

0. Pre-message - Overcoming Faith Campaign -

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Subtitle: Priming the Pump of Faith

Isaiah 52:10 (NKJV) *The Lord has made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.*

- The arm of the Lord speaks of **God's unlimited strength and power**
- Message Transl. ... *God has rolled up His sleeves ...*

Isaiah 53:1 (NKJV) *Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?*

- Isaiah 52:10 makes two statements
 - 1st statement says: God has made bare His holy arm for all to see
 - 2nd statement says: All the ends of the earth shall see His salvation
- Isaiah 53:1 asks two questions
 - 1st question: *Who has believed our report?*
 - 2nd question: ***To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?***
- In other words:
 - Who is going to experience God strength and power in their life?
 - Who will experience God's miraculous provision, healing, protection, deliverance etc.?
- The answer to the 2nd question is hidden in the 1st question:
 - **Whoever believes the report of the Lord - will see the arm of the Lord is revealed in their lives**
 - **Whoever believes the report of the Lord will experience His strength & power in their lives**

We are embarking on a journey of faith in God over the next few weeks, to see His miraculous power released in our lives in a fresh way.

What is the Report mentioned by prophet Isaiah?

- This report here is specifically about Jesus Christ the coming Messiah
 - about His sacrificial death on the cross
 - How He has borne our sins so we could be forgiven
 - How He has carried our sicknesses so we could be healed

- How He became poor that we through His poverty might be rich

In a wider sense, the complete written Word of God is the Report of the Lord.

Romans 10:16-17 (NKJV) *But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “**Lord, who has believed our report?**” So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

- Here we have this quote from Isaiah again
- *Isaiah says, “Who has believed our report?”*
- Apostle Paul follows on by saying:
- *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

~~Let's repeat some things and again state the obvious:~~

- ~~• God's power is only revealed to those who believe~~
- ~~• God's report goes before believing~~

Jesus encourages the father of a demon-possessed boy to believe:

Mark 9:23 (NKJV) *Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, **all things are possible to him who believes.**”*

This is another way of saying: Believe the report, have faith, and you will see the arm of the Lord revealed in the life of your family, specifically your son.

Jesus encourages the Lazarus' sister (Martha) to believe:

John 11:39–40 (NKJV) *Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days.” **40** Jesus said to her, “**Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?**”*

Three statements:

- 1. The Report of the Lord is the raw-material for your miracle**
- 2. Your spirit is the processing centre for your miracle**
- 3. Your mouth is the delivery mechanism for your miracle**

1. The Report of the Lord is the raw-material for your miracle

We can all appreciate the fact that most things we enjoy are made from some raw material. For example, they take different chemicals, mix them together and make plastic, then they shape it, mould it and produce some useful item.

Similarly, the raw material, the starting point for you to get what God promises is the Word of God.

Romans 1:16 (NKJV) *For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.*

... the gospel of Christ ... is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes

The gospel of Christ can also be termed 'the report of Christ'.

... it is the power of God.

Friend, unless you get a hold of the power of God in His Word, you will have trouble getting a hold of the power of God in your life.

A revelation of the Word of God triggers off the process towards having your needs met, getting your healing, getting the break-through over bondage in your life etc.

Acts 20:32 (NKJV) *So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to **the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance** among all those who are sanctified.*

The word of His grace is just another way of saying: The report of the Lord.

.... which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance

- God uses His word to give you something
- To give you what?
- To give you whatever He has promises in His Word

2. Your spirit is the processing centre for your miracle

In the manufacturing of goods, the required raw materials are brought into a production centre or factory to be processed.

They mix things, mould things, cut things, polish things and voila, you have a ready-to-use item that can be enjoyed for many years.

Your spirit is like that processing centre where the word of God moulds and form things, and then it brings forth your miracle.

Proverbs 4:20-23 (NKJV) *My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh. **Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.***

This is again speaking about the word of God being planted in your heart. It tells us to keep God's word in the midst of our heart – give it prime space.

Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.

Yonggi Cho used to say: I am pregnant with a miracle.
I am pregnant with a bicycle.

Many years ago Vanessa and I believed God for a Ford Stationwagon. Next minute this near-new Ford Falcon Stationwagon was given to us.

Where did it come from?

God gave it to us.

But it was processed in our spirit where the Word of God had been planted.

Isaiah 55:11 (KJV) *So shall My word be that goes 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.***

Accomplish – make, produce

Dictionary of Biblical Languages:

To fashion or create an object, usually implying the use of existing materials

Young's Literal Transl: ... *It... prosperously effected that for which I sent it.*

Matthew 13:23 (KJV) *But he that received seed into the good ground is he that hears the word, and understands it; which also bears fruit, and **brings forth**, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus taught us that God's Word must be sown into the soil of our heart so it can bring forth & produce a harvest in our lives.

3. Your mouth is the delivery mechanism for your miracle

John Osteen wrote a book called: "There is a miracle in your mouth".

The consistent confession of God's word is vital to releasing the power of God in your life.

Just thinking about the Word is not enough.

2 Corinthians 4:13-14 (NKJV) *And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "**I believed and therefore I spoke,**" we also **believe and therefore speak,** knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.*

Believers who have the same spirit of faith boldly and consistently declare that which they believe.

A consistent and bold confession of God's Word releases God's power in your life.

Hebrews 13:5-6 (NKJV) *... For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." **So we may boldly say:** "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"*

Romans 4:17 (NKJV) *(As it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and **calls those things which do not exist as though they did;***

God called Abraham a father of many nations long before Isaac was born. Abraham called himself father of many nations long before Isaac was born.

Walking by faith means that we agree with God and His Word and boldly declare the desired end result.

Faith Project:

Pray about a specific faith project (goal) in your life.

Be specific, and release your faith to lay hold of the power of God toward a specific area in your life.