



# 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY DEVOTION NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

## A NEW VISION FOR A NEW YEAR LET'S NOT LIMIT WHAT GOD CAN DO IN US!

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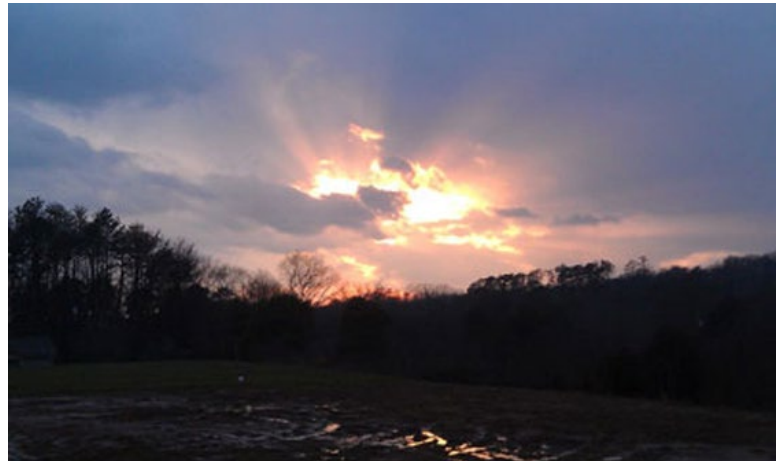
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THE EDITORS OF THE SPIRITUAL ARMY OF GOD THE FATHER'S 1ST SATURDAY NEWSLETTER ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE CONSISTENT QUALITY AND ACCURACY OF THE SPIRITUAL ARMY OF GOD THE FATHER'S 1ST SATURDAY NEWSLETTER AND AS SUCH RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT OR EDIT THE CONTENT OF ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR PUBLICATION. EDITING MAY INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, CHANGES TO GRAMMAR, SYNTAX AND STYLES, REMOVAL OF OFFENSIVE CONTENT AND REMOVAL OF PERSONAL NON-PUBLIC INFORMATION. SUBMISSION OF YOUR ARTICLE SIGNIFIES YOUR AGREEMENT TO THE TERMS AFOREMENTIONED.

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- IN 1873, SIR JOHN ERIC ERICKSEN, THE SURGEON-EXTRAORDINARY TO QUEEN VICTORIA, SAID: "THE ABDOMEN, THE CHEST, AND THE BRAIN WILL FOREVER BE SHUT FROM THE INTRUSION OF THE WISE AND HUMANE SURGEON."
- IN 1876, AMERICAN PRESIDENT RUTHERFORD B. HAYES TOLD ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL: "THE TELEPHONE IS AN AMAZING INVENTION, BUT WHO WOULD EVER WANT TO USE ONE?"
- IN 1895, ALBERT EINSTEIN'S HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER SAID: "IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HE DOES; HE WILL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING."
- IN 1939, THE NEW YORK TIMES PROCLAIMED: "THE PROBLEM WITH TELEVISION IS THAT THE PEOPLE MUST SIT AND KEEP THEIR EYES GLUED ON A SCREEN; THE AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILY HASN'T TIME FOR IT."
- IN 1949, MATHEMATICIAN JOHN VON NEUMANN SAID: "IT WOULD APPEAR THAT WE HAVE REACHED THE LIMITS OF WHAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE WITH COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY."

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## FEASTS FOR JANUARY

THE FEASTS ON THE GENERAL ROMAN CALENDAR CELEBRATED DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY ARE:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS, SOLEMNITY         | 21 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, (SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD), SUNDAY |
| 2 BASIL THE GREAT; GREGORY NAZIANZEN, MEMORIAL                    | 22 DAY OF PRAYER FOR UNBORN (USA), OPT. MEM.                          |
| 3 WEDNESDAY OF CHRISTMAS TIME; MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS, OPT. MEM. | 23 VINCENT OF SARAGOSSA (US), MARIANNE COPE (US), OPT. MEM.           |
| 4 ELIZABETH ANN SETON (USA AND CAN), MEMORIAL                     | 24 FRANCIS DE SALES, MEMORIAL   |
| 5 JOHN NEUMANN, MEMORIAL  | 25 CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE, FEAST                          |
| 6 SATURDAY OF CHRISTMAS TIME; ANDRÉ BESSETTE (USA), OPT. MEM.     | 26 TIMOTHY AND TITUS, MEMORIAL  |
| 7 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, SOLEMNITY                                 | 27 ANGELA MERICI, OPT. MEM.   |
| 8 BAPTISM OF THE LORD, FEAST                                      | 28 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SUNDAY                             |
| 13 HILARY, OPT. MEM.  | 31 JOHN BOSCO, MEMORIAL   |
| 14 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, SUNDAY                         |   |
| 17 ANTHONY, MEMORIAL  |   |
| 20 FABIAN; SEBASTIAN, OPT. MEM.                                   |   |
- THE OPTIONAL MEMORIALS OF ST. RAYMOND OF PENAFORT (JANUARY 7), ST. AGNES (JANUARY 21), AND ST. JOHN BOSCO (JANUARY 31) ARE SUPERSEDED BY THE SUNDAY LITURGY. □

