



Reflections on 'The Greater Things'

*“Amen, Amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do,
and will do greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”*

(John 14:12)

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS! By Jaci Phillips, PhD

Do you ever feel like you can relate to the Israelites? They walked for 40 years in the desert to get to the Promised Land. That's a long time! Then when they finally get there, they send out the scouts who return with giant grapes and produce. Wow! Truly the Promised Land is blessed. The only problem is that those giant size grapes are for – well – **actual giants!** Their faith is tested. They look at the problem and, because they are viewing it with human eyes instead of eyes of faith, they lose hope that God is still able to assist them in the very last leg of their journey.

We are all on the “very last leg of our journey” trying to persevere in the race to the end. And, like the Israelites, we all sometimes feel like we are facing giants. We all have times when we are tempted to look at a difficult situation and say “*Those grapes look really yummy, but I'm pretty sure I will be squashed like a bug by those giants!*” There are times in ministry, even if you are Spirit-filled (*this is me giving you permission to admit that, even as Charismatics, we have times when we struggle*), when we feel dry; we are not seeing the fruit of our labor; we feel like maybe God isn't listening; when we don't feel supported or understood, etc. Being Spirit-filled does not free us from being human beings and it does not instantly make us Saints. It takes a *long walk through the desert* to purify us to enter the Land of Mild and Honey! (Heaven).

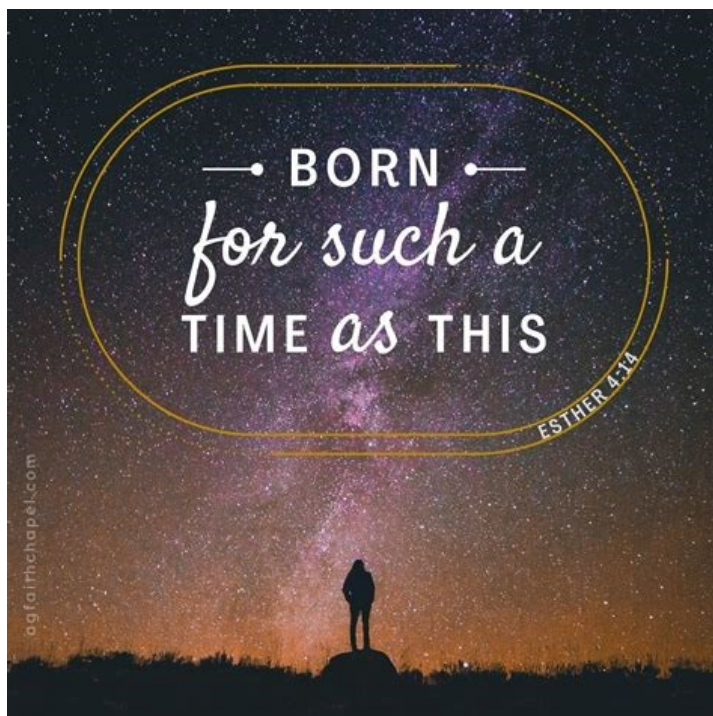
Take heart, my dear friends. Yes. The battle is real. Thank God that He put us here with others who walk with us. But there has never been a battle that God led his people to that they did not win when they were full of faith and trust in Him. The only battles that were lost in the Old Testament, were lost because *the people* were not faithful, not because God was not faithful.

Not many years ago, the charismatic renewal in the diocese of Erie, PA, seemed to be heading for 'life-support.' Faith On Fire! Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center (Previously Word Of Life CCRC) struggled to get people involved in renewal events and the leadership of the renewal had generally not changed in many years. In 2016, I joined the Faith On Fire! (FOF) Board of Directors. I began to plan events for FOF as I continued on as the primary worship leader for our events. After several years of leading worship in Texas, which was so alive, I had the sense that people in Erie were sitting back and saying “Go ahead... MAKE me worship.” I felt like I was pushing against a wall that I couldn't break through in order for people to enter into worship. It was difficult and many times disappointing. For years we felt a palpable oppression pressing back on us as we poured every ounce of energy and Holy Spirit excitement into these events. We prayed, yet we could not break completely through that resistance. We were facing giants and we felt kind of like we were getting squashed. As with all Renewal Centers, we just want to share the reality we knew of the Living God of the universe with everyone we could. We desperately wanted our diocese to be on fire with the power of the

Holy Spirit, but we didn't know what else to do.

