



NEW LIFE

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MINISTRY

Outreach Ministry Of The People Of Joy Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group

6253 Penn Ave So; Richfield MN 55423

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Apr-May 2014

THE REIGN OF GOD IS AT HAND

By Vince Dorazio

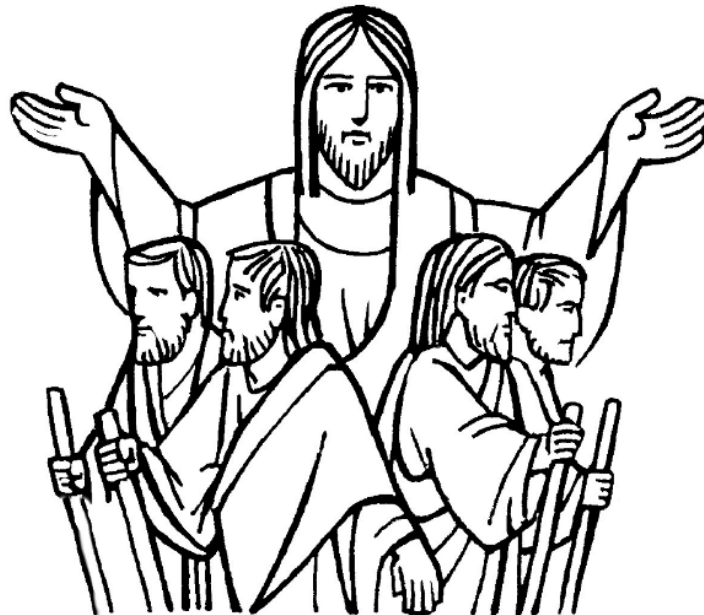
In the 9th chapter of St. Luke's gospel Jesus sends out His Apostles to the towns and villages that He was going to be attending. He gave them instructions to heal the sick and to announce the coming of the Kingdom of God. In the 10th chapter, Jesus sends out an additional 72 of His followers (2x2) giving them the same instructions, and He empowers them with the same healing power and also to announce to the people that **"THE REIGN OF GOD IS AT HAND!"**

The announcing about the "Kingdom of God is at hand" is just another way of evangelizing.

As we continue to read the New Testament, we continue to hear about these same two instructions of healing and evangelizing. The healings recorded in the book of Acts by the Apostles and St. Paul is usually followed or preceded by the evangelizing about Jesus the Messiah and the Kingdom of God.

As humans, we tend to put more emphasis on the "healing" aspect of the

message and less on the evangelizing instruction. I believe people will listen more intently if they can see a physical healing or miracle take place.



You can talk yourselves deaf, dumb and blind for hours, days and even months with little or no results. But accomplish one healing and you got an attentive audience who are all ears. Years ago, I learned a valuable lesson, **"If you want to get the attention of a stubborn mule, you first have to hit it over the head with a 2x4."**

The main focus of the Apostles and the 72 other followers was not so much the "healing". The main purpose was the evangelizing and announcing **"that the Reign of God is at hand!"** Jesus knew very well the minds of the people. They won't listen unless they could see something physical happening, and so He empowered His followers with the power to heal those who were sick; primarily to get their attention.

The healings were like "hitting them over the head with a 2x4" mainly to get their attention and to hear the announcement of the coming of the Kingdom of God. We know that all healings are only temporary, but the Reign of God is eternal; and is forever!

St. Luke records Jesus' final instruction in the book of Acts as a word of evangelizing and empowerment of God's promise of the Holy Spirit to guide them and encourage them. Jesus said, **"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,**

throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

The main emphasis is the word “witness”, another word for evangelizing.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

We in the Charismatic Renewal have been blessed and empowered by God’s Holy Spirit to become ambassadors for Jesus Christ. We have been chosen by Jesus Himself to become one of the 72 other believers, and as followers to announce to everyone **“THAT THE REIGN OF GOD IS AT HAND!”**

Being an “Ambassador for Jesus” simply means that whoever we see, and wherever we go, we represent Jesus Christ. Whoever sees you must see Jesus in you and want what you have. And this is where you become a witness for Christ.

Witnessing is just another simple task of evangelizing. Witnessing **is not** bombarding someone with a whole lot of bible verses you committed to memory, or impressing them with how “holy” you are. Witnessing is simply telling the person of how you became a believer in Jesus as your personal savior; how you renewed your life in Christ and now living a New Life in the Holy Spirit.

In some instances you may have to “hit someone over the head with a 2x4”. Then you will have to rely on the power of God’s Holy Spirit and do something physical like a small healing to get their full attention.

