

Radical Faith Part 7 – Decisive Faith Action

5-Day Devotional: Speaking Life Through Radical Faith

Day 1: The Power of Decisive Action

Reading: Mark 5:25-34

Devotional: The woman with the issue of blood teaches us that faith without action remains dormant. She didn't just believe Jesus could heal her—she left her house, pushed through the crowd, and reached for His garment. Your faith today requires movement. What situation in your life needs you to take a step toward Jesus? Perhaps it's leaving behind comfort zones, reaching out for help, or simply opening your Bible. Faith isn't passive wishful thinking; it's an active pursuit of God's promises. Like adjusting a thermostat rather than reading a thermometer, your decisive actions set the spiritual temperature of your life. What one step can you take today that demonstrates your trust in God's power?

Day 2: Setting the Thermostat with Your Words

Reading: Proverbs 18:20-21; James 3:3-12

Devotional: Your words don't just describe reality—they help create it. The woman with the issue of blood repeatedly said, "If I only touch His clothes, I shall be made well." She spoke healing before she experienced it. Are your words setting the temperature of your life toward faith or fear? When you speak God's truth over your circumstances, you're not denying reality; you're inviting God's greater reality into your situation. This week, identify one area where you've been speaking defeat and replace those words with Scripture. Death and life are in the power of the tongue. Choose to speak life over your marriage, your children, your health, your purpose. Your words are seeds—plant wisely.

Day 3: Aligning Your Desires with God's Heart

Reading: Psalm 37:1-7; Matthew 6:25-33

Devotional: God promises to give you the desires of your heart when you delight in Him—not because He's a cosmic vending machine, but because fellowship with Him transforms your desires to match His. The woman heard about Jesus and her desire shifted from mere survival

to expectant faith. What desires are you nurturing? Are they born from worldly pressure or from intimate time with your Father? When you spend time in God's Word and prayer, He doesn't just grant your wishes—He reshapes your wanting. He gives you new desires, then helps you walk into their fulfillment. Today, ask God to align your heart with His. What He places within you, He will bring to pass through His power, not your striving.

Day 4: Guarding Your Mouth, Preserving Your Life

Reading: Proverbs 13:3; 1 Peter 3:10-12; Matthew 12:33-37

Devotional: Scripture warns that he who opens his mouth wide shall have destruction, but he who guards his mouth preserves his life. What flows from your mouth reveals what fills your heart. Jesus said that out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. If your conversations are filled with complaint, criticism, and hopelessness, examine what's filling your heart. Are you feasting on news, social media negativity, and worldly perspectives—or on God's Word? To love life and see good days, refrain your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit. This isn't about toxic positivity; it's about truth-filled confession. Replace lies with God's truth. Replace fear with His promises. Your tongue has the power to promote health or pierce like a sword. Choose healing words today.

Day 5: The Father's Heart Toward You

Reading: Romans 8:28-39; John 3:16-17

Devotional: God's nature toward you is so good that He gave His most precious treasure—Jesus—to prove His commitment to blessing you. If He didn't withhold His own Son, how will He not freely give you all things? The enemy wants you to question God's goodness, but the cross settles that question forever. Your Heavenly Father isn't waiting for you to perform better before He moves; He's already moved. He's Jehovah Rapha, the Lord your Healer. He's your physician, your provider, your protector. Every promise in Scripture reveals His heart toward you: blessed coming in and going out, seated with Christ in heavenly places, more than a conqueror. Today, receive His love afresh. Let it transform how you see yourself and your circumstances. You are deeply loved, fully accepted, and completely empowered by the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead.

Radical Faith Part 7 – Scripture References from the Sermon

Explicitly Mentioned References:

1. **Mark 5:25-28** - The woman with the issue of blood
2. **Psalms 37:4** - "Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart"
3. **James 3** - Reference to the tongue as a steering wheel (specifically **James 3:3-5**)
4. **Matthew 12:34** - "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks"
5. **Mark 5:28** (Amplified) - "For she kept saying, if I only touch his garment, I shall be restored to health"
6. **Proverbs 12:18** - "There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health"
7. **Proverbs 13:3** - "He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction"
8. **Proverbs 18:21** - "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit"
9. **1 Peter 3:10-11** - "He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit"
10. **John 3:16** - "For God so loved the world..."
11. **Romans 10:9-10** - Reference to believing in your heart and confessing with your mouth
12. **Romans 8:32** - "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"
13. **Romans 8:11** - Reference to the Spirit that raised Christ from the dead quickening mortal bodies
14. **2 Corinthians 6:16** (implied) - "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world" (actually **1 John 4:4**)
15. **Ephesians 2:6** - Reference to being seated in heavenly places

16. **Deuteronomy 28:3-6** - References to being blessed in the city, blessed coming and going, blessed basket

Corrected Reference:

- **1 John 4:4** - "Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world" (pastor attributed this to another location)

