



GOD DESCENDS TO  
BECOME HUMAN,  
GOD ASCENDS TO  
REMAIN HUMAN.



“Tomorrow morning  
I’ll preach on the most  
neglected, yet consequential  
and beautiful reality  
of Christian trust,  
the Ascension.”

- Kenneth Tanner

**I AM ASCENDING TO  
MY FATHER AND YOUR FATHER,  
TO MY GOD AND YOUR GOD.**

**-JOHN 20:17**



Life is a Relational Adventure with our Trinitarian God:  
Enjoying Eternal Life NOW as our True Home Inside  
Jesus' Humanity as our Ascended High Priest

“The Word was made like us in every way – yet never gave into the bent of our sin – genuinely sharing in our humanity so we could vicariously experience and enjoy his overcoming life as our own.

Through Christ's incarnation, death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus continues to live as a glorified human being at the Father's right hand...”

- Michael Lafleur



## Enjoying Eternal Life NOW as our True Home Inside Jesus' Humanity as our Ascended High Priest

“As our faithful High Priest, Jesus makes room for us to fully enjoy Trinity’s communion here and now as our true home and the wellspring of eternal life. Through the Spirit’s continual intercession, Jesus ‘uploads’ all that we are and experience in our humanity into Trinity’s communion while simultaneously ‘downloading’ Their inexhaustible love and abounding life in us so that we might reflect God’s image and refract Their beauty as unique persons in our everyday lives with ever-increasing glory.”

- Michael Lafleur



<sup>11</sup> Both he who carried out the rescue mission, as well as those whom he saved and restored to innocence, originate from the same source. Therefore **he is not ashamed** to introduce each and everyone individually, as his siblings.”

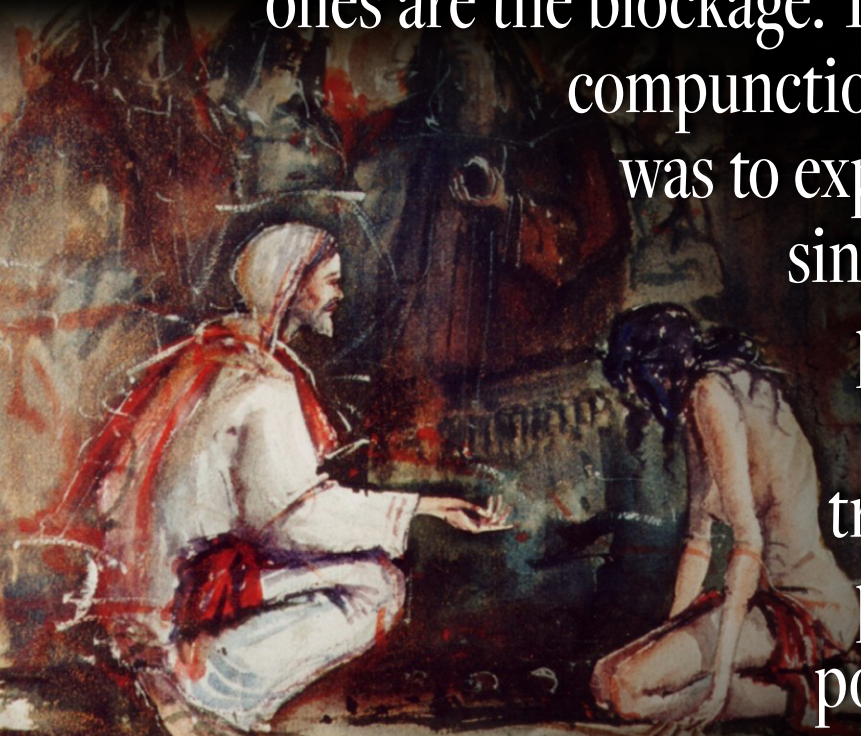
<sup>12</sup> He says, “**I will <sup>1</sup>reveal your name** to my brothers as being their own; in this great family re-union I will celebrate you in song.”

(This is a powerful reference to the great, dramatic Psalm 22 which gives profound context to the entire conversation recorded in the book of Hebrews. Ps 22:22 says:

*“I will <sup>1</sup>inscribe your name, in the core of my kindred;”* The word, ספר safar, means enumerate, detail; and the word, תבוק tavek, means to cut to the core, to bisect; it is a math term which is the division of a given curve or interval into two equal parts, the one mirroring the other. Ps 22:27, *And all the ends of the earth shall remember and return to the Lord. All the families of every nation shall worship him face to face.*

“One Stream of Love” (Richard Rohr from CAC Devotional May 19/23)

“Let’s remember that Jesus is shockingly not upset with sinners. This is a shock so total that most Christians still refuse to see it. He is only upset with people who do not think they are sinners: These denying, fearful, and illusory ones are the blockage. They are much more likely to hate and feel no compunction. We once thought the mission of religion was to expel sin and evil. Through Jesus, we learn that sin lies in the very act of expelling. There is no place to expel it to. We have met the enemy, and the enemy is us. We either carry and transform the evil of human history as our own problem, or we only increase its efficiency and power by hating and punishing it “over there.”





