

OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE'S MESSAGE OF AUGUST 25, 2008

“Dear children! Also today I call you to personal conversion. You be those who will convert and, with your life, will witness, love, forgive and bring the joy of the Risen One into this world, where my Son died and where people do not feel a need to seek Him and to discover Him in their lives. You adore Him, and may your hope be hope to those hearts who do not have Jesus. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Convert and Feel a Need

A. To Seek the Lord.

1. **Now.** No one has to tell a college senior the night before final exams to study intensely, because his entire future depends on it. There is a built-in urgency when the stakes are high. The prophet Isaiah tried to warn the people of Israel of impending disaster: “Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near. Turn to Yahweh for He will have mercy, for our God is generous in forgiving.” (Is. 55:6-7)
2. **Or Never.** Our Blessed Mother struck a similar chord on April 25, 1983: “Be converted! It will be too late when the sign comes. Hurry without delay. You do not know the plans of God; you will not know what God will send. I ask you only to be converted. Be ready for everything.” Through her intercession, she has gained us time until we all wake up.
3. **The Danger** is complacency or the illusion that there is plenty of time. There is the story of three devils trying to find a plan to deceive people on earth. The third devil proposed a plan of convincing human beings that there was plenty of time to convert and his plan was agreed upon.

B. To Discover Him in Daily Life.

1. **Pope John Paul II** gave the youth of today a very practical way of discovering Jesus in their everyday lives by asking them to answer a set of questions:
 - a. What did you see today, hear today, experience today?
 - b. Where was Jesus in all that?
 - c. What was He saying? And what was He saying to you?
 - d. And how did you respond?
2. **St. Therese of Lisieux** made a very startling statement once when she said that “time is an illusion.” She added that when we pray, time disappears and we are living in eternity. What she was really saying was that prayer is an exercise of Faith which dispels all illusions and we are able to see things as they really are...from God’s point of view.
3. **Mother Teresa** insisted that prayer was necessary to see Jesus in daily life. She asked her nuns to do an hour of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament after lunch so that discerning what Jesus looked like they could discover Him in the persons they were caring for the rest of the afternoon.

C. To Witness His Presence.

1. **Blessed Eugenia Ravasco’s** messages from the Father inspire us to witness. “I come to banish fear and bring hope. Love pays for everything. If you love Me and call Me by the sweet name of Father, trusting in My Fatherly goodness, I will give you everything you ask for.” How beautiful! And contagious!
2. **Jesus** makes similar promises, but we have to approach Him similarly: “Desire sincerely to be with Me. Delight in talking to Me. Offer Me your heart.”
3. **Mary** seems to be asking us to live the Mass by witnessing to the self-gift of love,

and forgiving everyone as Jesus forgave from the Cross: “Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing.” When we do this, we give joy to the Risen Christ who is acting in us and through us.

- D. We Live This Message** by trying each day to deal with the Father and Jesus more and more from the heart in childlike trust. Prayer is a communion of spirits and the Holy Spirit will be pouring into our hearts Love and Mercy. The sign that this is happening will be joy; which is a natural witness.

-Rev. Robert Hughes, S.M.