

SCCC – LET “MY” WORDS BE FEW

S - Scriptures

‘(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)’ Mark 9: 6

C - Consideration

This short statement in brackets happened when Jesus took Peter, James and John to a high mountain to pray. He was transfigured in a transcendent glory while Elijah and Moses appeared and, “spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem.” In the midst of this glorious scene, Peter opened his mouth, explaining to Jesus his plan to build three shelters, one for Jesus and the other two for the visitors. Just a few days before this incident, the same apostle spoke by the Holy Spirit revealing Jesus’ identity and mission, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Minutes after of Peter’s confession, Jesus shared with them His approaching martyrdom, and Peter spoke again, “Never, Lord. “This shall never happen to you.” Jesus rebuked his words saying, “Get behind me Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” Years later Paul opposed Peter publicly for his carnal behaviour, “When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy.”

C – Commitment

Peter was the closest apostle and after Pentecost the first one to preach and to bring thousands to faith in Christ. However, he had many problems controlling his emotions. There were times when God spoke through him, other times the devil spoke through him, and as mentioned above occasionally worthless words came out of his mouth. On the mountain, God, the Father, spoke to Peter, “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”, reminding him that such a time was not to talk but to listen. The same mouth opened to say divine, satanic and empty words. This was not done by a pagan gentile, but a zealous Jew, follower of Christ. Sometimes, I act exactly like Peter. I just don’t act in the Spirit, but in the flesh. The fruit of self-control and peace necessary to hold my tongue and to open my ears to listen, disappears, and I find myself speaking meaningless words. James wrote, “Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;” according to James, many words, could result in anger, which can give place to the devil, said Paul in his letter to the Ephesians. Solomon, inspired by the Holy Spirit, summarized the point, “Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few.” My words must be limited, yet I should always listen and speak God’s words.

C - Call

My Heavenly Father, You told Peter and all of us, to listen to Your beloved Son. I pray for spiritual understanding in order not to sin against You or to those around me. Help me to keep Your word not just in my mind, but in my heart, to live a life that honors Jesus, and blesses His church. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen.