RENEWAL MINISTRIES

Proclaiming Jesus through Catholic Renewal and Evangelization **August 2016**



A letter > from Ralph Martin



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Fulfillment of All Desire 10th Anniversary Page 3

What's Up With Them? 4 Tips for Engaging Millennials by Pete Burak Page 4

> Mission to Ethiopia Page 6

> > On the Road Page 8

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm greetings in the Lord! It continues to be a blessed time for Renewal Ministries, even as the challenges mount in the world.

I recently returned from Ottawa, where Fr. Scott McCaig, the general moderator of the Companions of the Cross, was ordained as a bishop for the Military Ordinariate of Canada. As many of you know, Bishop Scott is on Renewal Ministries's Canadian Board of Directors, and for years now, he has participated in a significant way in our mission work, particularly in Africa. It was such a joy to hear of his appointment and to be able to attend his ordination and the events accompanying it.

From left to right: Fr. James Mallon (Renewal Ministries' Canadian board member), Ralph Martin, Peter Herbeck, Bishop Scott McCaig, Sr. Ann Shields, and Msgr. Greg Smith (chairman of our Canadian board)



The events began with a dinner for family and friends of Bishop Scott, including all the members of the Companions, who with seminarians and sisters, now number about sixty. One special moment during the dinner was when Bishop Scott specially honored Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw for their inspiration in his life. Bishop Scott and the Greenhaws have been on many mission trips together. Lloyd and Nancy, as many of you know, are some of our busiest missionaries. They arrived in Ottawa directly from Uganda, where they had just led hundreds of seminarians into a deeper relationship with the Lord and the Holy Spirit, thanks to Renewal Ministries' supporters.

The next evening was the ordination itself—at the Archdiocese of Ottawa's beautiful cathedral—presided over by Archbishop Terry Prendergast, and assisted by the outgoing bishop for the military ordinariate and Bishop Christian Reisbeck, another member of the Companions, who was made an auxiliary bishop for the archdiocese a few years ago. The papal nuncio to Canada was also there. A highpoint for us was when they held the book of the Gospels over Bishop Scott's head and slathered his head with the anointing chrism! The ceremony was beautiful and very moving. Another highpoint was when the archbishop took Bishop Scott by the arm and led him all around the cathedral to prolonged cheers of the congregation. Sr. Emmanuel of Medjugorje recently made a short visit to see Ralph and Anne Martin. She is the founder of Children of Medjugorje, a lay missionary organization dedicated to delivering five simple messages:

Fasting, Praying the Rosary, Scripture Reading, Holy Mass, and Confession.

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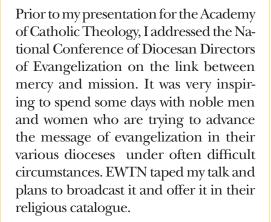
The next morning, Bishop Scott took possession of his home base "cathedral" actually the armed forces chapel on an Ottawa military base.

Both in his remarks at the end of the ordination the night before and in his homily the next morning, Bishop Scott made it clear that he was going to preach the Gospel just as boldly as a bishop as he had when he was a priest on mission with us. After his ordination, he proclaimed in his remarks: "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his soul!"

This was a joyous occassion! Thank You, Lord, for Bishop Scott. Please protect him, continue to empower him, and give him the wisdom and courage to continue to advance Your kingdom!

Just the week before Bishop Scott's ordination, I had the privilege of being asked to present an academic paper, entitled *Sacramental Fruitfulness and the Power of Pentecost*, at a meeting of the Academy of Catholic Theology. I must admit that a few years ago, I never thought I'd be doing things like this; however, it was a great opportunity to describe the grave challenges facing us today and the need for the power of Pentecost to assist us. The paper I presented currently is available in the "Free Truth" section of our website, under the Article Index.

Academy of Catholic Theology Seal O



We are now regularly posting on Facebook and on our blog, which can be found at www.RenewalMinistries.net. Hopefully, these resources will help refresh, encourage, and strengthen you in your walk with the Lord.

We continue to be humbled and inspired by letters we receive about how our work together touches many lives. Below are some examples of notes we have recently received.

