

## Covenant Life

- Our next in-person Gathering is **TODAY** at **3pm** continuing the pattern of meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays.
- If you have not already do so, PLEASE click [HERE](#) to RSVP for our Golden Jubilee Celebration on March 25-26 at MSM and to order new CCGD Logo shirts (orders must be placed TODAY to ensure delivery before the event).
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting, you can listen to the audio [here](#), and read the Word Gift summary [here](#) and the transcript [here](#).
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.
- **NOVENA**: We are preparing for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a **nine-week novena** to pray, meditate, and discern what God is asking of us going forward. Try to spend quality time daily praying and reflecting, attentive to prophetic words. We want the Lord to reveal His plan for us in this time, individually and as a Community. This week's topic is **Community!** Do not worry if you fall behind or miss a day, each day is a new invitation from the Lord to turn to Him, and "*His mercies are made new each morning*" Lm. 3:22. Consider just ONE of the Scriptures and ONE bullet point and respond with your own prayer. God is not looking at the number of our prayers, but our hearts turned to Him. If you know someone who is without email, please print a copy and visit them so we can be united in seeking our Lord. Please continue prayers for Gretchen and the Jubilee team.

As I read the [Gospel](#) today I found myself counting the number of times Jesus uses the words "I say to you". In reflecting upon this it was clear that Jesus was revealing a new standard to live by. This was true in the [First Reading](#) also, where the word 'choose' was used repeatedly. This got me thinking differently about Paul's words in his letter to the Corinthians in the [Second Reading](#). He speaks of God's wisdom as mysterious and hidden. Is it?

This took more reflection. The more I pondered the more I understood Paul's choice of these words. Later in this passage he explains a truth that the Spirit reveals: "*What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him.*"

This is it. This is the seemingly mysterious truth that the Holy Spirit reveals to those who seek Him out in His word, and choose to live by His commandments, degrees, and statutes.

After pondering this for a while I picked up the attached meditation for our Jubilee novena and it was a Holy Spirit moment. You see, I was convinced that the degree to which I understand the mysteries is a direct result of Community and what I have learned living with you, my sisters and brothers...your witness and exhortations. Discovering that this week our novena will focus on the beauty, blessing, and calling of Community was the perfect answer to my pondering.

The gift of the Holy Spirit is the answer to the mysteries of God and the reason we have The Advocate. We simply cannot do this alone. The world, the flesh, and the devil are too much temptation to confront alone. We need the Holy Spirit to make wise choices. We need the Holy Spirit to live by God's commandments, degrees, and statutes. Beyond the receipt of the Holy Spirit, I suggest that the next most important thing we need is a supportive, loving Christian Community that will enable our journey, affirm our choices, pick us up when we fall, and provide examples and...just love us. This is what you are to me and what I have experienced living in CCGD these past five decades. Thank you! Let us join in this meditation this week to see how we can further strengthen the blessing and bonds of our Community!

*"Lord God, I do want to choose You and Your ways. I invite You into my life in a new and deeper way so that I can better understand the mystery of Your love for me and pass on that love to everyone I meet. Thank You for the gift of Community, reveal to me how I can strengthen my engagement so that we can be the people You called and accomplish what You are about today!"*

God Bless,  
David