

Julie and Bob Sawyer reported October 26, 2011 on Damian Stayne's Charism School presented in July in Washington DC.

**SAVE THE DATE: HE WILL BE BACK WITH THE CHARISM SCHOOL OCTOBER 19-21 2011
The Catholic Center with the Saturday Miracle Service at the Basilica**

Julie started out mimicking Damian's style of having two sides of the congregation compete to see who can be more convincing in declaring that JESUS IS ALIVE!! Julie split the prayer group, had one exclaim: MAKE LOVE YOUR AIM!! to be met by the other calling out: AND EARNESTLY DESIRE THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS!! After a few rounds of that, we were ready to consider Damian's prayer:

**LORD, GIVE US A SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION THAT WHAT WE HEAR AND SEE
CHANGE THE WAY I THINK... AND BELIEVE...AND LIVE.**

The Charism School covered two and a half days and a lot of material. His desire is to equip Catholics to be able to influence their spheres of influence. The focus was on prophecy, word of knowledge, faith and deliverance. His talks explained how the different gifts work, gave examples in his ministry, and then gave participants opportunities to step in to greater freedom to help people in various ways.

praying in tongues (or 'praying in the Spirit')

not something forced on us

shouldn't be imposed upon people

not an infallible sign of being filled with the Holy Spirit

his experience is that everyone desiring it can have it if they are willing to co-operate in exercising it.

the main purpose is edification, building up the person in faith and fortitude.

prophecy. All Christian prophecy should *edify* (build up), *exhort* (stir up -- positively) or *comfort*

inspirational -- saying what is already known at the prompting of God under His anointing. It

is already known but inspired for this time -- "connects" in the heart

revelational -- saying what is unknown at the prompting of God

words of wisdom. words of knowledge. vision and dreams are all prophecy, in a way

Faith: four aspects:

creed.

trust in God for salvation.

faithfulness (fruit of the Spirit).

mountain-moving faith (gift of HS)

pray for *more* faith for miracles! *Dare* to believe!

Deliverance

Damian shared his sorry state when he was deep in the counter culture, but his parents did not abandon him. (He told of them sprinkling blessed salt on his bed before he would come home late at night. The "itchys" really got to him!) His conversion was total, but ridding of the baggage he had acquired took much prayer -- and spiritual gifting.

Deliverance is the means through which persons are freed from the effects of evil spirits usually through the prayers of other Christians, though sometimes through a simple command.

He is careful to distinguish between the formal exorcism restricted to the bishop's representative and more simple "deliverance", leading a person to recognize areas of unforgiveness and the need to renounce lies and sin habits which have been allowed to grow in the person's life.

Two items that "changed my life" that weekend.

First: The "seven steps prophecy model"

In pairs, preferably with someone unknown;

Decide who will minister first

The person ministering begins by asking the Lord what area (ministry, family, spiritual life, work, etc.) of this person's life do you want to bless (build up/encourage/comfort) at this time. Write this Down.

Ask our Lord what He wants to say about this. (Take a moment.) Write *this* down.

Give your 'prophecy'

Ask whether it was meaningful or accurate.

Pray for the person.

(step 8 -- trade positions!)

What my partner shared had a profound effect on my hope for an upcoming family reunion.

And what I shared confirmed to this person who had not been involved in charismatic circles -- exactly what had been on her heart, her reason for coming to the weekend at all.

I would say both of us had our faith increased -- that the Holy Spirit can talk to us!

Second: Decision to pray in the Spirit for 15 minutes every day for a week. I truly was more aware of the Spirit's moving during that time -- in my life and those around me. I experienced what Fr Dale Picarella has said: When you pray in tongues your antennae go up!

Make love your aim and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts. 1 COR 14:1

Bob Sawyer shared the background, the teaching of the Councils about miracles, signs and wonders:

[Decrees of the First Vatican Council](#) (translation ed. Norman Tanner. S.J. -numbering of the canons is found in Tanner's text)

SESSION 3 : 24 April 1870 - Dogmatic Constitution on the Catholic Faith

CANONS:

“3. On faith

- ...
3. If anyone says that
divine revelation cannot be **made credible by external signs**, ...
let him be anathema.
4. If anyone says that
all **miracles** are **impossible**, and that therefore
all reports of them, even those contained in sacred scripture, are to be set aside as fables or
myths; or that
miracles can never be known with certainty,
nor can the divine origin of the Christian religion be proved from them:
let him be **anathema**.”

Decrees of the Second Vatican Council

Vat II, Lay People 3:

“From the acceptance (reception) of these charisms, including those which are more elementary (simple), there arise for each believer the **right and duty** to use them in the **Church** and in the **world** for the good of men and the building up of the Church...”

Vat II, The Church 12:

“These charisms, whether they be the more outstanding or the more simple and widely diffused, are to be **received with thanksgiving and consolation** for they are perfectly suited to and **useful for the needs of the Church**...those who are appointed leaders in the Church, [*ed. and the popes have been fostering*] to whose special competence it belongs, **not** indeed to **extinguish** the Spirit, but to test all things and hold fast to that which is good.”

Pope John Paul II, Veri Sanctus, Pentecost 1998:

“I want to cry out: [*ed. - compare to 1 Cor12, 14 verbiage: “seek earnestly”*]
be open and docile to the gifts of the Spirit!
Accept with **gratitude** and **obedience** the **charisms that the Spirit never ceases to bestow.**“

*(THE VERY NATURE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SUPERNATURAL and don't we present a distorted image of God if we “extinguish” / shy away from the supernatural operations of the Spirit?
Remember that the Corinthian Church had lots of Charisms already
(MOST CHURCHES DON'T HAVE SUCH OPERATIONS OF THE SPIRIT TO “TEST”)*