



*Indescribable / Uncontainable / You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name / You are amazing God. All powerful / Untamable / Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly proclaim / You are amazing God.*  
(*Indescribable (Chris Tomlin) – © Six Step Records – 2004*)

What an incredible, faithful and incomparable God we serve! And what a privilege and absolute blessing it was for me to have the opportunity to share my deep desire to honour my King, as well as my excitement for the law at the annual conference of the *Christian Legal Fellowship*, which was held in Vancouver in October 2004. From the opening event to the closing worship and prayer service, the Lord's presence was evident and had a profound impact on me.

As I undertook my final year at the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa, the CLF conference encouraged and challenged me in my faith, and helped me to put my future legal career into perspective. It helped me attain a new level of understanding of the importance of praying fervently for the church, for legal practitioners and for our nation, and taught me that I must be prepared to answer God's calling and leading in my career and in my personal life – wherever it might take me. Overall, I found the conference made incorporating Christianity into the legal practice and into the workplace much more tangible and relevant than I had ever understood it to be.

The conference was also extremely thought-provoking. Not only was I given an opportunity and resources to gain a better understanding of the applicability of Christianity to the legal practice, I was also challenged to consider and to compare the word of God and some of the most prevalent philosophical theories of our society. The presentation by Dr. Darrell Furgason, of the Centre for Worldview Studies, helped me appreciate the importance of building a biblical mindset and the necessity to ask the Lord for the ability to discern between His truth and the other teachings with which we are all too often confronted. In listening to the very gifted keynote speaker, Jordan Lorence, I also came to a new appreciation of spiritual humility and realized that I had been limiting God and not realizing to what extent He desires to be involved in the matters that are before the courts and in the policy and political decisions which affect the spiritual health of our country. I will forevermore remember that God can overturn any decision He wishes to overturn!

During the conference, I was also struck to see how effectively seminars and discussions catered not only to regular CLF members, but also to student members. Under the leadership of Cal Beresh and of Mike Schutt, students were invited to collaborate and to share ministry ideas and plans to reach out to the student population in

Law Schools across Canada. The conference provided numerous opportunities for fellowship (“Starbucks, anyone?”) as well as for corporate prayer and worship. One of the most profound encounters I had with God during the conference took place at the student prayer and worship gathering which followed the celebration banquet. It was incredibly encouraging for me to feel and to see God move in my life and in the lives of fellow law students, as we raised our hands to our Maker in adoration and in supplication and spent time building one another up in Christ.

Lastly, I wish to highlight that it is only through the generous contribution of the CLF member who offered to sponsor my trip to the conference and through the support provided by the CLF that I was able to attend the conference and take hold of the blessings God had for me. The conference was a true gift!

*Karyne Merrick*

Student Member, University of Ottawa

***Majesty, Majesty / Your grace has found me just as I am / And I’m nothing but alive in Your hands. (Majesty (Stu Garrard / Martin Smith) © Curious? Music UK – 2003)***