

A LETTER
FROM RALPH MARTIN



Introducing
A NEW WAY TO SUPPORT
RENEWAL MINISTRIES



Dear Fellow Disciples,

I want to tell you about a special new opportunity to be even more closely connected with Renewal Ministries. We are very grateful for all the ways many of our readers currently support us through occasional or regular giving. Now, we are launching Renewal Ministries Partners for committed monthly online gifts.

I am excited to announce the launch of Renewal Ministries Partners for many reasons:

1. Recurring digital donations are significantly easier for us to process, document, and track. I believe shifting to Renewal Ministries Partners is a key to faithfully stewarding our supporter's gifts.
2. It provides us with a simple way to connect more personally with regular supporters through special gifts like Zoom calls with Peter, myself, or others on our team. While filming the current season of *The Choices We Face*, we also recorded segments specifically for Renewal Ministries Partners, called *One More Question*.

In these brief videos, you will see conversations with many of our inspiring guests that won't be available elsewhere.

3. As our social media outreach grows—like our YouTube Channel, which has over 70,000 subscribers and millions of views—this gives these new friends a chance to “give where they are.”

This change doesn't affect current supporters in any significant way. We are tremendously grateful for your generosity and welcome you to continue giving exactly as you have been if that best suits your needs. However, if you want to receive the special gifts I mentioned while maintaining your current method of regular giving, we will need your email address on file. If you don't think we have it, please call us at (734) 662-1730 or email us at partners@renewalministries.net with both your email address and home address (to help us identify you in our database).

And if you want to sign up for Renewal Ministries Partners, thank you! The process is simple. You can visit our website by scanning the QR code on this page or by going to www.renewalministries.net/partners. You also can fill out the form on the reply card enclosed with this newsletter, although signing up online is preferred. If you need help with this process, please call our office at (734) 662-1730.

No matter how you choose to give, our mission remains the same. We foster renewal in the Catholic Church by helping people grow in holiness and equipping them for evangelization and ministry with the power of the Holy Spirit. We strive to reflect Jesus and his word of authority, compassion, urgency, and love. And we endeavor to respond to his call with humility, faithfulness, obedience, and courage.

We couldn't serve as many as forty countries a year without you! We couldn't reach thousands of priests without you! We couldn't give hope and understanding to so many confused by the culture and distressing Church happenings today without you! Speaking engagements, young adult outreach, youth ministry, books, TV, radio, our monthly newsletter, and now, podcasts and YouTube—none of it would be possible without you!

The Lord continues to call us to tirelessly share the Good News of the Gospel to anyone who will listen, and we are excited to continue this mission aided by your help!

Your brother in Christ,

Ralph

P.S. I am daily inspired by the comments we receive from people whose lives are touched by Renewal Ministries' global outreach. On the next two pages, we've shared a glimpse into the diverse ways your support helps people discover the Gospel, meet the person of Christ, and persevere in faith. I pray their words encourage you as well!

SCAN TO
DONATE



or visit our website:
www.renewalministries.net/partners

THE IMPACT *of* YOUR SUPPORT

We regularly receive letters and comments from people whose lives are significantly blessed by your generous support, which makes all of this possible . . .



PODCAST/YOUTUBE/RADIO

The Choices We Face

"Yesterday I came home from work bone weary (brain weary, too). As I changed into yard work clothes, I had to decide what to do with my mind as I mowed and edged the lawn. Music? Audiobook? 'Ah, I've got it! *The Choices We Face* podcast. That always restores my faculties.' Sure enough, by the time I was done with yard work, I felt recharged. Renewal Ministries had done it again."

...

"We really appreciate the hope and encouragement *The Choices We Face* brings and the many books that you've written. You help us stay positive and inform us about the reality of these troubling times while helping us remain hopeful and reading Scripture, praying and visiting our Lord often, and embracing the blessing and privilege of the Eucharist."