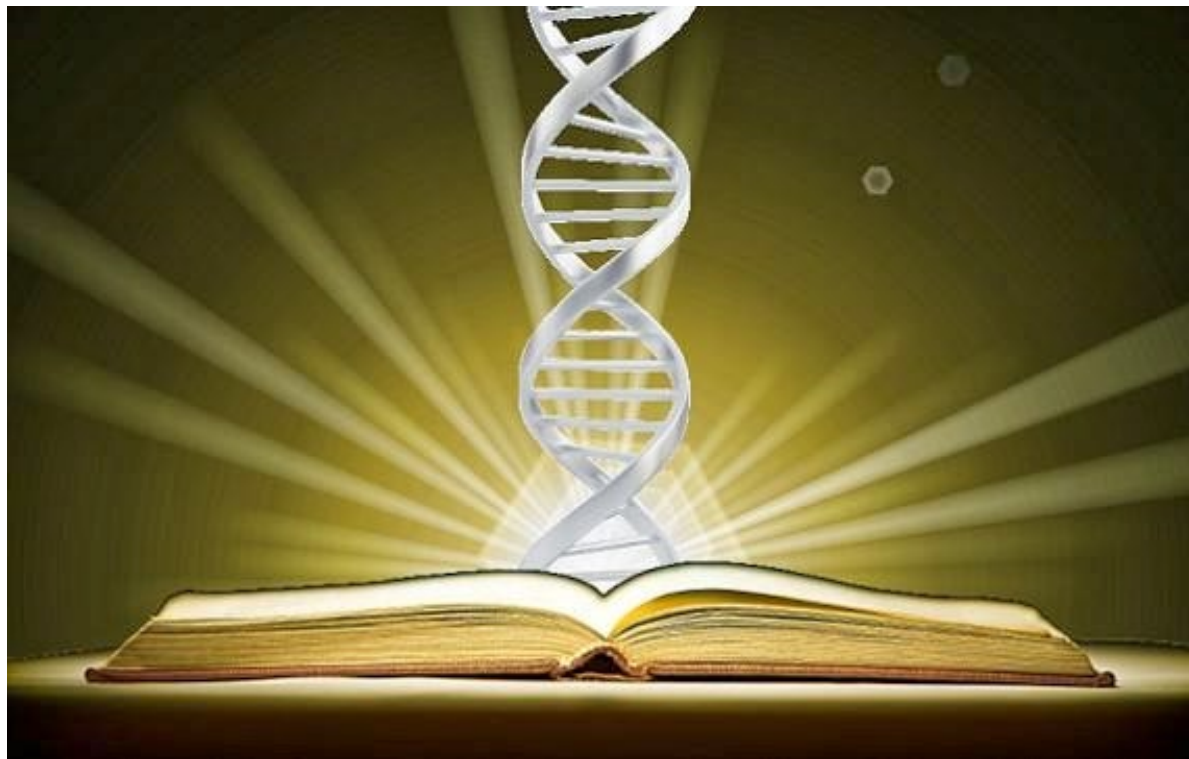
Dear friends, even though you struggle, I hope you know that, like Esther, you and I “*were born for such a time as this!*” If you believe this is the most difficult of times, consider the confidence God has placed in you to be able to complete your important missions during THIS time. These missions have been assigned to you because God has confidence in the unique and specific gifts and talents He has given you to bring the Living God into to this mixed-up world. God wants His people to be on fire with the Holy Spirit even more than we do. Our ministry had received numerous prophecies saying, “*God is doing a new thing.*” But, It was kind of like we were subconsciously waiting for God to *go ahead and do a new thing* while we **continued in the same old same old.** Unlike Esther, who served her fruit to the king on a beautiful platter, we were serving the beautiful fruit on a plain old everyday platter.

Our renewal needed to be woken up and challenged. We didn't even realize that we needed more power from God to take on the giants. This shaking happened one day about 6 years ago during a board meeting. A powerful word was given at a board meeting and you could *literally feel* a spiritual *shift* taking place. A Word from Ezekiel 37 was challenging us to **strongly prophesy to the dry bones** of our diocese to ‘**Hear the word of the Lord and come to life!**’ This word exhorted us to step out in faith and to pray more faithfully as a group. We were all individually involved in prayer groups, but we had never



The Mystical Aspects of Blood

By Michael Brown— used with permission



We all know, from Old Testament sacrifices to the Blood of Jesus, that there's a spiritual aspect to blood.

Occultists also know this, only too well.

Why it has such supernatural force is mysterious.

In the book, *Deep Mysteries of the Blood*, by Ebenezer and Abigail Gabriels, the point is made that every covenant the Lord makes with a life is located in that fluid that flows through our veins, arteries, and hearts, that liquid that nourishes every organ, tissue, and cell. And it isn't mere biology.

