Be Normal; Speak Life

6-7-15

Matthew 17:20 (ESV)

He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, **if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed**, **'you will say'** to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and **nothing will be impossible for you**."

We all know the power words have. Much of counseling has to do with words said to someone in their lifetime particularly when they were young. Negative words that are not even true have a life long impact. Also positive words spoken by a parent, coach, friend, or mentor can be life changing and inspire someone to do well in life. We want to consider the power and authority of a Christian's words. We want to look at the spiritual impact of what we say having the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Words have power. <u>How can Jesus say</u>, "Speak to the mountain and it will move and nothing will be impossible to you?"

For speaking Life, here is a Foundational Scriptural understanding for a Christian:

Genesis 1:1–4 (ESV)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth ³ And God said, (creating the physical) ⁴ And God saw (God saw what HE said)

Hebrews 11:3 (ESV)

By faith we understand that the universe was <u>created</u> by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

The Spirit is greater than the physical! The Spirit spoke and the physical came into existence. Therefore Jesus understanding the true nature of the spiritual and physical said as a matter of fact:

Matthew 17:20 (ESV)

For truly, I say to you, if you have <u>faith</u> like a grain of mustard seed, "YOU WILL SAY" and nothing will be impossible for you.

Jesus was addressing our fundamental position as a Christian. Speak Life – Our assignment! It was not strange to Jesus that words would move the physical and that anything was possible. Jesus points out that you need only a grain of faith and nothing will be impossible for you. Faith is hearing God and then doing what God showed you.

General faith (above) – We act out as a general lifestyle of faith. We study the Scriptures and grow in our faith impacting our lifestyle through the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, there is power as we move in a general lifestyle of faith speaking life into situations. Included here is praise and worship, which summons the presence of God.

Specific faith (above) – We receive a specific word, direction, prompting from God and we act accordingly; specific direction with a more specific outcome. Therefore we will speak life more specifically into situations.

Again this <u>foundational truth</u> of the spiritual over the temporal is behind Jesus' communication to HIS disciples.

Matthew 16:19 (ESV)

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

As a Christian our words have authority and power. Our words matter. Therefore we desire to speak life into others for the glory of Christ.

1 Corinthians 14:1 (ESV)
Pursue love, and **earnestly desire the spiritual gifts**, especially that you may prophesy. *(So that we can speak life as Christ intended.)*

Look at our <u>Christian message</u>: Jesus loves you, you are forgiven, and you have a home in heaven. Each time we say these things, <u>they go forth with all the power of God</u>.

The Holy Spirit will give us words for others. In the gospel of John the woman at the well after encountering Jesus said to everyone, "HE told me everything I did!" We have the same ministry; Speak life - Michael and Cynthia; Mindy and Mormon. Information is good, but we need to speak life with all the power of the Holy Spirit. What about you? Your family; Your friends; Your work; What are you speaking into them. Your church - The people around us are living in silent desperation and many are listening to religious dribble. We need to speak out and speak life! We hear God; we receive words of knowledge and prophecy; we minister healing, physical and emotional. We not only teach; we impart! Therefore with authority, let us speak words of life. We can move mountains; nothing is impossible for us. All this empowers and confirms what is of first importance.

1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (ESV)

³ For I delivered to you as of **first importance** what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

Apostle - Speak life to impart to you - Rom.1:11

Prophetic Team - Speak life to edify - 1Cor.14:3