## Covenant Life

- Our next prayer meeting is <u>TODAY</u> at 3pm. Children and Youth ministries plan to meet. In June we will return to our normal 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday meeting pattern.
- The Alleluia Forum for Unity and Renewal will be held at Kings University in Southlake Texas on June 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Registration and information: UnityForum2025.org This conference will take a deep look at our shared Christian history with a goal of learning from the past for the sake of the future of Christian and Messianic unity and renewal. If you have questions about attending, please contact my dad or me.
- 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 <a href="here">here</a>, donate online <a href="here">here</a>, or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, TX 75222.

## Reflection

Two quick observations from the readings today for us to reflect upon. The first is from the <u>Second Reading</u>. It is a familiar passage...the new heaven, new earth, new Jerusalem vision. The voice from the throne proclaims "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away."

I have always felt this way growing up in our Community. God has always been present. We have always looked to Him. After our encounter with God and the outpouring of His Holy Spirit, we had no need of tears or mourning. The testimony of this was always so very evident at our funerals. CCGD funerals are a testimony of this passage. There is some sadness at the loss of a loved one, but it is offset by the confident assurance of where our loved one is. This past week was further evidence. Maybe we are so accustomed to this that we do not realize how special and unique this is. Based upon the stories I have heard in the last month, our funerals are a tremendous witness now, just as they have been in the past.

I must mention the <u>Gospel</u> reading given how essential it is to who we are as a Community and how intertwined this identity is with the greatest commandment. In this reading Jesus explains that He will be with them only a little while longer. What comes next must be very very important. Here He states as clearly as

possible the commandment for us to **love one another**. "As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

It cannot be made any clearer. This should be our focus morning, noon, and night. This is one of the most important reasons we were called into Community. To REALLY love one another, so much so that everyone around us will notice and seek to understand Who is behind this love and what makes this kind of love possible.

We must never tire of living love and doing whatever we can to make this the foundation of our Yes to God and our Yes to one another. Consider the challenge today to love someone that may seem unlovable, that is hard to love. Let us be Jesus to someone today and extend God's love, through the power of His Holy Spirit, to someone we might ordinarily overlook. Let us try today to embrace this call to love in a way that maybe we have not done prior.

Let us pray, "Heavenly Father, from the first day I gave my life to You I have been transformed by Your love and have never looked back. I choose You and choose to live a transformed life. No pain, suffering, loss...will ever be the same since I know my name is written in the book of life and it is only a matter of Your perfect will and timing before we meet face-to-face.

I affirm my desire to always live for You, to love You will all my heart and mind and strength and to love my family and Community sisters and brothers with equal passion. I desire that my love is a visible sign which leads those who do not know You into a deep relationship with You. Let me never miss the opportunity to witness how You have changed my life forever. I love You! Amen."

God Bless, David