

HAVE FAITH IN YOUR WORDS 06: TALKED INTO LIFE STUDY GUIDE

Last Sunday I thought that was all we would be doing with words, and I was planning a new series, but God spoke to me very clearly saying to keep going down the line of words as so many people were still not speaking words that bring life.

You can talk yourself to life, and you can talk yourself to death, this is what some of you still don't realize. Your words are either breaking you or making you. Your words are either making you sick or healing you. Your words are either making you wealthy or making you broke. You can talk yourself into life and you can talk yourself to death.

Let me say it stronger – you are talking yourself into life, or you are talking yourself into death. The WORDS you spoke yesterday – not your culture, not your race, not your background, not your gender, not nothing OTHER THAN WHAT YOU SAID have got you to your today. AND the WORDS YOU SPEAK TODAY WILL DETERMINE WHERE YOU END UP TOMORROW. It is that simple. I could just repeat that for the next hour, you need to get it.

Read Mark II.23. It says there, so clearly, "you shall have whatsoever you saith", or "you will have the words you speak". You will live what you say, you will walk in what you say.

I know pastors who are too ill to preach, and they said it over and over, I will not be well enough to preach. I know people who have said they cannot make it, and they never made it, I know people who say they are losing their marbles, then they lost them all. YOUR WORDS HAVE POWER. I have watched wives talk their husbands to death, I have watched people inherit money then speak it all away.

Kenneth Hagin went to preach a conference for a pastor, in the 40s. The pastor had just had a heart attack, and actually died, and went into a coma, and the doctors said he would have to die, he was so sick and his brain was so badly damaged, his brain had been dead for ten minutes. Well some of his pastor friends turned up and just kept speaking live – saying words of life over him – they just kept turning up – for three days they spoke life over him for 8 hours a day – and on the third day he sat up and was in his right mind. The doctors were stunned.

His wife for the time he was in the coma was pastoring the church for him. Well one day, the pastor preached and then Kenneth did. In the car on the way back to the pastor's house, it was Kenneth and his wife and the pastor and his wife, and the wife says "You are going to have to quit preaching, you are brain damaged, your ministry is over". It turned out he got a sentence the wrong way wrong and had to correct himself in the pulpit.

Well, Kenneth Hagin's wife laughs and says "My husband has never been brain dead, but he got at least three sentences the wrong way round tonight, I was listening, it's just things, don't curse your husband"

They had dinner in, and Kenneth was helping the pastor's wife with the dishes, and he tells her – you are killing your husband with your words, he will be dead in two years if you don't start speaking life over him. She didn't take it well, and he said "I am not speaking out the flesh, but the spirit, please listen"

She said "ok, ok, I know you hear God, I will accept it" and for about two weeks she was better, then she started speaking again, and two years later, Kenneth ended up speaking at her funeral. Two years to the day.

The lady now hated God her husband was dead, and never preached again and backslid. That is the kind of power words have. So speak some powerful words right now. Say this:

I believe I receive my healing

I believe I receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit

I believe I receive prosperity

I am out of debt, my needs are met

I believe I receive I am blessed.

When Adam was born (that's my eldest son), he was 4 days old, it was Sunday afternoon, and we had just taken him to church. We didn't miss church, we went. And after church I picked Adam up and said "Adam, you will grow up strong without disease, you will be bright and smart, and brilliant at your studies, you will be a spiritual giant full of faith and flowing in the spirit". I said it over all 4 of mine within a few days of them being born.

Even family members who cannot stand that I am born-again and a minister look at my children and say "you are doing something right". I don't pray over them for hours, I said it, and I believed it, and I received it. And words work! I have never prayed "Oh Lord, save my children" – I have never prayed for them to be Spirit-filled, I have prayed a few times when they were facing things, but mainly I said it, and that was that. All four of my children got saved young, they all speak in tongues and flowed in the gifts young. They all love God. They are the product of what I said and now they are becoming adults they are going to be the product of what they say!"

