

Struck Down, Deployed

'We are struck down but not destroyed, always carrying around in the body the death of Jesus that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.'

(2Cor 4: 9b, 10)

As our fast continues, I am especially grateful for the parents of strugglers who are becoming prayer warriors. I believe that the mightiest members of God's healing army today are mothers and fathers whose children have 'come out' as LGBT+. Struck down by unintentional acts of domestic violence, these parents—facedown--discover Jesus for themselves.

Another's wound and rebellion wakes them up. At last. The God of their childhood becomes Savior and Lord for them now. He gives them a share in His heart for the broken in need of His body. They will change the face of the Church.

I met Teri at an Encourage meeting. She was distraught and nearly hopeless about her daughter who claimed to be transitioning into a 'son.' At that point, her goal was to amass info about 'transgender' realities. She learned in the next few months that gaining knowledge was her way of controlling the chaos at hand.

When I saw her next at our 'Open to Life' seminar, she was remarkably composed. She told me that though she is happy to learn more, she knows what God wants. 'He wants me. This is more about my conversion than anything else. I am learning how to trust Him as never before.'

Teri followed up that seminar with a small Lenten prayer group we hosted about chastity, what it means to become whole in our gender and sexuality. Several persons attended with apparent gender identity problems. Teri's divides are not apparent; she looks like the well-heeled and adjusted head of women's ministry. Yet she was the first to lead out with confession about her issues as a woman and why those issues probably had made life harder for her daughter. What a woman. She goes to the Cross for her own brokenness first. She prays for her daughter out of the mercy she receives from Jesus.

Now I have the privilege of walking with Teri through a Living Waters group. I arrived at my parish early to set up one night and noticed a woman kneeling at the altar beneath the Cross. She was radiant, fragrant with holiness and looked a bit like Mary Mother of God as she united her heart with Jesus. I failed to realize it was Teri until later. No matter; even from a distance, I could discern that this intercessor was in sync with her Savior and destined to move mountains. A sword may have pierced her heart (LK 2:35), but with that same sword, surrendered to Jesus, she will thwart the enemy's schemes. Thank God for His marvelous plan!