

**INSPIRED WORD**  
**February 28, 2018**

**SHARING**

Last week it was said that if we don't hear God's word, are we relying on ourselves? During the week, because we've talked about returning to our first love, have each of us taken some time to remember what it felt like... what that experience was when you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior? For some of us it came from confirmation, for some of us it came from home teaching, some from Life In The Spirit. But let's take just a minute to remember what that time was. Do you remember where you were and what it felt like? What brought you to that experience? (sharing of those experiences)

**SCRIPTURE / PRAYER**

**Revelation 4:4-8:** *Around the throne were twenty-four thrones and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders, sitting clothed in white robes and crowns of gold on their heads. And from the throne issued lightnings, thundering and voices; seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God. Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back: the first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes, around and within, and without rest night and day saying, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"* Father, we just thank You and praise You and exalt Your holy name, for You alone are worthy. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb, worthy the Lamb of God who has come. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the holy risen Lamb of God. We praise You and exalt You and magnify Your holy name. For You indeed are the holy Lamb of God. We praise You and exalt You and thank You for the opportunity. Thank You for the breath that comes from our mouth that we may indeed worship You and praise You and exalt Your holy name. Worthy, worthy, worthy is the King, the King of kings, the righteous Lamb of God.

**SCRIPTURE**

From **Psalms 28:6-7:** *Blessed be the Lord for he has heard the voice of my supplications. The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so I am helped and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.*

**CONFIRMATION / SHARING**

And I have to confirm that and that song we just sang. On Sunday we sang "How Firm a Foundation", and the third verse just really struck me and it's exactly what that song says and what Jimmie and Denise shared. "When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of

woe shall not overflow, for I will be with you, your troubles to bless. I'll strengthen you and help you and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

## **SCRIPTURE**

From **Psalm 44:1-4**: *O God, our ears have heard, our fathers have declared it to us, the deeds you did in these days, in the days of old; how with your own hand you rooted out the nations, and planted them. You smashed the peoples, but them thou didst set free; for not by their own sword did they conquer the land, nor did their own arm make them victorious; but it was your arm and your right hand, and the light of your countenance and your love for them. You are my King and my God, who bestowed victories on Jacob.*

## **PRAYER**

O Lord, let Your living water flow in this place tonight. O Lord, let Your living water flow, flow down through that center aisle and around the side aisle and envelope us. Let Your living water flow, the water of Your Holy Spirit, Lord, coming forth from our hearts as well. Have Your way, O Lord, in this place tonight. Free us to worship You, to praise You, to glorify You, to take joy in Your holy presence, to bring forth Your love, O Lord, in the gifts of Your Holy Spirit. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. We affirm You, we affirm Your presence, Jesus. Glory to You, glory to You.

## **SHARING**

When I was a little girl, my mom was always looking for opportunities for faith to come alive for us. And the First Church of the Nazarene had a Saturday morning thing they did a couple times a month called the Joy Club. And she was like, you know, they're doing praise and worship songs; they're doing puppet shows for kids about the Gospels; they're doing games and things to get kids involved in loving the Lord and knowing the Lord loves them – it's all good, so let's go. She grabbed the four of us and off we went to Joy Club. And in watching the little ones tonight, it just reminds me of that. I mean, we're their Joy Club, where God is good and joy is present. And that just becomes part of the fiber of their being, it just becomes part of their DNA. And both of these little ones were prayed all through their pregnancy into existence in the love of the Lord in this community. So it's just... I don't know. I just get chills watching them, that joy. So thank You, Lord, for joy.

## **CONFIRMATION**

The songs and the scripture readings we've had so far have been all about the wondrous, righteousness and great love that the Father has for each one of us. No matter what happens, the Lord is there for us. And it's a matter of us accepting the Holy Spirit and having it flow through us. That way we can reach others, let others know of His wondrous glory, His great love that He has for us.