Blood is passed down to us. It has genetic aspects.

Is it spiritually — mystically — passed along as well?

That's the contention of many in the deliverance business, and we have seen countless indications of its truth — the transcendental nature of heredity — through the years.

"Spiritually, the blood carries information about a person's life. Generational transfer of blessings or curses is carried through the blood. As couples have children, the children carry their parents' blood, and as they grow into adults and start their own families, the cycle repeats," note the authors. "Generational trends, patterns, and history are preserved in the blood. Your parents may not leave your physical inheritance, but by blood, they left you a spiritual inheritance. This inheritance is what you need to figure out."

And generational issues go beyond the fluid. Spirits attach to certain family members and, like physical characteristics, are passed down through the generations, until — through the Blood of *Christ* — their grip is broken and they are cast off.

Rare is the family without such challenges.

Often, it is by way of repeated problems.

“Some people find out that wherever they go, everyone hates them, and they also find that happening to other people in their family,” say Ebenezer and Abigail. “Some people find out that they get married late in their family. Others find out that most people never get a college degree in their family. Others find out that after they get a college degree, they never obtain a good job or job at all.”

The list is almost endless.

Childlessness. Lassitude. Sloth.

Much can be attributed, we would argue, to simple psychological, environmental, and genetic factors. Rejection or acceptance can rely on many recognized factors. There *are* other explanations.

But families can be haunted by unfortunate events and traits — literally and mysteriously.

We owe it to ourselves, and our children and grandchildren, to break any negative generational spirit — any “curse.”

A start is during Consecration, when the Body of Jesus is raised (praying for the family to be as pure as the white Host), and especially with the raising of that chalice — and the invaluable Blood it contains. [This website](#) offers ten valuable prayers, as well as explanations from the Catholic perspective.

Here are two of the prayers:

“Righteous Savior, I humbly come before You today to confess the sins committed by my forefathers and myself. We have disobeyed Your word, allowing the enemy to reinforce generational curses upon our family. Lord, I ask for Your forgiveness for all these transgressions. May the precious blood of Jesus purify us from every sin we have committed against You. Holy Spirit, cleanse our family line from every curse that has been passed down through the generations. In Jesus’ name, I pray, Amen.” [Verse: ‘If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.’ – 1 John 1:9]

“Heavenly Father, I acknowledge that Christ came to grant us freedom. By His precious blood, I declare that every generational curse in my lineage has no power over me. I pray that every curse spoken, written, or transferred to me is shattered by the power of Jesus’ blood. Poverty, sickness, and family idols have no authority over my life. I choose to walk in the freedom that Christ has purchased for me. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen.”

[Michael Brown retreat, Saturday, October 21, 2023]

[Footnote from the mail; Bernard Gallagher:

In the silence . . .

In the silence of my heart, may my faith revive;

In the silence of my heart, may my hope survive.

In the silence of my heart, may Love come alive.

<https://spiritdailyblog.com/spiritual-warfare/the-mystical-aspect-of-blood>

had board intercessory prayer meetings. We recognized that we were called to intercede together as the appointed charismatic leadership in our region. So we began having Board prayer meetings. At every meeting we read Ezekiel 37 with boldness and prophesied to the dry bones, *starting with our own!* It became clear to us that the Lord was calling us to this group prayer. In fact, we realized that *this* was likely the most important part of the responsibilities of being a board member; to come together as a group, plant a foot down in the Jordan River, then ask and have faith that God wants to part the waters and break open this land (diocese)... **at such a time as this**. This was the first 'new thing' we did - to start having a regular board member prayer group. "*I am opening doors that no one can close and closing doors that no one can open.*" Not long after we began to meet for intercessory prayer, we received this word. It was only a short time before we saw why. We were soon asked to sponsor a Life In The Spirit seminar in Sheffield, PA, which was nearly two hours from where most of us live. This presented us with many challenges. Could we present a 6-week seminar in a one-and-a-half-day format? How could we get a whole team to give up a weekend and go and stay overnight in order to lead the seminar? Where would we stay? How would we get all of the equipment there? We honestly thought that logistically we had to say 'no,' yet we felt the Holy Spirit *challenging us* to say 'yes!' So... We addressed all of the challenges and stepped through a door that God had clearly opened. This was a 'new thing' that God was calling us to. It turned out to be a blessing we would not have known had we not made the necessary sacrifices that caused us to move out of our comfort zone and go *into* the mission field.

