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Speak Life

Aligning Your Words with the Heart of the Father

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Chapter 1

Sermon Outline

The Power of Words

Proverbs 18:21 (CSB)

²¹ Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Genesis 1:3 (CSB)

³ Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

Genesis 1:26-27 (CSB)

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

From the very beginning, God showed us the power of words. Genesis tells us that when God spoke, light came into being where there had been nothing. His words created what did not exist before.

Then we see that God made us in His image. That means our words were meant to reflect His heart and His purpose. We were designed to speak in a way that gives life, just as He does.

Proverbs reminds us that this is not just a truth about God, but a truth about us. Death and life are in the power of the tongue. What we say shapes what people believe and influences what grows in the hearts of those who hear us. These passages together show that words are never empty. They carry real power. That is why we cannot afford to treat our speech lightly. We are called to speak life because that is how we were designed to live.

Your Words Have Power to Shape Lives

Your words are not small. Every time you speak, you are shaping hearts and creating an atmosphere that can either lift people or weigh them down.

What you say matters more than you realize. God invites you to speak in a way that brings light and hope.

1) Your words can change the atmosphere in the room.

- What you speak shapes what people feel, even before they realize it. The tone of a room often follows the tone of your voice. Your words can calm what feels anxious. They can bring peace where there has been tension.
- Words can help someone breathe again after feeling the weight of the world. This is why you cannot afford to speak without care. The atmosphere changes when you choose words that reflect the heart of God.

2) Every word you speak produces fruit.

- Your words are like seeds. Once spoken, they go to work. What you plant will grow. This is true whether you mean it or not. Words of kindness produce trust. Words of harshness produce fear.
- Every conversation leaves something behind that will take root and bear fruit in time. That is why speaking life matters. You are planting with every word, and what you plant today shapes what will grow tomorrow.

3) Your words leave a mark that can last a lifetime.

- What you say may feel small in the moment, but it can stay with someone for years. A word of encouragement can be the reason someone keeps going when they want to quit. A careless word can be the wound that takes decades to heal.

- The mark of your speech lasts far longer than the moment in which it is spoken. This is why it matters so much to speak words that help rather than harm.

CALL TO ACTION

- Ask God to help you see the power of what you speak. Your words are not small. They shape hearts and create the atmosphere people live in.
- This week, slow down before you speak. Let your words be gentle, steady, and full of hope. Choose to speak in a way that lifts the weight off someone's shoulders.

You Were Designed to Speak Life

You were made to speak life. This is not something you have to force or fake. It is part of how God made you. When your heart is aligned with His, your words will reflect His love and purpose.

1) God gave you language so your words would produce life.

- Speech wasn't given to you just so you could share information or fill the silence. God gave you the gift of language so that your words would reflect His heart.
- Every word is a chance to build what matters, not just say what comes to mind. When you speak life, you are using that gift the way He intended it to be used.

2) Speaking life is how you reflect the image of God.

- You were made in His image, and His image is one of a Creator who speaks and brings life where there was none. When you choose words that encourage, build, and restore, you are reflecting the One who made you.
- Speaking life isn't about sounding spiritual. It's about revealing the heart of God, and that comes from intimacy with Him.

3) You were created to use your voice to build, not tear down.

- Your words were never meant to destroy. They were meant to strengthen what is good and restore what has been broken.
- Every time you speak life, you are living out the design God placed in you from the beginning. Your voice was designed to heal and restore.

CALL TO ACTION

- You were made to speak life. Ask God to help you use your voice the way He intended. Don't wait for the perfect moment or the perfect words.
- Trust that the Father will fill your speech with what is needed. Look for someone who needs life. Speak identity over them. Let your words help them remember who they are to God.

Your Words Partner with God's Plan or the Enemy's

Every word you speak aligns you with either God's plan or the enemy's schemes. There is no middle ground. Your voice helps build what is good, or it gives room for harm.

God calls you to speak life because your words help shape what happens next.

1) Every word you speak sides with either God or the enemy.

- There is no middle ground. Your words either help build what God loves or give space for the enemy to tear down what God has intended for good.
- Your words join you to a purpose that is bigger than you. You are always helping one side or the other. That's why you must choose carefully.

2) What you say seeds either truth or lies in the heart.

- When you speak, your words are like doors. They either let truth in or they make space for a lie to stay.
- What you say shapes what people believe about God, about themselves, and about what is possible.

3) Your words create space for God to work or room for the enemy to deceive.

- Speech shapes what happens next. When you speak life, you are creating a place where God's truth can flourish. When you speak carelessly, you are giving ground for confusion, hurt, or deception.
- Your words do not just stay in the air. They create an environment where something will grow, and you decide what that fruit will look like.