## **SCRIPTURE / WORD OF WISDOM**

From **Psalm 105:1-5**: *Give thanks to Yahweh, call on his name, proclaim his deeds to the peoples! Sing to him, make music for him, recount all his wonders! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts that seek Yahweh rejoice! Seek Yahweh and his strength, tirelessly seek his presence! Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders, the judgments he has spoken.* And as Andrea spoke about, remember your first love. Remember the marvels He has done, remember what He's going to do for us in the future. God is a God of consistency, and how He's worked with us in the past is often how we'll most carefully and consistently hear His voice working with us in the future and in the present. So it's good to remember when you've encountered God in your life and write those things down. Seek His presence and ask Him to reveal Himself again and again to you, to renew the living water. And sometimes it will come down like rain, and sometimes it's a deep well and you've got to take your cup and you've gotta be turning the handle and you gotta drop it way down in there and go deep, but the water's always there. And it will be there again.

### **CONFIRMATION / SCRIPTURE**

As a confirmation of that, I was in **1 Samuel 12:22, 24** and it says: *For the Lord will not cast away his people, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself. Serve him faithfully with all your heart; for consider what great things he has done for you.*

### **PRAYER / WORD OF KNOWLEDGE**

Come, Holy Spirit, and touch the hearts of Your people here right now, Lord. Glory to You. The word I keep getting is "miracle". You know, there are many types of miracles but I believe there is at least one person here tonight who needs a miracle. There's a great, great need. There's a need for us to pray for a real miracle in their life, a real miracle in your life. So if you feel the Lord touching you, if you have a need like that, for a miracle in your life, raise your hand. (several raised their hands and were prayed over)

### **SHARING**

I'd just like to share what happened to me when we sang "breathe on me, Holy One". When we were in the circle praying, someone was behind me and what I kept noticing was the breath. So I thought afterwards when we were singing that the breath of God was flowing over me and all of us to the people we were praying for.

### **CONFIRMATION**

I wanted to confirm all this talk about breath tonight and the topic of breath. When I was praying during the week, that was the topic that came, the image or topic, when I was compiling the songs and what the Holy Spirit brought to my mind. So I get goose bumps when the confirmation... when Jimmie had his sharing about breath and all this. It's just awesome how the Holy Spirit comes together through all these different people.

### **MESSAGE IN TONGUES**

## **INTERPRETATION**

Yes, my beloved, indeed I have breathed upon you tonight. I have breathed the love of my Father for you. I have breathed my love for you. And I have breathed the love of the Spirit that walks with you daily. This is a breath of life, not a breath of sorrow. This is a breath of joy, not a breath of sadness. This is a breath that through you gives life to others. This is a breath that you are to breathe upon others. This is a breath of my grace, the graces that I give to you to others. I breathe upon you daily, but tonight you have recognized it. And I say to you now, rejoice and be happy for I, your Lord, have heard your call and I have come, come in a special way. I have come with the breath of life, with the breath of light, with the breath of love. Rejoice, my beloved, rejoice.

## **IMAGE**

When Mel was speaking I just kept getting a sense of China. And that sounds kind of weird but it was the vastness of that space, of that place. And the phrase “the winds come from the East”, it comes from this big, huge space to us.

## **SHARING**

As Mel was speaking, he mentioned “grace” and God flooding us with His grace, and using us to take that grace to others, to take God’s grace to others. And about a year ago when Fr. Declan was here to speak about adoration, one of the things he said, and I must have heard this before but it just never struck me, but he said, “God loves bestowing His grace on us and the thing He loves the best is using us to help Him bestow His grace on others.”

## **CONFIRMATION**

Just to confirm about sharing the love of God and letting the breath of life from the Lord flow through you in the power of the Holy Spirit, and not only keeping it for yourself but sharing it with others, I found that when I did this in my college days with Ambassadors for Christ and Navigators and the International Fellowship of Christian Athletes, I personally think I got more out of sharing the love of God with the other people than what they got from hearing me. And that might sound selfish but it’s like God wants us to be His own and to be with Him. And when we accept His power and His holy love and go out and share it, we’re carrying the good news of the Gospel to the nations.

## **IMAGE / SHARING**

I love the image that as grace covers us, it doesn’t stay on the surface. It soaks in and we’re transformed in the Son of God through our baptism, through the water and the blood and the Spirit who made the old church fathers say, “We’re made sons in the Son.” Not on our own but

we become one with Jesus and we become the son of God in the Son. That's that adoption, that gift of love and life, that we're transformed from glory to glory, grace to grace.