



NEW LIFE

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MINISTRY

Outreach Ministry Of The People Of Joy Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group

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Feb - Mar 2012

Enthusiastic Christians

By Vince Dorazio

Do you remember when you first started attending the Charismatic Renewal Prayer meetings? It was very different from what you had been used to when going to Sunday morning church. It may have taken you more than a few meetings to feel comfortable, fitting in with the rest of the group singing joyful songs of praise. Then you attended a **Life In The Spirit Seminar** and were prayed for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and for the first time you began to praise Jesus with the gift of tongues along with the rest of the people in the prayer meeting. Do you remember the excitement, joy and enthusiasm you had? You may have felt that everyone you knew should be right there along with you praising God in the same way as you!

The joy and enthusiasm you had was spilling over to everyone you knew; your family, friends, co-workers and people you met. You were passionate about your **"new life"** in the Holy Spirit and the **"joy of the Lord"** shown in everything you were doing. The new life of the Holy Spirit was like having a **"fire in the belly"**! Many who saw you



noticed the change in you, and some wanted what you had. They wanted the same joy and enthusiasm of the **"new life"** of the Holy Spirit you were experiencing!

You were excited and full of **"HOLY SPIRIT FIRE"**, and you began sharing your testimony of your renewal in Jesus to everyone who would listen, and maybe even to those who would not listen. You had **"Holy Spirit Boldness!"**

That's the way it was in the early days of the Charismatic Renewal. Prayer meetings began growing rapidly as more and more people were

sharing their enthusiasm in the Lord. It was necessary to get to the weekly prayer meetings at least 30-40 minutes early just to get a good parking space near the church. But as the years went on, some of the enthusiasm began to fade as the prayer meetings became more and more commonplace. Worshipping in tongues of the Holy Spirit was not as jubilant as it once was. Attendance began to diminish as some lost their passion and joy. It was as if the enthusiasm and fire of the Holy Spirit was flaming out.

When asked why some people don't attend the weekly prayer meeting anymore, I got a variety of responses. Here are a few responses:

- "The prayer meeting doesn't do anything for me anymore."
- "It depends on if there is a special speaker."
- "I only go if there is a healing Mass."
- "There aren't a lot of people there anymore."
- "I'm too involved with other things at church or home."

Years ago when I first began attending the weekly prayer

meetings, I saw the joy and enthusiasm in all the people. It excited me to see the zeal and the passion for the Lord. Just about everyone came ready with a scripture or short testimony to share of how the Holy Spirit was working in their lives. We came with an expectancy to see what God was going to do that night, and we were not disappointed.

Lives were changed as some were renewed in the Holy Spirit, and some were healed, physically and emotionally as the Holy Spirit moved and acted in the prayer meeting. Many times there were no "special speakers" and never a healing Mass. But we were assured that the Holy Spirit was going to be there, and God was going to do something. We wanted to be there and participate in what God was doing! There was never a good reason why any of us would not be there.

I CANNOT COME

In his Gospel, St. Luke writes of the parable that Jesus tells of those who are invited to a feast and gave many excuses why they could not come:

The Parable of the Great Feast

"A man gave a great dinner to which he invited many. When the time for the dinner came, he dispatched his servant to say to those invited, 'Come, everything is now ready.' But one by one, they all began to excuse themselves. The first said to him, 'I have purchased a field and must go to examine it; I ask you, consider me excused.' And another said, 'I have purchased five yoke of oxen and am on my way to evaluate them; I ask you, consider me excused.' And another said, 'I have just married a woman, and

therefore I cannot come.' The servant went and reported this to his master. Then the master of the house in a rage commanded his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in here the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame.' The servant reported, 'Sir, your orders have been carried out and still there is room.' The master then ordered the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedgerows and make people come in that my home may be filled.'" (Luke 14:16-23)

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER MEETINGS

Have we in the Charismatic Renewal fallen into the same category that Jesus speaks of in His parable? How can we prevent making the same excuses that we read above? Here are a few suggestions that we can take to prevent this from happening.

➤ **DAILY RENEWAL** We should start our day with a daily renewal of thanking God for who he is and asking for His blessings.