"My kids were fighting on the way to school so we listened to your podcast and made them memorize the steps for asking for forgiveness. Thank You!"



id PODCAST

Spirit-Filled Leadership Podcast

"Truly enjoy the newsletter. Thankful for your loyalty to the truth and the Catholic faith."

// Harrisburg, PA

Thank you for continuing to show the joy of living in Christ on your faces, even as you speak unflinchingly of the Church in crisis in all its many aspects. And thank you for laying the solid foundations of hope in Christ in your work with priests and lay people around the world."

// Princeton Junction, NJ

"I'm not Catholic, but I find great solace and inspiration from your programs."

// Sturgis, MI



BLOG & NEWSLETTER

"I just read your article *How to Evangelize Today* and was newly inspired. I'm introverted and have been struggling with how to evangelize, and your words spoke to me so well that I am recharged and inspired to go forth and 'find my twelve, (or three)' to assist me with my newfound grace from God, through your article!"

👁 READ IT:

How to Evangelize Today

<https://www.renewalministries.net/how-to-evangelize-today/>

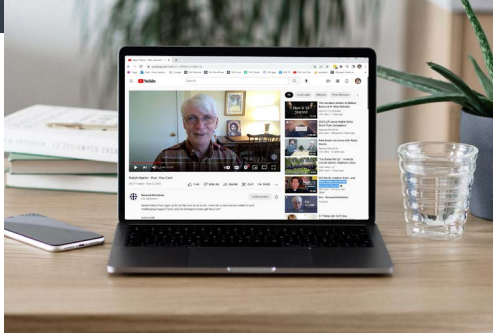


"Thank you for your blog on saying yes. I have been following Renewal Ministries ever since my husband and I became baptized in the Holy Spirit in the early '70s. You have always proclaimed the truth, so we know where to find the truth in this world that is rapidly spiraling downward. Our yes to the Lord was always a part of our daily life, and we have found peace amid chaos, love when it was difficult, and joy when there was suffering. Thank you again for your 'yes.'"

👁 READ IT:

The Power of Saying Yes

<https://www.renewalministries.net/the-power-of-saying-yes-2/>



YOUTUBE CHANNEL

[youtube.com/@renewalministries](https://www.youtube.com/@renewalministries)

"Thank you so much, Ralph. If I had to choose only ONE subscription to keep on YouTube, it would be yours. Your words are always so inspiring, challenging and comforting. And humbling. God keep on blessing you and your ministry."

...

"I am so thankful to God for Renewal Ministries. I do not know what I would do or where I'd be without these YouTube videos. You all help to calm my fears and keep my focus on Jesus."

...

"I appreciate how you talk about uncomfortable topics in the Church in a kind, loving, and true way. Your videos have inspired me!"

...

"I really appreciated your YouTube video on hate speech. You handled it very gently and yet encouraged us to be bold in standing for our faith in challenging times that may come or may already be here. I greatly appreciate this!"

WATCH IT:

Hate Speech? Time to Push Back

<https://youtu.be/GX0QOABgpcQ>

...

"I think this video is by far one of the BEST I have ever seen and one that will have a lasting effect on me. Thank you so much for your witness. It is more powerful than you can imagine."

WATCH IT:

What is Happening to Our Young People?

<https://youtu.be/3qDMIITbDd8>

Please continue to preach courageously! The world needs your bright light!

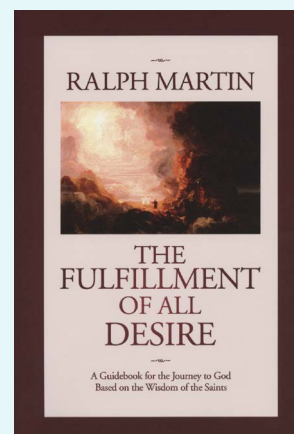
// Commerce Township, MI

"The impact of BLR (Be Love Revolution) on my life has been immeasurable. This ministry has been integral in forming my heart to desire an abundant life in Christ and to overflow with worship and love for Him."

