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2006

## Introducing a Friend

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Roche, Fr. Randy, "Introducing a Friend" (2006). *Spiritual Essays*. 376.  
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"Ascertaining God's purpose for my life"

Here I am responding to my present situation, and planning my future. It is only right that I consider God's desire in my life and the freedom of choice that I have to seek His will.

what can we do for other person to gain his love for God? Or deepen his love for God? What can we do to be like Jesus in loving others? And I'm very interesting in which way or what to pray to be more in love with Jesus?

### Introducing a Friend

When we introduce one of our friends to another, we usually do so without a specific plan, and certainly not with a written script, though we might have strong desires to bring these friends together. When we value two people highly, appreciating their gifts and qualities, we hope that they will recognize the same in each other, though we know that we cannot make this happen

We probably know some people, perhaps dear friends or family members, or even relatively new acquaintances, whom we would like to introduce to a friend of ours, Jesus Christ. If our relationship with God in Christ is of great significance for us, it is natural to want those we care about to have a similar experience, one that we could then share in common. However, making the introduction might seem daunting. Often, we lose spontaneity or become anxious, and either blurt out something at an inopportune moment or hold back entirely from attempting the introduction.

If we want to have someone meet Jesus, we do well to reflect beforehand on the qualities and experiences of the relationship that we have with Jesus. If we can talk to one friend about the deep conversation we had with another friend after watching a movie together, or viewing a sunset, or after having read the same article in a magazine, can we imagine doing the same in talking to someone about a recent experience with Jesus, with God? What attracts and holds us; what do we value in the friendship that we have? We do not need to plan what exactly we will share with another person, but if our hearts are full, the words will come.

When we want to make an introduction of one person to another, we are sensitive to both. We can tell whether or not this is the moment of receptivity for both of them. Our desire for the meeting to take place

does not override the rules of courtesy and respect that form the basis of all friendships. Even though we can be quite certain that Christ is ready and willing to meet anyone, at any time, and would be pleased for us to make the introduction, the Creator of personal freedom does not want us to attempt any least form of coercion or to exert pressure on anyone. If we are careful to observe the signs of openness or lack of interest in our visible friend, we want also to notice the inspirations or silence of our invisible Friend, who cares more about the "right time" than we do.

When it is a desire of our heart, not just a mental judgment, to talk with another person about Jesus Christ, we will pray for that person, and we will pray to be guided as to whether we should speak or act, or refrain from doing so; when we should say something, or when to remain silent. Much as we might want to be the person to make the hoped for introduction, we need to be open to the possibility that another person, at another time, might be the one chosen by God. Prayer that includes such unselfish love is a great and hidden gift for any friend who might be the recipient.

If we do speak, what we say of our personal experiences of God might be of interest to others. We do not talk about theoretical explanations of another's personality when speaking about someone; we talk about the person we know. Friendship thrives on honest sharing, especially when it is done with care for how it is or is not being received. When we talk about experiences of God, we have one special advantage: we can be not only sensitive to the person with whom we are speaking, but aware of the delicate guidance of the Friend within us. God is more interested in our listener than we are, and will help us with our timing and the words we use, if we are willing to be guided.

God can and does meet others through people like ourselves. Perhaps we have someone in mind to whom we might say: "I have a friend I would like you to meet..."