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Introduction:

- The purpose of Igniting Faith In 40 Days is to remove from our thinking negative thoughts and speech that lead to doubt and unbelief. It is to challenge us to let go of our pet devils (my arthritis, my bad back, my allergies, etc.) It is about bringing a Kingdom culture into our thought life.
- These 40 days are about bringing the (culture/atmosphere/ways) of heaven into the earth. The beginning of this month, we identified 'wet words' (that create soggy faith), realized they must be uprooted and how we do that, we chose to plant something else in its place.
- IE. Seers always stress "Watch your words" ie. Dr. Masaru Emoto ice crystals and words and music. (Legitimacy not confirmed.)
- Tonight I want to look at how we bring the Kingdom of God to our lives.
- *"For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." (Luke 6:43-45, NKJV)*

I. Words are a Heart Issue

- A. Words are a heart issue! The Positivity Feast/Negativity Fast is not about words. It is about the words in the human heart.
1. *"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." (Luke 6:45, NKJV)* Let's break this down.
 - a. 'Out of' Gr. ek- which means - from, out of, based upon.
 - b. Gr. Perisseuo—in excess, over abundant, super abounding.
 - c. Heart - Gr. kardia- it is the core of your being. The heart is who you are (Your identity.) The heart gives you your identity. ie. Tigger has an identity. Eeyore has an identity. Eph 3:17 Christ dwells in our hearts through faith. Heb 8:10 says that the law in Christ is written on our minds and hearts. So this is how this works...
 2. Words begin with thoughts and thoughts come from the abundance of what is in our heart. ie. If you are critical of others in your speech it is because those words come from, or are based on, the amount of criticalness that you have in your heart. That's why we started with the importance of identifying the "wet words"—those negative words that come from negative thoughts which is what we have in the abundance of our heart. Therefore, our words reveal our heart.
- B. Words Reveal the heart. Therefore, one's words are from, come out of and are based

upon the the excess of, or what is super abounding in the core of who we are or who we are identified as. Words Reveal the heart.

1. In Mt 12:24 the Pharisees are responding to an honest question asked by the crowds, "Could this be the Son of David?" Pharisee answers, "The only way this miracle could happen is that Beelzebub is working in Him." Their words revealed their heart. The scripture says that Jesus knew their thoughts because He could see the abundance or the foundation on which their words stood or came from. Mt 12:33-37. They were bringing forth death. Death came out of the Pharisees in their words. And later, literally brings about the death of Jesus.
2. Life comes out of believers.
 1. Jesus' reference in this passage that being evil, only evil things can be brought forth from their hearts. And that a good man brings forth good things from what he has stored in his heart.
 2. What are you storing in your heart? That is the question we have to ask while identifying our words. Ie. If our words are always sarcastic then that is what is in abundance in our hearts.
 3. In Jn 4:10 Jesus says to the woman at the well, 'ask me and I will give you living water.' He was giving her an opportunity to change what was in abundance in her heart. And in Jn 7:38 "**He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**" (John 7:38, NKJV)

C. The big difference.

1. I want to talk for a moment about words that make a big difference. You may be asking, "What is he talking about?" It is easy to identify words of death and cursing. But let me introduce another aspect of our words. Let's go to Mark 8:33 Jesus is telling the 12 what must soon happen (that He is going to suffer, be crucified, buried and raised again) and Peter rebukes Jesus. That has to take courage, or extreme lack of thought, to pull God aside and rebuke Him. Jesus' response..."*But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."*" NKJV Jesus calls Peter - 'Satan'-because of Peter's words. YIKES! The Message reads: "*But Peter grabbed him in protest. Turning and seeing his disciples wavering, wondering what to believe, Jesus confronted Peter "Peter, get out of my way! Satan, get lost! You have no idea how God works."*"
2. They were wavering because of Peter's words. "*Humanity without Christ at the center is demonic in nature. You are always dealing with spiritual powers when dealing with just human issues.*" ~ Bill Johnson
3. Jesus turned around and looked at his disciples, then reprimanded Peter. "*Get away from me, Satan!*" he said. "*You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's.*" NLT

4. How many times have you spoken wrongly just because you did not have a Kingdom perspective? This is what I am really after in these 40 days. I am after a changed heart that now has the understanding of the Kingdom of God in greater perspective! I want to have the abundance of the Kingdom of God in my heart so that when I respond, I speak a kingdom perspective in every state of life I find myself.
5. These words affect our lives. Peter was a believer. He was walking with Jesus. He was preacher and worker of miracles but he still did not have heavens perspective on all of life. When Peter was rebuking Jesus, **he was being used by Satan** because he refused to believe that the Messiah had to die. How many of us have misspoken because we were so emotionally involved we could not see the Kingdom, or we were moved more by our emotions than God's Word –a Kingdom perspective? He was being used by Satan and his words had spiritual force. Enough force that it caused Jesus to call him Satan and rebuke him. What is the force behind your words?

