

SPEAK YOUR FAITH



Whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,'
and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done,
he will have whatever he says (Mark 11:23)

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SPEAK YOUR FAITH

Whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,'
and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done,
he will have whatever he says (Mark 11:23)

So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

(Mark 11:22,23)

THE NICENE CREED

The Nicene Creed is a declaration of what the whole Church believes about the great doctrines of the Christian faith based on the Holy Scriptures. It was first adopted at the Council of Nicaea in AD 325 by a gathering of bishops and has been used as a bold confession of faith through the centuries. The word “creed” comes from the Latin word ‘*credo*,’ meaning “I believe and trust.”

WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD,
THE FATHER, THE ALMIGHTY,
MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH,
OF ALL THAT IS,
SEEN AND UNSEEN.

WE BELIEVE IN ONE LORD, JESUS CHRIST,
THE ONLY SON OF GOD,
ETERNALLY BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER,
GOD FROM GOD, LIGHT FROM LIGHT,
TRUE GOD FROM TRUE GOD,
BEGOTTEN, NOT MADE,
OF ONE BEING WITH THE FATHER;
THROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE.
FOR US AND FOR OUR SALVATION HE CAME DOWN
FROM HEAVEN,
WAS INCARNATE FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE
VIRGIN MARY
AND WAS MADE MAN.
FOR OUR SAKE HE WAS CRUCIFIED UNDER PONTIUS
PILATE;

HE SUFFERED DEATH AND WAS BURIED.
ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCRIPTURES;
HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN
AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE
FATHER.

HE WILL COME AGAIN IN GLORY TO JUDGE THE
LIVING AND THE DEAD,
AND HIS KINGDOM WILL HAVE NO END.

WE BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT,
THE LORD, THE GIVER OF LIFE,
WHO PROCEEDS FROM THE FATHER AND THE SON,
WHO WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON IS
WORSHIPPED AND GLORIFIED,
WHO HAS SPOKEN THROUGH THE PROPHETS.
WE BELIEVE IN ONE HOLY CATHOLIC AND
APOSTOLIC CHURCH.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE ONE BAPTISM FOR THE
FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
WE LOOK FOR THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD,
AND THE LIFE OF THE WORLD TO COME.
AMEN.

Note: The word “catholic” means “the whole” or “universal”.

OUR DECLARATION

This is what we usually declare together as a congregation during our Sunday services before listening to the ministry of God's Word.

This is God's Word.

This is God speaking to me.

I am who God says I am.

I can do what God says I can do.

I will become everything God has promised.

I am saved, healed, delivered, redeemed.

I am blessed, victorious, prosperous, triumphant.

I am a minister of God, a servant of Christ
and a channel of His blessing to many people.

I receive His Word, I believe His Word, and I live by His Word.

Christ is my Master, and to Him, I am in absolute surrender.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MY DECLARATION OF GOD'S WORD OVER MY LIFE

These are given as examples of how you can speak your faith in God's Word over different areas of your life. Meditate on God's Word. Let God's Word cause faith to arise in your heart. Then, speak your faith.

Authority and dominion

Jesus has given me the right to use His name, to act on His behalf, and to do what He wants done. In His name, I cast out demons and heal the sick. Jesus has given me authority over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will by any means hurt me. I am seated at the right hand of the Father in Jesus Christ, in a place of dominion and authority. (Mark 16:17,18; Luke 10:19; Ephesians 2:6)

Answer to prayer

The Lord Jesus has promised that whatever I ask the Father in His name, believing, I will receive. Whatever I ask, when I pray, I believe that I have received them, and I will have them. I remain in Him, His Word remains in me, and whatever I ask in prayer, it is done for me. (John 16:23,24; Matthew 21:22; Mark 11:24; John 15:7)

Anointing and power

I have received power because the Holy Spirit has come upon me and I am a witness for Jesus Christ. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me and He empowers me to heal, deliver, and set the captives free. He who has called me and anointed me is God.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit on my life destroys demonic yokes and removes demonic burdens off people. (Acts 1:8; Luke 4:18,19; 2 Corinthians 1:21; Isaiah 10:27)

Blessings

I am blessed with every blessing that comes from God. I share and enjoy all the blessings that God has for His people. I am blessed in all that I set my hands to. The Lord teaches me to prosper and directs my ways. I walk in obedience to God, and His blessings flow like a stream that never goes dry. Victory comes to me like the waves that roll on the seashore. (Ephesians 1:3; Colossians 1:12; Deuteronomy 28:6; Isaiah 48:17,18)

Courage and confidence

I am strong and very courageous. I am bold like a lion. God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. The Lord is my confidence and security. (Joshua 1:9; Proverbs 28:1; 2 Timothy 1:7; Proverbs 14:26)

Exploits

I know my God. I am strong and I do great exploits for God's Kingdom. God works in me and through me to accomplish things way beyond all that I can ask or think by His power at work in me. (Daniel 11:32; Ephesians 3:20)

Future

God knows the plans that He has for me, plans to prosper me, to give me a future full of hope. God has planned things that He wants me to do and I am walking into them. All things are working together for my good because I am called to His purposes. No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no one has yet imagined the things that God has prepared for me because I love Him. (Jeremiah 29:11; Ephesians 2:10; Romans 8:28; 1 Corinthians 2:9)

Family, home, and children

God has blessed my home. The voice of rejoicing and salvation fills my home. My home is a peaceful and quiet place, a secure place, and free from worries. God pours His Spirit and His blessing on my children. All my children are taught by the Lord and they have great peace. (Proverbs 3:33; Psalm 118:15; Isaiah 32:18; Isaiah 44:3; Isaiah 54:13)

Faith

God has given to me the measure of faith. I live by faith and not by sight. I believe and I will see the glory of God. With faith in my heart, I speak to mountains and they move, and nothing is impossible to me. (Romans 12:3; 2 Corinthians 5:7; John 11:40; Matthew 17:20)

Favor and relationships

God surrounds me with favor like a shield. God causes me to be held in honor and high esteem. I walk in mercy and integrity, and I have favor and good understanding with those around me. God makes even my enemies to be at peace with me. Those who love the Lord are glad when they see me because I honor the Lord. (Psalm 5:12; Proverbs 22:4; Proverbs 3:3,4; Proverbs 16:7; Psalm 119:74)

Guidance

The Holy Spirit leads me and guides me into all truth. The Lord leads me and teaches me in the way I should go. He guides me with His watchful eye. My steps are ordered by God because He takes pleasure in my ways. Even if I fall, He upholds me and brings me back up. God's Word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path. I follow His Word. (John 16:13; Psalm 32:8; Psalm 37:23,24; Psalm 119:105)

Health and healing

The Lord Jesus Himself took all my sicknesses and diseases on the Cross. I have been healed by the wounds Jesus bore for me on the Cross. My God is the Lord my Healer. The Lord blesses my food and drink and removes all sicknesses away from me. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. (Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24; Exodus 15:26; Exodus 23:25; Psalm 103:3)

Joy

The Spirit of the Lord fills me with joy. I love righteousness and hate wickedness and so God has anointed me with joy and gladness. The joy of the Lord empowers me and fills me with strength. The God of hope fills me with joy and peace. I walk in righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22; Psalm 45:7; Nehemiah 8:10; Romans 15:13; Romans 14:17)

Justified and righteous

I have been justified in God's eyes through faith in Christ. In His eyes, I am "just-as-if-I-never-sinned" because the blood of Jesus Christ has washed me from all sin. I am clothed with His righteousness, and I stand before God with confidence and assurance without any condemnation. The Holy Spirit fills me with assurance that I am His child, and I call Him, "Abba, Father". (Romans 3:22; 1 John 1:7; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 8:1,15)

Love

The Spirit of God has poured God's love into my heart. I am empowered to love people with God's love. God's love in me makes me patient, kind, and keeps me from being jealous, proud, ill-mannered, selfish, and irritable. I do not keep a record of wrongs done to me. (Romans 5:5; 1 Corinthians 13:4,5)

Long life

God satisfies me with a long life. The Lord fills my life with good things so that I stay young and strong like an eagle. (Psalm 91:16; Exodus 23:26; Psalm 103:5)

Mind and thoughts

My mind is holy ground. I permit only thoughts that are pure, noble, virtuous, right, and honorable in my mind. I have a sound mind, a sound memory, a sound concentration, and a sound understanding. I consecrate my thoughts, emotions, and desires to God and bring every thought into obedience to Christ. (Philippians 4:8; 2 Timothy 1:7; 2 Corinthians 10:4,5)

Overcoming the world and the flesh

I am born of God, and I overcome the world and all that is in it. I overcome the sinful desires of the flesh, the cravings of the eyes, and pride. I share in God's divine nature, and I stay away from the moral decay that is in the world. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I put an end to all the sinful deeds of my body. I walk in the Spirit, and I do not yield to the sinful desires of my body. (1 John 5:4; 2 Peter 1:3,4; Romans 8:13; Galatians 5:16)

Peace, quietness, and rest

I lay all my cares before the Lord and the peace of God, which is beyond human understanding, fills my heart and mind. I choose to walk in quietness and confidence, and this fills me with strength. I walk in the rest that the Lord gives to me. (1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:7; Isaiah 30:15; Mathew 11:28,29)

Power of the Blood

The blood of Jesus has purchased and redeemed me, cleansed me from all sin, sanctified me, justified me, brought me near

God, and given me boldness to enter God's most holy presence. I am covered and protected because of the blood of Jesus. I am in covenant with God through the blood of Jesus. The blood has set me free from the wrong ways of my ancestors. I overcome the enemy by the blood of Jesus. (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 1:7; Hebrews 13:12; Exodus 12:13; 1 Peter 1:18-20; Revelation 12:11)

Prosperity and success

I am like a tree planted by the rivers of water. I bring forth my fruit in its season. My leaf does not wither and whatever I do, prospers. I am blessed in all the works of my hands. I follow the Lord, His Word, and His ways, and He causes me to prosper and gives me good success. As I walk humbly and in the fear of God He blesses me with prosperity, honor, and long life. (Psalm 1:1-3; Deuteronomy 28:8; Joshua 1:8; Proverbs 22:4)

Protection and deliverance

I have made the Lord my Defender, the Most High my Protector. No disaster will strike me, no violence will come near my home. God is with me in trouble. He answers me and rescues me. The angel of God encircles me and delivers me. No weapon formed against me will be able to hurt me. God defends me and gives me victory. Every tongue that rises against me, the Lord puts down before me. (Psalm 91:10,11,15; Psalm 34:7; Isaiah 54:17)

Promotion

My promotion, growth, and increase come from God. It is God who makes room for my promotion. As I submit to the Lord, He exalts me in His time. It is God who sets me in places of leadership, authority, and influence. (Psalm 7:6,7; James 4:10; Deuteronomy 28:13)

Provision and supply

My God provides for all my needs according to His riches through Jesus Christ. The Lord is my Shepherd, and I will not be in want. The Lord is a Sun and Shield to me. He does not withhold any good thing from me. God gives me more than what I need so that I always have all I need for myself and plenty to bless others with. It is God who gives me the ability to make wealth. (Philippians 4:19; Psalm 23:1; Psalm 84:11; 2 Corinthians 9:8; Deuteronomy 8:18)

Signs, wonders, and miracles

These signs follow me who believes— in His name, I speak with new tongues, I cast out demons, and I lay hands on the sick and they recover. God is with me and confirms His Word that I speak with signs, wonders, and miracles. The works that Jesus did, I will do and even greater works because Jesus has gone to the Father. As I share the Gospel of Jesus, God Himself bears witness with signs, wonders, miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Mark 16:17,18; Mark 16:20; John 14:12; Hebrews 2:3,4)

Sleep

The Lord gives me good sleep. I lie down and I am not afraid. I lie down and my sleep is sweet. I awake renewed and refreshed. (Psalm 127:2; Psalm 4:8; Proverbs 3:24; Psalm 3:5)

Spirit of God in my life

I am a temple of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God dwells in me. He leads and guides me. He teaches me all things. As I walk in the Spirit, I do not submit to fleshly desires. He is upon me empowering me. His presence and power flow like rivers out of me and bless, heal, and deliver people around me. (1 Corinthians 3:16; Romans 8:14; 1 John 2:27; Galatians 5:16; John 7:38,39)

Triumph and victory

God always causes me to triumph in all things. I walk in the victory that my Lord Jesus gained for me at the Cross. Through my God, I do valiantly. (2 Corinthians 2:14; Colossians 2:14; Isaiah 53:12; Psalm 60:12)

Wisdom, understanding, and inspiration

Christ is my wisdom. The Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, and might rests upon me. The Lord gives me understanding in all things. His Word fills me with light and understanding. The inspiration of God in my inner man gives me understanding. (1 Corinthians 1:30; Isaiah 11:1,2; 2 Timothy 2:7; Psalm 119:130; Job 32:8)

Witness

I am a bold witness for Jesus Christ. I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As I acknowledge Him before men, He acknowledges me before the Father in heaven. (Acts 1:8; Romans 1:16; Matthew 10:32)

The Word of God in my life

I declare that God's Word is truth. His Word prevails in my life. My life is upheld, sustained, and regulated by the power of His Word. Everything in my world is subject to the Word of God and aligns itself to God's Word. (John 17:17; Psalm 119:128; Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 11:3)

MY “IN CHRIST” DECLARATIONS

Who I am in Christ is who I really am! My identity, security, significance, and self-worth are in Him, from Him, and for Him. My self-image, self-esteem, and confidence are based on who God has made me to be in Christ. Who I am in Christ is based completely on what God has done for me because of His immense and unconditional love toward me.

I declare that who I am in Christ is who I really am.

In Christ, I am a new creation. All old things have gone. I am new on the inside (2 Corinthians 5:17). My old life has ended, and my new life is held secure in Christ. This new life that I live comes from Christ Himself (Colossians 3:3). The new creation that I am is created in God’s image and is full of God’s character, righteousness, and holiness. I live as a new creation in Christ (Ephesians 4:24).

In Christ, I am a child of God, an heir of God, and a joint heir with Jesus Christ. I am part of God’s family and God’s Kingdom (Romans 8:17). In Christ, the Father loves me the same way that He loves His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. I rest assured of this love (John 16:27; John 17:23). Nothing can separate me from the love of God in Christ. I am more than a conqueror in every situation because of His love for me (Romans 8:37,39). In Christ, I am sealed by the Holy Spirit. God has His mark of ownership on me (Ephesians 1:13,14). In Christ, I am part of God’s holy temple, a dwelling place of God by His Spirit. God dwells in me and manifests Himself through me (Ephesians 2:21,22).

I have been justified, acquitted, made right in the eyes of God, and I have peace with God through Jesus Christ. I am in right standing with God in Christ (Romans 5:1,2). There is no condemnation against me in Christ. I relate to God freely, with confidence, without any sense of shame, guilt, or condemnation (Romans 8:1). In Christ, I have been made the righteousness of God. This gives me boldness and access with confidence into His presence (2 Corinthians 5:21). God chose me in Christ, and I am holy and without fault before His eyes, covered by His love (Ephesians 1:4). In Christ, I have been brought near to God, and I have direct access by the Spirit to the Father Himself (Ephesians 2:13,18).

