

How God Works To Teach, Help & Protect Us

As we navigate these difficult times, I wish to share with you various lessons God taught me throughout life in order to prepare you and me for the challenging future ahead of us. 😊 In the messages from God & Our Lady we are told not to fear but human nature being what it is, fear does tend to creep in despite our faith and hope in God. Hopefully, the lessons I have been taught will erase or ease your fear of the future.

1. **In the recent messages we are told to listen and follow the inspirations of the Holy Spirit and our guardian angels.** We pray daily that our angels will enlighten, guard, and guide us during the day. Our angel does this through inspirations-thoughts that pop into our minds, suggestions other people give us or something we read or hear. How many times have you experienced such instances only to reject them much to your regret later? That thought, "don't do that," "or do that," but you ignored the thought? This is how our angels and the Holy Spirit work in our lives. There won't be moments of some dramatic annunciation in our future. We need to fine tune ourselves into their frequency now or our regrets could be life threatening when we are told to do something or not do something and we dismiss their guidance.

Sometimes we have our day all planned out down to the minute when a thought/inspiration intrudes which would change our plans. Do we follow that inspiration, dismiss it or put it on the back burner?

To be fine tuned into the directions of the Holy Spirit and the inspirations of our guardian angel we need to spend time in mental prayer. While vocal prayer is important, the quiet time in mental prayer is critical for knowing the will of God for our day and lives. If we are not doing daily mental prayer we won't hear the quiet movement of the Holy Spirit or our guardian angel. Daily Mass also fine tunes our reception of guidance from the Holy Spirit and our guardian angel.

Personal lesson: We had a beautiful, flowering tree in our front yard years ago. A storm was coming in but the forecast was that it would just be a fast thunder storm with showers. The thought came to me to pray to the choir of angels, who are called the Virtues, to pray for protection for our trees, etc. during the storm. (The virtues are in charge of weather and events of nature.) I dismissed the thought (inspiration) because the storm was to be mild. All I had to do was to say a short aspiration to the Virtues for protection but I was too lazy. The storm came and went. It was a mild one. When I went outside to pick up our mail imagine my shock to see our beautiful tree uprooted and destroyed by the mild storm! I had been warned but ignored the warning. It was only a tree. Today we have to sharpen our connection with the spiritual so when we are inspired to do something or avoid something we promptly obey. Our lives and the lives of our family members depend upon it.

Final thoughts on this topic...Sometimes God wants to test our obedience in small things to prepare us for the important things. It's kind of like the weekly testing of the emergency broadcast system. It's tested to make sure it works. We are regularly tested likewise. This week we had a day packed with jobs we had to complete. We weren't sure how we could get through them. Then, as I was getting dressed to go to daily Mass I received a strong inspiration to do the wash. DO THE WASH? The inspiration was so strong that I stopped getting dressed and ran downstairs to start the wash. Insanity! Yet, later that day we found out that areas just a little north of us were hit by high winds leaving tens of thousands without electricity. Was our

electricity saved by that act of obedience or were we just having a trial run?

How do we know if the inspiration comes from God or the enemy? If we are inspired to take an action but have interior turmoil over it, the inspiration to act does not come from God.

2. We are being warned of a coming famine, disruptions of food shipments, harvests being destroyed, weather irregularities. These events are frightening to contemplate but in Scripture we have reassurance that God will care for our needs. Consider the 40 years the Jews wandered in the desert where there was little water and no ability or opportunity to grow food. What an impossible situation yet God cared for them so they survived. Recall the Prophet Elisha and the widow and her son. There was a famine in the land due to the punishment of a drought brought about by the sin of idolatry. The widow had only a little oil and a handful of flour to make a cake for her son and herself. They were prepared to die from starvation afterwards. Elisha promised that if they gave that cake to him “The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth” (1 Kings 17:14). The widow’s faith was evident in her obedience. And God was faithful to His promise: “She and he and her household ate for many days. The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elisha” (verses 15–16).

In the New Testament we read of Jesus feeding the 4,000 and the 5,000 from hardly anything. The saints were also known for food multiplication. St. Catherine of Siena, who lived at home throughout her life, would hand out wine to the poor along with bread. No matter how much wine she gave out, the barrel was never empty. A servant, perplexed by this, one day opened the wine barrel to find that there was no wine in it yet Catherine continued to draw wine from it for her poor.

Today, through messages from Jesus, Our Lady and St. Michael, we are told to prepare spiritually and physically. If we don’t prepare physically, thinking that God will care for us without obeying His request, we are guilty of the sin of presumption. If we do our part, He will multiply what we have prepared. Before our supplies dwindle we must pray that they will be replenished.

Personal Lesson: At our parish in Florida, after a healing Mass, a luncheon followed. People were asked to sign up if they intended to attend the luncheon. About 50 or so signed up. A friend, in charge of the luncheon, ordered just a little more than 50 sandwiches. Following the Mass the pastor invited all the people from the healing Mass to attend the luncheon even if they didn’t sign up. About a hundred people streamed over to the hall for lunch. It was a tense situation for my friend but right in front of our eyes somehow the sandwiches multiplied and there were even leftovers. God multiples food even today!

3. People are worried over financial concerns. What happens if I lose my job, my savings, my pension, my social security? God will take care of you in that situation as well. Recall how Jesus instructed Peter to get the temple tax for each of them from a fish. A FISH! How improbable is that?

