

## **INSPIRED WORD**

**May 9, 2018**

**(Teaching on the Ps of Pentecost – Praise)**

### **PORPHECY / SHARING / EXHORTATION**

Last week the words came to me and Jesus said, "When I was on the cross and I was dying and I said, 'I thirst', I was not thirsting for water. I was thirsting and am thirsting for you." Well, on Thursday, we took a little trip to Texas and I had some time on the airplane to read so I took this book. When I was confirmed last year, my saint's name was Mother Teresa of Calcutta. So I decided to take this book about her and read it since I had three hours. And in this, Mother Teresa said to her nuns in 1980: "The reason of our existence is to quench the thirst of Jesus Christ. When he asked for water, the soldier gave him bitterroot to drink. But his thirst was for love, for souls. We human beings are asked to satiate the thirst of God." That's why the words came to me. The next day I read it. So tell me that the Holy Spirit doesn't exist and I'm going to prove to you otherwise. In so many ways He has changed my life since my confirmation - it's just incredible. So listen to Him. And then another thing that came to me on the airplane is that for so many years I've been asking God, "Why did You create me? Why am I existing? What is Your will for my life?" And I was reading in the book of John and it says that the only reason that you are existing is to love, to love, to truly love each other. It's so simple, I mean, I've been searching for that answer for 50 years. Okay, 53, I'm not going to lie. Just love each other; love your neighbor. Do for the poor, do for the lonely, do for the sick. It can take just 10 minutes out of your day to love each other.

### **CONFIRMATION / EXHORTATION**

Okay, that was kind of like the word last week, you know, that God says that we are to show His love, His power, as well, His love for other people. So we're called to that.

### **PRAYER**

Glory to You, Mighty God. O Lord, let Your fire come here tonight. Open our hearts to You. Let Your holy fire come, Lord. We just prayed: "Let us be a soul on fire" - and that's a prayer. We are truly on fire for You, Lord, truly on fire for You. Come with that grace, come.

### **SCRIPTURE**

From **Psalm 27:4-6**: *One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord, and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. Then my head will be exalted above*

*the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord.*

### **SCRIPTURE / SHARING / EXHORTATION**

Actually I had this last Wednesday but I had received news earlier in the day that sent me into a tailspin so I wasn't able to share it but it's more appropriate, I think, for tonight because... well, let me just read it to you. It's from **Psalm 20:6-7:** *Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed; he will answer them from his holy heaven with mighty victories by his right hand. Some boast of chariots, and some of horses; but we boast of the name of the Lord our God.* Talk about praising the Lord, we can boast about Him – all His miracles, all the things that He blesses us with – and recently I acknowledged or paid more attention to something, our guardian angels. I'm going to boast about the guardian angel that God gives to each of us. I've not paid much attention to my guardian angel. But a couple of weeks ago at dinner with friends, we got on the topic of it, starting out talking about adoration but they were saying that they had just read this book about angels, guardian angels, and that when we go to adoration, that's when our guardian angel is just like in heaven because, you know, there's the host of angels up there who are with Christ all the time but our guardian angels are following us around so when we're there in adoration, that's a very, very special time for them. So we were kind of talking about angels and they gave me this book to read about guardian angels and I haven't read it yet. It's still sitting on my nightstand; I haven't opened it yet. But at mass a couple of Sundays ago, I was sitting there; I had just come back from communion and I was kneeling down and I keep my head down. I don't pay attention to the people going up to communion but I was sitting on the aisle and I heard singing. And that's okay because as people walk by you on the way to communion some of them are singing but the voice was the same. It kept being the same. I thought, "Has the line stopped?" So I kind of opened my eyes and saw feet still walking. And I thought, "Where is this voice?" There was someone sitting behind me but I had not heard them singing before and I was only hearing singing on this one side. I actually looked across the aisle to see if there was a... it was like a female voice, so I looked across the aisle to see if there was a female over there and there wasn't. And the next Sunday I sat in front of the same woman who was sitting behind me and I didn't hear her sing at all. So what I was trying to do was prove to myself that this voice was my guardian angel singing to me. And I'm just going to boast about that. That's a gift that He gives to us and we don't talk about that much. We don't think about our angel who is with us and who we can rely on and who we can use, you know, if we're afraid, if we're... this journey across the Jordan. I mean, yes, we have the power of the Holy Spirit and our God but we can make use of our guardian angel. Anyway, let's boast about our God.

## **CONFIRMATION**

Angels. I have been hearing ministry angels these past couple of weeks. When we were at St. Dominic's praying in the back, it just fell into my head to bring along the ministering angels for healing.

