

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF FEBRUARY 25, 2005

“Dear Children!

Today I call you to be my extended hands in this world that puts God in the last place.

You, little children, put God in the first place in your life.

God will bless you and give you strength to bear witness to Him, the God of love and peace.

I am with you and I intercede for you.

Little children, do not forget that I love you with a tender love.

Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Put God in the First Place

A. Renew Your Vocation.

Our Lady has said that the basic problem with humanity is that it is not interested in God, that it is trying to live a life without God and thus it is heading on a path of self-destruction. But God loves all His children and in His great Mercy He has devised a great plan of salvation to bring them back to Himself: consecration, devotion and devotedness to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In a special way, God has chosen each one of us to implement that plan. Our Blessed Mother is calling us back to renew the fundamental purpose of our existence, which is to be faithful sons and daughters of the Father in union with Jesus, His Suffering Servant.

1. Put God in the First Place by acknowledging His sovereignty and dominion over mankind and ourselves in particular. We pray for that in the Lord's Prayer – that He Who is King may “His Kingdom come,” may His love and truth rule our hearts and minds in such a way that we will always try to accomplish His Will...His plan of salvation.
2. By Following Our Lady's Advice. Our Lady has spelled out exactly how to do this:
 - a. We are to rise each morning and open our hearts like devoted children to the Father just as flowers turn and open up to the rising sun.
 - b. By a firm decision we are to choose God over, above, and before everything else in our lives as top priority and source of all our blessings.
 - c. We are to surrender to our Father all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do, placing ourselves at the complete disposal of His Will.
 - d. We are to ask for the Father's Blessing – the gift of the Holy Spirit – that all goes exactly according to the Father's desires – that all our thoughts, words, and actions be conformable to His divine Will.
3. And Make Prayer a Priority. Our Lady says that constant prayer, prayer without ceasing, is a natural consequence of our Morning Offering to the Father, because only through prayer can we continually seek the Father's Will and ask for His help throughout the day. That way we keep in tune with the Father and through prayer He will continually reveal His Will for us.

B. Through Union with Mary.

1. Mary as Model. No purely human being has been a more perfect cooperator and promoter of God and His plan than Our Blessed Mother. “Behold the handmaid of the Lord! Be it done unto me according to Thy Word” is the perfect summation of Our Lady's life and spirituality. She has asked us to join our “Yes” – our “Fiat” with hers through the living out of our consecration to her. She wants us to renew this in a special way every March 25 – Feast of the Annunciation.
2. Mary as Mother. When we turn over our lives and all we are and have to Our Blessed Mother through our consecration, she in turn responds by giving us her spirit – her humility, her faith, her love, her generosity, etc. – so that we can become perfect images of herself and thus promote God's plan and interests just as she did.
3. Mary as Companion. Our Lady wants to be with us at every moment of the day to help and guide us, but most especially to lead us in our prayer so that she can communicate to us her love and her desires. She earnestly awaits until we invite her into our life and our prayer so that she can smother us with her love. To be her extended hands, we must be joined to her at every moment.