I am a firm believer that as long as we live in this world one can never stop growing in your spiritual life. Even if you have enjoyed a personal relationship with Christ since early childhood and you grow spiritually for a hundred years, you would still not reach a point of fully understanding the ways of the Lord. It doesn’t matter whether you have a doctorate in Theology, or whether you have read the Bible a hundred times from cover-to-cover, there is always room for spiritual growth as long as we dwell on this earth.

This is a blessing that should keep us close to God, because it motivates us to continue pursuing our relationship with Him, knowing that there is always more to learn and more to discover. Unfortunately, many believers forget this along the way, and the reality is that it often happens to mature believers rather than with new believers. The more we grow in spiritual maturity, we are ALWAYS at risk of becoming ‘all-knowing’ and unteachable.

In my personal journey with the Lord I have found that times of spiritual growth very often coincide with incidents where I am placed outside of my ‘comfort zone’: those times where I’m experiencing something for the first time, or I’m confronted with a challenging scenario that I’ve never had to deal with before. It’s as if new experiences break open new ground in one’s mind where the Lord can cultivate seeds and promote growth that wasn’t possible before.

The reality is, that during unique times in our lives God can do unique things, and if we look at the current situation in the world, we certainly live in unique times. This is true both on a personal and global level. We see nations being shaken by economic meltdown due to the impact of the coronavirus, but we also see communities united as they face this common threat. The impact and aftermath of the coronavirus will be felt for years to come and will probably be remembered by humanity until Jesus’ return. One of the biggest risks we face during this time, however, is that we are so focused on everything that’s happening in the world, that we forget to ask God what He wants to teach each us as a Church and as individuals during this time.

Nations are changing and will change in the aftermath of the virus. Health and safety strategies will be adapted, borders between countries will be monitored differently, personal hygiene awareness will go to another level, and the list goes on and on. Won’t it be sad if we as Christians emerge from this time still the same as we were before it? If God is changing so many things during this time, surely, He can, and wants to use it to also promote growth in our relationship with Him.

Wherever you find yourself in the world, you are either already in ‘lockdown’, or are heading there. When we are in ‘lockdown’, we no longer have the excuse that we are so busy that we can’t spend as
much time with the Lord as we would like to. I want to encourage you to make use of your time in ‘lockdown’ to turn to God and say: “Lord, here I am. What do you want to teach me during this time?”

The coronavirus has taken our thoughts to places they have never been before, and it has taken us out of our ‘comfort zones’ in ways we never thought possible. Surely God can use this to teach us and transform us like never before. Let’s approach Him with these thoughts we have never been confronted with before and ask Him to speak into them, so that we may be transformed in new ways.

The Lord has, in a very unique way, pushed the pause button on the world, and our biggest mistake would be not to make use of it, by sitting at His feet and listening to what He wants to teach us during this time.