

Sisters and Brothers, we forever Praise the Lord.

02/21/2021

Covenant Life

- The coordinators have been trying to stay in touch with folks this past trying week. If you have any needs, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Area Coordinator or contact me.
- The improving covid situation has enabled us to start making plans for an in-person Community Gathering. We are looking at mid-March and will confirm a date soon. Please pray that plans will come together and if you are willing to help, please let us know.
- Your ongoing financial support is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222

Reflection - As the Christian Community of God's Delight, we have all heard numerous teachings on the word Covenant, on the history of God's Covenants, and how to live as a Covenant people. Simply put, the concept of a Covenant is special to us. In the first reading today, we hear of God establishing a Covenant with Noah following his decision to obey and do what God asked of him.

Seeing the connection between God's invitation to Covenant and the response to the invitation was one of the strongest messages I received during our year-long study of Jeff Cavin's *Bible Timeline*. The pattern repeated itself over and over throughout the Bible. God initiates a Covenant and calls the person or persons into a special relationship, asking to be put first and worshiped and obeyed. And while many said Yes and persevered, unfortunately, time and time again, those who walked the earth before us took their eyes off of God, turned from what He asked, and did what was right in their own eyes.

You and I have said Yes to God. You and I have made a Covenant with Him. Further, we have chosen to also respond to His calling to make a Covenant with each other. Today and every day we have a choice, just as Noah did, just as Adam and Eve, Abram, Moses, and so many over the centuries. God is inviting us to be His people and is offering to be our Father. A Covenant is a choice. Certainly, it is a special one-time choosing but it is also a constant choosing.

There is no doubt that this was a tough week. Many of us have experienced challenges unlike what we have ever experienced before. But as we learned from the story of Job, this is what Covenants are for. Covenants are lasting, permanent, meant to weather whatever storm cloud we are confronted with. This week many of us were tested. We do not know what tomorrow holds. But what we can be sure of is that God is with us. He is providing and protecting us if we remain faithful and continue to praise Him, keep our eyes fixed on Him, and obey Him.

The responsorial psalm today from Psalm 25 states "*Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.*" The connection is clear. God's ways are love and truth if we keep His covenant. If we lose our gaze, if we focus on ourselves and our issues or desires then we will lose perspective. We will see life's trials as attacks and either get discouraged or react wrongly. If, however, we keep His covenant, if we surrender to Him in everything; if we love our brothers and sisters and do whatever we can to help them get to heaven...then we will see all that happens to us as God's love and truth. We will be powered by His Spirit and be able to see beyond our circumstances to God's perfect will.

No matter where we are in our Covenant journey, today, this moment, can be an opportunity to begin again and say Yes to being true to the Covenant that God is inviting us into.

Let us pray "*Heavenly Father, I repent of the times I have taken my eyes off of You and focused on my own wants and desires. It is truly my desire to put You first and worship and obey You. Give me the ability to see beyond the trials I face and focus only on You. It is my desire today to reaffirm my Covenant with You and my sisters and brothers. It is my desire to only live for You and to seek out Your perfect will and conform My life to it. Today I begin again and say Yes. Amen.*"

God bless,
David