(to play Cherith Fee Nordling Interview Clip, click link below)

<https://vimeopro.com/user2890445/patmos-course-supplemental-media/video/719080271>

## Cherith Fee Nordling: Jesus Continues to Share in our Humanity as an Empathetic Friend and our Ascended High Priest

“Our salvation in Christ is not simply assent to this amazing thing that God has come and done for us that we couldn’t possibly do anything about or for on our own, to make the possibility of being in a relationship with the triune God happen.

He doesn’t just show up as an idea of the three Persons in one to invite us into this idea of communal love, but to say,

“Look, right here, in the way that God has chosen to be God, there is now a human being permanently present.”





## Cherith Fee Nordling: Jesus Continues to Share in our Humanity as an Empathetic Friend and our Ascended High Priest

“So you are never without the ability to say, so what is my life about and where is it going? And what have you done with my past? Because the one who stands in for me is not this perfect human who I can’t relate to because he’s perfect, but this human who bears the marks of a deeply broken and imperfect humanity who had entered into every kind of condition that humanity has, yet without falling and breaking in the process, without sinning into that process.

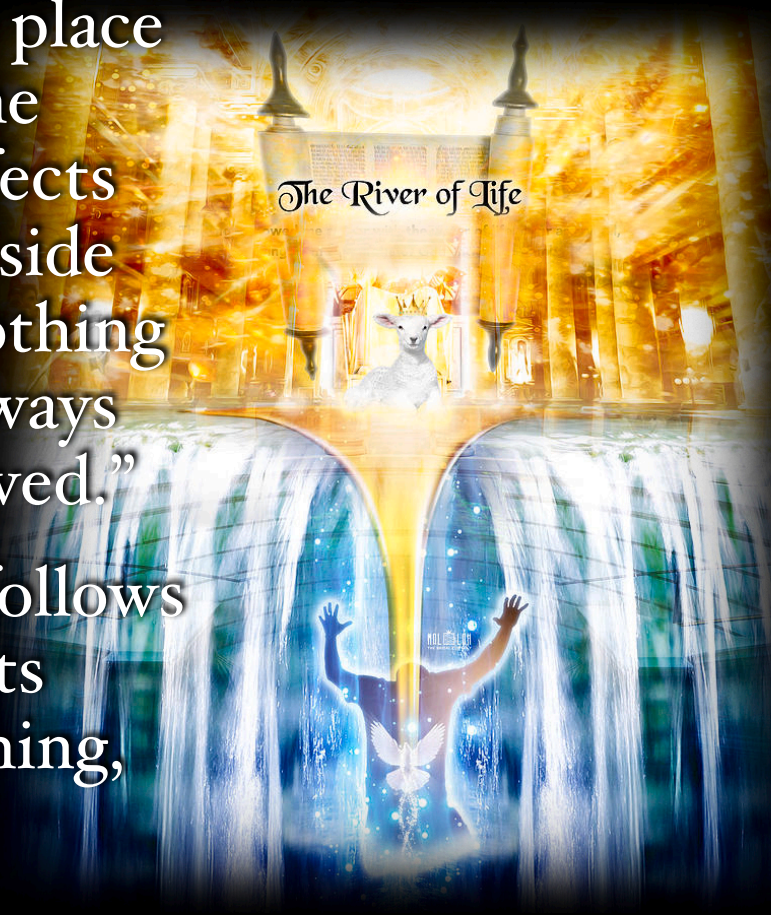
*Jesus,  
Friend of Sinners*



## Cherith Fee Nordling: Jesus Continues to Share in our Humanity as an Empathetic Friend and our Ascended High Priest

“Jesus is saying to me, to us: “Cherith, the place where you see me, who sits on the throne looking like a slain lamb, who bears the effects of the fact that I know your humanity inside and out as my own, means that there is nothing about your human life that I have not always known, and you are the one I’ve always loved.”

There isn't the, “oh, if she shapes up and follows me or just believes all that stuff and starts assenting to this right theology or something, then we love her so much better.”



