

INSPIRED WORD

July 5, 2107

SHARING

This is the day that the Lord has made, so we're going to rejoice and be glad in it. Those of you who were here last week recall that we had quite a powerful praise and worship session. There were lots of words; there were lots of scripture, many sharings. And at the end I said that if there was anybody who might have or thinks they got a word but didn't share it, to talk to one of us afterwards. And so I know of two people who came up that night and I asked their permission and if they were okay with sharing it at the beginning of next week so that folks know that these things happened. And they said yes, they would do that. So I have Gloria and Joanne, whoever would like to go first.

SHARING

Okay, this is big time Holy Spirit stuff because I don't do this. Last week I was going up on Powers and tried hanging this direction but I didn't realize there was a detour sign. At first I'm waiting behind this big SUV and I can't see what's going on and I'm starting to get impatient. And then I realized that it was a detour and so I turn and I'm going and I said, well, you know, it's kind of like life. We have to know to trust in God because sometimes we don't get to go (...) even though we may think that's what our plan is and that's what we should be doing, that's not necessarily the case. And in lots of things that have happened to me, I'm realizing that it pops up a lot more often now that I'm aware of Him talking to me. So I was upset at first with the detour and then I realized, okay, could this be a message? I don't know. And as the meeting went on last week, I was wondering if I was supposed to share that. It happened before I got here, so I kind of resisted at first. And then the more that it was going on, the more... you know, I might not pick up on it right away and realize it was something I should share. It was at the very end when I was realizing that I should share that, when we were wrapping up, so then when Barb said that, it was "Yes, Lord, I hear you." So the bottom line was just to trust and follow.

WORD OF WISDOM

So trust and follow because God will always lead us and in all the words that came last week, there was a lot of that.

SHARING

Last week a lot of people came up and shared, and a lot of things that people shared, I had already gotten. And so I just didn't feel like it was time to share or whatever. So then Barb comes up at the end and says that if you got a word or whatever and didn't share it, talk to

someone. So I spoke with Andrea. But you know, even if it was a goof, the Holy Spirit gives it, because the way things work out, someone needed prayer and somehow or other didn't manage to get prayed for at the prayer team and so the Holy Spirit used the spirit that He had given me earlier and it was what the person needed to hear. And so even if you think you screwed up, the Holy Spirit uses you.

EXHORTATION / PROPHECY

The thing about that is that if you're getting something and it's kind of like the same thing as someone else is saying, you can say, "I confirm that", because that helps not only you being able to say that but it helps the person who shared that scripture, word or image to know that what they have shared is from the Holy Spirit. Tonight when we were praying before the prayer meeting, God basically said "Pay attention to what I am saying to you." You know, don't just let it come and just drop it and forget it. And that's one of the reasons that we record the word and transcribe it so that we can go back and look at it from week to week.

(Lots of praise reports)

SHARING / IMAGE

What you just said, Chuck, about God letting His joy pour forth tonight. I had two images this past week that were actually troubling. The first one happened last Wednesday after praise and worship when I went to adoration. The cloth that they have on the table in there that the Blessed Sacrament sits on is kind of dimpled, you know, like when paper gets wet, it kind of dimples. I'm not sure what to call it but it's kind of like bubbles. As I was sitting in front of the Blessed Sacrament, I look at that and it came to me that those were the tears of Jesus running down. And I asked, you know, what was causing His tears, was it something, you know, I needed to change. I mean, I asked and I didn't get anything. And I kind of forgot about it for the next day or so and then when I came to mass on Sunday, and I had a Breaking Bread hymnal on the chair in front of me, I happened to glance down at it, and again I saw His face on the cover. And I even looked again on Tuesday when I came back for mass and I'm like how did I even get that. I mean, if you're looking at it right now, it's hard to see a face. But that Sunday, I did. I saw the face of Jesus and He was in agony. He was crying again. And so the fact that there was two of them, you know, He usually gives me messages that are encouraging, full of joy, positive, and so I'm not sure... He's not given me any input as to why I saw these two things. I'm hoping maybe He's talking to someone else. I don't know whether it's personal or whether it's... I don't know. He gave me those two images for a reason, I think, and I just don't know what it is yet.

INSPIRED TEACHING

We focus on the joy of the Lord but He's with us in our sorrows as well. And we choose joy. The next song talks about trading our sorrows and laying them down for the joy of the Lord.

But He meets us in both places. It's not an either/or but it's both/and. And that's okay. God's big enough to be with us in both our sorrows and in our joy. So thanks for sharing that.

