

Mother of God Community
Sunday Night Prayer Meeting
January 31, 2016
Prophetic Words Series - Talk #2
Dawn Glennon

I'm going to start with a short reminder about the prophetic team and its purpose. It was formed to help draw the community's attention to the words that have been given to us over the years. To begin that effort we first compiled them into a collection. As part of the process, some of the questions we asked ourselves and we encourage you to ask yourselves are: what words come alive to us, which ones call for action, which ones give consolation, which words give direction for our times, or help us form our identity as a community? We sense that our main purpose as a team is to help the community delve into what the Lord has been speaking to us and to help relate it to what He is saying to us today.

During this "Year of Mercy", we are meditating on the themes of covenant love and mercy, and had we not already abundantly experienced God's covenant love and mercy for us, none of us would be here. These prophetic words speak of God's steadfast love and mercy to us and encourage us to share his love and mercy with others.

We really want to encourage all of you to continue to review the words individually and in your small groups and discern for yourselves what the Lord may be saying to each of you and to the community. If you have insights that you feel should be shared with the community, please just let Marty, Elaine, myself or one of the Prayer Meeting Leaders or Council members know.

Elaine spoke to us last time about how to open ourselves up to receiving words from the Lord. Now, we are going to begin to take a look at the words we have received over the years by focusing on some of the themes that recur and what they may mean to each of us in the context of today.

The first message that we took to our hearts to ponder was the theme that He is calling us to be a light in the darkness, a beacon and a Lighthouse. We find that message repeated in multiple words over the years. In July of 2002 we heard:

**...I have chosen this little flock, this people.
You my children shall be a light in the darkness, a beacon....**

and one of the latest words He has given us in June of 2015 was:

**You are a Light on a hill. A beacon to draw others to watch out for the "rocks at the shore which can cause havoc." A Lighthouse with LIGHT shining from the windows of hope.....
Keep the vision of LIGHT shining bright. God will use you mightily in being a beacon of hope.**

As I prayed about these words, I felt compelled to look up the definition and purpose of a Lighthouse. And I found that a Lighthouse is a structure that shines its light in the darkness in order to help guide ships on a safe path to their destination. That seemed clear and simple enough, but I thought there must be more. I asked the Lord what else He was trying to say. It came to me then, that there are other important characteristics of a Lighthouse. A Lighthouse, I realized, is steadfast, sturdy and reliable. Its light can't be extinguished by storms or other forms of attack and it must continually shine its light in order to safely guide the ships on their journey.

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I was reminded too that Jesus is that light that shines in us. And that only with His light shining through us, can we act as Lighthouses, because He is the light that helps and guides others on their path to Him.

I went to scripture next, knowing that the theme of being a light to the world is in many places. I began with the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew Chapter 5. Verse 14 tells us “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.”

Then I was led to Ephesians 5:8-9 “For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.” And there are many other scriptures you can find about being a light to the rest of the world.

So it is consistent with scripture that we are being told we are a light on the hill, a beacon of hope and a Lighthouse to help guide others to Christ.

Since this message was received in 2002, we as a community in many ways have acted as a Lighthouse helping to guide others towards Christ. From MOGS to the Christlife series to St. Joseph’s Youth Guild, to the most recent Life in the Spirit seminar to the many, many other internal and external activities such as video teaching sessions, rosary rallies, local evangelizing trips, and so many others we could list. We can see that this prophetic word is an integral part of our community’s calling and is continually being realized through us in new ways.

Yet, through 2015 we are still receiving this message, so I had to ask the Lord, is there more? Is there more we are being called to do? Here the Lord reminded me again that Lighthouses are steadfast, sturdy and reliable and so must we be. If Christ is the light that we hold up for the world to see, we must be steadfast, sturdy and reliable in shining His light. Each and every day He wants us to ask Him where we are to shine His light. It may be in small, simple ways as we interact with family, friends and strangers. He kept reminding me that being a Lighthouse is a continuous calling for us, individually and as a community. Since we can only serve as a lighthouse as long as the light of Christ continues to shine through us, it means that, as Elaine spoke about last time, we need to work at maintaining an intimate relationship with Jesus every day. We cannot be complacent and try to generate the ‘light’ by our own power.

Another thought that came as I meditated on these words was that, although the purpose of the Lighthouse is to illuminate the path, it is never to choose or judge the path a ship takes. Each ship is on its own individual journey, just as each one of us is on our own individual journey. And we each choose our own paths. God may choose to use us as a lighthouse individually or as a community to make it easier for others to see with clarity what the options are and where each direction leads, but the choice of which path to follow belongs to each individual and we are not to judge the choices of others, we are simply called to love each other and shine the light of Christ.

These are just the thoughts that came to me as I spent time with the Lord pondering His message. As you each take it to prayer you may see different aspects of what He is telling us today about being a light in the darkness, a beacon and a Lighthouse.