

LESSON EIGHT – THE POWER OF BELIEF

Intimidation is an enemy spirit. It lies to you and says I have more authority or power than you. You had better back off and do what I say! If you don't do you pay the consequences. If we listen to intimidating lies, The gift of God will go dormant and we will live in an oppressed state. It will be as if our giftings are asleep.

BOLDNESS

So, if intimidation lulls the gift asleep, what wakes it up? The answer is boldness. Intimidation leads us to drawback, while boldness lunges forward, even in the face of opposition.

IS YOUR FAITH SO COMPLEX YOU CAN'T BELIEVE?

Ask yourself honestly: does your confidence rest in what God has said or in what you see or experience?

Do you base your belief on what you see happening to others?

Is your level of trust gaged by the faithfulness of others?

Have you complicated things by trying to explain past failures - Yours or others?

Why can't believers just believe? Why do we allow our insecurities to complicate the gospel?"

When his disciples couldn't cast the devil out of a young man, Jesus sharply rebuke them for it.

[Mat 17:17 NKJV] 17 *Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me."*

Jesus made it clear to them that the gift of God would remain dormant in them if they could not believe.

So, what is faith? Believing God will do what he said he will do.

Jesus said he gave us power and authority over all the power of the enemy. Here is the truth about the authority that you have:

“Listen carefully: I have given you authority [that you now possess] to tread on serpents and scorpions, and [the ability to exercise authority] over all the power of the enemy (Satan); and nothing will [in any way] harm you.” LUKE 10:19 AMP

You don't have to live in an oppressed state, bound by intimidation! All we need to do is believe him and then walk in that power and authority.

WALKING FREE FROM INTIMIDATION

Walking free from intimidation has nothing to do with being an extrovert. Some of the most outgoing people I have known have battled intimidation.

Being able to be intimidated has nothing to do with how anointed you are either. I have known many powerful ministers who struggle with intimidation.

You can be outgoing, strong, bold, and even anointed, and still fight intimidation.

WILLING SPIRIT, WEAK FLESH

After Jesus had battled his will for an hour, he rose up and went to his disciples only to find them “sleeping from sorrow” (Lk 22:45).

Our spirits, our hearts, may be willing, but our flesh will always seek to protect itself. Consequently, if our flesh is not crucified, we will give it what it wants. Peter wanted to be faithful to Jesus but couldn't because his flesh overpowered him. He loved his own life more than he desired God's will.

The root of fear and intimidation is the love of self. Perfect love casts out fear and gives us boldness. Boldness born of love breaks the grip of intimidation. Imperfect love or self-love opens the door to intimidation.

[1Jo 4:17-18 NKJV] 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

Fear and intimidation are magnified as we focus on ourselves. When we truly lay down our lives out of love for Jesus, we will no longer care what happens to us because we know we are committed to his care.