

Covenant Life

- Our next Gathering is next Sunday, August 27th at 3pm. Please mark your calendar and invite a friend to go with you.
- Childrens Ministry was restarted by Cecilia Briseno with the help of Gracie Wagner and Eliana Medina, for children ages of 5-10. They meet during the prayer meeting following praise & worship until the closing prayer. *Please help pass the word to young families!*
- 50th Anniversary content is available [here](#); past prayer meeting audio is [here](#), Word Gift summaries are [here](#), and transcripts are [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.

In praying about a message to share with you this morning the Holy Spirit led me to St. Francis of Assisi's simple prayer for Peace. I ask that you take a few minutes and prayerfully pray this prayer with me.

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.
Where there is hatred ... let me sow love.
where there is injury ... pardon,
where there is doubt ... faith,
where there is despair ... hope,
where there is darkness ... light,
where there is sadness ... joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled ... as to console,
to be understood ... as to understand,
to be loved ... as to love with all my soul.

For it is in giving ... that we receive,
it is in pardoning ... that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying ... that we are born to eternal life.

The Christian life is a stunning, contrarian call. It is a call to radically reorient ourselves from living for ourselves to a posture of totally giving ourselves over to our loving Creator. God is asking us to be 'All In' and surrender everything to Him

and let Him be the Lord of our lives and in total control. St. Francis understood this and authored this simple prayer to capture how radical our Yes to the Lord is. He asks us every day to bring His love, pardon, faith, hope, light, and joy to every person and situation we encounter.

There is no doubt that we will spend a lifetime trying to live up to the words of this simple prayer...but this is the call, this is what God is asking of us. The beauty of living in Covenant Community is that we have each other to support our Yes, to call us on when we stumble, to encourage us when we lose hope. My tenure with CCGD has shone a bright light upon many men and women who have tried their very best to live this prayer. We can stand upon their example and continue to say Yes. A new generation of young people and young families are counting on us to continue to be examples of a people who, while acknowledging this as a challenging prayer, are not afraid to proclaim it, put it into practice each day, ask for forgiveness when we fail, and recommit day-after-day to living it to the fullest.

Allow me to end this call to be peacemakers with a call to charity. I am quoting St. Theresa of Lisieux, "Charity consists in disregarding the faults of our neighbor, not being astonished at the sight of their weakness, but in being edified by the smallest acts of virtue we see them practice."

Sisters and brothers, this is how we build Community. This is how we change the world! May we never tire of being peace makers and bringing divine charity to our Lord that we encounter in every one of His children.

Let us pray, "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I ask for the gifts and grace to be a peacemaker today. Allow me to truly love each person I encounter. May I bring pardon, faith, hope, light, and joy in every word and action today. Give me Your love so that I may love every person with divine charity that looks beyond the faults I see and rejoices in the virtue I witness. Make me an instrument of your peace and charity today and every day. I love You!"

God Bless,
David