

THINK, SPEAK AND DO – Part 4

Joshua 1:8

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.

Today we're going to discuss the third and final stage of our lesson—OBSERVING TO DO. It's not enough to simply *think* right, or even *speak* right. If we truly want to have good success, then we must also DO right.

Someone might ask, "If *doing* right is so important, then why is it still necessary to *think* right or even *speak* right?" Well, let's start with speaking right. The reason it's important that we *speak* right is because speaking is how salvation is brought to our soul.

Matthew 12:37

37 For BY THY WORDS thou shalt be JUSTIFIED, and by thy words thou shalt be CONDEMNED.

It's also important that we continue to think right because our thinking influences our speaking.

Matthew 12:34

34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for OUT OF THE ABUNDANCE OF THE HEART THE MOUTH SPEAKETH.

Finally, just like what we think influences what we say, what we say influences what we do!

Joshua 1:8

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.

In fact, speaking the word makes it easier to do the word.

Deuteronomy 30:11

11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not HIDDEN from thee, neither is it far off.

The word "hidden" in this verse actually means *difficult* or hard.

Deuteronomy 30:11 New International Version

11 Now what I am commanding you today is NOT TOO DIFFICULT for you or beyond your reach.

Moses is saying that God's commandments aren't *too difficult* (or beyond their reach), particularly IF they put His words in their HEART and in their MOUTH!

Deuteronomy 30:14

14 But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy MOUTH, and in thy HEART, THAT THOU MAYEST DO IT.

When we put the word in our heart (or believe it) and when we put the word in our mouth (or speak it), the easier it is to do it. The reason this makes doing the word easier is because the word gets into our heart and we learn to *love* it!

As a child I hated broccoli. Therefore, growing up it was difficult to eat it. However, after years of putting it in my mouth, I learned to love broccoli. Now, I have no problem eating it! Similarly, if we keep putting the word in our mouth we will develop a love for the word. This *love* makes it easier to keep and do the word.

1 John 5:3

3 For THIS IS THE LOVE OF GOD, that we keep his commandments: and HIS COMMANDMENTS ARE NOT GRIEVOUS.

When we love God (and His word), keeping His commandments will not be "grievous" (i.e. too heavy or difficult).

Another reason why it's important to DO the word and not just speak it is because when we say but don't do, we risk undoing everything we say!

Romans 2:21–25

21 Thou therefore which teachest another, TEACHEST THOU NOT THYSELF? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? 22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? 23 Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? 24 For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written. 25 For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou KEEP THE LAW: but if thou be a breaker of the law, THY CIRCUMCISION IS MADE UNCIRCUMCISION.

The Jews were condemning the Gentiles for things they themselves were guilty of. As a result, their circumcision was being made uncircumcision! Thus, we can undo the righteousness we've gained through speaking by not doing what we say.

In fact, unless we *do* what we say or do what we claim to believe, we have no assurance or guarantee that we will be saved in the end.

2 Peter 1:10

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election SURE: for if ye DO THESE THINGS, ye shall NEVER FALL:

Notice where our *assurance* comes from—“doing these things!” Therefore, all the thinking and speaking in the world won’t matter if we don’t also do it. Only those who do the word will enter into the kingdom of heaven.

2 Peter 1:11

11 For so an ENTRANCE shall be ministered unto you abundantly INTO THE EVERLASTING KINGDOM of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Those who say the right things, but do not “do” the right things, risk being denied access into the kingdom of God!

Matthew 7:21–23

21 Not every one that SAITH UNTO ME, Lord, Lord, SHALL ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN; but he that DOETH the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not PROPHESED in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, YE THAT WORK INIQUITY.

Notice how these individuals “said” the right things (“Lord, Lord”). Yet, because they did not also “do” the right things, they were denied access into the kingdom! Don’t count on your speaking to save you, particularly if you don’t *do* what you’re commanded!

1 Corinthians 9:27

27 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.

No amount of preaching (speaking) will save us if we do not do what we say. When we fail to do the right things, not only will we not be saved, but neither will those who hear us!

1 Timothy 4:16

16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in DOING this thou shalt both SAVE THYSELF, AND THEM THAT HEAR THEE.

Our words have power to save ONLY when they're backed by experience or a life of obedience. In fact, if you do not obey the word, you have no authority or right to bring correction or judgment!

Acts 19:13–16

13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul PREACHETH. 14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I KNOW, and Paul I KNOW; but WHO ARE YE? 16 And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

Don't be surprised when the devil doesn't obey your words if you won't obey God's word! (Also, apparently some demons respond to *character* more so than they do to commands.)

Mark 9:28, 29

28 And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, WHY COULD NOT WE CAST HIM OUT? 29 And he said unto them, THIS kind can come forth by nothing, but by PRAYER AND FASTING.

Before this, the disciples were having success casting out demons. Why the sudden lack of success? We must understand that prior to this the disciples were operating under Christ's anointing (authority). On this occasion, however, Christ wasn't with them. Therefore, they were forced to operate with their *own* anointing! Christ is here telling them what they would have to do in order to have an anointing (authority) like His—they would have to fast and pray! In other words, they would have to DO what He DID.