Remember, God will not leave you orphans; He will be with you in your time of need. Be confident and move forward, just as the Apostles and the 72 others did. Remember, just as Jesus appointed them to announce the Kingdom of God, so too, Jesus is appointing you to do the same.

Whatever town you enter and they do not receive you, go out into the streets and say, ‘The dust of your town that clings to our feet, even that we shake off against you.’ Yet know this: the Reign of God is at hand. (Luke 10:10-11)

“THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND”

When the followers of Jesus announced to the people these words, what was their purpose and meaning? Some may say they were announcing the future life that is to come in Heaven. But, in reality, they were announcing that the presence of God was already here among us – right now! It was a call of repentance and awareness that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah; Son of God, Son of man, Son of Mary.

Even today, many see the “Kingdom” as the future in Heaven. So it is important that we as followers of Jesus be ready and willing to herald that the **REIGN (KINGDOM) OF GOD IS AT HAND** and it is here right now!

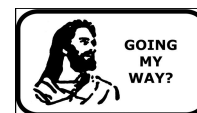
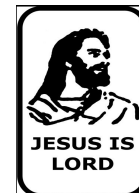
Save The Date

Holy Spirit Conference
Bishop Andrew Cozzens

SATURDAY
Sept 27, 2014

St Albert The Great Catholic Church, Mpls

DISPLAY A MAGNET ON YOUR VEHICLE AND/OR REFRIGERATOR & BECOME A ‘SILENT’ EVANGELIST



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6253 Penn Ave So
Richfield MN 55423**

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Prayer Request

Send us your individual prayer request and we will add your request to our daily prayer list. Also please remember to add to your daily prayers all those in need of your daily prayers. Send your request to:

**New Life CRM
6253 Penn Avenue South
Richfield MN. 55423**

Please also pray for the New Life Renewal Ministry that we may do all that God asks of us.

Thank you for your support and letters to New Life Renewal Ministry. We appreciate and enjoy receiving your letters of encouragement. We look forward to your continued support. May our Lord Jesus continue to bless you abundantly with His NEW LIFE!

Notice

We are continuing with our series of articles titled "**Prayer Group Workshop**". We will focus on the basic fundamentals of general participation and leadership in a Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting.

The articles will include "Do's and Do Not's", Attendance, Singing, Praise, Worship, Sharing, Scripture, Testimony, plus more other valuable information for a successful Charismatic Prayer Meeting.

CUT AND SAVE

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP WORKSHOP #2

COMMITMENT IN ATTENDANCE

Successful prayer meetings begin with Commitments and Attendance!

It is important that every person who decides to become a follower of Jesus and begins going to the weekly Charismatic Prayer Group make a commitment to themselves to be present at every scheduled prayer meeting. Why is this so important? When I first began attending prayer meetings, I read a book about a group of Christian people living in a communist country. They would gather in secret places sharing the Bible with one another. In fear of getting caught with a Christian Bible, they decide to each memorize a couple of pages or chapter of the Gospel of John. When the day of the scheduled prayer meeting came they would gather together in praise and joy as each person recited their pages of John's Gospel. It was important that everyone was present to read their part so that the whole Gospel could be heard. If someone was missing then those pages or chapter were never heard. It made me realize how important EVERY person is in attending for the success of the prayer meeting.

As a leader of a prayer meeting for the past 40 years, I have heard just about every reason and excuse that there is as to why some people were not at the weekly prayer meeting. The reasons are too numerous to mention here, but I'm sure there are many more. When I was in the Air Force our Drill Instructor told us on our first day that we will be in front of our barracks EVERY morning at 4:45 AM in the uniform of the day. He also said that he would accept only two reasons why someone could not be there: 1) if we died during the night, 2) if someone got married during the night - and he wasn't giving anyone permission to get married.

Making a commitment to attending the weekly prayer meeting is more than just obtaining prayers for your needs. It involves giving of yourselves to the needs of other members. Imagine if you went to Sunday Mass and the priest decided not to attend because he had something in mind that he wanted to do that morning. If he did this on several occasions, how long would it be before many of the parishioners would be going to another church or stop going altogether? It is no different for the weekly prayer meeting. Those who are committed to being there will notice the lack of attendance and commitment by those not there and soon might make the decision to stop coming as well. If you want growth in your prayer group then make a commitment to be there EVERY week.

The Book of Acts makes it very clear as to what happens when Jesus' followers make a commitment to come together in joyful praise with one another. ***Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.***

(ACTS 2:46-47)

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**Twin City Area Wide
CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
PRAISE & WORSHIP MEETING**

**Thursday, 7:30 PM
April 24, 2014
May 29, 2014**

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

SUBSCRIPTION
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**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.)
(Enter 32nd Ave side door)
Come join with us to proclaim
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!**