CALL TO ACTION

- Your words carry weight, and God wants to use them for good. Ask the Father to help you speak with care and purpose.
- Choose words that minister life. When you get into a conversation, make sure that your voice creates an atmosphere that honors God.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- The words you speak have power. They can create an atmosphere where hope grows, or they can weigh a heart down.
- God designed you to speak life, not as a skill to master, but as a way to reflect who He is. My prayer is that you won't take lightly what comes out of your mouth, because your words can point someone to Jesus.
- This week, carefully choose your words. Ask the Father to help you see the

people around you the way He does.

- Speak in a way that lavishes love on others. When you speak life, you partner with God to shape the world in a way that brings healing and restoration.

Chapter 2

Sermon Outline

When Your Words Hurt

2 Samuel 12:1-15 (CSB)

¹ So the Lord sent Nathan to David. When he arrived, he said to him: "There were two men in a certain city, one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had a large number of sheep and cattle, ³ but the poor man had nothing except one small ewe lamb that he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up living with him and his children. It shared his meager food and drank from his cup; it slept in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man could not bring himself to take one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for his guest."

⁵ David was infuriated with the man and said to Nathan: "As the Lord lives, the man who did this deserves to die! ⁶ Because he has done this

thing and shown no pity, he must pay four lambs for that lamb.”

⁷ Nathan replied to David, “You are the man! This is what the Lord God of Israel says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from Saul. ⁸ I gave your master’s house to you and your master’s wives into your arms, and I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that was not enough, I would have given you even more. ⁹ Why then have you despised the Lord’s command by doing what I consider evil? You struck down Uriah the Hethite with the sword and took his wife as your own wife—you murdered him with the Ammonite’s sword. ¹⁰ Now therefore, the sword will never leave your house because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hethite to be your own wife.’

¹¹ “This is what the Lord says: ‘I am going to bring disaster on you from your own family: I will take your wives and give them to another before your very eyes, and he will sleep with them in broad daylight. ¹² You acted in secret, but I will do this before all Israel and in broad daylight.’”

¹³ David responded to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

Then Nathan replied to David, “And the Lord has taken away your sin; you will not die. ¹⁴ However,

because you treated the Lord with such contempt in this matter, the son born to you will die.”¹⁵ Then Nathan went home.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

Nathan’s confrontation of David in 2 Samuel 12 did not come out of nowhere. It followed one of the darkest moments in David’s life. David had committed adultery with Bathsheba and tried to cover it up. When that failed, he arranged for her husband, Uriah, to be killed in battle. David’s actions spoke louder than any words. His silence, his deception, and his choices caused deep harm. For a time, David lived as if nothing had happened. He tried to move on, but sin left a wound that would not go away. That is where God stepped in.

God sent Nathan to bring the truth to the surface. Nathan didn’t come with accusations or anger. He came with a story that allowed David to see what he had become. David’s response is what makes this passage so powerful. He owned his sin. He spoke the words that opened the door for God’s mercy. This moment shows what happens when we stop hiding and face the damage our words or silence have caused. It connects directly to the sermon title, because David’s words and actions had hurt others,

and now it was time to face that hurt and let God begin the work of restoration.

Own It: Healing Begins When You Stop Hiding

Healing begins when you stop hiding behind excuses or silence and choose honesty before God. In 2 Samuel 12, David's restoration started the moment he confessed, "I have sinned against the Lord." He did not blame anyone else. He did not try to justify what he had done. His words opened the door for God's mercy.

God is not looking for perfection or promises to try harder. He is looking for honesty that brings the harm into the light. Without honesty, healing will not come.

1) Healing begins when you choose honesty

- When you drop the excuses and bring your failure to Him, you open the door for His mercy to do what your efforts never

could.

- God will not heal what you insist on hiding.

2) Confession is the turning point where restoration begins.

- When you surrender with confession, where God meets you with grace.
- Until you confess, the damage remains unhealed.

3) God is inviting you to bring your hurt to Him.

- The Father knows what was broken and is waiting for you to place it in His hands so He can begin the work of restoration.
- Trying to repair the damage on your own only delays healing.

CALL TO ACTION

- Be honest about where your words or silence have caused harm.
- Bring it God. His mercy is ready to meet you, not to condemn you, but to begin restoring what was broken.

Let Go: Don't Let Guilt Write Your Future

Guilt tries to chain people to their past and convince them that failure is the final word. David could have let shame define him for the rest of his life, but he didn't. Confession allowed God's mercy to meet him and provide a way forward. The consequences remained, but so did the grace of God.