▶ "Thank you for offering the new edition of the book *As By A New Pentecost.* I read the original after one of my children died. I woke in the middle of the night speaking in tongues. It was such a healing for me and a quiet walk with the Lord ever since. I now have two beautiful grown children (who practice their faith). I have been blessed by Patti Mansfield, Ralph Martin on EWTN, and Renewal Ministries." —Jacksonville, FL

• "*The Choices We Face* is spectacular! I wish this was replayed all over the regular channels, because it is so very true. I want to thank Ralph and Peter." —Parma Heights, OH • "Sr. Ann, your article *Never Lose Heart* has affected me in profound ways. Thank you so much for sharing your wisdom on relating to God!"

• "There are no words to tell you how much I love *Food for the Journey*. What an uplifting experience to have each day. We need this each and every day, as the world has turned upside down. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!"

• "Thank you for your wonderful work and example. You inspire me to live a better life for our Lord." —Levering, MI

• "Your 'mission people' are amazing!! Your newsletters are powerful. Thanks so much!" —Port Washington, NY

• "Thank you for the booklet *The Final Confrontation*. I loved it! It was a kind of 'tough love.' It is very welcome to hear 'the full counsel of God,' not just what itching ears want to hear. You told the good, the bad, and the ugly. It was a very bitter pill to swallow, but I appreciated it very much." —Columbus, NE

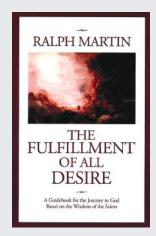
• "Thank you for your prophetic work. God bless you and all who recognize the signs of the times." —London, Ontario, Canada

Thank God and thank you. Come Lord Jesus, come!

Your fellow servant,

Rolph Martin

Ralph Martin



CELEBRATING

THE FULFILLMENT OF ALL DESIRE

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Ralph Martin's book *The Fulfillment of All Desire*, which presents an in-depth study of the journey to God from the teaching of seven doctors of the Church. At the heart of the book is the message that,

"We're all in desperate need of God, of His forgiveness, of His love, of His Holy Spirit, and all of us need to abandon our pride, admit our need, and come to the foot of the Cross to receive mercy and forgiveness. And we need to stay there." (229)

The Fulfillment of All Desire has profoundly impacted many people. In fact, on Amazon.com it has 134 reviews and a nearly perfect rating. The book also is used in more than twenty-four seminaries, novitiates, and universities. Ralph noted that "one of the first reviewers of the book, the president of the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, predicted that the book would become a 'classic' and become the standard spirituality text in seminaries and universities."

Ralph described the process of writing the book as "a labor of love—lots of labor and lots of love." He said, "it overall took about ten years to write the book, from when I was first strongly awakened by the grace of God to the depths of wisdom in John of the Cross' *Spiritual Canticle*, to when I finished writing the book."

Ralph wanted to share the saints' teachings in a manner that was accessible to many people:

•• The depth and practicality of their wisdom meant a great deal to me and still does. I very much wanted to help those who have been attracted to this wisdom over the years gain access to it in a more comprehensible form. I am profoundly grateful to God for helping me do this in a way that has benefitted so many people from so many walks of life and levels of education. The response that most moved me came from a man with only an eighth grade education who found the book immensely helpful. Thanks be to God!

Ralph noted, "I am grateful God has used this book to help so many souls progress on the spiritual journey." +

• It contains depth, yet is understandable.

"You broke down the writings of these great saints without watering them down."

"The strength of this work is its accessible language; it is well written and opens up topics and authors that are not always approachable."

"It's amazing how clearly Mr. Martin plumbs the spiritual depths of the likes of St. John of the Cross, St. Augustine, and St. Teresa of Avila, among others, in such a way as to make their writings both compelling and comforting at the same time."

• It's a book you will always want close at hand.

"This is a book to keep at your place of prayer for years to come."—Fr. Benedict Groeschel

"It is a keeper' to be read again and again. To ignore this book is to do yourself a great injustice. It is simply wonderful beyond words."

