

Sisters and Brothers, let us sing His praises!

02/09/2025

Covenant Life

- Our next prayer meeting is **TODAY** at 3pm. Children and Youth ministries plan to meet.
- Upcoming events our community is invited to participate in together:
 - Annual **NAN Conference** will be February 20-22 in Augusta, GA. **At least ten folks from CCGD are attending.** If you want to join us, please reply to this email.
 - **North Texas Men's Conference** will be **March 1** from 7:30am-3:30pm at St Elizabeth Catholic Church in Keller TX. Early Bird tickets are \$55: [here](#). Contact Chris Coxon for more Information. CCGD attendees plan to wear our Community shirts and sit together.
- GodsDelight.org has prayer meeting [audio](#), [summaries](#), [transcripts](#), and [teachings](#).
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please enter your 2025 Promise [here](#), donate online [here](#), or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, TX 75222.

Reflection

There is a very interesting parallel between the call of Isaiah in the [First Reading](#) and the call of Peter in the [Gospel](#). Both have an undeniable encounter with our Lord and are called into service...but what is very interesting is their immediate response. Specifically, they feel woe and doom because of self-awareness of their own sin.

As I have learned through life in covenant community...the Holy Spirit is just as active today, speaking to us, as He was in time of recorded scripture. Case in point, this week my men's group (and the Coordinators) are reading from a book by Fr. Wilfrid Stinissen entitled "The Holy Spirit, Fire of Divine Love". The chapter we reviewed Friday morning was on The Spirit, the Comforter. I will share a few brief points because of the obvious connection to the readings today.

- The one who refuses to be weak does not receive God's power.
- The Spirit teaches you to accept and even love your poverty.
- There is an indescribable joy in being incapable of doing anything oneself and, instead, being completely dependent on God.
- This very poverty is your true wealth.
- What God wants from you is humility, not perfection.
- How will the Comforter comfort? By making Jesus present to us in a new way...He will be in us.

- His deepest and most important work in us is to make us become fascinated with God's beauty, so that we cease to find our joy in ourselves and instead find it in God.

God did not call Isaiah because of who he was or what he had accomplished, Jesus did not call Peter because of his skills or accomplishments, they were called because of their openness to the Holy Spirit and their willingness to say Yes. Both Isaiah and Peter were humble enough to respond to their call with concern for their worthiness. They were concerned that their sin and weakness would hinder their efforts to respond to the call.

But the lesson from Fr. Stinissen is that it is in our weakness that God's power is unleashed in us. It is our humility and poverty that opens the door for us to not act of our own accord but to realize our total dependence on God. Jesus is our power. God alone is our joy. We see this lesson all throughout the Old Testament as God continued to show the Israelites that it was through their surrender to Him that they would win their victories and not through their own strength.

So, what is the lesson for us today? How often do we go about our day on autopilot attending to all the things life throws at us versus living in God's poverty? Do we live each day totally surrendered to His divine plan because of our total trust in His providence?

God is calling us as a Community to respond to the work of His Holy Spirit today. He is asking us to follow Him through humility, surrender, poverty, and weakness. It is in recognizing His presence within us, His beauty within us, our ongoing submission to His perfect will, that becomes our joy, our power, our strength, our conviction of His infinite love for us. With this, what can stand in our way of following Isaiah and Peter's example and be His witnesses today?

Let us pray, "Heavenly Father, I hear the call You have placed on my life. While mindful of the ways I have not surrendered to You in the past, I recommit my life to You. I want to follow You, today and every day. Empower me with your Holy Spirit so that I can experience the presence of Your Son in my life. Allow me to see You at work and experience inner comfort. I love You and say Yes! Amen."

God Bless,

David