

The Power of Words: Faith-filled Words, 3.13.16

Introduction

1. Previous Message
2. James 5.16

Big Idea: By proclaiming God's will, we change this world to become His world.

Know Your Position

- Some of the most triumphant victories on the field of sports happen when a person stays in their position and makes the play. There is strength when you stay and play in your position.
- Knowing and operating in your position in Jesus will determine how effective and powerful your prayers are.
- Rom.8.15-17a, 29-31 – co heirs with Jesus;
- Eph.2.4-6 – I am seated with Jesus TODAY
- Heb. 4.14-16 – I enter God's presence boldly b/c of Jesus
- When you operate from your position in Christ there is power. Don't let the enemy tempt or taunt you out of your position!
- Point to your seat and say "Know your position"

Exercise Your Authority

- B/c of the blood of Jesus, I have authority on earth.
- Col.2.13-15
- Matt.28.18-19
- Luke 10.19
- Matt.6.10
- Appl - We don't have to accept things as they are; we can change the trajectory of our life and even the destiny of a community and nation with our words. We see that today with China soon becoming the largest Christian nation in the world; the fall of communism; the rise of S Korea; economic growth of Brazoria Cty. I believe all of it can be directly attributed to groups who knew their position, exercised their authority and proclaimed God's will.
- Ill – Many view God as a benevolent police authority. He's available for emergencies and tough situations and he warns us and catches us when we do wrong. Otherwise, he leaves us alone but we need to stay in the boundaries and play it safe.
- We aren't passive observers of life but we are co-heirs to the throne of the Great King. We are His ambassadors bringing His will to bear against the forces of darkness. We are a part of an ever advancing Kingdom that is overcoming darkness.
- Do bicep curls and say "Exercise Your Authority."

Proclaim God's Will

- Know His Will As Revealed In His Word
 - 1 John 5.14f – I can ask anything according to His Will and He not only hears, but He will answer me. The kicker is that I must know His will. His will is both the written and Living Word. What does the written Word say and what did the living Word do?
 - John 15.7-8. You must know His Words in order to proclaim His will. What does the Bible say about the particular thing you are asking? What did Jesus say or do when he confronted similar circumstances.
 - You don't need to pray this prayer, "Lord, if it be your will..." that is a self defeating prayer. It is a no faith prayer...a cover your tracks prayer...it's an 'I don't want to be disappointed in God' prayer, so if our prayer isn't answered then we're okay.
 - If you don't know if it's His will or not, then seek it, ask Him to unfold His will. He promises that He will give wisdom if we need it.
 - You cannot go beyond your knowledge of God's Word. What happens sometimes is when a person receives prayer from another that person experiences a healing or peace, but then shortly afterwards the peace or healing leaves. It possibly is due that the person's healing was built more on the intercessor's faith in the Word than in their personal faith in the Word. So, when the wind blew and the floodwaters came, they easily toppled (Mt.7). You must be grounded in the promises of God.
 - Joshua 1.7f and its context. God is telling Joshua to be grounded in the Word b/c it's about to get really hard.
- Be fully persuaded/Have faith –
 - 2 Cor.5.7, "We walk by faith and not by sight."
 - We must not invert that statement; we must stop proclaiming "sight" and start proclaiming "faith."
 - Ill - Two ways of praying for Aaron – "O God would you please...or O God, I thank you for...".
 - **We must stop speaking sight over people, relationship and life situations and start proclaiming God's will.** Could it be that a big part of the reason our nation is in the situation it is today is b/c Christians have been proclaiming "by sight" rather than "by faith"? Some say, "Well, I just say it like I see it" and guess what, "You're going to keep getting what you see." **We need to say it like God sees it.** You don't deny reality, but "earthly reality" must submit to "Ultimate reality."
 - We allow doctors do this with their diagnosis. We let their words determine outcomes. They are walking by sight (and I'm grateful for that) but we can't let earthly sight to supersede heavenly sight.
 - Heb.11.1, "Faith (being fully persuaded) is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see." What "we hope for" is God's will as revealed in both the written and living Word. They are the promises that we proclaim with our lips.
 - Bungee Cord of Unbelief – we start believing the promises of God and walk with confidence and then something happens and we feel a tug. We continue walking and there's more resistance and then a small gush a wind and we find

ourselves all the way back where we started. The devil keeps pulling us back to the old place (trauma, unbelief, hurt, unanswered prayer or question, hardship, relationship, activity) and eventually convinces us to stay connected to the rope. You have to cut it.

- Obey Him – John 15.7
- State it out loud and have others stand in agreement with you –
 - Mk.11.22-25
 - Mt.16.18-19. Keys represent authority and access. They were given to Peter but they were not limited to him. All believers have access into the presence of God and authority on the earth. The tense of this verse should read as the Ampl & Other translations have stated. We loose the things that have already been loosed in heaven; we bind the things that have already been bound in heaven.
 - What realities did Jesus loose on earth that had been loosed in heaven – forgiveness, healing, deliverance, restoration, miracles, prosperity, the Father’s love...all the realities of heaven. He bound the work of the enemy so that at the end of his life he could say, “I did everything you wanted me to do.”
 - With the words of our mouth we loose the promises of God and we bind the work of the enemy who is resisting them!
 - Matt.18.18ff – You need two or three witnesses.
- Cup your hands around your mouth and state “Proclaim God’s Will.”

Big Idea: By proclaiming God’s will, we change this world to become His world.

James 5:16 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹⁶Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

Romans 8:15-17 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹⁵So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God’s Spirit when he adopted you as his own children.^[a] Now we call him, “Abba, Father.”^[b] ¹⁶For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children. ¹⁷And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with

Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering

Romans 8:29-31 New Living Translation (NLT)

²⁹For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn^[a] among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.³¹ What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

Ephesians 2:4-6 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁴But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) ⁶For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 4:14-16 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹⁴So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. ¹⁵This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. ¹⁶So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Colossians 2:13-15 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹³You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. ¹⁴He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵In this way, he disarmed^[a] the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

1 John 5:14-15 New Living Translation (NLT)

¹⁴And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. ¹⁵And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

John 15:7-8 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁷But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! ⁸When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

Joshua 1:7-8 New Living Translation (NLT)

⁷Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. ⁸Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

Mark 11:22-25 New Living Translation (NLT)

²²Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God. ²³I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. ²⁴I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours. ²⁵But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.