

Of Seeds and Flowers

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THE ANTIDOTE IS HERE!!!

"We live in a **post-truth-society**". Permanent residence in this "societal-stage" tends to make people **NEGATIVE AND CYNICAL, USUALLY ANGRY, AND QUITE OPONIONATED AND DOGMATIC** about one form of political correctness or another, as they search for some solid ground on which to stand. We all come to wisdom at the price of both our **innocence and our control and security**, which means **few of us go through this willingly**. I wouldn't." (Pg 249

The Universal Christ by Richard Rohr). How our pre-conditioning, pre-packaged values and ideas **LOCK US UP!!! THIS IS POISON! THE ANTIDOTE:** A good dose of God/prayer in your life will keep you going and happy! **TRULY**, God is a never-ending windmill or waterwheel of **LOVE** for **YOU!** His love never stops. Love keeps coming and **COMING** and **COMING!!**

The words of Jesus HIMSELF given to Father Ruotolo sure fit here: Day 4:

You see evil growing instead of weakening? Do not worry, close your eyes, and say to Me with faith: "Thy will be done, You take care of it." I say to you that I will take care of it, and that I will intervene as does a doctor and I will accomplish miracles when they are needed. Do you see that the sick person is getting worse? Do not be upset, but close your eyes and say, "You take care of it." I say to you that I will take care of it, and that there is no medicine more powerful than My loving intervention. By My love, I promise this to you.

O Jesus, I surrender myself to You; take care of everything! (10 times)

"We are truly **HIS HANDIWORK**, created in Christ Jesus to lead a life of good deeds which God prepared for us in **ADVANCE**." Ephesians 2: 10.

HOW ABOUT IN these WORDS:

IF GOD HAD A REFRIGERATOR,
YOUR PICTURE WOULD BE ON IT.
IF HE HAD A WALLET, YOUR
PHOTO WOULD BE IN IT. HE
SENDS YOU FLOWERS EVERY
SPRING AND A SUNRISE EVERY
MORNING. FACE IT, FRIEND,
HE IS CRAZY ABOUT YOU!

- MAX LU(ADO

BEFORE *I Formed You*
IN THE WOMB
I KNEW YOU,
BEFORE *You Were Born*
I SET YOU APART

**"GOD MADE YOU
AND GOD DOESN'T
MAKE JUNK."**
- MOM

Do you not know
that you are a
TEMPLE OF GOD
and that the
SPIRIT OF GOD
dwells in you?
1 Corinthians 3:16

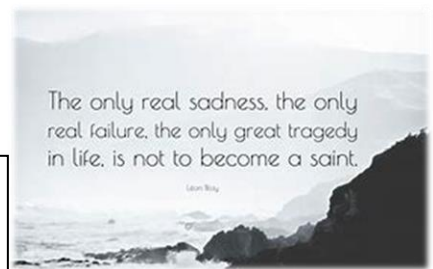
CONSTANT IN MY AFFECTION LOVE FOR YOU." Jeremiah. **AFFECTION, AFFECTION!** For YOU!!!

Sometimes even a rose needs to be reminded of its beauty. "Lord, help me to believe the truth about myself; no matter how beautiful it **IS**." Since your baptism, God **LIVES IN YOU**. -and in the person next to you. "I have loved **YOU** with an everlasting love and so I am

Can a mother forget the baby
at her breast and have
no compassion on the child
she has borne?
Though she may forget,
I will not forget you!
See, I have engraved you
on the palms of my hands;
your walls are ever before me.
Isaiah 49:15-16

"I know well the plans I have in mind for you, (place your name here) says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe, plans to give you a future full of hope. When you call Me, when you go to pray to Me, I will listen to you. When you look for Me, you will find Me. Yes, when you seek Me with all your heart, you will find Me with you, says the Lord, and I will change your circumstances." Jeremiah: 29: 11-14

"HAVE YOU
READ MY
BOOK?" - Jesus



The prairie chicken

A group of Indians was crossing the desert, and they came upon some eagle eggs lying on the desert floor. They picked up the eagle eggs and placed them in the nest of a prairie chicken. The prairie chickens sat on the eggs until they hatched. The baby eagles began walking like prairie chickens; they cackled like prairie chickens; they pecked in the ground for grubs like prairie chickens; they flailed their wings and flew a few feet like prairie chickens. The changeling eagles spent their whole lives acting like prairie chickens.



Late in the life of one of the changeling eagles he looked up into the sky and saw a magnificent bird floating almost effortlessly on the drafts of the wind. The head of the prairie chickens ran over very quickly and said "Don't give it a second thought. That is an eagle, and you could never be like that." And the changeling eagle never did give it a second thought and he died thinking he was a prairie chicken."

This is a very sad story. To be an eagle and to spend your whole life thinking and talking and acting like a prairie chicken. YOU are an eagle meant to fly, and HIGH. To change the metaphor, you are called to the TOP of the mountain. There, to grow wings and to fly. And your job isn't finished until you bring others into your flight. Feel your specialness, your "eagleness". You are going about shining like the sun!!

