



INTRODUCTION

By Fr. Julio

A HOUSE OF CARDS

PP. 9-12

AN HABITUAL GAME OF CARDS WAS A SIGN TO FR. JAMES OF THE CRISIS (CONFUSION) OF IDENTITY PRESENT IN THE CHURCH.

HE THEN TOOK THE FIRST STEP TO DEVELOP A VISION AND A PLAN FOR THE RENEWAL OF HIS PARISH.

THIS GAVE RISE TO THE “DIVINE RENOVATION MINISTRY” WHICH FOCUSES ON THE FORMATION OF INTENTIONAL DISCIPLES.

CHAPTER ONE

By Anthony Hooey

HOUSE OF PRAYER

PP. 13-26

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

DEVELOPMENT OF MINISTRIES

DEVELOPMENT OF LEADERSHIP

- THE CRISIS WITH WHICH THE CHURCH IS FACED
- TITANIC ANALOGY
- 4 TASKS WHICH CHRIST GAVE TO THE CHURCH
- WHAT IS AT THE HEART OF CHRIST’S COMMISSION TO THE CHURCH?



- DISCIPLES AND APOSTLES
- THE HEALTHY CYCLE OF RENEWAL
- EVANGELISING CAN BE SIMPLIFIED INTO 1 WORD AND DEFINITION OF EVANGELISING
- WHAT DOES OUR BAPTISM CALL US TO DO?

CHAPTER TWO

By Pauline McKenna

REBUILD MY HOUSE

FROM VATICAN II TO POPE FRANCIS

PAGES 27 – 41

WHEN **POPE FRANCIS** EXPLODED ON TO THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE IN 2013 HE MADE CLEAR HIS DEEP LOVE FOR THE POOR AND HIS WISH TO HELP THEM. HIS CHOICE OF PAPAL NAME ALSO SUGGESTS HE WOULD FOLLOW ST FRANCIS' MISSION FROM GOD TO "REBUILD MY HOUSE WHICH AS YOU SEE IS FALLING INTO RUIN."

GOING BACK IN TIME TO **THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL** (1962 TO 1965) IT WAS REALISED THAT THE CALL TO HOLINESS AND MISSION BEING ROOTED IN BAPTISM HAD BEEN SO FORGOTTEN THAT IT WAS NOW THOUGHT OF AS REVOLUTIONARY. THE FACT IS THAT WE ARE CALLED TO EVANGELISE, TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS, PRECISELY BECAUSE WE ARE BAPTISED.

IN 1975 **POPE PAUL VI** RELEASED THE GROUNDBREAKING DOCUMENT CALLED EVANGELII NUNTIANDI, WHICH MEANS "ANNOUNCING THE GOOD NEWS" OR "EVANGELISATION OF



THE MODERN WORLD.” THIS WAS A PROFOUND CALL TO THE CHURCH TO REDISCOVER HER IDENTITY AND MISSION TO EVANGELISE. POPE PAUL REMINDED US THAT WHILE THE WITNESS OF OUR LIVES MUST COME FIRST, IT MUST LEAD TO THE WORD OF LIFE BEING PROCLAIMED. A CLEAR PROCLAMATION MUST RING OUT THAT JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD MADE MAN, DIED AND ROSE FROM THE DEAD TO SAVE THE WORLD. THIS LEADS TO AN PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHRIST AND THE MAKING OF DISCIPLES.

POPE JOHN PAUL II COINED THE PHRASE THE NEW EVANGELISATION IN 1979, DEFINING IT IN 1983 AS A MORAL OBLIGATION TO PROCLAIM CHRIST TO ALL PEOPLES, NOT TO KEEP HIM FOR OURSELVES. WE SHOULD BE LIKE ONE BEGGAR TELLING ANOTHER BEGGAR WHERE TO FIND BREAD.