That is a big key of parenting. I am not a perfect parent, but it is father's day and words matter in your house. Let me tell you two things that I have done with my children:

1. I apologize to my children when I get it wrong. I have apologized to all my children probably more than I have prayed for all of them. Dad acted ugly there, that's not right, I've asked God to forgive me, will you?
2. We play together. Bob Yandian said it's not families that pray together that stay together, it's families that play together. We have had fun. Children need to have fun, we played all sorts of games, even though they are adults we still have game night regularly.

I have disciplined them all too, I have smacked all of them, I have taught them all from the Word, but I would still say "SAYING!" is the most important, you pray with your child, then say "they are so stupid, they are so rebellious", you are killing that child with their words. Your prayer time is meaningless (remember James 1.26 from before!)

You are given a baby that cannot speak, because mum and dad are supposed to say it for them. Children end up a product of spoken words. That's the biggest privilege any child has not the colour of their skin, the words spoken over them.

WORDS HEAL, WORDS MAKE SICK

WORDS BLESS, WORDS CURSE.

A child gets up and hears negative words that will go through your mind ALL DAY AT SCHOOL... actually that is true of all of us! Wives, you need to know that a nasty, biting word in the morning can make your husband inefficient all day. But a kind, tender, sweet

word, a word birthed in prayer, will lead him into victory at work all day! So - MAKE WORDS YOUR SERVANT, MAKE THEM WORK FOR YOU.

Have you ever arrived at someone's house and you walk in the door, and it feels off – you know what has happened – WORDS HAVE BEEN SPOKEN! Words hang around in the atmosphere! As I wrote this sermon, one of my sons had mackerel for lunch. I was skipping lunch to spend time praying and writing, so I am a little hungry. And I love mackerel, and the whole house is now filled with mackerel! There is an atmosphere of mackerel in every room. The air is filled with mackerel. You cannot have the fish without the smell, you cannot have the smell without the fish. I haven't seen the fish, but I know they are cooking it, I can smell it in the atmosphere! If frying a fish can be that powerful, how much more WORDS which have the power of life and death!

So, if you bring your children up in an atmosphere of negative words, that will stop them succeeding in life. And if you recognize yourself right now, then say sorry to your wife and your husband, say sorry to God, apologize to your children for raising them in an atmosphere of fried negative words, and making them live with that smell, and START SPEAKING RIGHT WORDS. I want your families to grow strong, and the way to do it – is speaking the right words.

I had a lady last year – this has happened a few times – she said would you pray with my son, he has turned 14 and he doesn't like church. He won't go to church, he thinks it is for babies, and he won't come with me, and he mocks me for going. This lady then said "you understand you have boys". I said "no I don't understand, I would have to tie Adam to his bed to stop him going to church, Joel and Reuben are the same. When Adam went to Bible school he walked 8 miles to church, first thing Reuben did when he got into York University was start googling churches in the town.

Sometimes I have had to tell my sons – you can't come to all three services your dad is going to this week, come Sunday morning then do some studies. THEY LOVE CHURCH. Why? WORDS – the words me and Amanda spoke in the house. YOUR WORDS can make your boy or girl LOVE CHURCH. YOUR WORDS can make your boy or girl love SCHOOL. Your words can make your boy or girl love OTHERS. WE ARE THE PRODUCT OF THE WORDS OUR PARENTS SPOKE OVER US. I know people who go to church and they look so so holy. BUT at home they are speaking the words that make the house smell.

They are not being brought up in the atmosphere of HEAVEN THAT IS IN CHURCH. Again, I am not trying to condemn – no one is perfect, we can all go further, and I WANT YOU TO CHANGE – because two hours on a Sunday cannot change the whole week. You won't always get it right, but if I gave you a pound for every kind word you said and fined you a pound for every nasty word, would you be richer or poorer next Sunday?

