



NEW LIFE

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MINISTRY

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Feb 2011

WILL YOU FORGIVE ME

By Vince Dorazio

Back in 1963, there was a movie titled **"THE LONGEST DAY."** It was the story of the U.S. and Allied Forces invasion of Normandy, France on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Towards the end of the movie, a lost American Paratrooper, who got separated from his unit, stumbles upon a dead Nazi officer. Close by, lying against a building is a wounded British officer, played by actor Richard Burton, who assures the young American soldier that the Nazi office is dead. He killed him during a struggle and got wounded in the process. The British officer asks the young soldier, "Did you ever kill someone; I mean face to face?" Somehow this phrase **"face to face"** has stuck with me all these years.

About ten years later, after I began attending Charismatic Prayer Meetings, I was having lunch with a business associate. Our conversation eventually turned to religion and prayer meetings. It was the beginning of Lent and since he was Jewish and I am Catholic, we began discussing our traditions of forgiveness. I told him about confession. Then he told me of his tradition of how if there was any bitterness or dislike for another person, he would go to that person personally and

ask forgiveness. If the person refused him, than he would attempt it another time. If after three times the person still refused to forgive him, then that person would be straddled with the problem. It reminded me of the phrase **"face to face"**.

I later attended a seminar where the speaker told of the conflicts in his relationship with his brother from an incident that happened in his younger years. He mentioned when he confronted his brother **"face to face"** and asked for his forgiveness the barrier that separated them was broken.

I realized that in both these incidents that this is exactly what Jesus was talking about when He said, **"If you bring your gift to the altar and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."** (Matthew 5:23)

I made a list of some people that I had grudges against, and at the top of my list was my father. It had been over 20 years since we had a talking relationship. During those 20 years, we seldom

talked, especially since I lived in Minnesota, and he was in Rhode Island. Except for the occasional Christmas card, our relationship was limited. Phone calls only lasted about 1-2 minutes. Since distance was also a problem for me, I knew that a "face to face" meeting was out of the question. I asked the Lord how this would be possible.

A few nights later, I began to visualize the house where I grew up in RI. I saw myself at about 10 years old sitting in my room on Jesus' knee. He asked me, "Do you love me?" I said, "Yes". Then He asked me, "Do you love your father?" I said, "Yes, but I don't know that he loves me." Then Jesus told me that He loves me and He loves my father also, and told me to call my father into the room with us. I then saw my father sitting on Jesus' other knee and I told him that I loved him and asked him to forgive me. I fell asleep that night with that vision, but I felt that nothing like that would ever happen.

A few weeks later, I got a call from my sister telling me that my father had developed lung cancer and was going to have an operation. He had a 50-50 chance of recovery. I called the surgeon and asked how

serious his condition was. The surgeon told me that if I wanted to say anything to my father this might be my last time.

I made arrangements to go to RI. I got there the night before his surgery. And there in the hospital room sitting on his bed I told him I loved him and looked at my father **"face to face"** and asked him to forgive me for holding this grudge against him all those years. My father reached over to me and gave me a hug, something he had never done before.

Three years later, my father died from emphysema, but the barrier wall that separated us was broken, just as Jesus said. I returned home and looked at the other names I had written a few weeks earlier. I called each one and made a point to visit with them **"face to face"**. That year many barriers were broken.

Have you ever had the opportunity to reconcile with someone **"face to face"**? If not, now is a good time to do it. We are approaching the season of Lent and forgiveness. You can experience the same healing of repentance that I did. Believe me, you'll feel a lot better when those barriers come falling down. Just follow these simple steps:

- **Make a list of people who have offended you or you have a grudge with. (It makes no difference whose fault it is. Just acknowledge that it is there.)**
- **Make an appointment to meet with that person "face to face" for a cup of coffee. Do**

not discuss the reason why you want to get together over the phone.