## **SCRIPTURE / PRAYER**

I saw this quite a few weeks ago – **Psalm 99:1-5:** *The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He dwells among the cherubim; let the earth be moved! The Lord is great in Zion; he is high above all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name! He is holy! The King of strength also loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool! He is holy!* Father, we just praise You and exalt You and magnify Your holy name, for You alone are worthy. And we just come before Your footstool. We come before You, we come before You, we come before Your presence. We come before You, we come before You, we come before You in Your holy presence. We come before You, we come before You to worship and in adoration of You. We just praise You and exalt Your holy name, for You alone are worthy. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the holy risen Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. We praise and exalt and magnify Your name. For You are the King, the holy King of kings, righteous in all Your ways.

## **PRAYER**

When Laura read from the Psalm and before two words had gotten out of her mouth, this came into my brain. “One thing I ask, this alone I seek, to dwell in the house of the Lord all my days. For one day within your temple heals every day alone. O Lord, bring me to your dwelling.”

## **PRAYER**

O Lord, we welcome Your holy presence. Holy Spirit, we welcome Your holy presence.

## **IMAGE**

God's calling us to get in the game. Sitting on the bench is comfortable and it's safe and protected and out of the wind, but it's not the game. And God gives us this adventure of a life, one time, one shot, one game. It's a long one, lots of innings, gotta be in for the long haul but one shot, one life. He didn't come so we could waste it just sitting on the bench.

## **PROPHECY**

Thank you, children, for your beautiful songs of praise to me. I the Holy Spirit am here. I am in your midst. Let your senses and your hearts of love open to me. Know that your songs of praise are more beautiful than the songs my angels sing in heaven. Everything in heaven sings praise to me, even the flowers, the waters, the mountains, everything. But I cherish your hymns of praise to me, for they are from my seed to their Father. Rest in me now. The days

are numbered to my return. Your sanctuary, your church, your city will be aware of my presence. Rest in me now.

## **EXHORTATION**

Let's just take a moment now to open our hearts to the Lord and rest in His holy presence.

## **PRAYER**

Lord, we take a deep breath and we breathe in Your life, for You are the breath of life. You sustain us, You fill us; You are the strength that we breathe out. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may breathe out Your word. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may breathe out Your love. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may breathe out truth. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may breathe out praise.

## **SHARING**

What wonderful words that song has. I've seen that song so many times and I can stand before you and truly tell you that tonight, for some reason, that breath, God's breath in our lungs, I don't know, that just really got to me. Maybe it's because I have asthma and sometimes I have trouble breathing but that song really spoke to me. God's breath in our lungs, I just can't fathom that. That just seems so... God.

## **IMAGE / SCRIPTURE / SENSE**

As we sang to the Lord, after we were quiet, I just had an image of a big heart, a huge heart that was on fire. And the sense is that it was the heart of God. It's just a really huge heart that's on fire. And the Lord reminded me of this scripture of the apostles, the disciples that met Jesus on the road to Emmaus and they said after meeting him, "*Were not our hearts burning within us when he spoke to us?*" (**Luke 24:32**). And the sense is that the Lord is saying to us, and the Father, "This is my heart burning with love. I want to share the fire of my love with you. Open your heart to me and I will fill it with my fire of love. It is your choice but I wish and want to fill it with my fire of love."

## **EXHORTATION**

We are called to respond to that word, brothers and sisters. If we want the Lord to fill our hearts with the fire of His love, we ask Him, we ask Him.

## **CONFIRMATION / SENSE**

I confirm that word. The sense that I've had was when God's people left the land of Egypt, they prepared themselves for the journey by collecting all the gold they could and all the silver they could, all their belongings, their cattle, their goats, their sheep, just collected all their material things and threw them on their backs or in their carts and left on their journey. The sense that I'm getting is that God is saying to us, "Surrender all those things to me, and let me provide for

you on this journey. Let me give you what you need, let me provide for your needs, let me show you the direction. I want you to walk with me without those things, not because I want to hurt you but because I want to show you that it is my love, my tremendous love that will provide all that you need. So surrender those things that you need, those things that make you comfortable. Give them up and instead look towards me for your direction. Look towards me for your love, for it is that which will carry you through.”

### **PRAYER / EXHORTATION**

So You call us to make that choice. Open our hearts to the fire of Your love, to surrender to You. So that's a call, my brothers and sisters, to respond to, to say yes to, with the grace of God, not to be reluctant, not to fear, but to step into that love and trust Him with confidence. O Jesus, You call each one. O Jesus, You know us deep within. O Jesus, You speak our name. O Jesus, You invite us. Help us to say yes.