

Christopher West's "Made for More: Visions of the Promised Land" event at St. John Paul II parish in Cedar Springs on March 11, 2025 was a huge success. The church was full of people eager to hear the message of Theology of the Body from Christopher. There was a young group of people that traveled all the way from Detroit to attend!

Christopher used visuals as well as music to convey the teaching of Theology of the Body as taught to the church by St. John Paul II. He cleverly manifested the difference between men and women by having all the women sing a note, and then he had the men separately sing the same note. The awesomeness of God's creation rang out in beautiful two-part harmony as Christopher had both the men and women sing the same note together! Wow!

In his talk, he reminded everyone that each individual is a unique creation of God, never to be repeated. We were created for a reason and a purpose. It took 1 out of 500 million sperm and 4094 ancestors for a human being to be created as the absolutely unique individual that he/she is! *"Whatever the circumstances of our conception and birth, our existence itself means that we were wanted, chosen and loved by God. How urgently we need to regain contact with our origins in the creative act of God! I sometimes wonder if one reason for the frenzy about sex in today's world is this need to make contact with our origins."* Father Jacques Phillippe

We originated with God and all people need to experience contact with our origin. If we are not oriented to God and to heaven, we become the blind leading the blind. Once oriented to God, our lives should continually be centered around the intimate encounter and life-giving miracle of the Eucharist which illuminates our path toward our eternal home in heaven.

God took on a body to reach us. There is absolute beauty in the human body, the beauty which did indeed become incarnation in the Gospel. God who is beauty appeared in the flesh.

The interior mystery of each person needs to be seen, not just their exterior qualities. Each person should never be seen as dispensable, replaceable and repeatable, but as indispensable, irreplaceable and unrepeatable! This is how Jesus sees each person. Human sexuality should honor every individual, and sexuality should be redeemed and seen as holy, true, good and beautiful. Marriage is a temporal union foreshadowing eternal union with God.

We all have our choices to make; are we making them for good or for ill? Our choices shape society. *"Therefore if your whole body is full of light, without any dark part, the whole body will be illuminated, as when the lamp illuminates you with its light."* Luke 11:36

To learn more, check out the three **FREE classes** on Theology of the Body from Christopher West's "Theology of the Body Institute" at www.tobforfree.com.

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