

Jesse Rich Ministries

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“Called to reach the World with the Word of Faith”

The Word of Faith

...that is, the **WORD OF FAITH**, which we preach; Romans 10:8

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Dear Friend and Partner,

As a believer, a born-again child of God, you have rights, privileges, spiritual authority and benefits that came with your salvation. These came when you received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Many believers are unaware of this. Therefore, God needs ministers to teach His people His Word and to instruct and inform them of what belongs to them in Christ Jesus.

The **Word of faith** teaching is a bonus of salvation. It enables the believer to go forth in life, ruling and reigning in Christ Jesus over the devil and negative circumstances and situations in this world.

We need to realize that **God's gift to the world is Jesus Christ**. Possibly nothing depicts this any better than John 3:16: **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

God's gift to the church, the body of Christ, is the infilling of the Holy Spirit, as we read in Acts 1:8, **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

1And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:1-4

44While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. 46For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, 47Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? 48And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. Acts 10:44-48

1And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, 2He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. 3And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. 7And all the men were about twelve. Acts 19:1-7

You're not a better person when you receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit or when you begin to use your spiritual authority in Jesus' Name. You're just better equipped to carry out the Great Commission of going to all the world and preaching the gospel. Whether you're at work, or at home — *or wherever you may be* — if you are filled with the Holy Spirit and you know how to be a doer of the Word of God, no matter what you are confronted with, you can immediately know inside your spirit what God needs or wants you to do.

You May be the Only One Who Knows

How to Take Authority over Circumstances, Like David, and Jesus Did

You may be the only believer at your office, church, or anywhere else when a situation arises. You may be the only one who has the knowledge and experience of being taught the authority of the believer who can rise to the occasion and stop a disaster from occurring. Problems come to all of us, but the one who knows who they are in Christ Jesus will know how to take hold of God's power to turn a potential mess or crisis into a miracle.

It's like what David was able to do when no one was using their covenant. Neither King Saul nor David's brothers were enforcing the covenant that God had made with them.

Jesus Used His Authority and Showed us How

³⁵And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. ³⁶And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. ³⁷And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. ³⁸And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

³⁹And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? ⁴¹And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him? Mark 4:35-41

Adam and Eve Failed to Use their Authority

Adam and Eve did not use their authority in Genesis, chapter 3. Because they did not, they died. And, because Jesus did, He survived. Not only did Jesus survive, all the people on the boat did. That's the great blessing that comes to you as a believer. When you rise to the occasion and use the Name of Jesus, it will not only benefit you, it will benefit all those around you, as well.

Using Our Authority as a Child of God Benefits Us and Others

Before I went into the ministry, I did floor covering as an installer. One day, when I came to work, rumors were flying around the office that they were closing the company and we'd all be losing our jobs. News like that can be shocking, disturbing, and seemingly overwhelming.

I immediately went off somewhere by myself and I began to tell Satan in Jesus' Name that he can't have this company. I read from my Bible and quoted Mark 11:23 and Malachi 3:10-12 throughout the day.

I began to remind the Lord that I was His child and a tither. I pled my case to the Lord, and bound the devil from my job and finances. Though I had feelings of fear, worry and anxiety that seemed overwhelming, what I'd been trained to do through being taught the **Word of faith** helped me rise to the occasion and take authority over this storm in the Name of Jesus.

Looking back at this incident, I spent every day until I went to Bible school believing God that I would get paid. Every week, the company said they didn't have enough money to pay me. I had to continually believe God that the company would get paid by those owing them money, so I could pay the people to whom I owed money. Thank God, the company kept going and no one lost their job. That experience helped me later to face bigger trials when I got to Bible school.

God needed someone in that floor covering company to use their authority and stop the devil from stealing, killing and destroying. That miracle didn't happen because I was super-spiritual, or because God loved me more than other people. It is what the Lord wants to do in every believer's life.

I believe that using the Name of Jesus can keep a company, an economy, a country, or the world flowing in God's provision and prosperity. YOU are that person God wants to use.

The authority that Jesus gave you in His Name is not only able to save your job and bless your loved ones, it can also make a dynamic difference in those around you who know nothing about how to appropriate the promises of God. We are never to take the credit, or the glory for what God does. We are to keep ourselves built up spiritually and stay prepared to stop the devil when he shows up.

Why do I preach the **Word of faith**? Because God wants His church in total control of this earth, in Jesus' Name.

Following are some Authority Scriptures:

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. Matthew 11: 12

Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. Matthew 12: 29

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matthew 18:18

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. Mark 11:23

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Luke 10:19

¹²Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. ¹³And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14: 12-14

⁸Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: ⁹Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. 1 Peter 5: 8,9

⁹Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2: 9-11

...that is, the WORD OF FAITH, which we preach; (*Rom. 10:8*)

Our Faith Overcomes Circumstances

The reason that every believer needs to be taught the **Word of faith** is so they can walk in victory in every area of their life, (*physically, mentally, emotionally, materially, spiritually, and socially,*) according to 1 John 5:4: **For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**

That doesn't mean that as a believer, you won't have tests and trials, because you will. But Romans 8:37 says, **Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**

In every test and trial, the **Word of faith** teaches you how to be an overcomer, according to 1 John 5:5: **Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?**

WHEN YOU'RE TAUGHT THE
WORD OF FAITH,

YOU LEARN:

HOW TO BE A DOER OF THE WORD OF GOD:

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. James 1:22

HOW TO RECEIVE FROM GOD:

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Matthew 7:11

HOW TO WALK IN THE GOD-KIND OF LOVE:

And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour. Ephesians 5:2

HOW TO BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT:

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: Romans 8:14-16

HOW TO WALK BY FAITH, AND NOT BY SIGHT:

(For we walk by faith, not by sight:) 2 Corinthians 5:7

HOW TO PRAY THE PRAYER OF FAITH:

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. Mark 11:24

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR INHERITANCE
IN CHRIST JESUS:

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Romans 8:17

YOU LEARN WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST JESUS:

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

HOW TO SPEAK THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD
TO THE DEVIL IN JESUS' NAME:

¹Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. ²And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. ³And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

⁴But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. ⁵Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

⁶And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

⁷Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. ⁸Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; ⁹And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

¹⁰Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. ¹¹Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him. Matthew 4:1-11

HOW TO PRAY TO GOD IN JESUS' NAME:

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:23,24

HOW TO KNOW THAT HEALING BELONGS TO YOU:

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses. Matthew 8:17

...Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs. Mark 7:27

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

HOW TO KEEP WHAT GOD GIVES YOU:

⁴³When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.

⁴⁴Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished.

⁴⁵Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation. Matthew 12:43-45

...Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee. John 5:14

Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Revelation 3:11

HOW TO RESIST THE DEVIL AND HIS ATTACKS:

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. Matthew 11:12

Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. Matthew 12:29

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matthew 18:18

Neither give place to the devil. Ephesians 4:27

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: ⁹Whom resist stedfast in the faith, ... 1 Peter 5:8,9

HOW TO BELIEVE GOD FOR YOUR LOVED ONES' SALVATION AND DELIVERANCE, ETC. THROUGH PRAYING THE WORD AND INTERCESSION:

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:26-28

¹⁶Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

17That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

18The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

19And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

20Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

21Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

22And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, **23**Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. Ephesians 1:16-23

14For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

16That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

17That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

18May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

19And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

20Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

21Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. Ephesians 3:14-21

HOW TO KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN REDEEMED FROM:

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Galatians 3:13,14

HOW TO EXERCISE YOUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY OVER THE DEVIL AND CIRCUMSTANCES IN THIS LIFE:

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: **9**Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. 1 Peter 5:8,9 (Read Mk. 4:35-41 on p..2)

HOW TO STAND ON GOD'S WORD AND FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH:

10Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. **11**Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **12**For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. **13**Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; **15**And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; **16**Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. **17**And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: **18**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Ephesians 6:10-18

HOW TO GROW AND DEVELOP SPIRITUALLY:

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 1 Peter 2:2

11And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: **13**Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: **14**That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; **15**But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: Ephesians 4:11-15

1And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. **2**I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. **3**For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? **4**For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? **5**Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? **6**I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. **7**So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 1 Corinthians 3:1-7

HOW TO PRAY GOD'S WORD:

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7

Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Psalm 103:20

HOW TO PRAY THE PRAYER OF AGREEMENT:

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. Matthew 18:19

HOW TO CRUCIFY THE FLESH:

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. 1 Corinthians 9:27

HOW TO INTERCEDE AND STAND IN THE GAP FOR OTHERS:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Ephesians 6:18

HOW TO RECEIVE AND ENJOY DIVINE PROSPERITY:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. 3 John 2

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

HOW TO BELIEVE GOD TO HAVE ALL YOUR NEEDS MET:

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

HOW TO USE THE NAME OF JESUS:

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

HOW TO WALK IN DIVINE PROTECTION:

Psalm 91

1He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

3Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

4He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

5Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

7A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

8Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

9Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

10There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

11For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

12They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

13Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

14Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

15He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

16With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

HOW TO PRAY AND FIND OUT WHAT GOD'S WILL IS FOR YOUR LIFE THROUGH WAITING ON GOD IN PRAYER AND MEDITATING ON THE WORD:

26And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. **27**And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; **28**For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. **29**But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom. **30**And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

31Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. **32**But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee. **33**Peter answered and said unto him, Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended.

34Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. **35**Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples. **36**Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. **37**And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. **38**Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

39And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *wilt*. **40**And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

41Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak. **42**He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. **43**And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. **44**And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. **45**Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take *your* rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

Matthew 26:36-45

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which* is your reasonable service. **2**And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Romans 12:1,2

But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, **Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.** Acts 27:21,25

These scriptures are just the beginning of what any believer needs to know. The **Word of faith** message is to teach the believer who they are in Christ Jesus, what they've been redeemed from and how to use their spiritual authority.

The Disadvantage Many Believers Face

If a believer is not taught the **Word of faith**, or if they do not put the message into action, they become spiritually weak. They usually end up being tossed to and fro and carried about by every wind of doctrine (Ephesians 4:14). No matter what you've been taught, or what you think, if you reject the teaching of the **Word of faith** for any reason, you run a higher risk of succumbing to the attacks of your enemy, who is Satan, the devil.

This is what the devil can do, and how we can stop him:

10Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. **11**Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **12**For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. **14**Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; **15**And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. **17**And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: **18**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Ephesians 6:10-18

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: **Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.** 1 Peter 5:8,9

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7

Wondering Why is Not Using Your Authority

Any believer that does not use their authority by speaking the Word to Satan in the Name of Jesus is a believer that is not resisting the devil. By not exercising your spiritual authority, you're allowing Satan to take over. This is why so many Christians spend their lives wondering why didn't God do something:

"Why didn't God heal my mother?"