## OUR CENACLE CORNER

SEEKING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD  
THROUGH MEDITATION OF PASSAGES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURES

### *Distraction*

# GOD TOUCHED ME

*Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.  
Tell everyone about the amazing things he does. — 1 Chronicles 16:24*

## AM I DEVOTED TO GOD?

*By Micca Campbell*

*"Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you."*

*- Psalm 73:25*

I LONG TO BE FULLY DEVOTED TO GOD, BUT IT AMAZES ME HOW FAR THINGS CAN GET OUT OF LINE WHEN I'M NOT PAYING ATTENTION. IN WEAK MOMENTS, I CAN SPEND MONEY ON MYSELF THAT I'VE SAVED TO GIVE AWAY. I'VE SAT HALFWAY THROUGH A SITCOM BEFORE REALIZING I'M LAUGHING AT THINGS CONTRARY TO THE WILL OF GOD. BAD HABITS QUICKLY GAIN THE UPPER HAND WHEN I NEGLECT TO ADDRESS THEM DAILY. WORSE YET, A PASSION FOR SELF-INDULGENCE CAN SOMETIMES TRUMP MY DEVOTION TO GOD. PERHAPS YOU CAN RELATE. IF WE AREN'T CAREFUL, IT'S EASY TO LET WORLDLY DESIRES BECOME OBSESSIONS, REDIRECTING OUR LOVE AND DEVOTION AWAY FROM GOD.

WHEN I GIVE MORE DEVOTION TO ANYTHING OR ANYONE OTHER THAN GOD, I'M BEING UNFAITHFUL. WHY? BECAUSE I BELONG TO GOD AND HE DESERVES MY WHOLE HEART. YET ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING THINGS ABOUT OUR GREAT GOD IS NO MATTER HOW UNFAITHFUL WE ARE, GOD IS NEVER UNFAITHFUL TO US. HE IS WHOLLY DEVOTED TO HIS CHILDREN, HOLDING NOTHING BACK. NOT LOVE. NOT FORGIVENESS. NOT MERCY. NOT PROVISION, PROTECTION OR HIS PRESENCE. NOT EVEN HIS SON. OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, BY EXAMPLE, MODELS DEVOTION FOR US.

TAKE ANOTHER LOOK. GOD IS TOTALLY DEVOTED TO YOU. THE QUESTION IS, "ARE YOU TOTALLY DEVOTED TO HIM?" YOU ALREADY KNOW MY DEVOTION ISN'T ALWAYS WHAT IT SHOULD BE. HOWEVER, GIVING IN TO WORLDLY PASSIONS ISN'T THE ONLY THING THAT EXPOSES MY LACK OF DEVOTION. HOLDING BACK PARTS OF MYSELF FROM GOD IS A SURE SIGN OF A DIVIDED HEART. I TEND TO

WITHHOLD MY TIME, ADORATION, DEDICATION, HONESTY, AND GRATITUDE. YET WITHOUT FULL SURRENDER ON MY PART, I'LL NEVER BECOME FULLY DEVOTED TO GOD. IT'S ONLY WHEN GOD MEANS MORE TO ME THAN ANYTHING OR ANYONE ON EARTH THAT MY HEART WILL BE FULLY DEVOTED TO HIM ALONE. THEN I CAN STATE OUR KEY VERSE WITH PASSION:

"WHOM HAVE I IN HEAVEN BUT YOU? AND EARTH HAS NOTHING I DESIRE BESIDES YOU"  
(PSALM 73:25).

