

Faith Day October 2011

Opening Prayer:

Walking in the Light of God



Now this is the message that we have heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all.

If we say, “We have fellowship with him,” while we continue to walk in darkness, we lie and do not act in truth.

But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin. 1 JOHN Chapter 1: 5-7

Faith Day October 2011

The 4 Non Negotiables



***Deacon Mike Walsh
deaconmike@itinerantpreacher.org
Presentation available: www.itinerantpreacher.org***

Pop Quiz about Faith



Pop Quiz Question 1

I believe everything that Jesus teaches in the Gospel?

True ___ False ___



Pop Quiz Question 2

I have a strong and unwavering faith?
True ___ False ___



Questions about Faith

What is the most important attribute(s) of a follower of Christ based on what Jesus teaches?

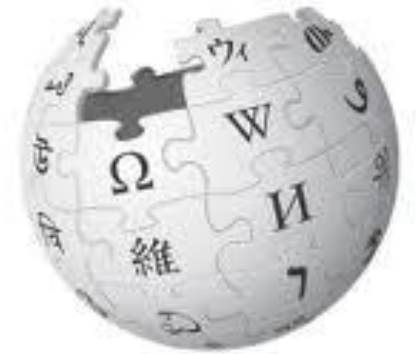


What is Faith?

A World View of Faith

Faith is trust, hope and belief in the goodness, trustworthiness or reliability of a person, concept or entity.

Religious faith is a belief in a transcendent reality, a religious teacher, a set of teachings or a Supreme Being.



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

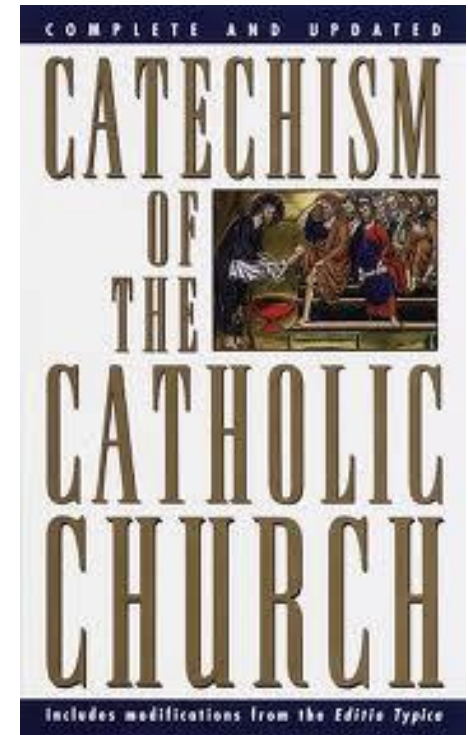
What is Faith?

