

INSPIRED WORD

May 29, 2019

PRAYER

Let's start in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, amen. Lord, Jesus, we just give this night to You. We ask that You come and be with us in a special way. We ask that You would fill our hearts and fill our spirits and fill this place with Your love in a way that we can't even begin to comprehend. Lord, we lay everything down that is not of You. We lay down everything that is good but distracting tonight, and we just focus our minds and our hearts on Your love. Amen.

REVIEW OF THE INSPIRED WORD

Let's start by reviewing what we heard in February: Jesus is the Water of Life, of our lives, and we have all we need. We are called to open the door of our hearts and trust Him completely. And at the end, we danced with the Lord, a very joyful time. But He calls us more deeply than that. I know we used the words "trust Him completely" but He says, "With you everything is raised up", meaning with Jesus everything is raised up. We are called to trust. We have been trusting God more as we move across the River Jordan in new places and in new circumstances. But He wants us to trust Him in all parts of our lives – all. So He tells us He loves us, over and over. We can trust the God who loves us that much. And when we trust Him, we are set free. He promises that. So in order for us to trust Him in everything, He asks us to (1) continue to learn about how much He loves us; trust Him even more in that love, (2) image how much freedom we can have when we trust Him with everything, and then (3) just learn how to release it all to Him. So we're going to start as we do with love - how much God loves us. God pours out His love upon us in Scripture and in prayer in the words that we've heard. And that word "pour" is used several times; it has since the beginning of the year and it continued on. In Joel 2: Be glad, O sons of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord, your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before. And again in scripture in Romans 5: Now hope does not disappoint because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. And in prayer: Lord Jesus, You know us deep, You know the depths of our hearts, and we need not have shame here in this place before You, because nothing, nothing can stop Your love from pouring forth into our hearts and into our souls tonight. And in an image: "I pour my amazing love on you that you may pour my amazing love on this world." And then just imagine how much freedom we would have if we trust Him with everything. In an exhortation we heard: Lord, yes, we want that. We want that heartfelt desire for You. It's a grace. So Holy Spirit, give us that desire. Let us seek the Lord with all of our hearts. Let us respond to that grace. We ask for it. And then we heard in prayer: We come here to seek Your

face, to give You praise, to glorify Your holy name. And we thank You for allowing us to do it. So pour forth Your Spirit upon us, Lord, and give us that freedom. And in doing away with our faults, our despair, our fear, our sins, we are free. In Scripture in Micah: What God can compare with You, for pardoning guilt and overlooking crime? You do not harbor anger forever but delight in showing faithful love. Once more, have pity on us. Tread down our faults and throw all our sins to the bottom of the sea. And in a sharing: "We cast aside our shadows and trust you with our sorrows." From Rend Collective's song Joy: Trust Him with our sorrows so that His grace and rightness can shine for the world to see. And in Scripture from Isaiah: A day is coming when people will sing, "I praise you, Lord. God is my Savior; I will trust him and not be afraid. The Lord gives me power and strength. He is my Savior. As fresh water brings joy to the thirsty, so God's people rejoice when he saves them. So we have to learn, practice trusting Him in everything. And He's very clear about that *everything*. With Jesus, everything is raised up. So make an active decision to let God act in your life, in those secret places. In an exhortation we hear: Decide to turn over whatever is in your mind, whatever's going on in the day, whatever you brought with you – be it tiredness, concern for a loved one, job, whatever, decide to let it go and let God act in your life. Make it an active decision. Tell the Lord: "I want You in my life and I'm deciding to allow that. I surrender what I'm carrying right now because I want to carry what You want to place on my heart." In a prayer: Come, Lord Jesus, into all those secret places that we hold You out of. Come, Lord Jesus. We need You; we need You, Lord, into our desperation, come, into our fear, come, into our confusion, Lord, come, into our weakness, Lord, come into our complacency. Celebrate our joys with us! And then in a prayer and exhortation: Your love, here, now, in this place. I'm getting this word and the word is "release – release". Perhaps someone is holding something, holding on to something that prevents the full flow of the mercy of God from reaching his heart. Release. The Lord calls us to release those things that you've been holding that you shouldn't be holding. The Lord calls for release, to release them to Him with confidence, and hold them no more. In a sharing, we had just sang the song "Lay It Down" and a person spoke these words: This song, as I sat there before the Lord, right there in the back with nobody else looking, and I took that pearl of great price that's in that song "Lay It Down" and I laid it before the Lord, and I said, "Jesus, here it is, because with You everything is raised up." But that's the beauty of the cross and the resurrection holds is that when we lay ourselves down before the Lord, that when He raises us back up, that grave no longer holds power." With You, everything is raised up. And in an exhortation: We need to be on the lookout for the Lord's invitation. He speaks to us; He's in us; He's with us all the time. Are we there to hear it? Are we there to respond to it? So that's the invitation. So the Lord is inviting us to trust Him in everything. It might be in a secret place; it might be in our desperation, in our fears; it might be something we have to release. So I'd like everyone to spend a couple of minutes thinking about a couple of things. When God invites you to be with Him in all of your circumstances, what's your answer going to be? And also think of a couple of things you need to release to Him or circumstances that are very challenging that you need to give to Him.