## Cherith Fee Nordling: Jesus Continues to Share in our Humanity as an Empathetic Friend and our Ascended High Priest

Jesus is saying to us “It’s while you were a mess I came into the mess and said, she or he is broken and will never get out of this by themselves. But we plan to love them forever, and we plan to have each one of you with us forever and in communion

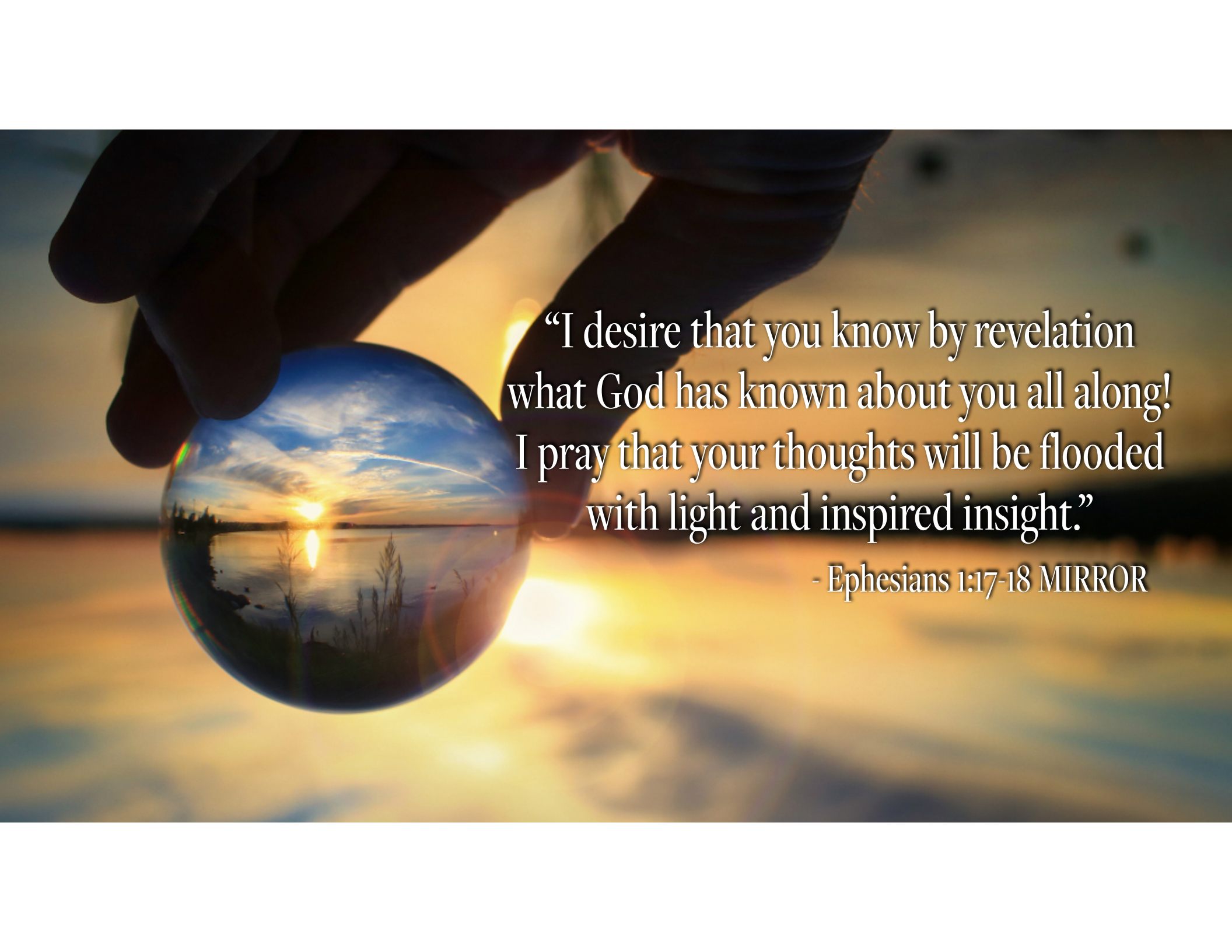
with us forever, which means that we, Trinity, will have to enter into the human condition and take what belongs to you and restore it for you and in the process restore your very own, unique humanity”



## Cherith Fee Nordling: Jesus Continues to Share in our Humanity as an Empathetic Friend and our Ascended High Priest

“So God’s invitation to me and all of us is: “Cherith, do you want to start looking like who you’re going to permanently be? Do you want to start doing the stuff that looks like a restored human being?” You can’t do that by yourself. You can only do that by the power of the Third Person of the Trinity happily taking up residence in you... Then salvation becomes not a getting in or an entry point or just a conversion moment – it becomes this deep, permanent conversion into the person that I will forever be. My life becomes the living into my ‘saved-ness’, the living into my full healing and restoration.



A hand is shown holding a crystal ball. The crystal ball reflects a sunset scene over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon and its reflection visible in the water. The background is a blurred sunset sky with warm orange and yellow tones.

“I desire that you know by revelation  
what God has known about you all along!  
I pray that your thoughts will be flooded  
with light and inspired insight.”

- Ephesians 1:17-18 MIRROR