162: Perseverance in faith

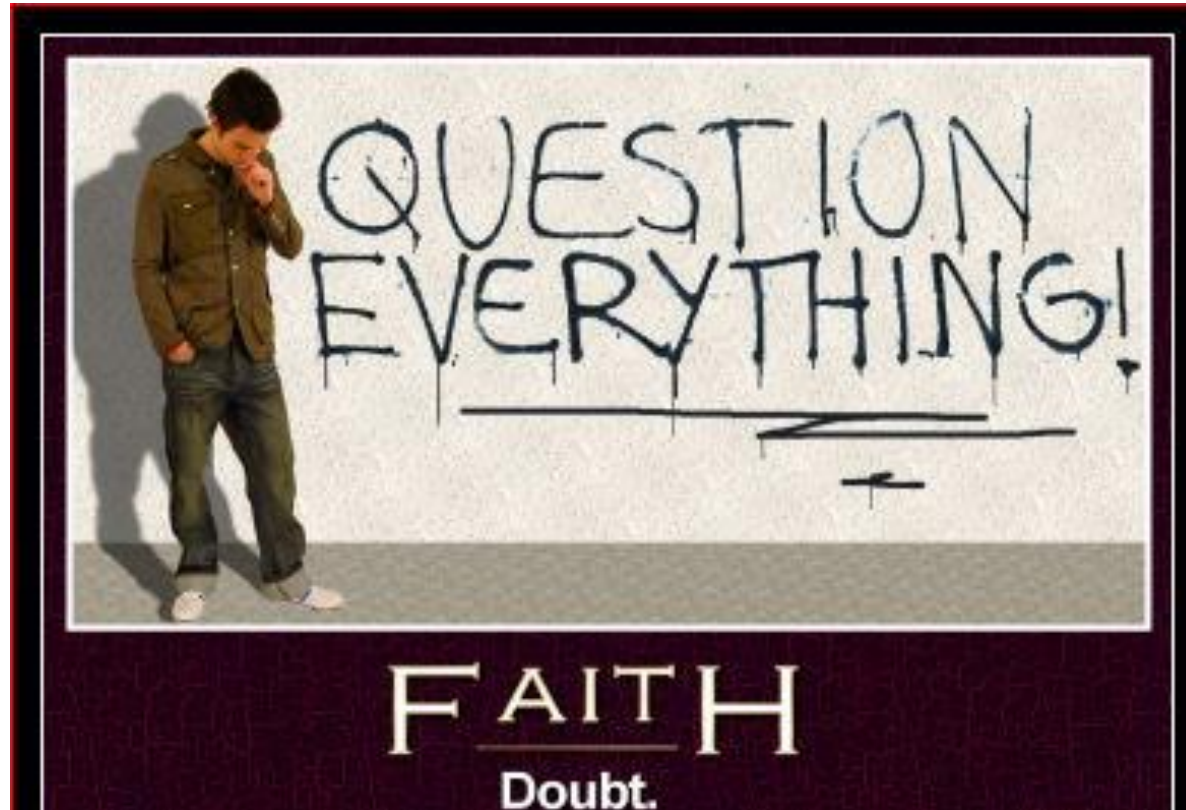
Faith is an **entirely free gift** that God makes to man. **We can lose this priceless gift**, as St. Paul indicated to St. Timothy:

"Wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, certain persons have made shipwreck of their faith."

To live, grow and persevere in the faith until the end ***we must nourish*** it with the **word of God**; we must beg the Lord to increase our faith; it must be "**working through charity**," abounding in hope, and rooted in the faith of the Church

