

- Religion has reminded us of what we should aspire to as human beings, while at the same time it has reminded us of our limitations and has counseled humility.

As religious people we are also familiar with the jealousies, rivalries, intolerance, and even hatred that has been generated in God's name and in the name of religion.

We have entered the 21st century and find ourselves in a globalized world where we are closer to each other than ever before, closer to the "other" than ever before, through the media, the opportunities to travel, business, etc... We can choose to approach our closeness as a threat or we can view it as an opportunity. Never before have the threats to humanity as a whole and to our physical environment been so sharp and so dangerous. The only way to face those threats is together, in the wonderful diversity and richness of our religious traditions.

In order to achieve that, it will be required of each of us to make a significant PARADIGM SHIFT.

Up to now

- We have each claimed that our religious tradition is right and that the others are wrong.
- We have each claimed that only my religious group can mediate God's truth. We have each placed an exclusive claim on God.