OUR KEY VERSE IS ATTRIBUTED TO A MUSIC DIRECTOR OF KING DAVID NAMED ASAPH. AND FROM THIS VERSE, IT'S OBVIOUS NOTHING MEANT MORE TO HIM THAN GOD. ASAPH KNEW GOD WAS FAR MORE EXCELLENT THAN ANY OBJECT ON EARTH. GOD IS OUR PEACE AND JOY. HE IS OUR SALVATION AND SECURITY. HE IS OUR DAILY PORTION AND STRENGTH. NOTHING OF EARTH'S WEALTH, HONOR OR FAME COMES CLOSE TO GOD. EVEN IN HEAVEN THERE IS NOTHING MORE SUPERB THAN HE. FOR THAT REASON, ASAPH PROCLAIMS,

"EARTH HAS NOTHING I DESIRE BESIDES YOU."

WHEN YOU AND I ARE ABLE TO SAY THOSE VERY WORDS AND MEAN THEM, OUR DEVOTION FOR GOD WILL SHINE. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. THERE ARE BENEFITS TO BEING FULLY DEVOTED TO GOD. A DEVOTED HEART DRAWS NEAR TO GOD AND EXPERIENCES HIS PRESENCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY. A FULLY SURRENDERED HEART CALLS US TO FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST SO THAT HIS POWER CAN EQUIP US TO CARRY OUT HIS PLANS. DEVOTION ALLOWS US TO ADORE HIM FOR WHO HE IS: A GOD WHO

WITHHOLDS NOTHING FROM HIS CHILDREN. A LOVE LIKE THAT REMINDS ME OF THE LYRICS FROM AN OLD HYMN PENNED BY ISAAC WATTS:

"LOVE SO AMAZING, SO DIVINE, DEMANDS MY SOUL, MY LIFE, MY ALL."

MAY THE HOLY SPIRIT STIR OUR HEARTS UNTIL WE CAN SAY,

"THERE IS NOTHING I DESIRE BESIDES YOU, LORD."

DEAR LORD, I'M SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR IMMEASURABLE DEVOTION TO ME. WORK IN ME UNTIL I'M COMPLETELY DEVOTED TO YOU. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN. ☐

***Prayer of Humility***

*He will guide the mild in judgment: he will teach the meek his ways. Psalm 25:29*

***Father God, we ask for humility.  
Rid us of pride, we pray.  
Save us from ourselves,  
from our own way,  
and from our own definition  
of what is right.  
We humble ourselves before you,  
help us, lead us in what is right,  
and teach us your way.  
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.***



*"I am your Mother Mary . Continue arming yourselves with my beads . The evil one is pursuing those close to God. Their instruments are sickness, diseases, and other forms of debilitating acts like unsleepiness, inland sea and air. Be vigilant my children. I am always with you .*

*Mary your Lady of the Rosary"  
12162023*

## A NEW VISION FOR A NEW YEAR

FORTUNATELY FOR ALL OF US, PROJECTS LIKE THE COMPUTER, THE TELEPHONE, AND MODERN SURGERY HAD CHAMPIONS AS WELL AS NAYSAYERS. THESE GREAT IDEAS CAME INTO REALITY BECAUSE OF PEOPLE WHO WERE ABLE TO DREAM ABOUT WHAT MIGHT BE RATHER THAN HOLD FAST TO WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SAID COULD NOT BE. AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR, AND AS WE CONTEMPLATE OUR RESOLUTIONS, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT A FEW PREDICTIONS FROM THE PAST.

**A GOD OF LIMITLESS POWER.** NOW IT'S ONE THING TO QUESTION THE VALUE OF THE COMPUTER OR THE TELEPHONE, BUT IT'S ANOTHER THING ALTOGETHER TO QUESTION THE POWER OF GOD TO WORK IN OUR LIVES. SO AS WE BEGIN THIS NEW YEAR, LET'S PUT ASIDE ANY DOUBTS WE MAY HAVE ABOUT THE LORD. LET'S BELIEVE THAT HE DOES WANT TO DO A GREAT WORK IN OUR LIVES AND THAT HE REALLY DOES WANT TO OPEN OUR EYES TO THE SPIRITUAL REALITIES ALL AROUND US.

OF COURSE, LIKE ANY OTHER NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION, OUR DESIRE TO HAVE THE LORD OPEN OUR EYES WILL BE FULFILLED ONLY IF WE DO OUR PART. IF WE HAD RESOLVED TO LOSE TWENTY POUNDS THIS YEAR, WE WOULD HAVE TO MAKE SURE WE ARE EATING LESS AND EXERCISING MORE. IF OUR RESOLUTION IS TO READ SIX GOOD NOVELS THIS YEAR, WE WOULD HAVE TO BE SURE TO SET ASIDE THE TIME TO MAKE SURE WE COMPLETE ONE BOOK EVERY TWO MONTHS. LIKEWISE, IF WE WANT OUR EYES OPENED TO THE WORK OF THE LORD, WE HAVE TO BE WILLING TO DO THE NECESSARY WORK. SO LET'S BEGIN.