And what happens is you get used to it. I used to run a McDonalds, working 6 day weeks, often 12-14 hours a day, 100 hour weeks were not uncommon. And let's say I have a week holiday, and we go to Greece or something, and then I come back, and it's MONDAY afternoon, I would always go back on a late shift, and you walk in about 3pm and the first thing that hits you as you go in the kitchen is the SMELL. Pickles, lettuce, caramelised sugar from the buns, the oil, fried fish, fried chicken, the meat... the smell just hits you, it's the pickles mainly. And you go wow, this kitchen stinks. Have they not cleaned it? No – it's not that – it always smelled like that, but you got used to it being in it every day.

Do not let your family GET USED TO THE SMELL of negative words. CHANGE AND SPEAK LIFE!

Because people are so carnal they think it is systemic racism, they think it is a corrupt nation, they think it is everything but what the BIBLE says it is. WHAT MATTERS IS YOUR WORDS. Remember James 1.26 if you are all religious and do all the religious things BUT DO NOT BRIDLE YOUR TONGUE, nothing will benefit you.

We had a lady leave the church, years ago, and a few people came and said “why did she leave, she is so so so so so spiritual” Then they told me – they are always speaking in tongues, they were always quick to dance. THAT IS NOT WHAT SPIRITUAL IS. God loves using any vessel, He talked through a donkey once, donkeys are not spiritual!

No – if you want to know if someone is spiritual, I wouldn’t even bother finding out what they are like at church. I would go to their house, and if I could smell the mackerel, I would know mackerel. Anyone can be two-faced in church, anyone can wear the SUNDAY MASK, I have turned up at people’s houses and they start hiding things, running around like crazy before opening the door. If you are spiritual, it will be seen at your house. If not, you are not spiritual. Not sure if I would dare preach that face to face but over the camera I can be a little bolder, but it is true!

WORDS CONTROL EVERYTHING. Saturday night I talked a little about “well, you never know what God will do” and why that is just not Biblical, and that phrase has a twin that comes out when it comes to healing “we never know why someone is sick” No, just listen to a sick person speak a while, you will normally find out why they are sick.

Read Proverbs 12.18. Some words are like a sword, other heal. Wise people speak healing words. Wise people live for God every day, not just Sunday. My job today is to re-programme you to speak with the tongue of the wise then you will stop stabbing yourself with your own words and blaming others for your wounds and learn to speak yourself into health.

START WITH WATCHING WHAT YOU ALLOW OTHERS TO SAY WITH YOU! Read Psalm 1.1. So many people walk in the counsel of the ungodly, turn the news off, it’s all so ungodly. Just staggeringly ungodly. Read Romans 12.1-2. Stop being conformed or you will never be transformed. That is why your mind is not being renewed. The world – people who are not born again do not think right so they do not speak right – so as a pastor if I can train you to think right, you will speak right and your words will steer you into a blessed life.

I have been in churches that think worldliness is how you dress – no, you can be in a dress down to the floor, hair in a bun, no make up and still be utterly worldly! WORLDLY is about thinking like the WORLD – thinking negative, saying negative, NOT THINKING LIFE NOT SPEAKING LIFE. I went to a church once that told people that sleeveless tops were of the devil! No worldliness is embracing the narrative of the world, the values of the world, the hatred of the word.

We have to stop talking like the WORLD, yes that means stop moaning and whining like the world, stop idolizing the foolish celebrities they idolize, stop spreading the lies. I want all of you right now to stop talking sickness. Stop thinking sick. Think healed, act healed, talk healed. Otherwise that is worldly.

Stop talking failure. You are not a failure and you are not going to fail. I don't believe in failure, I believe in success. I believe we are going to make it. I believe in winning, I believe in Jesus, I believe we are more than conquerors.

Stop telling me what satan is doing or saying all the time. I don't care what he is doing, I care about what JESUS is doing. I want to talk about what God is saying, God is doing. He is the one with the power.

Every heard a preacher preach an hour on what satan is doing? YAWN! Boasting about the power of the devil is worldly. God has not gone out of business. God has not lost HIS POWER. But we still hear that Christians should have to fight through life with barely enough, sick every day, angry every day, struggling through gritted teeth to forgive. No – we are called to live in daily victory, daily success. JESUS SAID HE WILL NEVER LEAVE US OR FORSAKE US. Having a God who will never lead us is success!