"Why did God take my child?"

"Why didn't God stop them?"

"Why didn't God stop it from happening?"

Whenever you hear a believer say, *"I wonder why God didn't heal them"*, this kind of talking is coming from someone who's not spending any time in the Word. They may be attending a church they say preaches the Word, but they're not attending a church that preaches the **Word of faith**. You've got to get into the Word of faith teaching and you've got to stay with the Word of faith teaching.

Attending a Weak Church Keeps You Weak

If you falter and end up attending a church that you like, but does not teach the Word of faith, you're going to become double-minded and you're going to begin to wonder and waver and you will become weaker spiritually. No matter who you are, if you do not get back into the Word of faith, you will become a casualty and a statistic.

So, if it's been a while since you listened to your faith teaching tapes, and you can't remember the last time you put in an hour of praying in tongues, you're headed for destruction. Satan is after everyone, and he recognizes spiritual weakness. It shows up on his radar. He goes around as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (John 10:10). He listens to what you say, so don't ever talk weakness, fear, or unbelief. Don't let Satan hear you say ***you're afraid to fly, you're afraid of this, or you're afraid of that***, because then he will know where to torment you.

Not only do you need to stay in the Word of faith to keep yourself built up spiritually, so Satan cannot take you out, you've got to stay in the Word of faith because your family and loved ones, whether they realize it or not, need you standing in the gap for them.

Doing the Word is Extra Work, but Well Worth the Effort

Once you begin to be taught the Word of faith, including everything from naming it and claiming it, all the way to believing God for your hundredfold return, binding the devil and being led by the Holy Ghost, if you get lackadaisical in your confession, lazy in your prayer time, and irresponsible in listening to faith tapes, your spiritual resistance will be down and you'll become vulnerable. You'll be exposing yourself to the curse of sickness, disease, and everything else Satan decides to put on you.

Working the Word takes a lot of time, a lot of effort and a lot of work, but it sure beats being sick and afflicted and living in bondage to the cares of this world.

When a person leaves the Word of faith and goes to some other kind of lukewarm teaching from the Bible, they deceive themselves, whether they realize it or not. So don't let anything cause you to depart from the Word of faith, for if you do, you forfeit all the benefits you'd have received had you stayed with it.

Instead of spending your time wondering why something happened, spend time listening to the Word of faith and doing the Word of faith in order to prevent anything from happening to you or to your loved ones.

Examine yourself to see if you're in the faith: **Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?** 2 Corinthians 13:5

And if you are in the faith, see that you don't depart from the faith: **Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;** 1 Timothy 4:1

IF YOU DON'T STOP SATAN, GOD WON'T. AND IF YOU DON'T GET HEALED, IT'S YOUR FAULT, AND NOT GOD'S.

Someone that didn't get healed was someone that kept wondering, *"When is God going to heal me?"* And there's no such thing as ***"God's going to heal you."*** He's already done it, according to 1 Peter 2:24: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

A person that did not get healed is a person that did not **receive** their healing. It doesn't mean they can't receive their healing if they're still alive, nor is it an indication that God does not want them healed. It simply means they failed to receive their healing. Jesus said, believe you receive them and you shall have them, in Mark 11:24. When you believe you've got it, then you'll get it.

Let me say this while we're here:

Faith teaching only sounds hard to those who have only been taught religion, and not God's Word. People don't like to be told it's their responsibility to get healed, not God's. Some people use sickness and disease to get attention.

They like to talk about their ailments, how long they've been sick, how bad it was, and what the doctor said. Then, when you tell them what the Word says about their problem, and that by the stripes of Jesus, they've been healed, and God redeemed them from the curse of sickness, they'll be quick to respond that **they know that!**

Well, if *they know that*, why are they talking about their conditions and problems instead of the Word?

You Can't Speak Both Blessing and Cursing out of the Same Mouth and Still be Blessed

Sweet water and bitter water that come out of the same faucet is going to be bitter, according to James 3:1-12:

¹My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. ²For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

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

⁴Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth. ⁵Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

⁷For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:

⁸But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.

¹⁰Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. ¹¹Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

¹²Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

We Have What We Say

...that we all speak the same thing... 1 Corinthians 1:10

... speak the word only... Matthew 8:8

...whosoever shall say unto this mountain... he shall have whatsoever he saith. Mark 11:23

...If ye have faith ... ye shall say... Matthew 17:20

And [Jesus] arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still... Mark 4:39

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth... Joshua 1:8

Personal Power Verses

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. Heb. 8:6

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 1 Corinthians 2:12

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Philippians 4:13

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Colossians 3:17

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. 2 Cor. 8:9

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

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. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. Mark 11:23-24

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:13, 14, 29

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 1 John 4:4

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses. Matthew 8:17

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: Colossians 1:13

No More Four-Letter Words!

One of the first things you learn when you're taught the Word of faith is you can no longer afford to say four-letter words that have to do with Satan and the curse, such as: sick, pain, fear, need, lack, want, I need this, I want that, I've got pain, I am sick, I'm afraid so, I'm afraid not.

Because of a lack of discipline, many believers would rather attend some church where they get a lukewarm message instead of being taught the Word of faith.

