

Hey, everyone!

I pray that you are all blessed. Great responses to the Word in today's services!

Love y'all!

Part 25: Elevate Your Life!

Texts:

Ephesians 2:6 (NIV) - *"God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus."*

Luke 9:1 (NIV) - "When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases."

Matthew 8:5-8 (NIV) - "When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. "Lord," he said, "My servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly." Jesus said to him, "Shall I come and heal him?" The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just SAY THE WORD, and my servant will be healed."

Matthew 8:13 (NIV) - "Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! Let it be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that moment."

Psalms 107:19-21 (NIV) - "Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He SENT OUT HIS WORD and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind."

"Your Authority Can Order Alignment into Your World!"

A. God's Word is **powerful!** . . . And so is ours! That's why we must learn to speak the right words!

1. Parents are often concerned about their children's pronunciation of words.
2. Winston Churchill once said, "We are two nations divided by a common language."

a. In the UK, they say, "shed'yool;" Americans say, "schedule."

b. They say, "la-bor'-a -tor'-ie;" we say, "laboratory."

c. They say, "leiz'zure;" we say, "lee'sure" (leisure).

3. **Joke:** Speaking of correct pronunciations, have you ever driven across the elevated I-10 bridge between Lafayette and Baton Rouge, Louisiana? More than 18 miles long, the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge spans a beautiful wilderness area of swamp land in both Iberville Parish and St. Martins Parish. Most people have trouble pronouncing the Choctaw Indian name which means "Long River."

At each end of this lengthy bridge are several restaurants and gas stations. A couple of tourists who had been debating how to pronounce the name of the bridge walked into a Burger King. One of them asked the girl at the counter to settle their argument by saying the name very slowly so they could understand how it should be pronounced.

Bewildered, she looked at them and slowly said, "Burr-Gerr King!"

B. While the pronunciation of words is important, even more important is **what** we say.

1. Unlike the Israelites to whom Jesus was ministering, a Roman centurion correctly understood the power of Jesus' words when he said, "It isn't necessary to come to my house. Just say the word and my servant will be delivered."

2. With a great deal of honesty, Psalm 107 recounts the hardships of God's people in their journey to the Promised Land.
 - a. Some folks aren't always honest. If you ask how they are doing, they seem to think it could mar their image of perfection to admit that they are facing opposition—like the rest of us humans.
 - b. On the other hand, some can become so needy, they act as though they've never enjoyed a good day in their entire life!
3. The psalmist openly confessed that throughout their history, Israel had repeatedly been in difficult situations, ranging from chains to chaos, from burdens to bondage, from dungeons and deserts, to storms and starvation.
 - a. Yet he was quick to point out that each time they encountered a hopeless, harsh, impossible situation, they prayed!
 - b. And guess what happened? God always came to their rescue!
4. **How** God came to their rescue is what catches my attention!
 - a. I want to know how they overcame their challenges, because I've also faced some tough times that seemed absolutely impossible to survive!
5. How did God deliver them? Our text says, "He **sent His Word** and healed them!"
 - a. When they prayed, God sent a "Word."
 - b. The word God spoke had such creative power, it produced the change that would alter everything!

C. Because God designed words to be powerful, we must acknowledge how powerful they really are!

1. If we are made in God's image and likeness, why wouldn't our words be powerful?
2. The Bible says that God created the world by using words to speak it into existence.

3. Words are much more powerful than we may have realized. They can be used to create something good—or bad.
4. **Psalm 19:14 (NKJV)** - "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer."

D. Many of you have probably watched the YouTube video from last week, "The Amazing Resonance Experiment."

1. "Cymatics," the study of the visible effects of sound and vibration, has concluded that sound equals vibration and vibration creates form.
2. If you failed to connect the creative powers of the voice with the sound produced by the frequency generator, please watch this shorter video of various geometric shapes being created from a variety of frequencies (<http://youtu.be/WB5gSG0VhDw>).
 - a. In this experiment, grains of rice are sprinkled on a black metal sheet connected to a frequency generator. Notice how the frequencies change from one level to another.
3. Remember that all sounds are actually vibrations caused by the compression of the medium through which they are conducted.
 - a. Since most of the sounds we hear are transported by air, something has to compress the air.
 - b. For example, when you speak, the vocal chords compress the air as it passes through.
 - c. Since the voice creates sounds, the words you speak are actually vibrations.
4. The purpose of this second video is to prevent anyone from thinking that the changing shapes we saw last week were produced by the technical equipment. It also happens with a simple drum and the resonance of the human voice (<http://youtu.be/Bs3uPbhIZxc>).

5. To me, it is incredible that geometric designs are formed from the vibration of the drum or when the man begins to hum.