The old sinful nature was crucified with Christ, the power of sin over my life has been broken, and I am free from bondage to sin. Sin no longer has dominion over me (Romans 6:6,14). In Christ, I have been delivered from the powers of darkness and have been transferred into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. Satan has no place in me, no claim over me, and no right over me. I am God's property—spirit, soul, and body (Colossians 1:13,14; 1 Corinthians 6:20). I have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ. I am God's purchased possession. My entire being belongs to God (Ephesians 1:7). In Christ, I have been set free from the power of sin. I died with Christ and have been raised with Christ. The power of the old life has been broken (Colossians 2:11,12).

I am spiritually united with Jesus. He is the Vine and I am a branch connected to Him. He is in me and I am in Him. His life flows through me and is expressed through me. I manifest the character and power of His life flowing in me. I bear much fruit for His glory (1 Corinthians 6:17; John 15:1-7). I am complete in Him and filled with all the fullness of God. He saturates me with Himself (Colossians 2:9,10). I am in Jesus and I walk as

Jesus walked. I walk in His love, His grace, and in His power (1 John 2:6). I confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and I dwell in God and God dwells in me. I live my life out of union with Him (1 John 4:15).

The Lord Jesus Himself is my wisdom. In Him, I am put in right standing with God. I have become holy and set apart to God and have been set free (1 Corinthians 1:30). In Christ, I am His handiwork, and He has created me for good works that He planned for me to do (Ephesians 2:10).

I have received God's abundant grace and the gift of righteousness, and I rule in life. I have dominion in life through Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17). God always causes me to triumph in Christ in every situation and in every circumstance. No matter how things look like at present, I am coming out victorious in Jesus (2 Corinthians 2:14). I, who am born of God, I overcome and have victory over the world, over the works of darkness, and over the evil that is in the world. In Christ, I am an overcomer (1 John 5:4). God has raised me up and has made me to sit at His right hand in the heavenly realms in Christ. I am seated in a place of authority over all the powers of darkness, over satan, and all demons (Ephesians 2:4-6).

I am blessed with every blessing from heaven in Christ. All of God's blessings are mine. By faith, I receive them and walk in them (Ephesians 1:3). In Christ, I inherit Abraham's blessings. I have been made righteous. I am a friend of God. I am blessed in all things. I am blessed to be a blessing to the nations. I have victory over my enemies (Galatians 3:29). All the promises of God in Him are yes and amen. I receive the fulfillment of His promises for my life (2 Corinthians 1:20).

Who I am in Christ is who I really am!

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INTRODUCTION

As I look back on my own personal spiritual journey in Jesus, one of the disciplines or practices that has helped keep me strong is that of speaking my faith. I remember from my early teenage years as part of my daily time with God, setting aside about 30 minutes or more, just declaring God's word over my life, my present, and my future. I would go from A to Z, speaking God's Word over different areas of my life and declaring who I am in Christ. This nurtured my faith daily. It then became a natural response in almost every situation to think in these terms, to say what God says, and speak my faith. Doing this has helped me rise up in the middle of every circumstance and come through to victory. This is how I would like to live till the very end—speaking my faith in His powerful, unfailing Word. This book is designed to pass on to you something that has enriched me immensely—the simple practice of speaking your faith in God and His Word always. **Make this your way of life.**

God designed all of creation. He established laws that govern the worlds that He created. We understand laws in the natural, physical realm. We have quantified many of these laws in physics, chemistry, and other fields, and we leverage them to our benefit and are careful not to violate these laws knowing that outcomes could be disastrous. In a similar way, there are spiritual laws that govern our interaction with the spiritual and natural realms. Since the natural came out of the spiritual, these spiritual laws affect our natural realm as well. Some of these spiritual laws are revealed to us in God's Word so that we can understand and live by them.

Among many spiritual laws or spiritual truths revealed in Scripture, we learn of the power of God's Word, the power of our spoken words, the power of God's Word spoken by us in faith, and the power of words spoken as inspired by the Holy Spirit (prophetic words). There is inherent power in God's Word. The Bible is God's Word given to us in the written form so that we could receive it. There is power in the words of our mouth that affect our lives individually. There is power in words spoken out of faith in God and His Word. Our faith is in God and His Word. Words spoken in faith, birthed out of God's Word in our hearts, move mountains, calm storms, and release the supernatural in our realm. There is also power in speaking words that come by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit inspires and instructs us to speak His purposes into our realm. When we do His bidding, powerful things happen in the natural realm. All of these have to do with our words, the words we speak.

Throughout Scripture, God instructs His people to speak His Word. His Word spoken as words out of our mouths and with faith in our hearts causes His creative, miracle-working power to be released in our natural realm. His Word spoken as words out of our mouths becomes our weapon against the enemy.

We can shape our world through speaking God's Word over our present and our future. We must learn to speak faith-filled words, always and in all situations. To speak in faith is not to deny the existence of a mountain or the fierceness of a prevailing storm. Rather, faith speaks to the mountain denying its right to continue standing in the way. Faith speaks to the winds and the storms depriving them of their right to wreak havoc and instead, give way to the peace and calm that God releases. Faith speaks to sickness commanding it to leave and give way to healing and wholeness that comes from God.

Many people struggle with low self-esteem, lack of confidence, fear, apprehensiveness, anxiety, depression, and a host of other emotional problems and bondages. The practice of speaking God's Word over our lives intentionally and in every situation is a key to total freedom and wholeness emotionally. Practice it. It's free! All it requires is some faith and discipline. You will never be the same again!

We have attempted to capture many of the key Scriptures that give us insight on the importance of our words, the power of speaking God's Word, the power of speaking faith-filled words, and the power of speaking words inspired by the Spirit. (There may be other Scripture passages that you may wish to add to this list. Please do so.) These are compiled in short, easy-to-digest chapters. Use this book like a **daily devotional** for your personal time, during your family prayer, or in your small group. Read it frequently to remind yourself of the power of speaking God's Word in faith over your present and your future. Let the power of God's Word shape your world as you speak your faith.

God bless!

Ashish Raichur

1

WORDS ARE IMPORTANT IN BOTH REALMS

Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

²The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

⁴And God saw the light, that *it was* good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

God is the grand Designer, Architect, and Creator of all things. We are still discovering and trying to understand many things in the vast expanse of creation. God is Infinite, and His creation in many ways declares His infiniteness. God could have gone about the creative process in many ways. Perhaps He could have just had thoughts and let His thoughts take shape in the material realm. Perhaps He could have put the host of angels to work to shape, form, and distribute the natural realm according to His blueprint. However, God used words to bring things into being. The Bible reveals to us that God created by His Words. “*God said ... and there was...*”

His words carried His design and His creative power to bring into existence what He had in mind. We see this truth repeated to us in Scripture. God works through His words. He speaks, and what He speaks is done. Everything in the natural realm is therefore subject to His Word and will respond to His Words.

God is Spirit and He used words to bring the natural realm into existence. So, words connect these two realms. The natural realm responds to words from the spirit realm.

As human beings, the Bible teaches us that we are created in the image of God. We are spirit beings with a soul (mind, will, emotions) housed in a body (1 Thessalonians 5:23). Our words also connect two realms, the spiritual and natural realms. Our words connect us with God (or some others, for example, sorcerers use their words to connect with evil powers). Our words also affect our natural world. And when God speaks His Words through us, then His power is released through us affecting our world!

2

DOMINION IS EXERCISED THROUGH WORDS

Genesis 1:26-28

²⁶ Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Genesis 2:19,20

¹⁹ Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name.

²⁰ So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

God created man and woman and gave them a commission, which we read in the first two chapters of Genesis and we refer to it as the Genesis Commission. Part of the Genesis Commission was for people to have dominion over all creatures on the earth. To have dominion means to rule over. It is interesting that God brought each of these creatures to Adam to have him give them their name. One of the outcomes of such an action was that

every living creature understood who was in charge. God had put Adam in charge of the earth. Every creature on earth was therefore under Adam's dominion, no questions asked! Adam's dominion or rule came from God Himself. As Adam called and assigned each living creature a name, he was, through words, expressing and exercising his God-given dominion and rulership on the earth. God was backing him up in this process.

God has not withdrawn the Genesis Commission. We have been designed and commissioned by God to have dominion. Dominion is expressed and exercised through words. Let your words express your God-given dominion over things in this realm.

3

CALL YOURSELF ACCORDING TO HIS WORD

Genesis 17:4,5,15,16

⁴“As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.

⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations.

¹⁵ Then God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah *shall be* her name.

¹⁶ And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be *a mother of nations*; kings of peoples shall be from her.”

Abraham is referred to in the New Testament as the father of faith. It is interesting to note that God in His dealings with Abram and Sarai, found it necessary to instruct them to change their names so that they can start calling themselves according to what He had promised for their lives.

Abram meant “exalted father,” while Abraham meant “father of a multitude.”

Sarai meant “princely or dominative,” while Sarah meant “queen or mother of princes.”

Each time Abraham called himself by that name, he was declaring God’s promise over his life. He was saying, “I am a father of many nations” as God has spoken concerning me. Each time Sarah called herself by that name, she was declaring God’s promise over her life. She was stating, “I am a mother of nations,

of kings, of princes” as God has spoken concerning me. They did not have a child yet. But they were declaring as true what God had spoken. It may have seemed foolish and ridiculous in the beginning when they began calling themselves according to God’s promise. But the promise was fulfilled, and they became according to what God had spoken!

Were they doing something wrong in calling themselves according to the promise of God? Absolutely not! God instructed them to do so. Paul explains this further in Romans 4, which we will consider later. We are told to follow the steps of Abraham’s faith.

We have God’s written Word where God has declared promises for His people and for all who are in Jesus Christ. These promises are available for all of God’s people. He has qualified us to partake of the inheritance that He has for His people (Colossians 1:12). Declare the truth of God’s promises in your life. Call yourself according to God’s Word. You are who God says you are. You can do what God says you can do. You will become everything that He has promised.

4

YOUR WORDS RELEASE BLESSING

Numbers 6:22-27

²² **And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:**

²³ **“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:**

²⁴ **“The LORD bless you and keep you;**

²⁵ **The LORD make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;**

²⁶ **The LORD lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”** ’

²⁷ **“So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.”**

Words are vehicles to transmit blessing. God instituted this. We see in this instance, God giving clear instructions on how the high priest was to bless God’s people, putting God’s name over them so that God will bless His people. The high priest would “say to them,” speak over them and declare words of blessing over them in the name of the Lord.

This is the way God’s people of the old Covenant released blessing. Isaac blessed Jacob as he spoke words of blessing over him (Genesis 27:27-29). It was by speaking words that Jacob blessed his sons (Genesis 48,49).

As priests in the New Covenant, we also have the opportunity to release blessing over our own lives, over the lives of our families, and others by speaking words of blessing in the name of the Lord. What kinds of words are you speaking over yourself, your present, and your future? What kinds of words are you speaking over your family and their future? Your words of blessing can release the blessing of the Lord over them.

5

GOD'S WORD IS YOUR REPORT WRITTEN IN ADVANCE, SPEAK IT!

Numbers 13:30-33

³⁰ Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it."

³¹ But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they *are* stronger than we."

³² And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies *is* a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it *are* men of *great* stature.

³³ There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."

Numbers 14:11

Then the LORD said to Moses: "How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them?"

We are familiar with the incident of the twelve spies, two of whom were Joshua and Caleb. Joshua and Caleb saw the same giants, but made their final assessment based on who God is and what God had promised them. Caleb said, "*we are well able to overcome*". 45 years later, this same Caleb said, "*give me this mountain ... I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said*" (Joshua 14:12). He held on to God's promise and never changed what he said even after 45 years!

God's Word is the result, the report, the outcome written in advance. Speak according to God's Word. Yes, of course, we will have giants to face, and these giants will appear intimidating. There will be battles to fight. The road to possess what God wants us to have is not devoid of giants and battles. But in the face of giants and in the midst of battles, declare who God is and what God has promised you. Declare that you can overcome because whoever is born of God overcomes the world (1 John 5:4). Declare that God always causes you to triumph (2 Corinthians 2:14). Declare that God brings you out of the miry pit, sets your feet upon a rock, and puts a new song in your mouth (Psalm 40:1-4). Declare that your help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He who keeps you will never slumber nor sleep (Psalm 121). Declare who your God is and what He has promised you. This is your outcome written in advance.

6

THE WORD IS NEAR YOU—SPEAK HIS WORD

Deuteronomy 30:11-14

¹¹ “For this commandment which I command you today *is not too* mysterious for you, nor *is* it far off.

¹² *It is not* in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’

¹³ Nor *is* it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’

¹⁴ But the word *is* very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.

God wanted His people to keep His Word in their mouth and in their heart. He desired for them to have His Word in their mouth and their heart so that they would do it and live by it. God’s Word must take up residence in our hearts and in our mouths. His Word must fill our hearts. Faith is birthed in our hearts by His Word. We believe His Word in our hearts. His Word must also be in our mouths. We say it. We speak it. We let the words of His mouth be the words of our mouth. His Word is not mysterious or beyond our reach. His Word is in us—in our hearts and in our mouths. As we live this way, His Word becomes our lifestyle. We live according to His Word.

This is God’s way of having His Word abide in us and becoming fleshed out in us. He gave us this method. He said that He has made His Word available to us. As we keep His Word in our mouths (part of our speech) and our hearts (part of thinking and believing), His Word will become part of our daily living.

7

KEEP HIS WORDS IN YOUR MOUTH

Joshua 1:8

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Joshua had the enormous task of leading God's people into the Promised Land. He had to step into Moses' shoes and lead God's people forward. One of the instructions that God gave him was to keep the words of the Book always part of his speaking and thinking (meditating). In essence, God instructed Joshua saying, *"Let the words of the Law always be in your mouth. Speak the Word. Keep meditating on the Word. This way you will carefully do what the Word says. This will bring you prosperity and good success."*

Times have changed, but God's Word and the power in His Word have not diminished. What God's Word did for Joshua in his day, in his time, and for his life assignment, God's Word can do in our day, time, and for the assignments each of us have. If we will allow the words of God's Book to always be in our mouth and fill our thinking (meditating) day and night, we will then walk according to His Word. We will thereby, make our way prosperous and we will have good success in what we have been assigned to do.

Apply the Joshua 1:8 principle to your life. Let the words of His Book be the words of your mouth. Say what God says. Meditate and think aligned to His Word. Live aligned to His Word. You will have prosperity and good success in your assignments.

8

HIS PROMISES ENDURE—AND SO DOES OUR DECLARATION

Joshua 14:10-12

¹⁰ And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old.

¹¹ As yet I *am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.*

¹² Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim *were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said.*”

45 years later, Caleb, at age 85, was still fired up with passion and zeal to go possess what God had promised would be his. There were still some giants to fight and conquer, but he was ready. He still declared his confidence in his God the same way he did 45 years before.

How long are you going to declare God’s Word as true in your life? The fact is that God is not a man to lie. His Word is truth. His Word endures. His Word never changes. What God has promised and declared about you in His Word is true. It is established and forever settled in heaven. Our God is the great I AM. He never changes. So, we do not change what we say about our God and what He has promised. We continue to say who our God is. He is still our Savior, Healer, Redeemer, Deliverer, Provider, Way-Maker, Miracle-Worker. He is still our Heavenly

Father. We declare that what He has promised to us in every area of life is good and true. It will remain good and true through time, through all seasons of life. So, we hold on to what He has promised.

As with Caleb, it may take a while before you can set foot (possess) on what God has promised. Remember, His promises endure. They don't change with time. Maintain your declaration of His promises.

9

DECLARE YOUR COVENANT WITH GOD

1 Samuel 17:26,36,45

²⁶Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, “What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who *is* this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?”