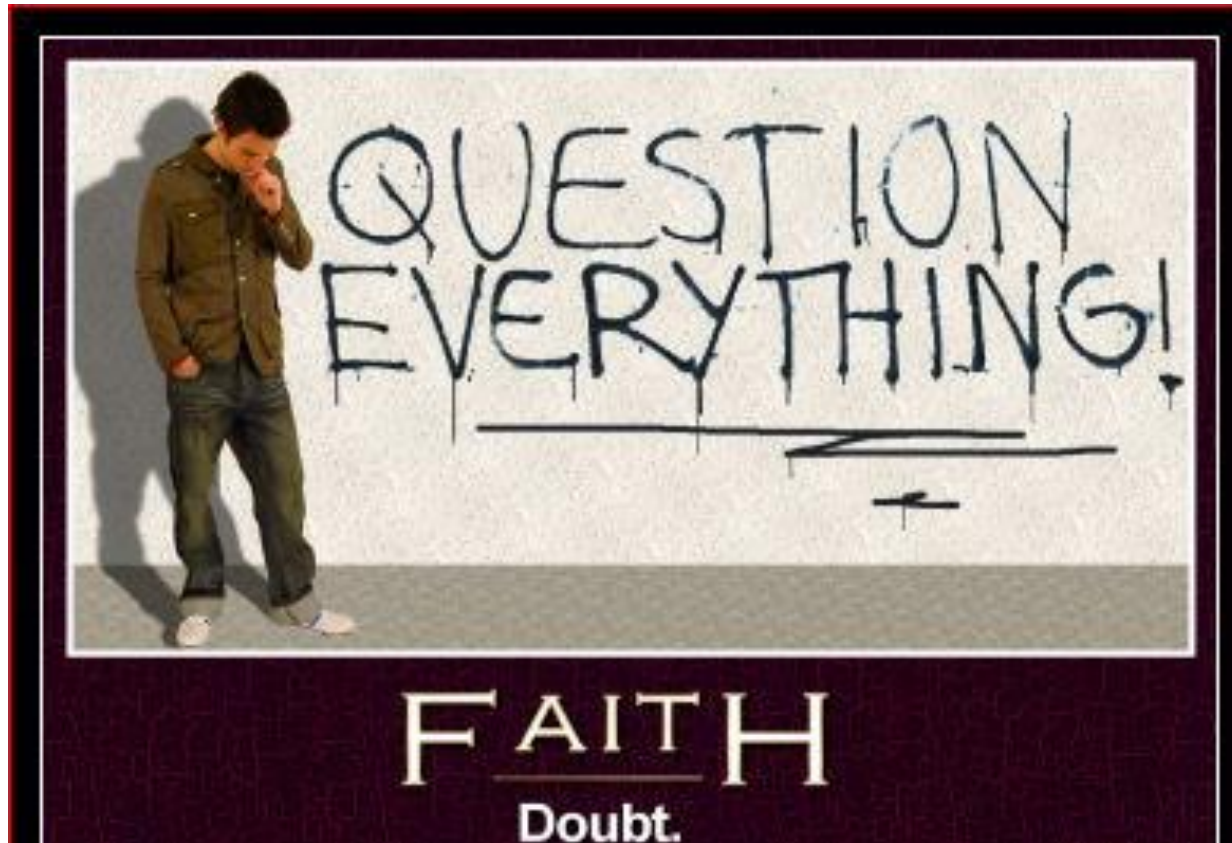


What about Doubt?



Doubt: a feeling of uncertainty about the truth, reality, or nature of something.

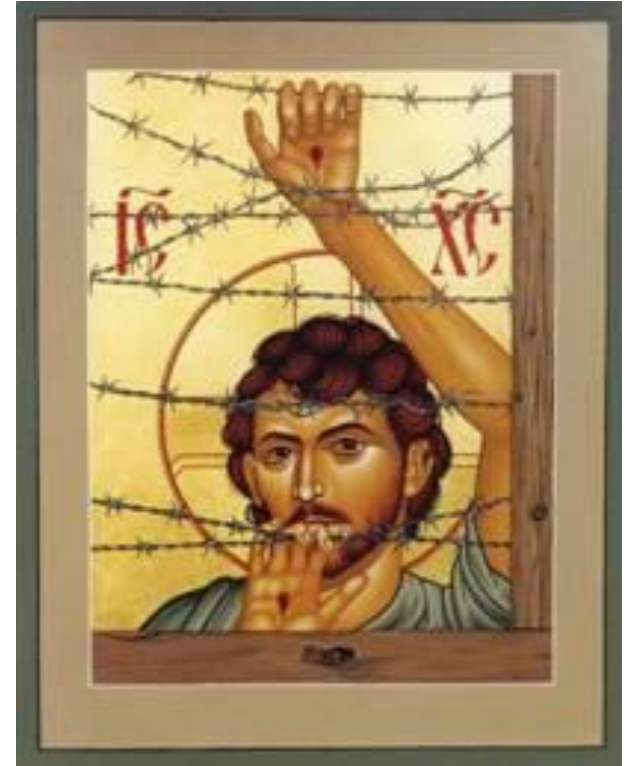
What about Doubt?



Can you have faith without doubt?

