

## INSPIRED WORD

May 2, 2018

### PRAYER

Lord, we just ask that You be with us in a special way. Help us to draw closer to You through the praise of Your name and the awareness of Your presence in our hearts and in this community and in this space. We ask this in Jesus' blessed name. Amen.

### SHARING / PRAYER

Before we start our teaching on Pentecost, I'd like to share a prayer of this Irish monk that's touching me. He gets these prayers in adoration. He speaks very closely with the Lord and I think you'll hear it from this prayer. "Heavenly Father, you are light and in you there is no darkness. In the beginning when you created the heavens and the earth, you said, "Let there be light" - and there was light. Lord Jesus, you came into the world as light so that no one who believes in you should stay in darkness. I believe that you are the light of the world. And I want to become a child of the light. I want to follow you and have the light of life. I want to live by the truth and come into the light, the true light that darkness has not overcome and that gives light to everyone. Lord Jesus, you came to baptize me by the Holy Spirit and fire and to bring fire to the earth. You called me in righteousness and have taken hold of my hand. Make me a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison, and to release from the dungeons those who sit in darkness. Lord, bathe me with your light. Set my heart on fire with the power of your love. Fan into flames the gifts that you have already given me and fill me afresh with the Holy Spirit so that I may be clothed with the armor of light and speak the word of God with boldness."

### (Teaching on the Ps of Pentecost – Power)

### PRAYER

Fire of God, come. We ask You, Lord, let Your revival fire fall upon us here in this place. Come, Holy Spirit. Glory to You, Lord. Lord, we want it all here; we want to be transformed; we want Your manifest presence here. Come in power, Holy Spirit, come, Holy Spirit, come. Touch every heart; touch every person here in this place, Lord, and in this building as well. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Come and revive us; come with Your Pentecostal fire. We say amen.

### SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

I don't know if this is completely appropriate but it's always appropriate for me, I mean, me personally. In **Ephesians 4:1-8**: *I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with long*

*suffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in you all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore he says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."* Dear Lord Jesus, we thank You for the gifts You gave but more importantly we thank You for the gift that You are, for the gift that You gave to us. We thank You and praise You and exalt Your holy name, for You alone are worthy; worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb, worthy of honor and worthy of glory and worthy of all praise. Halleluiah to the Lamb, the holy risen Lamb of God, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world. We thank You and praise You and exalt Your holy name, and just ask that You cause us to walk worthily in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **CONFIRMATION / EXHORTATION**

This next song is really confirmation of that. You say the Lord is worthy and what is He worthy of? Honor and blessing and glory and power be unto the ancient of days. The Lord is the Lord because He's been here before us and He's bigger than us and He's going to be here after us. And if I'm not quite getting my point across, He's bigger than the boxes that we can contrive for Him. When Deacon Chuck said "Be ready to be surprised by the power of God", and we say, "Nope, God can fit in this little thing and if I do this little prayer just this way, then He'll do just this thing because this is what I want Him to do." That's not God – that's the tooth fairy. Come on, let's let God be bigger than us.

### **SCRIPTURE / SHARING**

As we were singing that last song, this verse came to mind and it's **Acts 4:31** and it's one of my favorite verses. It gives the whole account of how after Peter and John came back from the Sanhedrin and they had been punished, basically, for healing this man in the temple courts. And they came together with the rest of the believers and they were just crying out to the Lord and giving Him thanks for all they had been able to do and seen God do. But then at the end of that account they cried out to the Lord, you know, "Show Your increasing power; show us Your mercy; show us Your love," all of these things. Then it comes back to this portion of the verse where it says, *"And after they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."* And I love that passage or line where it says "the place where they were meeting was shaken." I always just envision like this massive (sound) because when you call upon the name of the Lord... It says in Scripture, *"They who call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"* (**Romans 10:13**) and that they're going to *"mount with wings like eagles"* (**Isaiah 40:31**) and I'm just like, well, flying is great but I want an earthquake. Just, you know, whatever is in your heart that you're having trouble with offering back up to the Lord, I would just encourage you to say, "Lord, make an earthquake in my heart that's visible."

## PRAYER / EXHORTATION

In the name of Jesus, every foe will tremble and at the name of Jesus, every knee will bow and bend. In the name of Jesus, He will be glorified; the Father will be glorified. In the name of Jesus, all chains are broken. In the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus, healing. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, in the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus. Your holy name we proclaim; Your holy name here, O Lord. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. People of God, there's power in that name when the name is proclaimed, you know. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Savior.

## SCRIPTURE

Jesus says in **John 10:17-18**: *The Father loves me for this - that I laid down my life to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down freely. I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.*"

## PROPHECY

My little ones, the wave of water you spoke of last week coming down the mountain, a huge wave, is my Spirit coming among you, embracing you with my love, my gifts and my power. My power is love. Show my love to all you meet that they might become part of the wave. I wish to touch all my children with my love. Do this for me, please. I love you.

## PRAYER

Lord, glory to You. Help us to put our hearts to that, Lord, just to receive the love that You pour forth into our hearts and that we, motivated by love for others, reach out and touch them. Glory to You.

