

PROPHETS OF A FUTURE NOT OUR OWN (ADAPTED)

AKA Archbishop Romero's Prayer

By Bishop Ken Untener (1979)

1. It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view.
The Kingdom of God, of Truth and Love, Is *NOT* only beyond our efforts;
it is beyond our vision.
We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise
that is God's work.
2. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying
that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.
No speech says all that should be said.
No prayer fully expresses our faith.
No spiritual discipline brings perfection.
No care for another brings wholeness.
No program or project accomplishes our mission.
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

**ALL: THIS IS WHAT WE ARE ABOUT,
WE PLANT SEEDS THAT ONE DAY WILL GROW.
WE WATER SEEDS ALREADY PLANTED KNOWING THAT THEY
HOLD FUTURE PROMISE.
WE LAY FOUNDATIONS
THAT WILL NEED FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.
WE PROVIDE YEAST THAT PRODUCES EFFECTS
FAR BEYOND OUR CAPABILITIES.**

3. We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.
This enables us to do *SOMETHING*, and do it very, very well.
4. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity
for God's grace to enter and do the rest.

**ALL: WE MAY NEVER SEE THE END RESULTS,
BUT THAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MASTER
BUILDER AND THE WORKER.
WE ARE WORKERS, NOT MASTER BUILDERS...
MINISTERS NOT MESSIAHS.
WE ARE PROPHETS OF A FUTURE THAT IS NOT OUR OWN.
AMEN.**