Thank you for wielding the two-edged sword of the Lord with wisdom and love for forty-plus years.

// Clinton Corners, NY

"Thank you for all the good work that you're doing. It's wonderful to have a sane, thoughtful viewpoint on things that are going on in the culture and in the Church. We are going through challenging times, indeed. I also really appreciate your encouragement for us to put simple practices in place that will help us climb the ladder to holiness."



"When I met with my spiritual director shortly after Lent began, he asked how I planned to engage the Lenten season. One of my observances of Lent, I said, is to forgo doing a daily crossword puzzle and replace it with some spiritual reading. He asked what I was reading. I said, *The Fulfillment of All Desire*, by Ralph Martin. He laughed out loud. He said something like, "Oh you couldn't start small, you just went right to the pinnacle of all the books in spiritual reading!" That made me smile. Already the book has initiated something in me so that I feel this Lent will be the most transformative and most important Lent of my life. . . . I believe my life will never be the same in a very positive way."

...

"I would like to share the story of a priest friend. Already within his first year of priesthood he got into a severe crisis and wanted to leave the priesthood until he came across *The Fulfillment of All Desire*. He said it saved his priesthood. May God reward you!"

...

"I appreciate your wonderful book *The Fulfillment of All Desire*. I go back to it over and over. Thank you for your newsletter and all that you and your team are doing at home and abroad for all ages!"

ORDER IT:

The Fulfillment of All Desire: A Guidebook For the Journey to God Based on the Wisdom of the Saints

www.renewalministries.net/FAD

Hate Speech? Time to Push Back



BY RALPH MARTIN

This article was condensed from a YouTube video called *Hate Speech? Time to Push Back* that can be found here: bit.ly/HateSpeechRM.

What is hate speech? In the UK, a retired Army officer recently was charged with hate speech after quoting the Scripture that says homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor 6:9-10). He should have added that people who engage in homosexual activity and don't repent before they die are in danger of not inheriting the kingdom of God. He should have spoken with more nuance, but what he said is fundamentally true.

The Crown Prosecution Service defines a hate crime as

Any criminal offense which is perceived by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's disability or perceived disability; race or perceived race; or religion or perceived religion; or sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation or transgender identity or perceived transgender identity. There is no legal definition of hostility so we use the everyday understanding of the word which includes ill-will, spite, contempt, prejudice, unfriendliness, antagonism, resentment and dislike.¹

London's Metropolitan Police Service added,

Not all hate incidents will amount to criminal offenses, but it is equally important that these are reported and recorded by the police. Evidence of the hate element is not a requirement. You do not need to personally perceive the incident to be hate related. It would be

enough if another person, a witness or even a police officer thought that the incident was hate related.²

This means that whether a statement was motivated by hate is less important than the fact that someone—perhaps not even the person directly involved—perceived it as being so. This is a murky situation that can intimidate people regarding their speech. A disagreement about moral issues or someone thinking that you're being unfriendly could lead to charges of a hate crime.

In the US, people are not open to rational discussions about certain things. If you disagree with them, people perceive you as a hater. This is an impossible situation. Previously, people could disagree, argue, or appeal to evidence and reason—but now many people don't believe certain views should even be entered into dialogue with.



**BE SIMPLE
AS DOVES
& WISE AS
SERPENTS**

There is much hostility in our culture toward Christ and the Church that causes people to feel intimidated about sharing their thoughts. For thousands of years, the world's main religions held a similar view regarding human sexuality and the purpose

of marriage—a view that now is considered hate speech. What can a faithful Christian do? We need to be as simple as doves and wise as serpents.

We shouldn't stir up controversy and conflict, but we also shouldn't be cowards, fearfully agreeing with gravely immoral choices that endanger people's eternal salvation.