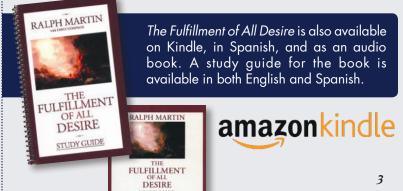
"If you are serious in your spiritual journey, you will keep this around, and read this one again and again. Its permanent home is on the table near where I pray, underneath my Bible. It gives the thoughts and practices of some of the most holy saints and allows one to feel he/ she too can travel in their paths to a richer and more joyfilled relation with God."

• It's like a spiritual director.

"It is not easy to find spiritual direction today. Most of us will have to make do with books. Dr. Martin has written a modern classic. This is a true gem that takes you gently by the hand and leads you along the way of the saints."

"This is a 'must-have' for spiritual direction."

If you would like to order a copy of The Fulfillment of All Desire, check out the enclosed reply card or visit our website, www.RenewalMinistries.net





This article was taken from a presentation Pete Burak recently gave to the Cincinnati chapter of Legatus.

Much ink has been spilled analyzing, bemoaning, threatening, and critiquing the Millennial generation. With an age range of roughly eighteen to thirty-five, these young adults have emerged into the world of adulthood with unforeseen and unique challenges and opportunities. We've exploded on the work and cultural scene, and everyone—including the Catholic Church—is grappling with this new reality.



We are selfish, materialistic, addicted to technology, lazy, questioning everything, allergic to commitment, entitled, subjective, over-stimulated, under-motivated, inclusive, cynical, and overly accepting. We are also more religiously detached than any generation in history. Less than ten percent of self-professed Millennial Catholics attend Mass on a weekly basis. Only forty percent think a relationship with God is possible, and only thirty-one percent of those people go to Mass regularly. We are the product of what Pope Benedict XVI called a "crisis of discipleship" in the Church today.

WE ARE GENERATION MAYBE, GENERATION ME, GENERATION NONE.

But the above description only tells half the story. While we certainly embody many of those characteristics, there are many more layers to understanding the hearts of Millennials. We are passionate, caring, resourceful, energetic, and creative. We long for meaning, purpose, community, authentic leadership, friendship, truth, and ultimately, love. Many of the burdens and wounds visible in my generation stem from an inaccurate and insufficient understanding of love. If only we knew the answer to our desperate pursuit for happiness was Love with a capital L. If only we knew the hunger inside us could only be satisfied by a Person. If only we knew Jesus. Not only Jesus, but also His plans for our lives, His freedom, His peace, His Spirit, and the power of living in a community devoted to growing as His disciples.

All of this was driven home for me the other day on my flight to Cincinnati. As I settled into my seat, I struck up a conversation with a young adult woman across the aisle. The initial pleasantries shifted to more serious topics later in the flight. I was on my way to Cincinnati for a talk on Millennials, so I felt like the Lord had orchestrated the perfect situation for some "market research." The gentle question, "What do you think about Pope Francis?" led to,

66 What is your source of truth? **99**

Her initial surprise and confusion at the question changed to a very Millennial response; her source of truth is her parents, her friends, and her experience.

I asked her if she grew up with any religious background and—I'm sure you've guessed it—she was baptized Catholic. As we continued to talk and I continued to ask questions, it became abundantly clear that her story mirrors many of her contemporaries. She was raised in a home in which her family only occasionally went to church; once her parents divorced, the only faith life she experienced was attending Mass during visits with her grandparents. She had never heard of a personal, loving, life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ. She had never experienced a community dedicated to helping her grow in virtue and holiness. And finally, she had never been intentionally discipled by an older Christian man or woman. She epitomized the effects of a society reeling from a "crisis of discipleship."

While the solutions to these problems deserve more space than I have here, I'd like to offer four tips for engaging, loving, and supporting these crazy Millennials 😔

Pray, pray, pray, pray...

Profound right? While basic in concept, intentional prayer cannot be underestimated or undervalued. Jesus repeatedly took time for prayer throughout the New Testament, and often His prayer centered on His disciples (Jn 17:6-26). Time with the Lord transforms our hearts and allows us to love in a new and more powerful way. It's an avenue to growth in holiness, which must happen so that we can shine more brightly in the darkening world. Additionally, God is a God of details, so we should boldly come before His throne with very specific requests for our Millennial children and grandchildren. Praying, "Please, Lord, bless my son," is great, but "Lord, please bring some solid Christian friends into Jimmy's life and help him win favor with them," could be even more effective.

