

KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

Mark: 1:35 & Matt: 11: 11-12

From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury

Faith or Fear - Controlling What We Speak - Part One

In this letter I would like for us to revisit the whole issue of the power of words and how we can control what we speak.

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.”
Proverbs 18:21

“You are snared by the words of your mouth; You are taken by the words of your mouth.”
Proverbs 6:2

“But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.” Matthew 12:36-37

Firstly, we need to remind ourselves that the words we speak control and dominate our lives. Just like God the “world” in which we live is being created by the words we speak. “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.” Hebrews 11:3

A. Words Then Become Containers That Can Carry Faith Or Fear - Life Or Death!

1. Faith comes by hearing [present tense] the Word of God. In like manner, fear comes from hearing the wrong word. Please note that faith is dependent on a continuous hearing – it is not reliant on yesterday’s manna or bread, it is a NOW faith activated by a NOW word. “*Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds [this is the present, continuous tense] from the mouth of God*” The only way to get faith is from hearing (not heard!) God's Word. Also remember that the quality of faith is consistent with the quality of God’s Word that we are receiving. If we keep getting the salvation message, Sunday after Sunday; week after week, then that is where our faith level will remain. You cannot accumulate faith from your previous experiences. Every situation requires fresh, new faith, which comes from hearing the current Word of God for that particular situation. This is why we need to be planted firmly in “Present-Truth” preaching and teaching. Some people expect to function in a “1950’s faith” in the 21st century, it just will not work. We must be relevant!
2. On the other hand, fear is faith in the wrong direction, however, it comes also by hearing - but not God's Word. This is why we must take heed to what we hear.
3. Please also note, that once spoken, words are irretrievable.

B. Words Have The Ability And Power To Reproduce After Their Own Kind.

1. Faith filled words received from hearing God’s word release God's ability to perform His Will.
 - a. The Woman with the Issue of Blood is a powerful example [Mark 5:25-34] – She heard that Jesus was a Healer, faith was activated in her heart and she began confessing her healing

based on the word she had received about Jesus - “When *she heard about Jesus*, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment; *for she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."* *Immediately* the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that *she was healed* of the affliction.”

- b. Everything that God created was done by Him SPEAKING it into being – Hebrews 11:3 Over and over in Genesis’ account of creation it declares “And God SAID.”
 - c. Remember Isaiah 55:11 which says: “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” **God's Word Won't Return Void!**
2. Fear filled words spoken forth has the ability to activate what you feared
- a. Remember when Joshua and Caleb went to spy out the land with other ten men? When they returned, the ten spies came back with a bad report: “Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there.” Numbers 13:27-28. Immediately Caleb commands the people to be QUIET! WHY? Because Caleb knew that you can ruin God's plan for your life, your marriage, your family, your church, your nation...by speaking contrary to God's Word. In every situation we must speak what the Lord is saying or has said about it!
 - b. Numbers 14:28 shows that you get what you say and not necessarily what God wants; hence the reason we need to speak in agreement with God and His purpose.
 - c. Well some saints think that all this confession is religious works and vain repetition. I have news for you IT IS NOT! Faith is activated by this process – BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART AND THEN CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH WHAT THE LORD HAS SPOKEN!

C. The Word Of God Is Our Only Weapon Because The Battlefield Is Our Mind.

- a. We are what we think; Proverbs 23:7 declares “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he”.
- b. The Apostle Paul was given a very clear understanding of this as he declared by the Holy Spirit in 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.” The Lord wants us to take evil thoughts captive. Thoughts that are designed by the devil to diminish our faith. However, we need to fully understand that we cannot combat evil thoughts with our thoughts; we can only combat them with the SPOKEN WORD OF GOD!!!

D. Your Words Determine Your Future.

1. This is very true however, it is very important that we speak the mind and will of God. Death and life are in the power of our tongue. The world says to us “What you SEE is what you get”; but the word of God says “what you SAY is what you get.” - Matthew 21:21 “So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done.”

2. As we read through the book of James chapter 3 we understand that words have the ability to steer our lives either to the Lord's destination or to the rocks causing us to become shipwrecked. This is why it is so important that we hear and speak the right words!
3. This brings me to this next point – even though we hear the Word of God and Faith rises in our hearts and we begin to make confession of that word we then need to take another step further and become a DOER of the Word!

E. Be A Doer Of The Word

1. Be a DOER – This is PRESENT tense it is a NOW word. The bible NEVER tells us to be TRYERS. You hear some people speak “well I am only TRYING to do what is right, I am TRYING to follow the ‘Good Book’”.
2. There is also another category these are the ones I call “Didders” [a didder is one who used to DO the Word of God, used to CONFESS the Word of God]. However, they have now “matured” and as such there is no need for them to DO the Word anymore as they have a “proven track record” to show.
3. There is still yet another category these are the “Knowers” [they are so versed in the theology of the scriptures that they think they are doers when they are not]. The Bible clearly tells us that when we become “hearers or knowers” of the Word and not DOERS we qualify to become Pharisees or religious hypocrites. Remember; Faith without Works is DEAD!

We want to be a people that allow the words of our mouth and the mediation of our hearts to be acceptable in the sight of Almighty God. We want to maintain a lifestyle that continues to confess the Word of God. We want to continue making bold proclamations and declarations as we step out and DO the Will of God! Next week I will conclude this teaching until then “Be doers and not only hearers of the Word”!

PRAAYER FOCUS

- Let us continue lifting up strong prayers before Almighty God as we press into this region. There are several reasons why we have corporate prayer on Saturday mornings from 5:30 AM, one of which is that we minister in a region that is full of Islamic and Sikh peoples who rise up very early on mornings to pray to their gods seeking to take control of the spiritual dimension over this region. We believe that as we rise and pray corporately we will challenge and dismantle these spirits that are set to blind and confuse the minds and hearts of the people away from acceptance of the gospel of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. Join with us as we breakthrough in this region.
- Pray for our “Reaching Out” ministry as we give ourselves to the residents of this community and beyond. Pray that the Power and Glory of the Lord will be demonstrated and seen at these meetings from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM on Wednesday.
- For Pastor Daniel & Sharon Farina and what the Lord has called them to in Grand Island, New York. They are going through a season of change and transition in their life and ministry so let us lift up a SHOUT over them at this time. Pray prophetically over them at this time.
- For continued Divine Strategies to be given to us as we exercise His will.
- The following is a prayer request that came through our website from a young man living in Victoria, BC. Let us lift this up before the Lord:
Hello, I am 25-year-old young man on kidney dialysis. I had a transplant that lasted for about 6 years. I do not want another one because of the drug side effects and because they are just treatments and not cures. Please pray that the Lord God would restore my kidneys to how he created them to work in Jesus name. I can't remember what it is like to have energy it has been so long. God bless.

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