SCRIPTURE

From the previous song, the words are actually found in **Psalm 92:1-2**, and it reads like this: *It is good to praise the Lord, and make music to your name, O Most High; to proclaim your love in the morning, and your faithfulness at night.* It goes on to say **(92:4-5)**: *For you make me glad by your deeds, O Lord; I sing for joy at the work of your hands. How great are your works, O Lord! How profound your thoughts!* Further down in the Psalm, it says **(92:12)**: *The righteous will flourish like a palm tree.* (This talks about surviving in drought, rooted in deep waters.) *They will grow like the cedars of Lebanon.* (This speaks of long life.) **(92:13-15)** *They will flourish in abundance in the courts of our God. They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming the Lord is upright; he is my rock; there is no wickedness in him.*

PROPHECY

Before our meeting tonight, I was in adoration and the Lord gave me a little message for this group tonight. And this is what it is: "Do you feel that My presence is closer to you? Do you not feel Me more within your being, your soul, your mind, your heart? Your soul resides in the unconscious level of your mind. When I look at you, I do not see your bodies, your outward appearance, but My eyes see your very core, your soul. I see and know your good intentions and how you are trying more and more to conform yourself to Me. My little ones, be, above all, humble before Me, and I will share with you all that I have. My Spirit is working mightily in you and will give you even more. All of this you will share with My little ones who have lost all hope, the little ones who have lost their way, the ones who are living in a reality which has turned on them. For I give them a new reality to live in, the reality of My love. That is all for now. Jesus, your love."

CONFIRMATION

Everything you just said is totally confirmed, sharing with the people who are lost.

SCRIPTURE / WORD OF WISDOM / PRAYER

The words from scripture that come to my mind are "*Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest. Come to me. My yoke is easy and burden light*" (**Matthew 11:28-30**). That's the Lord who walks with us. So the heart of the Lord yearns for the lost. The heart of the Lord yearns for those who do not love Him. The heart of the Lord yearns for those who are in despair and do not know Him as Father and do not know Jesus as Savior, do not know that they are loved, in fact, and they do not know where they are nor where they are going. So Lord, you call. You call to us to come close. You call us to come close for Your embrace. And Lord, Your heart reaches out through us to the people that yearn to know You and might not even know it. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit. Fill us, O Jesus, with Your heart of

love. Give us Your eyes, O Lord, that we might see; Your ears that we might hear; Your words that we might speak truth. Jesus, here in this place, we affirm Your love. Glory to You! Praise You!

SCRIPTURE

And the joy comes from Jesus, from knowing Him and experiencing His love. It says in **Romans 8:35-39**: *Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.*

SHARING / EXHORTATION

That just really hits my soul – nor height, nor depth, nor principalities, nor anything will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. What is it in your life right now that you feel is separating you from the love of Christ Jesus? Just say no, no, nothing separates from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Nothing! Capital N-O-T-H-I-N-G. Nothing! Throw it at the cross. Put it at the foot of the cross. Just say, “You took it. Nothing is separating me from You, Jesus. Those things that separate me are drawing me to You; they’re pulling me in; they’re making me run to Your arms. I hug that cross as hard as I physically can in my heart, or even in my person, and just hang on because I know You’re there, God. I know You’re there.

SHARING

I believe I’m supposed to share this. It takes courage to accept that you’re having pain. It takes courage to let people see the parts that you don’t want anyone else to see.

SHARING

I’ve been anxious today; I don’t know why. I never noticed the water spots on the altar shroud, the altar cloth. I noticed the wrinkles. And I thought to myself that I should bring an iron and smooth that out because it’s the altar of God and it should be perfect. Well, then I thought to myself, would I iron the shroud of Turin? So I went to adoration this week because my wife called in sick. I was looking at that altar cloth thinking that, oh, there are the water spots and the wrinkles. (...) because we’re all wrinkled. So let’s sit and talk about all those wrinkles. It’s the very God Who we lift up in praise every day and every night of our lives. He’s our only hope. (...)

SCRIPTURE / EXHORTATION

This is from the start of **Psalms 34:1-3**, and He brought this to mind. It says: *I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the Lord; the lowly will*

hear me and be glad. Glorify the Lord with me, and let us together extol his name! And I ask that I, and that we all, accomplish that every day. There are some days that I don't but I pray that I can.

CONFIRMATION / SCRIPTURE

This kind of goes along with what Doug just read. From **Psalm 89:14-18**: *Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, and walk in the light of your presence, O Lord. They rejoice in your name all day long; they exult in your righteousness. For you are their glory and strength, and by your favor their horn is exulted. Indeed our shield belongs to the Lord, our king to the Holy One of Israel.*

SCRIPTURE

From **Isaiah 43:1-4**: *Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters I will be with you; in the rivers, you shall not drown. When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned; the flames shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in return for you. Because you are precious in my eyes, and glorious, and because I love you.*

CONFIRMATION / SCRIPTURE

I confirm that last reading and this is from **Isaiah 60:18-22**: *No longer shall violence be heard in your land, or plunder and ruin within your boundaries. You shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise. No longer shall the sun be your light by day, nor the brightness of the moon shine upon you at night. The Lord shall be your light forever. Your God shall be your glory. No longer shall your sun go down or your moon withdraw; for the Lord will be your light forever, and the days of your mourning shall be at an end. Your people shall all be just; they shall always possess the land, they, the bud of my planting, my handiwork to show my glory. The smallest shall become a thousand; the youngest, a mighty nation. I, the Lord, shall swiftly accomplish these things when their time comes.*

CONFIRMATION

When Barb was giving her reading, all of a sudden it was like the tabernacle lit. I think we may be witnessing a miracle. I believe we are getting a confirmation from God.

