

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF AUGUST 25, 2007

“Dear children! Also today I call you to conversion. May your life, little children, be a reflection of God’s goodness and not of hatred and unfaithfulness. Pray, little children, that prayer may become life for you. In this way, in your life you will discover the peace and joy which God gives to those who have an open heart to His love. And you who are far from God’s mercy, convert so that God may not become deaf to your prayers and that it may not be too late for you. Therefore, in this time of grace, convert and put God in the first place in your life. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Conversion Through Prayer

A. “I Call You to Conversion.”

1. First Step: Confession. Our Lady said: “May Holy Confession be the first act of conversion for you, and then, dear children, decide for holiness.” (Nov. 25, 1998) Holy Confession is an experience of God’s Mercy by which we are reconciled with God anew and discover Jesus as our “truth and peace” (Jan. 25, 1995). Our Blessed Mother recommends Confession on a regular basis as a means of continual purification of heart.
2. Second Step: Decide for Holiness. Through the progressive use of Confession our hearts become touched by God’s goodness and His infinite love for us supremely manifested by Jesus’ Passion suffered for us. Confidence is born within and we surrender our lives to the One Who is the source of all our blessings. We put God in the first place and know that in doing His Will we will find our peace. We have decided for holiness.
3. Third Step: Change of Heart. From here on in we are in a continual search for God that takes place notably in prayer. This mystery is expressed beautifully in words that come from God the Father:

“Conversion is a continual process of change:
the discovery of a new love, a fuller love,
resulting in a heart full of love and
compassion.
Lack of conversion is a sure sign of
lukewarmness.
Conversion is a renewal of love for Me,
preceded
by a recognition of My Love for you.”

B. “May Prayer Become Life for You.” Our Blessed Mother is truly magnificent in showing us how to cultivate a vital relationship with God. For her, prayer is:

1. An Experience of God. “Why do you pray? You pray:

- 1) to FIND God;
- 2) to BE WITH God;
- 3) to EXPERIENCE God WITHIN.”

“Something should happen within five minutes. If not, cry out: God I love you.”

2. A Heartfelt Feeling. “Until you FEEL God’s love and friendship, you have not entered the path of prayer.”
3. Something New. “You cannot pray as a HABIT. Every prayer should be something NEW – even One Our Father. Express everything within you. Whoever has a GREAT DESIRE FOR GOD, to REACH God, to LIVE IN God – THAT PERSON PRAYS.”
4. Mary Wants to Help us in Prayer. ‘LET ME BE YOUR MOTHER.’
 - 1) Dear Children, GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
 - 2) Then I will be able to LEAD YOU as a Mother.
 - 3) We will go together on the TRUE WAY to the Father.” (3-18-90)

C. “Be a Reflection of God’s Goodness And Not of Hatred.”

1. Encounter God. In every well-made prayer there is a real encounter with God. That means a real contact is made through Faith, Hope and Love and God impresses on our heart and soul His divine attributes of Goodness, Love and Mercy. In these marvelous words, Jesus shows us how this will take place:
 - a. “Leave more and more your involvement and attachments to created things.”
 - b. “Approach Me, that is, come near Me. For this, you must come to Me with your heart in your hand, i.e., you must enjoy being with Me, because you love Me.”
 - c. “To encounter Me, you must open your heart wide in confidence and trust, pouring out for Me all that is in your heart.”
 - d. “Then you must listen in a childlike fashion to My response and to all that I want to share with you.”
 - e. “Behold, our hearts are one!”
2. Reflect God. Prayer is often described as a “meeting of hearts.” If that has taken place, then our hearts are filled with Love – divine Love – because “God is love.” We carry this love in our hearts as a blessing for everyone we meet. We can confirm this grace by praying in our hearts the Prayer of St. Francis:

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
 Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
 Where there is injury, let me sow pardon.
 Where there is doubt, let me sow faith.
 Where there is despair, let me give hope.
 Where there is darkness, let me give light.
 Where there is sadness, let me give joy.
 O Divine Master, grant that I may

not try to be comforted, but to comfort;
not try to be understood, but to understand;
not try to be loved, but to love.
Because it is in giving that we receive,
in forgiving that we are forgiven,
and in dying that we are born to eternal life.

2. Live God. Jesus complained to Sr. Mary of the Holy trinity once that many good people receive Him devoutly in Holy Communion, but when they leave the Church they proceed to live their own life; very few live My Life when they leave Church. To live the Life of Jesus, we have to be continually united to Him, to listen to Him, and let Him speak and act through us. To help that, we can sing the Prayer of St. Francis.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord.
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light.
And where there is sadness, ever joy.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.

In giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

-Rev. Robert Hughes, S.M.

REFRAIN:

O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console.
To be understood as to understand.
To be loved, as to love with all my
soul.