

John 16: 12-15

**'I have much more to tell you,
but you can't bear to hear it now.
When the Spirit of truth comes,
she will guide you into all truth.**

**She won't speak on her own initiative;
rather, she'll speak only what she hears,
and she'll announce to you things that are yet to come.**

**In doing this, the Spirit will give glory to me,
for she will take what is mine
and reveal it to you.**

**Everything that Abba God has belongs to me.
This is why I said that the Spirit will take what is mine
and reveal it to you.'**

Meditation:

TMI! Too much information....

Information overload...have you heard about?

Perhaps you have experienced it yourself.

According to Richard Rohr: If you call the amount of information that was available to people at the time of Jesus one unit...

It took 1500 years for that one unit of available information to double.

Soon after the invention of the printing press,

then that unit of information doubled every 100 yrs.

Then for most of the 20th century a unit of information has doubled every 10 years.

From the end of the 1990's until now...the amount of available information to human beings has doubled every 7 months.

Isn't that outstanding???

Now, put that together with the speed of our lives...

and waiting is no longer an option,

patience is not longer a virtue...

We are told that we can have it all now...

and we want it!...all of it!

It's no wonder that people are feeling pressured and stressed,

no wonder the number of children who are depressed

and anxious is on the rise...

And then I listen to the wisdom of Jesus:

**“I have much more to tell you,
but you can’t bear to hear it now.
What do you mean I can’t bear it, I can’t take it!
What do you mean “when” the Spirit comes...
I want him, her, it.... now...
Perhaps the ancient people had more patience than we do.
Perhaps they didn’t have a choice!
There was no fast food or store bought bread.
Everything took time...
You HAD to wait for the wheat to grow
and the dough to rise...
The ancient people didn’t fool themselves into believing
that they could control all these things...
So to wait for the Spirit, while it might have been disappointing.
I can well hear them saying: “oh well...that’s life!”**

**But wait a minute...
Jesus said this over 2,000 years ago...
are we still being told to wait...????
In Truth, the Spirit has been here all the time.
While the ancients believed that God lived UP in heaven
and sent the Spirit down...
There really has never been a time or a place where God
has not been present.**

**Rather, it is we who have ignored, denied,
or simply have not been aware
of the Holy Grace that we are literally swimming in.**

So, the Truth is, is that we are GROWING

**in our awareness of the God's Presence!
there will never an end to our growing...
because we never get there!**

**This growing process is super, perhaps especially hard for us
modern peoples....**

**and while we can do things to help our
emotional and spiritual maturing.....
still we must live the life we have been given.**

Think about the caterpillar and the butterfly.

**When the caterpillar becomes the chrysalis,
it must be in there for a specific amount of time.**

**If we become impatient and try to 'help' the butterfly emerge...
the butterfly dies, for it is not ready...**

**Every seed must spend some time in darkness,
and then it emerges: not as a fully mature plant,
but a tiny seedling that has the potential to become the plant or the tree or
the flower that it was created to be but is not yet...**

**We would be much better off if we understood that life is not a destination, a
goal nor a race to be won,
it is not something we achieve or buy...
but it is a journey.**

We are not born complete.

We do not arrive in this world as the final end product...

but, we have the opportunity, the possibility to grow and mature...

If we truly believe that we are made in God's image and likeness...

**if we truly believe that each human person has a soul...
then our real task in life is to find ways of allowing our essential
divinity find expression in and through our humanity.
or as Teilhard deChardin once said:
'we are not human beings trying to have a spiritual experience
but we are spiritual beings having a human experience'.**

**We are desperately trying to understand what does it mean to be human.
While sometimes we might feel that it's "a dog eat dog world" or that life is a
"rat race" but we are neither rats nor dogs...
but beings made in the image and likeness of God....**

**The Spirit of Truth that Jesus spoke about in today's reading
is here, has come, is already present so that we might not only understand all
that Jesus tried to teach us
but to actually live his teachings...**

**Our life,
like all of life is process...
We are limited human persons who make mistakes.
We are funny creatures who, for many odd reasons,
actually resist our Divine essence...our Holy origin.**

**The Spirit of Truth has already been given to all of us
to guide us in the ways of Compassion, Forgiveness and Love...
But we have to be willing...we have to be present...
we have to be open so that we might see and hear and feel
that tug of our heart and hear the still small voice of the God,
to see the Presence of the Holy One in all that is...**

**Now...this kind of information that we are reflecting upon today
isn't for the sake of getting anything or going anywhere
or being number one...**

**This kind of information isn't meant to overwhelm us,
stress us out, or make us feel guilty or unworthy...**

**This kind of information in the service of transformation
of our hearts
and our lives
and our world...
and for this we can only but say, 'thank you!' Amen.**