

Laurie and I had the privilege of hosting the [North American Network of Charismatic Covenant Communities](https://www.NANccc.org/) (NAN) Council Meeting at our home from October 9th through the 12th. If you have any questions about what NAN is and our community's engagement with the network, you can read about it on the Renewal/NAN page on our website here: <https://GodsDelight.org/NANccc>

This council meeting included representatives from most of the NAN communities identified here: <https://www.NANccc.org/Members> Our priority for this meeting was to focus on the two first aspects of our mission mentioned here: <https://www.NANccc.org/Our-Mission> namely to 1) Build Relationships with one another and 2) Help one another.

The Council Service Team (CST) is a team that supports the moderator of the network in the role of leading the Network. This team met one day prior to the full council meeting. This first day the focus was on preplanning the February 2025 conference.

The NAN council meeting opened on Friday morning with Praise and Worship and a time of Holy Listening attentive to the prophetic. A few words that were received were:

- "I have called you together so that you can be with Me and with one another in the unity that I am imparting to you. I desire that you should be one as I am one. You have a special place in My plan, and I have given you a mission of living and teaching the unity that I desire among all my people. Seek Me, seek My plan and My glory, and most importantly, seek My face together. If you will journey together in unity, I will guide you and bless you beyond your most extravagant expectations."
- The Lord wants to be our singular hope. The Lord wants to smash all our idols so that He is our singular hope. The world is constantly raising new idols. "Do not be afraid to do the hard things, for I am your singular hope, and I am true."

The rest of the morning session was devoted to a discernment exercise entitled [According to the plan I will show you](#). Our response to the first question "What are those gifts You have so generously given to us?" was: As covenant communities we have lived a proven formula for the Christian Life, specifically committed lives of surrender and striving for holiness. Also mentioned was a tremendous gift of praise and worship along with a commitment to love one another and to unity. Our response to the second question "What is our biggest wound?" was disconnectedness. When discerning the third question "What is hell's strategy for us?" we heard division, distraction, and doubt. Finally, in discerning the fourth question "Where are you asking us to attack?" the Lord revealed:

1. Find ways to celebrate our relationships and individual and collective Gifts
2. If we are aware of wounds, reconcile and heal any wounds that might be holding us back (individually or as communities)
3. Let our love, relationships, and affection be our most powerful weapon to respond to our call as NAN and as communities

The afternoon was filled with personal and community updates. We learned that many communities are struggling with similar challenges. There is a desire to fan into flame young families to spread the gift of covenant community. It was agreed that the Holy Spirit is at work with each of us amidst the challenges. There was an exhortation to not neglect Spiritual warfare and to prioritize time together so that we can grow our relationships with one another across the network.

Saturday morning the council meeting again opened with Praise and Worship and a time of Holy Listening attentive to the prophetic. There were a few visions shared as well as numerous words, a sampling is:

- Vision of us standing tight shoulder to shoulder under a shower head, it was noted that the force of the water was strongest in the center. "We will experience full impact only as we are standing shoulder to shoulder!"
- Vision of a lighthouse, an enormous wave crashed into it, but the lighthouse stood, and the light remained. The Lord is saying that no matter the size of the wave, you will be able to stand bright with your light shining!
- "I am pleased with your Yes; pleased you are here to seek my will; you are in my presence; I will speak in and through you. Embrace what I say to you; carry it with you; know that you are protected during these times. I am in front of you, leading you. Be at peace and be bold."

The day was spent doing informal best practice sharing. It was a time to share what the Holy Spirit was doing in our communities in each area and ask questions so that we could discern what to take home. The list of topics we discussed were:

- Growing in holiness as leaders
- Order of our Gatherings/Prayer Meetings
- Praise and Worship
- Balancing outreach with community building
- Engaging younger families
- Retaining our youth through life transitions
- Raising up of new leaders
- Passing on Covenant Community
- Importance of mission
- Partnering with other organizations to accomplish what the Holy Spirit is about
- Being open to whomever God brings to us

The council meeting ended by sharing the CST discussions regarding preplanning the 2025 Conference scheduled for February 20-22. Everyone was asking to join in the discernment of the theme and topics.

If you have questions about NAN, please contact me at Contact.the.NAN@gmail.com

David