³⁶Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.”

⁴⁵ Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

As David prepared to take on Goliath, there was one important truth that David knew. David was circumcised, that is, he was a man who had a covenant with God. He referred to Goliath as “*this uncircumcised Philistine*,” that is, a man without a covenant with God. Because David was in covenant with God, He knew that the living God was on his side. The Lord of Hosts, the God of the heavenly and earthly armies, was with David. This made all the difference.

When David ran to meet Goliath, he did so based on his covenant with God. David boldly declared who God is, what God has done, and what God will do through him. David could speak boldly because he was a man in covenant with God.

What are the giants you are facing? There is no giant too big for God. The well-trained soldiers in Saul’s army were comparing the giant to themselves. So, they were terrified.

DECLARE YOUR COVENANT WITH GOD

They did not venture out into combat. But David looked at the giant and realized the giant was no match for the Lord of hosts. Whatever giants you are facing—sickness, financial problems, debt, problems in your family, problems at the workplace, legal battles, whatever—remember, your giants are no match for God. You are a person in covenant with God. God is on your side. Declare that you will conquer your giants. Declare that your giants are defeated, and you are victorious. Declare victory in the name of Jesus Christ. God is on your side and He fights for you.

10

SPEAK WORDS THAT ARE ACCEPTABLE BEFORE GOD

Psalm 19:14

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
Be acceptable in Your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.**

In Psalm 19, after declaring the greatness of God and the purity of His Word, David prays that the words of his mouth would be acceptable in God's eyes. The word "acceptable" in Hebrew also means "to be pleasing, delightful, favorable."

We can choose the words that we speak. We can choose to speak words that are acceptable, pleasing, and delightful in the eyes of God. When our words are aligned to the Word of God, which is pure, perfect, and right, then our words will surely be acceptable, pleasing, and delightful in God's eyes. When we speak words that declare His glory, then our words are pleasing in His sight. When we speak of what our God can do, our words are delightful in His eyes. When we talk about the wondrous nature of our God, His love, His mercies, His compassions, then our words are acceptable in His eyes.

Hebrews 11:6 teaches us that faith pleases God. Speak words of faith. Speak words that declare your faith in who God is and what He does for His people. Speak words that declare your faith in God, His Word, and His power at work in your life. Faith pleases God. Words of faith are acceptable, pleasing, and delightful to God.

In every situation, speak words that are acceptable, pleasing, and delightful in the eyes of God. Speak words of faith from a heart of faith.

11

DECLARE WHO GOD IS TO YOU IN EVERY SITUATION

Psalm 27:1-3

**¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?**

**The LORD is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?**

**²When the wicked came against me
To eat up my flesh,
My enemies and foes,
They stumbled and fell.**

**³Though an army may encamp against me,
My heart shall not fear;
Though war may rise against me,
In this I will be confident.**

Consider what David is stating during difficult situations. He recognizes that there are enemies and foes. However, he declares who God is to him—the Lord, my light, my salvation, the strength of my life! And because of who God is to him, David can make bold statements, “*Whom shall I fear?*”, “*Of whom shall I be afraid?*”, “*My heart shall not fear*”, “*I will be confident.*” He declares and announces the defeat of his enemies because of God being with him.

Would it be right to follow David’s example? Of course. In every situation, we should stand boldly in who God is to us. We too can declare, “*The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*” During adversity, we can declare that God

is our Deliverer. In the midst of sickness, we can declare that God is our Healer. In the midst of need, we can declare that God is our Provider. In the midst of hopeless situations, we can declare that God turns our mourning into dancing. We can declare that though weeping may endure for a night, joy comes in the morning.

We are not denying the problems that we face. We are not denying that there are enemies and foes. But we are declaring who God is, what we have in Him, and the confidence that we have because of Him in spite of what we are facing. In every situation, declare who God is to you. In every situation, declare what you have in Him. In every situation, declare your boldness, confidence, joy, triumph, and victory because of Him. David did so. You can too!

12

THE NATURAL WORLD RESPONDS TO THE VOICE OF THE LORD

Psalm 29:3-9

³The voice of the LORD *is* over the waters;

The God of glory thunders;

The LORD *is* over many waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD *is* powerful;

The voice of the LORD *is* full of majesty.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars,

Yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶He makes them also skip like a calf,

Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire.

⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;

The LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth,

And strips the forests bare;

And in His temple everyone says, “Glory!”

In declaring the greatness of God, in this Psalm, David proceeds to declare the greatness and power of the voice of the Lord. The voice of the Lord is released through the word of the Lord. God releases His voice through the words that He speaks. This passage reveals to us once again that everything in this natural world responds to the voice of the Lord, that is, to the Word of the Lord. God’s Word (voice) moving over the waters is God moving over the waters. The Word (voice) of the Lord is an expression of His power and majesty. All of creation, animate and inanimate, respond to the Word (voice) of the Lord.

There are times in Scripture, as the Holy Spirit moved over people, the voice of the Lord was released through the voice of humans. The Word (voice) of the Lord came through them as they spoke moved by the Holy Spirit. It was said of them that the Word (voice) of the Lord was with them. When the voice (word) of the Lord was released through the voice (word) of human beings under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, amazing things happened. Water flowed from a rock, seas and rivers parted, the sun stood still, the sun turned ten degrees backward, oil and flour multiplied, an axe head floated on water, and much more.

As believers, we have the privilege of speaking the Word of the Lord by faith. We take what God has already spoken, believe that word, and speak it forth today. There are also times when the Spirit of God moves on us, as in times past, so that we speak a word that He inspires us to speak. As we speak that word, the voice (word) of the Lord is being released through our voice (words). The natural world responds to the voice of the Lord. Learn to do both. Speak the Word of God with faith in your heart. Speak the voice of the Lord as the Holy Spirit inspires.

13

THE NATURAL WORLD WAS SHAPED AND FORMED BY HIS WORD

Psalm 33:6,9

**⁶By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.**

**⁹For He spoke, and it was *done*;
He commanded, and it stood fast.**

One of the truths presented to us throughout Scripture is that God created everything by His Word. He spoke. He commanded. He released the breath of His mouth. He released words. He spoke the natural visible realm into existence. This is important for us to understand.

Everything in the natural, visible, and material realm is subservient to the Word of God.

The Word of God still creates. The Word of God can bring into being in our “world” (our life, our realm of daily living) what is not there. We can have what God has promised if we will learn how to release the power of God’s Word into our world.

The Word of God changes and transforms. The Word of God can change and transform things in our world (our life, our realm of daily living), and bring them into alignment to what God has promised for us. But we must learn to release the power of God’s Word into our world.

One of the keys that God has placed throughout Scripture that causes the power of His Word to be released into our

world is for us to speak His Word by faith. When we believe His Word and speak His Word into our world—our situations, our circumstances, over our minds, bodies, finances, family, workplaces, etc.—the power of His Word is released into our world. Everything in our world is subject to His Word and will be brought into conformity to His Word. Let your world be shaped and formed by His Word.

14

YOUR TONGUE CAN BRING YOU GOOD DAYS AND A LONG LIFE

Psalm 34:12-14

¹² Who is the man *who* desires life,
And loves *many* days, that he may see good?
¹³ Keep your tongue from evil,
And your lips from speaking deceit.
¹⁴ Depart from evil and do good;
Seek peace and pursue it.

The Scriptures teach us here that our words affect the length and the quality of our lives. To enjoy a good and long life, the first thing David points out in this passage is to keep ourselves from speaking evil, corrupt, profane, and cruel things. Avoid speaking lies and deceit. Tame the tongue. Speak the right words. Speak words of truth. Speak words of life. That's the first thing. And stay away from doing evil. Instead, do good and pursue peace.

Our words affect our world. They can cause good, life, and blessing or they can cause evil, death, and cursing. Our words seem so insignificant and yet, in many ways, they are the building blocks of our life experience. They are like seeds that we sow that one day will produce in our lives after their own kind. God designed our words to have an important role in our lives. Don't take your words lightly. Treat them with care. Choose your words carefully because your life will be shaped by those words.

How powerful would our words be if we spoke the very Word of God! How blessed would our lives be if the very Word of God is what we spoke and declared over our lives! Let words

birthed out of God's own Word become the building blocks out of which our lives are built. Let words birthed out of God's own Word become the seeds that are sown into our lives, out of which fruit is borne for us in the days to come. Let your tongue bring you good days and a long life. Speak His Word.

15

DECLARING HIS WORD IS CLAIMING HIS COVENANT

Psalm 50:14-17

¹⁴ Offer to God thanksgiving,

And pay your vows to the Most High.

¹⁵ Call upon Me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

¹⁶ But to the wicked God says:

“What *right* have you to declare My statutes,

Or take My covenant in your mouth,

¹⁷ Seeing you hate instruction

And cast My words behind you?

Speaking God’s Word with your mouth is taking His covenant in your mouth, that is, invoking and claiming His covenant or promises. God rebukes the ungodly because they despise His Word. They do not honor God’s Word. They cast aside His Word as worthless. Hence, these people who disregard God’s Word have no right to speak His Word with their mouths and try to claim the benefits of His covenant.

However, for those of us who believe and honor His Word, when we declare His Word, God sees it as us claiming the covenant that we have with Him. When we take His covenant in our mouths by declaring His Word, we are claiming the benefits of God’s covenant with us.

God is Jehovah, the eternal, self-existent, immutable God who keeps covenant and fulfills promises. He will never break His covenant or alter the words that He has spoken. We are

in a blood covenant with the Almighty God through His Son Jesus Christ. Through His blood covenant with us, He has made all of Himself, all who He is, available to us. We understand some of this through His covenant names. Know your covenant blessings. In any situation, declare His Word. Claim and walk in your covenant blessings.

16

I WILL SAY OF THE LORD

Psalm 91:1,2

**¹ He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.**

**² I will say of the LORD, “*He is my refuge and my fortress;*
My God, in Him I will trust.”**

What will you say of the LORD? The psalmist said of the Lord that God was his refuge and fortress. He was placing his trust, reliance, confidence, and dependence on the Lord to protect him.

What will you say of the LORD?

- I will say of the LORD. He is my Savior. He has saved me from all my sins. He has broken sin’s power over my life. I am free from the dominion of sin.
- I will say of the LORD. He is my heavenly Father. He cares for me as His own. His love never runs out and never fails. I am accepted as His own.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Healer and my Deliverer. He heals me of all my diseases. He delivers me of all my afflictions and adversities.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Redeemer. He has delivered me from the powers of darkness and transferred me into His own Kingdom. I am redeemed by the blood of His Son Jesus Christ!
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Righteousness. I stand clothed with His righteousness without any sense of guilt, shame,

inferiority, or condemnation. I am holy and without blame before Him.

- I will say of the LORD, He is my Provider. He meets all my needs according to His riches. He withholds no good thing from me and makes all grace abound to me.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Sanctifier who has set me apart for Himself. I am holy even as He is holy. He has purified me unto Himself to be part of His own special people.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Shepherd who leads me, provides for me, protects me, guides me, and restores me. He prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies!
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Counselor who guides me and directs my steps. My steps are ordered by the LORD and even if I fall, He holds me up.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Helper. My help comes from the Maker of heaven and earth. He never lets me down.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Righteous Judge and my Vindicator. I rest my matters before Him. I repay no one evil for evil. I overcome evil with good. My God vindicates me.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Banner, the One in whose name I have victory. He always causes me to triumph in all situations. Through Him, I do valiantly because He grants me the victory.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Peace. He fills my life with perfect peace, perfect *shalom*, total well-being.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Protector. No evil shall befall me. He who watches over me never sleeps. His angels are on assignment taking care of me.
- I will say of the LORD, He is my Strengthener. He is the strength of my life. As I wait on Him, He empowers me to rise up with wings as an eagle.

- I will say of the LORD, He is my Rewarder. My God does not forget my labor of love done in His name. He is the One who rewards me, gives me increase, and causes me to bear fruit.

Go on and add to this. What will you say of the LORD?

17

ANGELS LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF HIS WORD

Psalm 103:20,21

**²⁰ Bless the LORD, you His angels,
Who excel in strength, who do His word,
Heeding the voice of His word.**

**²¹ Bless the LORD, all *you* His hosts,
You ministers of His, who do His pleasure.**

The angels of God are strong and mighty. They do His Word. They are attentive to the voice of His Word and carry out what God's Word declares.

We are making an inference here, which although cannot be proved conclusively from these two verses, holds good with the essence of what we know about angels and their activity in Scripture. As we speak the Word declaring what God has said is ours, angels hear the voice of His Word which we declare, and therefore, carry out their ministry to us, the heirs of salvation, in accordance with the Word of God. This is just an inference that we are making, but a valid one.

Angels are sent to minister to us who are the heirs of salvation (Hebrews 1:14). They administer to us what God has declared for us, His saints. Angels do what God wants done for us, His people. We can also infer, as seen in Daniel's experience (Daniel 10) and that of the Early Church (Acts 12:5-7), that there are spiritual activities that we engage in that welcome angels to work on our behalf. Prayer is one such thing. It would also be safe to say that our worship, our giving, our obedience to God also

moves angels to work on our behalf. Since we know angels pay attention to God's Word and carry out His Word, it is therefore safe to conclude that when we declare our faith in God's Word and God's promises, this would also move angels into working on our behalf. Angels will not engage in anything that is contrary to the Word. So, when we speak contrary to God's Word, angels will not move based on those words.

Let angels know that you are standing in expectation of God's Word being fulfilled in your life. Speak the Word. In any situation, intentionally declare His Word. In a situation of need, declare, "My God supplies all my needs according to His riches in glory through Jesus Christ." In a situation of confusion, declare, "I command perfect peace, good understanding, and cooperation to come into this situation. My God is the Author of peace and not of confusion." Let angels hear the voice of His Word coming forth through your voice and move into action on that Word.

18

LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD SAY SO

Psalm 107:2

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,

We are the redeemed of the Lord, and we must say so!

A prisoner after having been released from prison does not walk around calling himself a prisoner. He announces boldly and proudly that he is a free man! He was a prisoner. That is in the past. Who he is now is what matters the most! He is a free man. He can exercise the full rights of his freedom.

As believers, we have been delivered from the powers of darkness and have been translated into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. We are qualified to partake of the inheritance that God has given to His people, the saints. We have been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:12-14). To redeem means to “buy back,” release from captivity, and restore to the original state of glory. We are the redeemed of the Lord. Satan has no more claim over us, no dominion over us, no authority over us. We are God’s purchased possession (1 Corinthians 6:20).

- I am the redeemed of the Lord and I say so!
- I am redeemed from the power of satan and all his demons (Colossians 1:13). The powers of darkness have no claim over me and no authority over me.

- I am redeemed from the power of sin (Romans 6:6,14). Sin will not have dominion over me.
- I am redeemed from the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13). I now walk under the blessings of Abraham.
- I am redeemed from this present evil world (Galatians 1:4). The ways, influences, and evil of this present age have no power over me.
- I am redeemed from every sinful deed (Titus 2:14). Sinful lifestyle patterns of the past have no power over me. I am purified to be His and for good works.
- I am redeemed from aimless and sinful lifestyle patterns of the previous generations (1 Peter 1:18,19). I am a new creation and walk in a new life.
- I am redeemed and I overcome the enemy because of the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 12:11). Satan and his demons lay crushed underneath my feet (Luke 10:19; Romans 16:20).
- I am the redeemed of the Lord and I say so!

