

# Gleaning In The Fields Of Light

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’  
... Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’”*

—The Gospel of Luke

By Ken Woodley

Living with the Holy Spirit is not a spectator sport.

We don’t change the world from a comfy recliner.

Who, me? Change the world?

Yes! And you and you and you!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon all of us who open ourselves to what the Celtic Christians aptly called the “Wild Goose.” In our chosen moments we will be lifted by its wings to do the work that God has given us to do—even if we may not fully know exactly where we’re going or how we’re going to get there.

No, we’re not likely to become prophets in the vein of Samuel, Isaiah or Jeremiah. There won’t be any books in the Bible bearing our name.

But we don’t have to become legendary.

We just need to become real.

Our prophetic mission will make itself clear when that moment, or those moments, are manifested to us by God.

Whether it’s a clothing exchange, making food available to those in need, putting our arm around someone when they need that most or sending someone a healing note of companionship.

The small moments need filling just as desperately as the great big ones do. And there’s nothing small about filling any moment with love.

We are also called to speak out against injustice by writing, emailing or telephoning our elected representatives and fighting for a cause: local, regional, statewide, national or global in scope.

Or standing up in person to speak face to face with those elected officials.  
Speaking truth to power isn't a First Amendment right reserved for a  
chosen few.

And to move mountains you've got to start with the pebbles and the  
stones.

That's the only way the mountains know you mean business.

When we give the Holy Spirit of God the use of our tongues, there's no  
telling what we might say and who might be listening.

And how they might respond.

Even if we're only speaking to ourselves.

Sometimes—and sometimes especially—when we're speaking truth only  
to ourselves because we all need reminding that we are no longer held captive  
away from God's love and grace.

That our sight of God's love and grace has been recovered.

That the our oppression has ended and we are free to wrap our arms and  
hearts and minds and souls around that love and grace.

That the Lord's favor has been announced to us.

To all of us.

Without exception.

Jesus said so.

And that Good News is worth believing, and sharing.

Even if nobody's listening but you.