## <u>Covenant Life</u>

- Our next prayer meeting is <u>TODAY</u> at 3pm.
- Upcoming events:
  - February 11<sup>th</sup> Start of Foundations I teachings following the prayer meeting.
  - March 2nd Day of Renewal with Fr. Michal from 9am to 2pm in the MSM gym.
  - March 24th A special Anniversary prayer meeting 3pm in the MSM gym.
- <u>GodsDelight.org</u> content: <u>Jubilee</u>; Prayer Meeting <u>audio</u>, <u>summaries</u>, <u>transcripts</u>, & <u>teachings</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.

## **Reflection**

Reflecting on the <u>Gospel</u> reading today reminded me of the ongoing presence of evil. Candidly, this is a subject that I do not speak or teach about often. I even do not capitalize satan's name when I type it as a symbol of not wanting to give satan any more due than necessary. The reality is, however, that we cannot ignore his presence and influence.

One of the most valuable lessons I learned growing up in Community was the fact that satan is real, satan's demons are real, and that we must be aware of their influence. As a youth I was exposed to creepy first-hand stories of the devil manifesting his presence. This is one of the reasons our Community has always invested in sacramentals. Many of us burn blessed candles in our homes 24x7x365. We used blessed water and salt to bless our homes and MSM. We rid our homes of any signs of the occult and even games that purport to tap into evil or the occult.

Jesus in the Gospel is confronted with evil and shows us the right response. Recognize, rebuke, and cast out. This is our model. We all need to be vigilant in recognizing, standing on the name and power of Jesus to rebuke and cast out evil. There are lines we do not cross in confronting evil, where we defer to those more trained than us, and this is why we have formation teachings to educate us on the details. For our part, we stand on the example of Jesus and His promise that we will do even greater things than He to not be afraid to take authority, in His name, over evil. satan cannot stand the name of Jesus. The simple Jesus prayer can be our most powerful weapon even if we are not sure what we are confronting.

My prayer for each of us in Community is that we live our lives totally free of any evil influence and that begins by being aware of the traps that satan uses to influence us, investing in the sacramentals to keep us safe, and then not being afraid to call upon the authority of the one who gave His life to ransom us to battle satan and his evil influences and live lives of freedom, love, joy, and hope!

Let us pray "Jesus, thank You for conquering sin and death once and for all defeating evil. Thank You for setting the example of how to confront evil. Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to empower the sacramentals that we use to confront evil. Thank You for giving me the authority to always be victorious in my personal dealings with evil. I claim the life of freedom from evil that You make possible. I love You and pledge to continue the fight to defeat evil in all forms! Amen."

## God Bless, David

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