POPE BENEDICT XVI EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS. EVANGELISATION ALWAYS INVOLVES THE BLESSED TRINITY IN A VERY REAL WAY BY BRINGING PEOPLE TO JESUS CHRIST SO THAT THEY CAN BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND COME TO KNOW GOD THE FATHER. WE NEED TO BE EVANGELISED OURSELVES BEFORE WE CAN EVANGELISE OTHERS.

THEN CAME **POPE FRANCIS** WHO CALLS THE CHURCH TO GO OUT, TO REDISCOVER HER ESSENTIAL MISSIONARY IDENTITY THROUGH ACTIONS FIRST AND ALSO THROUGH WORDS. HE IS PROBABLY THE FIRST POPE IN HISTORY TO COMMAND THAT A MESS TO BE MADE! HE CALLS US TO GO OUT INTO THE STREET AND DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST



WORLDLINESS. HE WANTS US TO CREATE MISSIONARY DISCIPLES. THIS TERM APPEARS FIRST IN THE APARECIDA DOCUMENT.

THE APARECIDA DOCUMENT, WHICH WAS DRAWN UP IN BRAZIL BY THE BISHOPS OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND PUBLISHED IN 2008, WAS A COMMITMENT TO A CONTINENTAL MISSION TO BRING ABOUT RENEWAL IN THE LATIN AMERICAN CHURCH. THE DOCUMENT ADDRESSES THE CHURCH'S MISSION TO WORK AGAINST POVERTY AND INJUSTICE AND TO REMIND "THE FAITHFUL OF THIS CONTINENT THAT BY VIRTUE OF THEIR BAPTISM, THEY ARE CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES AND MISSIONARIES OF JESUS CHRIST."

ALSO LISTED IN THE APARECIDA DOCUMENT ARE **FOUR REASONS WHY CATHOLICS HAVE LEFT THE CHURCH** TO JOIN OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS, RESEARCHED AND DRAWN UP DURING HUNDREDS OF EXIT INTERVIEWS:

1. THEY HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED "A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHRIST."
2. THEY DID NOT FEEL THE PRESENCE OF MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY LIFE WHERE PEOPLE ARE ACCEPTED.
3. THERE WAS NO BIBLICAL AND DOCTRINAL FORMATION THAT BRINGS ABOUT "SPIRITUAL, PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY GROWTH."
4. THERE WAS A LACK OF MISSIONARY COMMITMENT MOVING CHURCH MEMBERS FROM PEWS TO GOING OUT AND BRINGING PEOPLE IN.

THE ESSENTIAL TASKS OF EVANGELISATION, DISCIPLESHIP, FELLOWSHIP AND MISSION ARE KEY ASPECTS OF CHURCH



LIFE AND NEED TO BE TRANSFORMED FROM THE ABSTRACT TO THE REALITY OF CHURCH LIVING.

THE APARECIDA DOCUMENT PROPOSES FIVE FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS IN THE PROCESS OF **FORMING MISSIONARY**

DISCIPLES:

1. AN ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHRIST THROUGH THE KERYGMA OR PROCLAMATION
2. CONVERSION THAT TRANSFORMS OUR LIVES AND LEADS TO A DECISION TO FOLLOW JESUS AS LORD
3. DISCIPLESHIP – CONSTANTLY MATURING IN KNOWLEDGE AND LOVE OF JESUS THE MASTER
4. COMMUNION - VITAL, MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY WITH OTHER DISCIPLES
5. MISSION – TO PROCLAIM JESUS TO OTHERS IN JOY AND TO LOVE AND SERVE THE NEEDY

POPE FRANCIS' EVANGELII GAUDIUM STRESSES THAT "IN VIRTUE OF THEIR BAPTISM, ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD HAVE BECOME MISSIONARY DISCIPLES."

POPE PAUL VI – THIS IS WHAT WE BELIEVE

POPE BENEDICT XVI – THIS IS WHY WE BELIEVE IT

POPE FRANCIS – NOW GO AND DO IT