

## Covenant Life

- Our next Gathering will be Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and then again on April 24<sup>th</sup>. In May we will change to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays (due to Mother's Day) and in June we will return to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays.
- In recent letters I have shared about our Community's participating in the [North American Network of Charismatic Covenant Communities](#) (NAN) conference on the theme of *Covenant Communities for a New Generation*. If you have not already done so I highly recommend going to the conference webpage [here](#) and listening to the talks. They are all excellent and worthy of our time!
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting, you can listen to the audio [here](#), and read the Word Gift summary [here](#) or the transcript [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.

Last week I shared Coordinator discernment regarding one of our Community's 2022 priorities of being intentional in recommitting to our covenant with God and each other. I specifically shared a focused wording of our covenant to enable us to pray through the essential elements with the objective of asking the Holy Spirit which one aspect is He asking us to pay attention to and individually rededicate ourselves to. Please prayerfully read the following statement about what it means to live our CCGD Covenant and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal one particular element that He wants you to focus on this week.

### What it means to live our CCGD Covenant:

- Strive to live and grow in a Spirit-filled relationship with God by:
  - Praising and Worshiping Him regularly,
  - Praying daily, reading and meditating on His Word,
  - Earnestly desiring to receive and exercise the Spiritual Gifts; and
  - Being His disciples by conforming our lives to Jesus, drawing others to Him.
- Strive to build interconnected covenant relationships of mutual love by:
  - Regular participation in CCGD and Area events;
  - Regular participation in a small group - for formation, support, and relationship-building;

- Having a relationship of accountability (Pastoral care, Spiritual director, prayer partner);
- Financially supporting one another as a faithful steward of God's gifts, and
- Serving and building Community.

The readings today provide much for us to meditate on this week as the [first reading](#) and [responsorial psalm](#) draw our attention to the need to respond to whatever the world throws at us with praise, laughter, rejoicing, gladness, and joy! Additionally, the [Gospel](#) tells the amazing story of Jesus' response to the woman who had been caught in adultery. I suspect that we each can connect with the attack upon her and the testing of Jesus. His response models for us our response: Jesus responds with wisdom and truth and then with love and forgiveness.

Despite the many points that could be made, reflection-wise I want to focus my comments today on the second reading: [Phil 3:8-14](#) as this is one of my favorite scriptures. We all know St. Paul the Apostle as an amazing evangelist to the early Church founding new communities wherever he traveled and as a prolific author responsible for half of the books of the New Testament...and in this, his letter to the Philippians, we learn the power that propelled him. Paul was a man sold out for God, someone who was 'all in', someone who forsook everything for Christ... knowing Him, loving Him, living fully for Him.

No matter where we are on our spiritual journey, this is a lesson we can ponder and meditate upon. God, what next step are You asking of me? What area of my life are You asking me to surrender? How can I live this day more fully for You?

Most of us are likely closer to our eternal reward than we are to our birth, and there is a natural temptation to slow down, defer, let others carry the load. But Paul has a message for us. He was focused on the finish line and never let up. His words to the Philippians are "*I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it, since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ Jesus. Brothers and sisters, I for my part do not consider myself to have taken possession. Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.*"

Paul is challenging each one of us today to press on, continue our pursuit, strain forward, never slow down but recommit and rededicate ourselves every day to the mission of our covenant and the mission of bringing the Gospel to everyone we meet. Let us follow Paul's example and do that today, together.

God Bless,  
David