Biblical Names/Concepts Referenced:

- Jehovah Rapha - "The LORD who heals" (**Exodus 15:26**)

Additional Relevant Verses for Sermon Themes:

On Faith and Action:

- **James 2:17** - "Faith without works is dead"

- **Hebrews 11:6** - "Without faith it is impossible to please God"

On the Power of Words:

- **Proverbs 15:4** - "A wholesome tongue is a tree of life"

- **Proverbs 16:24** - "Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones"

- **Matthew 15:11** - "Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth"

On God's Goodness:

- **Jeremiah 29:11** - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil"

- **Romans 8:28** - "All things work together for good to those who love God"

Radical Faith Part 7 – Personal and Small Group Study Guide

Radical Faith – The Decisive Action of Faith - The Power of Our Words

Opening Prayer

Begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion and help apply God's Word to your lives.

Icebreaker

Share a time when someone's words either built you up or tore you down. How did those words affect you?

Key Takeaways

1. Radical Faith Requires Decisive Action

- Faith without action remains dead or inactive.
- The woman with the issue of blood didn't just believe—she acted on her faith.

2. Our Words Are Thermostats, Not Thermometers

- Thermometers report existing conditions.
- Thermostats set and change the atmosphere.
- Our words shape reality rather than just describing it.

3. Words Stem from Heart Convictions

- "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (**Matthew 12:34**).
- What we truly believe will eventually come out of our mouths.
- The woman "kept saying" her declaration of faith repeatedly.

4. Biblical Truth About Words

- Death and life are in the power of the tongue (**Proverbs 18:21**).
- Wise words promote health (**Proverbs 12:18**).
- Guarding our mouth preserves our life (**Proverbs 13:3**).

- Our words determine whether we love life and see good days (**1 Peter 3:10**).
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Discussion Questions:

Understanding the Message

1. What stood out to you most from this sermon? Why?
2. Explain the difference between a thermometer and a thermostat in your own words. How does this analogy apply to our speech?
3. Read **Mark 5:25-28**. What specific actions of faith did the woman with the issue of blood take? Why was her statement "If only I may touch his clothes, I shall be made well" so significant?

Going Deeper

4. The pastor mentioned that God gives us the desires of our hearts (**Psalms 37:4**). How does spending time with God in His Word and prayer change our desires to align with His?
5. What's the difference between "positive thinking" and speaking God's Word over your life? Why is this distinction important?
6. Read **Proverbs 18:21**. Can you think of examples from your own life where your words set a direction (positive or negative) that your life followed?

Personal Reflection

7. What "thermometer words" do you tend to speak over your life? (Examples: "This will never change," "I can't overcome this," "Things are always chaotic")

8. What area of your life feels "sick" right now—physically, mentally, relationally, spiritually, or purposefully? What does God's Word say about that area?

 9. The woman with the issue of blood "kept saying" her declaration of faith. What faith declaration do you need to keep saying over your situation?
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Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:

1. Identify Your Thermometer Words

- Write down negative or passive statements you regularly make about yourself, your family, your work, or your circumstances.
- Find scriptures that speak God's truth about each situation.
- Replace your thermometer words with thermostat words based on Scripture.

2. Create Faith Declarations

- Based on time in God's Word and prayer, write 3-5 specific faith declarations (Remember the vision list).
- Speak these aloud daily (morning and night).
- Journal any changes you notice in your perspective or circumstances.

3. Guard Your Mouth Audit

- For three days, pay attention to what comes out of your mouth.
- Note when you speak life vs. death, truth vs. lies, faith vs. fear.
- Ask a trusted friend or family member to lovingly point out when your words don't align with God's Word.

4. Scripture Memorization

- Choose one verse from this lesson (**Proverbs 12:18, 13:3, 18:21, or 1 Peter 3:10-11**).
 - Memorize it and speak it over your life daily.
 - Share with the group how this impacted you.
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Action Steps

Individual

- Spend time this week asking God what desires He's placed in your heart.
- Write down what God says about you in Scripture (loved, chosen, healed, blessed, etc.).
- Practice speaking these truths aloud, especially when facing challenges.

As a Group

- Commit to praying for one another's specific areas of need.
 - Hold each other accountable to speak life, not death.
 - Share testimonies of how speaking God's Word made a difference.
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Closing Reflection

Read together: "He who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit." (1 Peter 3:10)

Final Question: What is one specific change you will make this week in how you speak about your life, based on what we've discussed?

Closing Prayer

Pray together:

- Thank God for the power of His Word.
- Ask for wisdom to speak life and not death.
- Pray specifically for the areas each person shared.

- Declare God's promises over one another.
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Next Week's Preparation

Continue studying **Mark 5:25-34** and reflect on what happened when the woman actually touched Jesus' garment. What can we learn about the response of faith?

Remember: "None of us are waiting on God to move. He's waiting on us to move."