

The School of Mary

By: Carolyn Huntzinger

Here is a meditation received during prayer by Mary Constancio and how it has touched my heart. Perhaps you'll see your experience here, too.

Please know that God's word, Jesus, the Word, will always be on time; it is never too late and never too early. Kindness is the same way: a kind word and kind act will always be received and always on time.

A criticizing, cruel word and act is always at the wrong time. Take always the time to think and consider what your words and actions will do. Will they bring affirmation and love or condemnation? When you can walk in the sandals of Jesus, then you can speak the real word of truth that will cut to the depths of the sin you are exposing.

I still remember my dad telling me, "Be careful of your words. Once they have left your mouth, you cannot just take them back in again." His words and the words in the above meditation have sure rung true in my life.

I am so thankful for the Holy Spirit making me more aware of my effect on others through my words. Though my awareness often comes after I have said the insensitive comment, I see that God is working to bring light to this darkened area of my heart and mind.

There was a time I would have never even have realized I had spoken a hurtful word. I have thought I was giving tough love and the one I spoke to should accept it and get over it. As a young woman I would get revenge from past hurts by using my words to sting others, especially men. And I could make you laugh while I put others down. Thank God for his healing, because now I can often hold my tongue!

Sometimes it isn't what I might say, but what I didn't that mattered. Often I fail to recognize the pain of others because I'm busy expressing my own opinion. I casually mentioned how I still missed my mom on Mother's Day to a dear sister

who did not have the blessing of her mother being with her when she was growing up. And to make matters worse, she had been so gracious as to share this with me, but I was so preoccupied with myself that I didn't think of the pain my casual comment might cause her. Open mouth, insert foot! Pain was caused by what I did not say (you must have really missed your mom, too!) and who I forgot to invite (the Holy Spirit) before I opened my mouth.

I've recently been on a journey of taking stock of each day by asking God to show me the day as He sees it. I thank Him for the gifts of the day and notice where God's presence was invited in my actions. Was there an increase of faith, hope, and love? Or was there a lack of those gifts? In the evening, asking for grace to begin again the next day gives me hope.

God's word gives us so much to consider about our words and our tongue. As we go through bouts of frustration and temper, if we want to follow Christ, we are to bless and not curse, to recognize the power of our words and at times to be silent rather than bring hurt with our words.

My prayer for you is for grace to appreciate and use your words as gifts of God and a sign of His love to others.

Set a guard, LORD, before my mouth, keep watch over the door of my lips. Psalm 141:3

A blow from a whip raises a welt, but a blow from the tongue will break bones. Many have fallen by the edge of the sword, but not as many as by the tongue. Sirach 28: 17-18





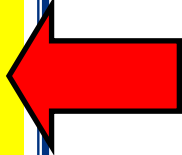
IMPORTANT NOTICE!

As the COVID-19 virus continues to affect us, we have cancelled our retreats in May. We ask forgiveness for the inconvenience, and encourage you to keep connected through our weekly videos on Friday nights on youtube at 8:30 p.m. Search for the Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy on youtube.

Our next Macho Men of God retreat will be held September 4-6

Our next Women's retreat will be held on September 18-20.

In the meantime we are working to make some retreats available online and updates will be posted on our website at www.flameofmercy.com.



Louis Life Center: June Update

Our Louis Life Center is looking wonderful! Interior framework is taking shape, and the siding of the building is close to completion.

With God's grace, we are still hoping to hold our first retreat in the building on the weekend of September 4, 2020, which will be the Macho Men of God Retreat. Your financial support is needed to meet this goal. And as always, keep us in your prayers.



(Above) View of the Choir Loft area.



(Above) View of the spiral Stairway to the Choir Loft.



Interior framework beginning!

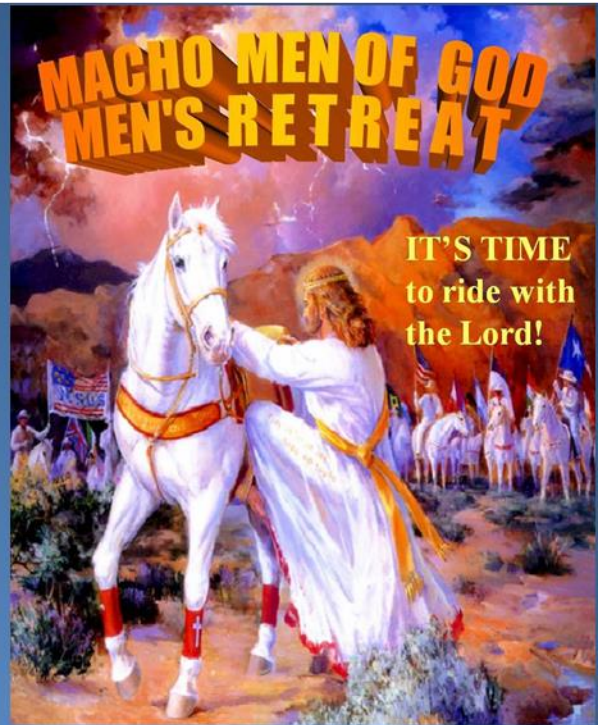


Much of the "skin" of the building is now in place!

