

Sunday, September 23, 2012

Principles of Faith #3 – Speak to the Mountain **Pastor Charles Mendenhall**

If you are going to have the God-kind or bible-kind of faith it must be built on the foundation of the Word of God. It cannot be something you yourself come up with and start confessing and believing. I must be built on the foundation of God's Word. And without the foundation of God's Word and God making it alive to you by His spirit speaking to you, you will not have anything to believe God for.

Just as God dealt with the children of Israel in their obedience, their partial obedience, and flat out rebellion he also deals with us, and in spite of all of it His plan and His Word never changes for us. However while dealing with us and the season we are at in our lives the word God speaks to us for our direction may change just a little bit. His direction may change but his plan never does. A simple example is how God was going to deliver the children of Israel. His direction changed in that he called Moses to lead them through Him.

In numbers chapter 14 the children of Israel had become openly disobedient to God's purpose for them. They wanted to go back to Egypt because they were in a position where they had to walk by faith boundaries aren't set for them, they have to set their own boundaries so they wanted to go back. God's plan and purpose never changed, but he told Moses and Aaron that the people who were 20 years and older were going to die in the wilderness and younger generation would inherit the land. Later in the chapter when Moses brings that word back to the entire congregation and how they had become a nation of unbelief they repented and when the Word of the Lord came they said ok we will do it right now but the Word of the Lord said not to go up but because they went against God's word they were devoured. They needed to have faith for God telling them NOT to go up.

When we go beyond God's word we move over into presuming that we will just do it our own way we become our own God. It's found in Genesis chapter 3. If we are going to have the bible-kind of faith we are going to have to base it on God's word the bible. There are other kinds of faith and the bible speaks of feigned faith. There is faith that we can get just by listening to someone's opinion or even the news. We hear wrong, then we can start to think wrong, then we progress to believing wrong and on to speaking wrong and then wrong actions.

Romans 10:17 (KJV)

¹⁷ So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The God-kind of faith is going to come by hearing God's word.

If we are born again we all have been given the measure of faith. It may be lying dormant within us but we have it.

What god gives us by grace will take faith to possess.

Some biblical examples were given last week of both men and women who when they heard the Word then faith came. They would hear then faith came.

How do we actually release our faith?

We can go to God and ask him to take sickness from us but God sees it from the position that Jesus already took it from us at the cross. It's already a done deal.

The bible tells and teaches us to speak to our mountain. Don't ask God to do anything about it, He has already done something about it through His son Jesus. We are to learn to speak to it.

Matthew 17:20 (KJV)

²⁰ And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

Jesus was teaching them to speak to the situation and it would obey.

Mark 11:23 (KJV)

²³ For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Luke 17:6 (KJV)

⁶ And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

There is something about faith that is going to say to the mountain. There is something about faith that is going to say what you are believing. Jesus is teaching us that to release our faith we are going to, "say", to tell it what to do. Jesus has already conquered it for us.

Mark 5:27-28 (KJV)

²⁷ When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.

²⁸ For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.

The woman with the issue of blood heard then she "said".

Mark 5:28 AMP)

²⁸ For she kept saying, If I only touch His garments, I shall be restored to health.

When we make a confession of faith or declaring what God has said or doing for us, we are the only one or those close to us will know if we are truly believing God for it. It is unwise to tell everyone. It should be kept quiet.

In the following scriptures Elisha, a man of God, speaks a word to the Shunammite woman that she would be given a son.

2 Kings 4:15-17 (KJV)

¹⁵ And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the door.

¹⁶ And he said, About this season, according to the time of life, thou shalt embrace a son. And she said, Nay, my lord, thou man of God, do not lie unto thine handmaid.

¹⁷ And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of life.

The son is born but in his youth he dies.

2 Kings 4:21-23 (KJV)

²¹ And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out.

²² And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again.

²³ And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.

Faith always has a voice and will always say what it is believing.

After you receive a word from God and circumstances come remember:

Romans 4:17 (KJV)

¹⁷ (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

2 Kings 4:24-28 (KJV)

²⁴ Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee.

²⁵ So she went and came unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite:

²⁶ Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well:

²⁷ And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the Lord hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.

²⁸ Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me?

She was able to say it is well even though her child was home dead. She also reminded Elisha how she previously told him not to deceive her when he told her she would have a son. She was not going to allow contradicting circumstances to come and pluck the word from her heart.

2 Kings 4:29-36 (KJV)

29 Then he said to Gehazi, Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, salute him not; and if any salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the child.

30 And the mother of the child said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And he arose, and followed her.

31 And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice, nor hearing. Wherefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, The child is not awaked.

32 And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed.

33 He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the Lord.

34 And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child waxed warm.

35 Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.

36 And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her. And when she was come in unto him, he said, Take up thy son.

This young man came back to life based on the faith of a mother that would not be denied of what God said. Her faith kept speaking, "it is well".

You cannot have faith beyond your knowledge of the Word of God or bible-kind of faith.

2 Corinthians 4:13 (KJV)

13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

The spirit of faith says what it is believing.

God takes the limits off and the devil comes and puts the limits on through circumstances, what you hear, or what you see and much of the time we accept the limits too easily.

In 1 Samuel 17 David makes a statement:

1 Samuel 17:26 (KJV)

26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

David had been getting in the presence of God, hearing His voice, writing songs and psalms so he had a different outlook.

1 Samuel 17:32 (KJV)

³² And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

This was not just something between David and Goliath it was David standing in the gap for the entire nation of Israel. Goliath represented the nation of the Philistines. If David wins all of the Philistines submits to Israel and if David loses Israel will be the servants of the Philistines.

1 Samuel 17:34 (KJV)

³⁴ And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

1 Samuel 17:37 (KJV)

³⁷ David said moreover, The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the Lord be with thee.

Notice the progression. We release our faith by saying. David had been saying and framing.

1 Samuel 17:43-46 (KJV)

⁴³ And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

⁴⁴ And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

⁴⁵ Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

⁴⁶ This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

Every time the devil comes at you and I he's coming after the Christ that is in you and I. David had it right in saying they had come to defy God.

When we win a battle in our life the purpose is that for the people that know what is going on would know there is a God.

When you begin to get a revelation and comprehension that God is good to you you will see things differently. David had that comprehension.

1 Samuel 17:50 (KJV)

⁵⁰ So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

Mark 11:23 (KJV)

²³ For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Whosoever means anybody can, but everybody won't, but somebody will. We should be purposing to be the somebody who does.

There is nothing impossible to him that believeth.

Faith has a voice. The bible-kind of faith has a voice and is able to declare it in the midst of adversity or impossible circumstances.

Father, I ask you to forgive me when I had feigned faith. I want to have unfeigned faith. Help me Lord to understand your word. Open the eyes of my understanding to see your goodness and Jesus I purpose this day to build my faith on the unchangeable unshakable foundation of God's word. Thank you Lord.

Father, right now I understand that we release our faith bases on the Word of God by saying to the challenge in our lives. Right now I speak to _____. Now Father, I have spoken to it to be removed, be gone, far away in Jesus name. I receive wholeness and completeness in the name of Jesus. Amen and Amen.

