

INSPIRED WORD

June 17, 2015

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23: The Lord is my Shepherd; I have everything I need. He lets me rest in fields of green grass and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water. He gives me new strength. He guides me in the right paths, as He has promised. Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, for You are with me. Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me. You prepare a banquet for me, where all my enemies can see me; You welcome me as an honored guest and fill my cup to the brim. I know that Your goodness and love will be with me all my life; and Your house will be my home as long as I live.

SHARING / EXHORTATION

I am not going to give away what happened last week for those of you who weren't here, but someone else started this and all I did was get a prompting from the Lord to volunteer. The Lord then gave me everything to say, but He didn't say it Himself. I started to think about what else I was going to say and do and I started to worry about it. The Lord told me that I didn't need to worry about it, as He had it all covered. So as I got up to speak, I realized that the Lord had prepared the people here and things started to happen. So if you are concerned that the Lord is going to give you something too difficult, don't worry about it as He is working behind the scenes getting everything ready for you. How many people were not here last week? In a short summary of what happened last week, the Lord prompted me to give a talk on "moving" – that is moving to another seat. Basically it is this: get up out of your seat and move to another seat; maybe somebody else wants to sit in the seat that you just vacated. If you are sitting on an aisle seat, move to a seat that is in the middle of another row. Get out of your comfort zone and move to another seat in a different location here in the sanctuary – get a different perspective. You can move to a seat that is next to the aisle, so that you can step out into the aisle and worship the Lord freely and in a new way. If you have always sat in a seat next to the aisle, then move to a seat that is in the middle section of a row, so that you can meet new people and get to know more people. If you decide that you don't like the seat that you are sitting in tonight, then move to another seat next week. As I was giving this talk last week, some people here had already started to move to different seats. So now is the time for you to move! If something happened when you moved to another seat, be prepared to share it with us next week. Just so you know – we can't move back further, we can only move up, or left or right!! Considering how many people had changed seats last week, and moved again this week, that is wonderful!! I was excited about these words that the Lord gave me, and I realized that He could do this all the time. So what was my problem? Obviously God is talking to me frequently, so it became clear that I wasn't listening for His voice. I thank God for this chance to get to know His voice, and to listen for His voice when He speaks to me again.

SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

Psalm 51: 1 – 11: “Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified in Your sentence and blameless when You pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. You desire truth in the inward being, therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be cleaned; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have crushed rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your Presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.” Father, we always pray that You will create in us a clean heart, and that You will renew a right spirit within us. We pray that You blot any sin that we have walked in, and we pray that You will continue to cause us to see any difficulty in which we might be involved. We walk before You, O Lord, in gladness and sincerity of heart. Lord Jesus, You are indeed the greatest thing that has ever happened to us, and we pray that You will continue to bless us in every way possible! For You alone have given us the peace that we have longed for all the days of our lives!

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 35: The desert and the parched land will exult; the wilderness will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, say to those whose hearts are frightened: “Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, He comes with vindication; with divine recompense He comes to save you.” Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the wilderness. The burning sand will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water; the abode where jackals lurk will be a marsh for the reed and the papyrus. A highway will be there, called the holy way; no one unclean may pass over it, nor fools go astray on it. No lion will be there, nor beast of prey go up to be met upon it. It is for those with a journey to make, and on it the redeemed will walk. Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

PROPHECY

My dearest ones, I never promised that you would go without suffering in this life; in fact, it is a guarantee that you will. I promised that I would be with you; I promised to never leave you, and I promised to never abandon you! I promised to lift you in glory if you would open your own lives to the suffering to which this life calls. Whether it be penance, whether it be for intercession, whether it be to recognize the true joy that I bring of peace that surpasses all understanding, all comprehension; a peace that reaches into your lives and into your hearts, not with spite, but with the suffering.

Because it is that suffering that causes you to reach out your hands and say to Me, “Abba, Father, hold me, for I love You!!” So in that suffering, in that holy sacred suffering, know that you are not abandoned! I have not left you alone; as always I draw you near to Me. Let your own pain and your sorrow lead to Me and I will restore you!

SCRIPTURE

1 Thessalonians 1: 2 – 8: We give thanks to God for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers, loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction. You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that became a model for all believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40: 31: For those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak.

SHARING

One thing that I wanted to share was that God is always here! If we will hear what He has to say to us individually, we will be blessed and we will be instructed!