92nd Men's Retreat

September 4-6, 2020

- Accepting the Purpose for Who God Created Me to Be
- How to Recognize a Wounded Family & Bring Healing
- Getting out of Desperation
- Is Your Addiction Leading Your Life?
 - Overcoming Your Physical Sickness with God's Mercy
 - Is Your Sickness Running Your Life?
 - Overcoming Addictions
 - Come Experience God's Love



**Join us
For a weekend
that will
change your life!**

Women of Power Retreat *An Instrument of God*

September 18-20, 2020

Possible Topics Include:



- What Keeps Me from Being God's Instrument?
- The 3 Pillars of Faith
- An Attitude of Gratitude
- Words that Heal or Destroy
- Healed in Body & Spirit
- How to Forgive & Live Again
- Healing from the Spirit of Grief
- Understanding & Supporting My Husband's Mission in our Family

Featured Speakers Include:



Mary Constancio



Jessica Mendez



Brenda Garcia



Corina Constancio



Carolyn Huntzinger



Kathy Gloria

The Ambassadors

IT'S ABOUT TIME!

By: Carolyn Huntzinger

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The COVID-19 isolation has actually been a blessing for me. It has forced me to slow down and realize that I had been leaving God out of my life!

I was missing His visitation. My day would be filled with all I had to do and how I could get it done. I was just reacting to life's demands on my time rather than purposefully living. I was missing out on the one voice I needed to hear. When the end of the day rolled around and I still hadn't had time for prayer, my attitude would show the difference.

God knows how important it is for us to *tell* Him what we are thinking, what we need and how we feel; that we have a real relationship with Him. He wants us to learn to rely on Him, to trust in Him, and to do all things for Him. When the thing I am doing gets more of my attention than He does, or the approval or achievement takes His place, I'm off track.

As I first came to the ministry to serve, I was in the chapel often, praying and having a conversation with God about what direction He had for me. But as time went by I was just too busy. It was easy not to have time for prayer. I told myself I was *living* a prayer, but at the end of a busy day I had no energy or desire to pray.

I was robbing God of His time with me and robbing myself of my time with Him. Time to re-evaluate! I had not kept God as #1 in my life; the things *I did* were taking His place (as if I could do anything without Him!). I had taken God for granted and grown complacent and arrogant. I thank God that the Holy Spirit awakened me and showed me I needed to change.

Sound familiar to you? Do you have a place you go to pray, study the word, and have time for the visitation of God in your heart? You'd be surprised at the difference it can make in your life when you purposefully invite God in and return the gift of your time to Him.

If you're like me, you need to actually plan to devote a certain time each day to spend with God. It's really helpful in my life to get up early before any other distractions, phone calls, or work demands begin. The rest of the day is just a moment or two of quick prayers here and there that keep God first in my mind and heart.

There will always be exceptions, but as you commit to do this, you may see how other areas of your life are smoother and more peaceful because of your commitment to God of your time. And Satan will fight you for it, because he loves to steal from God. So put on the armor of God, as this is a battle!

Even these small changes in my schedule have been a bit of a work, and of course some days God has something else planned for me, but I believe He is blessing me greatly as I struggle to re-situate my life toward Him.

So, brothers and sisters, let's not go back to our old "normal" as we come through this time of isolation. Let's use it to re-situate our life. Be determined not to displace the Giver of all Gifts with any other gift, even a good one such as ministry, work, family, motherhood, or fatherhood. Don't let anything else displace God as first in your mind, heart, and life. God Bless You in finding Your time with Him!



Looking for a good Bible study or YouTube video? Check us out by searching for Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy. We are currently streaming live on Friday night at

8:30 on Zoom and have new videos every Monday on YouTube to keep connected and bring you God's word during the week. Find the links on our website at www.flameofmercy.com. And remember to connect with us on the Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy Facebook page. For daily meditations and news.

2020 RETREAT SCHEDULE

RETREAT RESCHEDULE DATES

- **Macho Men of God Retreat**
NEW DATE: September 4-6, 2020
- **Women of Power Retreat**
NEW DATE: September 18-20, 2020
- **Self Image Retreat** **NEW DATE—TO BE CONFIRMED October 23-25**

Retreat Registration Fee: \$175.00

Register today online: www.flameofmercy.com

Email: Admin@flameofmercy.com,

or call the office at 806-832-4243

Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy Ministries



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