

**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 – No Change is Permanent Until We Have a Renewed Mind – Wednesday Prayer Meeting**

Before I preach tonight's word I want to tell you what we have been doing in the last few weeks. At the beginning of this year, the Lord gave us a guidance. Every year we receive a guidance from the Lord. In 2019 the guidance we received was, I will put you on the super highway. We assumed the super highway meant, those days when people went to Matara from here for meetings, we started at 3 in the morning to get to Matara at 9 in the morning. But because of the highway we can leave at 7 and be in Matara at 9. So the super highway means to get there quicker, faster, easier by the grace of God.

In March the lockdown came in 2020. In September or so, one of our servers asked me what about the word the Lord gave us about the super highway? It has turned out to be a dud, a nonstarter, and it looked like that. But as I prayed about it, I realised something. Indeed He put us on the super highway in 2020. How? He put us on the internet super highway. We have been there for the last 13-14 years, working on the internet, but now it has become a unique thing that is beautifully done because we have meetings that are truly international. How is that? The praise is done by a team from Sydney or Melbourne, the word is given from Sri Lanka and the worship is done from Canada -- all in the same meeting and all done by CRL members worldwide. So when you look back, truly we are on the super highway. We have had international speakers coming into the community. We had Scott Hahn, a famous Presbyterian pastor who became Catholic by conviction after studying theology, and today he is a world renowned teacher and lecturer. He came online to speak to the CRL worldwide. Fr. Augustine Vallooran came twice to do that. On the 20th we have Dr. Ralph Martin. For those who don't know who Ralph Martin is, he is a pioneer of the renewal. He is one of the members who was there at the beginning. With Cardinal Suenes, who is considered the father of the renewal, who fostered the charismatic experience and took it to the heart of the Church, he established the Catholic charismatic renewal centre for the first time in the Catholic Church in Belgium, where he was the cardinal. Ralph Martin was the chairman of that organisation. He is a doctor of theology plus he is a world famous lecturer. He has written many books and we have the privilege of hearing him speak the prophecy that God has spoken about our world today. It's at an excellent time, 5:30 in the morning on the 20th of February. You need to be sure you are there before 5:30 because the limit on zoom is 500.

In that way, the Lord has actually fulfilled His word. So when God says something He actually does it. But how He does it is very different from how we think. That's why Isaiah 55:10 says, your ways are not my ways; your thoughts are not my thoughts. As much as the sky is above the earth, my thoughts are beyond you. So it takes many years to allow God to be God. Otherwise we try to make God behave in the way we want. Allow God to be God and allow it to flow.

So the word we received this year was: Victory in Rest. That was the word God gave us in 2021. Everyone is struggling -- struggling with the pandemic, struggling financially, struggling with work, struggling with living. If two people who don't like each other whose marriage is difficult are kept in the house for 3 months in lockdown, you're going to have terrible explosions and terrible situations because relationships are hard. God is giving us a word into that: Victory, not in struggle, but in rest.

What does it mean? The Lord gave us a word: Establish yourself in me in a daily basis. What that means is, plant yourself in the soil of my word. Grow in the nourishment of the Spirit and when a crisis comes,

you will not be shaken. The advice is so practical - have you ever seen someone trying to build a house when it's raining? No. You have to build a house when it is not raining and when the weather is fine. It's then that your house will stand in the rain.

In the same way, we have to establish. The Lord said, "If you learn how to live in my word and be nourished by my Spirit on a daily basis, you will cease to struggle and every crisis will be overcome." So there is no shortcut. You can't do the holy hours because the heat is up and try to find quick answers to what God wants to do, it won't work. "God, tell me what you are saying now because I'm having this problem," it won't work. You have to forget about that. Establish yourself. Prayer life, scripture, worship, sacraments -- grow on a daily basis, and the victory in any crisis is assured.

Then we dealt with the next question: Do we need others to know God and to walk with God? I think it's a very important question. Samuel gave us the answer. Samuel was serving in the temple, he was sleeping next to the ark of the covenant but he did not know the voice of God. That's a terrible thing. You're serving God, you're sleeping next to the ark but when God spoke, he thought it was Eli the priest. When I read that I thought many of us are Samuel. We have been praying, going to church, learnt the catechism, done everything but we may not really know and hear the voice of God.