This is like the Pentecostal church I got saved in. Most of those people didn't want anything to do with Brother Copeland's or Brother Hagin's meetings because they knew if they started attending their meetings, they wouldn't be able to complain and

whine like they'd always done. They didn't want to put the effort into getting the Word in them. So, most of them ended up dying with sickness and disease--or worse than that, living all their lives with sickness and disease.

Satan comes to steal, kill and destroy, as we see in the following scriptures:

So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. Job 2:7

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. John 10:10

And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? Luke 13:16

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10:38

To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. 1 Corinthians 5:5

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; Hebrews 2:14

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8

Rejecting the **Word of faith** message does not mean that you don't love the Lord, or that you aren't a good Christian, or that you are not as spiritual as other believers. But it does mean that you hinder yourself from receiving the inheritance that Jesus purchased for you, which would be beneficial for you in this life.

When you are taught the **Word of faith**, you begin to see that God wants you to live in divine health, protection and prosperity. In order for this to be accomplished, you have to walk in the God-kind of love, because faith worketh by love (Galatians 5:6).

If you're hungry for God and you want more of Him, He'll put you in a place or position where you'll have the opportunity to be taught the **Word of faith**.

Saying, Believing and Receiving

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.**

²⁴**Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**

²⁵**And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.**

²⁶**But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.** Mark 11:23 -26

When I first got saved, these were scriptures that I began to use in my life and even in my job. I took Mark 11:23 (and still do) and I started reading it every day. I marked it in my Bible, and wrote it out on an index card and I carried it in my shirt pocket. Every day, I would pull this scripture out, and I would read it to myself, along with verse 24.

As we begin to read the Word of God as believers and hear the Word, it helps us to feed our spirit man on God's Word. The Bible says in Romans chapter 10:17, **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

Remember, Jesus said in Matthew 4:4, **It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**

So, what physical food will do for our physical body, God's Word will do for our spirit man, if we will hear it and speak it. So by feeding our spirit man on God's Word, it will become strong. The Holy Spirit says in Ephesians 6:10: **Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.**

All the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is God's Word. The Word of God contains the promises God made to us if we will become doers of His Word. God said in James chapter one, verse 22, **But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.**

The scriptures that we stand upon, act upon, believe and activate in our lives will become a reality in our lives. This is how we begin to appropriate the promises of God.

For instance, maybe it's a physical healing you need, or a financial miracle, or breakthrough in your life. Take some scriptures that back up what you are attempting to believe God for and use those verses of scripture.

Remember, Jesus said in John 15:7, **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.** So, we need to get God's Word in us. How are we going to get God's Word in us? By hearing it and by speaking it.

We need to speak the Word, and meditate on the Word, like God told Joshua and Joshua 1:8: **This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.** (And of course, God was speaking to us, too.)

So, take scripture like that, along with Mark 11:23, 24 and put them in action. Maybe there's something you need in your life, like a new car, apartment, furniture, new clothes for the kids, or school tuition. Open up the Word, and go to Mark 11:24 and say, "God, this is what Your Word says and You said, **Therefore I say and to you, whatsoever things you desire when you pray believe that ye receive them and you shall have them, and I'm asking you for _____.**"

Now, what you've just done is you've gone to God with His Word - and you're praying scripturally. And when you pray, use the Name of Jesus, (John 16:23) and when you say Amen to that prayer, you believe it's a done deal and you believe you've received (Mark 11:24). That's all God is asking us to do. He wants us to believe when it comes to praying the prayer of faith that we believe it's done when we prayed.

Or, when we speak to the mountain, we do it in Jesus' Name, and we believe it's done. It's very important that we begin to get a reality on God's Word and realize what we say is eventually what we will believe. And what we say and what we believe is eventually what we will have. (... **when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them** Mark 11:24).

In the Gospel of Mark, chapter 4, Jesus taught that the sower sows the Word. And when He got done ministering, they were going to the other side of the lake. If you've got a red letter Edition, verse 35 is in red letters, meaning Jesus said the scripture. He said, **Let us pass over unto the other side.** Now, watch what He did.

And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? Jesus scolded, or upbraided His disciples because they didn't take authority over the storm. He asked them why they were so fearful and why they had no faith.

God has given us, *the church, the body of Christ -believers-* authority on this earth. It started in the book of Genesis. God said in Genesis 1:26 that He had given mankind dominion over this earth: **And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.**

In verse 28, God said they were to keep the earth and subdue it. Then Satan, who came as a serpent in chapter three, brought Adam and Eve's attention to the one tree God told them not to eat from.

The serpent said they surely wouldn't die if they ate of it, but God had already said, **But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die** (Genesis 2:17).

So immediately, we have Satan contesting the Word of God, and that's what he'll do to a believer. **And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts** (Mark 4:15).

He'll bring up doubt, fear and unbelief to us. What we need to realize is that we are what the Word of God says we are.

The Blessings Have already been Given to Us -- Now We have to Receive Them by Believing the Promises

Take scripture where God made promises to you, where He talks about you, like Colossians 1:13, where the Word says **we have been delivered**.

And take Galatians 3:13, where it says **we have been redeemed**.

1 Peter 2:24 says **we have been healed**. Take the scriptures and realize they're in the **past tense** and all these blessings **have already been purchased** for us. What we've got to do is believe it.