THE FIRST THING WE SHOULD DO IS ASK OURSELVES TWO IMPORTANT QUESTIONS: "DO I BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS A PLAN FOR MY LIFE?" AND "DO I BELIEVE THAT AT THE HEART OF THIS PLAN IS HIS DESIRE TO LEAD ME AND TEACH ME THROUGH HIS HOLY SPIRIT?" NEXT COME TWO RELATED QUESTIONS: "DO I BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A DEVIL, WHO WANTS NOTHING MORE THAN TO SEE ME TURN AWAY FROM THE LORD?" AND "DO I BELIEVE THAT THE DEVIL HAS HIS OWN PLANS IN TRYING TO SPOIL MY FAITH AND KEEP ME IN DARKNESS?" IF WE CAN SAY YES TO THESE FOUR QUESTIONS, WE ARE IN A GOOD POSITION

TO START LOOKING AT OUR LIVES TO DISCERN WHERE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS INFLUENCING US AND WHERE THE DEVIL IS INFLUENCING US.

**DEVILISH PURPOSES.** TO HELP US GET CLEARER ON THE QUESTION OF THE DEVIL'S INFLUENCE, LET'S LOOK AT A FEW SCRIPTURE PASSAGES. IN HIS LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS, ST. PAUL WARNS: "PUT ON THE ARMOR OF GOD SO THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STAND FIRM AGAINST THE TACTICS OF THE DEVIL" (EPHESIANS 6:11). HE LIKEWISE WARNED THE CORINTHIANS AGAINST BEING "TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF BY SATAN," BECAUSE PAUL WAS "NOT UNAWARE OF HIS PURPOSES." LATER IN THAT SAME LETTER, PAUL CAUTIONED THEM AGAIN ABOUT HOW SHREWD THE DEVIL IS: "EVEN SATAN MASQUERADES AS AN ANGEL OF LIGHT" (2 CORINTHIANS 2:11; 11:14).

WHAT ARE THE DEVIL'S "PURPOSES"? MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, SATAN WANTS TO KEEP US FROM ENJOYING GOD'S LOVE. HE WANTS TO THWART OUR DESIRE TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD. TO THAT END, HE AND HIS DEMONS TRY TO DISCREDIT GOD. THEY SUGGEST THOUGHTS TO US THAT ARE FULL OF DECEPTION. THEY TRY TO CONVINCING US THAT GOD ISN'T REAL, OR THAT HE ISN'T REALLY ON OUR SIDE, OR THAT THE WORLD CAN GIVE US EVERYTHING WE NEED.

SOMETIMES, THE DEVIL'S TACTICS ARE MORE OBVIOUS AS HE TEMPTS US INTO SINS OF LUST, GLUTTONY, OR GREED. BUT OTHER TIMES, THEY ARE NOT SO OBVIOUS. PRETENDING TO BE AN "ANGEL OF LIGHT," THE DEVIL WILL SUGGEST SOMETHING TO US THAT SOUNDS GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE, BUT THAT ONLY LEADS TO CONFUSION AND ISOLATION IN THE END. PERHAPS HE WILL SUGGEST THAT A MAN SPEND ALL HIS WAKING HOURS WORKING SO THAT HE CAN PROVIDE MORE MONEY FOR HIS FAMILY. AT FIRST GLANCE, IT SOUNDS GOOD. BUT IN THE END, THAT MAN WILL HAVE SPENT NO TIME WITH HIS FAMILY, AND THE STRESS OF ALL THE WORK WILL HAVE TAKEN A DEVASTATING TOLL.

**"GET THEE BEHIND ME!"** HEARING THE VOICE OF THE SPIRIT—AND DISTINGUISHING HIS VOICE FROM THE VOICES OF OUR FALLEN NATURE, THE DEVIL, OR THE WORLD—IS SOMETHING WE NEED TO LEARN OVER TIME. THE APOSTLE PETER GIVES US A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THIS. HE STARTED OUT FOLLOWING JESUS FULL OF ENTHUSIASM AND WANTING TO PLEASE THE LORD IN EVERYTHING HE

DID. AT ONE POINT, JESUS ASKED: "WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?" "YOU ARE THE MESSIAH," PETER REPLIED, "THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD." IT WAS A SPIRITUAL BREAKTHROUGH FOR PETER, AND JESUS EVEN SAID SO: "BLESSED ARE YOU, SIMON SON OF JONAH. FOR FLESH AND BLOOD HAS NOT REVEALED THIS TO YOU, BUT MY HEAVENLY FATHER" (MATTHEW 16:15-17).