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II. The Process of the Kingdom

- A. The issue is not our words. This issue is the condition of our heart that shapes our words. We are looking to reshape our heart by renewing our minds! What is the abundance found in my heart? Words are a spiritual force, that reveal what the nature of the abundance is, in my heart. We want that abundance to be of the Kingdom of God. The Process of the Kingdom of God is this: Believe, Speak, Receive/Manifest the Kingdom. The process is found in Rom 10:10...
 1. *"For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."* (Romans 10:10, NKJV) The Kingdom pattern is to hear about the Kingdom of God and believe. Your belief will lead to new words being spoken-confession, and the end result is the manifestation of the Kingdom of God in salvation.
 2. Why is this process important? It is important because we must understand that we are not just changing words/behaviors we are uprooting old belief systems and replacing them. In OT the kings went to the high places to tear down the altars of Baal. They were dismantling the old systems of belief. The process must be one that focuses on the belief system. The process of (hearing, believing, speaking) reveals how this happens.
- B. Believe
 1. In Romans 10, Paul is preaching that you can't believe if you do not hear, and you can't hear, if no one is sent to speak (no new message is communicated). And when they speak they must be speaking the message of God in order to believe.

"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17, NKJV) From the Message Bible, *The point is: Before you trust, you have to listen. But unless Christ's Word is preached, there's nothing to listen to.*

2. So to speak like Jesus, we have to hear what Jesus has spoken. Listen to those words, meditate on them until they are not just God's thoughts—but they are now your thoughts because you have embraced them. When that is happening the culture of heaven is coming to you and your house.
 3. Many of you are doing the daily devotion from the *Igniting Faith* book by Steve Backlund. You read the devotional, those by themselves are awesome. But then you say the declarations (Proclamations) at the end of it. Along with that you have three sets of declarations at the end of the book. Those declarations have scripture along with them. Why is that? Well, faith comes by hearing the message and the message by the Word of God. When I begin to confess/declare over my life the thoughts that God has already had, and I begin to believe them, then my heart is experiencing change - change into being more like God. I am literally bringing heaven to earth. So I have to hear the message in order to believe a message.
 4. The power of believing. *"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."* (John 7:38, NKJV) Jesus gave us our identity here! This is what comes out of a believer in Christ!
- C. Speak – The process of the kingdom is to first believe then to speak.
1. I personally have really been stirred by this declaration this week. "I say to this day, "You are blessed!" And I declare that I serve a mighty God who today will do exceedingly and abundantly beyond all that I can ask or think (Eph 3:20). You are a good God and I eagerly anticipate your goodness today!"
 2. Kelly has been speaking the declaration from Day Two, "My words set the course of my life." Do you know that each time she says that, whether she is laying in bed with me, pouring her coffee, or correcting herself before she almost speaks, it builds faith in me. I hear the message: "My words set the course of my life." When she is speaking it is literally building the belief system in my life. The more I hear that, the more I will believe it. And then I will speak the same way. I will believe the same way and then walk with the understanding of the power of my words.
 3. This takes us back to Romans, your belief system gets changed by what it constantly hears. This is why it is so critical that our children are exposed to Gospel, the Word of God and sound thinking. Not just for behavior modification but for the manifestation of the Kingdom of God! Children need to see parents live and walk this out. They need to see the God in our lives manifested-made visible.
 4. What I hear I have opportunity to believe. What I believe I need to speak. That is

my confession of faith in what I believe. It is my declaration of faith. *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit."* (Proverbs 18:21, NKJV) *"A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, But perverseness in it breaks the spirit."* (Proverbs 15:4, NKJV)

- a. Perverse means to be bent. If something is perverse it is not like God or God's ways. Peter desiring Jesus to not go to the cross would appear to be emotionally comforting, but the reality was that his words were bent, crooked to the way of God. Sarcasm is perverse. It puts down instead of building up. A wholesome tongue is a tree of life.
- D. Receive/manifest the Kingdom of God. The process of the Kingdom is to believe, speak and manifest.
1. Back to Romans 10 *"For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."* (Romans 10:10, NKJV) The process of the kingdom, believe the Word of God, Speak it and see it manifest. Out of the abundance of the mouth the heart speaks. Lk 6:45.
 2. To be saved you have to know that God is a good God, and He desires you to be saved. So much so that He sent His son to die for you. You believe that and confess Him Lord of your life and you start manifesting the Kingdom of God. To be healed, you have to believe that God is the healer. You believe it and you speak it over your life and in prayer in the midst of sickness. As you do it is made manifest.
 3. Here is another example: *"And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. **This man heard Paul speaking.** Paul, observing him intently and **seeing that he had faith to be healed**, said with a loud voice, **"Stand up straight on your feet!"** And he leaped and walked."* (Acts 14:8-10, NKJV) The man heard, faith filled his heart! Paul observed him having faith and declared! "Stand up!" The man who heard and who believed now stood manifesting the Kingdom!
 4. This is not a formula as some have made it to be. It is how the Kingdom of God operates. It is a process: Believe, confess/declare, and receive or manifest the grace/Kingdom of God. The negativity fast/positivity feast, is about doing little things in a big way!

Conclusion:

- Let's commit to right believing and right speaking, in order that we manifest the Kingdom of God; first to those who are closest to us.