

INSPIRED WORD
September 26, 2018

SHARING / EXHORTATION

I was talking to my wife back there and she said the saying: “Why would you light a lamp and put it in a basket?” Coming from a GPS and space background, I’m thinking why would you light a rocket ship and not expect it to go anywhere? I think sometimes we come here and we’re filled and we leave here and we leave it at the door and we don’t bring it with us. And we see that person who needs prayer in the marketplace and we see that person, I don’t know, maybe your neighbor and you don’t do anything with it. Or maybe you think about it and say, “Ah, somebody else will take care of it.” Or you say, “If I don’t take care of it, maybe it’ll just get better on its own.” But that’s opportunity for you to do something with it, and if we come here every single Wednesday and we don’t actually go and do anything with it, we’ve wasted 30 years of doing nothing. So I’m going to ask you tonight to do and receive everything that you’re going to receive from the Holy Spirit tonight and manifest all those gifts tonight but don’t leave it. I have one more thing to say. I love to eat; I love to go to restaurants. I like good movies; I like good TV shows, although we don’t do it very often. And when I eat some place nice, I go out and tell every single person about it, and I go into detail about how great it is. Are we doing that about this group? Are we going out and telling people to come and what you experienced? Hand them a business card and say, “Hey, come. This is something that’s touched me.” We should be doing that. If we do it for restaurants and we do it for other things, you know, I would encourage you. I don’t do it myself as often as I should so I’m encouraging myself along with all of you. If you’re not willing to pray for someone, at least invite them: “Come get prayer here.”

PRAYER

Lord, we just ask for Your Holy Spirit to come tonight, Lord, and touch every heart. O Jesus, O Jesus, we want to worship You tonight from the depths of our being. We come here as Your people gathered, so loved by You. So pour forth Your Spirit upon us, Lord, so that we might be free in Your presence tonight, free and open to that Spirit of God, that we might give You praise and the Father praise, and minister to each other through Your holy gifts. And all the people said, “Amen.”

PRAYER

We praise You and exalt You and magnify Your holy name, O Lord, for You alone are worthy. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb of God. You have taken away the sin of the world. We do praise You and exalt You and magnify Your name, for You are the King of kings, yes, You are the Lamb, yes, You are the Lamb of God. You’ve taken away our sins; You’ve taken our sin;

You've taken it as far as the east is from the west; You've taken our sin; You've taken our sin away. We praise You and exalt You and magnify You.

PRAYER

O Lord, let our hearts speak to You tonight. Let our hearts speak to You tonight, O Lord. From the depths of our being, let our hearts speak to You tonight. Let our hearts speak to Your love tonight, Lord. Let them proclaim Your majesty and Your glory, every heart here, O Lord, giving You praise. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

SCRIPTURE

From **Psalms 68:1-4**: *Let God arise, let his enemies scatter; let his opponents flee before him. You disperse them like smoke; as wax melts the presence of a fire, so the wicked melt the presence of God. But the upright rejoice at the presence of God, delighted and crying out for joy! They say, "Sing to God, play music to his name, build a road for the rider of the clouds; rejoice in Yahweh, dance before him."*

WORD OF WISDOM

Why do we rejoice? Because we've experienced the love of God and His amazing grace that has turned our sin to righteousness. That's why we rejoice before the Lord.

SHARING

As we were singing this song tonight I was reminded very strongly of the homily that Fr. Ron gave at Sunday's mass. He told the story of doing a baptism on Sunday, three baptisms that day and this was the third. And this little child was coming to the font of eternal life, to the gift of all gifts, and he was fussing all the way there. He wanted nothing to do with this thing. He was fighting it with everything he had. And Fr. Ron blessed him with the water and then he took a whole handful of chrism oil and smeared it all over this young baby's head, with just the blessing of God, that holy chrism. And this little kid looked at him and his eyes all but rolled up into the back of his head and he just relaxed and promptly fell asleep in Fr. Ron's arms. And he said, "Don't miss the image." How much do we fight and fuss on our way to the Lord? And when we're there, let Him come and just surrender to Him, surrender to the holy chrism which was placed on your head at baptism and renewed at confirmation - that is here in the sweetness of the Holy Spirit tonight. Surrender to the Lord and just let Him be God.

SHARING

When we sang this song - "grace coming down from his wounds" – I was reminded of something I heard about how He never hid His wounds from us. And by His wounds we are healed. So don't hide your wounds cuz it could draw people to you where they could be healed.

IMAGE / EXHORTATION

I just want to share with you an image the Lord gave to me last week. I'm very disappointed that the banner is not there that we had last week. Do you remember what it was? Jesus, yeah. Last week we were singing songs, many songs, that mentioned the name of Jesus, the power of His name, and so I was looking up at that banner. For those of you who don't know, it was in the shape of a heart with the name Jesus in the middle of it. And I was looking at that as we were singing these songs and something was just niggling at me. I was focusing on the last two letters: U and S - us. And so we/us are a part of Jesus and it's in the heart so it's the heart of Jesus, and I think that's kind of been said here before. I think other people have gotten that sense when looking at that banner. But I knew that wasn't it, however the rest of the evening went by and nothing else came to me and I was trying to force something and that doesn't work. So I went to adoration, and again it was just kind of niggling at me but I just said, you know, "Jesus, if You want to tell me something more about this, do it but I'm just going to move on." So I was doing prayers and reflections and adoration, whatever, and all of sudden the words "left ventricle" came to me. And I just got the sense of, okay, that's it. It's been a long time since I had high school biology but I knew the left ventricle had to do with the heart, and so I thought that I needed to go read about this, and I just said, you know, "Please, Jesus, don't make it too complicated" because I know there's a lot of information out there about the heart and I just didn't want to have to get too technical or into too much. So this is a very simplified version of the heart and I didn't have to go very far. But the U-S, us... if you looked at that heart banner and it was the heart of Jesus, "us" is in the left ventricle. The purpose of the right ventricle, which is Jesus, takes blood to the lungs and gets oxygen and then brings it back. That's Jesus – He's providing the air that we breathe, the oxygen, for all of life. The organs are damaged if they don't get air, the oxygen. So that's Jesus. The left ventricle's job is to take that oxygenated blood to the rest of the body. That's what us/we need to do. We need to take what Jesus has given us, all the blessings, everything, the life of Jesus, to the rest of the body. That's our job. And there was one other message that He said, that He gave to me out of all this information there and it was that most of the time, most all of the time, heart disease starts in the left ventricle. So, guys, us/we, let's not cause disease; let's get that oxygen, let's get Jesus out to the rest of His body, the body of Christ.