There was much fruit from the Sheffield Life In The Spirit Seminar. It was a complete departure from what we were experiencing when we did events in the city of Erie where our office is located. From the first word of every song, even though I knew I was doing songs that people could not know, people worshipped! And not just worshipped, but with their whole hearts. The resistance we felt in Erie was not in this region. Our eyes were also opened to the fact that, even though we would never have planned it this way, the condensed one-and-a-half-day format we created for the 'The GIFT' (the wonderful LIS program we use) was more powerful than doing the course over 6 weeks. From that seminar we also now have beautiful strong charismatic leaders in that region in addition to a prayer group.

God continued to open more doors to more places requesting LIS seminars in their parishes in other regions we had to travel to, including driving each week to assist with a seminar in the diocese of Pittsburgh! We were becoming used to saying 'yes' and trusting HIM with the details. Just like when the Israelites were blessed by God when they

had faith and were obedient to Him, each time we said 'yes,' we were so blessed. Interestingly, we found during the baptism in the Holy Spirit, people were being touched more deeply. There also have been several spontaneous deliverances during the baptism in which people would proclaim "I felt something leave me." Praise God!

We decided that we needed to increase our efforts further in the city of Erie. Just like Esther, each board member made a commitment to fast and pray one day per week. We did a good *spiritual cleaning* before people arrived for events. The power of God started to move more freely during the events within the city of Erie. This was reflected in a renewed participation and responsiveness to worship and enthusiastic response to our events. When we brought the LIS seminar back into the city of Erie a few years later, we found an openness in the parishes to host the seminar. We pray for our priests and desire this tremendous blessing and power of the baptism of the Holy Spirit for all priests and we are now blessed to have a growing group of priests and deacons who have made Life In The Spirit. We feel blessed to be able to share this fellowship of the Holy Spirit with them.

One mistake of past Renewal leadership in our region is that it failed to disciple and bring up new leaders. We have had many new Board members join us in the past five years, but we desperately wanted to reach young adults. So, we prayed! God answered this prayer, and in March of 2022 when we hosted a LIS for 15 amazing young adult men. These will be the leaders when we are no longer around. GOD IS SO FAITHFUL! Some of these amazing men are now part of our Board of Directors.

There have also been new events that God called us to, including 24 hours of Adoration in January to commit the diocese and our year to God. Each year. We also hold an annual Adoration worship concert that includes a beautiful procession with the Blessed Sacrament. We hold around a dozen events a year, in addition to publishing our humble '*Greater Things*' newsletter, whose circulation has more than doubled. In the last 6 or so years, God has led us to change everything from our website, to our logo, to our name. But most the most important thing He changed **was us** and our openness to be stretched.

We are living unprecedented times of confusion, division, deception, and turmoil. Dear brother and sisters in the Holy Spirit, *God chose you FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS!* God knew you would say 'yes!' So, you go right out there and **you** prophesy to all those dry bones, *to the north, the south, the east, and the west...* "*Dry bones, HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD!*" Ask louder! Seek more of Him! *Knock harder!* Like the woman who dared to beg Jesus for a healing... **Be aggressive in the Spirit** and *boldly approach the Throne of Grace!*
—Can't wait to hear YOUR stories!

In Honor of Our Lady

First Saturday Mass

Celebrant – Fr Jerry Priscaro

Soloist – Jaci Phillips – Organist – Corey Spacht

St Greg's Northeast

Prelude: 8:50, Mass 9am

Who Is Like Unto God?

**FAITH ON FIRE! 24 HOURS OF
ADORATION AND INTERCESSION FOR 2024**



**EXPOSITION
FRIDAY
JANUARY 19TH
AFTER 8AM
MASS**

**BENEDICTION
SATURDAY
JANUARY 20TH
7:45AM**

St George Church - Erie

Worship - Mass - Rosary - Prayer - Sung Chaplet at 3pm

*10:30PM Worship Concert by Harmony's House
with Midnight Eucharistic Procession
3PM Sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy*

Exorcist Diary #242: Cough Up Demons

Msgr. Stephen Rossetti

[Used with permission]

"M" was repeatedly cursed by witches and is now demonically afflicted. A couple of nights ago, she received a threatening text from demons: "You'll have your migraine all night for throwing me up b [expletive]." A few hours prior to the text, M was being greatly oppressed by demons so we prayed over her. Then she vomited up an ugly, thick, black liquid. The demons departed and she returned to full self-consciousness.

Preternatural coughing and vomiting during an exorcism are typically a positive development since they are a sign that demons are being cast out. In the text, the demons admitted that she vomited them up and they were threatening to give her a migraine in retaliation.

