

SALVATION HISTORY—OUR OWN HISTORY
Weekly Notes- 9/27/15

**PRAXIS: ENVISIONING GOD’S PLAN FOR US THROUGH
MENTAL PRAYER—AN ILLUSTRATION**

OPENING PRAYER:

*Merciful Father,
in the name of our lovable Jesus,
of the Virgin Mary and of the Saints,
I ask You to set me on fire
with Your Spirit of Love
and grant me the grace
of making You deeply loved. Amen.*

II. The Annunciation of Mary: Trinitarian Experience

- A. God the Father speaking to Mary through the Angel Gabriel
- B. Preparation for Dialogue:
 - 1. Humility and a Life of Grace
 - 2. Openness and Fearlessness
 - 3. Dialogue and Obedience

III. One Way of Experiencing God in Mental Prayer:

- A. Allowing God to Speak through His Word: Deliberately read God’s Word for if possible, before the Most Blessed Sacrament (10-20 minutes).
- B. Responding to His Word by writing to the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit (10-20 minutes).
- C. Listening to God—Father, Son, or Holy Spirit—and writing what you believe the Divine Person is speaking in your heart. [image of a person writing]

IV. Illustration from Journal Entry on Labor Day, 9/7/15:

- A. The Word of God:** Colossians 1:24-2:3/Psalm 62/Luke 6:6-11 with particular focus on Paul’s words:
“For this I labor and struggle, in accord with the exercise of His power working within me”
- B. My response,** addressed to our Father:

*“Since we work out our salvation in this Vale of Tears in fear and trembling,
may my only fear, dear Father, be separation from You and from doing Your will,
and my only trembling be the awe and wonder of Your overwhelming glory and mercy.*

*To tremble for the sake of All-Powerful Love and the “terrible” Beauty of Truth:
this is how I hope to tremble! The overshadowing of an angel evokes fear and trembling
even in Holy Mary, Full of Grace, yet she is told to be not afraid, for You strengthen
us by Your Word, Your Holy Spirit, Your Presence and Your unfolding plan, that we
may not only encounter You and communicate with You, but that we may also bear
Christ to others in the power of Your Holy Spirit, and even magnify You as icons,
with our souls and spirits as Your instruments for glory, redemption, and mercy.*

Make me Your co-worker in the Carpenter's Son, that in, with, and through Him (the Last Adam) I may play my role in completing Your Son's re-creative labor, restoring what is broken and fallen; untwisting what is Knotted; and even by the power of the Sacrifice of the Supper and Cross, lifting up Your creation to pass over all that is passing because of sin."

C. The Father's response:

"My son in My Son, remain committed and complete the tasks that I clearly place before you, for your development and benefit, and for the development and benefit of others.

Be not afraid: The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Yet see how the few faithful -in the power of My Son's Flesh and Blood and Spirit- plow, sow, and reap: and SO MANY WEAPONS ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU -and, yes, the Enemy also uses many of these to sow division and disorder, lust and death and destruction; but you are to sow communion and order, holy love and life, both creative and beautiful.

Remember your call through John Paul -"Veritatis Splendor"- which captured your mind, heart, passions, and body, changed the whole course of your life- his one voice crying out in truth, plowing, sowing, and reaping in My Son's Name."