We must speak the truth in a humble, realistic way. I live in a very liberal city with strong social pressure against traditional views on marriage and family life. Michigan tragically voted to add an almost unlimited right to abortion to its state constitution. When I talk with various people, they presume that I am like the rest of the enlightened Ann Arbor population—supportive of abortion and the LGBTQ agenda—and I get opportunities to meekly and humbly say that I don't agree with that.

We must lend our voices and prayers to the resistance against evil. “Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (Jas 4:7). The devil is trying to block God's Word from being spoken. He is trying to frighten people into submission, cowardliness, and denial of the faith and basic truths. We must ask the Lord for boldness, courage, and wisdom. In situations with no openness at all, sometimes it's not helpful to say things that will only provoke greater hostility and hatred. **Most people, however, have never heard somebody they consider rational dissent from the prevailing deception. We should look for opportunities where it would be appropriate to speak the truth, even if we are risking social exclusion, mockery, or hostility.**

Ask the Lord to help us to do our part. Sometimes we need to push back with love, gentleness, and humility. We need to say we don't agree and then tell them why. Ask the Lord to help us, and He will.

ENDNOTES

1. “Hate crime,” CPS, <https://www.cps.gov.uk/crime-info/hate-crime>.
2. “What is hate crime?”, Metropolitan Police, <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/hco/hate-crime/what-is-hate-crime/>.

Battling Fear



BY PETER HERBECK

This article was condensed from a YouTube video called *Battling Fear* that can be found here: bit.ly/battlingfearRM.

I want to talk about some simple truths regarding how to overcome a troubled, fearful heart. If we take the Lord's words to heart, they will transform our lives and help us face all circumstances.

At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Eucharist and unfolded the truth about what was going to happen: his arrest and crucifixion; the apostles' fearful reactions; and later, the persecution and deaths of the apostles' themselves. Jesus wanted to give them the peace and strength they needed for the calling He was giving them and the opposition they were going to experience.

Imagine Jesus speaking to you. Take his words into your heart and have peace in Him. He said,

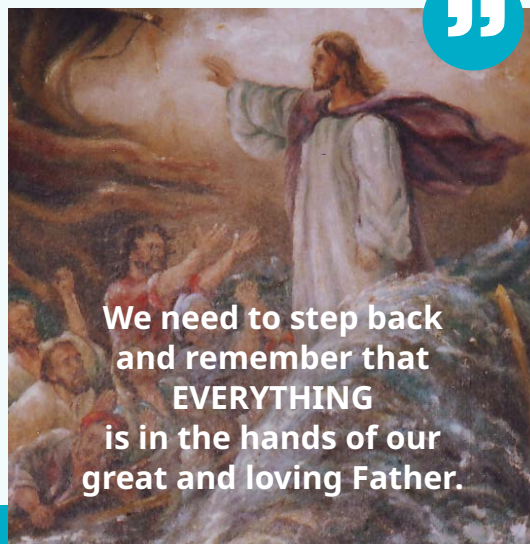
"In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."
(Jn 16:33)

The world intimidates, threatens, and abuses—but Jesus says we can have hearts filled with good cheer, courage, and confidence in God. Everyone's afraid of death, but Jesus swallowed up death in victory, and his life is in you.

Consider the story of David and Goliath. While Israel's army was troubled by the sheer size of its enemy, David considered how great, magnificent, majestic, and unstoppable God is. David said,

I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down, and cut off your head . . . that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hand.
(1 Sam 17:45-47)

David wasn't worried about the size of the enemy; his heart was filled with zeal for how great God is. We must keep this in mind, because in times like this—with wars, troubles in the Church, and division and weakness in our political situation—it's almost like David seeing Goliath. Our first response could be logical: "This is real trouble." We need to step back and remember that everything is in the hands of our great and loving Father.



We need to step back and remember that EVERYTHING is in the hands of our great and loving Father.