Faith & Doubt

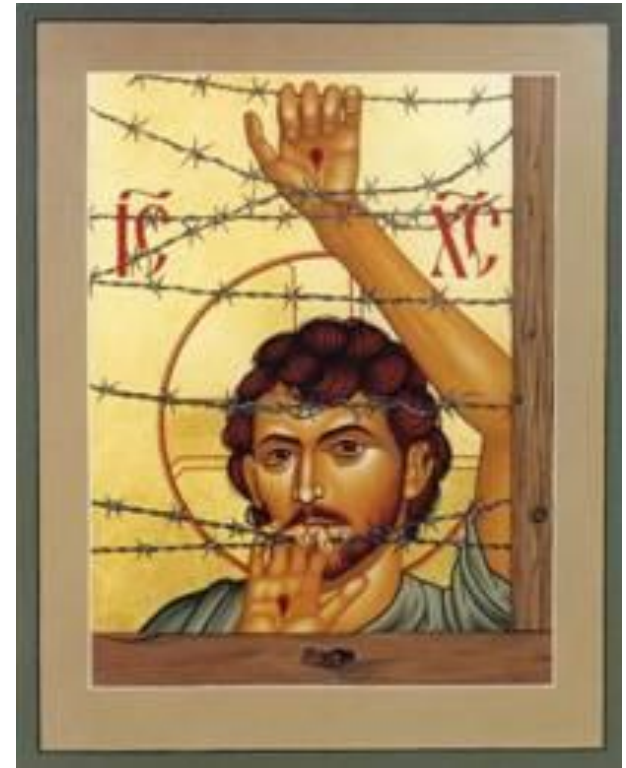
“Jesus has a very special love for you. As for me, the silence and the emptiness is so great that I look and do not see, listen and do not hear.”



Faith & Doubt

“Jesus has a very special love for you. As for me, the silence and the emptiness is so great that I look and do not see, listen and do not hear.”

“I have no Faith - I dare not utter the words & thoughts that crowd in my heart & make me suffer untold agony.”

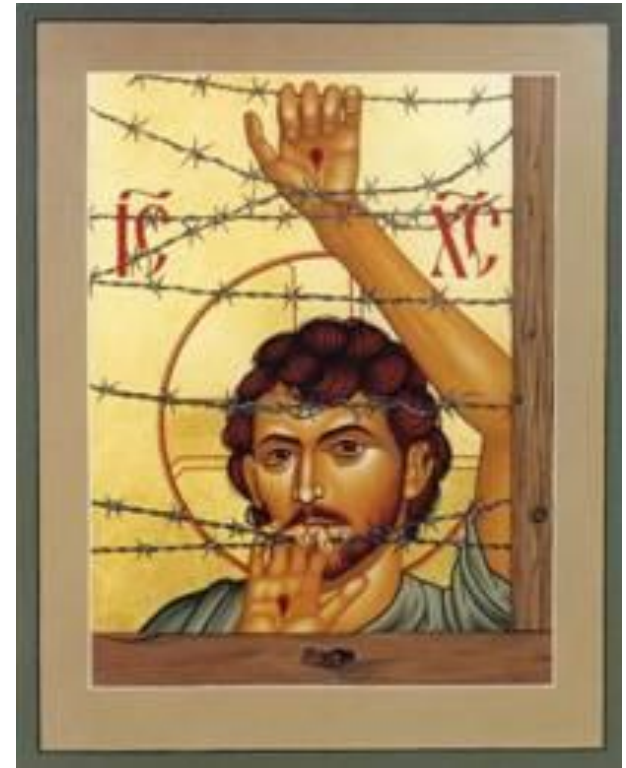


Faith & Doubt

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"Such deep longing for God and ... repulsed empty no faith no love no zeal. ... Heaven means nothing pray for me please that I keep smiling at Him in spite of everything.”



Question of Faith: Mother Teresa

Jesus has a very special love for you. As for me, the silence and the emptiness is so great that I look and do not see, listen and do not hear.

"I have no Faith - I dare not utter the words & thoughts that crowd in my heart - & make me suffer untold agony."

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Doubt isn't the opposite of faith; it is an element of faith. -Paul Tillich

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith



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What Does *Non-Negotiable* Mean?

1. A term relating to the price of a good or security which is firmly established and cannot be adjusted.
2. A term relating to a good or security whose ownership is not easily transferable from one party to another.