SCRIPTURE

Zechariah had a vision in which there was a man with a measuring line **(3:1-5)**: *Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. And the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?" Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with rich apparel." And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments; and the angel of the Lord was standing by. Later on this same passage says **(v. 9)**: *I will remove the guilt of this land in a single day. In that day, says the Lord, every one of you will invite his neighbor under his vine and under his fig tree.**

PRAYER

And Lord, only through Your power and Your Holy Spirit can we do that, where we cast aside our sorrows and embrace Your joy, because it is Your love and Your Spirit dwelling within us like water, the living water coming forth, that allows that to happen. So come, Holy Spirit, as we pray. We invite You here.

EXHORTATION / PRAYER

And we have the Lord's promise, you know, that what we ask, we receive. When we ask for the Holy Spirit, we receive. We've asked tonight. Open your hearts to Him. Open your hearts to Him and ask for Him, and we have received and are receiving. Lord, send Your revival fire here among Your people. Light every heart, Lord. We want You; we've asked, O God. Your promise is that when we ask, we receive. Come, Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

Psalms 89:11-18: *The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours; the world and all its fullness. You have founded them. The north and the south, you have created them. You have a mighty arm, strong is your hand and high is your right hand. Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Mercy and truth go before your face. Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound; they walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance. In your name, they rejoice all day long and in your righteousness, they are exalted. For you who are the glory of their strength; in your favor our horn is exalted. For our shield belongs to the Lord, and our king to the Holy One of Israel. Dear Lord, we 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, worthy the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Worthy, worthy, worthy are You, worthy of all honor and worthy of all glory, worthy of all praise. Halleluiah to the Lamb.*

EXHORTATION

So we have the fire of God with us. Let's let it show, in here and out there.

PRAYER

Lord, we ask that that fire help us to move out and not to focus in, but to bring Your love where it needs to go. Lord, You've given each one of us a special life, a call on our life. We've placed us where You need us to be, and if we've gotten ourselves someplace that You didn't place us, You can use us where we've gotten ourselves to be. You are so much bigger, Lord, take away the fear and let the fire flare. Burn away fear so that only love remains. Kindness, gentleness, patience, peace, self-control, fear of the Lord – these are the fruits of the Spirit.

WORD OF WISDOM

Just some of the thoughts from tonight and from last week, it's been like we started out with the love of God. What we can't deny is Psalm 121 where it's not a gazillion times but it says that His mercy endures forever. And that's how much the Lord God loves us and takes care of us. And this song tonight, "Be Not Afraid", as we get closer to God, the world tries to throw all this garbage and oppression as to discourage us. The idea is that we have the Lord God with us in our hearts wherever we go. And then what Marilyn brought together at the beginning about trusting God, because realize that the oppression and fear, what the world is trying to give us, is different than our fear of the Lord. Fear of the Lord is recognizing the awesomeness of God. The fear of oppression is something we can pray about, that the Lord do away with. We lay it at the foot of the cross at which Jesus died for us. So the idea there is recognizing God overcoming the fear of the world, to be not afraid. Then trust in the Lord. Then the last part that went out last week was reaching out in faith to God, and that's why we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us so others may come to praise and glorify the holy name of God.

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

I just have that feeling that there's somebody with an anointing here that's not talking. If the Spirit's moving on your heart, you need to speak. You need to say exactly what He's giving you.

SHARING

At first I thought about saying I don't know why this is coming to me but then again that wouldn't have been true because I do. I was in a group of people and it's not important for me to identify them but I will say that not all of them were believers. And it came up as a topic of discussion, briefly, five or so minutes, the topic was: What is the golden rule? What does that mean? And a couple of people kind of giggled and laughed and said, "Well, it means that he who has the gold makes the rule." And I shook my head and said, "No, that's not what it is." They said, "Well, what do you think it is?" And I said, "I don't think, I know. God's given me the joy of knowing. It's 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'" And I parted with

them saying, "Make that an effort. And it's not easy; it's the hardest thing to do." But I just want to give God thanks that although I chimed in and laughed at "He who has gold makes the rule", that's what is so prominent in today's world that we live in. And also that I knew from the blessings that God's given me and how He's raised me up, I knew to bring that forth.

SCRIPTURE / IMAGE

First I'm hearing a scripture from **Isaiah 40:31**: *They that lay upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They'll rise up with wings like the eagle. They will run and not be weary; they will walk and not faint.* And I see the Lord teaching us how to wait on Him. But the image that I get is interesting but what I'm seeing is we're like eagles but we're in the chicken coop and I see the Lord just springing the door open. Eagles don't live caged in fear. We're not chickens.

CONFIRMATION

I just want to confirm the "be not afraid" and the thoughts that have been said about fear, that word has been on my mind the whole evening. This world is awash in fear; this nation is awash in fear. And Christ tells us to not be afraid, because of Him.

IMAGE

I'm taking a chance on just a little poetic image of the memory of baby's first steps, and the joy in our kids when they took their first steps towards mom and dad. And mom and dad are all full of joy also. And I just feel like that is what it's like, you know. You're kind of stumbling but it doesn't matter because you're heading toward the Lord.