How many people do you know that are moving through their religious life thinking they are prairie chickens when they are in reality EAGLES. -and dying prairie chickens. SAD!!

Those who trust in the Eternal one will regain their strength. They will SOAR AS ON WINGS AS EAGLES. They will run - **never winded, never weary**. They will walk- **Never tired, never faint**. Isaiah 40: 30-31.

REMEMBER: The most important day in your life is the day you were born, and the second most important day is the day you discovered WHY you were born. So easy to be DRAWN OFF TRACK.

VISION AND REALITY

TO ALL OF MY NON-BELIEVING, SORT- OF-BELIEVING, AND USED-TO- BE BELIEVING FRIENDS !

Do you know many people who have intentionally turned their backs on God and stomped away from their church and spiritual life? **NEITHER DO I**. Do you know many people who have gradually lost their faith over an extended period of time? **SO, DO I**. As Meister Eckhart said: "**LITTLE BY LITTLE, WE GROW AND LITTLE BY LITTLE WE DIE**" Few people abandon their faith out of anger or disbelief in the Scriptures and sacraments.

If you lose your faith, you will probably do it gradually. In tiny increments, you will get distracted by work, family, entertainment, social pressures, busyness and become spiritually sloppy. You will allow a few weeks or months to slip by without consulting your spiritual compass. Your sail will go untrimmed. Your rigging will go unprepared. And worst of all you will forget to anchor your boat. And, before you know it, you will be bouncing from wave to wave in stormy seas. "Why am I so unhappy"? "Where did I go wrong"? "Why do my kids not believe"? Prayer, Scriptures and church gone. WHAT HAPPENED????!!!! It takes serious work to stay spiritually

sharp, AND NO SERIOUS WORK TO SLOWLY DRIFT AWAY. It is only 12 inches between your head and your heart but so few people make the trip.

Sometimes TRUTH IS A ONE ISSUE THING. Like one million dead babies! What if I said let's form an organization that kills one million Jews or Gays or Indians this year but feeds the poor, and provides housing for street people and immigrants, help other countries at war, unabashedly and proudly pays for killing babies etc, etc. Would that be a good thing??? Does anybody have the courage to do that and brag about it? **Remember**

the van outside their convention in Chicago that provided 25 free abortions? STOPPING HEARTS! - with your money.



The more we get rid of God, the more elaborate the things we use to fill the God-Gap, like cars, vacations, houses, clothes, education, clothes, gyms, money, food, cats, dogs, parties. The list is endless. The more people get rid of God, the more elaborate everything else becomes!!!! NATURE ABHORS A VACUUM!! We fill it with "stuff".

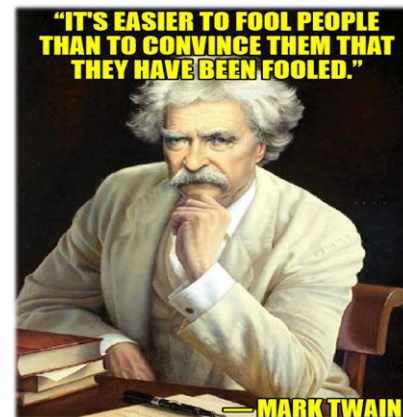
"It is not so much the things you know that matter as the things you "know" that ain't so." - Will Rogers



As Christians we are **IN** the world - not **OF** the world but **FOR** the world.



Jesus, give me the courage to follow your call, the insight to foresee the regrets I will have if I don't, and the boldness to invite others to do the same. Amen.



Mary's Field sent a full set of Chosen DVD's to the Carmelite Monastery of the Sacred Heart in Hudson Wis.. A High school classmate of mine is the superior of the convent, Sister Lucille. She was the best Latin student in our high school class. Sister Lucille followed God and her aunt into the Carmelite sisters right after high school. -a great choice.!!

READER COMMENTS ABOUT CHOSEN: "Watched "Chosen" at your pleading and you were right...the best religious depiction of Jesus's life ever. – especially season 3 and 4. J.T. "Chosen" – a real winner. Keep encouraging it." - W. P. "Chosen – changed my life. Jonathan Roumie does a

spectacular Jesus." - C.J.



Our June luncheon for the retired, incapacitated Sisters of Mercy at St. Mary Home featured a cookout: Hot dogs, hamburgers, Suddenly Salad, chips, a variety of drinks, watermelon, cookies

to take to their rooms.

Cindy, my wife, who is the organizer-planner of the luncheons spent some time speaking with Sister Elizabeth Fischer, who helped us serving the lunch, and who has a ministry with people caring for the homeless. Mary's Field, last year, prepared packets for street people that consisted of a bible with \$5 dollars inside, some warm socks, lip balm, energy bar, gloves etc.. We had some packets left over from last year and will share them with Sister Beth. Mary's Field has made arrangements to supply Sister Beth with more packets this winter for her ministry to the homeless.

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Our 300 podcasts are still touching people's hearts and minds. At least those that have not been censored by Google.



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