Samuel was introduced to God by Eli. So we need others to introduce us to God. It's my own experience. It was a nun who introduced me to God - sister Marie Antonita. She was the principal in this school here and she died at the age of 49, but one of the major parts of her mission was to bring me to know the Lord. She introduced me to the Lord. So we need others to know God.

The problem is, we need others to know God, but we also have to walk with God by ourselves. This is a paradox. A paradox means the opposite. It looks like one but means something else. You actually need others to know God, but you have to walk with God by yourself. I've seen it in my own life. Many people have come to know God through their interaction with me. When that happens they give you a lot of love and respect and glory, and who doesn't like it? Everyone likes it, but in the end I've found out that these very people who saw me as the avenue to God couldn't walk with God beyond a point because of my weaknesses. I'm human, you're human, you come close to me and you'll see into my life. They say nice from far and far from nice. We all have our issues in life. If you come home you'll find it. Then what happens is, if you walk with God because of me, my brokenness blocks you from walking with God.

Let me tell you the amazing truth: We need to take another step. Walk with God, hear His voice, give Him inner response. The problem of being in the Church and being in the community is we can sometimes forget that we have to answer to God directly. We think we can get away with it because people don't know. That one doesn't know and this one doesn't know and I'll get away with it. But we will be held accountable when we come face to face with God. A lot of people forget that. If you look at the history of the world today, even in religions, you see people doing terrible things and all they were concerned about was that other people won't know it. Why did that happen? Because they didn't know the connection with God.

So we need others to walk with God, we need others to know God, but you have to walk with God alone. That's what we learnt week before last. But also, the beautiful thing is, God takes us together. God does not lead people by themselves. It's an amazing thing because God Himself is a Trinity -- God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. Because He is a Trinity, He calls us together, as a Church and as a community. When you look back, we saw 2015 where we had the coming together of the Sinhala and

Tamil speaking people in Madhu and it all happened because people worked together. We are more than we can ever be by ourselves. The beautiful thing is, you have to be personally responsible to God but we work together with each other.

Then last week we looked at where you find your freedom. Everyone wants to be free. Children want to be free of the control of their parents, they want to be free to do their job, to do what they want, free to marry whom they want. Some people are fighting to be free to get married to the one they want and then they are fighting to be free of their marriage also. We are always fighting to be free. We want to be free of the job we are doing and want to do a better one, free of this and free of that. Where do you find real freedom? Last week we saw another paradox: It's in absolute surrender to God that there is absolute freedom. Those who are surrendered to God are free, and those who are jealously holding on to their freedom are slaves of their drives and urges.

So this week our topic is: No change is permanent until we have a renewed mind. We actually have two persons inside us - two minds, two persons. The Bible has two names for those two persons: one is called the spiritual being and the other is called the natural being or the flesh. We have two persons living inside us. Some people don't know that they have two persons because the natural man or the natural being is so strong that there is nothing else. But if you want a victory in life, we need to shift our person. We have to decide who is going to live inside of us. Is it going to be the spiritual being, or is it going to be the natural one that rules us. It's so important to understand this.

Last week I took it from the text but I'm not taking the text this week. The text was that Jesus already knew this at the tender age of 12. At the age of 12 he knew about these two persons. How do you know? Because when he went and got lost in Jerusalem, when the mother met him, the mother spoke like a typical mother and said, "Why did you do this to us?" All mothers take it personally. When that was said, Jesus answered, "Don't you know that I have to go about doing the work of my Father?" Two beings. One was the natural one in which he had lived for 12 years -- the son of Mary and Joseph. The other was the supernatural identity he had: "My God is my Father, I am His beloved son and I have a job to do on earth."

So the important question tonight is: How do you see yourself? Who are you? I'm not asking about who you are outside, I'm asking about who are you to yourself. Last time I cracked a joke to explain this. There was this doctor who was newly appointed to the mental hospital. So he was curious and wanted to find out from the other doctor how he knew if a person was cured or not. The doctor said they had a method and he said, "We ask them a question and on that question we decide whether they are set free or not." So he called one guy and asked, "How much is 6 times 6?" So he counted and counted and said, "1000." The doctor said, "6 more months for this guy." Then the other guy came and the doctor asked, "How much is 6 times 6?" He counted this way and that way and said, "February." The doctor said, "One year more for you!" The other guy came and the doctor asked, "How much is 6 times 6?" He counted and said, "36." The doctor said, "Wow! Correct!" The other doctor asked, "How did you find that answer?" "Simple," he said. "I divided 1000 by February."