2 Ask Questions

Nearly everyone likes to talk about themselves, and the person who does the majority of the talking in a conversation is usually the one who feels the most positive about the exchange. Jesus was the master of the pointed-but-genuine question. He asks 307 questions in the Gospels! In our conversations with Millennials, asking thoughtful and authentic questions lays the groundwork for respect and mutual appreciation. By asking questions, we show our care for the other person and a humble spirit seeking to understand. No matter how bizarre the answer, often our response should include another question: "Wow, I've never heard that before, could you explain what you mean?" This conversational strategy, potentially employed over multiple conversations, can lead to the tables being turned and to the young adult asking questions of you. "OK, I've talked too much—what do you think?" That's when you ask one final question: "Do you really want to know?" When they say yes, they've given you permission to lovingly present the truth.

3 Dive in

My favorite definition of courage is the willingness to sustain a wound. Most of us have been wounded by a Millennial. Whether through cutting words, thoughtless actions, or poor decisions, these young adults we love so much can cause us enormous pain. Are you ready to persevere in these relationships even when it hurts? Young adults need people who won't give up on them—people who are all in, through thick and thin. Consider this quote from Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium*, "An evangelizing community gets involved by word and deed in people's daily lives; it bridges distances, it is willing to abase itself if necessary, and it embraces human life, touching the suffering flesh of Christ in others" (24).

What a beautiful image for evangelizing young adults—reaching out to lovingly and openly expose yourself to their suffering. Instead of leprosy, we touch loneliness, sexual abuse, substance abuse, broken homes, depression, and much more. That's what I mean by "dive in"—leaning into the criticism and the scorn, because their souls are worth it.

4 Follow the Spirit

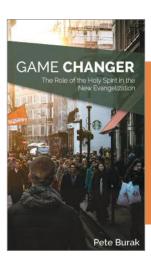
Just as the anointing of Pentecost launched the first evangelization, each disciple of Christ needs a new Pentecost to empower their own participation in the new evangelization. A group of relatively uneducated, scared, confused, and normal men and women exploded out of the upper room and forever changed the world through their preaching, example, questions, and investment in peoples' lives. None of this would have happened without the coming of the Holy Spirit. From Pope Paul VI,

Evangelization will never be possible without the action of the Holy Spirit . . . It is the Holy Spirit who, today just as the beginning of the Church, acts in every evangelizer who allows himself to be possessed and led by Him. The Holy Spirit places on his lips the words which he could not find by himself, and at the same time the Holy Spirit predisposes the soul of the hearer to be open and receptive to the Good News and to the kingdom being proclaimed. (*Evangelii Nuntiandi 75*)

The Holy Spirit stacks the deck. He tells us when, what, and how to say something; He also readies the heart of the listener. Our job involves being open to the movement of the Spirit and embracing the grace-filled courage He provides to actually open our mouths and witness to the Truth. As St. Paul said, let's pray constantly in the Spirit so we can be empowered, emboldened, and filled with the wisdom to reach Millennials and help bring them back into the life-giving relationship with Christ in His Church.

It dawned on me the other day that Jesus was a young adult. Therefore, it's likely that at the time of the apostles' calling, they were in the age-range of today's Millennials. We should learn from how Christ engaged His disciples and brought them back after they scattered. He prayed for them, asked them questions, invested deeply in them, and ultimately filled them with His Spirit. The challenge is great, but let's go after these crazy Millennials and watch the Lord do something mighty. +

In addition to directing i.d.9:16, Renewal Ministries' young adult outreach, Pete Burak is a frequent speaker on discipleship, evangelization, and young adults topics. If you are interested in having Pete share with your group or organization, please contact him at pete@id916.com.



JUST RELEASED!

Renewal Ministries' newest booklet, by i.d.9:16 Director Pete Burak, explains how our greatest tool in the New Evangelization is letting the Holy Spirit direct our efforts.



