

Introduction:

- Miracles happen in an atmosphere of faith.
- This evening I want to look at how to get your miracle. The Foundation of Faith, Releasing your faith, and Receiving by Faith.
- *"What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. For the word of God will never fail." Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.*" (Luke 1:36-38, NLT)
- *"Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours."* (Mark 11:22-24, NLT)
- vs. 37 Angels word: *"For nothing is impossible with God."*

I. The Foundation of Faith

- A. The principle we see Mary move in is what Jesus taught the disciples: if you are going to move in the supernatural you must have faith in God. Our faith is foundational to the supernatural life style.
 1. You cant move a mountain, you cant get answered prayer, you cant see miracles without faith. Faith is foundational to the supernatural movement of God in our lives.
 2. So what is the foundation of Faith? "What are you doing to build your faith today? This year? I love watching the lives of people who are actively building their faith! They are alive, growing, expecting and seeing God move.
- B. The foundation of faith is the Word of God.
 1. Faith does not come from experience. Faith does not come from doing something (works, witnessing, or weeping.) Faith comes from hearing the Word of God. Mary did not believe because she had an angel experience, she believed because she received the Word of Lord given to her. Every time you pick up the Word you have opportunity receive a word from God!
 - a) If you do not know the Word you will not have faith.
 - b) If you want your faith to grow, to be established, to be great you have to be in the Word. You do not find on fire Christians who do not read the word. On fire Christians devour the Word. *"But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do."* (Psalm 1:2-3, NLT)
 2. *** *"So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News (ῥῆμα, rhema) about Christ."* (Romans 10:17, NLT) The beginning, progressing and

strengthening of our faith all come from hearing the Word of God. The Word of God is the foundation of our faith. The Word is my access to all heaven offers! The revealed Word is the open door to all heaven offers. "Jesus is the gate, the door, etc." *"Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures."* (John 10:9, NLT)

- a) *"Faith begins where the will of God is known. It is God's Word that lets us know what to trust Him for."* FF Bosworth, Christ the Healer pp. 80-81
 - b) Jesus is very clear when speaking to the disciples that before they can begin to move a mountain they have to believe and not doubt. The angel says to Mary, "Don't be afraid..." so that she enters the realm of faith.
3. Faith comes from hearing. Lesson from Dt 8:3, The Word is to be our source.
- a) *"...He did it to teach you that people do not live by bread alone; rather, we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."* (Deuteronomy 8:3, NLT) Do you see the stress on the importance of the Word?
 - b) *Job in the midst of trial said, "I have not departed from his commands, but have treasured his words more than daily food."* (Job 23:12, NLT) Faith comes by hearing the message. What happened to Job...he grew in faith!
 - c) *"You want to get to the other side?" "Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do."* (Joshua 1:8, NLT) Joshua walked by faith, lived by faith, moved in faith.
4. The foundation of faith is the Word of God.
- C. Another part of the foundation of faith is a repentant heart.
1. You have to humble yourself to God/the Word in repentance to receive from God. To be born again requires that you turn away from what you are doing and turn to what He is doing. Even Jesus said, I do what I see Father doing I speak what I hear Father Speaking. That is humility!
 2. Repentance is turning away from our will and turning to God to do His will. Taking off limiting thoughts and replacing them with truth!
 3. Repentance is having exhausted my ways, so I can now **live** His way. Jn 10:10
 4. So Jesus said, if you are going to be supernatural you must have faith and not doubt in your heart. When you reach that place you are now ready to speak/ask.

II. The Releasing of Faith

- A. The releasing of faith to 'produce' happens once a person is convinced of what God has said. The way they release their faith is by speaking. *"For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved."* (Romans 10:10, NLT) IE. *Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her."*

1. If you have faith, Jesus says, "*You can now speak to your mountain.*" and "*You can ask for anything...and it will be yours.*" Have faith, then you can speak.
 2. If you want to know what you really believe listen to your words. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. (Mt 12:33-34) Trees produce the kind of fruit that they are. There are characteristic identifiers for a tree. Out of the abundance of heart the mouth speaks. Judge for yourself by listening to your words. Do you want to know if you are walking by faith...judge your words. To judge means to divide/to separate out or apart in order to see what you have. Are they limiting or liberating words.
- B. Agreement with the Word. I speak what I agree with.
1. Peter having worked all night fishing is cleaning up for the night. No fish! "*But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word (rhema) I will let down the net."*" (Luke 5:5, NKJV)
 2. I will obey the Word. To be in agreement means to be in submission to the word, or agreement with the Word.
 3. The word you agree with is the ρημα word. Logos is written, rhema is spoken revelation. When a word/logos becomes revelation to you, it is believable. When we respond to a revelation in humility we are now empowered to speak it, for it abides in our heart.
 4. NLT says, "*but you must really believe and not doubt.*" When you are believing and not doubting, you can ask for anything. It was obvious that Mary believed.
- C. Your words bring your miracles.
1. Note Elizabeths words to Mary: "*You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said.*" (Luke 1:45, NLT)
 2. Speaking to the mountain, according to the Word. You have to know what you are believing God for. Jesus knew who He was. And because of who He was He knew he had authority to speak...to release power. Know who you are in Christ.
 - a) God's desire is for you to prosper (Ps. 35:27). God take pleasure in our 'shalom'. Peace is more than just tranquility.
 - b) God's will is for you to be healthy (3 John 2). *May your prosper and be in health.*
 - c) God's will is for you to be above only and not beneath (Deut. 28:13). He wants us above our circumstances. But we have to believe the Word in order that we access that place.
 3. You are the one who controls the ability of God in your life. The more you believe what He has said the more activity of God you will have in your life.
 4. Miracles happen because someone speaks. Believing is not enough. You have to speak.

- a) Any time God wanted to do something in the earth He spoke. He wanted change...He spoke.
- b) Therefore if you want change you are going to have to speak. But you have to speak according to the Word in faith, not doubting in your heart.
- c) When you have heard from God you can boldly speak.
- 5. Mark 4:39-40 Jesus speaks to the wind and waves. He wants us to do the same!
 - a) Romans 4. Abraham calls those things that are not as though they were. Even though everything in the natural said otherwise.
 - b) Ezekiel - Can these bones live? Only you know. God= speak to the bones. Better than speaking...Ezk, declare the Word of the Lord to them!
 - c) Centurion - Mt 8:8 "Just speak the Word" and my servant will be healed.
 - d) *"It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it."* (Isaiah 55:11, NLT)
 - (1) I send it out...it always produces.
 - (2) It always accomplishes
 - (3) It always prospers everywhere I send it.

III. Receiving By Faith

- A. Have Faith in God.
 - 1. Know what you can trust God for. Know the Word.
- B. Speak what you know! Agree with the Word.
 - 1. What has God said that I can say? IE. Homologia - to speak the same thing. This is your confession of faith. *"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful."* (Hebrews 10:23, NKJV) This is what Abraham did.
 - 2. You see, the Word works for those who work the Word.
- C. Receive what you speak.
 - 1. You must go into that 'realm.' Kingdom get what you need. Come out and believe it is yours. Believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.
 - 2. The word used in Mk 11:24 believe you have received
 - 3. And it will be yours. Gr. estai - to grasp, to belong to.
- D. Your spirit can be trained just like your mind can. How?
 - 1. Meditate on the Word -
 - 2. Practice the Word - as James says, be a doer of the Word of God.
 - 3. Give the Word first place in your life.
 - 4. Obey the voice of your spirit. It has been given new life through the Word.