

## INSPIRED WORD

October 5, 2016

### EXHORTATION

**This is the second week of the Life in the Spirit course titled: "The Gift".** We all have received a nail, which symbolizes the sacrifice of Christ's death on the cross for each one of us. Bart is going to be singing a song about Jesus, and at that time, I invite all of you to come up to the Crucifix behind the altar and drop your nail into the pails which are there on the floor. This is an invitation to do this; you don't have to do it, you can do it from your heart. There is something special about taking this action. Then, however you want to do it, thank the Lord for "saving me for Your salvation. Be the Lord of my life, be my Center." As you come back down from the altar, take one of the little flowers that are there on the side as a symbol of the joy for the gospel message, for the joy that Jesus has risen, for the joy that He opened the gates of heaven for us, and the joy that leads us to the Father's house.

### SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

**Luke 2: 8 – 14:** Now there were some shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a Savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests." O Jesus, how can we thank You? How can we thank You for Your birth and becoming one of us? Glory to God in the highest, how can we thank You? Jesus, Jesus!

### IMAGE

I had an image of God looking down on us and He was smiling and tapping His foot.

### SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

In **Zephaniah 3** we hear of Him rejoicing over us, like people at a festival. Glory to you, Lord, You rejoice over us and take delight in us, Your sons and Your daughters. O Father, You rejoice over us, and what a joy that is to our hearts, to be loved by You, Jesus and the Spirit.

### SCRIPTURE

**Psalms 40: 1 – 3, 17:** I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me up out of the slimy pit, out of mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. You are my Help, and my Deliverer. You are my God.

### CONFIRMATION

I confirm that scripture as it was coming to my mind a few minutes ago.

(Praying for the needs of those present here tonight and for the needs of others.)