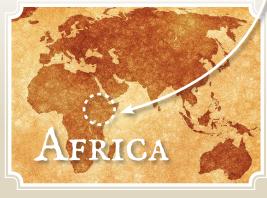
Nancy Greenhaw COUNTRY COORDINATOR for Ethiopia

Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw minister in the United States Haiti, Papua New Guinea, countries in Africa. They conduct missions, conferences and retreats for adults and youth. They are also involved with the homeless.



In Ethiopia, less than one percent of the population is Catholic. This gave our teaching an increased importance, as some in attendance were trying to decide whether they wanted to persevere in their faith amid the persecution that results from such an environment.

Catholics in the Bahir Dar Diocese have been in the same chapel for thirty years. In those same years, the number of mosques has increased from one to forty-two! The diocese is about 350 miles long. Since Bishop Lisane-Christos Matheos Semahun has only one diocesan priest (although there are other priests in various orders), each week he travels roughly 700 miles round-trip to bring Mass to his small flock. With such small numbers, the bishop said his real hope for the future lies with the university students.



We spent our first two days with priests, sisters, and a catechist who kept the Catholic faith alive for eight years in a very remote region with his preaching, teaching, the Bible, and the rosary. There were no sacraments, no priests, and no communication with the outside world. When priests arrived in 2000, they had to perform many marriages and thousands of baptisms and confirmations. Also, there were no roads or buildings, and malaria was rampant.

Women here, like in many countries we visit, are oppressed and marginalized. They do everything, while the husband does virtually nothing. When a young man wants to marry, the "Bride Price" is that his family has to give the bride's family a sister of his as a virtual slave. The saying is, "I marry the one I love, she (my sister) marries the one she doesn't love."

> The bishop asked us to talk on the Jubilee of Mercy, Catholic apologetics, and the Five Keys. He told us many were discouraged by the daily struggles and persecution from many fronts.

> > Lloyd explained the implications of the word "Extraordinary" and the Old Testament meaning of a Jubilee. He told them that during the Jubilee, all debts were forgiven, family homesteads were restored, and all slaves were freed. He told them we all owed a debt that we could never pay and that our Holy Father Francis was giving us a way out of that debt. He shared the story of a Syrian general who went to the prophet Elisha to cure his leprosy, and how the prophet told his servant to instruct the general to jump into the ordan River seven times in order to be healed.



The general left angry, but was persuaded to at least try going in the river. When he finally did, he was fully healed (see 2 Kgs 5:1-14). Lloyd used this story to explain that the requirements for a plenary indulgence don't have to be complicated in order to work. He said we must not let this visitation from the Lord pass us by. Jesus wept because the people of His time refused to recognize the time of their visitation (Lk 19:41-44), so Lloyd urged them,

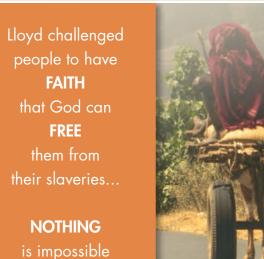
66 Don't make Jesus cry! 99

He shared what we consider to be a family miracle that occurred immediately after the declaration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Our two daughters married fine young men. At first, they were great friends, but as in many families, something caused them to become enemies. This caused real heartache for us, as it put a strain on all our family get-togethers.

Therefore, imagine our surprise when we received an email from one of our daughters (after Pope Francis declared the Jubilee), saying that one son-in-law had called the other, to ask for forgiveness for his bad behavior, and to say that he wanted to get our families close once again! The restoration of families is real!

Lloyd then shared that we have grandchildren who are slaves to drugs and alcohol who we believe God will free during the Jubilee. He challenged people to have faith that God can free them from their slaveries too, whether they be fear, gossip, loneliness, sexual impurity, or substances. Nothing is impossible for God!

When we later spoke about the Five Keys to Freedom, we were surprised by how excited and animated the participants got. Our words obviously hit home. I was only planning to give an overview, but it became obvious that they wanted more, so that is what we did. I taught all day Thursday and was back for more Friday. They all wanted my notes. The attendees said they had conversion experiences, the talks changed their lives, and they rediscovered a child-like joy.



