

## **INSPIRED WORD**

**June 8, 2016**

### **SCRIPTURE / PRAYER**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness did not overcome it. **(Reference: John 1: 1 – 5)** Lord, You continue to send Your Word to us in so many ways; one of those ways is the Inspired Word that comes through this community and flows out from this community to the world. Lord, tonight as we reflect on Your Word that You have given us over and over – Word of Your mercy, Word of Your love - help us to hear the words that You put into our hearts and, like Mary, help us to ponder these words, so that it transforms us.

### **SCRIPTURE / PROPHECY**

**Revelation 22: 16 – 17:** “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star. The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” What the Lord has been telling me is that He is going to send the bright Morning Star to this world, and it will be manifested in this church. I don’t know when that is going to happen, as God does not reveal to us His timeframe.

### **TEACHING / SCRIPTURE / PROPHECY / EXHORTATION / IMAGE / PRAYER**

Marilyn speaking: You know that when you volunteer for something, or say that we need to do something, you’re it! I am going to start with: “Blessed be His Name!” I am going to talk about the Inspired Word which we receive at our praise gatherings here; and it is a praise gathering. We come here to praise the Lord and that is the most important thing that we do. We record the word and then it is transcribed, typed up and put on a website. You can go to this website and read it for yourself. The website is: [www.newpentecost.net](http://www.newpentecost.net) and when you are on the site, click on the: **Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Colorado Springs**. If you are on that website, it is under **Charismatic Prayer Meetings**, then **Holy Apostles Prayer Meetings**, and then the **Inspired Word**. You can download and print these Inspired Words from there. I encourage you to do that, especially if we have had a really powerful evening here on Wednesday nights. I am going to tell you a story that the Lord gave to me, but I am sure we all have our own stories if we read the Inspired Words available. The Lord told me to start at the end of the story, rather than at the beginning. The end of the story is bearing fruit and evangelizing, so that is the goal which God has for us. But how do we get there? I am going to read some of the things which you have shared in this community - the Scripture readings, the Images, the Exhortations, and the Prophecies. I am going to explain how God wants us to get to the place where we can bear fruit and evangelize. We know that Peter jumped out of a boat and walked on water; that is bearing fruit and evangelizing. He did that after a great deal of work. Andrea shared with us last week that she was able to give a burden to the Lord, and she did not take it back. Will came up and asked for prayers for his job because he believed in prayer. The first thing which God asks us to do is to praise Him, which is why this is a praise gathering. Then He gives us words from many prophets; we have a lot of readings from prophets. Prophets are telling us how God takes care of us and they are calling us to conversion of hearts. Then we have the Holy Spirit Who comes and empowers us, and gives us the strength that we need. Then we let go and we are holy; once we do that, we can bear fruit and evangelize.

I am going to go through some of the readings and describe what we said about those things. The first one is: **Praise**, which was from **Psalms 145** on January 20<sup>th</sup>: “I will exalt You, my God and my King; I will praise Your Name forever. Every day I will praise You and extol Your Name forever and ever. Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom. One generation will commend Your works to another; they will tell of Your mighty acts. They will speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and I will meditate on Your wonderful works”. **(Reference: Verses 1 – 5)** Then on the same night from **Psalms 148**: “Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all you angels; give praise, all you hosts! Praise Him, sun and moon; give praise, all shining stars!” **(Reference: Verses 1 – 3)** We sing many songs of praise every Wednesday night here in this place; we start the evening with praise songs. So praising the Lord is a big part of what we do here. In praising, we know Who God is, how great He is, how mighty He is, how kind He is, how slow to anger He is, and how much He loves us. We cannot spend too much time on this! In fact, a few weeks ago, I thought that we were going a little overboard with praising God and talking about how much He loves us. I thought that we needed to move past praising and get on to another subject. Well, God certainly set me straight on that thought! If we don't know Who God is, and how strong He is and how mighty He is, and how much He cares for us, we cannot do any of the other things that He wants us to do. So He set me straight! **We need to praise Him all the time!!**

