

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

“Dear children! Also today I call you to live my messages. God gave you a gift of this time as a time of grace. Therefore, little children, make good use of every moment and pray, pray, pray. I bless you all and intercede before the Most High for each of you. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Live My Messages

A. Three “Secrets” in Living the Messages.

1. The First Secret is MARY.

- a. The primary reason why we read and pray a message each day is that it puts us in daily contact with Our Blessed Mother. In that way, she can be with us and help us.
- b. By so doing, we are entering into the Plan that the Father revealed to us at Fatima containing the special graces for our age: Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- c. This “devotion” is not a devotion at all, but rather a “way of life” in which we turn over our whole life to Mary so that she can guide it.

2. The Second Secret is ILLUMINATION.

- a. With Our Blessed Mother guiding us, we are bound to discover something new about ourselves as well as a new path to take. She knows us better than we know ourselves; she knows our every need and exactly what we should do every step of the way.
- b. Without her, we are sheep without a shepherdess wandering about into forests of the unknown. She is Our Lady of the Way trying to keep us huddled close to her side.
- c. “Let me be your Mother” was her humble and insistent cry at Medjugorje, “God sent me here to help you.” We accept her as guide by praying the message with her each day, asking her questions, and listening attentively to her suggestions.

3. The Third Secret is PRAYER OF THE HEART.

- a. She made a striking promise to us: “If you pray with the heart, you will be able to live all that I am telling you.” That is so because it is the nature of prayer of the heart to decide to give and surrender everything. And she is there to bless each move we make.
- b. She also promised that if we pray with the heart we should be able to “feel” everything she desires of us. She is placing something in our heart, but she can also inspire us with an illumination of the mind and give us signs on the outside.
- c. The important thing is that she is interceding for us before the Face of God to obtain the necessary graces to help us to accomplish our endeavors. And she assures us that she is always at our side watching us “step by step.”

B. God is Calling Us Every Second.

1. Time is a Gift. The fact that God is calling us is indeed a great gift and a great consolation. It is also a golden opportunity to obtain something extremely precious. Our Lady says: “My Call is salvation for you!” (9-25-03) We would be very disappointed on an important trip to miss our train or our airplane, but there is no comparison when we realize that God is offering us salvation, life and safety.

2. Time is a Grace. Every second should be a reminder that God is exercising His Mercy and Patience in our regard, because He loves us and is so concerned about our welfare. Our Lord said once: when a father keeps offering a child something that will do the child immense good and the child won't pay any attention to the offer – what happens? After repeating His offer time and time and time again, the father will eventually withdraw his gift.
3. Time is a Mystery. During these dark times of danger, God is withholding His Justice in order to give us an opportunity to accept great graces and blessings that are contained in His outstretched hands. But He keeps running up against our free will. We may be blind, deaf, or at least hard of hearing. Perhaps it would do us good to keep reading over and over again the call of Isaiah: “Seek the Lord while He may be found.” (Is. 55) Perhaps we can understand why Our Lady says “pray, pray, pray” so often in the hope that we will wake up.

C. Three Ways to Respond: Pray, Pray, Pray

1. Pray with Faith.
 - a. This first step is to enter into God's world and to realize that God is our everything: our origin, our destiny, our happiness and the source of all our blessings. He created us and supports us in existence on this earth, which He can withdraw at any moment.
 - b. God sustains us now because He is offering Himself to us in His fullness. When we meet Him face to Face, we will be groping for something to give Him. If we don't accept Him now, we will only have our refusal to give Him.
 - c. When we turn to God in Faith, we are making a clear decision to choose Him as number One because our whole life depends on Him. Prayer then becomes a continual necessity. Prayer is a meeting with God, Who reveals Himself to all who turn to Him.
2. Pray with Hope.
 - a. God is great, immense, full of majesty and all holy. We are weak, puny little creatures, full of weaknesses and failings. We are poor and poverty-stricken, because all we own are our sins. Therefore, we are in desperate need of Him, because we have nowhere to turn.
 - b. But God is merciful and full of compassion and He sympathizes with our weakness. He is also almighty and can do anything: work miracles, change our darkness into light, do the impossible, and He so desires to help us.
 - c. Therefore, we have to express our trust in His merciful love and power. Prayer is placing our total confidence in God and surrendering all we are and have because we trust Him. Mary: “God only wants your surrender.”
3. Pray with Love.
 - a. “God is Love” (I John 4) and “God so loved the world as to give His only-begotten Son” (John 3:15) even to death on the Cross. “Greater love than this no man has that he lays down his life for his friends.” That is why Our Lady said we will never understand God's love for us until we comprehend that He died for us on the Cross.
 - b. Our Lady: “Jesus is your Best Friend. He will never leave you.” Jesus is our faithful companion whose Heart is on fire beating for us and offering Himself as our food in the Holy Eucharist.
 - c. Our Lady continues: “Prayer is a meeting of hearts. Prayer is a language of love, so it must come from our heart.” Jesus has said He only wants our hearts and our love: “Love is the perfect prayer.”