoke of this as a ‘crime against the supreme category of reason, of possibility.’”

(J. Carrón, *Is There Hope? The Fascination of the Discovery*, HAB, Tampa & Denver 2021, pp. 58–59)

**How do you experience your day between an unexpected event and “something already known”?**

We remind you that it is possible to send questions and witnesses to the website <http://eventi.comunioneliberazione.org/gscontributi/>