Let what David says in Psalm 145 be your disposition:

I will extol thee, my God and King, and bless thy name for ever and ever. Every day I will bless thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of thy majesty, and on thy wondrous works, I will meditate. Men shall proclaim the might of thy terrible acts, and I will declare thy greatness.
(Ps 145:1-6)

When you experience fear of the enemy, gaze into God's Word and creation, and the Holy Spirit will help you. Bless the Lord out loud in your home. People today speak of so much trouble, fear, and anxiety—but remember that in his wisdom, our infinitely loving Father put you on the planet for this time. He has a plan for you. If you operate out of a heart filled with the awareness of God's greatness, and you speak it out and trust in Him, He will fulfill his purposes and do something great in your life.

This doesn't mean we won't live through hardships; these promises don't say that nothing difficult will ever happen to us. The apostles remind us, however, to not be afraid of trial and suffering. Jesus Himself said,

Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, on account of the Son of man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven.
(Lk 6:22-23)

When we stand up in loving witness to the truth, God's glory comes upon us. Let's work every day in our relationships to live out of the gaze of the greatness and beauty of God.



SPREADING THE GOSPEL IN NAMIBIA & BOTSWANA



BY NANCY GREENHAW
Country Coordinator for
Namibia & Botswana

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

Nancy and Lloyd live in Texas and have two daughters, fourteen grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren.

Both Namibia and Botswana are more developed than many countries we serve in. They have great roads and strong economies. However, Covid has dealt them a blow. The people have much fear and anxiety for the future, but thankfully are turning to the Lord as the only answer. There have been few, if any, programs since Covid, and our coming was a blessing. You could see hope and excitement on the people's faces that wasn't there initially. This was a time of restoration, and we were blessed to be a part of it!

NAMIBIA

We flew from Texas to New Jersey and then made a fourteen-hour trip to Johannesburg, South Africa. The next morning, we flew to Windhoek, Namibia. While there, we had a program with Charismatic Renewal leaders, including their national coordinator. We met with them the last time we were there in 2019, and they were excited and hungry for more.

We reviewed Unbound's Five Keys:

- 1. Repentance and Faith**
- 2. Forgiveness**
- 3. Renunciation**
- 4. Taking Authority**
- 5. The Father's Blessing**

We also attended Mass together. During our sessions, everyone wrote notes and asked questions at the end.

The next morning, we flew to Ondangwa on a small airplane and then drove forty-five minutes to the small town of Oshikuku. The Benedictine Sisters of Oshikuku welcomed us like family, with joyful singing and clapping. It was beautiful. They run a school and hospital.

After breakfast, we taught a group of thirty sisters who came in and out as their duties permitted. They were hungry to learn how to evangelize in power. We started teaching the Five Keys, which is exactly what they wanted. Both days, we taught all day, and each evening ended with a Life in the Spirit session. The final evening, we

prayed for the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the Lord showed up powerfully! Most of the sisters received the gift of tongues and faith was built up!

The next day, we started with sessions for lay leaders. About one-hundred charismatic and ordinary Catholics came with expectant faith. The word had gotten around, and sisters from other religious houses came as well. They had been looking forward to this for a long time. We held two day-long and evening sessions with them. Afterward, people shared testimonies about being healed by the Word that was preached. The room in which one testimony was shared erupted in joyous song! The woman said the Word healed her from needing a walking stick, and she walked around the room with no help, skipping like a young person! Several leaders also scheduled one-on-one sessions with us. I went through the Five Keys with one man who has stage four cancer, and he forgave people from the past. When we finished, he shared that several of his other friends had urged him to come to their church for prayer, but he was glad he didn't go, because God is healing in the Catholic Church!



⬆ In Namibia, the Benedictine sisters greeted us with great joy.

