Covenant Life

- Our next Prayer Meeting is a week from today at 3pm.
- If you have not already submitted your promise for 2024, please discern what level of financial support the Holy Spirit is prompting and where you can serve Community and click here: 2024 Promise.
- GodsDelight.org content: Jubilee; Prayer Meeting audio, summaries, transcripts, & teachings.
- 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.

Reflection

There are countless blessings of living in covenant community but the <u>First Reading</u> from Proverbs reminded me of one of the most significant...<u>models of holiness</u>. At every stage of life there is a temptation to compare ourselves to others. There are so many *good* people in our lives that are in one rat race or another. We can read the lives of saints and wonder whether there are holy people like this in our day. In our Community, I see Proverbs 31 women on a regular basis. I am confident that you do as well!

If we have been touched by the Holy Spirit and given our lives to Jesus, then we are simply headed in a different direction than most of the people that we are surrounded by day after day. Walking in the opposite direction to the masses is not an easy task. We may question every decision we make regarding our time, our use of funds, how we raise our children... We simply cannot walk the narrow road by ourselves, we need each other, and importantly, we need holy examples to follow.

Growing up in Community as a young man I was surprised by the men and women that appeared unconcerned about the normal worries of the day but rather lived life in total freedom, totally abandoned to a mission so counter to the world's agenda. This was especially true of the holy women who gave up everything for their families and for the upbuilding of Community. Most of the men I observed stepped back and forth between the domains of the world and the domain of family and Community. This was necessary for the men and women whose calling

necessitated them working full time to afford to raise their family. What impressed me the most was the women who gave up everything to prioritize serving their family. Many of these women were at least as educated and capable as their husbands but had the fortitude and the courage to place their calling to be women of God, holy spouses, strong confident mothers ahead of what the culture was proclaiming.

Certainly, there were special situations where roles were reversed, single parents or separated parents, but even in these difficult circumstances, what I observed was that women of God in Community had their eyes on the Lord and His calling and walked the road less traveled. These Proverbs 31 women bring this scripture passage alive in our day and time.

This is what we do for one another in Community. We bring the Gospels to life. We bring Acts chapter two to life. We bear witness that what we read from cover to cover in the bible can happen to us. God is alive, He is active in our day and time and loves us just as much as Abraham, and Moses, and John the Baptist. Jesus' example can be lived today, and we can perform works even greater that He did when He walked the earth. The Holy Spirit empowers us today just as He did Peter after Pentecost. Our world needs such examples. We need to be such holy examples for one another.

I heard a quote yesterday from Pope Benedict XVI that I want to end with, "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness". This is what called us into covenant with God, this is what called us into covenant with one another. We were called to greatness, to be His saints of our day, to bring His Word to life, and to set the example for our generation. Let us renew our commitment and redouble our efforts to be His witnesses!

Let us pray, "Father I recommit my life to You and bring Your Word to life so that I can witness Your love to everyone I meet today. Empower my yes through the blessings of Your Holy Spirit. Give me all the fruits and gifts of Your Spirit to strengthen my resolve and persevere in running the race toward union with You!"

God Bless, David