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: Colossians 1:13

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: Galatians 3:13

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

When I first heard these promises preached, it seemed impossible that God wanted me to prosper and have good health. At the time, I just felt lucky to be saved, or born-again. But the Lord began to deal with me through meditating on the Word, hearing the Word preached, and in my prayer time, that I was doubting what He said about me.

In 3 John 2, God said He wants us to prosper physically, emotionally, spiritually, financially and in every area of our lives, *not just spiritually*. Now thank God that He wants us blessed spiritually. He said we're blessed spiritually in Ephesians 1:3: **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:** But He wants us blessed in every other area of our lives, as well.

When Jesus calmed the storm, He showed how we can use our dominion and our authority. We read that He said, **...whosoever shall say to this mountain be thou removed and be thou cast in the sea shall not doubt in his heart but shall believe that those things he saith shall come to pass he shall have whatsoever he saith.**

The Integrity of Your Words

So we've got to begin to believe God's Word for ourselves and believe that what we say will come to pass. If we really don't believe our own words, it'll be very difficult for us to believe God's Word. If we tell somebody we're going to do something, we need to keep our word.

If we will have respect for our words, we'll be able to respect and honor God's Word. Many times, someone will say, *"I prayed for something and I didn't get it and that just goes to show that God doesn't always answer your prayers, or maybe God just didn't want me to have it."*

No, that just goes to show you didn't receive. That doesn't mean you can't receive, that doesn't mean God's not going to do it for you, it just shows that you have to work on your "receiver."

The Word begins to work on your heart -*your spirit man*- by building it up on the Word of God, and renewing your mind to God's Word. So, when something happens, the first thing you think is, "*What does the Word of God say about this?*" You build up your spirit man by speaking the Word every day, and saying the Word, and quoting the Word, and meditating on the Word, and not letting the Word depart out of your mouth.

Instead of talking our problems and the conditions we have in our lives, let's talk about what the Word says about them. If it is a financial need, begin to quote Philippians 4:19, **But my God will supply all my need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**

If it's a lack of ability, say what Philippians 4:13 says: **I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.**

Soon after I was saved, I was a carpet installer and did vinyl flooring and carpeting in people's homes, schools, and in residential and commercial buildings. Many times, there would be a situation that was beyond my ability or talent, and I knew it was.

I prayed and believed God for this job and I ended up getting a job that I really wasn't qualified for. So now every day, I'd have to put some extra time in prayer and in the Word of God just to keep myself built up. I would take scriptures, like Mark 11:23 and Philippians 4:13 and I would begin to say, "*I can do all things to Christ, Who strengthens me, I have the mind of Christ and greater is He that is in me than he who's in the world.*"

Why was I doing that? Because I needed to remind myself that I'm a child of God and the Spirit of God abides within me. I've got the Word of God, I've got the Name of Jesus, which is above every name and I've got authority over this situation, in Jesus' Name.

And you know, somehow, God would work it out! Maybe a person working with me came up with an idea, or the circumstances would change the situation-- but nevertheless, God would always bring me through.

Why was that? Because I was learning to go to God's Word. We always need to remember that God's Word is the answer to every problem in life, and as we wait on God and His Word, that is time well-invested and well-spent.

Start the day out reading the promises of God. There are scriptures in your Bible that pertain to situations in your life that maybe you haven't "arrived at" yet, or that you haven't gotten the victory over yet, or the Word of God in that area is not in manifestation yet. It's OK--we all have areas in our lives that we need to believe God on. We come up short in many areas. So what we do is, we go to the Word, and we spend time in the Word.

Religion Copes with Problems The Word of Faith Deals with Problems

Religion doesn't give you an answer. It just gives you an excuse for the problem. But God's Word is not going to teach you to cope with the problem, but how to deal with the problem. And if we've got old problems in our life, it's simply because we didn't deal with those problems when they arrived. All of us need to deal with problems when they arise. When financial problems arise, go to the Word. If there's a problem in your marriage, home, or ministry, just think, "*What does the Word of God say about this?*" Build your faith on God's Word.

When you hear a preacher minister the Word of God, or talk about God, make sure they give you chapter and verse. Or, maybe you heard someone prophesy, or they had a vision, dream, or they had Jesus appear to them -- fine -- that may have been true, but is it scriptural? Does it line up with the Word?

The first thing you want to think when you hear anyone minister is, "*What does the Word say about this?*" I pastor, and I'm always sharing with our congregation that it is important to go back to the Word. Make sure you build your life on God's Word. If anybody talks to you about God, consider what the Word of God says about what they say. The reason believers get off into error is because they got off the Word. Or, they didn't know what the Word of God promised to begin with.

Religion Can't get You Saved

Growing up, I went to church faithfully every Sunday, and I just assumed that I was a Christian because I attended church. Later on, people began to witness to me and ask me if I was born-again. They said, "*Have you received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?*" "*Have you been washed in the blood of the Lamb?*" "*Do you know Jesus as your Savior?*"

These questions confused me. I thought, "*Isn't being a church member or being water baptized enough?*" The answer is no, and the reason is because neither going to church, nor water baptism deal with *the sin problem*. Joining a church, or being water baptized will not cause us to become born-again or become new creations in Christ Jesus.

God teaches us in Romans 10:9,10, **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.** The scripture goes on

and says in verse 13, **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

I never confessed Jesus as my Lord and Savior, nor had I ever told anyone that Jesus is my Lord. I believed in Jesus, I believed in God, and I believed in the Holy Spirit. But up until that time, I had never personally received Jesus as my Lord and Savior, and I needed to. Well, then I did.