SOMETHING WAS HAPPENING IN PETER THAT ALLOWED HIM TO SEE JESUS IN A NEW WAY. HE SAW JESUS AS GOD'S CHOSEN MESSIAH. AND JESUS CONGRATULATED HIM AND REWARDED HIM FOR HIS INSIGHT.

BUT NOT LONG AFTERWARD, PETER SHOWED HOW FAR HE STILL HAD TO GO. FOR JESUS BEGAN TELLING HIS DISCIPLES THAT HE WAS HEADED FOR JERUSALEM, WHERE HE WOULD BE CAPTURED BY THE AUTHORITIES, PUT TO DEATH, AND THEN RISE AGAIN ON THE THIRD DAY. HEARING THIS NEWS, PETER—PROBABLY STILL EXCITED ABOUT HIS INSIGHTS—TRIED TO TELL JESUS WHAT TO DO. "GOD FORBID, LORD!" HE CRIED. "NO SUCH THING SHALL EVER HAPPEN TO YOU (MATTHEW 16:22)." PETER COULD NOT HANDLE THE IDEA OF A SUFFERING MESSIAH. HE COULDN'T IMAGINE THAT JESUS WOULD ALLOW HIMSELF TO BE MISTREATED AND EVEN PUT TO DEATH.

JESUS' RESPONSE WAS SWIFT AND DIRECT: "GET BEHIND ME, SATAN!" HE SAID. "YOU ARE THINKING NOT AS GOD DOES, BUT AS HUMAN BEINGS DO" (MATTHEW 16:23). PETER MUST HAVE BEEN SHOCKED. IN BOTH CASES, IT WAS HIS OWN VOICE SPEAKING AND HIS OWN MIND AT WORK. YET JESUS SAID THAT HIS FIRST RESPONSE CAME FROM GOD, WHILE THE SECOND ONE CAME FROM SATAN.

**THE TRAP OF GOOD INTENTIONS.** PETER'S STORY SHOWS US THAT EVEN WITH THE BEST OF INTENTIONS, WE CAN STILL BE INFLUENCED BY THE LIES AND SCHEMES OF THE DEVIL. HIS STORY ALSO SHOWS US HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT WE LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY THE VOICES IN OUR MINDS. THIS CAN SOUND LIKE QUITE A DAUNTING TASK, BUT GOD WANTS US TO KNOW THAT IT REALLY IS POSSIBLE. LOOK AT PETER AS AN EXAMPLE. IN TIME HE CAME TO UNDERSTAND WHY ONE THOUGHT HAD

A GODLY ORIGIN AND THE OTHER CAME FROM THE DEVIL. HE EVENTUALLY UNDERSTOOD THAT JESUS HAD TO DIE—IN FACT, THAT JESUS WANTED TO DIE—FOR OUR SAKE. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT JESUS REBUKED HIM BECAUSE HUMANITY NEEDED TO BE SAVED, AND THE CROSS WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION.

SO THAT WE DON'T DISMISS PETER'S EXPERIENCE AS JUST ANOTHER BIBLE STORY, WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT THE SAME KINDS OF THINGS HAPPEN TODAY. IT IS ALL TOO EASY FOR US TO FALL INTO THE TRAP OF THINKING THAT JESUS DIDN'T HAVE TO DIE FOR US, OR TO THINK THAT WE DON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE WAYS IN US THAT ARE OPPOSED TO JESUS. OFTEN ENOUGH, THE DEVIL TRIES TO CONVINCING US THAT IT IS ENOUGH FOR US TO TRY TO BE GOOD ON OUR OWN. HE TAKES OUR GOOD INTENTIONS—LIKE PETER'S—AND MAGNIFIES THEM TO THE POINT WHERE WE THINK THAT ALL WE NEED IS TO TRY HARD IF WE WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN. HE TAKES OUR ACTS OF SERVICE AND CONVINCES US THAT WE HAVE A RIGHT TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR THEM. OR, IF SOMEONE DISAGREES WITH US OR APPEARS TO DISREGARD OUR WORK, HE URGES US TO GET UPSET.