- **When you meet "face to face" keep the conversation brief and to the point. Look the person right in the eyes and say, "Bob, or Mary, (whatever their name is) I feel we have this barrier between us for a long time (saying how you feel)." Then ask, "Will you forgive me?"**
- **Most important, don't say or try to add anything else or justify anything. Don't say anything more! Keep silent, and wait for a response.**

"Go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."
(Matthew 5:23)

You may have to wait a bit for them to get over the original shock. They probably will be lost for words and not know what to say. But be patient and wait. Most likely, they will answer with a positive response and even ask for your forgiveness as well. And the wall that separated you will now come falling down. Try it. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain!



PRAYER REQUEST

Are you in need of prayer? We would like to include you in our daily prayer. Send in your prayer request and we will add your request to our prayer list. Send to:

**New Life CRM
6253 Penn Avenue South
Richfield, MN. 55423**

Please also remember to pray for all those in need of your prayers. Also to pray for our ministry that we may bring the Word of God to all people that

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who sent us your spiritual and financial support and your words of encouragement. We will continue to listen to what God is calling us to do, and we ask that you prayer for us to accomplish all that God asks of us.

As always, our newsletter and all our events are on a **FREE-WILL DONATION** basis. See the back page for mail in form to make a donation.

**MAY OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST
CONTINUE TO
BLESS YOU
ABUNDANTLY WITH
HIS NEW LIFE!**

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL REVIVAL MEETING

You are encouraged to attend the monthly gathering of all Charismatic Christians from different denominations in the Twin Cities Area. This is also a great opportunity to invite others to attend a Charismatic gathering for the first time to "come and see".

If you would like to be a part of this ongoing ministry as a musician, usher, helper of set-up & take down, or with refreshments after the meeting, please call:

Mark at 612-282-9896 or
Vince at 612-243-9411

Join us on the **LAST THURSDAY** of the month as we come together in prayer and praise and ask God to restore and renew us as **"ONE BODY IN CHRIST!"**

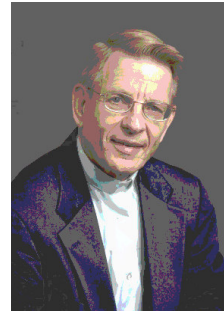
THURSDAY -- 7: PM FEBRUARY 24, 2011

St Albert's Catholic Church
3216 East 29 Street
Minneapolis, MN

UPCOMING SPRING CONFERENCE

HEALING CONFERENCE & SEMINAR

**FRIDAY APRIL 29, 2011 &
SATURDAY APRIL 30, 2011**



St. Albert's Catholic Church
3216 East 29 Street
Minneapolis MN.

This conference will be a hands on teaching and participating seminar. Our main speaker will be Fr. Matt Linn who has been in the healing ministry for many years and has written many books on healing.

Fr. Matthew Linn, SJ (as a team with Dennis and Sheila Linn) has focused on integrating physical, emotional, and spiritual healing. He is a member of the Association of Christian Therapists and has advanced graduate degrees in sociology, anthropology, spirituality, & theology. Since 1970 he has taught courses & given retreats on healing in every state and in over 60 countries from Alaska to Australia. Ordained in 1973 he currently lives in a Jesuit community in Minneapolis where he trains spiritual directors at Sacred Ground and serves on the editorial board of Presence: An International Journal of Spiritual Direction. Matt, Dennis, and Sheila have written 21 books translated in over 20 languages, (all in Spanish) and with over a million copies in English.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

There is **NO CHARGE** to attend this conference and seminar, but it is necessary to pre-register. A lunch will be served and **FREE-WILL OFFERINGS** will be taken during the weekend to cover expenses. Please register as soon as possible. **CALL 612-243-9411**

NOTE: If you can help in any way at this conference or would like to bring refreshments, please call. We appreciate your service.



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**CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
 REVIVAL MEETING
 THURSDAY, 7 PM
 FEBRUARY 24, 2011**

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PEOPLE OF JOY

**CHARISMATIC
 PRAYER MEETINGS**

THURSDAYS 7:30 PM

St Albert's Catholic Church
2832 – 32 Avenue South
29th Street & 32nd Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN.
(1 Block North of E. Lake St.)

**Call ahead for Handicap
 Accessibility**
612-282-9896