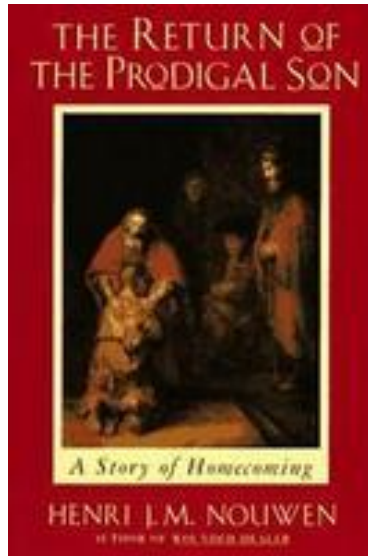
4 Non-Negotiables of Faith



**#1: Christ's teachings:
*You are the Beloved Child
of a Loving God***

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith

#1: Christ's teachings: *You are the Beloved Child of a Loving God*



Luke 15:11-32:
The Parable of the Lost Son
The Parable of the Resentful Brother
The Parable of the Loving Father

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith



**#2: Christ's Teachings:
*Love of: God/Self/Neighbour/Enemy***

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith

#2: Christ's Teachings: *Love of: God/Self/Neighbour/Enemy*



Matthew 22:34-40

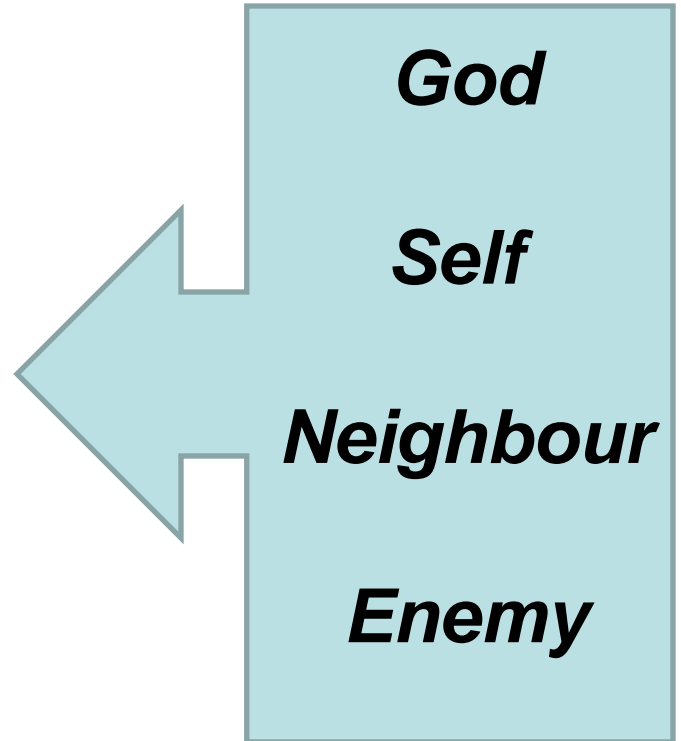
The Great Commandment

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith

Love as Defined by St. Paul

Love is patient, *Love* is kind.
It does not envy, it does not boast,
it is not proud. It is not rude,
it is not self-seeking, it is not easily
angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil but rejoices
with the truth. It always protects. It
always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.
Love never fails...



4 Non-Negotiables of Faith



#3: Christ's Teachings on *Forgiveness*

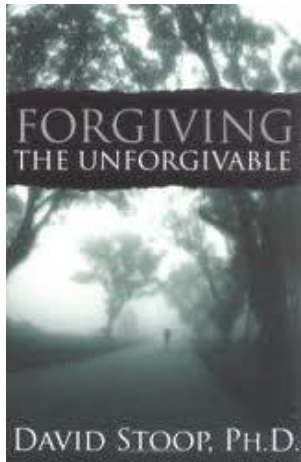
4 Non-Negotiables of Faith

#3: Christ's Teachings on *Forgiveness*



Matthew 6:5-15 Forgiveness

“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites...But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father...forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”



Possible Paths

- Offence Occurs.
- We experience hurt.
- We tell & Retell the event
- We make a choice***



Path of Denial

- We deny or blame self
- We shut down emotionally.
- We make a Choice.***
- We become depressed

Path of Bitterness

- We accuse & excuse
- We obsess about events
- We seek payment or revenge
- We isolate & withdraw
- We become Bitter

Path of Forgiveness

- We Place Blame appropriately
- We Grieve
- We Forgive.
- We ***consider*** reconciling
- We learn to Trust Again

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith



#4: Christ's Teachings on *Inclusive vs. Exclusive Community*

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith

#4: Christ's Teachings on *Inclusive vs. Exclusive Community*



Matthew 25:34-40

The Great Commandment

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry/thirsty/a stranger/ sick/ in prison?’