19

MAINTAIN THE VOICE OF REJOICING AND SALVATION

Psalm 118:15-17

¹⁵ The voice of rejoicing and salvation

Is in the tents of the righteous;

The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

¹⁶ The right hand of the LORD is exalted;

The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

¹⁷ I shall not die, but live,

And declare the works of the LORD.

The homes of the righteous have the voice of rejoicing and salvation. The word “salvation” in Hebrew is the word ‘*yeshuah*’ a comprehensive word (like the Greek ‘*sozo*’) and includes salvation, safety, deliverance, victory, prosperity, health, help, welfare, well-being, and wholeness.

The challenges of this world try to come in one way or another into every home. The homes of the righteous face challenges and the storms of life. However, the “*right hand of the LORD*” does valiantly for the righteous. The “*right hand of the LORD*” is the power of God that is always triumphant and more powerful than any other. Therefore, the righteous have shouts of rejoicing, victory, celebration, and salvation in their homes. Therefore, we can say, “*I will not die, but live, and will declare the works of the LORD.*”

What do we do when we are going through some challenges? Do we change our voice? No! We maintain the voice of rejoicing and salvation in our homes. We keep declaring that our God is

mighty. We maintain the voice of salvation because our God saves us, keeps us, preserves us, heals us, delivers us, prospers us, and gives us victory! The right hand of the Lord is always powerful and victorious in all seasons. Let the voice of rejoicing and salvation be heard in your home. Maintain the voice of rejoicing and salvation through every season.

20

OUT OF YOUR HEART COME THE FORCES THAT SHAPE YOUR LIFE

Proverbs 4:20-23

²⁰ My son, give attention to my words;

Incline your ear to my sayings.

²¹ Do not let them depart from your eyes;

Keep them in the midst of your heart;

²² For they *are* life to those who find them,

And health to all their flesh.

²³ Keep your heart with all diligence,

For out of it *spring* the issues of life.

The instruction here is to fill our hearts with God's Word. We pay close attention to His Word, lean in, and listen to His Word, and keep our focus on His Word so that His Word can be in our innermost being. His Word then blesses us with life, health, and wholeness. He instructs us to guard our hearts. We must not permit anything that is contrary to the Word to get into our hearts. We must protect our hearts, and in effect, protect the Word that we have deposited in there.

The heart, our inner person, is so important. Out of our hearts come the forces that shape our lives. One of the ways by which what is in our hearts is released into our lives is through the words that we speak. The forces that shape our lives, coming from our inner person, are released through the words that we speak.

If our hearts are full of His Word, then the words that we speak are aligned to His Word. We speak His Word. The forces

that shape our lives come from His Word. The very power of God's Word is then released to work in our lives and affect every area of our lives, our present and our future.

Fill your heart with God's Word. Speak His Word. Let the forces that shape your life emanate from the Word of God in you.

21

RIGHTEOUS WORDS RELEASE LIFE AND STRENGTH

Proverbs 10:11,20,21,31,32

¹¹ **The mouth of the righteous *is* a well of life,
But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.**

²⁰ **The tongue of the righteous *is* choice silver;
The heart of the wicked *is* worth little.**

²¹ **The lips of the righteous feed many,
But fools die for lack of wisdom.**

³¹ **The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom,
But the perverse tongue will be cut out.**

³² **The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable,
But the mouth of the wicked *what is* perverse.**

We see in these verses a contrast between the words of the righteous and those of the wicked. The words of the righteous are a “well of life.” They administer life, wholeness, well-being, and everything we know that is associated with “life.” The words of the righteous are like “choice silver,” meaning “very pure, valuable, and precious.” The words of the righteous “*feed many*.” They administer nourishment, strength, life, help, and blessing to many people. Two additional things characterize the words of the righteous—wisdom and what is acceptable (delightful).

Words can minister life and blessing to others. The words that we release can be a well of life to some. Our words can be the choice silver someone is seeking and can be the source of nourishment and strength to others.

One definite way to make sure your words are right (righteous words) is to speak in alignment with God's Word. If we do so, our words will be words of wisdom and words that bring joy, freedom, and release to people. Choose to speak righteous words. Speak aligned to the Word of God.

22

WORDS CAN HEAL AND MAKE WHOLE

Proverbs 12:18

**There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword,
But the tongue of the wise *promotes* health.**

Proverbs 15:4

**A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life,
But perverseness in it breaks the spirit.**

In Proverbs 12:18, we learn that the tongue of the wise promotes health. The word “health” in Hebrew ‘*marpe*’ means “a cure, medicine, remedy, healing, deliverance, soundness of mind, wholeness.” Words, if used correctly and with wisdom, can heal and bring wholeness to both yourself and to those who hear you.

The same word ‘*marpe*’ is once again used in Proverbs 15:4 where it is translated “wholesome.” A tongue that speaks wholesome words—literally, words of healing and deliverance—is a tree of life. Over in Revelation 22:1,2, we read about the tree of life—“*And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*” The leaves of the tree of life brought healing. When we speak words of healing, wholeness, deliverance, and soundness, we can administer healing both to ourselves and to those whom we speak with.

Words can heal and make whole. God says that His Word is life (freshness, strength) and health (*'marpe'*) to our whole body (Proverbs 4:22). When people cried out to Him, God sent His Word and healed (*'rapha'* cure, make whole) them (Psalm 107:20). The Word of God has power to heal and make the entire person whole. So, speak the Word of God and let the healing power of His Word be released through the words of your mouth. Let words that promote healing, that are good medicine, that are like the tree of life be released through your mouth. Use your words, by speaking God's healing Word, to promote health and wholeness both for yourself and for those around you.

23

RELEASE THE POWER OF PLEASANT WORDS

Proverbs 16:21,24

**²¹ The wise in heart will be called prudent,
And sweetness of the lips increases learning.**

**²⁴ Pleasant words *are like* a honeycomb,
Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.**

We can choose the words we speak at any given situation. Words that are kind, gentle, pleasant, enriching, uplifting, and positive have a powerful impact. Words spoken gently and kindly increase learning. They make people more receptive to instruction, are more convincing and persuasive. Kind, pleasant, and enriching words bring strength to the inner person and health to the very core of one's being. We are not talking about flattery, which are words that are insincere and meant to make one feel good with nothing genuine behind those words. We are referring to speaking genuine and truthful words spoken with care, kindness, and gentleness.

When we include God's powerful Word as part of our speech, we can minister faith, hope, strength, courage, healing, wisdom, and counsel through our words. Speak with sweetness. Speak with pleasantness. Speak words that build people up. Speak words that enrich and heal people. Minister God to people as you speak of Him, what He can do, and what He has promised. Release the power of pleasant words.

24

YOUR LIFE GETS FILLED WITH THE FRUIT OF YOUR WORDS

Proverbs 12:14

**A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of *his* mouth,
And the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him.**

Proverbs 18:20

**A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth;
From the produce of his lips he shall be filled.**

Our words affect our lives in every way. They affect our inner person. A man's stomach refers to his innermost being. Our inner person can be filled with good, be satisfied, be nourished, and be blessed with our words just as food would do to the stomach. Our words affect what happens to us in life. Our life gets filled up with the outcome of the words that we speak. We live with the consequences of our words, things that we have been speaking over time.

What would you like your inner person to be full of? How about being filled with confidence, courage, faith, hope, righteousness, peace, joy, quietness, wisdom, power, and all the good things that are available to us as sons and daughters of God? Definitely! Then we need to speak words that will fill us up with such virtues that come from God by the power of His Word and His Spirit. Speak God's Word. Declare what is yours in Christ. Declare that you are part of His Kingdom and therefore, you have righteousness, peace, and joy from the Holy Spirit. Declare that you have peace that Jesus gives, peace which the world cannot give, peace that is beyond understanding, and this peace

guards your heart and mind. Declare that you have power, love, and a sound mind. Declare that the Lord is your confidence. You are bold like a lion. You are strong and courageous because the Lord is with you wherever you go. Speak words that build good things into your inner person.

What would you like your life experiences to be full of? What would you like your present and your future to be full of? Speak the promises of God over your life, your present, and your future. Your life gets filled with the fruit of the words that you speak.

25

YOUR WORDS HAVE THE POWER OF LIFE AND DEATH

Proverbs 18:21

**Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue,
And those who love it will eat its fruit.**

God has placed matters of life and death in the power of the tongue, that is, in the words that we speak. Our words can bring life or death. We must be prepared to accept the consequences of our words. We will have to live with the fruit of our words.

“Death” refers to “dying physically” and is also used figuratively to refer to pestilence, disease, and ruin. Life refers to everything that has to do with being alive in a positive way and includes freshness and strength.

The words that we speak can ruin us or bless us. The words that we speak can invigorate us bringing life and strength or the words that we speak can tear our lives down, leaving us weak and bankrupt. God has designed our words to have such impact and influence over us. What you say can build you up or destroy you.

We must therefore, choose to speak words that release life and blessing over ourselves and others. There could be nothing better than to speak the Word of God itself. Speak the promises of God over your life. Speak what God has declared about you as a new creation in Christ. Speak blessing, prosperity, success, abundance, and goodness into your life according to His Word. Declare that you will be a blessing to many. Declare that you

YOUR WORDS HAVE THE POWER OF LIFE AND DEATH

are blessed to be a blessing. Declare that you will fulfill all of God's purposes and assignments for you. Declare that God will be glorified through your life. Use your words to release life and blessing over your present and your future.

26

HIS WORD IN YOUR MOUTH CAN AFFECT NATIONS

Jeremiah 1:9,10

⁹ Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me:

“Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms,

**To root out and to pull down,
To destroy and to throw down,
To build and to plant.”**

We see in these two verses, the power of the prophetic word. As Jeremiah would speak the words that God put in his mouth, over nations and kingdoms, things would be rooted out, pulled down, destroyed, and thrown down. There would be a tearing down and a collapse of things in nations and kingdoms that God wanted to be brought down as Jeremiah spoke the words that God gave him. And things would also be built up, established, raised up in nations, and kingdoms as Jeremiah spoke the prophetic word.

A prophetic word is a word released through people given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is still at work in the lives of God’s people. He still moves on us to prophesy and release inspired words, or prophetic words over nations and peoples. As God puts His words in our mouths and we speak them forth, we effect the conditions (spiritual, social, economic, etc.) that prevail over nations and kingdoms. His words released through our mouths can affect nations. God watches over His words to perform them (Jeremiah 1:12).

27

SPEAK TO THE DRY BONES THAT THEY MAY LIVE

Ezekiel 37:1-7

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it *was* full of bones.

²Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, *there were* very many in the open valley; and indeed *they were* very dry.

³And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”
So I answered, “O LORD God, You know.”

⁴Again He said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!’

⁵Thus says the LORD God to these bones: “Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live.

⁶I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD.” ’ ’

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone.

This passage reveals a part of Ezekiel’s prophetic experience. These dry bones were a picture of the nation of Israel, who were scattered from their own land and felt hopeless (Ezekiel 37:11,12). God had Ezekiel speak the prophetic word—words given by God—to these dry bones. The bones joined together, flesh was formed over them, life came into them, and they arose as a great army (Ezekiel 37:10). The destiny of an entire nation was affected through the prophetic word. The prophetic word

was a vehicle through which the power of God was released on the earth to fulfill the purposes of God.

Even today, the Holy Spirit inspires us and gives us words to speak prophetically. This could be over our own lives, over other people, over cities, regions, and nations. As we speak the words that He inspires us to speak, dry bones live! What is dead is brought back to life! People and nations arise with hope and life. Remember, as the Holy Spirit inspires you, speak to the dry bones, and they will live!

28

YOUR WORDS ARE HEARD IN HEAVEN

Daniel 10:12

Then he said to me, “Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.

The words we speak here on earth are heard in heaven. Angels are dispatched by God in response to the words that we speak.

We speak words in prayer. We speak words to exercise our faith. We speak words as we wield the sword of the Spirit in warfare against the powers of darkness. We speak words to bless people. We speak words to minister healing, deliverance, and miracles to people. We speak words to move mountains and calm storms. We speak words to bind and loose exercising our authority on the earth. Our words are heard in heaven! Angels are sent in response to our words.

What words would you speak since you know that your words are heard in heaven? In heaven, it is God’s Word that prevails. *“Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven”* (Psalm 119:89). The words we speak in prayer, in faith, in warfare, in ministry, in exercising authority—in all situations—must be words aligned to the Word of God already established in heaven. Remember, your words are heard in heaven. Always speak aligned to heaven, and heaven will move on your behalf.

29

WORDS TRANSMIT FROM THE SPIRITUAL INTO THE NATURAL

Daniel 10:17-19

¹⁷ For how can this servant of my lord talk with you, my lord? As for me, no strength remains in me now, nor is any breath left in me.”

¹⁸ Then again, *the one* having the likeness of a man touched me and strengthened me.

¹⁹ And he said, “O man greatly beloved, fear not! Peace *be* to you; be strong, yes, be strong!”

So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, “Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.”

As Daniel had this angelic visitation, he felt overwhelmed, weak, powerless, and maybe even fearful. The angel touched him and spoke words into him, “*Fear not, peace, be strong.*” And Daniel was strengthened. Words spoken by the angel to Daniel transmitted peace and strength into Daniel. Words connect the spiritual realm and the natural realm. Words transmit from the spiritual realm to the natural realm.

As people, we have been designed by God to be able to operate in both the natural and spiritual realms. As believers, we have our seating at the right hand of God in Jesus Christ in the spiritual realm. We are in Christ. We are heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus. This is who we are in the spiritual realm. Our words enable us to take of what God has given to us in the spiritual realm and administer it to someone in the natural realm.

For instance, when we minister to the sick and command healing, is there anything of ourselves in the natural that can

bring about supernatural healing? Absolutely nothing. What we are doing is taking of the finished work of Jesus Christ, taking of the anointing and authority that is ours in the spiritual realm, and administering that to the person for the healing of their physical body. Our words connect the spiritual realm to the natural realm. As we speak based on the Word of God, we can take of what is ours in the spiritual and release it in the natural. We are here to see His Kingdom come, His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. One way we do this is by speaking aligned to His Word so that what He has given to us in the spiritual is released here into the natural.

30

LET THE WEAK SAY I AM STRONG

Joel 3:9,10

⁹Proclaim this among the nations:

“Prepare for war!

Wake up the mighty men,

Let all the men of war draw near,

Let them come up.

¹⁰Beat your plowshares into swords

And your pruning hooks into spears;

Let the weak say, ‘I am strong.’”

Joel chapter 3 is a prophecy about the battle of Armageddon in the Valley of Jehoshaphat and the Day of the Lord. Nations are being mobilized for war. Joel describes even peaceful implements (plowshares and pruning hooks) being turned into weapons of war (swords and spears). In the process is an interesting statement—“*Let the weak say, ‘I am strong.’*” The weak were not to say, “I am weak.” The weak were to say, “I am strong.” The implication here is that the weak can become strong by saying, “I am strong,” and move ahead into battle.

Would it be right for us to affirm what God has declared for us in His Word in a similar manner even if we don’t feel like it at the moment?

Would it be right for those struggling with sin to say, “Sin will not have dominion over me” so that they can walk in victory over sin? Absolutely!

Let those facing sin and temptation (that is all of us) say, “My old sinful nature has been crucified with Christ and the

power of sin over my life has been broken. Sin will not have dominion over me.”

Would it be right for the sick to say, “I am healed by the stripes of Jesus” so that they can be healed? Absolutely!