BOTSWANA

About 300 happy, clapping Charismatics greeted us at Corpus Christi Parish. They love praising the Lord! We taught the Five Keys and then Lloyd did a healing service. He had all the participants raise their hands, and he and Fr. Mantu asked God to bless their hands and to release the gift of healing they received at baptism. Lloyd then told them to place their hands where they hurt and cry out to God for healing. As they shouted to the Lord, many in tongues, Lloyd walked through the crowd speaking words of knowledge and exhortation, asking for healing of high blood pressure, infections, headaches, back

and shoulder pain, and more. At the end, there were many testimonies of God's mercy and healing.

The next afternoon, sixty participants joined us for a retreat. They worshipped with so much joy and enthusiasm that you couldn't stay sitting. For the next three days, we held sessions on the Five Keys and ministry programs each evening. In an unusual addition, several of the women took lengthy notes and, on a rotating basis, gave a complete recount of my talks. It was time-consuming, but very effective in helping the participants to own the material. We invited questions after each session, and the quality and depth of their questions showed a great understanding of the material and grasp of their faith.

We also came together each evening to ask for new gifts for these troubling times and for help with evangelization. There was power in that room! Lloyd led a session on healing, and I prayed one-on-one for several of the participants. The whole time with these powerful women was a total blessing to us as well as them. It is one of the times you really feel you have done the will of God!

⬆ Lloyd taught the Five Keys and led a healing service in Botswana.



EVENTS JUNE 2023

Complete event list: renewalministries.net/events

* Not open to the public.

St. Paul, AB
Diocese of St. Paul Priests' Conference*
May 29-June 2
Ralph Martin

Raleigh, NC
St. Mary Magdalene Parish Event
June 5
Debbie Herbeck
Details: stmm.church

Raleigh, NC
Diocesan Faith Formation Leaders' Retreat*
June 6
Debbie Herbeck

Malvern, PA
Malvern Retreat House Conference
June 9-11
Ralph Martin & Mary Healy
Details: malvernretreat.com/events/charismatic-weekend-retreat-2023

Plymouth, MI
Real Presence Eucharistic Celebration
June 10
Peter Herbeck
Details: rpamichigan.org

Latrobe, PA
St. Vincent Archabbey Day of Recollection for Oblates of St. Benedict
June 11, 2023
Ralph Martin
Details: saintvincentarchabbey.org/#event=75761463;instance=20230611150000?popup=1

Jackson, MI
Pine Hills Boys Camp*
June 11-17
Pete Burak & Team

St. Louis, MO
Cornerstone Ministry Conference on Prophets
June 20-22
Dr. Mary Healy

Toledo, OH
Young Adult Leaders Formation*
June 22
Pete Burak

Laconia, NH
Theology of the Body & Healing
June 24
Dr. Mary Healy
Details: standrebessette.org/upcoming-events.html

MISSIONS

Mexico
Encounter Mexico
June 18-20
Peter & Debbie Herbeck
Details: encounterministries.us



*I plead with you!
Never, ever give up
on hope, never doubt,
never tire, and never
become discouraged.
Be not afraid.*

// St. Pope John Paul II



PLEASE PRAY

► That the Lord would give all those facing difficult situations the grace to stand in his Word and have faith in his promises.

► That our hearts may be like the Lord's and that He may be glorified through our lives.

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

THE CHOICES WE FACE

The Choices We Face is the longest-running Catholic television program in the world! Each episode explores an important topic concerning the faith. Watch these and other episodes on our website at:

www.renewalministries.net/the-choices-we-face

JUNE GUESTS:

Knowing Your Identity // Danielle Brown
Danielle Brown speaks about the influence of the Theology of the Body in her life and its life-giving and life-saving potential for all of us. (06/11/23)

Grace Breaks In // John Edwards
John Edwards tells the story of God's grace breaking into his life after drug abuse, jail, and rehab. (06/18/23)



Renewal Ministries is a Catholic ministry committed to renewal and evangelization in the Church. It seeks to proclaim Jesus Christ through its TV, radio, and social media outreaches, as well as through books, conferences, retreats, and other international evangelistic events.

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