Also from January 20<sup>th</sup>, an Exhortation was given which said that God is telling us to start everything we do with “**Blessed be Your Name!**” If we are going to evangelize, then “Blessed be Your Name” before we even open our mouths. If we are driving our vehicles somewhere, then “Blessed be Your Name”, before we even get into our vehicles. **Let God lead you at all times!!** Shortly after that, an Image was shared which was this: All evening I have been seeing children (boys and girls); they are in a circle and they have their heads tilted back. Each girl's hair is just flying everywhere. These children are on a merry-go-round, and there are rain drops just showering them. I think that all of us are supposed to be child-like again for God; just like when we were first showered with the Holy Spirit, and the great excitement that we all had at that time. I think that is what the Lord is calling us to do! “Blessed be His Name!” We are blessed because we have Jesus! Then we have the prophets who tell us what God is going to do - their promises of what God is going to do. They also call us to conversion of our hearts. The **Catechism of the Catholic Church** says, “Through the prophets, God forms His people in the hope of salvation, in the expectation of a new and everlasting Covenant intended for all, to be written on their hearts. **(Reference: CCC: paragraph 64)**

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, from **Isaiah 55**: “My word is like the snow and the rain that come down from the sky to water the earth. They make the crops grow and provide seed for planting and food to eat. So also will be the word that I speak – it will not fail to do what I plan for it; it will do everything I send it to do.” **(Reference: Verses 10 – 11)** That sounds like a promise to us from the Lord, as we go through these five weeks, asking Him to grow seeds of holiness in us. He promised us that His word will not return to Him empty, but will come to do everything He sent it to do. On January 6<sup>th</sup>, from **Isaiah 40**: The Sovereign Lord is coming to rule with power, bringing with Him the people He has rescued. He will take care of His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs together and carry them in His arms; He will gently lead their mothers. **(Reference: Verses 10 – 11)** In Ezekiel there is a lot of sheep and caring for His flock. On March 30<sup>th</sup> from **Ezekiel 34: 11 – 13**: “For thus says the Lord God; I Myself will

look after and tend My sheep. As a shepherd tends his flock when he finds himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend My sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered on the day of the dark cloud. I will lead them out from among the people and gather them from the foreign lands; I will bring them back to their own country and pasture them upon the mountains of Israel. Then from **Ezekiel 47**: The man brought me back to the entrance of the temple, and I saw water coming out from the threshold of the temple toward the east. The water was coming down from under the south side of the temple, south of the altar. He then brought me out through the north gate and led me around the outside to the outer gate facing east, and the water was flowing from the south side. As the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and then led me through the water that was ankle-deep. He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through the water that was knee-deep. He measured off another thousand and led me through the water that was up to the waist. He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in – a river that no one could cross. He asked me, “Son of man, do you see this?” Then he led me back to the bank of the river. When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river. He said to me, “This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Araba, where it enters the Sea. When it empties into the Sea, the water there becomes fresh. Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets. The fish will be of many kinds – like the fish of the Great Sea.” **(Ref: Verses 1-10)** What promises these prophets give us; it brings life.

Then if we are not quite sure that we need to praise the Lord, we had a Prophecy on March 16<sup>th</sup>: “Now I say this to you, My beloved, **I desire to speak with you**. Know this first, My beloved, I love you; **deep in your hearts know that I love you!** Daily I require something of you; yes, you may call it pruning, but I call it a desire for you to grow. So deep in your hearts, accept these words – **I, the Vine, speak to you. In order to grow, you must believe that I love you!** And once you believe those words, then you can go forth. You can go forth and share with others the love that I have for them. **That is My desire for you, to grow and to feed others!**” That is a big confirmation that we are supposed to praise Him and go out and love everyone.

So then we come to the part where the Holy Spirit empowers us. We can't do anything without that power. We need to fill ourselves with it, to the point of overflowing, and then give it to others. On January 27<sup>th</sup> from **Isaiah 28: 23** “Listen, and hear My voice; pay attention, and hear My word.” We had a Prayer / Exhortation on January 20<sup>th</sup>: “Lord, we thank You for Your Holy Presence here in this place! Lord, we thank You for the grace that You have poured down upon us! Lord, we want to be joyful in Your Presence! We want to be excited in Your Presence! That is a grace, Lord, and we ask for it. Lord, we know that You love us so much and that You would withhold nothing from us. All we have to do is open up our hearts to Him! Glory to You, Lord!”

On January 6<sup>th</sup> we heard this prayer: “Lord, we need You! We ask You to fill this place tonight with Your Holy Presence. Touch every heart and reveal to us the love of the Father, and the love of Jesus. Help us to yield to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, Your gifts, Lord, which You pour forth on us here in this place tonight. Minister to those present here tonight. Come!