Believing the Word Because God said so

Soon after that, I was hungry for God's Word. I went to a Christian bookstore and bought a Bible which consisted of the Old Testament and New Testament. I also bought the New Testament on cassette tape and started listening to the scriptures on tape.

Every day, I heard some scripture that pertained to my life that I wasn't aware of. Then I'd mark that scripture down and write it out on an index card and I'd carry it with me. There is nothing like hearing the Word and doing it!

I had all kinds of scriptures pertaining to all kinds of situations in my life, and I would read and reread those to myself and memorize them and quote them. All this was helping me renew my mind to God's Word. It was helping me realize that whatever comes up in life, go to the Word.

As little children, we used to sing a song in Sunday school, **Jesus loves me yes I know, for the Bible tells me so.** And we hear people tell children: *Jesus loves you.* How do you know that? **Because the Bible says so — For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** John 3:16

If we can believe Jesus loves us, or if we can believe God loves us because the Word teaches it, we can believe anything else the Word of God says about us. All we have to do is act according to the Word.

For instance, the Word says we're healed, according to 1 Peter 2:24. The Word says we're redeemed from the curse, according to Galatians 3:13. (*The curse of law is poverty, sickness, and spiritual death, according to Deuteronomy 28:15-68 and Genesis 2:17.*)

We've been delivered from the power of Satan, according to Colossians 1:13, and we've been given financial prosperity as an inheritance in our new covenant, according to 2 Corinthians 8:9, Galatians 3:29, 3 John 2, Luke 15:31.

We know God heard and answered our prayer when we prayed, according to John 16:23, 24 and 1 John 5:14, 15.

Putting the Word in Practice

For instance, if you have prayed for your healing, or if you have gotten a hold of some promises concerning healing, begin to **act like** you're healed. Begin to **think** in line with the Word. **See** yourself healed. See yourself moving and doing things you normally couldn't do. If it's a financial need, see yourself debt-free. See yourself with the job, see yourself walking in victory, and see yourself walking in line with the Word.

This is not positive thinking. ***This is thinking in line with the written Word of God.***

This isn't mind over matter. ***This is God's Word over the matter.***

This isn't Christian Science. ***This is a Christian acting on the Word of God.***

This isn't some religious ritual of praying vain repetitious words, but on the contrary, ***it's the believer who's prayed in line with the Word of God, acting upon the Word of God, and speaking only what the Word says about them.***

Because of all the screwball religions in the world, most people are so confused when it comes to God and the things of God, that they don't know what to do or what to believe. But thank God, God told us ***what to do: But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*** James 1:22

We don't have to understand how the Word works. All we have to do is be doers of the Word. *Capisce?*

There's nothing more powerful in this world than God's written Word. How do we know this is God's Word? Because He said it's His Word. He said it in 2 Timothy 3:16: **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**

Maybe you have a friend, a loved one, or relative that doesn't believe the Bible is God's Word. Well, show them 2 Timothy 3:16. If at all possible, have them read that verse of scripture out loud to you, or you read it to them. Let them know what the Word says.

You don't have to persuade people that the Bible is God's Word. All you have to do is present it. The Holy Spirit begins to work on their life to bring Holy Ghost conviction to them to reveal to them the living God, by the Spirit of God. That's not our responsibility, as a believer. Our responsibility is to share it with someone else.

Holy Spirit Confirms the Word when You Share it

People shared salvation through Jesus Christ with me. They said I had to be born-again by confessing Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. It upset me, angered me and got me all disturbed. I just wanted to avoid all those people.

But you know, what they said to me worked on my conscience. Wherever I went, those words they spoke to me about Jesus Christ stayed with me. That was the Holy Spirit convicting me and showing me that just going to church wasn't enough. The Holy Spirit was showing me that I needed to receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, and I needed to become born-again. I needed to be saved and have my sins forgiven.

Once a person receives Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, they become part of God's family. God is their Father now, and they can fellowship with Him, in the Name of Jesus. Now they can come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. As God's children, we have access to God now, in the Name of Jesus, and our sins have been forgiven. We're new creatures in Christ Jesus.

Many people who aren't saved don't realize the benefits they miss out on by not becoming born-again, so you need to share the message with them. When you talk to someone about Jesus Christ, let them know if they'll become born-again and receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior, not only will they have their sins forgiven, they'll have a guarantee that when they die, and they leave this body, they will go home and be with the Lord.

Like the apostle Paul said by the Holy Spirit, *to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:8)*. When you receive Jesus, you become a member of God's family. I thought maybe if I would join the church, it would be enough. Well, you could join every church in town, and that still doesn't put you in the family of God. It's receiving Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

Religion would rather do anything else except do what the Word says to do. It's easy to get caught up in religion and not be caught up in God's Word. So check up on what you believe and examine your faith. Is it in line with God's Word? Does the new covenant teach what you believe?

Read the Word of God. Listen to the Word of God being preached; listen to the Word day and night. This is how you'll build your spirit man up. I keep my IPOD with me with scriptures on it. I listen to it, just like I did this morning when I got up, and like I did last night when I went to bed. So, I always remind myself of what the Word says about my situation.

