Kingdom Faith Ministries



International Newsletter



Teaching God's People To Hear The Voice Of The Lord

By The Speaking Of His Power

Pastor Paul Norcross September 2009

May God bless you and all your family in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ. His name has power when spoken by faith-filled believers! The inherent power of Jesus Christ is in you to do the things that He did and even greater (John 14:12) because He is seated at the right hand of our heavenly Father!

In our pursuit of fulfilling the great commission (Mark 16:15-20), we are to walk in this power to lay hands on the sick, and they SHALL recover. We are to speak with new tongues, and in that name of Jesus Christ we SHALL cast out demons. Deadly things that we drink SHALL NOT hurt us. What power there is in Christ as we believe! And when we decide to really work with the Lord (instead of doing our own thing), then watch out world! Here come Holy Ghost, power-filled saints of the Most High God Who know who they really are in Christ!

Mark 16:20

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working (sunergo = fellow worker, cooperating) with them, and confirming the word with signs following (epakoloutheō = accompanying, following after). Amen.

What is it going to take to enable the Lord to work with you, now, today, this very moment? He wants to work with you, with all your faults and failures. You've done nothing that surprises Him. He knows your thoughts before you even think them (Psalm 139). You were drawn to Him, and He accepted you just as you were, and even as you are now. What a joy to know how much He loves you! Isn't it time we left our self- condemnation and self-focus, asked forgiveness for our unbelief, and began to work with Him to change the spiritual balance of our surroundings? Hallelujah!

Power Released Through The Speaking Of His Power

Please consider with me the nature of our privilege to use the name of Jesus Christ, and to walk in His power together as we preach His Word. In the following verses in Hebrews there is an awesome key that we must understand.

Hebrews 1:1-3:

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word (rhema = a speaking) of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

When the text in verse three says that Jesus Christ upholds all things by the word of His power, it means that He sustains all of creation – the earth, the stars, the universe – simply by speaking words from heaven. Remember, He IS the Word of God! His continuous speaking is what sustains the earth, and energizes power in all those who are learning to live by every word (*rhema* revelation word) that proceeds out of the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4). The Holy Spirit brooded upon the waters, waiting for the Word of God to be spoken from God in Genesis 1. And when it was spoken, creative power was released! When you speak the *rhema* Word of God, power is released also because the Holy Spirit energizes those words that come from God. This is why the angel Gabriel was able to declare to Mary in Luke 1:37, "For with God shall no (thing = *rhema* word spoken by revelation) be impossible."

One dramatic illustration of this occurred some years ago when I was teaching alongside Pastor Carl Fox in Romania. A passing car had to work its way around our vehicle which had stopped in the middle of the road. While repairing our vehicle, the passing car's driver became very angry with us for stopping in the middle of the road. He came after our driver with a hatchet, intending to do him harm. Out of the corner of my eye I saw his attack and yelled, "Stop in the name of Jesus Christ!" Immediately in mid-swing of his arm, his arm was bound. He was shocked that he could not move his arm! He became confused, and got back into his car to drive off. Moments later, still in a rage, he stopped his car and came running back to renew his attack with the axe. This time Brother Carl shouted for him to stop in the name of Jesus Christ and to leave. Again the man's arm was bound, and he quickly turned, confused look on his face again, and drove off in his car. The name of Jesus Christ has power! And devils will obey your command when you use the name of Jesus Christ in faith.

We are bigger than we know. We are big not because we are anything special, but because of Him Who is really alive inside of us – Jesus Christ, at whose name every knee must bow (Philippians 2:10). The Scripture says that greater is he that is in us, than he that is in the world.

1John 4:4

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

It's Time To Get Moving

When I was in the Navy many years ago, sometimes there were times when I would be the officer assigned to conn the ship into or out of the harbor. At those times, the ship's speed would be very slow,

Kingdom Faith Ministries International, Inc. PO Box 725 * Charlemont, MA 01339 * USA www.kingdomfaith.org * kingdom8@juno.com perhaps five knots (nautical miles) an hour or less. When travelling so slowly, a ship has little steerageway. This means that the rudder has much less effect to turn the ship. The faster the ship travels, the greater the steering ability. But the slower it travels, the more difficult it is to steer with the precision required to maneuver near a pier or in a harbor channel.

