

Taking Authority of Our Lives



2014 Spring Women's Preached Silent Retreat

The Gift

Look, I have given you authority to crush snakes and scorpions underfoot. I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will harm you.

-Luke 10:19

Personal Testimony

- http://youtu.be/epqAg9MLm_8

Reality Check

- Interior/Exterior Freedom (What Does Jesus Offer)
- Levels of Spiritual Maturity (External, Imitative, Interior)
- The grace of peace beyond understanding (example of Frank)
- The Gift of Wisdom

Self-Possession

1 Timothy 4:1-5

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching.

For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but, following their own desires and insatiable curiosity,* will accumulate teachers and will stop listening to the truth and will be diverted to myths.

But you, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry.

Identity Check

Catechism of the Catholic Church #356

Of all visible creatures only man is "able to know and love his creator". He is "the only creature on earth that God has willed for its own sake", and he alone is called to share, by knowledge and love, in God's own life. It was for this end that he was created, and this is the fundamental reason for his dignity:

What made you establish man in so great a dignity? Certainly the incalculable love by which you have looked on your creature in yourself! You are taken with love for her; for by love indeed you created her, by love you have given her a being capable of tasting your eternal Good.

Identity Check

CCC #357

Being in the image of God the human individual possesses the dignity of a person, who is not just something, but someone. He is capable of self-knowledge, of self-possession and of freely giving himself and entering into communion with other persons. And he is called by grace to a covenant with his Creator, to offer him a response of faith and love that no other creature can give in his stead.

Identity Check

CCC #358

God created everything for man, but man in turn was created to serve and love God and to offer all creation back to him:

What is it that is about to be created, that enjoys such honor? It is man that great and wonderful living creature, more precious in the eyes of God than all other creatures! For him the heavens and the earth, the sea and all the rest of creation exist. God attached so much importance to his salvation that he did not spare his own Son for the sake of man. Nor does he ever cease to work, trying every possible means, until he has raised man up to himself and made him sit at his right hand.

Amazing Love!

CCC #458-460

The Word became flesh so that thus we might know God's love: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him."⁷² "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

The Word became flesh to be our model of holiness: "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me." "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me." On the mountain of the Transfiguration, the Father commands: "Listen to him!" Jesus is the model for the Beatitudes and the norm of the new law: "Love one another as I have loved you." This love implies an effective offering of oneself, after his example.

The Word became flesh to make us "partakers of the divine nature": "For this is why the Word became man, and the Son of God became the Son of man: so that man, by entering into communion with the Word and thus receiving divine sonship, might become a son of God." "For the Son of God became man so that we might become God." "The only-begotten Son of God, wanting to make us sharers in his divinity, assumed our nature, so that he, made man, might make men gods."

In Summary

- God loves us and wants us to have “life in abundance” (cf John 10:10)
- God does not want us falling back into a spirit of slavery and fear (Romans 8:15)
- Women are a beautiful reflection of God’s love and generosity.
- Jesus will never put you down. He will always lift you up. Discern the voice of God and the voice of the enemy.

Taking Authority

- Discernment of new possibilities and what our duty is.
- The enemy can work through good things. Discernment is always between good and evil.
- Some people's advice is helpful some people's advice are harmful. Is the person a person of prayer?
- Pray for the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
- People project their expectations on us. True friends meet us where we are at.
- We are responsible for ourselves

In You Alone

Kim Hill

- <http://youtu.be/TVyw5FXGdXQ>