Personal lesson: After Hurricane Mitch devastated Honduras years ago we met Bishop Scarpone, of the diocese of Camayagua, Honduras. His diocese was the poorest of the poor. In an effort to help him we decided to take up a collection at the annual novena to the Immaculate Conception. We picked the date of the collection then asked Bishop Scarpone to pray that people would be generous. The first time we took up the collection the envelope the usher gave us was thin. We were nervous when we sat down to count it. As we fanned out the bills it was

mostly singles. But as we began to count it, right before our eyes the dollar bills turned into ten dollar bills. What a shock! Then I got on the phone calling people to tell them about the miracle we just witnessed. When people heard they donated more money. Over a thousand dollars was raised that way.

The following year we decided to have two collections since some people came for the first part of the novena and others for the last half of the novena. Bishop Scarpone was again told the dates of each collection and asked to pray for the financial success. At the end of the novena the usher gave us two envelopes. Since people were coming back to our home to celebrate the feast I took the 2 envelopes and hid them under our mattress. In the middle of the night I got out of bed and something dropped on the floor. It was a thick envelope so I put it on the dresser then went back to bed. In the morning I fished under the mattress to get the other envelope. Imagine my surprise to find two envelopes there! The envelopes had multiplied over night. The envelope that had fallen on the floor contained the total amount of money that was in both of the other envelopes. The miracles of God are endless.

4. **What if there is a blackout or emp event?** God will help you through this as well if you pray for help.

Personal lesson: I had committed to write “thank you” notes following my father-in-law’s death. There were many notes to write and I only had one evening free to get them completed. As I sat down to write the notes a storm rolled in. (Lots of rainstorms in central Illinois). Intent on getting the notes done I hadn’t noticed that the storm knocked out the electricity all around us. Our home was the only home in the area with electricity! God made sure I got those notes done that evening by keeping our lights on.

5. **What if we can’t communicate with loved ones?** God delights in doing the impossible for us.

Personal lesson: My husband took a job at a hospital in Florida that necessitated him to be on call 24/7 so he had a private hospital phone with a private number. I was the only person outside of hospital personnel permitted to have his private number. Back in central Illinois was a friend who found herself in a very difficult and dangerous marital situation. When serious problems arose she would call us for advice. When we moved to Florida I gave her our landline phone number in case she needed to reach us. Each evening when my husband came home from his stressful job we had the custom of sitting outside on our patio with a glass of wine. We left our phone inside so as not to be disturbed. One evening, as we were sitting outside, my husband’s hospital phone rang which he had to keep with him always. When he answered it, it was my friend back in Illinois in a critical situation. After she and I discussed the best way to handle her problem I asked her for phone number she called. She gave me our landline number! God had patched her call through to my husband’s private phone! This same situation twice. God made sure she could reach me when she was in trouble. He will do the same for you.

6. **What about safety?** Pray daily Psalm 91 for the reassurance that God will protect you from harm. If you spend time doing mental prayer, ask God to remind you of the times He has protected you and family members from harm. Memories will come flooding back to reassure you.

Personal lesson: Sometimes newspaper reporters can slip unbeknownst to themselves into dangerous expose situations where people are “suicided”. Years ago I stepped into such a situation. Attending Mass one Saturday, Our Lady during Mass warned my husband that our

lives were in danger that evening. Through fervently praying the rosary and the clever work of our guardian angels the people trying to harm us were unable to find us although they were only minutes away from us. A protective shield had been placed around us. Weeks later, my guardian angel warned me in a dream to decline a dinner invitation we had already accepted because the intent again was to harm us. (These people were really persistent!) When you are called to leave for a refuge, “fear not” despite roadblocks, troops or checkpoints. You **will** be protected just as we were but only if you develop the ability to hear and immediately obey the instructions of the Holy Spirit and your guardian angel. This comes only from a deepening of your spiritual life through mental prayer, daily Mass and Eucharistic adoration. Otherwise you are going to be hard of hearing or deaf to the spiritual inspirations.

7. **What about complex problems or impossible situations?** God can easily take care of any problem or situation. St. Peter walking on water is a pretty impossible situation, right?

Personal lesson: My husband and I were on a trip through the Panama Canal when it appeared I developed a detached retina. The ship doctor thought it would be best for me to see an eye specialist in Panama City. To get me there I would have to leave the ship in the midst of the canal then travel by ambulance to the city several hours away. We were told to take any medications just in case we could not reconnect with the ship  . Originally we were to leave the ship by 10 am but our departure kept being delayed. By the time we left the ship, got to the city and the doctor's office it was almost 3:30pm and our ship was scheduled to leave a port two hours away at 5pm. From the doctor's office we were taken to a travel office to figure out how to get us back to Florida since we kept being told the ship would not wait for us. We arrived at the travel office at the time the ship was sailing. (The day before, when we were in Columbia, a passenger fell and broke his leg. He called the ship from the hospital asking the captain to hold the ship for 15 minutes but the captain refused.) At the travel office we were told that there were only three planes a week from Panama City to Florida. They weren't sure when they could get us on a plane. We had no change of clothes, toiletries, etc. In addition, the planes only flew into Miami but our car was parked in Ft. Lauderdale. What a mess we were in! During the whole day Bob and I stormed heaven with prayers and constant rosaries. Never have we prayed with such intensity. At 5:15, 15 minutes after the ship supposedly departed the travel agency got a phone call that the captain decided to hold the ship for us but we had to rush. Our cab driver drove like a crazy man on the median of the highway or the shoulder of the road cutting in front of cars during rush hour. We arrived a little after 7pm, two hours past sailing time. The sailors were waiting for us. As we rushed up the gangplank they were rolling up the parts behind us. Passengers were watching the commotion from the various levels of the ship. The ship doctor met us then asked, “Are you someone famous or something? The captain has never held the ship before for any reason. It's very costly to delay in port.” We replied, “No, we aren't famous. We're just children of God and He answered our prayers!” Likewise, God will answer your prayers in any upcoming tight situations as well.

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