

INSPIRED WORD
October 18, 2017

PRAYER

Lord, let the river of Your grace flow. Lord, let it flow here in this place tonight. O Holy Spirit, let Your living water flow. Come, Holy Spirit, let Your living water flow. So many are thirsty; so many need Your refreshment, Your touch, Your healing, Your consolation, Your strength. Come, Holy Spirit, let Your mighty water flow. Come, Holy Spirit, come. We want You. Help us to praise the Lord Jesus here tonight. Come, Holy Spirit, come.

PRAYER

O Lord, let the rain of Your grace come. Come, O Lord. Let the cloud of Your presence come, O Lord.

SCRIPTURE

From the beginning of **Psalm 18:1-3**: *I love you, Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, my God, my rock of refuge, my shield, my saving horn, my stronghold. Praise be the Lord, I exclaimed. I have been delivered from my enemies.*

PRAYER

And You are our Deliverer, Lord. And in You we place all of our confidence and trust. No matter what the circumstance, no matter what we see, we know that You are there as Deliverer through it all, as Deliverer, Jesus. Glory to You.

SCRIPTURE

From **Psalm 81:2-5**: *Sing joyfully to God, our strength; proclaim the God of Jacob. Take up a melody and sound the timbrel, the pleasant harp and lyre. Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our solemn feast. For it is a statute in Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob, who made it a decree for Joseph when he came forth from the land of Egypt.*

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 84:10-12: *For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. For the Lord God is a sun and a shield; the Lord will give grace and glory. And no good thing will he withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in you!* Singing that song, "we will wait upon the Lord", it was like the Lord was instilling in me, at least, that it's not a stagnant thing that we do when we are waiting on the Lord, because we wait in faith, we wait in trust, we wait in hope. And if the Lord gives us something to do, then we do it.

Otherwise, we continue to pray and wait, but not in a stagnant wait but one full of hope and trust in Him, our God, Who does far mightier things than we could ever hope or imagine.

SCRIPTURE

From the book of **Jude 17-25**: *But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; they said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions." It is these who set up divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; keep yourselves in the love of God; wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And convince some, who doubt; save some, by snatching them out of the fire; and on some, have mercy. Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you without blemish before the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, authority, before all time and now and for ever. Amen.*

IMAGE / PRAYER

I don't know if you know it but there are angels in this place. There were three of them behind me, laughing and singing and playing. And they're happy and they love to hang out with the people of God as we praise and exalt and magnify His holy name. And it's like they are just delighted to be around people who are delighted to praise the Most High God. Dear Lord, we thank You and praise You and exalt Your holy name. For You are the King; you're righteous and true. Righteous, righteous are You, O Lord. Righteous, righteous, righteous is the holy Lamb of God. And we praise You and exalt You. The words fail us, O Lord. We want to praise You and exalt You and magnify Your holy name. We want to rise up and see the glory of Your presence, O Lord, the gray smoke of Your presence as You come into this place, and we just thank You, thank You that You have empowered us and allowed us to be with You. And we just enjoy Your presence so much. We enjoy You, Lord, we enjoy You. We know that You enjoy us and we just want to continue to enjoy You as much as possible, O Lord. Righteous, righteous, righteous are You, Lord, righteous and true. For You are the King, the righteous King of kings, righteous in all Your ways.

CONFIRMATION / SCRIPTURE

When Jimmy shared about angels, I was in **Revelation** and my eyes actually just fell on this passage (**7:11-12**): *All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever! Amen."* And down further in the passage, it says (**17**), *"For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."*

PRAYER

Lord, sometimes it's not about us – it's about You. It's just about You.

SCRIPTURE / SENSE / PROPHECY

Psalm 46:4-5: *There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city, and it shall not be moved.* The waters of that living river which flows from the very throne of God are flowing in this place right now. And that hollowing out of hearts that Denise spoke of at the very beginning that hollows our hearts to make them ready for the movement of God through the river is happening if you allow it to – right now. The Holy Spirit is present here as we just sang, and He's asking us: "Allow Me to hollow out your heart to make it a place where I dwell so that when the river goes left or the river goes right, or there are rapids or peaceful places, you do not fear but you know that I am with you." And further down in **Psalm 46** it says (10-11), "*Be still, and know that I am God. I am exalted above the nations; I am exalted in the earth!*" *The Lord of hosts is with us; he is our refuge.*

PRAYER / EXHORTATION

Lord, You know exactly what to do with each heart. Just listen with our hearts to the Spirit of God speaking to us. Help us to hear You and to respond to Your grace.