So what that means is, you can have the right answer but you won't have a clue how you got there. Today we have all the right answers about our religion. Who are you? I am a son of God. Where do I come from? I have come from God. What's the purpose of our life? To love the Lord. All those answers we have, but though we have the answers they are not real for us. Because they are not real, we worry, we fight, we

struggle, we fall, we are addicted, we are caught up, we are sinful, we are lost. But if you ask any question we know the answers. Therefore, that's why no change is permanent until we are renewed in the mind. Stop stealing you say, stop adultery you say, stop this you say. Why? Because people are watching and they will say this and say that. So we try to but it won't be permanent unless how you are thinking is changed. The transformation of the mind.

You can see clearly the two persons in Jesus. One was the person that was built from society and the other was revealed by God at the age of 12. We are introduced to these two persons once again in many places, but tonight I want to go to the storm again. Both these persons are in the storm and we meet them; the human personality and the divine personality.

*Matthew 14:23*

*After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone...*

The background to this is he had fed the 5000. This is Matthew. John says that they wanted to make him the king, and who doesn't like to be king? Everyone wants to be king or at least queen. Everyone glorified him because he had fed the 5000. I'm thinking, the human part of Jesus would have been very tempted. Become the king, feed the people, overturn the rulers in Jerusalem, establish true worship in the temple, get it done on the earth and get it fixed. But the spiritual part of his nature said: Ask the Father what He is wanting. Can you see the difference?

So what did he do? Where did he go to find this? He went up into the mountain. Many of us go to the mountain when things go wrong. If there is a big problem we go and pray. If there is no problem, "God, I'll give you a rest. You wait. Let me show you what I can do." If it's a problem, "Lord I've come to you. Please, I messed it up. Please help me." But here, he went to the mountain and he is asking the Father, "Father, is it okay to be king? Is that the way?" The Father would have told him, "No there is another way." I'm not bringing this from my mind. This same incident is there in John 6, where Jesus comes down from the mountain and says, "You people are following me not because of the word I gave you but because of the food you ate." Who taught him that? The Father. He had a spiritual revelation of what it is. Then he said, "Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you will not have a part of me. They all went away. He could have easily built himself a popular support. They all went away. Then he asked his disciples, "Why don't you also go?" Why? Because there were these two people in his heart -- the human Jesus and the Son of God. It's one and the same but just to explain it I'm saying so that you will understand, he was listening to the voice of the Father. His mind was being formed by the Father, not by the popularity of people. We think our real problems are with the difficulties of life, but the greatest temptations are the good ones, the happy ones.

*Matthew 14:24*

*But the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.*

Who was in the boat? The disciples. They were fighting the storm. Their natural habitat was the natural world and now they are fighting the wind.

*Matthew 14:25*

*During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.*

The disciples were in the storm. Where was Jesus? In the same storm. What were the disciples doing in the storm? They were fighting it, they were struggling with it because they were fighting for their lives in that storm. What was Jesus doing? He was walking on that storm. Here is the difference. Why was he walking on the storm? Because he had the mind of God. Because he had the mind of God, even nature bent to his will. That's how a miracle happens, that's how the supernatural breaks in. Nature bends to the will of God. Sickness bends to the will of God. Problems bend to the will of God. Scarcity bends to the will of God. Why? Because this mind of God releases His power over natural circumstances.

Jesus was in that. Where were the apostles? They were caught up in the realities of this world. It was real for them. Today, when I look at life, so many people struggling with life because they have only one reality. What's the reality? The situation they are in. I have to pay my taxes, I have to get the money to do this, I have to do the other thing. All my life is a big mess, while there are others who walk effortlessly through the same issues. Why? Because they have an awakened spirit.

The problem wasn't the problems, the problem wasn't the issues. It was what is awakened inside of you. Is the spirit awakened or are you trapped in the laws of the natural level? When you don't pray, when you get caught up in sin, when you get lost in your spirit, when your spirit closes, you drown in the storms of your life. That's what happens to people and we say, "Jesus save me," and Jesus says, "I can only temporarily save you. Your mind has to change."