We have long known that, in the final stages of liberation, the afflicted will often vomit up strange things. Exorcists have reported unusual objects being ejected such as nails, chains, demonic figurines, cursed objects, and even snakes. These items were not in the afflicted person's stomach but rather preternaturally materialized in the mouth. The object in the vomit will be related to the cause and/or substance of their possession. It is not random. In this case, K was cursed by a witch. What she coughed up was a kind of witches' bolus or substance of the curse.

We have other folks who are also suffering from witches' curses or evil spirits of divination. Some of them have also excreted ugly substances from various bodily orifices. The good news is that, after the excretion, afflicted persons always say they feel lighter and freer.

There is a related prayer for exorcists on our APP/ website, "Prayer for Someone Who Has Ingested a Cursed Object," which concludes with:

"I exorcise you so that all evil should be destroyed and annihilated in whatever manner it was done to the servant of God N. Pass from his (her) visceral organs and push the evil out, so that you will be spitted out naturally without damaging his (her) body or mind. Amen."^{1*}

Witches' curses are very real.**

They summon the dark power of demons. But they are nothing compared to the liberating power of Christ. Once I commanded the demons to tell

me: "Who is Lord: Jesus or Satan? I command you to tell the truth!" The demons snarled and choked out the truth. They said, "Jesus."

**If the laity wish to recite such a prayer, we recommend they amend it to being a deprecatory prayer. Instead of directly commanding the demons to leave (an imprecatory prayer), the prayer would be addressed to God, Jesus, the Virgin Mary or some saints and angels. A deprecatory prayer asks them to cast out the demons.*

**See also: <https://www.catholicexorcism.org/post/exorcist-diary-151-a-witch-s-power>



upcoming events

First Saturday Mass
In honor of Our Lady
9:00 AM at St. Gregory's, Northeast, PA
Sacred Music beginning at 8:50 AM
Soloist, Jacqueline Phillip - Organist Corey Spacht
Celebrant: Rev. Jerry Priscaro

WHO IS LIKE UNTO GOD!?

24 HOURS OF ADORATION FOR
2024

Friday January 19th at 8AM through
Saturday, January 20th at 7:45AM
St George Church—5145 Peach St, Erie

*3PM Chaplet
sung by Fr Johnathan Schmolt*

*10:30pm Worship by Jaci
Phillips and Harmony's House*

*Come for an hour or for 24 hours or as long as
you like!*

*Several of us remain for 24 hours because it is a
difficult offering to the Lord
for our diocese for 2024*

Bring your prayer needs

**By popular request, Faith On Fire will
focus our 'Greater Things!' luncheons and
Conference in 2024 on understanding
and dealing with the
negative forces of the spiritual realm
May 25th + August 24th + October 19th**

Jesus, Son of God, in whom the fullness of the Divinity dwells, You call all the baptized to "put out into the deep," taking the path that leads to holiness. Waken in the hearts of young people the desire to be witnesses in the world of today to the power of your love. Fill them with your Spirit of fortitude and prudence, so that they may be able to discover the full truth about themselves and their own vocation. Our Savior, sent by the Father to reveal His merciful love, give to your Church the gift of young people who are ready to put out into the deep, to be the sign among their brothers of Your presence which renews and saves. Holy Virgin, Mother of the Redeemer, sure guide on the way towards God and towards neighbor, You who pondered his word in the depth of your heart, sustain with your motherly intercession our families and our ecclesial communities, so that they may help adolescents and young people to answer generously the call of the Lord. Amen.

You Can Help Make a Difference

Faith On Fire! is *completely* dependent upon your donations to spread the fire of the Holy Spirit in the Diocese of Erie. Your donation, no matter how much, makes a big difference!

Contributions can be made by check, text, Tithe.ly app, and on the website.

Checks can be made payable to:

Faith On Fire CCRC
St. Mark Catholic Center
429 E. Grandview Blvd
Erie, PA 16514



Contributions via text:

Text the word "give" to our dedicated giving number: (570) 536-9187



Website contributions:

[https://www.eriecd.org/
wordoflife/donate.html](https://www.eriecd.org/wordoflife/donate.html)

Click on the green "give" button



If Faith On Fire (Word Of Life) has enriched your faith, please consider remembering Faith On Fire CCRC in your Will. It will create and ongoing opportunity for evangelization after you have gone to your rest. THANK YOU!

FAITH ON FIRE!

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Reflections

on 'The Greater Things'

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www.facebook.com/wolccrc

The office is generally open limited hours.
Please call before coming.

The purpose of this newsletter is to proclaim
the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to provide
teaching, news, and calendar of events, which
help to foster Catholic Charismatic Renewal
throughout the Diocese of Erie.

This newsletter may be copied to put in
churches or shared with others.

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St George Church - Erie

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