

INSPIRED WORD

January 2, 2020

SCRIPTURE

As I was preparing to share with you tonight, the word from scripture that just kind of came into my mind is the word that says: *“If you seek me, you will find me. If you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me”* (**Jeremiah 29:13-14**). That’s a real promise from the Lord and that’s what He’s promising: “If you seek me more deeply in prayer this year, you’re going to find me because I’m going to let you find me in a more deeper and beautiful way.”

PRAYER (published and read as an opening prayer to the new year)

Lord, open our eyes that we may see you in our brothers and sisters. Lord, open our ears that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed. Lord, open our hearts that we may love each other as you love us. Lord, renew in us your Spirit. Make us free and make us one. Amen.

PRAYER

Lord, we open our hearts in this place tonight to receive Your love that You’re so willing and eager to pour forth upon us now in a special way. We’re Your children, Your sons and daughters, Father. Glory to You!

MESSAGE IN TONGUES

INTERPRETATION

My heart cries and burns for this nation and for this whole world, as yours should too. It is time to take my love; it is time to take evangelism more urgently. Love this world and love these people as I love you.

INTERPRETATION

I kind of had a similar sense. “I’ve invited you; I’ve encouraged you; I’ve cajoled you; I’ve asked you and now I tell you. Get up on your feet and go out to the world, to my people, to bring the good news to those who need it most.”

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

I have a sense that either one person or multiple people in this room are seeking tonight the anointing of Gideon, so you’re being called into mission and you feel like God could have called somebody better. And He’s anointing you for mission but also, either you’ve started to experience losses or you will experience losses and God wants to encourage you that these

losses are so that the work He is accomplishing in you can only be accomplished by Him. And He is the one who will bring about the victory.

PROPHECY

I have been hearing the Lord say to me in my mind... I thought it was for a personal situation but maybe it would also edify the body. I don't really understand how to interpret it. So what the Lord is saying is: "Knock on my tomb".

IMAGE / EXHORTATION

I had an image from almost the beginning and first of all it looked like just a plain invitation but then the invitation got really fancy like it would be to a fancy wedding or something very, very special. It was a beautiful invitation and on the invitation was written each name of people who are here tonight. Your name was written on that invitation. And I kept saying to the Lord, "What is it that You're inviting us to, if I open the invitation?" So I struggled with that for awhile and then the Lord said, "The invitation is very personal. I will speak to the heart of the individual." And He led me to understand that we go to so many different places that I saw a multitude of people and bright lights. And His invitation is to go to the places He calls us and He sends us to be that bright light that brings the good news. So I'm asking Him what my invitation says and maybe He'll let me know as we go, and I encourage you to ask Him what yours says.

SHARING / EXHORTATION

Two weeks before Christmas on Wednesday night while I was sitting here I got the message that the Lord wanted me to just spend time with Him as an infant, as a toddler, as a youngster, as a pre-teen, as a teenager, as a young man. And I did that over the Christmas season but, you know, it's real easy to spend time with Jesus as a baby but I was struggling with the rest of it. And so on Christmas Day when I went to adoration, I thought I'd read all the nativity gospels to try to see if there was anything there. And I came across the one passage that I had totally forgotten about, and so I'm going to get you to think about Jesus too. What is the one time in Jesus' life at any age before He started His public ministry that we have a story about Him? When He was lost in the temple (**Luke 2:41-49**). His parents took Him to Jerusalem for Passover and He was lost in the temple. He was twelve years old at that time. And a couple things came to me that night. First of all, just how long was He missing? Three days. Does that remind you of anything? Three days. And then the other thing is *when Mary and Joseph found Him, He said, "Did you not know I must be about my Father's business?"* And you think, okay, this is Jesus and His Father; He's going to do His business. And what is His business? The Father's business is that of salvation. God is our Father too so we should say to ourselves, "I must be about my Father's business." He did that at twelve years old. So Barb says to ask Him what He's inviting us to do. What is His business? What is our Dad asking us to do?

SENSE / EXHORTATION

We're going to close now but I just want to thank God for His holy presence here tonight, for His word, His gifts, His anointing, His message, His challenges, His invitations, His love. And as I was praying over there, I got the sense that there was a message: "Don't sit on your hands." Don't sit on your hands, people of God. Take them out, stand up. The call is this: Act! Do not sit with your hands under you. Take them out. Act! Stand! Go! Do not be afraid because God goes with you. Do not sit on your hands. Wouldn't it be nice if we invited from the outside those people that need a touch of God, those people that don't know Jesus Christ even but need to, those people that are hurting, those people that are hungry? The Lord wants those people. He wants us to go out to them, yes, but He also wants us to invite them here. And if we do not invite, I don't think we're really doing what God wants us to do. And if we do not go and speak, we're not doing it either. So with the word tonight and the anointing that He's given us, let's just say amen to that, shall we? No more sitting on hands if you're doing it. Let's stand up and go.