Come, Spirit of the Living God, come and have Your way in this place tonight! Glory to You, Lord! On that same night we had a group of Images and Exhortations. A person had an Image of a fire, like tongues of fire swirling slowly, but it had not ignited anything else yet. It was like the flames were waiting for us to reach out and catch on fire, so that it will spread from us to others around us. This Exhortation followed: Going back to the flames of fire in the image that we heard earlier, the Holy Spirit inside of us wants to go up and grab one of those swirling flames. If my Holy Spirit in me grabs one of those flames, it would be a light – to shed some light on problems, or challenges in my life. It would be warm and comforting, and then be a light for others to see, to give them some hope. So let the Holy Spirit inside of you grab those flames of fire! Then there was a confirmation that followed: I want to confirm that because the Lord has really been bringing those flames to my mind. I have been asking the Lord about them. What the person said earlier was very true. If we grab the swirling flames of the Holy Spirit inside of us, it becomes light. The Lord showed me further that those flames are not just dancing here, but they go with us wherever we go. They are like the Charisms of the Holy Spirit – the Word of Wisdom, the Word of Knowledge and so forth. All of those things that we need. In **1 Corinthians 2: 1 – 4**: “When I came to you, my friends, to preach God’s secret truth, I did not use big words and great learning. For while I was with you, I made up my mind to forget everything except Jesus Christ and especially His death on the cross. So when I came to you, I was weak and trembled all over with fear, and my teaching and message were not delivered with skillful words of human wisdom, but with convincing proof of the power of God’s Spirit.” Then the person continues with this Exhortation: I think that the Lord wants us to know tonight that we can reach out and grab those flames that are dancing in this place and they will become a light within us. They will go with us wherever we go. When we meet people who need prayer and we just don’t know what to say or do, we need to remember that those flames are there dancing around and all we have to do is reach out and say, “Lord, my spirit reaches out for You.” And the Lord enters in a very special way and empowers us. So we have ‘praise the Lord’, we listened to the promises of the prophets, and perhaps the converting of our hearts. We have asked the Holy Spirit to touch us, to empower us, to give us the courage to do what we need to do.

The next part is to ‘Let go, and be holy.’ This is from the first session of Growing Seeds of Holiness: A question for you: are you holy? Yes, we are! A part of being holy is to recognize your identity – that we are sons and daughters of God the Father. How did you get there? Through Baptism – when the Spirit came into your life, you were adopted as the sons and daughters of the Father. Our true happiness comes from that realization! So, because we are baptized, because we are sons and daughters of the Father, we are holy people right this moment! In **1 Peter 1: 15 – 16**, “Be holy in all that you do, just as God Who called you is holy.” The scripture says, “Be holy because I am holy”, says the Lord. So the Lord has called us and gifted us with the Holy Spirit, therefore, we are holy! Again in **1 Peter 2: 9**: “You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him Who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.” So we learned from the ‘Growing Seeds of Holiness’ what we need to do. It is to be disciplined in some of the things that the Lords asks us to do. We need to pray, to study scripture, to receive the Sacraments, be around a community of mature Christians, and don’t forget that we have to do the maintenance of weed and pest control. Get rid of those things that the Lord has placed upon our hearts.

On January 13<sup>th</sup>, In a Scripture / Exhortation we heard this: As I was coming to church tonight, I heard God say, “Samuel”. I didn’t get a chance to look at it until just a few moments

ago. It is about David and Goliath, and the story goes on to say that David was going to meet Goliath, so they wanted to dress him up in all the armor that was appropriate for battle with a giant. But David didn't want to wear all that armor, so he said that what he has already been doing, which is shepherding the flock, has prepared him and that he will meet Goliath as he is. **(Reference: 1 Samuel 17: 33 – 34, 38 – 39)** The Lord is encouraging us to be who we are, to be holy and use our gifts.

On January 20<sup>th</sup> a person shared an image that he had of rain drops falling down. He said that they were like rain drops of mercy, and remember this is the Year of Mercy. I just saw the rain drops, but then each of us started to change into different colors; each of us a different color. Then as it continued, I started to see a wide-angle shot of all of us. All at once, these rain drops went into the distance, and all of the rain drops became a rainbow. It reminded me that God had mercy on Noah and He created the rainbow. He has drops of mercy for each of us! On March 2<sup>nd</sup> from **Joel 2: 12** we hear: "Yet even now", says the Lord, "return to Me with your whole heart, with fasting, with weeping and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your garments." On that same day, In Prophecy we heard: **"Focus, instead, on Me!** (meaning the Lord). We can't do any of this without Him.

