

### Covenant Life

- Our next in-person Community Gathering will be **Today** at 4pm in the MSMCS gym. Please come and bring a friend.
- The Camp Jesus Family Carnival Day & Cookout last week was a tremendous success and pictures are [here](#).
- Your ongoing financial support is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

**Reflection** - The most significant thing that attracted me to Community was Joy...the holy Joy I saw in all those who attended the prayers meetings back at Bishop Lynch. This was the picture that came to my mind when I heard the responsorial psalm read (30:12): *"You changed my mourning into dancing; O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks."*

Seeing people so happy to be praising the Lord and singing song and literally dancing around the cafeteria and gym. The joy I witnessed was sincere, a holy joy that went beyond 'going along because others were doing it'. It seemed to flow from the inside, from a firm conviction of love for God and what I later learned was an infilling of the Holy Spirit.

I think this is what drove Jairus and the woman with the hemorrhage to seek out Jesus. They were both in desperate circumstances but had faith. They had nowhere else to turn. They were convinced that Jesus was the answer. They had faith and were willing to step out and act upon it.

I think we can all identify with Jairus or the woman with the hemorrhage. Either we ourselves are suffering some significant challenge in our life or we have a family member or loved one that is. The message of the Gospel today is the same for us as it was for them. Jesus is asking us to have faith and confidence and an inner joy that transcends our specific life challenge.

The miracles were specifically meant to build faith. Faith in our Lord and Savior fills us in abundance so that we can face whatever life throws at us with His

sovereign holy Joy. The Joy that enables us to see life's challenges through His eyes as steps on a journey.

Earlier in the psalm we read that God brought us up from the netherworld and preserved us. This is the Good News. This is how He wants us to face all that life throws at us. I will "sing praise to the Lord"... I will "give thanks to His holy name". This is what He asks of us. To laugh at life's challenges, to sing and praise Him during life's challenges, to dance in the midst of life's challenges...to witness His love by the way we respond to whatever the world, the flesh, or the devil throw at us. In Him we are more than conquerors!

*Let us pray "Lord Jesus Christ, we give You our all. We proclaim You Lord of our lives and declare You our Joy. Build in us Faith, Hope, and Love that we may forever be Your witnesses. Lord, we intercede on behalf of those we love and care for. We intercede on behalf of our own challenges...but we surrender and give them totally over to You. Jesus, we have faith in You. Heal us, protect us, transform us. Amen."*

God bless,  
David