Let the sick say, “Jesus Himself took my sicknesses and carried my pains and by His stripes, I am healed.”

Would it be right for those in need to say, “My God supplies all my needs” so that their needs can be met? Absolutely!

Let those in need say, “The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not be in want. My God supplies all my needs according to His riches in glory through Jesus Christ.”

Would it be right for those feeling powerless to say, “Truly I am full of power because the Holy Spirit has come upon me” so that they can move in the power of the Spirit? Absolutely!

Let us say, “I have received power after the Holy Spirit came upon me and I am anointed to preach the Gospel to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim deliverance to the captives.”

Affirm what the Word of God says about you, even if you feel exactly the opposite. God’s Word is truth. Facts can change. God’s truth is eternal and will not change. The facts of what you are facing can be changed to align to the truth of God’s Word. Let the weak say “I am strong,” and so become strong.

31

DON'T OFFEND GOD WITH YOUR WORDS

Malachi 3:13-16

¹³“Your words have been harsh against Me,”

Says the LORD,

“Yet you say,

‘What have we spoken against You?’

¹⁴You have said,

‘It is useless to serve God;

What profit *is it* that we have kept His ordinance,

And that we have walked as mourners

Before the LORD of hosts?

¹⁵So now we call the proud blessed,

For those who do wickedness are raised up;

They even tempt God and go free.’ ”

¹⁶Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another,

And the LORD listened and heard *them*;

So a book of remembrance was written before Him

For those who fear the LORD

And who meditate on His name.

Imagine God being hurt and pained by the words that He heard His people speak and the things they said. God listens to our words. Verse 16 informs us that a book of remembrance is written to record those who spoke in reverence of God and meditated on His name.

God hears the words we speak. How would you like God to feel when He hears you speak? Surely, we do not wish to hurt or offend God with our words.

How can we ensure that what we speak glorifies and magnifies our God and pleases His heart? When we speak what is aligned to His Word and is right before His eyes.

Don't let your words offend God. Say what God has said. Speak His Word in every situation. Let Him know that you honor Him and His Word in every situation.

32

LEARN TO SAY, "IT IS WRITTEN"—JESUS DID

Matthew 4:1-4

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

²And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.

³Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

⁴But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "

The Lord Jesus is our perfect Example whom we imitate and follow in all things. We have recorded for us the three temptations that Jesus faced in the wilderness. These were not the only temptations that He ever faced. He was tempted in all points (every area, every way) just as we are, and He was without sin (Hebrews 4:15). We do not have all these temptations recorded. However, in the three temptations recorded in Matthew 4, we notice that each time the Lord Jesus responded to the temptation by speaking the Word. He said, "It is written" each time. We can therefore, be certain that He dealt with every temptation in a similar manner by speaking the Word.

In every temptation, in every situation, learn to say, "It is written." Say what God has said. Speak the Word to overcome temptations and situations that challenge you. When facing a temptation say, "It is written, my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who dwells in me. It is written, sin will not have dominion

over me; I yield my body as an instrument of righteousness.” When facing a situation where there seems to be insurmountable challenges say, “It is written, I am born of God and I overcome this world. This is the victory that overcomes the world, even my faith. God always causes me to triumph. I will triumph even in this situation.” Learn to say, “It is written.” Jesus did so. Speak God’s Word in every situation.

33

CAST OUT SPIRITS WITH A WORD

Matthew 8:16

When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,

As we follow the ministry of Jesus through the Gospels, we learn how He dealt with evil spirits. He exercised authority and dominion over demons by speaking a word of command. Matthew records here that He cast out the spirits with a word. He just spoke a word of command.

Let's follow Jesus' example. Our words are an expression of the authority and dominion that has been given to us in Christ. We carry authority delegated to us through the right to use His name. We walk in His authority. When we must confront demonic powers, we do so by speaking words of authority. We cast out spirits with a word of command.

Learn to speak words of authority. You do this for yourself as well as when you are ministering to others. When faced with thoughts of fear, learn to say, "In Jesus' name, I command the spirit of fear to leave now. I reject thoughts of fear in Jesus' name." Typically, you would call the spirit by the condition that is being caused. If you feel that an unusual or an unexplainable "thing" is causing confusion, then take authority over that confusion. Learn to say, "In Jesus' name, I take authority over spirits of confusion at work in this situation. I bind their work. I command them to leave in the name of Jesus." When ministering to someone who is sick and you know that condition is due to

an evil spirit, you say, “In Jesus’ name, I take authority over this spirit of infirmity and command it to leave now.”

Cast out evil spirits with a word of command. Jesus did so, and so must we.

34

WHEN YOU CONFESS HIM ON EARTH, YOU ARE MENTIONED IN HEAVEN

Matthew 10:32,33

³²“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.

³³But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Jesus’ words are very clear. If we confess Him before men, He will confess us before the Father in heaven.

The word “confess” in Greek is ‘*homologia*,’ a compound word of the Greek ‘*homo*’ meaning “the same,” and the Greek ‘*logos*’ meaning “something said.” So, “to confess” means “to say the same thing, to agree with, to assent, to acknowledge, to profess.”

“To confess” is “to say the same thing as the other person.” Biblical confession is coming into agreement with what God has said—with His Word. It is saying the same thing that God has said. We say what He has said. You cannot be saying your own thing that contradicts God’s Word and call it confession.

We must confess who Jesus said He is. Our confession about Jesus must agree with what He said about Himself. Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah), the Son of the living God. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through Him. When we confess Him, that is, say the same thing that He said about Himself, before men, He will confess us (agree with us in what we say about ourselves in relation with

Him) before the Father in heaven. You can then say, “I am a child of God washed by the blood of Jesus, saved from sin, translated into God’s Kingdom” and so on and that is what Jesus will acknowledge about you before the Father in heaven!

Say about Jesus what He said about Himself and what the Word of God reveals about Him. He is Savior. He is Healer. He is Deliverer. He is the Prince of Peace. Confess Him before men. He will confess you before the Father.

35

WORDS RELEASE WHAT IS IN YOUR HEART INTO YOUR LIFE

Mathew 12:33-35

³³“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by *its* fruit.

³⁴Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

³⁵A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

A tree is known by its fruit. The fruit that the tree bears depends on what is in the tree and what kind of tree it is. Jesus then relates this to people. If the heart is evil, the mouth will speak evil because what is in the heart comes out through the words of our mouth.

In verse 35, we learn that what we bring forth (the fruit) in our lives depends on what is inside us. If you have a good deposit (good treasure) inside, you will bear good fruit—bring forth good things in your life.

Words play an important role in causing what is inside (the good treasure) to come forth into our lives (the fruit) because out of the abundance of the heart (the good treasure), the mouth speaks.

Words release what is inside us into our lives. The deposit in our hearts is released into our lives by the words we speak.

Make the deposit good. We are instructed to have the Word of Christ abiding richly in us (Colossians 3:16). Have a rich treasure of God's Word inside you. Then the words you speak will be aligned to the Word of God in you. You cannot help but speak according to the Word because that is the deposit inside you. You will also bring forth good things because out of your heart come forth the forces that shape your life (Proverbs 4:22). Words release into your life what is in your heart. Fill up with the Word. Speak the Word.

36

YOU ARE JUSTIFIED OR CONDEMNED BY YOUR WORDS

Mathew 12:36,37

³⁶ **But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.**

³⁷ **For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”**

How important are our words? Jesus said that we will give an account of even the idle words that we have spoken. We have seen in Proverbs 18:21 that the power of life and death are in our words. In Matthew 12:36,37, Jesus reveals to us the eternal consequences of our words. We will be justified or condemned by our words. If words are so important both in the here and the hereafter, we must take our words seriously.

The word “idle” in Greek is the word ‘*argos*’ meaning “inactive, unemployed, unprofitable, useless, slow, barren.” Jesus said that we will give an account of every idle word, words we speak that we really didn’t mean to say, that is, words we were not actively putting to work. I don’t know how this will be done, but let’s just take His warning seriously.

Instead of speaking idle words, speak words that are useful, fruitful, and profitable for you and for others around you. Speak words that will release life, blessing, strength, and power into your own life and that of others. Speak words that will justify, elevate, promote, lift up, and enrich yourself and the people around you. Speak the Word.

37

WORDS RELEASE KINGDOM AUTHORITY TO BIND AND LOOSE

Matthew 16:18,19

¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

The Church is built upon the Rock, Jesus Christ (Messiah), the Son of the living God. This was Peter’s great confession that came by revelation from the Father. The Church that Jesus is building is a powerful Church that all the powers of hell cannot contain, restrain, or prevail over. To this Church, the Lord Jesus has vested the authority (keys) of the Kingdom of heaven—God’s own Kingdom. The Church is on earth to release God’s Kingdom in this realm and has been vested with Kingdom authority.

How is Kingdom authority going to be exercised here, in the earthly realm? Jesus said that we will “bind on earth” and we will “loose on earth.” The word “bind” means “to forbid, prohibit, disallow, and declare as illegal.” The word “loose” means “to destroy, put off, unbind, loosen, release, dissolve, undo, throw away, overthrow, and do away with.” How do we bind and loose? We see Jesus doing this in His ministry. He did it by exercising His authority through His spoken words. To the deaf and dumb He said, “*be opened*” and their ears and tongue were loosed (Mark 7:33-35). He said to the woman, “*you are*

loosed from your infirmity” (Luke 13:12). Jesus spoke words of authority that released people and stopped the works of the devil.

We follow His example. We speak words in the authority of Jesus’ name. We bind and loose through the words that we speak in the authority delegated to us. Use your words to exercise the authority of God’s Kingdom vested in you as a believer. Your words release Kingdom authority to bind and loose! Speak words of authority.

38

SPEAK TO THE MOUNTAIN

Matthew 17:20

So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

If we studied Jesus’ teaching on faith in the Gospels, we would discover that He placed great emphasis on speaking our faith. In Matthew 17, when the disciples failed to cast the demon out and questioned Jesus as to why they could not do it, Jesus pointed to their unbelief or lack of faith. He then went on to teach them (and us) on the possibilities of faith, what we can do with it, and how to exercise or use our faith.

To summarize, faith could not only overthrow demons and their works but also affect change in the natural world (For example, move this mountain from here to there). With faith, Jesus said, “Nothing will be impossible for you.” We can get the job done with the faith we have in our hearts. Jesus said that faith in our hearts is so effective that just a mustard-seed-sized faith can move a mountain. The way to exercise faith is to SAY! Speak your faith. With faith in your heart, release words that describe what you have faith for.

He also made it very clear that we must speak to the mountain. When we want the mountain moved, we speak to the mountain. Often, we make the mistake of speaking about the mountain to others. Sometimes, we may even speak or complain about the mountain to God as though He did not already know

that it was there. Jesus clearly instructed us that we must speak to the mountain with faith in our hearts. Speak to demons. Speak to diseases. Speak to storms. Speak to situations. Speak to lack. Speak to closed doors. Speak to things in our natural realm. Command according to your faith. He said, “*Nothing will be impossible to you.*” Let’s follow Jesus’ instruction on faith. Speak your faith.

39

SPEAK YOUR DESIRED OUTCOME

Mark 5:25-34

²⁵ Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years,
²⁶ and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse.

²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came behind *Him* in the crowd and touched His garment.

²⁸ For she said, “If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.”

²⁹ Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of the affliction.

³⁰ And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My clothes?”

³¹ But His disciples said to Him, “You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’ ”

³² And He looked around to see her who had done this thing.

³³ But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.

³⁴ And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.”

This woman may have initially considered within herself, “If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.” Eventually, she spoke it out, “If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.” That is how others knew what she said and recorded it for us. Jesus responded to this woman that her faith had made her well. Her saying and doing were aligned to her belief. She believed. She spoke. She acted.

She spoke her faith expressing the desired outcome. She said that she would be well when she touched the garment of

Jesus. The Lord Jesus acknowledged her faith that brought about the healing miracle.

Times have changed. However, the biblical principle of faith in God still holds good. God still responds to faith in our hearts. Our believing is expressed through our saying and doing. Speak your faith. Speak the desired outcome that you are believing God for.

40

BELIEVE WHAT YOU SAY WILL COME TO PASS

Mark 11:22,23

²²So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God.

²³For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

One of the passages where Jesus gave us clear teaching on how faith in God is exercised is in Mark 11:22,23. Jesus had just demonstrated how to exercise faith by speaking to the fig tree. The disciples had seen the outcome of Him speaking to the fig tree. Jesus then proceeded to explain to them how they could exercise their faith in God.

With faith in God, Jesus instructed us to speak to the mountain commanding it to move. Don’t doubt in your heart about what you are saying. Believe what you say will be done and you will have what you say. Our faith is in God. But at the same time, we do something in the natural. We speak words of faith. We believe what we speak will be done because of the God in whom we have faith in. We believe that we are co-workers with God. When we speak words of faith, the God in whom we believe acts on our behalf causing those words to come to pass. It is because of faith in God, we can also believe that what we say will be done because God is well able to cause it to be done.

Have faith in God. Speak your faith. Believe what you speak will be done because God causes it to be done. Believe what you say will come to pass.

41

SPEAK FAITH WORDS IN PRAYER

Mark 11:22-24

²² So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God.

²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

In this same passage where the Lord Jesus taught us how to exercise faith in God, He continued to teach us about prayer. “*Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray...*” The “*therefore I say to you...*” means “for this reason, I say this to you ...” or “that is why I say this to you ...” The promise Jesus gave us about prayer and the method to pray in Mark 11:24 is connected to what He taught us in Mark 11:22,23.

Jesus said that when you pray, whatever you ask, believe that you have received them, and you will have them. When we have asked according to His will, we also know that we have received what we asked for from the Father (1 John 5:14,15). So, we believe we have received at the time when we prayed. It is a completed matter. It is done in the spirit. We now exercise what He taught us in Mark 11:23. We speak to the need, to the situation, to the problem, to the mountain, and declare what we have received in prayer. We declare the mountain moved. Faith in God is exercised both by believing we have received when we prayed and by speaking to the situation declaring as done what we believe we have received. Speak faith words in prayer. Prayer involves faith words to God, and then faith words to the situation you prayed about.

42

AGREE WITH HIS WORD

Luke 1:37,38,45

³⁷ **For with God nothing will be impossible.”**

³⁸ **Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.**

⁴⁵ **Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”**

Luke 1:37 (Revised Version 1885)

For no word from God shall be void of power.

The angel who brought Mary the news that she was about to conceive by the power of the Holy Spirit ended the message saying, “*with God nothing will be impossible.*” This word “nothing” is a composite of three Greek words ‘*pas*’ (all, every), ‘*rhema*’ (word, utterance), and ‘*ou*’ (no). Hence, a better rendering of verse 37 as seen in the Revised Version would be “...*no word from God is void of power*” to be fulfilled. Every word from God is powerful and will be fulfilled.

God had spoken. The angel attested to this. Mary simply responded by agreeing with the word from God. She said, “*Be it unto me according to your word.*” Her agreeing with the word meant that from that point on she did everything in alignment to what had been spoken over her. Later, the Holy Spirit through Elizabeth encouraged Mary affirming that because she believed, she will see a fulfillment of the word that was spoken to her.

No word from God that we read in the written Scriptures is void of power for fulfillment. Every Word given to us in the Scriptures is powerful and will be fulfilled. Believing His Word

means we come into agreement with His Word. We agree and say as Mary did, “*Be it unto me according to your Word.*” Our agreement with His Word includes how we think, speak, and act. We cannot speak contrary to the Word and say we agree with His Word. If we agree with God and with God’s Word, then our words must also agree with His Word. When we speak our faith, agreeing with His Word, there will be a performance of things spoken to us from the Lord.