CONFIRMATION / SHARING

You know, I have to confirm that. Awhile back, I think it was about two or three years ago, I saw a banner up here at the altar and it said Jesus. And I shared this with our bible study group on Tuesday morning. But I wrote a song about Jesus and it's... we are the "u-s" in Jesus. And one of these days we're going to get together as a group... I thought about doing it tonight but we hadn't rehearsed it or anything like that but in the future I'm going to play this for this group. It's just amazing how the Lord moves within you, you know. It's just amazing.

CONFIRMATION / SCRIPTURE

Here's one more confirmation of that. It's a scripture I've been sitting on for awhile. From **1 John 4:7-12**: *Dear friends, let us love one another; for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God because God is love. This is how God shows his love among us. He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.*

MESSAGE IN TONGUES

INTERPRETATION

Do you hear my voice? I have called you by name. And I have told you that you are mine. You experienced my love and now I say to you to take that experience of my love, that experience of the love which surpasses anything you have ever known, take that experience and let it shine forth from you. Let it shine in every place that you go, whether it be just a smile or a kind word. But I will bring opportunity to you, opportunity for you to speak my name, my name, the life-saving name of Jesus. Do not fear for I am the one who sends you. I send you and I say, "Now go."

CONFIRMATION

I have a confirming scripture from **1 Peter 3:15**: *But have reverence for Christ in your hearts and honor him as Lord. Be ready at all times to answer any one who asks you to explain the hope you have in you but do it with gentleness and respect.*

CONFIRMATION / SENSE / SCRIPTURE

I have another confirmation. As soon as those words came, I had a very strong sense of Jesus telling us that the love we have in our hearts is Him. Earlier I had a picture and I didn't know where it fit but now I know. This is from **Deuteronomy 31:6**: *Be strong and of good courage, do not fear or be in dread: for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.* And that's what I've been getting for quite a few weeks now. Each time I come here the sense is that God is faithful. It doesn't matter what we feel like. I've been coming here weak after a day of heavy work and God has been telling me that it doesn't matter how I feel. It's Him in me and He is strong always, and He will love always through me. He's the Lord that goes before you; He will be with you; He will not fail you or forsake you – so do not fear.

SENSE

I had a word, a single word over and over and the word was "tentative". And the message was: "Do not be tentative. Do not hesitate. Do not fear but step out. My grace is with you."

SHARING

And you know, for myself that word was saying to not get hung up on myself. Get my eyes off myself. Turn those eyes to the person who has need and to the Lord who has everything.

SENSE

For weeks we've been focused on crossing the River Jordan. And the word of the Lord came to me just now. In the same way that we've crossed the River Jordan... The children of Israel, the Lord God went before them with the pillar of fire by night and the pillar of cloud by day to lead them forth, to show them the way which they should go. And in that same way, He is going to lead us forth in the way He wants us to go and to do the things He wants us to do.

SCRIPTURE

Today's gospel reading and the Psalm and the first reading all tie in to so many themes tonight, it's just amazing. Today's gospel from **Luke 9:1-2**: *Jesus summoned the twelve and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.* And it goes on from there.

PRAYER

Lord, help us to lay down whatever we carry, just surrender before You. Lord, help us to surrender to the beautiful one who is You. Lord, help us to place our hearts and our lives on the altar of Your table where Your body and blood are shed. Lord, help us to surrender to Your love, to Your faithfulness, to Your joy.

SCRIPTURE

A lot of us remember seeing the joy of our child's first steps. But it takes a whole lot of adults to raise up a baby, you know. And in the bible there's the story of Samuel (**1 Samuel 3**). He was still a boy when the Lord called him. He was a boy. And Eli, the priest... he was called by God to prophesize I guess and to tell him that the voice he was hearing... he was to say "Speak Lord." This boy didn't even know what he was doing; he was just being obedient. And the Lord spoke to him, and he was faithful to deliver it. He was just a boy. It said that he grew before the Lord and not one word from his mouth did the Lord let drop. He didn't even know what he was doing – and that's us. We don't know what God is calling us to do.

EXHORTATION

This is who we obey and who we surrender to, just as Samuel did. It's love, love on the cross.

CONFIRMATION / SCRIPTURE

With that song, something that was on my mind was a confirmation. In **Hebrews 12:1-2**, it says: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside*

every weight, and the sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. And as the Lord was giving me the interpretation to that message in tongues, I just kept seeing, even as the words were coming, the faces of so many in here who have shared the stories of how they've received God's love and given God's love, either with us as a whole or even individually – stories of praying for one another, stories of making a difference in people's life. And God said, "Yes, that's who you are", a great cloud of witnesses, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.