**TAKE JUST ONE STEP.** WE REALLY CAN LEARN HOW TO DISTINGUISH THE HOLY SPIRIT FROM THE DEVIL. WE MAY NOT BECOME SPIRITUAL EXPERTS OVERNIGHT, BUT WE CAN ALL MAKE PROGRESS THIS YEAR—AND THAT PROGRESS WILL SHOW ITSELF TO THE GLORY OF GOD. EVEN IF WE TAKE JUST ONE STEP BY DECIDING TO EXAMINE OUR CONSCIENCES EVERY EVENING OR BY REVIEWING OUR HIGHS AND LOWS EACH WEEK, WE WILL MAKE SIGNIFICANT HEADWAY.

SO LET'S BEGIN THIS YEAR BY REMOVING THE LIMITATIONS WE PLACE ON GOD. LET'S GIVE UP EVERY DOUBT, EVERY THOUGHT IN US THAT SAYS WE CAN'T KNOW HIS VOICE. LET'S DREAM ABOUT WHAT THE CHURCH MIGHT LOOK LIKE IF MORE AND MORE PEOPLE LEARNED HOW TO HEAR THE SPIRIT—AND HOW TO STAND UP AGAINST THE DEVIL! ☐

# SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RECOMMENDED

## DISTRACTION

BY VICTOR ARANETA

A DISTRACTION IS SOMETHING THAT TAKES YOUR ATTENTION AWAY FROM WHAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DOING. THEY CAN BE EXTERNAL FACTORS SUCH AS VISUAL TRIGGERS, SOCIAL INTERACTIONS, MUSIC, TEXT MESSAGES, PHONE CALLS; OR INTERNAL FACTORS, SUCH AS HUNGER, FATIGUE, ILLNESS, WORRYING OR DAYDREAMING. THUS, DISTRACTION IS VERY EMINENT, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE ARE PRAYING.

MANY ARE INVITED BUT FEW IS CHOSEN. WHEN WE PRAY, THIS US WHEN THE ENEMY ATTACKS WITH CANDOR. THERE WILL BE NO LETTING UP ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE ON YOUR KNEES PRAYING FOR SOMEONE.

IN THE BIBLE THERE ARE TWO THAT REALLY STAND OUT:

"BUT MARTHA WAS DISTRACTED WITH MUCH SERVING..."  
LUKE 10:40

"AND THIS I SAY FOR YOUR OWN PROFIT, NOT THAT I MAY PUT A LEASH ON YOU, BUT FOR WHAT IS PROPER, AND THAT YOU MAY SERVE THE LORD WITHOUT DISTRACTION."  
1 CORINTHIANS 7:35

AS WE LEARN FROM SOME OF THESE BIBLICAL CHARACTERS THEIR ENVIRONMENT HAD A LOT TO DO WITH THEIR DISTRACTION FROM GOD'S PLAN. THE SAME IS TRUE FOR US. LEVERAGE YOUR ENVIRONMENT AND BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT WHAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR HOME, PRAYER ROOM, AND SURROUNDINGS.

**PRAYER:** LORD, I COME AGAINST EVERY POWER OF DISTRACTION IN MY WAY TO SUCCESS AND BREAKTHROUGH. I PRAY THAT YOU WILL DESTROY THEM. AND WHISPER IT TO MY HEART, IN THE MIGHTY NAME OF YOUR SON JESUS , AMEN. ☐



## Upcoming Events

### 1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY DEVOTION

JANUARY 5, 2024

IN LAS VEGAS:  
THE CENACLE HOUSE  
AT 2:30 PM

IN LOS ANGELES: VIA ZOOM  
AT 8:30 PM  
VIA ZOOM

### 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY DEVOTION

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY DEVOTION

JANUARY 6, 2024

IN LOS ANGELES:  
VIA ZOOM  
MASS AT 9:15 AM  
DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS & CENACLE  
FOLLOW AFTER THE MASS

IN LAS VEGAS:  
THE CENACLE HOUSE  
AT 1:00 PM

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY DEVOTION

IN LAS VEGAS:  
ST. SHARBEL CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MASS AT 9:30 AM FOLLOWED BY  
DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS AT THE CHAPEL

### 800 OUR FATHER DEVOTION

JANUARY 20, 2023  
IN LAS VEGAS: THE CENACLE HOUSE  
AT 8:00 AM

IN LOS ANGELES: VIA ZOOM  
MASS AT 9:15 AM

### FEAST OF THE HOLY INFANT JESUS

JANUARY 20, 2024

IN LAS VEGAS: THE CENACLE HOUSE  
MASS AT 10:00 AM