*Matthew 14:26*

*When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.*

When you don't have a revelation from God to understand what's happening to you, you go back into your history, you go back into your memories. The only thing they had in memory of a man walking on water is a ghost. Isn't that what all our fears come from? "My father had a heart attack. I'm also going to have one." You will possess what you believe. You get the heart attack and say, "I told you my father had a heart attack and now I've got one!" Can you see how we bring it on? "My ancestry is all broken marriages and so is my one." All you have is your past to interpret the present and future. Not for those whose spirit is awakened. We have a whole new revelation from God. That's why the topic is: There is no permanent change without a renewed mind. Even Jesus had to fight for it on that mountain.

*Matthew 14:27*

*But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."*

There is good news for those of us who are struggling with only one mind, the mind of the world. If you cry to God He will still come, but His answers will only be temporary because the mind has not shifted. So you are saved from this problem and then you fall into the next one, because your mind has not shifted.

*Matthew 14:28*

*"Lord, if it is you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."*

Here we meet Mr. Hybrid. Hybrid is a modern word. I had this doberman and I read about the fellow, to see he is a hybrid. They have fixed various systems and made the guy. They have hind legs of a runner,

mouth of something else. Peter is a hybrid. The spiritual realm is there but so is the human. Peter represents most of us.

*Matthew 14:29*

*"Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.*

Peter was also bending the laws of nature and he was walking on water. How was he doing that? He didn't have a transformed mind, but he was fixed on Jesus. I think that's as far as many people go in their lifetime. They come to Jesus, they ask for their problem to be solved, and then they go back to their old nature.

*Matthew 14:30*

*But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink cried out, "Lord, save me!"*

Though Peter was looking at Jesus and walking, the natural habitat of Peter was not the water. The naturally habitat was this world. Therefore he experienced the power but quickly sunk inside. It can happen to us. We come to a worship and prayer, we touch the presence of God, we experience His love, a miracle, a word of knowledge, a tremendous breakthrough. We go back, one little problem and a fight happens from inside.

I remember we did a powerful worship here once and my wife wanted to buy something from the shop so we went to this 24 hour shop and since my vehicle is long, I had parked it in a place where another guy couldn't take his vehicle. He came and knocked on my window and asked me to take it. I said I was sorry and took it. As I was taking it he encouraged me to go with a few profanities and choice words. The moment he did that, I lost my atmosphere of heaven. I wanted to fight this guy and let him have it. From where is that coming? It's not coming from the heavenly experience I had. It's coming from inside of me, pulling me down into the water. Can you see how we can easily shift in the environment in which we live. That's what happened to Peter.

*Matthew 14:31*

*Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"*

If I was Peter I would have said, "I beg your pardon? I'm the one who's walking on water! Look at the others, they are hugging the bottom of the boat. They haven't even dared to come out!" What is this lack of faith? He didn't have the worldview of Jesus.

So, if you want to live a victorious life in rest we have to learn to enter the mind of God on a daily basis. Not just what the word of consolation is for the day and play book cricket with the Bible. How do you do that? Open the bible and see if there is a good verse. Isaiah can have a good verse, Ezekiel you close, Jeremiah don't even look at it, prophets better not, Hosea will scold you, a psalm is better. We play book cricket with the Bible and we are trying to get words of consolation. It won't work. It's like trying to walk on water for a moment. You have to allow God's mind to quietly replace the thinking patterns of this world. It's a life journey done on a daily basis.

Look at Peter and Jesus. I want to take it a little further tonight. In Matthew 16, the background is Jesus goes to the mountain and works it out with the two great figures Moses and Elijah. They tell him what to do and that he has to go and be crucified. Now Jesus comes down from the mountain and calls his disciples and says, "I have to tell you, the Son of Man has to suffer much and be crucified and die. On the third day

he will rise again." Peter is listening to all this and says, "Lord, can you please come this side? I don't want to embarrass you in front of all the others, but as long as I am there I will not allow you to die." He really loved Jesus. But look at Jesus' answer:

*Matthew 16:23*

*Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."*

Why did he call him a stumbling block? Because Jesus would have spent hours working this out with himself. To go and die, to sacrifice, to become humiliated, to let go, to allow himself to be crucified, he would have fought and fought and fought and finally said, "Yes, I'll do it." The moment he comes here, the very temptation is mouthed by this man. He is saying: You are looking at this only at the human level, not according to the mind of God.

How are you looking at your own life? Are you looking at it according to the mind of God, or are you looking at it only at the human level? If you remain there, forever we will be drowning in the storms of life because the next storm will be more real than the one before. Even Jesus had to face this same thing. We see Jesus in Gethsemane, the most powerful piece that you can see of the humanity of Christ.