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

4 Non-Negotiables of Faith



4 Non-Negotiables of Faith



Living one of the Non-Negotiables

Reflection question:

➤ *Do you believe there are * (asterisks) in the Gospel?*



A Matter of Faith?- It's in the Gospel

*There are No * in the New Testament*

Mark 1: A Man with Leprosy

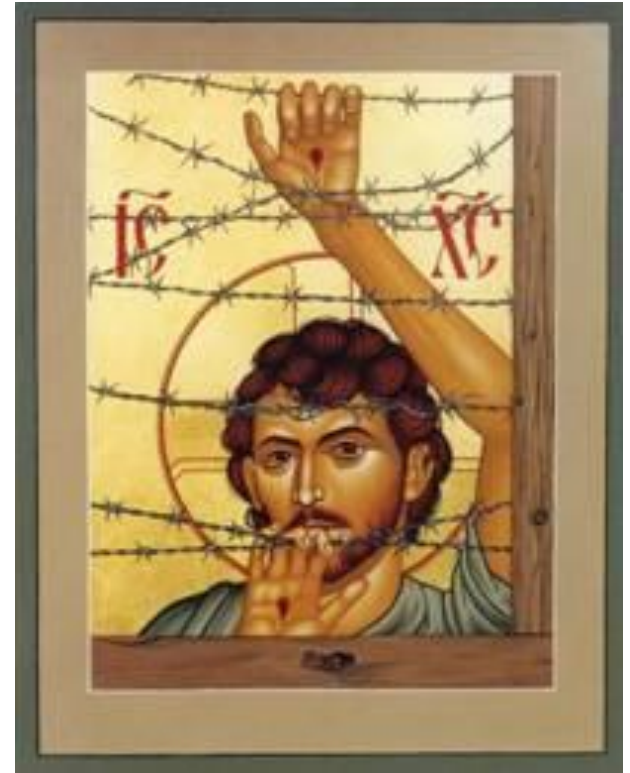
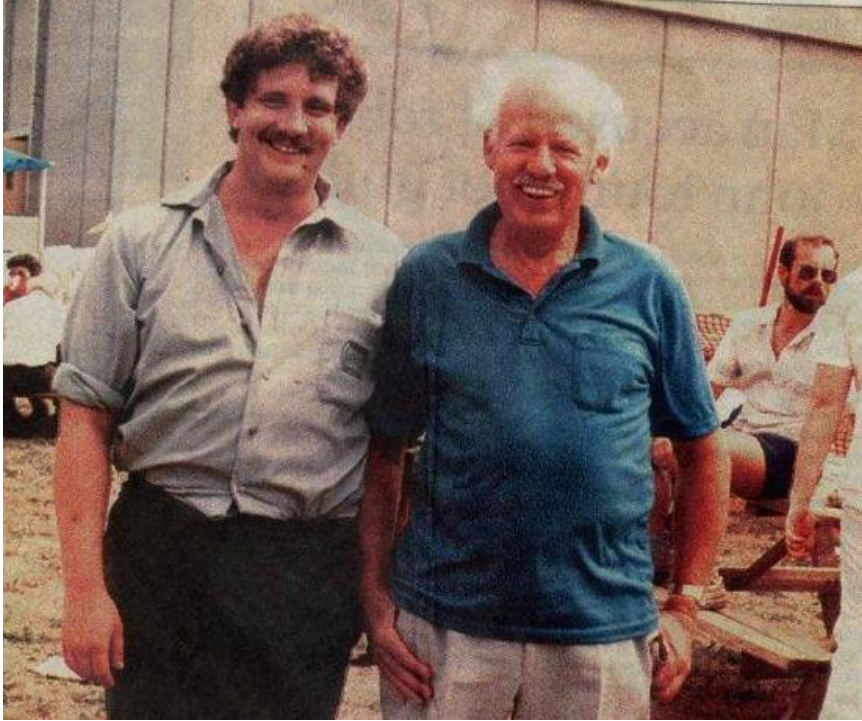
A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean."

