

## The Bond of Humanity - IV

If you had an opportunity to change the world and you knew that the world would change, would you take the opportunity?

The world cannot be changed in an instant, or by one person, or in one moment. It takes a lifetime to change good or bad. A single lifetime is filled with a multitude of opportunities, how do we respond to them?

The Israelites were expecting a savior to crush their enemies, and hand them the promised land in an instant. But God sent an infant, helpless and innocent to the ways of the world. It took a lifetime for that little child to grow and change the world, just as it takes a lifetime for You and I.

In the course of our lifetime, we are constantly surrounded with opportunities to make a difference and to continue changing the world. And whether we realize it or not, we help to change the world each day. The decisions we make, the choices that we face, big and small. With every opportunity we are changing the world for the worse or for the better. If we stopped to look beyond ourselves to see the bigger picture, what would we see? We'd see how all the seemingly insignificant opportunities do make a difference and that we are the change in our world.

*Emmanuel,  
You who are with us today, tomorrow and every day that comes,  
You offer to us peace, unity and love,  
You seek to open our hearts, so that we might live life in its fullest reality.  
Open my eyes and ears that I may see and hear how You are calling me to live  
the Gospel of life,  
that I might become the living hands and feet of Christ,  
reaching out to a broken and empty world.  
May I stand strong, humble and open,  
to hear the cries and needs of my sisters and brothers.  
May the bond of humanity  
be my strength, my hope, my greatest fulfillment and my greatest achievement.  
Most of all, may I never lose sight of the bond that binds all humanity into one...  
The beauty of Your Love  
AMEN*