*Mark 14:36*

*"Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me..."*

Which part of Jesus was speaking? The human part. But in that same prayer he says:

*Mark 14:36 continued*

*...yet not what I will, but what you will.*

Now what part is talking? The spirit part. Here is the internal struggle within the human heart. Jesus was fully human. He had to make this choice. To what voice is he responding? The disciples didn't help at all. We have Peter again here.

*Mark 14:37*

*Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "Are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour?"*

Jesus was leaning on Peter, but I'm thinking God sent Peter to sleep. Why is that? Because if Peter was awake and attentive, Jesus would not have gone beyond Peter to pray. He would have said, "Peter please console me. I'm your friend and master," we embrace each other and console, but you can't go into the resurrection with human love. So thank God Peter was asleep. He had to go beyond. That's why I said in the end you walk alone with God. You answer to God. Here Jesus reveals the dualism inside the human heart. He mentions it so clearly:

*Mark 14:38*

*Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

Can you see the two natures inside the human heart? The nature of the Spirit and the nature of the human understanding. If you remain at the human level, you may know catechism, you may know theology, you may be able to explain all the truths but you will be a prisoner of the storms of this world. Sleepless, helpless, powerless, anxious, tense. Why? Because the Spirit part is not awakened. Jesus understood that so clearly. Who is it who has a renewed mind? A person who has allowed the spiritual truths to become real, not the human ones.

To enter into this realm we need a way. For us, the Lord has given us a way. It is called praying the four steps. It's beautifully laid out. How does one enter the transformed mind? It is by praying the four steps. Tonight I want to offer you the first step. All of us know what the first step is: Come as you are, I love you. Let's link the four steps with the Holy Trinity. When we start a prayer, we start in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. We allow the Holy Trinity to encircle us. So in the first step, come as you are I love you, we lift our eyes to the Father. So when I say come as you are, I love you, I look at Him and say, "Father, good morning. How are you? I am coming to you." I see myself through the eyes of the Father. That's how you renew your mind and transform your mind. See yourself through the revelation of the Father. For that I want to offer you a text on the vision that Jesus had:

*John 16:28*

*I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.*

Jesus' life has begun before he came here, he has come from the Father, and his life will not end here. It completes itself in the heart of the Father. So when I look at the Father, He tells me the same thing. He says, "Actually son, you have come from me. Your father is your father and your mother is your mother, but they are not your real father and mother. I am your Father, I am your Mother. I chose to send you to this world through your parents." Some people say, "Nobody wanted me, my parents didn't want me. I am useless," but no! Though your parents didn't want you and you thought you're an accident, the transformed mind tells us in actual fact, God sent you even through unwilling parents because He wanted you on this planet at this time. I believe it 100% about myself. I didn't believe it all the time but now I believe it completely, that God sent me to this planet at this time through my parents. But my completion is not here. It is after my death, when I return to the Father, everything will be completed. True happiness, true peace, true joy, true fulfillment will be found there. Until your mind is renewed you will never see this, and if you don't see it, we are merely living in the natural realm. We can talk about Christ and do a lot of stuff, but we are still living in the natural realm. I have come from the Father and I am returning to the Father. It is in that context that everything has been in.

Let me show you in the life of Jesus. After the resurrection he met these two disciples at Emmaus and then he begins to talk to them and explain things, and it's important to listen to what he explains:

*Luke 24:25*

*He said to them, "How foolish you are., and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!*

Jesus is talking about scripture. Then He says:

*Luke 24:26*

*Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?*



Can you see where He says glory? His glory is beyond this world. So the beginning of Christ is before, the completion of Christ is after life here on earth. So is our own life. Our beginning is with Him, He has sent us to this world. We have a journey of spiritual growth and maturity, but our end is not here but is completed in the heart of God, millions and millions of years with him.