Hearing the promises of God's Word pertaining to God's Word will build your spirit man up, so that faith will rise up inside of you. As one minister said, we can build our faith and starve our doubts to death. And we can, by gaining a knowledge of God's Word.

We are what the Word of God says we are. The Word says we're delivered, the Word says we're redeemed, the Word says we're prosperous, the Word of God says that we are healed, the Word of God says we have the mind of Christ, the Word of God says we can do all things through Christ -- and as we talk that way, it will affect our believing.

We'll begin to walk in line with the Word. So, when something arises, we will think, *"Wait a minute – I've got the Word on this! And this situation is subject to change."* No matter if it's bad news on the job, in the community, or whatever it may be that comes to you, the first thing a Word person thinks is, **What does the Word say about this?**

When they woke Jesus up, they said, *"Carest thou not that we perish?"* Talking like that is not going to get us anywhere with God. Neither will crying, *"O God, don't You care?"*

We've all done that at one time or another-- we've all cried, bellyached, moaned and groaned, worried and fretted. As long as we're doing that, we limit God from working in our lives. But if we will rise up and **take authority** over the circumstances, as God told us to do in Genesis 1:26-28, Genesis 2:15, Matthew 16:19, Matthew 18:18, Luke 10:19, we will have the victory God intended for us to have.

Jesus illustrated how to use our authority in Mark 4:35-41 (see p.2). Jesus showed us how to take authority over our circumstances when He stood up on the bow of that ship. Think about this: Jesus spoke to the wind and He spoke to the waves. He showed us how to use our authority and how to use our God-given dominion and authority.

Had Adam and Eve talked to the serpent and told the serpent to get out of the garden, they still would have been alive today. But because they disobeyed God, because they yielded to Satan, and because they acted in fear and worry instead of faith and belief in God's Word, it cost them their lives spiritually, and it eventually cost them their physical life, as well.

Death is an enemy, as the Bible says in 1 Corinthians 15:26: **The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.**

How are we going to have a long life, as a believer? – By speaking the Word to our body and telling our body that it is healed and redeemed from the curse, and that no plague will come nigh our dwelling, and no weapon formed against us shall prosper. As we talk the Word, God's got something to work with.

Mark 16:20 says that the Lord confirms the Word with signs following.

Jeremiah 1:12 says God hastens His Word to perform it.

Isaiah 55:11 says, **So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.**

Jesus said in Matthew 24:35, **Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.** So the Bible (*we call it the Bible, but God calls it His Word*) is everlasting; it endures forever. God's Word will even outlast heaven and earth. Jesus said, **...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.** John 6:63.

So we've got the Word, and we need to realize that the Word is God speaking to us. Once we've got God's Word on the subject, we've got God's will on the subject. Once we know what the Word says on the matter, we've got God's will on the matter.

So often people ask, *"What is God's will about this? What does God want me to do?"* He wants us to go to the Word. He wants us to dig into the Word and find out what the Word says, and then act according to it.

When Jesus would make faith statements and tell people to do things, if they would do what He said to do, they would receive their miracle.

Remember the ten lepers in Luke 17? Jesus said, **go show yourself to the priest.** As they went, they were cleansed, or healed. One came back, worshiped the Lord and was made whole.

Think about the people who acted on what Jesus said to do, or acted in faith, like Jairus, who said, *"She'll live and not die."* That got Jesus moving, and He headed to Jairus' house, but before He got there, the little girl died.

And they sent word to Jairus, saying, *"Why trouble thou the master any further? Your daughter's dead"*. But you know what? That didn't change Jairus. Apparently, he must have kept on believing Jesus, and Jesus said, *"Only believe."* When Jesus got there, He raised Jairus' daughter from the dead!

In John 11, Lazarus, was sick. As Jesus was headed in his direction, Lazarus had already died. When they brought the news to Jesus, He said, *"Father I thank thee thou hast heard Me and I thank you that you always hear Me."* After Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He said, *"Didn't I tell you if you would believe, you'd see the glory of God?"*

How did this happen? Jesus kept His faith applied. Jesus didn't lose control, or get all disturbed because Lazarus had already died, or because Jairus' daughter had already died, or because the storm was filling the boat with water -- No, Jesus didn't lose control! He maintained control by maintaining the Word, staying in faith and by acting in faith.

That's what we all need to do, as believers. We need to act the way Jesus acted. Jesus is our supreme example of how every believer is supposed to live. Jesus was never defeated, He took the sins of the world upon Him. He took the curse upon Him, so you and I could live victoriously and enjoy the benefits that God has purchased for us.

Think of areas in your life where you may not be walking in victory. They may be areas of your life that are dominated by worries or by fear, or by some drug, or alcohol, or sin. Now, think about what the promises of God say about you.

God loves you just the way you are, and He wants to help you in every area of your life, as a believer. The devil will bring thoughts to your mind if you live in sin that you're no longer a believer, or that God can't help you or that He doesn't love you, or you cannot live your Christian life.

Well, we can't... No one can. That is, not outside of the Word and not outside of the help of the Holy Spirit. God sent the Holy Spirit to be our Helper and to be our Guide to reveal truth to us, and to bring the Word of God back to our remembrance.

No matter how much your life may look like a failure, or how impossible it seems to receive from God because of past failures, rally around the Word of God again. If you have some faith tapes, get them back out. You can get some materials from our ministry that will be a great help to you, just by going to our web site – by going to www.JesseRichMinistries.Com. It's a user-friendly web site and will help you begin to receive from God by grabbing a hold of God's promises.