43

COMMAND DISEASES TO LEAVE

Luke 4:38,39

³⁸ Now He arose from the synagogue and entered Simon's house. But Simon's wife's mother was sick with a high fever, and they made request of Him concerning her.

³⁹ So He stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. And immediately she arose and served them.

We follow the Lord Jesus in life and ministry. How did Jesus minister to people to heal them of their sicknesses and diseases? We don't really find Jesus praying to the Father asking the Father to remove sickness and disease. Yes, Jesus spent much time in prayer communing with the Father. But in His dealing with sicknesses and diseases, Jesus spoke to the disease with authority commanding it to leave. Luke 4:38,39 is one such example. The Lord Jesus rebuked the fever. He spoke to the fever and commanded it to leave, and it left immediately.

Jesus is always right. He is the Eternal Word. If our theology thus far does not include speaking to sicknesses and diseases as Jesus did, then our theology needs to change and align itself to what Jesus said and did.

You and I are to do the works that Jesus did and even greater works (John 14:12). And of course, we are to do it the way He did it. Jesus spoke to sickness and disease and commanded them to leave. So, you and I should speak in a similar way. We command diseases to leave. We can do this for our own bodies as well as when we are ministering to others. Follow Jesus. Do what He did. Your words are an expression of the authority that He has given to you. Command diseases to leave. Speak your faith.

44

SPEAK TO THE STORM

Luke 8:22-25

²² Now it happened, on a certain day, that He got into a boat with His disciples. And He said to them, “Let us cross over to the other side of the lake.” And they launched out.

²³ But as they sailed He fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling *with water*, and were in jeopardy.

²⁴ And they came to Him and awoke Him, saying, “Master, Master, we are perishing!”

Then He arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water. And they ceased, and there was a calm.

²⁵ But He said to them, “Where is your faith?”

And they were afraid, and marveled, saying to one another, “Who can this be? For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him!”

Jesus spoke to the winds and water and commanded them to be calm, and they obeyed Him. Jesus turned to His disciples and questioned, “Where is your faith?” implying that they could have handled this situation with their faith. They could have done what He did with their faith.

The Lord Jesus modeled for us the way to live and walk with the Father. He modeled for us what it is to walk and minister under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. He also modeled for us what faith can do. He spoke to inanimate things—fig tree, sickness, disease, winds, and waves. He commanded them to obey and they did. Should we follow Jesus in what He did? Absolutely!

The next time you face a storm—whether it is literal winds and waves or any other “storm” in life’s situations, do what Jesus would do. Speak to the storm. Command it to be quiet. Command the disturbances to withdraw, to cease, to be still. Command the storms of confusion, of ill-will, of gossip, of discord, of strife, whatever is not right— command it to cease.

45

DECLARE PEOPLE RELEASED FROM BONDAGES

Luke 13:10-16

¹⁰ Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath.

¹¹ And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise *herself* up.

¹² But when Jesus saw her, He called *her* to *Him* and said to her, “Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.”

¹³ And He laid *His* hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

¹⁴ But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, “There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day.”

¹⁵ The Lord then answered him and said, “Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead *it* away to water it?

¹⁶ So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?”

The woman mentioned in this passage had a problem with her back for 18 years. She was bent over and stiff. Satan had bound her and held her prisoner. It was a spirit of infirmity that had caused the problem in this case. How did Jesus minister to her? He spoke words and He touched her. He said, “*Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.*” His words of authority undid in an instant what satan had done for 18 years through a spirit of infirmity.

We as believers in Jesus have been given authority to trample over serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19). The authority of Jesus is expressed through His Body, the Church, made up of believers like you and me. Authority is exercised by the words that we speak. With authority, we declare people released from their bondages. To those bound in addictions, we declare, “In Jesus’ name, be free from your addictions.” To those bound in fear, we declare “In Jesus’ name, be free from this tormenting fear.” In a similar way, we release people from other kinds of bondages. Speak words of authority. Declare people released from their bondages.

46

ANointed WORDS CARRY THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT

John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life.

John 6:63 (Good News Translation)

What gives life is God's Spirit; human power is of no use at all. The words I have spoken to you bring God's life-giving Spirit.

Jesus had just finished speaking to His disciples about abiding in Him, eating His flesh and drinking His blood. And then to let them know that He was not speaking of literal, natural things, He clarified that it is the Spirit who gives life (the Godkind of life). The flesh (the natural) cannot do this. Then He pointed to His words. The words that He spoke were spirit, spiritual, or of the Spirit and His words are what bring the life of God's Spirit to them. Jesus was anointed by the Spirit. As He spoke, His words carried the life of the Spirit to His listeners.

We are anointed by the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 1:21). By His anointing at work through us, God uses the words that we speak to be carriers of the life of His Spirit. Hence, when we speak under the anointing, or as inspired by the Spirit, those words cause supernatural things to happen. They release the life of God to people. They release the power of God in situations and circumstances. Those words are carriers of what God wants released into our realms. Speak boldly as the Spirit moves you, knowing that anointed words carry the life of the Spirit.

47

COMMAND IN FAITH

John 11:40-43

⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Didn’t I tell you that you would see God’s glory if you believed?”

⁴¹ They took the stone away. Jesus looked up and said, “I thank you, Father, that you listen to me.

⁴² I know that you always listen to me, but I say this for the sake of the people here, so that they will believe that you sent me.”

⁴³ After he had said this, he called out in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

Standing before the tomb of Lazarus who had been dead for four days, the Lord Jesus assured Martha that she would see the glory of God if she believed. He also thanked the Father for having already heard His prayer. And then Jesus spoke words of command, “*Lazarus, come forth.*”

Jesus had prayed to the Father. He knew His petition had been granted. But He also spoke words of command here in the natural realm for the desired outcome to take place. We believe that we will see the glory of God, the mighty works of God being displayed before us. Like Jesus, we pray in faith. And like Jesus, we must also speak words of command in faith.

What are the things that you believe God for? Sometimes, like Lazarus, what we have been expecting God to do may lie dead in a tomb. Time has passed by. It seems a bit too late. But God’s promise is clear. If we believe, we will see the glory of God. We will see the mighty works of God. We must pray believing prayers. And we must command in faith. Speak your faith boldly. Command your “Lazarus” to come forth!

48

THE WORD BRINGS YOU INTO YOUR INHERITANCE

Acts 20:32

“So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

The apostle Paul makes it clear that God’s Word builds us up and enables us to walk in (possess) the inheritance that belongs to all who are sanctified in Jesus Christ. Of course, all of us desire to walk in our inheritance. We want to enjoy all that God has provided for us, in every sphere of life, as His redeemed sons and daughters. But we must engage with God’s Word intentionally to be built up in our inner person so that we can walk in the provisions and privileges that God has made available for us.

There are several ways in which we engage with the Word. We must read His Word, receive revelation of His Word, meditate on His Word, let His Word dwell (abide) in us, and obey His Word. His Word produces faith in our hearts as Romans 10:17 tells us. And, as we have been seeing throughout this book, we must speak our faith in God’s Word. We engage with the Word of God as we do this. One of the keys to walking in our inheritance is to speak God’s Word over our lives. Of course, we are not doing this as a meaningless recitation or an empty ritual. We speak the Word with faith in God and His Word. And as we do this, we are built up by His Word to walk in our inheritance. Speak your faith in God and His Word.

49

I BELIEVE IT WILL BE AS IT WAS TOLD ME

Acts 27:23-25

²³For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve,

²⁴saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.’

²⁵Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.

An angel had brought Paul a message from God. And Paul announced his faith in God boldly stating that it will be just as it was told to him by the angel.

We have the written Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, which is a surer word than the word of angels. We can take what God has spoken to us in His written Word, things He said that He has already accomplished for us in Christ, things He promised to do for us here in this life, and declare our faith in what He has spoken. Declare boldly that you believe things will happen just as God has stated in His Holy Word. Everything in your present and in your future will come into alignment with what God has spoken.

And then, there are times when God will speak to us by His Holy Spirit either through the inner witness of the Spirit, through prophecy, through dreams and visions, etc. Once we test and are assured that the Holy Spirit has indeed spoken a specific word to us, we can declare boldly that we believe that it will be just as it was told to us.

Declare boldly, “I believe God.”

I believe God that it will be just as God has stated in His Word concerning me.

50

CALL THINGS THAT DO NOT EXIST AS THOUGH THEY DID

Romans 4:17

(as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

The apostle Paul, by the Holy Spirit, reveals insights into Abraham’s walk of faith. Abraham believed God. Abraham partnered with God through faith to release the plan of God on the earth. The God whom Abraham believed and partnered with, is the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence things that do not exist. Abraham had to believe that what seemed dead would be made alive, specifically their aged bodies and Sarah’s barren womb. And Abraham had to learn to call what did not exist as though they did. God did it first. Even when Abraham had no children, God spoke over Abraham and said that He had made Abraham a father of a great nation. And then God changed Abram’s and Sarai’s names to Abraham and Sarah, in effect, having them call what did not exist as though it did.

Faith is the title deed, the proof of ownership of things hoped or desired for. Faith is the conviction, the confident assurance of things not yet seen, things that are not yet revealed to the physical senses. This kind of faith, when it speaks, calls things not as they are in the natural, but as they are in the spiritual. This kind of faith calls things that do not exist into existence. Faith is convinced that once God has spoken, it is done. Speak your faith. Call things that are not yet in the natural as though they are because God has spoken.

51

SPEAK ACCORDING TO HIS PROMISE

Romans 4:18-21

¹⁸ **who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, “So shall your descendants be.”**

¹⁹ **And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah’s womb.**

²⁰ **He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,**

²¹ **and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.**

The Holy Spirit through the apostle Paul reveals how Abraham walked by faith in God to receive what God had promised. Even when there was no reason to hope, Abraham hoped and inspired by hope, he believed. What did he believe? He believed that he would become exactly what God had spoken about him. While the facts were there—the fact of the physical condition of his body and Sarah’s body, he did not let the facts dictate his faith. He had a word from God. God had spoken about his situation and that word from God was the final authority in his life. Abraham’s faith was anchored on what God had promised and that God was able to fulfill that promise. Everything in life—what he believed, what he did and what he spoke—were aligned and in accordance with what God had spoken. Faith speaks according to what God has spoken.

Often in our own lives, our present circumstances may contradict what we find written or promised for us in the

Scriptures. God's Word promises something, and our experiences may have been something completely opposite. God's Word declares that God is Jehovah Rapha, and there may be sickness ravaging the physical body. God's Word declares that whatever you do will prosper, while recent experiences may be a string of failures. God's Word promises victory, while there may be several areas of defeat. What must we do? Should we accept our experience as though these were God's will, or should we accept God's Word as God's will for our lives?

We are called to walk in the steps of the faith of Abraham. Even when there is no reason to hope, we must have hope and believe God and His Word. Do not let the facts weaken your faith. Establish your faith in the Word of God. Faith speaks according to His promise. Speak your faith.

52

REIGN IN LIFE—SPEAK WORDS OF DOMINION

Romans 5:17

For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

The Lord Jesus brought us out from all that Adam put us under. We have received an abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness. God has lavished His grace upon our lives. He has imparted to us His own righteousness as a gift through faith in Christ. We used to be sinners in the past. But things are different now. We are the righteousness of God. We have received God's abundant grace. Grace is God giving to us what we do not deserve or what we could never earn on our own. What God has given to us by grace is truly ours. We have it. God has given it to us to enjoy, to live by, and to have as our own.

One of the many things that God has given to us freely by His grace is that He has positioned us to live and rule like kings in life through Jesus Christ. Through Jesus, that is, because of Him and through the authority that He provides, we are to rule and reign in life. Understand this truth. You are a person with spiritual authority and dominion. This is of no use if you do not exercise it. What do kings do? Kings exercise authority and dominion with their words. They speak words, they decree things so that what they decree is established in their realm of influence.

Adam put us in subjection to sin and to satan and his demons and everything that came because of the Fall including sickness, poverty, demonic oppression, etc. The Lord Jesus brought us out from everything that Adam put us under and has now positioned us to rule and reign in life over all of that. But we can never experience it if we do not exercise our dominion. Speak words of dominion. Issue decrees. Declare the Word. Speak your faith and let everything under your realm of influence be ruled and governed by the truth of God's Kingdom.

53

FAITH SPEAKS LIKE THIS

Romans 10:6-8

⁶ But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down from above)

⁷ or, “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

The apostle Paul has referenced in Romans chapter 4 that Abraham had faith in God and therefore, God credited him with righteousness. He has also established that in Christ, we have received abundant grace and God’s gift of righteousness has been imparted to us. Now that we are in right standing with God, how does faith in God express itself? How do we speak, we who are people of faith and righteousness?

We do not speak hopelessness and despair. We do not speak as though God is so far away in heaven that He cannot help us. We do not speak as though God is dead and powerless to help us. Instead, the apostle Paul applies an Old Testament truth to us, New Testament believers. He tells us the same thing that Moses told God’s people in Deuteronomy 30:11-14. The Word is near you. The Word that God has spoken is in your mouth and in your heart. The obvious inference here is that the Word is in your heart for you to believe it, and the Word is in your mouth for you to confess it. He then applies it to the word of faith, the message of the Gospel of Jesus that we preach.

The important truth here is for us to know that faith speaks. Faith speaks the Word of God, which is to be constantly kept in our hearts and in our mouths. Never speak hopelessness. Never speak despair. God's Word is in your heart for you to believe it, and in your mouth, for you to speak it. Speak the Word. Speak your faith in the Word of God.

54

CONFESSION IS UNTO SALVATION

Romans 10:6-10

⁶ But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down *from above*)

⁷ or, “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Another truth that we must highlight from this passage is the importance of believing and confessing. Believing God’s Word in our hearts puts us in right standing with God (“with the heart one believes unto righteousness”). We are in the right place, in position, to receive from God. And then the Scriptures instruct us to take another step. We are instructed to confess with our mouths, which then results in us receiving or experiencing salvation (“confession is made unto salvation”).

The Lord Jesus Christ through His death on the Cross and His resurrection from the dead has made righteousness and salvation available as a gift. It is there for everyone to receive. Salvation has been provided, but we believe and confess to receive it. Notice the importance of confession. When we believe, we are positioned to receive. But confession is what brings salvation into our possession.

Salvation, as we understand it in the New Testament, is a comprehensive word that includes eternal salvation, forgiveness of sins, victory over sin, healing from sickness, victory in conflict, deliverance from every work of the enemy, rescue from harm, preservation from danger, and total wholeness. It means to be saved, healed, delivered, to have victory, to be rescued, preserved, and made whole. Believing God's Word and confessing God's Word is what makes each of these our experience. Speak your faith because confession is made resulting in salvation.

55

DECLARE YOUR “YES AND AMEN” TO ALL HIS PROMISES

2 Corinthians 1:19,20

¹⁹ For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes.

²⁰ For all the promises of God in Him *are* Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

How often have we heard people tell us that there are times when God comes through and there are times when He doesn't. We just don't know for sure. People tell us that sometimes God's promises work and sometimes they don't. Look at all the people who believed God and yet failed, or died, or experienced disaster. While these are all facts and true, do we have a right to change who God is or what the Word of God says because of the experiences of people? Are experiences more reliable than God and His Word? Do we base our theology on people's experience, or do we base our theology on God and His Word?