## SENSE / SCRIPTURE

About Ruth's earthquake, I know sometimes we do need to be shaken up. But I feel the Lord is telling us to shake up some foes. *"Every foe will tremble at his name"* (**James 2:19**). These foes don't have to be people. They can be disease, fear, worry, heartache, or people but these foes can be anything. From **Psalms 24:7-10**: *Lift up your heads, O you gates! Be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is he, this King of Glory? The Lord Almighty, he is the King of glory!*

## PRAYER / EXHORTATION

Lord, You are mighty King – and Jesus, foes tremble at Your name, tremble at Your name, Lord. You're the great over-comer. Let's take a moment to speak out those things. Do you have something that needs to go? Do you have something that Jesus needs to deal with? Do you have a foe that needs to be vanquished? Let's speak that out now, in Jesus' name.

## PRAYER / SCRIPTURE

Lord, we rebuke all these fears and anxieties and all these bad things that happen to us, in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, in the name of the precious blood that Jesus shed on Calvary's cross. Alleluia, Alleluia! In **Philippians 1:3-11**, it talks about thanksgiving and prayer, and it says: *I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel on the first day until now. Be confident in this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on until completion until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel that way about all of you since I have you in my heart and whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, in knowledge and depth of insight so that you may be able to discern what is best, and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*

## SHARING

I've been getting this song all night and I think it's appropriate. I don't have the chords or anything so I'm just going to sing it if that's okay? Some of you may know it already; it's by Michael Card. But I want to confirm also about what Laura said about the foes, because when we were singing that song I was just like, "Lord, how do I work that back in?" because that's the part of the song that's jumping off the page at me. We have to vanquish some foes here, Lord. So thank you. This song is called "God's Own Fool" and really, power never looks like we expect it to; it never does. The song goes: "Seems I've imagined him all of my life as the wisest of all of mankind. But if God's holy wisdom is foolish to men, he must have seemed out of his mind. For even his family said he was mad and the priests said a demon's to blame. But God in the form of this angry young man could not have seemed perfectly sane. When we in our foolishness thought we were wise, he played the fool and he opened our eyes. When we in our weakness believed we were strong, he became helpless to show we were wrong. And so we follow God's own fool but only the foolish can tell. Believe the unbelievable. Come be a fool as well. So come lose your life for the carpenter's Son for a man never died for a dream, and you'll have the faith his first followers had and you'll feel the weight of the beam. So surrender the hunger to say you must know. Have the courage to say I believe. For the power of paradox opened your eyes and blinds those who say they can see. And we in our foolishness thought we were wise. He played the fool and he opened our eyes. And we in our weakness believed we were strong; he became helpless to show we were wrong. And so we follow God's own fool for only the foolish can tell. Believe the unbelievable. Come be a fool as well. Come be a fool as well."

## SENSE

I got a word and it's "unlock".

## SENSE

Your hearts.

## SCRIPTURE

My mind keeps going back to the early song that we sang. I can't remember the verse or the passage; I thought it was Daniel 9 where it talks about when seeing when thrones were set up and it was ancient of days (**Daniel 7:9**). That's the only fragment of scripture I can get and I can't find it. I feel a lack in myself, I'm sorry.

## SCRIPTURE

What came to mind was to release the love of God in your hearts and this is from **Jude 1:21**: *Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord.*

## PRAYER

So, Lord, we want to have our hearts open and we want those hearts unlocked in Your grace, unlocked so that Your love might flow through them.

## EXHORTATION

What did we learn today about power? We want power. God is asking us to unlock our hearts to that power. Who does not want the power of God? He told us what that power looks like too, didn't He? It looks like love that will not stop. It looks like light that will not stop. It looks like hope that will not go away. That's power. God says unlock. Have we? Have I? Have you? Are you God's child of light? Unlock. Let that power of God flow through you. God will surprise you, I'm confident of that. Let yourself be surprised with that love that won't stop, that light that won't stop. The power that will flow – it's not you, it's Him. Just let yourself be unlocked.

## SCRIPTURE

I keep getting the scripture of the woman who loses a coin and is scouring the whole house for it. When she finds it, she ends up throwing a party that was worth like six times what the coin was worth because she's so excited (**Luke 15:8-10**). I'm not really sure what it means because I didn't get it when Jesus said it and I'm not getting it now when the Holy Spirit is saying it. But I think it's that be ready, you know, like what we think is most important really isn't. But put your whole heart into finding it. Give it your all.

## EXHORTATION

As we go forth into this week, that feeling you're feeling right now, that hollow space, carry that with you, that looking space, that listening space. God wants to fill it with His voice. But you

have to have a space open. He's God, He's big enough but He also respects our free will. And He loves us. He will fill that but we have to leave it open for Him.

### **SCRIPTURE / EXHORTATION**

That's exactly what I needed to hear. When we sang "open the eyes of my heart", we were telling God... we were giving Him permission to open the eyes of our heart. We were telling God to do it. And that's the first step – letting Him fill us with His power. And then something I read this week from **1 John 3:18**: *Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth*. So He opens us up, we give Him permission, He blesses us and then we go out and love one another.

### **EXHORTATION**

And it might sum up like this: Unlock your open space that the Holy Spirit may fill them.

### **PROPHECY**

Jesus says, "When I was on the cross and I said, 'I thirst', I wasn't thirsting for water. I was thirsting for you and I am still thirsting for you. Proclaim your love for me, proclaim it always." He thirsts for us.