IMAGE

And I saw each one of us jumping in the river. We all jumped in and made this big splash and everybody was so filled with joy as they took the risk and jumped.

CONFIRMATION / SHARING

This kind of goes along with what Betsy was saying and it all makes sense now because this has been the thing that has literally been sitting on my head all night long. Sometimes the Lord asks us to a really painstakingly long journey to get to that river. And I don't know if anybody else has seen "Lord of the Rings" but it's like when Frodo volunteers to take the ring, and he doesn't know what's going to happen. He only knows that he has to go take the ring to the mountain. What mountain? That way. Okay! So sometimes it is just a journey of simply saying yes, I will go no matter what the cost. I will go because You, Lord, are calling me to do this. You, Lord, have asked me to do this. And sometimes it's an interpersonal reflection that I need to go and take a journey with the Lord and I don't know what that's going to look like. That's a lot of our spiritual journey and walk. And some of it, the Lord points stuff out to us and He says, "Let's go take a walk, a really long walk, a walk where you're going to have to empty out some stuff. You're going to have to go through some suitcases; you're going to have to ditch some stuff along the side of the road, because the baggage isn't yours to carry." And whatever you are carrying with you that maybe does need to go and be placed by the side of the road, on an altar, maybe it's something that the Lord is saying, "Grow this, nurture this, take care of this

because I'm giving it to you to be used for My glory." Whatever your journey is – go. Take the risk; jump into the river; go up to the mountain, because there's nothing but joy when the Lord calls us on a journey.

SHARING / SENSE

That just brought back to my mind a time when I was dating my husband and we had a canoe and we took it out in the harbor at the Ventura marina. We thought it was protected enough from the ocean that we could take this open canoe out into the harbor, which is kind of like a river if you've ever canoed in a river; it's a lot of the same weighty stuff. But we got caught sideways against a wake of a harbor boat going through. And it gave a pretty good wake and we were swinging like this pretty good. And instead of keeping my eyes level and watching where my husband was, watching the boat and keeping everything level, I made the mistake of looking down to see how close we were to tipping over. Well, you can kind of guess where the story goes. We went swimming in the harbor in jeans and shoes and watched things float away. And I feel like the reason why the Lord brought this experience back to me was sometimes we get caught in the wake of our lives and those things on the journey hit us sideways. We're rocking pretty hard and it messes us up a little bit. We want to be joyful; we want to stay centered. But instead of looking at the Lord to keep us on that middle path, even when it's shaky, we look at our own strength and we look at how close we are to the edge and how close we are to tipping over. And tonight He just keeps saying, "Don't look at the water. Look at Me and it will re-center the boat, and even if it's flipping around, it's okay. Look at Me. Look up. Don't look down at the problem. Look at Me, the Savior of the solution, and it will work out. It will right itself." And that was a message I needed to hear tonight in a big way. I almost didn't come tonight for a bunch of reasons but I'm glad I did because I needed to hear it. Because when it gets shaky, what's the first thing we do? We look to ourselves and we look away from God. You don't really want to pay attention to the One who you feel like has deserted you. I don't want to look at You, and I'm just going to look at the situation, and I know what to do with that. Don't look at the situation; look at Him. He'll fix the situation. And you win both ways.

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

I've been getting a word for awhile here and that word is 'need'. If that word means something to you tonight... if you perhaps have a need and the word itself means something, and you want whatever that need is to be prayed for, I'd like you to raise your hands right now. We're praying for the need. (Prayed for about six people.)

PRAYER / WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

May the Lord be praised. Lord, we thank You for Your holy anointing here, for Your word, for the touch of Your grace, for Your holy river. Help us to take the grace of that river with us as we go and leave this place, and to not be afraid to let that river flow through us. And I just have

one question – it sounds really strange. Does Pennsylvania mean anything to anybody – the state of Pennsylvania? It does! What does it mean to you? You're from there, okay. (Family had to move quickly from Pennsylvania to here but still have family there. They received prayer when the word 'need' was given.) Maybe this is just an explanation point, you know, that God really knows you're here, okay. He knows you're here; otherwise I wouldn't have gotten that. It was very strange to have gotten that word. Okay, that's good. Isn't that wild? Okay!