So it is with God. Jesus Christ confirmed the word with his disciples who "went forth and preached everywhere." Moving ships can be steered by the Master at the helm. But no matter how vigorously you try to turn a rudder, rudders simply don't work when the ship isn't moving. He confirmed the word with signs (and miracles and wonders) following the disciples who were moving with preaching the Word everywhere.

When Jesus commissioned the twelve disciples, and later the seventy (Luke chapters 9 and 10), He told them to practice what He had been demonstrating all along – to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. He told them that the kingdom is in evidence when the word of God is preached, and when healing the sick is happening. Beloved, are you doing this? God has commissioned you to. If your ship isn't moving, how can the Master steer it?

Don't Follow What Is Not Producing Fruit

Miracles, healings, signs, wonders – they are the best advertizing of Jesus Christ that there is! They come from the Holy Spirit, and they are free! Forget the world and their fear of this or that dread disease. If the Lord is working with you, and with those whom you follow, to walk in healing miracles, then obviously you are believing and doing what you should be doing as noted in the previous verses in Mark 16. In Acts 2:22 we learn that our heavenly Father approved Jesus Christ's ministry with signs, miracles, and wonders. They are the advertizing of genuine ministry when there is believing faith. We have all seen the counterfeit in recent years of those who make a show of such things, and whose ungodly character enables satan to gain advantage. But this does not negate the purposes of God in authorizing His disciples to walk in demonstration of His power as a matter of the ordinary Christian lifestyle!

When I see ministries promoting themselves with their own advertizing, I walk in the other direction away from them. If God does not think enough of their ministries to promote them with signs, miracles and wonders, then neither do I. Self-promotion is only needed for ministries in which God's power is conspicuously absent. Good fruit can only come from a good tree. All else produces corrupt fruit -- such as self-promotion, merchandizing the saints to contribute to those powerless radio or television ministries that probably should die anyway, or some other cause. Jesus made Himself of NO reputation (Philippians 2:3-9).

If a ministry has to badger people to get funds for God's work, there is also something wrong. The Bible says that God (not your solicitations) will supply all your need in Christ Jesus. It's one thing to make a need known, but quite another to exploit, manipulate and merchandize. So let's be sure to let God be God in supplying all our needs! Let's seek first the kingdom of God (His presence, the presence of the King!) and His righteousness, and thus let Him add all these things (our needs and His supply for our duties for Him) unto us (Matthew 6:33).

Giving is a wonderful blessing and vehicle for God's prospering of His saints (Malachi 3:8-12; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11). As always, we are to be led by the Spirit of the Lord, and not by our soulish reasonings and emotions. Thus I want to caution you in your giving concerning something western

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ministries like to do to raise money: develop spiritual partnerships. If you take part in "spiritual partnerships" which give you special privileges from those ministries, then don't be surprised when your finances dry up and become cursed.

The basis for such partnerships is usually (not always, but very often) corrupted by the breaking of spiritual principles by conferring special privileges to those who donate (remember the Scriptural admonition concerning giving the best seats to the wealthy?). The desire to donate to Godly works for the kingdom of God is noble, and should be done as the Holy Spirit encourages and shows you. But if those donations become obligatory, or are provoked through emotional manipulation, prosperity gospel thinking, or rewarded by special recognition and services, then you may be held accountable for sowing into ungodly deceptions. Instead of sowing into the kingdom of God, such sowing can be into a religious kingdom that only looks like it is part of God's kingdom. The absence of signs, miracles and wonders and the presence of self-promotion (or denominational/organizational promotion) are two very good ways to distinguish between the ministries that are really of the kingdom of God and those which are not.

"Partnerships" also become corrupted and ungodly when worked from the other side as well. Often small ministries try to "partner" with a larger (usually a western) ministry that is thought to be wealthy enough to support the smaller ministry. To those who are pure hearted in making such a request to partner for spiritual mentoring and sharing of the Gospel, there will be blessing. But to those who use the term "partnership" to really mean financial support disguised as being for spiritual growth, those efforts will become cursed.