Read Romans 8.31. If God is on our side, no one can win against us. Start praising God right now – HE IS FOR YOU, HE IS ON YOUR SIDE. I don't care what satan is doing, GOD IS WITH ME, GOD WILL NEVER LEAVE ME. We have to stop getting concerned about satan. The amount of people who want to highlight what satan is doing to me is unreal. Ben, Ben, did you read what this person said about you on social media? No, I didn't, I don't go around reading other people's stuff. I don't care. If they are attacking me and saying it in public, it's satan, I am not interested in satan. I don't care what satan is doing around me, the GREATER ONE IS IN ME!

It's great when someone gets delivered from smoking, or drugs, or drinking, or whatever – but the greatest deliverance is freedom from worry and doubt and anxiety. Worry will kill you quicker than a cigarette. Anxiety will kill you quicker than whiskey. I don't smoke and I barely drink, but worry is worse. WORRY WILL KILL YOU, worry can make you sick. BUT YOU RENEW YOUR MIND AND REALIZE YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT! So many people are worried about tomorrow, Ben, Ben, Ben, when are we going to meet again? WHEN WE DO. What are you going to preach on? I don't know, what are you going to do? I don't know. I am not worried, I don't care.

I have looked at some mountains and said you are going to move. And they will speak back – things speak at us – all of Mark 11 is because Jesus "answered" the tree, that meant the tree spoke to him and he spoke back. I speak back back – "Listen you are going to move, but if you don't, I will go around you, or over you, or under you, or right through you, I don't care"

Sometimes I just laugh at satan. HAVE YOU READ THE BOOK? GOD IS WITH ME.

While I am laughing, satan runs off from me,. GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN ME, GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU, THAN HE THAT IS IN THE WORLD, than satan. You have the greater one in you.

