

I HAVE ASKED THE LORD FOR ONE THING: ONE THING ONLY DO I WANT. TO LIVE IN THE LORD'S HOUSE ALL MY LIFE . . .

GOD'S STRATEGY FOR OUR INCARNATION One of the most rewarding aspects of living in a strange land is the experience of being loved not for what we can do, but for who we are. When we become aware that our stuttering, failing, vulnerable selves are loved even when we hardly progress, we can let go of our compulsion to prove ourselves and be free to live with others in a fellowship of the weak. That is true healing . . .

The more I think about the meaning of living and acting in the name of Christ, the more I realize that what I have to offer to others is not my intelligence, skill, power, influence, or connections, but my own human brokenness through which the love of God can manifest itself. The celebrant in Leonard Bernstein's Mass says: "Glass shines brighter when it's broken . . . I never noticed that." This, to me, is what ministry and mission are all about. Ministry is entering with our human brokenness into communion with others and speaking a word of hope. This hope is not based on any power to solve the problems of those with whom we live, but on the love of God, which becomes visible when we let go of our fears of being out of control and enter into his presence in a shared confession of weakness.

The gospel offends. It strikes at the heart of man's arrogance and rage. It demands a response of brokenness—or evokes mockery and contempt. The gospel does not settle for good, moral living; it requires radical transformation of the heart.

All my life I have noticed that outstanding people of every religion have something very special in common. They all seem to be grateful. They possess the fundamental wisdom that we are children of a gracious God, a God who loves us dearly. God is unchanging love. And our best response to honor His love is gratitude.

Fr. John Catoir, director of The Christophers

**I
COME TO
LIGHT
A FIRE
ON THE
EARTH**



BE MY HANDS