Praise God for your love in giving! I am simply urging you to give <u>as the Lord directs</u> so that the blessing may be an abundant supply for both your need and the work which you are supporting. I am also urging those who ask to partner with other ministries to examine the motives of their heart in making such requests. And for those who are not giving at all because they feel they do not have enough to give, may I urge you to rethink and ask the Lord to show you ways that you can give to others (remember the widow's mite that was more precious than the giving of a rich person?), and thus operate the Biblical principle of giving, and avoid the curse from not giving.

How Good Is Our God!

Because our wrestling in this life is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual powers of darkness (Ephesians 6:12), we must be diligent to utilize the tools of the Holy Spirit and not our own powers and schemes to defeat the adversary. Two of the most inspiring verses to me in this regard come from Deuteronomy and Chronicles:

Deuteronomy 23:14

For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.

2 Chronicles 16:9

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong (châzaq = to strengthen, repair, cure, help, fortify) in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

If I try to fight my own battles out of my own self-reliance, I will fail. So will you! But if we keep our eyes on our Master, and listen to what He speaks into our spirit whenever we draw near to Him in the secret place (which requires holiness to even get there!), He will give up our enemies before us. Our sicknesses and our diseases, our problems and issues, our turmoil and strife—these enemies He will give up before us. If we ask Him, James 1:5 says that he will give us wisdom from above. And in our searching for intimacy with Jesus Christ, as we persevere and increase in His presence around His dining table (Revelation 3:20), He will show Himself strong in our behalf (2 Chronicles 16:9).

May your heart continually feed upon the good grass at the Master's feet. May His love so permeate your heart that your desire is completely for more of Him in your quiet times, and more of His will in your daily activities. Let there be light (in the light of His presence) in all that you think and say as you journey with Him and labor for His kingdom. You are the glory of God as you pursue Him. He is coming back to present to the Father a glorious church, of which you are a vital and very important part. Keep setting your affection on Him in these marvelous days ahead. We were born to serve in these days and times.....we were built for this hour to shine His glory in all the earth!

With you in His deep love,

Paul & Rita Norcross

Catching Up On Some Ministry News ...

We are so blessed and thankful for your loving heart and the way that you love and obey our Lord Jesus Christ! The greatest way we can show our love to Him is to obey what he tells us. It is not enough to do good ministry works. Our heart is to equip the saints to help them rise up in their ability to hear and obey what the Lord is speaking to them. That's THE GREATEST way to build His kingdom! It is also the greatest way to show our praise to Him.

Many times we have to wait for such things to happen in believers' lives.....for them to rise in confidence of their hearing and responding to the Lord's direction in their lives. We as believers often have great goals and desires, and we pray into existence many things that the Lord is happy to acknowledge and accomplish to bless us. But the greatest joy is always to see believers in Christ arising in faith into the plan and purpose and destiny which God gives to all who trouble themselves to hear Him speak into their hearts!

This is all to share the following news about what God has been doing among beloved saints around the earth who's lives have been touched by the Spirit of the Lord through this ministry (or perhaps in spite of this ministry!):

1. Saints in Pakistan (there are about 4 million Christians in this wonderful country) have translated Paul's booklet "The Voice Upon The Waters" into Urdu, and have distributed just over 5,000 copies of it across many of the villages and cities since Pentecost this

spring. A couple of years previous to this, 25,000 copies were distributed in the Hindi language in northern India. By God's grace, it appears that this booklet speaks to the hearts of God's people there in a particularly wonderful and inspiring way. We are very grateful to God for this. To help in this work we have been able to share some of the printing costs, with believers there contributing the rest of the costs. Even some of the printing facilities in those countries have been so blessed with this booklet that they have donated thousands of copies to the outreach efforts. The books get read and passed around many many times.

The saints in Pakistan are also in the middle of translating both "Dining At The Master's Table" and "Turning Curses Into Blessings" books as of this writing. They are hoping Paul can come and teach seminars on these topics so that they can put them on cable television for viewing by many. Please pray for this project.