FOR GOD!

Bishop Lisane-Christos Matheos Semahun veekly to bring Mass to his small flock

ed with a catechist who kept the for eight years in a very emote region of Ethiopia

University students came from up to 550 miles away for Lloyd and Nancy's presentation. The bishop said these students are his hope for the future of the Catholic Church in Ethiopia.

The next day, we began the program with university students and young adults from different dioceses. We had 170 participants from eight different locations. The bishop had convinced these youth to come from up to 550 miles away. He told them this program would strengthen and renew their Catholic faith and help them face challenges from those who oppose the Catholic faith. Some of the students knew us from last year and had come back with friends.

We then traveled to Addis Ababa. On the way, we saw absolutely stunning countryside. Every available plot of land is being used, even the ones on the sides of hills that are filled with rocks. It is a real clash of cultures to see the people plowing with horses and a wooden plow while they hold cell phones.

In Addis Ababa, we taught religious, postulants, aspirants, lay leaders, university students, and Charismatics. With the Charismatics, we asked the Lord for new gifts of tongues, healing, prophesy, faith, and more. It seemed that most people in the room got tongues for the first time! As we prayed for healing individually by laying on hands, several people received a major deliverance and one man walked out without his cane! Many testified that the Lord had healed them. It was a very powerful day! +

On the Road

August 2016 ENGAGEMENTS

Kansas City, KS Fraternity of Priests' Retreat* July 31-Aug. 4 Peter Herbeck

Ann Arbor, MI i.d.9:16 Disciples' Night Aug. 4 Luigj Perkaj Contact julianna@id916.com

Conception, MO Deacons' Retreat* *Aug. 5-7* Ralph Martin

Grass Lake, MI Pine Hills Girls' Camp Aug. 7-13 Debbie Herbeck and Team www.pinehillsgirlscamp.com

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* Not open to the public For a complete listing, visit: RenewalMinistries.net/Events

66 That which is truly great grows unnoticed, and silence at the right moment is more fruitful than constant activity. In this age we are all possessed of a strange restlessness that suspects any silence as a waste of time. We forget the real mystery of time. A mystery that involves growth from silence and stillness before God. In this sphere silence and receptivity are at least as important as activity. 99

• Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

RENEWAL MINISTRIES

Episcopal Advisor In the United States Renewal Ministries is a Catholic ministry committed to renewal and evangelization in Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, St. Louis, MO the Church. It seeks to proclaim Jesus Christ through its TV and radio outreaches, as Chairman of the Board well as through books, conferences, retreats, and other international evangelistic events. Deacon Dan Foley President CONNECT ↔ WITH US... **Ralph Martin** Facebook—Like us! Visit our website—For email, blog, podcasts, resources, & more! Go to: facebook.com/ In Canada **Episcopal Advisor CatholicRenewalMinistries** www.renewalministries.net Cardinal Thomas Collins, Toronto, ON Chairman of the Board Editor Design Monsignor Gregory Smith, Vancouver, BC Heather Schultz **Emily Bachelor** © 2016 by Renewal Ministries

Toledo, OH Ignite Family Festival *Aug. 13* Peter Herbeck www.MassImpact.us

Township of Washington, NJ Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference *Aug. 19-20* Ralph Martin www.njccrc.org

Lexington, KY Legatus* Aug. 25 Debbie Herbeck

Lexington, KY Community Way Bible Study Leaders' Retreat* Aug. 26-28 Debbie Herbeck

MISSIONS

Turkmenistan August Dr. Bohus Zivcak

Tanzania *Aug. 8-24* Tom Edwards

Slovenia Aug. 17-29 Don Turbitt



For more information about missions, contact Kathleen at 734-662-1730 ext. 132 or kkittle@renewalministries.net

Please Pray...

- Grow the set of the se
- Stor all family relationships in need of healing. We pray that our Blessed Mother will help undo these knots and that the Lord will extend His grace and mercy to soften the hearts of those struggling to offer forgiveness.

Section For the prayer intentions of all our supporters and their families, especially as they face the challenges of illness and economic uncertainty.

www.renewalministries.net

8