

INSPIRED WORD

September 5, 2018

SCRIPTURE / SHARING

Today I was reading the daily scriptures and two things jumped out at me that I wanted to bring to you guys tonight, just for thought and maybe a little sharing. The first scripture today was from **1Corinthians 1:12-13**, and I've read that scripture a hundred times and have you ever read a scripture verse and you went, "When did they put that one in there?", because it's like I had never seen that before. And so I was basically reading where Paul says, "Hey, you know, one of you says I belong to Apollos; one of you says I belong to Paul, and why are you doing that? There shouldn't be any division among you?" Then he says, "What is Apollos after all? And what is Paul?" And the next line jumped off the page (**v. 3:5**). It says, "*Ministers through whom you became believers just as the Lord assigned each one.*" And I thought wow! The Lord assigned Paul to some or some to be heard by Paul and become believers and some to Apollos, and it doesn't matter who was assigned. The Lord sent the person that He knew could speak to the heart of the person who was to become a believer. And I thought that is really beautiful. And do we all realize that we have an assignment from God to speak to somebody to bring the good news? So I just wanted to share that. And then down in the gospel, it was when they went in... Do you remember when Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law (**Mark 1:30-31**)? And it says, "*Simon's mother-in-law was afflicted with a severe fever and they interceded with him about her.*" In other words, they were praying to him to heal Simon's mother-in-law. So that's how effective our prayers are too. We intercede with God to do these healings.

PRAYER

Lord, here we all are, gathered together in Your holy name, and we pray this evening that our hearts can be open to the Holy Spirit here in this place, and that we invite Him right now. Lord, Spirit of the living God, come upon us here. Come, we welcome You here. Come and touch us and make us docile to Your promptings here tonight, so that You might be glorified and that Your love may touch other people and that we might learn to bring Your word and Your miracles and Your power out into this world that needs it so very much.

PRAYER / EXHORTATION

Yes, Lord, we want the rain of Your grace tonight. Lord Jesus, we prayed for the Holy Spirit to come like a blazing fire and we're going to open our hearts to that. It's not just words that we're saying here; they're prayers from our heart.

SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

In **Psalms 95:1-7**, it says, "*O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation! Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and let us shout joyfully to him*"

with songs! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hands are the deep places of the earth and the heights of the hills are his own also. The sea is his for he made it; and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Father, we just thank You and praise You and exalt Your holy name for You alone are worthy. Worthy, worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb, worthy of all honor and worthy of all glory and worthy of all praise. Halleluiah to the Lamb, worthy are You, for You are the King of kings, yes You are, the Lamb. O holy, holy, holy is the Lamb. We worship You, worship You and the beauty of Your holy name, righteous and true.

SHARING / EXHORTATION

In the Chronicles of Narnia there's a scene where Aslan comes; he's the lion. But he represents Jesus in so many ways. And his dear friend is Lucy, the young lady who believed before anyone else believed. I can't quote it exactly but the line that just sticks with me is, "Yes, but he's not a tame lion. He may be a lion but he's not a tame lion." And there's that line in this song about all powerful, untamable – God is not a tame lion. You know, we have to keep that in the back of our minds all the time. He does the unexpected and that's a good thing because if the God you worship is always the God you expect, then you're probably not worshiping God, because our God is an untamable lion. And the other thing I want to just add real quick... it's just been singing through this whole song... it's a song I learned as a very little girl and I'm sure most of you have heard it and know it. And it's interesting the songs that we learned as children that stick with us. And I'm grateful for Catholic school that was reinforced by Catholic mass that fed back and forth to each other, and singing in the Sunday worship group. But the song is: "Sing a new song unto the Lord, let your song be song from mountains high. Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing alleluia." And we're singing a new song tonight. Let that rise from your toes and be okay with that. It's okay to sing a new song tonight.

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE / SCRIPTURE

And as we were singing in prayer tongues in that last song, there was just... I felt like that powerful God, who is not a tame lion, was sending down a very gentle rain into the heart of someone or more than one someone, a heart that is broken, or a heart that has been hardened by something's that happened. And as that gentle rain was falling, the heart began to be softened. And God wanted you to know that this is just the beginning, just the beginning of what He's going to do in your life, to bring your heart back to that soft place that loves Him so very, very much, by His love. And as CiCi was singing that little song, this scripture had come to me which is part of that. And it says **(Psalm 40:1-3)**: *I waited for the Lord's help and he listened to me and heard my cry. He pulled me out of the dangerous pit, out of the deadly quicksand. He set me safely on a rock and made me secure. He taught me to sing a new song, a song of praise to our God. Many who see this will take warning and they will put their trust in the Lord.* So Lord, we do sing a new song to You.

