



TASTE Reflection Questions
30 October 2025

Mary's Message for Eternal Life

Sr. Dede Bryne

Pray, Hope, and Don't Worry ~ Padre Pio



1. What did you find most interesting about this talk? Was there a particular story that resonated with you?

2. Sr. Dede spoke in clear terms about **heaven, purgatory, and hell**. She reminded us that, at times and in our sinful nature, we may be impure, unholy, and unjust and if we do not ask for **repentance** and change our ways, then God and our soul cannot unite in eternity. She said the humble key is **Confession and the Eucharist**.

- When you think of eternal life, does Hell ever enter your mind? Why don't most people think about Hell?
- Remembering we are all sinners and in need of mercy, what do you do to help recognize your own sinfulness?
- When you go to confession, do you ever think of the priest as acting in "persona Christi"?
- How did you feel about the depth of Christ's love and mercy for us (Ocean vs. eye-dropper)?

3. Sr. Dede quoted Matthew 5:14 saying, "**You are the light of the world**" and Matthew 28:19-20 saying, "**Go and make disciples of all nations**." Sister Dede also said that our mission in life is to prepare our souls for Heaven and to help guide our loved ones (husbands, children, parents, siblings, and friends) for eternity. She then said that if we don't tell a person with love about his/her sin, their sin is now on us.

- What can we do to prepare our own soul for heaven and to meet this challenge?
- Can you think of any opportunity where God is calling you to speak truth in love to bring other souls to heaven?
- How comfortable do you feel helping loved ones into eternity? What gets in the way of helping them?
- How does the Holy Spirit help us in speaking truth in love? How can I be more open & guided by the Holy Spirit?

4. Sr. Dede talked about her friend who was **euthanized** without her consent and apparently against her will. She said that for many people, it is in the last 4-5 days preceding death that they turn to Christ in repentance and for mercy.

- What did you think about "**Stealth Euthanasia**" and the tactics used with patients (suggesting they would not want to burden their family) and with family members (suggesting they would not want their loved one to suffer)?
- Have you ever seen or heard of either these tactics used or death being hastened by over-sedation, dehydration, & starvation? What opportunity is lost for the patient and for the family?
- What can we do to prepare ourselves and loved ones before approaching these final days?

Themes from Sr. Dede's Talk

PROVERBS 1:7 — "FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM."

- We must pray daily to ask God to illuminate our hearts to: **see His Truth**, and to **beg for His protection** for our family from the evils of lies and deceptions.
- Our Blessed Mother sees all our spiritual and emotional challenges and tenderly carries these needs to her Son.
- Pope Benedict XVI said, "Jesus came to tell us that He wants us all in heaven and the hell - of which we speak so little of in our time - exists & is eternal for those who close their hearts to God's love."
- We in our sinful nature may at times be impure, unholy, unjust ... and if we do not ask for repentance and change, then God and our soul cannot unite in eternity.
- In an interview with Fr. Lombardi, Sr. Lucia replied to him saying "No Father, I am afraid many souls will be lost,"
- So we have been blessed to know this warning... So, our mission, my dear friends, is to prepare our souls for heaven as well as to help guide our loved ones, husbands, children, parents, siblings, and friends for eternity.
- The humble key is Confession and the Eucharist. We do this by recognizing our sinfulness and then humbly approaching our dear priest, who is Christ on earth — our "persona Christi"
- We must never forget the ocean of love and mercy Christ has for all of us.

THESSALONIANS 5:16 — JESUS TELLS US TO "PRAY UNCEASINGLY & NEVER LOSE HEART."

- The greatest consoler of our hearts, next to our Lord, is our Holy Theotokia, Our Blessed Mother.
- The king of lies and deception really hates our Blessed Mother as she is the messenger of eternal life who is her most venerable Son. That is why the rosary is such a powerful weapon and has been encouraged to be prayed by many saints.
- She told a true story about Jesus appearing to a bishop in Nigeria and handing him a sword that turned into a rosary. [LINK](#).
- As we strive to be in the state of grace, we are then open to the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit – Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Knowledge, Piety, Fortitude, & **FEAR OF THE LORD** which is the **fear of ever being lost without Him**.
- Our Blessed Mother came to Fatima to: 1) show us that **Hell exists**, 2) reveal the **consequences of sin**, 3) tell us that **IF** we live our lives with the deep desire to **avoid sin**, seek God's **mercy**, and **sacrifice** for others, then we shall have the joy of eternal life with our God.
- Our Blessed Mother is the golden doorknob to the gates of heaven. She is continually interceding for us in prayer and has come throughout the centuries through her apparitions to promise and warn us of God's Truth and Holy Will.

MATTHEW 5:14 — "YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD" & 28:19:20 — "GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS"

- **C. S Lewis** said, "The soul that lives in self-absorption cuts itself off from God, the source of all good and Truth. God is the Light, and apart from Him is only darkness. God is the Holy One, and His holiness is like a fire that serves as a torment to unholiness. In the presence of His ultimate righteousness, His right ordering-all unrighteousness, all disorder, shudders in confusion and horror. The damned soul cannot bear the divine Light, just as a diseased eye cannot bear the brilliant sunlight."
- To answer the question, "Is Hell real?", Sr. Dede shared stories from various **SAINTS**: 1) the children of Fatima saw hell so they would pray and sacrifice fervently to save souls, 2) St. John Boscoe saw his wayward boys in Hell, 3) St. Catherine of Siena learned the causes of damnation were self-love, love of reputation, and pride with injustice and cruelty and other filthiness and immoral sins, and 4) St. Faustina was led to the chasms of Hell (filled with darkness, terrible filth, suffocating smells, despair, and Satan there blaspheming God) to let sinners know that they would be tortured throughout all eternity.
- When we do everything for the glory of God and work in His name according to His will and pray unceasingly, we never have reason to lose Hope. Mary's message is both a promise & a warning because all we hear now is of God's love and Mercy. While we cannot ever overstate God's love and Mercy, we must keep in mind that His justice is as everlasting as His love.
- What does this mean for all of us? We must **SPEAK THE TRUTH WITH LOVE** to our loved ones steeped in sin. The horror of our culture is that those involved in sin often remain unrepentant sinners because we are rewriting our moral laws to leave God entirely out of the mix. And they may not know anyone loving enough to speak the truth for fear of anger or rejection.
- When we receive the Eucharist, it is in our body for about 3 hours. While we are a tabernacle, that is the perfect time to share truths with others regardless of the cost. Remember where there is darkness, our little flicker of Light shines all the more. That Trinitarian Light is casting a brilliance in very dark corners where Christ was never known or rejected.
- Remember our Blessed Mother never leaves us & like our biological mothers. She knows us best. She is our model of purity and humility, and she comes with the fervent desire to bring all souls to her Son.
- Our mission on earth is to 1) use the graces God gives us to save our own soul & 2) bring as many souls with us to Heaven.
- Follow Our Blessed mother's instructions and encouragement to stay pure by frequent Confession, Adoration, Mass, and the Rosary. Our daily prayers to her by way of her Rosary is a powerful & holy instrument to draw us ever closer to her Son so that we also develop the fortitude and courage to lead souls to Christ through her.
- Catherine Doherty asked, "Who can teach us so profoundly, the virtue of charity and love, from which all other virtues stem."
- Pope Pius XII said, "Mary performed the miracle of Fatima to intercede on our behalf so we may live in eternity with God."
- Let us see Mary's powerful message of sacrifice & prayer to save souls for eternity with God as one of hope & not despair.