

Mother of God Community
Sunday Night Prayer Meeting
January 10, 2016
Prophetic Awakening
Elaine Schneider

**Awake! Awake, my soul,
For His Love endures forever!**

Do you know the Psalm 136 refrain? Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
For His Love endures forever!" This rings in my heart and both God and I rejoice.
The heart is a meeting place...a meeting place to meet God...and my soul awakes.

How often do I find myself in a depressed or frightened mood and forget to look to God?
When I examine my heart...ahhh...I recognize the enemy of my soul. Often we need our brothers and sisters to awaken us...to remember Christ has won the victory. And our victory is in our faith. Jesus is Alive! And He wants to share His life with me and with you!

Coming to Prayer Meeting is a good way to enliven our souls.
Praising God, we can experience a lifting up of the cloud over us. When the cloud of worry is lifted, and we focus on God, that is when we are open to receive a prophetic word from God.

Two examples of a Prophetic Word were given just a month ago before our Christmas recess:
(Marty's vision of a flood, a great wave lifting us up)
The second word of encouragement was one Bill Kroah gave to remind us that
(Our Lord Jesus said he would never abandon His Bride the Church, and we are Church)

I believe God gives each one of us a chance for hearing a word from Him with a **personal relationship with Him**. It is God's special gift to us. Each one of us has been touched by God. Each one of us has a story. He wants to bring us close to His bosom and have an intimate personal relationship.

An example in my personal life was shown to me on a mission trip in Mexico...going door to door evangelizing ...God's call to draw all people to Himself...I realized I was living the Gospel when Jesus says to me "give a cup of water to the least of my brethren"...and what I learned from this was that He was using me in a most beloved way.

A good friend often challenges me with the question, "So, how is your prayer life? What is the Lord saying to you?"

This makes me accountable to turning to the Lord often and **listening** for that still small voice within. I know when I am far from Him. I think I can or should be able to "figure out" my problem on my own. But then, I realize, it's not all up to me. God is in control and I must stop and humble myself to get into the right relationship again every day. It is in my prayer time that I receive His prophetic word.

A few steps I use to get into prayer are:

Ask Him. I ask Holy Spirit to help me to "let go and let God" speak. Reading Scripture, where the Lord has spoken to me in the past is a good place for me to start.

- Song of Songs 2:8: "My lover speaks to me, 'Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one and come. For lo, the winter is past; the rains are over and gone, and the time for the turtledove has come'"
- Isaiah 60: "Arise and shine for your light has come!"
- Isaiah 61: "The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring the glad tidings to the poor."
He wants each one of us to lift up and encourage one another every day!

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Another step is to:

Desire Him. Desire to be close. To let Him touch me, embrace me, and comfort my fears.

- Ps 63 “O God...I long for you like a dry weary land without water... so I gaze on You to see Your strength and Your glory.” “For Your Love is better than life.”

I find Christ.... when I am gazing on my Lord in the Adoration Chapel. He cleanses my heart as I gaze on His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. He removes my stain of sin. My heart melts, tears may spring to my eyes, and I am ready to listen.

A third step is to **Listen to Him** and hear and feel that peace which passes all understanding. I listen for a message from my lover. I know He cares for me and longs to share whatever I need.

People may ask, “How do you **“Receive a Word from the LORD?”**one of the ways I receive is through journaling. His word may come in the form of a picture, an experience, an ‘ah ha’ moment. He converses with me. I write what Jesus says in RED ink, and what I say in response in pencil or black ink. We speak back and forth. It is a conversation. Sometimes our Lady joins in the conversation...I write in blue or purple ink. Sometimes it is Father God who speaks to my heart. Mostly for me, it’s JESUS speaking to my heart. If I don’t write what I hear or feel is being said, I forget it. My memory and thoughts crowd out God’s message of hope, of encouragement, of His peace. I need to be reminded over and over again of His great love for me and what He has spoken day by day. I believe we all need this intimate relationship with God....so we can trust Him and learn from Him.

I believe Jesus speaks through the **heart**..His heart and my heart....that’s where the exchange happens. I know He is with me, and what He says is just what I need to hear.

Then, the very last thing I do is reflect and ask if this word is for me privately, or does He want me to share it? Who do I share with? Ask Jesus: Is this word for me, my spouse, my friend, or the Community? Here in community we are encouraged to share what the Lord is speaking to us, so that others may benefit from His word and be encouraged. This takes discernment.

In conclusion,

God wants to speak to us, individually and to all of us as the Body of Christ. God longs for that intimate, personal relationship He has for each one of us. We are called to encourage one another, to build up the Body of Christ here because, “whenever two or three are gathered in His Name, Jesus is here among us”. He wants us to experience Him, to know He is alive.

So, what is prophecy to me? It is God’s Word and Works here on earth, living and active. We have lots of Words God gives us each day, and many are captured and recorded in this little book of Prophetic Words given at our Prayer Meetings over the past years. I would ask that you sit with one word and see if God speaks to you through it in your prayer time. Let us all seek to listen, receive and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit as we seek to build up His Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.