

“FUTURE”

A SPOKEN WORD DRAMA

The following is the narration to a visual presentation created by senior high youth (ages 15 – 18) and presented to an audience of 200 people for the 40th Anniversary Celebration of Community Covenant Church in North Minneapolis. This is a generation of multi-racial youth who feel they ARE the hope for the future and cannot sit idly by waiting for others to take action on issues of social justice.

TO USE: Assign different phrases/words to specific youth; you may assign a student or adult to serve as the leader to read longer portions. Some phrases can be read in unison for effect or repeated for emphasis. This reading may also be accompanied by visual aids/art, drama, music, or staged movement from the presenters. It is a flexible piece that was written by and for incredibly creative youth!

Today, we start here. This is our center. We are grounded in our faith; we take comfort in this place – in our connectedness to one another as individuals and as community. We are **ONE** family in Christ Jesus.

Yet, there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven (Ecc. 3:1).

The dawn of tomorrow comes and we live in the reality of what the day brings. But, we are not satisfied to let the day – come what may. We **cannot** be satisfied. We cannot live life by chance. We must live with intention. For we are the bridge that connects the **Present** to the **Future** – our future...A **Future**, a generation, a world mixed with good and evil. Face to face with the unknown of what lies ahead. Though we cling to the safety of this place, like a child to his mother, we cannot hide here.

For we are called by God to go beyond these walls, beyond ourselves to the world out there – That is where **WE** are and shall be found to the ends of the earth and the end of our days.

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jer. 29:11)

We leave this place and go to the world knowing **WHO** we are and **WHOSE** we are. **WE** are clothed in the full armor of God (Eph. 6:11 – 13) and blessed with the compassionate heart of Mary. For if the “Lord is our light and our salvation, whom shall we fear? “ and if the Lord is “the stronghold of our lives, whom shall we be afraid?” (Psalm 28:1-2)

For “I **AM** (others repeat “I am”), **Fearfully** and **Wonderfully** made” (Psalm 139:14).

We will take our gifts, determined and given by God (1Cor.), trusting in Him with all our hearts, (Prv 3: 5-6) we will pull from our past the wisdom that will lead us into the future and we will leave the rest behind.

(Rom. 12:2) “We can no longer conform to the pattern of the world but we must be transformed by the renewing of our minds.”

We are not naïve to the power of evil, nor to the dividedness of our world and generation.

We **ARE**:

Darkness	Light
Violence	peace
Caretakers	care givers
Homeless	shelter
Hatred	love
Racism	unity
Despair	hope
Selfish	selfless
Helpful	helpless

All human...none-the-less.

And Satan awaits – ready to swallow up the unsuspecting, the weak of heart and mind. Let us not be fooled while in the fast-pace of living by what appears to be meaningless Indecision, Indifference, and Apathy...for Satan is None of these. He is decisive, he is determined, he is passionate, and he will stop at nothing to win over the hearts of all.

And so, we must **Stand** against him – we must be ambassadors for **Good, Doers** of the **Word** (James) – letting our actions speak. We must **Make** a difference. We must **Be** the change we want to create.

(Prov. 31 :8-9) “We must speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, and defend the rights of those who cannot defend themselves.” “ We must act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God “ (Micah 6:8)

We are the gatherers, the connectors – bridging generations and bringing together people of all tribes and nations – one by one, person by person as God has met each one of us...let us meet one another wherever we are at...listening to one another, leaning on one another, loving one another, leading one another and living in peace with one another –(1Thess 5:12-14) And **Together** we will “walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand...(Walk verse only, from the song “We Are One in the Spirit”) And they’ll **Know** we are Christians by our **Love**...

The **Future**: overwhelming? Impossible to change? Perhaps for some...But “with God, **ALL THINGS** (*everyone keep repeating*) are possible...”(Matt. 19:26)

The future – may it be so – Peace.

- Arranged by Deb Mitchell, presented on 9.10.05