2. A wonderful brother in the northwest area has been diligently working to upgrade our ministry website. We hope to present this new site in the near future. But in the mean time, we continue to be so blessed with the exposure and reach of the existing site which has blessed so many people. Two years ago (the last time we checked), people from 79 countries had

downloaded 52,000 pages of material from our site during that year.

This is really astonishing to us. But in the course of traveling to Asia and Africa, we are beginning to understand why there is so much hunger for the materials on our website. Some pastors there took us aside to explain that in these countries, usually doctrines of holiness and salvation are mostly what people hear. There tends to be a particular shortage of teachings on how to walk with the Lord, how to hear His voice, how to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, how to walk by the Spirit in your marriage, how to receive healing from God, and so forth. Because our site has a great deal of this kind of material, it seems to touch a chord in hearts of the saints in such places. We are so very thankful for the way God allows us to minister through this site.

- 3. This spring and summer God has opened wonderful doors to conduct Dining At The Master's Table and Living Free seminars and conferences in so many wonderful churches in the US and Canada. What a joy to help teach and equip God's people in these areas of learning to hear the voice of the Lord, and how to receive deliverance from curses, healing, forgiveness, and so many other wonderful topics to strengthen the Body of Christ. Thus far we have had the joy of teaching conferences in Canada, Maine, Texas, and North Carolina, and we've hosted a conference here in Massachusetts on the Practical Walk With The Holy Spirit with Pastor Carl Fox. How awesome is our God to be able to minster to the saints and fellowship together around His precious Word!
- 4. Off and on as we have had finances we have tried to help pastors, Christian schools and orphanages to stay alive and functioning in the famines and political upheavals of their countries. The time may come that they have to do this for us in our country! Nevertheless we try to help as the Lord enables us, and there are always so many more requests than we can fill. Recently we have been able to purchase Bibles for a Christian school in southwest Kenya, and help with various area pastor's needs. This is a joy and continuing blessing to give as we are able. God is so good! If you are led to help in this work, please let us know for helping in both Kenya as well as India and Pakistan.
- 5. Often we receive requests for sets of Paul's books to help pastors teach their congregations in such countries as Rwanda, Nigeria, Philippines, Senegal as well as the other countries already mentioned.

Included in each flat rate box are KFMI teaching books, plus Bibles and packages of food as can fit. Each book box totals over \$100 of books plus the \$47 postage. This has been a great blessing to do, and we wanted to let you know about it for your prayers and support. We have many unfilled requests waiting for funding. It averages four months to get priority mail to western Kenya, but only two weeks to Swaziland! Please pray to help us get more resources into these areas. We are often slow to realize how great the hunger is for good Holy Spirit teachings in all the non-western countries.

- 6. In addition to the Urdu translation of *The Voice Upon* The Waters and other Pakistani Urdu translations in progress, we also wanted to share about the Spanish translations that have been completed or are in progress as well. God is so Good! The How To Receive Your Healing From God book has been posted in Spanish on the website already and many saints from Spanish speaking countries have been reading it. The Voice Upon The Waters booklet has been completed as well, and will be posted along with the Urdu translation soon. And lastly the Five Keys To Deeper Intimacy With The Lord booklet is being translated, and we hope to have this ready in the early winter. Our heart is to make these translations available in as many languages as the Lord allows by opening the doors! We don't want to push them open ourselves, and we try hard not to do so. But when the Lord stirs in the hearts of His people to do this work, we are very grateful. It is such a privilege to see what He is doing to get these materials to so many other wonderful believers around the world!
- 7. WE SURE CAN USE YOUR PRAYERS! We delight in doing what the Lord gives us to do, and surely without a staff, and only a small office, it is astonishing what the Lord multiplies accomplishes as we seek to live and move and have our being in Him! And because He manages to get so much done, it is obvious that the Holy Spirit is moving many hearts to pray for us, and for this we are sincerely grateful. It is so clear that we could not be doing what we do without a mighty stirring of the Holy Spirit to energize many loving and powerful prayer warriors on our behalf. So those of you to whom the Lord has given you the assignment to pray for us, whether occasionally or very frequently, we can only share how deeply thankful we are for your hard work in the Spirit on our behalf. May your loving labors be greatly rewarded by our Beloved First Love, Jesus Christ.