Sisters and Brothers, let us put our trust in the Lord,

## <u>Covenant Life</u>

- Our next Gathering is next Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup> at **3pm**. We will not have a Gathering on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday this month since we will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that weekend (click <u>HERE</u> to RSVP). Please be in prayer for our Gatherings, open to the spiritual gifts and come ready to share (or email them to <u>info@GodsDelight.org</u>).
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting, you can listen to the audio <u>here</u>, and read the Word Gift summary <u>here</u> and the transcript <u>here</u>.
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online <u>here</u> or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.
- <u>NOVENA</u>: We continue Jubilee preparation with a nine-week novena asking what God has for 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. <u>This week's topic is Praise & Worship / Abandonment</u>. Each day this week is a new invitation from the Lord to turn 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.

When reflecting on scripture passages I often place myself into the story as one of the characters and ask the Holy Spirit to speak to me. In reading the call of Abram in the <u>First Reading</u> it was if I heard the Lord speaking to the founders when we were called into Covenant. God placed a specific call upon Abram and He placed a specific call upon each of us.

God used action words in describing the call: "Go Forth". This seems very relevant. I recall being taught canoeing in Boy Scouts and how easy it was to steer the canoe when it was moving. God calls us to be fully engaged in His plan for us. It is an all-encompassing call of hearing, discerning, and acting! I learned from Fr. Richard Rohr to have a bias toward action (when he named his center, he called it Action and Contemplation to put the bias on action). God is asking us today and every day to be fully sold out for Him and Go Forth! The promises of blessing that follow in the subsequent verses give us confident assurance that He will not abandon us if we say Yes and go. The chosen passage ends with Abram's response that he "went as the Lord directed him". Oh that this is what will be said of us, individually and as a Community. That we will go forth as asked, as we committed, and that we will go when and where the Lord directs us!

Reading the <u>Gospel</u> story of the transfiguration led me to consider my own 'encounters' with our Lord. It seems nothing sets apart passionate Christians like an encounter with our Lord. This for me has been one of the tremendous blessings of Community...the witness of men and women who have experienced the Lord and decided to give their lives fully to God. This usually does not happen with a casual reading of a text or instruction; the decision to give our lives fully to God and live forever for Him comes from a personal encounter with His majesty as we read in the Gospel today.

When I asked the Holy Spirit to reveal a particular word for us, as a Community, today, through this reading, what I heard was an exhortation to share our personal encounter and allow Him to bring others into a personal relationship. God wants all people to know Him, love Him, and give their full lives to Him. He is asking that we join together and support one another in saying Yes to this mission. Go make disciples - and discipling starts with encounter and surrender.

"Heavenly Father, I hear the call that You placed upon me. I said Yes before, and I say Yes again today. I want my Yes to be an active Yes, a Yes of hearing, discerning, and going forth as You direct. Thank You for providing me covenant sisters and brothers to encourage and support my Yes to You. Thank You also for revealing Yourself to me and for the many past encounters. Send Your Holy Spirit anew into my life so that each day I encounter You in a new and fresh way. Give me courage and fortitude to share my encounters with others and lead them into a personal decision to give their lives to You. I love You Lord and give You my all!"

## God Bless, David