

GOD'S CALL AND OUT RESPONSE

Weekly Notes- 10/11/15

KEYNOTE: DIALOGUE WITH A MISSIONARY DISCIPLE

I. OPENING PRAYER:

Prayer for the Gift of the Holy Spirit

*Holy Spirit, I ask You For the gift of WISDOM—
to better know You and Your divine perfections,
For the gift of UNDERSTANDING—
to clearly discern the Spirit of the mysteries of the holy faith
For the gift of COUNSEL—
that I may live according to the principles of this faith,
For the gift of KNOWLEDGE—
that I may look for counsel in You and that I may always
find it in You,
For the gift of FORTITUDE—
that no fear or earthly preoccupation would ever separate me from You,
For the gift of PIETY—
that I may always serve Your Majesty with filial love,
For the gift of FEAR OF THE LORD—
that I may dread sin, which offends You, O my God.*

(Pope Saint John Paul II was taught this prayer by his father, kept it on a handwritten note, and prayed it every day.)

II. ASPECT OF THE LOVING DIALOGUE OF GOD WITH A MISSIONARY DISCIPLE:

- A. Trinitarian: "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
- B. God the Father re-creates us for missionary discipleship by the grace and mercy through the Flesh and Blood of His Son and in the Power of the Holy Spirit:
 1. **Baptism:** "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt. 28: 19-20).
 2. **Confirmation:** "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses [. . .] to the end of the earth" (Acts 1: 8).
 3. **Eucharist:** "He who eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day" (Jn. 6: 54).

C. Response of the Missionary Disciple to God's Word and Gifts of Grace:

1. Profession

2. Worship

3. Witness

D. *"Spiritual accompaniment must lead others ever closer to God, in Whom we attain true freedom. Some people think they are free if they can avoid God; they fail to see that they remain existentially orphaned, helpless, homeless. They cease being pilgrims and become drifters, flitting around themselves and never getting anywhere"* (Pope Francis).

1. God calls us to holy sonship for eternal life and love in Heaven

2. We journey toward home by following His Son as disciples

3. Through us, as His missionaries, God gathers others for this journey home

E. On-going re-creation of the World by grace through conversion and witness:

1. Interior conversion of the missionary disciple:

a. Purgation—weeding out of sin

b. Illumination—new vision and virtue, natural and supernatural

c. Union—communion with God the Father through the Sacred Heart and in the Fire of the Holy Spirit

2. Through Christian Initiation, Christ's Kingdom—the Father's Family—grows in number

TABLE QUESTIONS

I. What gifts does God through Mother Church grant us as missionary disciples and pilgrims to be:

A. Purged from sin?

B. Illuminated for Holy Vision and Virtue?

C. Truly United to God and Neighbor?

II. Pope Francis tells us that the concept of freedom for "drifters" and for pilgrims differs.

Offer examples of prevailing decisions and actions that would illustrate the difference between the freedom lived by that of a drifter and that of a pilgrim.

Do you believe that most people you know live as drifters or pilgrims?

WEEKLY MISSION:

I- Morning Prayer: Prayer for the Gift of the Holy Spirit

*Holy Spirit, I ask You For the gift of WISDOM—
to better know You and Your divine perfections,
For the gift of UNDERSTANDING—
to clearly discern the Spirit of the mysteries of the holy faith
For the gift of COUNSEL—
that I may live according to the principles of this faith,
For the gift of KNOWLEDGE—
that I may look for counsel in You and that I may always
find it in You,
For the gift of FORTITUDE—
that no fear or earthly preoccupation would ever separate me from You,
For the gift of PIETY—
that I may always serve Your Majesty with filial love,
For the gift of FEAR OF THE LORD—
that I may dread sin, which offends You, O my God.*

II. 30 Minutes of mental prayer:

- A. 10 Minutes—Meditation on the Word
- B. 10 Minutes—Speaking or Writing to God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
- C. 10 Minutes—Listening to God (Father, Son, or Holy Spirit)

C. Examination of Conscience: Freedom

- A. Was my mind:
 - 1) freed for receiving, remembering, and sharing the Gospel in its beautiful truth and goodness, or
 - 2) enslaved to receive, remember, and share the anti-Gospel in its ugly lies and evil?
- B. Was my heart:
 - 1) freed for holy and loving decisions and actions, or
 - 2) enslaved for impure and malicious decisions and actions?
- C. Was I in control of my emotions, or my emotions in control of me?
- D. Did I take care of my body and treat it as sacred? Did I, instead, idolize my body through vanity, or desecrate it through impurity or unhealthy actions?