Greater than SIN – inside you

GREATER Than sickness – inside you

GREATER THAN TROUBLE – inside you

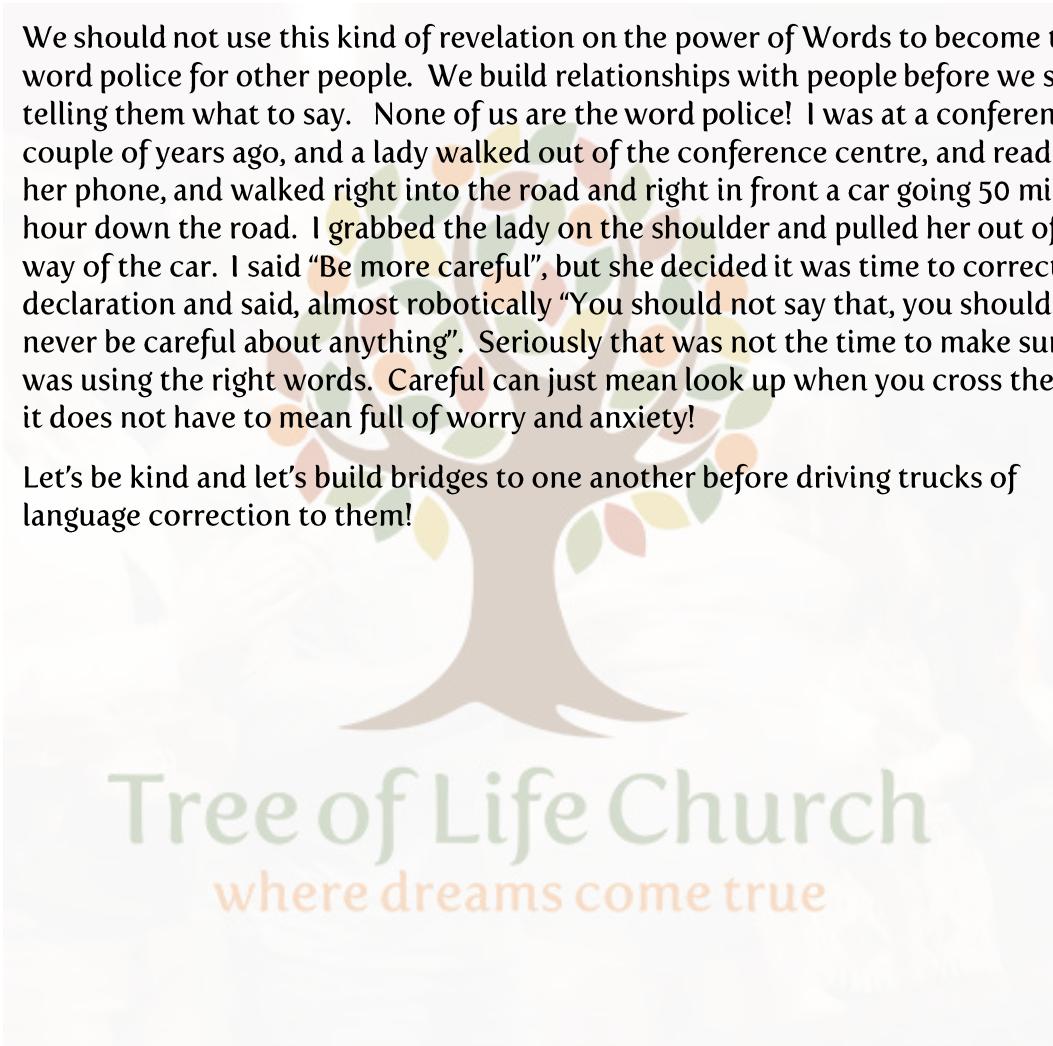
GREATER THAN TOUGH TIMES – inside you

That's my declaration and it should be yours too – WORD ARE GOING TO GET YOU OVER, WORDS ARE GOING TO MAKE YOUR TOMORROW BETTER THAN TODAY. WORDS that YOU SPEAK. Let's create a pleasant aroma in our houses, an atmosphere filled with love. I ended the sermon Sunday by asking you to tell the people around you "you are more than a conqueror" to get that smell of fried fish out of the house and get the smell of life and love in our houses, so why not do that now – say to someone in your household "You are more than a conqueror", say to someone in your small group "You are more than a conqueror". You are more than a conqueror, that is the truth, and everything else is just not true.

POSTSCRIPT:

We should not use this kind of revelation on the power of Words to become the word police for other people. We build relationships with people before we start telling them what to say. None of us are the word police! I was at a conference a couple of years ago, and a lady walked out of the conference centre, and reading her phone, and walked right into the road and right in front a car going 50 miles an hour down the road. I grabbed the lady on the shoulder and pulled her out of the way of the car. I said "Be more careful", but she decided it was time to correct my declaration and said, almost robotically "You should not say that, you should never be careful about anything". Seriously that was not the time to make sure I was using the right words. Careful can just mean look up when you cross the road, it does not have to mean full of worry and anxiety!

Let's be kind and let's build bridges to one another before driving trucks of language correction to them!



Tree of Life Church
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HAVE FAITH IN YOUR WORDS 06: TALKED INTO LIFE STUDY GUIDE

1. Why are we still in this series on the power of words?
2. Words are the main factor in whether we move into life or death. In what areas of our lives should we be speaking words to bring ourselves into life and death?
3. Ben says “the words you spoke yesterday – not your culture, race, background, gender, not anything other than what you said have got you where you are today” – what excuses do people have for where they are right now to avoid the Biblical truth that they are snared or set free by what they say?
4. How can we avoid the negative words of others? Where are they and how can we cut them out of our lives?
5. How can we create an atmosphere of positive words in our houses? How can we speak life over our children? What kind of things can we say?
6. I have heard so many parents curse their children – my boy's just stubborn, she hates maths, my children just don't like church. How can they change what they are saying? How can you change what you are saying?
7. How does the revelation that the greater one lives in us help us get the right attitude and the right words to speak?
8. Has there been a time in your life where you know changing your words has changed the direction of your life in a clear way?
9. What about this message inspired you the most, challenged you the most and encouraged you the most?



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