I've told you earlier about Suresh, my friend who has a ministry in Toronto. He met the Lord in Saudi in his room. He had a direct divine encounter when Jesus manifested to him. The question He asked him was, "Suresh, what is the purpose of your life?" Suresh didn't answer because he was too ashamed, because he was thinking about what car to buy next. He was very rich at a very young age, an engineer in an American firm in Saudi and he was thinking of what car to buy. So he couldn't tell Jesus an answer and he remained quiet. Then Jesus said, "Shall I tell you your purpose?" He remained silent. Then He said, "I have designed you and created you to live with me millions of years." Suresh was looking at this thing, and then the Lord said, "Shall I show you the difference between a human lifetime and millions of years?" He showed him a picture and he realised 70 years is like a breath to the millions of years with God. Immediately he was converted because he found the purpose of his life. What was the purpose of his life? Live forever with God.

Imagine messing it all up here over some little desire in our hearts? We have got lost in this thing and we fall into mortal sin, and we sink into this and we lose eternity for this little pleasure, desire of this world. We kill somebody to take revenge. Jesus says, to enter into His glory. It meant death itself to do that.

*Luke 24:27*

*And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.*

Jesus explained, here is the meaning and purpose of life. That's what the scripture will explain. Not how to get happiness, not how to get this, not how to get that. Of course He will give you an answer to your problem, but He will explain: I have come from God and I am returning to His heart, and completion is outside time in glory.

Actually I was thinking, I've been ministering for close to 40 years and I have faced and dealt with many events in life. On the negative side I know what it is to be rejected, to be put down, to be judged, to be condemned. I know that. When that happened, I thought it was the end of the world. On the other side, I know what it is to be glorified, to be honoured, to be seen as someone special, to be followed. I've seen that also. But when I look back I now see, all the good and the bad are simply temporary moments in time. It will come and it will go. In this little time if we could understand that, that nothing is permanent. The terrible judgment on your life is not permanent, neither is all the glory that people will give you. What is permanent is beyond this life in the glory of the Father. If we can realize this deep in our spirit, we can walk on the water. What it means to walk on the water is to let the storm come. I walk on it because my glory is beyond this moment. Let the attack come and I'll walk on it. I'll walk on the attack, I will grow through it because the glory is beyond these moments. A renewed mind.

Without a renewed mind we think God's answer is no problems for me, everything is calm before me, everything is okay before me, everything has fallen into place, I have no issues. If life is like that, we will have pretty immature people living and dying, because they haven't faced any challenge or grown at all. It's like they haven't used their teeth so obviously the teeth will fall off, or your muscles will atrophy

because you haven't used them. We have been called to walk on water. How do you walk on water? Your answer, your glory is beyond, and everything else is temporary. I give inner response to the Father like Jesus did. He didn't fall into the trap of becoming king, neither did he get caught up in self pity, neither did he get caught up in the attack he got. "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." He walked on the water through every incident.

We are challenged.. Can we have a transformed mind? When I sit to prayer I tell myself, I don't want to lose eternity for a moment, I don't want to lose eternity for one victory, for one vindication, for one satisfaction. I want this experience. I have come from God and I am returning to God. My glory is beyond.

I was reading this experience and we will finish with it tonight. This is a true story of a Red Indian chief. He was a great warrior but had killed many people and fought many battles. One day a missionary came to him and spoke about the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. For some reason, this image of Christ dying for him became so powerful that it completely shattered this Red Indian chief. So he gave his life to Jesus and the experience of Father forgive them for they know not what they do, had such an impact on him.

A few months later his son died, and the person who was with the son when he died said he fell off the cliff and died. But another guy who was watching from a distance actually saw what happened. What happened was, this other guy pushed this guy off the cliff. He came and told him this is what happened. He said he rode up to this man who killed his son and said, "If it was a few months ago, I would have split your head in two, but today I'm a servant and disciple of Jesus Christ. I forgive you in His name." What mind did he have? A renewed mind.

This powerful chief, when he forgave the one who actually killed his son, people who were watching perceived this as weakness. A few weeks later, a person comes and kills him because that person thought he had found the opportunity. He won't react, he won't fight so he killed him and put him to death. If life ends with his death he was a fool. He became weak by believing in Jesus Christ. But like Jesus explained to the Emmaus people and said, "You are foolish and you don't understand, glory is beyond here." This man shared in the very glory of Christ by dying like him. By dying like Stephen, he shared in the highest sharing a human being can have. He shared in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

A renewed mind sees everything from the mind of God. Growing in that is through the scripture and prayer, anointed by the Holy Spirit. Begin tonight by the first step: Lord, Abba Father, I come as I am. I have come from your heart. I am returning to your heart. My glory is in you and my life is millions of years in your heart and I'm walking on the storms to come to you.