PROPHECY

Yes, My beloved, you are seeing the light of My love. You are seeing the light of My love in a world of darkness. And you have heard the words that I have spoken in scripture, not only for the days of old but for your day. And now I ask this question: Do you believe in those words? Do you trust in those words? Over and over I have spoken to you of My love, of My desire for

you to carry My love out to others. You have seen My tears of joy and you have seen My tears of sorrow, sorrow for those who hear My words but do not believe in them and do not trust them, and sorrow for those who have not heard My words because they have not been spoken to them. And so once again I come to speak to you, My beloved, to speak to you of My love for you and My love for others. To speak to you of My desire for you to carry My love and My words out into the world, the world that is in darkness at this time, out into the world that needs to see My light and to hear of My love. But, My beloved, this requires trust, belief, and courage on your part. I have spoken to you before and you have heard the word empowerment. You are empowered and yes, indeed, I have equipped you. But will you take the steps necessary to go forth and carry My love and My words to those in pain, pain of the body, pain of suicide, pain of joblessness, pain of divorce, pain of loneliness, pain of not knowing Me? Dwell on this question, My beloved, dwell deeply before you answer. Will you, My beloved, carry My love and My word out to the world?

SHARING

That reminded me of Mike from Tenth Avenue North who talks about his new song that he wrote, about how sometimes we feel like we should be walking on the water. But God doesn't ask us to walk on the water. The song is "I Have This Hope."

"As I walk this great unknown
Questions come and questions go
Was there purpose for the pain?
Did I cry these tears in vain?
I don't want to live in fear
I want to trust that You are near
Trust Your grace can be seen
In both triumph and tragedy
I have this hope
In the depth of my soul
In the flood or the fire
You're with me and You won't let go
But sometimes my faith feels thin
Like the night will never end
Will You catch every tear
Or will You just leave me here?
So, whatever happens I will not be afraid
Cause You are closer than this breath that I take.
You calm the storm when I hear You call my name.
I still believe that one day I'll see Your face
And I have this hope
In the depth of my soul

In the flood or the fire
You're with me and You won't let go.

SENSE / SCRIPTURE / EXHORTATION

I believe that Isaiah passage is a very foundational verse for tonight because we came in and there was a lot of unsettledness, and we spoke about darkness and tears. And we had to be there for the Lord to say, "That's all true and that's all in your lives, but lay it down at My feet because the good news is that I am the everlasting God." And as that passage was read, it said (**Isaiah 60:19-20**): *The sun shall no longer be your light by day nor the brightness of the moon give light to you by night. But the Lord will be your everlasting light and your God will be your glory. And again, your sun shall no more go down and your moon withdraw itself; for the Lord will be your everlasting light and your days of mourning shall be ended.* And the Lord really wants us to hear that tonight, that He is the Lord, that what we walk through, He is the light. And then He said... here in the New Testament is the good news. This is the good news from **John 1:1-5**: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things came into being through him, and without him, not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness (and here comes the good news) and the darkness will never overcome it.* So God says to us: "I am the light that shines in the darkness. Let Me shine in your darkness that You know that I am the light and then take that light and let it shine in any darkness you encounter. Be light."

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

I've had a name going through my mind for a few minutes now and the name is Ignatius. I don't know anybody by that name, Ignatius. So if that name is meaningful to any of you here, let me know that.

SHARING / SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

You know, I mentioned that word Ignatius, and Eric just came up and said he had put some feast days on his phone and one of them was St. Ignatius of Loyola, and his feast day is this month. And then he shared with me the readings for that day. And I'm looking at the last one of **Matthew 13:31-32**, where Jesus says: *The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds but when full grown, it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush and the birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.* So Lord, You call us to faith and trust in You. And even though our faith might be as small as a mustard seed, Lord, You can do mighty things with it. So we ask, here this night, will You give us the courage and trust in You that we might take that faith, that seed of faith, and step out and use it and plant Your kingdom, and labor in the kingdom of love, of truth, of justice, of hope?

CONFIRMATION

As we get ready to close, I just want us to remember that none of this is planned by anybody here. There's only one person who plans tonight, and that's the Holy Spirit. The Lord gives a word and the song matches. The song is sung, and a word comes forth. I just give Him thanks and praise for what He does in this place. A lot of times people ask how we planned this, that the song matches the scripture verse. And we just say, "We didn't plan anything." And it's the truth. He plans it. And we're going to close tonight remembering that we are light, but Phyllis has a scripture of blessing to send us forth.

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 3:14-19: *For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with the power of his Spirit in your inner being so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, and I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and how long and how high and how deep is the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to a measure with all the fullness of God.*