

50th JUBILEE 9-WEEK NOVENA: WEEK 7

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 7: PRAISE & WORSHIP / ABANDONMENT

GOD’S CALL THROUGH SCRIPTURE:

1 Chron.16:25 *“Yahweh is great, loud must be His praise, He is to be feared beyond all gods.”*

1 Chron. 29:10-14 *“In the sight of the whole assembly David blessed Yahweh and said ‘Yours, Yahweh, is the greatness, the power, splendor, length of days, glory, for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours. Yours is the sovereignty, you are exalted over all, supreme.’”*

Ex 15:11 *“Who is like You, Yahweh, majestic in holiness, awesome in power, working wonders?”*

Rom.12:1 *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God-this is your true and proper worship.”*

MEDITATION:

When we consider the majesty of God, who He is, what He has done, and what He continues to do, we can’t help but be in awe of His greatness and power. When we look at the many ways He has worked in our lives and in the Community over these past 50 years, it is difficult to even begin to praise and thank Him in an adequate way. Thinking of the miracles we have seen, the love we have experienced, the joy of being His Delight, we realize that we have nothing to offer back to Him. All we can do is express our praise and worship Him with our whole being. We give back everything we have and are to Him and abandon our own wills to Him to do with as He pleases.

PRAYER: (Continue with your own prayer)

The Prayer of Abandonment by Charles de Foucauld

Dearest Father, I abandon myself into Your hands; do with me whatever You want. I will only be grateful for whatever You choose to do. I am prepared for anything; I accept everything. My only wish is that Your will be done in me. There is nothing else, Dearest Lord, that I ask for or want. Into Your hands, I commit my life. I offer it to You with all the affection of my heart. And I do so, because I love You, Dearest Lord, in a way that makes it necessary to abandon myself, and give myself completely into Your hands, without any conditions, and with limitless confidence. Truly, You are my FATHER. Amen.

ACTION:

Spend an extra 5 minutes each day this week praising God for all He has done and for all He is! Ask Him to show you anything specific He might want you to abandon, and then do it.