The apostle Paul makes it clear that God is not fickle as some might make Him out to be. In Jesus, there is no “yes” and “no,” but always and only a definite “yes.” There is *nothing deceitful in God, nothing two-faced, nothing fickle*, and *He is never subject to change* (James 1:17 based on the Message Bible and the Passion Translation). The apostle Paul declares boldly that all of God's promises in Jesus are “yes.” All of God's promises are true and faithful, and find their fulfillment in Jesus. And then there is the “amen” that we raise up for the glory of

God.

There is the “yes and amen” to all the promises of God in Jesus. This is the expectation that we must have. We will see the fulfillment of all the promises of God in Jesus so that God can be glorified through our lives. Be established in this truth, that in Jesus, all of God’s promises hold good. They are yes. Speak your faith in all the promises of God. Declare your yes and amen to all the promises of God demonstrating that you expect to see them fulfilled.

56

WE BELIEVE AND THEREFORE WE SPEAK

2 Corinthians 4:13,14

¹³ And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you.

The apostle Paul quotes here from Psalm 116:10. In fact, the apostle Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, quotes just a part of that verse, perhaps to emphasize a specific truth that he wishes to bear to believers. We speak according to what we believe. We must speak our faith. Faith speaks. The “Spirit of faith” has not changed across the Testaments. The essence of faith in God whether it was by people in the Old Covenant or by people in the New Covenant, has not changed. The principle of faith is still the same and it is this—I have faith and I speak in faith, or simply, faith speaks.

We believe and therefore, speak what we believe. We have faith and we speak our faith. This is the underlying principle of faith through the Bible. What we believe must be spoken. Faith must be spoken. We believe God and His Word. Then we must speak in accordance with that. We declare our faith in who God is, and what He has promised us.

We believe in Jesus and what He has accomplished for us through His death on the Cross, His resurrection, ascension, and exaltation. We therefore speak and declare that. Speak your faith.

57

USE WORDS TO MINISTER GRACE

Ephesians 4:29

Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

Words impart something to the listeners. Corrupt (bad, rotten, worthless) words impart corruption (things that do not bring any benefit). Good words impart strength, grace, and wholeness.

Words are containers. Words are carriers. Words are transmitters. Words are “ministers.” They do something to the recipients. They can bless, build up, and strengthen. Or they can tear down, weaken, hurt, and destroy.

As believers, we must speak words that carry and impart faith. Speak faith-filled words so that it can instill, inspire, and awaken faith in those who hear us. We must speak words of wisdom. We must speak words that help, nurture, guide, and bless. Use your words wisely. Use it to bless people. Speak faith to bless others.

58

USE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 6:17

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

We are in the midst of spiritual conflict as the apostle Paul points out in Ephesians 6:12. The enemy has been defeated, and yet, for the time that is left, he still attempts his guerilla tactics. As believers, God has given us weapons of spiritual warfare that are more than sufficient to live victoriously and to minister powerfully. Part of this armament is a powerful weapon of offense, the sword of the Spirit. This is a sword that is given to us by the Holy Spirit. It is energized and backed by the mighty Holy Spirit Himself. However, we are to take the sword and use it. The assurance is that when we use this sword, the Holy Spirit Himself moves on our behalf because it is His sword.

The sword, our weapon of offense that attacks and tears apart the enemy is the Word of God. How do we use the sword? Well, what do we do with words? We speak words. We also see a clear picture in the book of Revelation about Jesus, the Word of God, that “out of His mouth goes a sharp sword” (Revelation 19:13,15). So, the sharp sword of the Word is the Word of God that we speak out of our mouths.

We use the sword of the Spirit by speaking the Word of God. Each time you declare the Word of God, and speak your faith in God’s Word, there is a wound inflicted on the enemy. When the enemy comes against you, whether with wrong thoughts in your mind, or an interference in any area of your life, use the sword of the Spirit against him. He stands no chance against the mighty Holy Spirit. Speak God’s Word. Speak your faith.

59

WAGE A GOOD WARFARE WITH PROPHETIC WORDS

1 Timothy 1:18

This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare

Prophetic words are words given by the prompting or inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The gift of prophecy and prophetic ministry is truly operational in the Body of Christ today. When we are given prophecies, we must understand that one of the reasons these words are given is to empower us in spiritual warfare. We must use these prophecies to wage a good warfare against the enemy.

The enemy, satan, and his demons, come to steal, kill, and destroy. They seek to disrupt, distract, and in some way, disturb us from the purposes of God. We take a hold of the prophecies spoken over our lives that declare God's purpose, God's promise, and God's potential in our lives. With these prophecies, we wage a good warfare. We must use those words of prophecy as weapons against the enemy in the spiritual conflict that we are engaged in. Remember, words must be spoken. Speak those prophetic words that were once spoken over your life (which of course you have tested and know to be from the Spirit). Declare what God has declared over you by His Spirit. God has said that those words are part of your weapons against the enemy. Speak those prophetic words. Speak your faith.

60

ACKNOWLEDGE EVERY GOOD THING IN YOU IN CHRIST

Philemon 1:6

that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

The context of Paul's epistle to Philemon is interesting. Paul is writing to send a run-away slave Onesimus, who has now become a believer under Paul's ministry, back to his master Philemon, who is now a brother in the Lord to his former slave. As Paul opens this short letter, he points to an important truth that the fellowship of our faith becomes effective (productive, powerful, energized) when we acknowledge (recognize fully) every good thing (all the riches and blessings) that are in us in Christ.

We must learn to speak to call forth, acknowledge, and recognize the good things that God has placed in us by bringing us into Christ. We must recognize and acknowledge who we are in Christ. Do this both for yourself as well as for others. We fellowship around what God has done for us in Christ. This is what makes our fellowship powerful. Rather than speaking of weakness, how poor and miserable we are, how sinful and depraved we are, let us acknowledge the good things that are in us because we are in Christ.

Note: We are not stating here that sin must not be addressed, or if something is wrong, we must overlook that and not bring correction. We must face up to error, faults, and wrongdoing

and bring correction where correction is necessary. But we do this knowing that after correction has been administered and received, we release the past and look at the good things that are there in each of us in Christ.

61

HIS WORD CAN UPHOLD AND REGULATE YOUR WORLD

Hebrews 1:3

who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

As we have already seen in several instances in the Old Testament, here in Hebrews, once again, the Scriptures teach us that all things, the entire universe is upheld, sustained, regulated, and kept in place by the power of His Word.

That same all-powerful God has given us His Word for our lives here on earth. Surely His Word that He has given to us can uphold, sustain, regulate, and keep our “little worlds” in good order and functioning well.

The key then is to take His Word that He has given to us in written form in the Holy Scriptures and bring it to bear on our worlds. One way we do that as we have seen throughout the Scriptures is to believe His Word and to speak His Word into our world.

Know that God’s Word has more than enough power to uphold and regulate your world. There may be times when things may seem to be falling apart. Things may seem to be going out of hand or spiraling out of control. Have confidence in the power of the Word of God. Speak His Word over your life, your present, and your future, over situations and circumstances.

Speak His promises. Declare that everything in your world is subject to the Word of God and will come into alignment to His Word. Speak your faith. You will see the power of God's Word at work in your life.

62

JESUS IS THE HIGH PRIEST OF OUR CONFESSION

Hebrews 3:1

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

We have explained in an earlier chapter that the word “confession” (Greek *‘homologia’*) means “to say the same thing” or “to agree with in words.” Confession in this New Testament context is what we say in agreement with God and His Word. When we say the same thing that God has said, or when we agree with God with our words, we are making our confession.

The writer of Hebrews points us to Jesus and states that He is the Apostle (Forerunner, the One who goes ahead) and the High Priest (the One who represents) of our confession. Jesus is representing the faith that we confess or profess in heaven. This means that when we speak aligned to God’s Word and in agreement with what God has said, Jesus acknowledges and represents that before the Father on our behalf.

Remember, Jesus is the High Priest of your confession. Speak in agreement with His Word. Speak your faith.

63

HOLD FAST TO YOUR CONFESSION

Hebrews 4:14

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession.

Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Because we have Jesus as our great High Priest, we must hold fast to (retain by use of strength, cling tightly to not let slip) our confession—what we are declaring in agreement with His Word. Further, we know that the One who promised is faithful. He will not fail to keep His promises. Therefore, we hold fast to the confession of our faith without wavering.

When there are things that challenge what we believe about God and His Word, we must hold fast to our confession without wavering. Keep speaking your faith, staying in agreement with God and His Word.

When there are seeming delays to seeing the fulfillment of God's Word, we must hold fast to our confession without wavering. Keep speaking your faith, staying in agreement with God and His Word.

When things seem to get worse, we must stand strong and hold fast to the confession of our faith without wavering. We have a great High Priest in heaven, representing our confession and One who is faithful to His promises. Keep speaking your faith and stay in agreement with God and His Word.

64

HIS WORDS FRAMED THE WORLD

Hebrews 11:3

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.

Through faith, we know that the worlds were framed (created, formed, constructed, shaped) by the Word of God. The visible, natural world came out of the invisible, spiritual realm. God created all things by His Word, and He brought into being what did not exist. Everything in the natural, visible world is subject to God and to God's Word.

So, let us look at things this way. Each of us have our worlds in which we live. By "our worlds," we are referring to our individual spheres of responsibility and influence—our homes, families, careers, business, areas of ministry, etc. There are things that do not exist in our worlds. God can bring into existence in our worlds what does not exist by the power of His Word. His Word can create, form, construct, and shape our worlds. As you look at your world today, perhaps it seems "without form and void," dark and empty. Perhaps many things you desire and see promised in God's Word are non-existent in your world. Do you believe that God's Word has the power to create in your world? Do you believe that God's Word can bring into being what does not exist in your world? Take a hold of God's Word. His Word is truth. His Word is alive and full of power. Believe His Word. Speak His Word over your world. Let His Word, create, form, construct, and shape your world. Speak your faith.

65

GOD HAS SAID, SO WE BOLDLY SAY

Hebrews 13:5,6

⁵ *Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”*

⁶ So we may boldly say:

“The Lord is my helper;

I will not fear.

What can man do to me?”

The writer of Hebrews has a simple rationale on how we must speak—because God has said, we boldly say. We boldly affirm and speak in agreement with what God Himself has said.

God has said, “*I will never leave you nor forsake you.*” So, we boldly say, “The Lord is my Helper and I will not fear.”

God has said, “*By His stripes we were healed.*” So, we boldly say, “He took my sicknesses and carried my pains and by His stripes, I have been healed.”

God has said, “You will be like a tree planted by rivers of water.” So, we boldly say, “I bring forth my fruit in its season, my leaf will not wither, and whatever I do will prosper.”

We can add to this.

Make it a practice to boldly say what God has said always, in every situation. Speak your faith boldly because you know what God has said and you can therefore speak in agreement with Him. He will not let you down.

Two can walk together only when they are in agreement (Amos 3:3). We can walk with God only when we are in agreement with Him. We agree with God by being in agreement with His Word. God has spoken, and therefore, we intentionally and boldly speak in agreement with Him.

66

GOVERN YOUR TONGUE, GOVERN YOUR WHOLE PERSON

James 1:26

If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.

James 3:1-6

¹My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

²For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

³Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body.

⁴Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.

⁵Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things.

See how great a forest a little fire kindles!

⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

A “perfect man,” that is, one who is fully grown and mature, spiritually speaking, is one who can control his tongue. When we are able to watch over our words and tame our tongues, then we will be able to have control or mastery over our whole body or “*to control ourselves in every way*” (The Passion Translation).

This bears out the importance of being able to govern our tongue, or control what we speak. One of the best disciplines that we can have to govern our words is to make sure we always

Speak what God would approve of. Speak what is pleasing in God's eyes. Speak what glorifies God. Speak what agrees with His Word. Speak faith. If we can do this, we are going to be able to govern ourselves in every way.

One of the best ways to train our tongues is to practice intentionally saying what God's Word says. There are many spiritual practices we see in Scripture. For instance, we know we offer sacrifices of praise and worship to God. We know how to pray and engage in different kinds of prayer. We know how to read God's Word, how to study, and how to meditate on God's Word. Similarly, as part of our spiritual discipline, we can take time to speak the Word. At the beginning of this book, we have given examples of declarations from the Word of God, written in a personalized manner, covering areas of life from A to Z. You could use this format or any other to declare God's Word over your own life. Don't do it as a meaningless ritual or some other box to check each day. Do it inspired by truth because you have the revelation or understanding of the importance of speaking your faith. As you train your tongue this way, it will become normal for you to be careful with your words, and to ensure that you speak in agreement with His Word. It will be normal for you to speak your faith.

67

YOUR WORDS GUIDE, GOVERN, AND BLESS YOUR LIFE

James 3:3-6

³Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body.

⁴Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.

⁵Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things.

See how great a forest a little fire kindles!

⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

James' writing under the guidance of the Holy Spirit uses images from our world to reveal the power and influence of the words we speak. Consider the analogies he uses—bits in horses' mouths, rudder in ships, a forest fire. A powerful horse is controlled and guided in the direction that the rider wishes by the bit in its mouth. Similarly, a big ship, even in the middle of winds and waves is guided by the captain using a small rudder. A little fire can ravage a huge forest. The point is that our words may seem small, weak, and insignificant. Yet, the Holy Spirit wants us to know that the words that we speak are powerful, they can guide, direct, and govern the entire course of our lives.

In verse 6, James writes about an evil tongue. An evil tongue is “set on fire” or inspired or inflamed by the wickedness that comes from hell itself. Consider the impact of the evil tongue presented here. An evil tongue defiles the individual's

entire body or entire being (spirit, soul, and body). It also “sets on fire” or impacts, affects, and influences the entire course of that individual’s life. Evil words defile and destroy our whole person and the entire course of our lives. Now, what if we have a good tongue—a tongue that is “set on fire” by the fire of God’s Word (God’s Word is like fire. Jeremiah 23:29). A good tongue that speaks words inspired by and aligned to God’s Word. Such words will bless and build up our whole person and will bless and build up the entire course of our lives.

Our words guide, govern, and direct the entire course of our lives. Our words can bless and build up our entire person and the entire course of our lives. Speak the Word. Speak words of faith. Let the words that you speak bless and build up your life.

68

SPEAK FAITH CONSISTENTLY

James 3:7-12

⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind.

⁸ But no man can tame the tongue. *It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.*

⁹ With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God.

¹⁰ Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

¹¹ Does a spring send forth fresh *water* and bitter from the same opening?

¹² Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.

James, by the Holy Spirit, addresses the importance of being consistently good, right, pure, and clean in the words that we speak. We must have control over our words all the time so that we always speak life and blessing. We must not be double-tongued, speaking life and blessing sometimes and then death and cursing at another time. Always, always, in every situation, consistently speak life and blessing.

Similarly, we should not speak faith sometimes, and then speak fear, doubt, and unbelief at other times. Speak faith consistently, always. We can do this if we consistently fill our hearts and minds with the Word of God. If we consistently feed ourselves with words of faith, then we will consistently speak words of faith.

Tame your tongue. Train yourself to speak life, blessing, and faith always. Speak your faith consistently.

69

RESIST THE DEVIL**James 4:7****Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

We are to come under obedience to God and then resist the devil. The word “resist” is “to stand against and oppose what the devil presents us with.” As we see in the New Testament Scripture, we resist the devil by speaking God’s Word saying, “It is written...” using the sword of the Spirit—the Word of God, and speaking words of command out of the authority that we have in Jesus Christ. While thinking God’s Word is important, it is equally important to speak God’s Word as part of our resistance and aggressive opposition to what the devil is attempting to do.