"Thank you God for giving me this day and for giving me Jesus, my Lord and my God, and thank you for giving me Your Holy Spirit and the gifts of your Holy Spirit."

➤ **COMMITMENT** We should make every effort and commitment to be at the weekly prayer meeting whether or not if there is a "special speaker" or a "Healing Mass". The primary purpose of the prayer meeting is to come

together as **one body and one spirit in praise and glory in Christ Jesus!** Set aside the prayer meeting day and time as a priority on your calendar.

➤ **Be Prepared** You should be prepared to share a short testimony of how God has been active in your life the past week or a short reading from scripture.

➤ **CELEBRATE THE JOY OF THE LORD** The prayer meeting should be a time of joyful celebration of praise in what God has done in the past week for you.

➤ **EXPECT GOD TO ACT** You should be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and expecting God to act with a word of direction for the prayer group and also for healings and for individual renewals of the Baptism Of The Holy Spirit.

God will act if we ask Him and expect Him to act. Jesus said. "Ask and you will receive"

In his letter to the Hebrews, St. Paul encourages the Christian community to continue meeting together. ***"We should not stay away from our assembly, as is the custom of some, but encourage one another"***. (Hebrews 10:25) This is a good reminder for us today.

Remember, it is not what the Prayer Meeting will do for you, but what you bring to the Prayer Meeting!

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Growing In Christian Faith Seminar

What is there after you have been to a Life In The Spirit Seminar?

We have put together a one day seminar on growing in Christian faith and are offering it to all parishes and prayer groups. This seminar will be helpful to **all** Christians to continue to grow in the Holy Spirit.

The seminar will include three major talks on **Growing In Christian Faith** and include informal discussion and sharing groups. A guide booklet will be given to each registered person. The seminar is offered on a **free-will offering**.

We are beginning to schedule dates now for future seminars. For more information, or if you would like to sponsor this seminar at your parish or prayer group please call us at New Life at 612-243-9411 to schedule a Saturday date.

This seminar was also recorded on two CD's that can be used as a mini retreat day for your group and/or adult Ed groups.

Cost for 2 CD set & Booklet is \$15. (Additional books \$5 ea.)

Send to:

New Life CRM

6253 Penn Avenue South

Richfield, MN. 55423

612-243-9411

Day Of Charismatic Renewal Healing & Restoration

**SATURDAY --- APRIL 28, 2012
9 AM - 3 PM**

**ST. ALBERT THE GREAT
CATHOLIC CHURCH
3200 EAST 29th STREET, MINNEAPOLIS**

"Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint [him] with oil in the name of the Lord." (James 5:14)

**Fr. Don Piche ♦ Vince Dorazio
COME AND RECEIVE AN ANOINTED HEALING**

This day will begin with Benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr. Piche will give an explanation of the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick.

The day will conclude with a healing service and anointing with sacramental oil by Fr. Piche.

There is **NO CHARGE** to attend this day.

A free-will offering will be taken to cover the cost of the day.

A light lunch will be served.

Please register As Soon As Possible so that we can estimate food requirements

Registration Form - Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ **Cell** _____

Email _____

Credit Card Info. [] Visa [] MasterCard [] Discover

Card # _____

Expire _____ **3 Digit #** _____ **Amount \$** _____

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**Twin City Area Wide
CHARISMATIC RENEWAL REVIVAL
MEETING**
THURSDAY, 7:30 PM
FEB. 23, 2012

Thursday, 7:30 PM
March 29, 2012

St. Albert's Catholic Church
3200 East 29 St. Mpls
(Enter 32 Ave side door)

SUBSCRIPTION
Send New Life to a friend.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

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- I am enclosing a tax-deductible gift to help support NEW LIFE MINISTRY.
- This is a change of address.
- Send New Life to _____

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Richfield, MN. 55423 612-243-9411

**Your donations are needed to
continue New Life Renewal
Ministry. We greatly appreciate
your prayers and financial
support.**

**May our God continue to bless you
abundantly with His New Life!**

Thank You

**PEOPLE OF JOY
CHARISMATIC PRAYER
MEETINGS
THURSDAYS 7:30 PM**

St Albert's Catholic Church
3200 East 29 Street, Mpls MN
(1 Block North of E. Lake St.)

**Come join with us to proclaim
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!**