So we have been disciplined, we have read our scriptures, and we have prayed. Now we trust in the Lord. Now we have a story to tell – imagine what Peter told the people who weren't there when he jumped out of the boat. He told the people, "I walked on water!" So if you trust, have prayed, have let the Holy Spirit touch you, and have done your reading and studying, then you have a story to tell too. In the fifth and last session of our Lenten series of "Growing Seeds of Holiness", the topic was about "Pruning and Bearing Fruit." In this session we talked about **'the idols that we hold on to'**. I want to read what was shared that night: Some of the toughest things in my life were to give up some of the idols that I have had in my life. After giving up the idols, we want to bear fruit – God calls us to bear fruit. The opening song that we sang tonight is called, "Perfect", and it is one of my favorite songs. Some of the words in the song are: "We are not made to more than just survive, **we are made to thrive.**" That is what it means to bear fruit, to thrive. So we want to continue to grow not only in holiness, but to cultivate that to sustain. God calls us to bear fruit, however, there is one thing we have to do and that is to cooperate with God. **We have to let go!** We cannot grow in holiness if we hang on to those things, such as unforgiveness and such. As we cooperate with God, the Holy Spirit causes the seeds of our cooperation to grow, the results being the fruits of the Spirit.

So we know God's blessing in our lives and we share that with others – evangelization. We have to make sure that we praise the Lord – which is the **first** thing. We read His promises, we let the Holy Spirit empower us, we let go and strive to be holy. We share our journey and in that we praise Him, and then we start the journey all over again. Amen!

## **SUMMARY / EXHORTATION**

Earlier we heard that the Lord desires to speak with us. We have this beautiful Word written down, we have it on the website, and it goes back many years. When the Lord says that He want to speak to us, He is not talking in generality. He is talking very specifically. That requires something of us, doesn't it? It requires us to listen, to reflect and go back and read. We are very blessed in this community to have this Word. When I was on the Pastoral Team, we talked about that – the blessing we have and the Word of God that we have written down on paper and on the internet as well. I asked a question – how many other communities, who

gather in prayer, have the Word that the Lord gives them written down? We couldn't find any other community at that time. I don't know if there are any today or not. So if the Lord speaks and it is not recorded, or written down, or we are not listening, then we are not gaining the value of His Words. The second part is to take His Word and to go! **He says, "I desire to speak with you!"** The other side of that is that He desires for us to listen to Him. Then the other side of that too is that we continue to read and reflect on His Words, because they change with each one of us. If we heard the same words again in the next week or two, we could have a deeper understanding because we have opened our ears, our eyes, and opened our hearts. So with the remaining time that we have left here tonight, let's reflect on this and praise God, knowing that He wants to speak to us, and He wants to hear us praise Him. If He gives us a Word, please come up to the microphone and share it.

## **SHARING**

Sometimes we don't always come here on Wednesday nights with the mind-set of giving praise because of the difficult things that are happening, or have happened in our lives. So it becomes a conscious decision to praise the Lord, because He is the Lord and He deserves it! The amazing thing about it is that once we get over that hump – that frame of mind – it does open us up and creates this sense of joy which opens us up for more of an intimate encounter with the Lord.

## **SCRIPTURE**

**Matthew 5: 14 – 16:** You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

## **PROPHECY**

About 29 years ago, we had a Prophetic Word from our Lord. He told us to keep our eye on the vision, and this was the Word that He gave us: **"I will fill this room, I will fill this church, and I will fill this city with people whose hearts are turned toward Me."** About three years later, He said, **"I have asked you to keep your eye on the vision. I have told you that I will fill this room, I will fill this church, and I will fill this city with people whose hearts are turned toward Me. But, My people, I will use you to do that!"** Tonight we have heard the Word that the Bright Morning Star will come through this church. We have also heard the Word of God repeated to us; some of us have heard the Word and will keep our eye on the vision and we will go forth with the Word and proclaim it. Some of us have heard the Word, but don't yet have that vision. **The Lord has told us, "Listen to Me!"** Some of us perhaps refuse to listen to the Word because we cannot believe that the Lord will use us. The Lord **now** has asked me to **repeat that vision** and to tell you, **"Do not forget this promise! I will fill this room, I will fill this church, and I will fill this city with people whose hearts are turned toward Me! And I will use you to do this! My people, do you believe this? Do you trust Me? Will you go forth with Me?"**

**(Praying over people present here tonight who are in need of prayers)**