E. This amazing demonstration reveals that the human voice has power to create forms and objects!

1. We tend to believe that only God's Voice has the power and authority to create—but did you see this? Geometric shapes and patterns were created by the sound of a **human** voice!
2. This means you can speak your dreams into existence! Speak your health or your marriage into a state of wholeness. Speak until the blessing is manifested!
3. And it works whether you are saved or not! The results of this experiment would have been the same, even if the guy was an unbeliever!
4. So what's the point? This demonstration reveals that you can create the world in which you live—by the words you speak!
5. It also gives a clearer understanding of **Psalms 107:20 (NKJV)** - "He sent His word and healed them. And delivered them from their destructions."

F. Now I'm wondering how this new understanding affects the spirit dimension.

1. We can all agree that words affect the spirit dimension—which is essentially the purpose of prayer. Words spoken from the heart go directly to God.
2. So, where does God live?
 - a. **Isaiah 57:15 (NIV)** - "For this is what the high and exalted One says— he who lives forever, whose name is holy: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."
3. Can we be sure He hears our prayers? Oh yes, we can!

- a. **Psalm 91:15 (NIV)** - "He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him."
 - b. **1 John 5:14 (NIV)** - "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."
4. The words you speak can even determine whether or not you are saved.
- a. **Romans 10:6-10 (NIV)** - "But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) [7] "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [8] But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: [9] If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [10] For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved."
 - b. True salvation requires that words be spoken from the heart!
 - c. From these verses, we know that the spirit dimension where God dwells is affected or moved by what we speak.

G. Another important question to consider is this: does God alone hear us?

- 1. If God has given us authority over the enemy and all his demon spirits, I'm quite sure he hears when we speak against him in the name of Jesus!
 - a. **Luke 10:17 (NIV)** - "The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."
- 2. How would the disciples have known the demons had submitted? I'm sure they had followed Jesus' example of commanding unclean spirits to leave. Obviously, there was a response when they spoke.
- 3. Based on numerous scriptures, the enemy also hears and responds to the words we speak.

- a. **Acts 16:18 (NIV)** - "And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her."
- b. Because Paul walked in Kingdom power and authority, the enemy departed from the girl at his command.

H. If there is a response in the spirit realm to the words we speak, is it possible that circumstances, challenges, and hardships must also respond?

1. **Mark 11:22-23 (NIV)** - "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. "Truly I tell you, if anyone SAYS to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them."
2. Scientific studies reveal that a physical condition can improve by merely speaking to it. This process, known as "bio-feedback," has documented evidence that conditions such as high blood pressure, cancer, and other diseases have improved.
3. To improve physically by speaking life and health to yourself is amazing!
4. Consider the "placebo effect." When patients **believe** they are receiving a fancy new drug or treatment in a clinical trial—even though they are being given a fake treatment, they often experience healing.
 - a. The placebo effect is not a figment of the imagination. It is so real, it produces the desired effect in about one-third of the patients.
 - b. It has been known to dilate bronchi, heal ulcers, cause warts to disappear, reduce blood pressure, and even grow hair on the bald heads of men who thought they were being treated with Rogaine.

I. Could it be that negative words have inadvertently spoken death into many situations that words of faith could have reversed?

1. As proof of this concept, science has also documented the "Nocebo Effect."

- a. Harvard Health, Psychology Today, The New Yorker, The Scientist, The New York Times and The Smithsonian have all recently published reports documenting this phenomenon.
 - b. A New York Times article by Paul Enck and Winfried Hauser published on August 10, 2012, states: "But expectations can also do harm. When a patient anticipates a pill's possible side effects, he can suffer them even if the pill is fake."
 - c. Why is this? Because you begin talking to yourself! What's in the heart seems to have a way of coming out!
2. Speaking negative words to patients, such as an incorrect diagnosis, has actually caused them to develop the very disease they were mistakenly told they had contracted.
 - a. For example, a patient is given a placebo drug or pill that has no medicinal value. But they are told of side effects that could develop. Because of the Nocebo Effect, about 25% of the patients will develop those very side effects!
 - b. What does the Bible say about this? **Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV)** - "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."
3. To think and then speak your thoughts is extremely powerful.
 - a. **Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)** - "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."
 - b. **Proverbs 18:21 (The Message)** - "Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit—you choose."
4. You can either speak life over yourself, your family, your ministry, health and marriage—or you can speak death.
5. According to the Nocebo Effect, when Israel was about to enter the Promised Land, they totally aborted their own blessing and brought a curse upon themselves.
 - a. **Numbers 13:33 (NKJV)** - "There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like

grasshoppers in our own sight, AND SO WERE WE IN THEIR
SIGHT.”

6. The Israelites received what they had confessed and spoken! Their spoken words became their reality!