When the enemy injects wrong and evil thoughts, ideas, imaginations, arguments, and reasoning into your mind, it is important to immediately bring to the forefront in your mind what God’s Word says in relation to that. And it is also important to speak what God’s Word says about that evil idea presented by the devil. We speak out “It is written...”

Be firm and be aggressive in doing this. Resist the devil being firm in your faith (1 Peter 5:9). Speak your faith. Keep speaking your faith as many times as he comes back. Let the devil know that you will not give him any foothold in your life.

70

RELEASE WORDS OF BLESSING

1 Peter 3:8-12

⁸ Finally, all *of you be* of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, *be* tenderhearted, *be* courteous;

⁹ not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

¹⁰ For

“He who would love life

And see good days,

Let him refrain his tongue from evil,

And his lips from speaking deceit.

¹¹ Let him turn away from evil and do good;

Let him seek peace and pursue it.

¹² For the eyes of the LORD *are* on the righteous,

And His ears *are open* to their prayers;

But the face of the LORD *is* against those who do evil.”

One of the ways we return a blessing, even when we are cursed or wronged, is to speak blessing. Jesus taught us, “*Bless those who curse you*” (Matthew 5:44). So, we intentionally speak words of blessing to them and over them even if we have been wronged. This is a choice that we make. Choose to hold your tongue and do not allow it to speak evil words. Refrain. Instead, make a deliberate choice to release words of blessing. Go before God and say, “Father, in Jesus’ name, I speak blessing over so and so. Even though they may have hurt me, I speak blessing over their lives in Jesus’ name. Let everything be well with them in every area of life. Let them be fruitful and blessed.”

Once you have privately released a blessing over them, don't gossip and tell others how mean they have been to you and how they have wronged or hurt you. Keep your tongue from speaking evil. In releasing blessing, you have positioned yourself to inherit or receive blessing. The eyes of the Lord are on you. He will ensure that you have a good life and see good days. Always release words of blessing. Speak words of blessing in faith.

71

WORDS RELEASE YOUR FAITH FOR VICTORY

1 John 5:1,4

¹Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

⁴For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Through faith in Jesus Christ, we have been born of God. We have the life and nature of God in us. We are His sons and daughters. And because we are born of God, we are overcomers. We are filled with all it takes to live victoriously over the world, the flesh, and the devil. And this Scripture is clear that we have victory through the exercise of our faith in God. We must walk in faith if we are to live overcoming, victorious lives. We do not live victoriously and as overcomers just by the power of our self-will or by the power of our intellect. God said the way that we have victory over the world is through faith.

One of the key principles of faith that we see throughout Scripture that we have highlighted in this book is that faith speaks. Faith is expressed through words. We must speak words of faith, words that express our faith in God, in His Word, and in all that Jesus Christ has accomplished for us. Doing so is one of the ways that we overcome and live victoriously over the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Speak your faith. It is a key to living victoriously and as an overcomer.

72

WE ARE OF GOD, SO WE SPEAK AS FROM GOD

1 John 4:4-6

⁴You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

⁵They are of the world. Therefore they speak *as* of the world, and the world hears them.

⁶We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

John the apostle is contrasting two kinds of people. Those who are “*of the world*” and those who are “*of God*.” He states that those who are of the world are identified by *this*—“*they speak as of the world*.” They speak the language of the world, worldly matters, and express the spirit of the world. So, the world pays attention to them. However, we who are “*of God*,” the implication is, we speak as “*of God*” and those who know God, hear, understand, and pay attention to what we are speaking.

We are “*of God*,” so we speak as “*of God*.” We speak a different language. We speak the language of God’s Word. We speak aligned to the truth of God’s Word.

Remember that you are “*of God*.” When you are around those who are “*of the world*,” you will feel the pressure to conform and to speak as “*of the world*.” But you do not have to yield to the pressures of this world. You are of God. You are an overcomer. You have overcome the spirit of error, the spirit of this age, the spirit that is against Christ. Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. You don’t have to agree with the

WE ARE OF GOD, SO WE SPEAK AS FROM GOD

language of the world or what is spoken as “*of the world.*” You choose your words. You speak as “*of God.*” You speak aligned to God’s Word. Speak your faith.

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WE OVERCOME BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB AND THE WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY

Revelation 12:11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Satan is our adversary. Satan and his demons have been defeated and rendered powerless. All they have at their disposal in their weakened state is the ability to play mind games using lies, deceptions, accusations, and intimidation. That is why satan is called the accuser of the brethren, causing his accusations to weigh on our minds constantly, thus accusing us in our minds before God. He attempts to make us feel worthless, condemned, and unloved before God.

In Revelation 12, John brings out a powerful key on how we believers overcome this adversary and his accusations. We overcome satan by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony. We believe in what the blood of Jesus has done for us and we speak and declare our testimony, that is, we declare what the blood of Jesus has done for us personally. We must declare, we must speak our word of testimony to what the blood of Jesus has done for us. We must say with our mouths declaring what Jesus Christ has completed for us through His Cross, and that we believe in His finished work. Our declaration of what the blood of the Lamb has done for us crushes the adversary. Declare your faith in what Christ has done for you through the Cross. Speak your faith.

DO YOU KNOW THE GOD WHO LOVES YOU?

About 2000 years ago, God came into this world as a man. His name is Jesus. He lived a perfectly sinless life. Since Jesus was God in flesh, everything He said and did reveal God to us. The words He spoke were the very words of God. The things He did were the actions of God. Jesus did many miracles on the earth. He healed the sick and suffering. He opened blind eyes, unstopped deaf ears, made the lame to walk and healed every kind of sickness and disease. He fed the hungry by miraculously multiplying a few loaves of bread, calmed the storm and did many other wonderful things.

All these actions reveal to us that God is a good God who wants people to be well, whole, healthy and happy. God wants to meet the needs of people.

So why then would God decide to become a man and step into our world? Why did Jesus come?

All of us have sinned and done things that are unacceptable before the God who created us. Sin has its consequences. Sin is like a great unsurpassable wall between God and us. Sin separates us from God. It prevents us from knowing and having a meaningful relationship with the One who created us. Therefore, many of us try to fill this void with other things.

Another consequence of our sins is eternal separation from God. In God's court, the penalty for sin is death. Death is eternal separation from God in hell.

But the good news is that we can be free from sin and be restored to God. The Bible says, ***“For the wages [payment] of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23)***. Jesus paid for the sins of the whole world when He died on the cross. Then, three days later He rose again, showed Himself alive to many and then went back into heaven.

God is a God of love and mercy. He does not wish that any person be lost in hell. And so, He came to provide a way for the entire human

race to be free from sin and its lasting consequences. He came to save sinners—to rescue people like you and me from sin and eternal death.

To receive this free forgiveness of sins, the Bible tells us that we have to do just one thing—accept what the Lord Jesus Christ did on the cross and to believe in Him wholeheartedly.

“... through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive forgiveness of sins” (Acts 10:43).

“that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9).

You too can receive forgiveness and cleansing for your sins if you will believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The following is a simple prayer to help you decide to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and what He has done for you on the cross. This prayer will help you express your acceptance of what Jesus has done for you and receive forgiveness and cleansing for your sins. This prayer is only a guideline. You can also pray in your own words.

Dear Lord Jesus, today, I have understood what You did for me on the cross. You died for me, you shed Your precious blood and paid the penalty for my sins so that I could be forgiven. The Bible tells me that whoever believes in You will receive forgiveness for their sins.

Today, I decide to believe in You and to accept what You did for me by dying for me on the cross and rising again from the dead. I know I cannot save myself by my own good works, and neither can any other human save me. I cannot earn forgiveness for my sins.

Today, I believe in my heart and say with my mouth that You died for me, You paid the penalty for my sins, You rose again from the dead, and by faith in You, I receive forgiveness and cleansing for my sins.

Thank You, Jesus. Help me to love You, to know You more and to be faithful to You.

Amen.

ABOUT ALL PEOPLES CHURCH

Our vision at All Peoples Church is to be salt and light in the city of Bangalore, a voice to the nation and to the nations.

All Peoples Church is a **Jesus loving, Word focused, Spirit filled,** family church, an equipping center, a missions base and a world outreach.

- As a **family church**, we grow together as a community in Christ-centered fellowship, caring and serving each other in love as the assembly of God.
- As an **equipping center**, we empower and equip every believer to live victoriously, mature into Christlikeness and fulfill God's purposes for their lives.
- As a **missions base**, we engage in meaningful ministry to bless our city, nation and the nations with the full Gospel of Jesus Christ through the Word of God and supernatural demonstrations of the power of the Holy Spirit.
- As a **world outreach**, we serve locally and globally by nurturing godly leaders and Spirit-filled churches who can impact their regions for the Kingdom of God.

At APC, we are committed to presenting the complete, uncompromised Word of God in the anointing and demonstration of His Holy Spirit. We believe that good music, creative presentations, brilliant apologetics, contemporary ministry techniques, the latest technology and so on, can never substitute the God-ordained approach of proclaiming the Word in the power of the Holy Spirit with signs, wonders, miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:4,5; Hebrews 2:3,4). Our theme is Jesus, our content is the Word, our method is the Holy Spirit's power, our passion is people and our goal is Christ-like maturity.

With our main base in Bangalore, All Peoples Church has several other church locations in India. To get a current listing and contact information of All Peoples Church locations, please visit our website at apcwo.org/locations or send an email to contact@apcwo.org.

FREE PUBLICATIONS

A Church in Revival	Offenses-Don't Take Them
A Real Place Called Heaven	Open Heavens
A Time for Every Purpose	Our Redemption
Ancient Landmarks	Receiving God's Guidance
Baptism in the Holy Spirit	Revivals, Visitations and Moves of God
Being Spiritually Minded and Earthly Wise	Shhh! No Gossip!
Biblical Attitude Towards Work	Speak Your Faith
Breaking Personal and Generational Bondages	The Conquest of the Mind
Change	The Father's Love
Code of Honor	The House of God
Divine Favor	The Kingdom of God
Divine Order in the Citywide Church	The Mighty Name of Jesus
Don't Compromise Your Calling	The Night Seasons of Life
Don't Lose Hope	The Power of Commitment
Equipping the Saints	The Presence of God
Foundations (Track 1)	The Redemptive Heart of God
Fulfilling God's Purpose for Your Life	The Refiner's Fire
Gifts of the Holy Spirit	The Spirit of Wisdom, Revelation and Power
Giving Birth to the Purposes of God	The Wonderful Benefits of Speaking in Tongues
God Is a Good God	Timeless Principles for the Workplace
God's Word—The Miracle Seed	Understanding the Prophetic
How to Help Your Pastor	Water Baptism
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New books are released regularly. Please visit apcwo.org/books to download free APC Christian books in PDF, audio and other formats. Many of these books are also available in other languages. Also visit apcwo.org/sermons for free audio and video sermons, sermon notes and many free other resources.

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Chrysalis Counseling offers personal counseling to help people face and overcome life's challenges. Chrysalis Counseling is a team of professionally trained and experienced Christian counselors.

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Fees for Chrysalis Counseling services are affordable and accessible.

To schedule an appointment with one of our trained counselors:

Website: chrysalislife.org

Phone: +91-80-25452617 or toll-free (within India) 1-800-300-00998

Email: counselor@chrysalislife.org

Chrysalis Counseling is a ministry of All Peoples Church & World Outreach.

PARTNER WITH ALL PEOPLES CHURCH

All Peoples Church ministers beyond its own borders as a local church by reaching out across India, especially North India, with a special focus on (A) Strengthening Leaders, (B) Equipping young people for ministry and (C) Building up the Body of Christ. Several training seminars for young people and ‘Christian Leaders’ Conference’ are held throughout the year. In addition, several thousands of copies of publications are distributed free of cost in English and other Indian languages with the purpose of equipping believers in the Word and in the Spirit.

We invite you to partner with us financially by sending either a one-time gift or a monthly financial gift. Any amount that you can send to help us in this work across our nation will be greatly appreciated.

You can send your gift by cheque / bank draft payable to “All Peoples Church” to our office address. Else, you can remit your contribution directly by bank transfer using our bank account details.

Account Name: All Peoples Church

Account Number: 50200068829058

IFSC Code: HDFC0004367

Bank: HDFC Bank, 7M/308 80 Ft Rd, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar,
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***Kindly note:** All Peoples Church can only accept bank contributions from an India based bank account. When making your contribution, if desired, you can indicate the specific APC ministry area where you would like your contribution to be used. For additional details, please visit apcwo.org/give.*

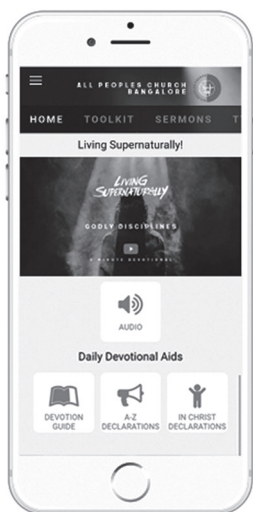
Also, please remember to pray for us and our ministry whenever you can.

Thank You and God Bless!

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IF YOU LOVE IT, TELL OTHERS ABOUT IT!



ALL PEOPLES CHURCH BIBLE COLLEGE

apcbiblecollege.org

All Peoples Church Bible College and Ministry Training Center in Bangalore, India, provides Spirit-filled, anointed, hands-on training and equipping for ministering in the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit along with a doctrinally sound and intellectually stimulating study of God's Word. We believe in developing the whole person for ministry emphasizing godly character, deep roots in the Word of God and powerful demonstrations of signs, wonders and miracles, all flowing out of an intimate relationship with the Lord.

At All Peoples Church Bible College (APC-BC), in addition to sound teaching, we emphasize the love of God in demonstration, the anointing and presence of the Holy Spirit and the supernatural work of God. Several young men and women have been trained and sent out to fulfill God's call over their lives.

We offer three programs.

- One-year Certificate in Theology and Christian Ministry (C.Th.)
- Two-year Diploma in Theology and Christian Ministry (Dip.Th.)
- Three-year Bachelor's in Theology and Christian Ministry (B.Th.)

Classes are held each weekday, **Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon, Indian Time (UTC+5:30)**. We offer three learning options.

- **On-Campus:** Attend in-person classes at the campus
- **Online:** Attend live lectures online
- **E-Learning:** Self-paced learning through the online portal apcbiblecollege.org/elearn

To **apply online**, and for more information about the college, curriculum, eligibility criteria, tuition costs and to download the application form, please visit apcbiblecollege.org.

Throughout Scripture, God instructs His people to speak His Word. His Word spoken as words out of our mouths with faith in our hearts will cause His creative, miracle-working power to be released in our natural realm. His Word spoken as words out of our mouths becomes our weapon against the enemy.

We can shape our world by speaking God's Word over our present and our future. We must learn to speak faith-filled words at all times and in all situations. To speak in faith is not to deny the existence of a mountain or the fierceness of a prevailing storm. Rather, faith speaks to the mountain denying its right to continue standing in the way. Faith speaks to winds and storms depriving them of their right to wreak havoc, and instead, gives way to the peace and calm that God releases. Faith speaks to sickness commanding it to leave and give way to healing and wholeness that come from God.

This book will establish you in this Biblical truth and inspire you to speak your faith at all times!

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