Filled with compassion, *Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man.* "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!"

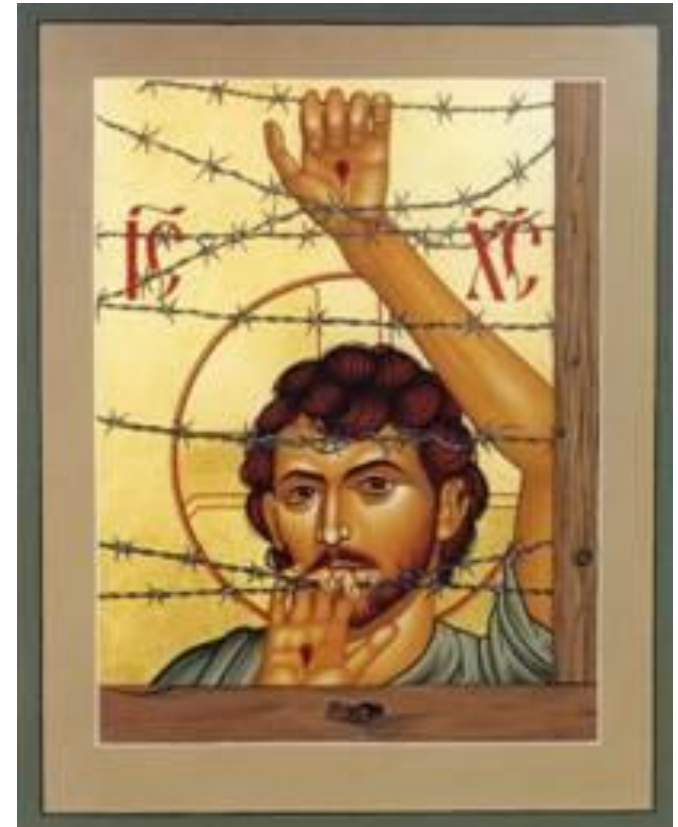
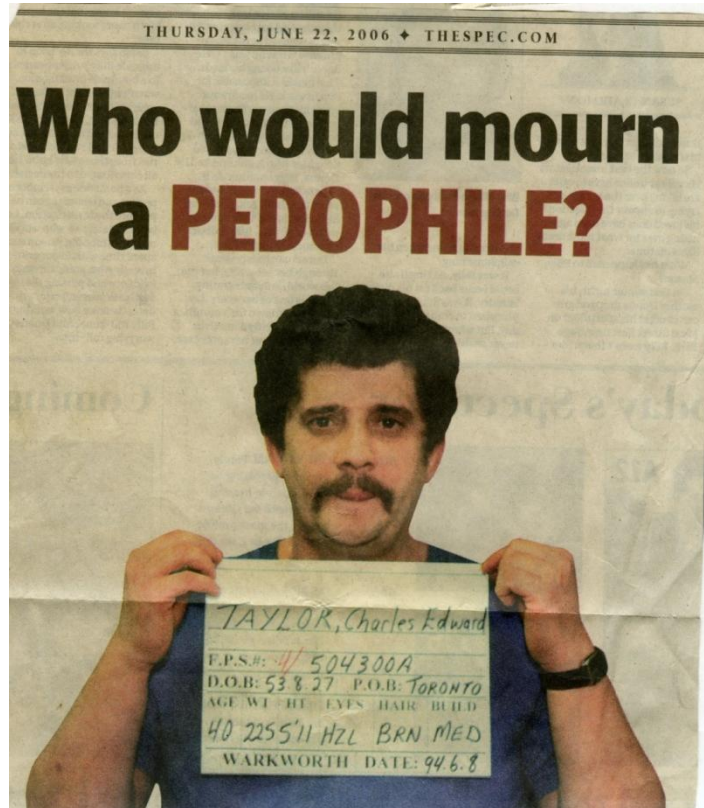
Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.



