

50th JUBILEE 9-WEEK NOVENA: WEEK 6

NOVENA REFLECTION: Let us prepare ourselves to fully participate in the 50th Jubilee of the founding of our Covenant Community by asking “what is a Jubilee?” For ancient Israel, it was a time to restore the land to its owners, to proclaim liberty to those enslaved; it was a sacred year to enter into God’s rest and liberation as a people.

Lev. 25:10 “You shall treat this fiftieth year as sacred. You shall proclaim liberty in the land for all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to your own property, each of you to your own family”. NABRE

We too are invited to enter into deeper freedom and restoration this Jubilee year. When we approach it prayerfully, the Holy Spirit will guide each of us concerning what to release and what to restore. This can be a beautiful year of remembering the call of God to us individually and as a people, and with great gratitude reflecting on what he has done among us. **The themes chosen for each week’s Novena should be considered both vertically (God and you, God and us), and horizontally (person to person, person to CCGD).**

These are a few of the questions we can ask ourselves as we ponder and pray over how any theme relates to us.

- Am I obedient to God in this area? How is He calling me to change?
- What does God desire to restore in my life?
- What action is He calling me to take?



WEEK 6: DISCIPLESHIP

GOD’S CALL THROUGH SCRIPTURE:

Matt. 16:24 *“ If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for My sake will find it.”*

John 8:28-32 *“I do nothing of myself: what the Father has taught me is what I preach...I always do what pleases Him. ...If you make My word your home, you will indeed be My disciples, you will learn the Truth and the Truth will make you free.”*

Mark 1:17 *“Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.”*

MEDITATION:

In order to be followers of Christ and to respond to our covenant, we are instructed to let go of everything we are holding onto, including our own life. We are to be fully committed to doing what pleases the Father. We strive to submit ourselves and every decision to see if it pleases the Father. We can only do this by making HIS WORD our home, knowing it inside and out. Only in this way can we learn the Truth and measure every step we take against it. Only in this way can we truly be free, liberated from our flesh and our desires, and truly, vibrantly live for the Lord. ‘Follow Me’ – Do what I did; pray unceasingly and do what pleases Him. ‘I will make you’ – He will change and mold us. ‘Fishers of men’ – It doesn’t stop with us, we have to reach out and share the Truth that we know.

- Am I holding onto anything blocking me from following Him and being faithful to our covenant?
- Am I taking up the cross that the Lord has put in my life at this moment?
- Am I truly making His Word my home so that I will be able to share it?

PRAYER: (Based on Matt. 14:13-21, the first miracle of the loaves, Continue with your own prayer)

Lord, I come before you today with my 5 loaves and 2 fish, freely offering them to you along with any gifts, talents, and abilities You have given me, as well as any fears, anxieties, or other crosses You have permitted. I surrender it all to you, every part of what makes up me. Please take me and raise me to heaven and say the blessing. Then break me Lord, so I may be handed out to the crowds not as the insignificant me I started as, but as You, as Your Word – The Truth. Help that Truth be so much a part of me that anyone who comes in contact with me will walk away with some of You. Show Your Glory in the 12 baskets of scraps that are left over. Help me to be a true disciple and walk in Your ways.

ACTION: Immerse yourself in His Word this week and look for ways to share it with others.