SCRIPTURE

So this is a scripture the Lord gave me this week (**1 Corinthians 6:16**): *For we are the temple of the living God, as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."*

SHARING

That line from the song – “bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ” – if you wanted an answer with that, just look at all the pictures around the church. Every single one of them is of the passion of Jesus Christ. And each and every one of them, He did for you.

SCRIPTURE

I'm just hearing very powerfully tonight that the battle belongs to the Lord. In **2 Chronicles 20:17**, it says: *You will not need to fight in this battle; take your position, stand still, (we get to be still in the Lord and know that He is God) and see the victory of the Lord on your behalf.* And then down a few lines it talks about (**v. 20**): *And they rose early in the morning and went out.* They're being obedient to the Lord. And a few lines later it talks about (**v. 21**): *... he appointed those who were to sing to the Lord and praise him in his holy splendor, as they went before the army, and say, "Give thanks to the Lord, for his mercy endures for ever."* And that's what we're doing here tonight, giving thanks to the Lord and the battle belongs to the Lord.

SCRIPTURE / CONFIRMATION

I've been sitting here wrestling with something, like I believe there's an anointing here, an anointing of David. When David came out into the plain (**2 Samuel 6:12-14**), when the altar of God was taken from the house of Obededom out into the plain, David did not put it back into the temple. He put it into the tent in an open field and put on an ephod and danced before it, and he praised God in every respect. And that's my confirmation for what was just said. He danced, he danced before God in worship, in praise and worship, and he praised God in every respect, and he lost himself before God; he completely lost himself before God. And I believe that there is an anointing of David in this house tonight, right now for anybody who wants to receive it.

PRAYER

Lord, we want to be heartfelt worshippers of You, unabashed, filled with holy fire, that we're not embarrassed nor do we hold back, but we give You everything we have, everything we have, everything we are. O God, we want to receive, we want to receive that fire of worship, Lord, that fire of praise, God. O God, let it happen to us. Glory to You, God. Praise You!

MESSAGE IN TONGUES

INTERPRETATION

I got two phrases. One was: Take up your mat and walk. And the other was: Come on already! Come on!

INTERPRETATION

So here's what I heard. I heard: Be brave, press in.

SHARING

I know this one friend of mine at St. Dominic's. He's a very holy man, a righteous man. He goes to church every day but the Spirit was all in his head; he kept it up here because he's a very knowledgeable man, a smart man. I'm watching him transform; I'm watching it come from here to his heart. Earlier we said about Holy Spirit 101 – be open, let it go. I don't think he was fighting it but he analyzed everything. But now I can see a change in him as it's coming to his heart.

INTERPRETATION / IMAGE

I found it interesting that the thing I heard the most in my heart was... the Lord just kept bringing to mind this sense that the Lord was washing us of the mud and mire. We break free and the cleansing rain just washed off all the junk. I just had this sense of the Lord washing us.

CONFIRMATION / INTERPRETATION

I kind of confirm what Ruth said. I kind of got just two words: sanctifying grace.

INTERPRETATION

I heard: Jesus, enter our minds, our hearts, our soul and let us be a true follower and not just a fan.

SCRIPTURE

So we're ready to end this night here but not in our hearts. You know, in **Corinthians 14:26** when Paul is talking to them about the use of the gifts, he says, *"What should be done then, my friends? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation."* Did that happen here tonight? Yes, because we are asking the Lord to open us to these gifts that build up the community, because that's what He says they're to do, to build up. But I'd like to close with this scripture to take home with us. When Jesus is talking to the woman at the well (**John 4:10**), first He said, *"If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water"* (the Holy Spirit). But then He says at the end (**v. 21-26**), *"Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. The hour is coming and is here now when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who*

worship him must worship in spirit and truth. (And then Jesus reveals Himself to her.) She says, "I know the Messiah is coming and he will proclaim all things to us." And Jesus said, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." And as we worship the Lord in spirit and truth, it is He who speaks to us. Take His words, continue to praise Him throughout the week.