Charlie's Story



Ministry to a Monster: "Don't run it is Christ"



Would this modern day “leper” be welcome at your Parish?

From: Harry XXXXXXXXXXXX
Sent: April 27, 2007 11:16 AM
To: Bert XXXXXXXX
Subject: Some help?

Good morning Bert,

I met this morning with a man on day parole referred by his Parole Office, XXXXXXXX. He's 5X years old and a **devout catholic**. He has a record of offending against pre-teen boys, the last offense occurring in 1990. When he returned to his parish which his mother has attended for 40 years, he disclosed his offending history to the priest. **The priest contacted XXXXXXXX and indicated that the offender was not welcome any longer to attend services in part because the congregation has an unusually high number of children.**

I was wondering if you would have the time to meet with him and me to discuss the situation and perhaps even accompany him as an Emmaus Partner? Another option would be to assign one of the deacons as a partner, but I thought, if you had the time, he would really benefit from having your perspective.

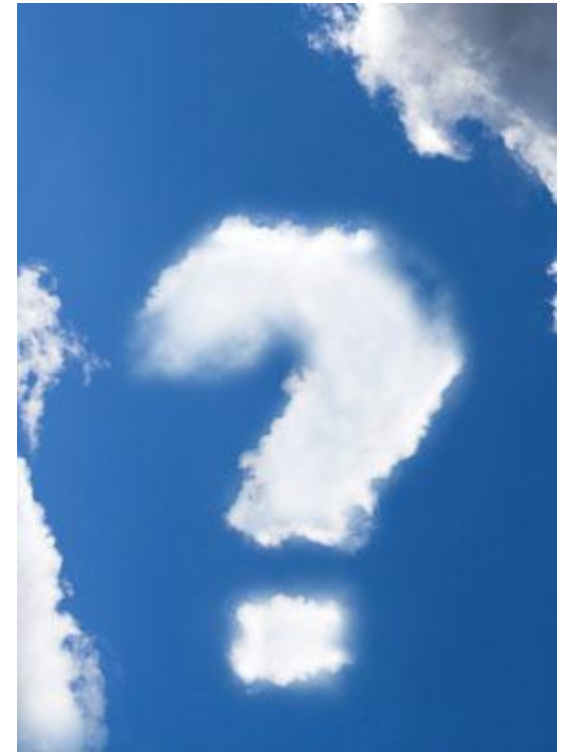
If worse comes to worst, we could always take him to the Mennonite church!

Blessings,
Harry

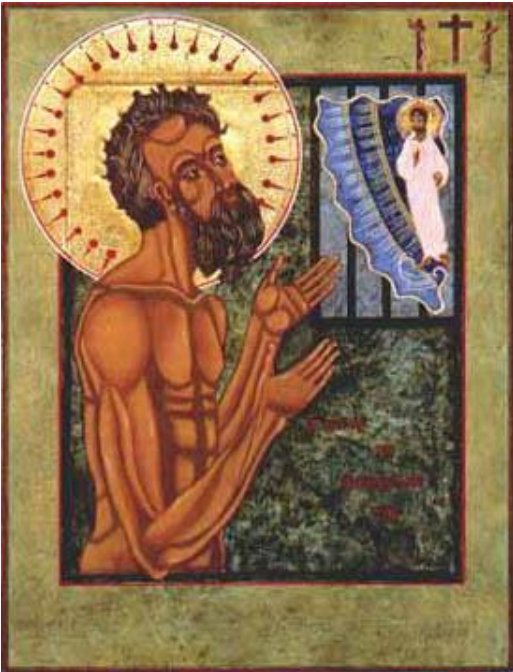
Living one of the Non-Negotiables

Reflection questions:

***What would I be willing to do in this situation
if it was my parish?***



Closing Prayer



Dear God ,
In your mercy remember me and forgive me for the
wrongs I've done
Set me free of my deep fears and my resentments
Melt the hard places of my heart, and
Allow me the grace to
Surrender this day to your loving care.

***“Jesus, remember me when you come into your
Kingdom”***

Faith Day October 2011: Handout

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