

Covenant Life

- I was particularly blessed by the very powerful word that the Holy Spirit brought forth last Sunday at our Gathering. If you were unable to attend, you can listen to the audio [here](#), and read the Word Gift summary [here](#) or the transcript [here](#).
- Our next in-person Gathering will be January 9th and we will continue meeting in-person on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of 2022.
- Please help us end our financial year by completing 2021 Promises by Dec 31 and entering 2022 Promises [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.

Reflection - Each week I ask the Holy Spirit to speak a particular message to us as a Community. This week the Holy Spirit drew my attention to the second reading from Hebrews ([Heb 10:5-10](#)). I asked the Lord why attention to holocausts and offerings? What I received back was that these represented the religious activities of the day. Pondering this for a while, I started thinking about all the religious activities of our day and how I let these, and many other activities, completely fill my day.

In this second reading from Hebrews Jesus is quoting from Psalm 40 verses 7 to 11. The message from both passages is clear...God desires much more than religious activities...He wants us all in, He wants our hearts and minds conformed to His. He wants our will so in tune with His that we are acting harmoniously with His plans.

The words of Hebrews are "I have come to do Your will Oh God". These words are easy to say...we know how much more of a challenge it is to truly live by.

We know the first step in doing God's will is to know it. This requires time hearing it, distinguishing it, and conforming our lives to it. While this is a lifelong journey, it is most important to make it a daily decision to not let activities, even religious activities, crowd out our hearing, discerning, and conforming.

Living our Covenant means that we go beyond hearing the Word and embrace being doers of the Word ([James 1:22](#)). Specifics of how we can do that are found in the verses of the reference Psalm ([Psalms 40:7](#)):

- *"See, I come with an inscribed scroll written upon me. I delight to do your will, my God; your law is in my inner being!"* speaks to God's will being so deep within us that we delight in doing it because it is who we are. It is not something that we have to think about...it flows out from us.
- *"When I sing of your righteousness in a great assembly, See, I do not restrain my lips; as you, LORD, know. I do not conceal your righteousness within my heart; I speak of your loyalty and your salvation. I do not hide your mercy or faithfulness from a great assembly"* explain the bubbling out that happens when we live His Word. It is so transformative that we cannot keep it within, we are compelled to sing out, to proclaim it.

As we approach the celebration of our Savior's birth, my encouragement is that we pause from the many activities that demand our time and truly seek His will. In what specific way can I conform my life today to His will? What can I do today to hear, discern, and act specifically according to His plan? How can I demonstrate that His will is so embedded within me that we are one?

Let us pray *"Heavenly Father, as I turn to You, reveal Your perfect will to me. Give me the courage and strength to act in accord with Your plan today. Embed Your will within me that each day I can more fully operate in accord with Your perfect will. Well up within me the desire to conform my life to Yours so much that You bubble out and I cannot help but sing Your praises and proclaim You in everything I do and say. I love You my God and Saviour. Amen"*

God bless,
David