I thank God for His Word and what it will do for us. As we act upon God's Word, it will help us stay consistent. It will help us be the same every day. As we meditate on the Word of God, use the Word of God, use the Name of Jesus, stand on the Word of God and believe His promises, God's got something to work with in our lives.

We are to use the Word of God, we are to meditate upon the Word of God day and night, we are to go to the Word when we're getting ready to pray, and we are to go to the Word of God when we're getting ready to take authority over a situation. Going to the Word of God in each situation helps remind us of what God's Word says.

Going to the Word and acting on the Word and becoming a doer of the Word of God begins to cause God to work in our lives. God does not work outside of His Word, so we need to gain a knowledge of God's Word.

1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2**The same was in the beginning with God. **3**All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. **4**In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

5And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. **6**There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7**The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. **8**He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. **9**That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. **10**He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. **11**He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: **13**Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. **14**And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John 1:1-14

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7

Religion will tell you that God knows our needs, He'll give us what we need, and His will be done, but that's not what His Word teaches. Religion always has an excuse, some lame answer, and at its best, religion will teach you how to cope with what you're going through. A sign that one is in religion and not in the Word is they don't talk the Word. They just say what they've heard someone else say.

Three Examples of Religious Thinking

Here are three incidents in scripture where the people were not Word-minded, but religion-minded and/or going by their physical senses.

1When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him. **2**And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. **3**And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean.

4And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. **5**And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them. Matthew 8:1-4

10And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. **11**And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. **12**And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed

from thine infirmity. **13**And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

14And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.

15The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? **16**And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? Luke 13:10-16

24But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. **25**The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. **27**Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. **28**And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. John 20:24-29

The man in the first example didn't know what God's will was. Therefore he couldn't act on the Word.

The woman that was bowed over either had never been taught the Word, or if she ever had been taught anything, she forgot her covenant. And going by the response of her minister, you can tell she didn't know anything.

In the third example, Thomas was still walking by sight, even though he had probably heard the Word preached. Walking by sight and wondering why your prosperity, or your healing hasn't manifested – or any other physical or material blessing, can cause you to become discouraged or depressed. Eventually you'll depart from the Word of faith. There are many people today who are disenchanting or discouraged, all because they didn't get what they were believing for. ***You're not one of those, are you?***

Don't let a Lack of Knowledge of God's Word Destroy You

It is Satan's job to get us away from the Word any way he can. It's our job not to allow him to do that. You must understand that if you are not in the Word, you won't be able to make Satan obey you. You'll keep waiting for God to do something about the situation. Most people die waiting for God to heal them.

God's waiting for you to use His Word, and you're waiting for Him to do something spectacular. Meanwhile, the devil is killing people with cancer.

Remember what God said in Hosea 4:6: **My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge...** Isaiah of 5:13 says we go into captivity because we have no knowledge, so we need a knowledge of God's Word. We need to feed on God's Word, meditate on God's Word, and speak the Word. And it's a lot of work! Spending time in prayer, spending quality time in God's Word and listening to the Word and speaking the Word is a lot of work.

God Never Intended for You to Suffer Certain Things

That's why many dear believers don't do the Word of faith... It's just because of being spiritually lazy. But in the long run, being lazy causes repercussions and situations that come to our lives that God never intended for us to experience.

Just like in the natural, if children obey their parents, there will be many things those children will not have to endure, if they just listen to their mom and dad. Spiritually speaking, if we just follow the advice of our Father God and do what He tells us to do in His Word, like walking in love, being a tither and a giver, turning the other cheek, forgiving others, being led by the Holy Spirit and walking by faith and not by sight, it will be beneficial to us as believers and as children of God.

So it's important that we go back to the Word, believe the Word, and meditate on the Word, so when anything is brought to you about God or religion, the first thing I want you to think and say is, "What does the Word say about this? Show me chapter and verse." Out of the mouth of two or three witnesses let every word be established (2 Corinthians 13:1).

We read that Jesus spoke to the wind and the waves and stopped the storm in Mark, chapter 4. Well, we as believers today, in this world can take authority over circumstances.

These include severe weather and storms, as well as problems that come to this world. If all the body of Christ would rise up and all speak the Word, like the Centurion said, ... **speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed** (Matthew 8:8), God will be able to work much more productively throughout the body of Christ.

All Speaking the Same Thing – the Word of God!

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 1 Corinthians 1:10

When you have one believer believing one thing, and another believer believing another thing and not speaking the Word, they're not saying the same thing. Then, our house is divided. The church, the body of Christ is divided and yet, we all have the potential power that belongs to each and every one of us. We have the Name of Jesus, and we have the Word of God.

The devil has been defeated, and we are the redeemed. We've been redeemed from poverty, sickness, sin, spiritual death, and from the curse that was on mankind.

We need to go forth and walk in that redemption, like the Psalmist said in Psalm 107:2, **Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;**

And we, as God's children, need to say so. David said to Goliath, **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...** 1 Samuel 17:45

And that's what God gave us: He gave us the Name of Jesus, the Name that's above every name. **Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.** Philipians 2: 9-11

God gave us these exceedingly great and precious promises, and all we have to do is just act like these promises are true, by meditating on the Word of God and speaking the Word of God in Jesus' Name, and using our authority in this earth.

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