

Host or designated reader/leader begins the Upper Room prayer hour by reading this message from Fr. David:

Message for March

Dear friends in Christ:

Sensitivity to sin is a real issue today. We do some of the horrible things to our brothers and sisters in Christ because it doesn't bother us enough. We don't think about how it makes other feel when we sin against them mostly because we are so familiar with that person or else (the complete opposite), we hardly know them and are emboldened to say or do whatever we "gosh-darn" feel like. What is being ignored is the affect our sins have on those around us. What is being forgotten is how it feels when people sin against us and the whole Christian mandate to "do unto other what we would have done unto us". These things lead to a greater and greater lack in our sensitivity to sin and the more it goes on, the more it impacts the world we live in including that private world of our sinful selves which no one else can see, where it is between you and God alone. This is dangerous ground, when our sins against God have no weight, carry no guilt in us and bear no shame. And so I want you to have a discussion about your sensitivity to sin and its impact on you and others.

In Christ;

Fr. David

Open with Sign of Cross and Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

L: Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit, O Lord, and they shall be created.

R: And You shall renew the face of the earth

L: Let us pray - God our Father, pour out the gifts of your Holy Spirit on the world. You sent the Spirit on Your Church to begin the teaching of the Gospel; now let the Spirit continue to work in the world through the hearts of all who believe. Through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen

L: You, O lord, will open my lips.

R: And my tongue shall announce Your praise.

L: Incline unto my aid, O God.

R: O Lord, make haste to help me.

L: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen

Read the Second book of Samuel all of chapter 11

Answer these 10 discussion questions in your Upper Room:

- 1) What was/were the missing piece(s) in David's conscience?
- 2) Why do you think it didn't bother David to fornicate with Bathsheba? What was his rationality at the time?
- 3) Where is God when we sin?
- 4) Does God punish us for our sins?
- 5) Should we fear God? How?
- 6) Over time our sensitivity to sin gets better or it gets worse. Share examples please. (A good example might be what you watch on television/movies today versus what you might have felt comfortable watching 20 years ago) Use other examples please.
- 7) The ultimate test in in you sensitivity to sin is the frequency with which you go to confession. Do you remember lines years ago? Where have they gone and why have they dissipated?
- 8) How can you intensify in an authentic way you sensitivity to sin?
- 9) Do you know what scrupulosity is? (Look it up on smart phone if you don't) Why is a scrupulous soul still "missing the mark"?
- 10) The truth. Talk about how the truth is the key to the balance we need in being sensitive to sin. Use King David as a point of reference for your discussion.

Please pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for prayer.

Next Month's Upper Room will be about the blessings and dangers of repetitive prayer.