Guilt keeps replaying the failure, but God calls people to walk in His restoration.

1) Guilt chains your soul, but God's mercy frees you.

- Guilt wants to replay your failure until you believe it has more power than God.
- Like Jesus, wounds may scar you, but they do not define you.

2) The Father is focused on your restoration.

- Guilt chains you to shame, but grace frees you from those chains.
- God is in the business of restoration. His desire is not to remind you of your failure but to infuse you with life.

3) Let God write your future.

- Repentance offers opportunities.
- A heart that looks at Him can only heal.

CALL TO ACTION

- Listen to His voice, not the voice of guilt.
- You are not called to carry the weight of what Jesus already bore, so let it go.
- Choose today not to pick it up, but instead walk forward hand in hand with Him.

Rise Up: Allow for Transformation

Failure does not need to be the end of the story. It can become the ground where transformation grows. David's failure became a turning point because he humbled himself and let God teach him. He did not stop at confession. He allowed God to shape him through it.

The harm David's words and actions caused became the place where God formed new strength and purpose. The pain of failure can become the place where you learn to speak life and rebuild what was broken.

1) God uses failure to teach and shape you.

- Failure becomes a tool in His hands, not a label over your life. When you surrender it, He forms in you what success alone never could.

2) God does not waste anything.

- God does not waste the pain your words have caused. He will use even that pain to show others His power to heal.
- He does not cause the pain, but He will not waste the opportunity.

3) Growth starts when you take responsibility.

- Ownership opens the way for change and gives God room to rebuild what was damaged.
- Restoration can be painful in the moment, but as you walk with God through it, you will develop into a stronger person.

CALL TO ACTION

- Bring your failure to God and ask Him to use it to shape you into someone who speaks life.
- Trust that He will take what the enemy meant for harm and use it as the very ground where new growth and healing take place.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- The Father is not asking you to stay stuck in the guilt of what went wrong. He is inviting you to bring it to Him so that healing can begin.
- Your failure, your silence, and the damage your words have caused do not have to be the end of the story. When you stop hiding and bring it into the light, God meets you with mercy, not condemnation. He restores what was broken and teaches you how to speak life where hurt once lived.

- Today is not about living in the past. It is about letting God write a new chapter that demonstrates His power to redeem and restore your life. Watch Him use what seemed wasted and turn it into the very place where trust and hope can grow again.

Chapter 3

Sermon Outline

The Need to Speak Life

2 Samuel 9:1-13 (CSB)

¹ David asked, "Is there anyone remaining from the family of Saul I can show kindness to for Jonathan's sake?" ² There was a servant of Saul's family named Ziba. They summoned him to David, and the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" "I am your servant," he replied. ³ So the king asked, "Is there anyone left of Saul's family that I can show the kindness of God to?" Ziba said to the king, "There is still Jonathan's son who was injured in both feet." ⁴ The king asked him, "Where is he?" Ziba answered the king, "You'll find him in Lo-debar at the house of Machir son of Ammiel." ⁵ So King David had him brought from the house of Machir son of Ammiel in Lo-debar.

⁶ Mephibosheth son of Jonathan son of Saul came to David, fell facedown, and paid homage. David said, "Mephibosheth!" "I am your servant,"

he replied. ⁷ “Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “since I intend to show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all your grandfather Saul’s fields, and you will always eat meals at my table.” ⁸ Mephibosheth paid homage and said, “What is your servant that you take an interest in a dead dog like me?”

⁹ Then the king summoned Saul’s attendant Ziba and said to him, “I have given to your master’s grandson all that belonged to Saul and his family. ¹⁰ You, your sons, and your servants are to work the ground for him, and you are to bring in the crops so your master’s grandson will have food to eat. But Mephibosheth, your master’s grandson, is always to eat at my table.” Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. ¹¹ Ziba said to the king, “Your servant will do all my lord the king commands.” So Mephibosheth ate at David’s table just like one of the king’s sons. ¹² Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Mica. All those living in Ziba’s house were Mephibosheth’s servants. ¹³ However, Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem because he always ate at the king’s table. His feet had been injured.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

This passage takes us into the reign of King David, a man who had known both pain and promise. David was at a point where he could have focused on his own success, but his heart was fixed on honoring a covenant he made with Jonathan. After Saul and Jonathan had died, David asked if anyone from Saul's family remained so he could show kindness for Jonathan's sake. That question set everything in motion.

Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son, was living in obscurity, crippled, forgotten, and filled with shame. What happened next wasn't just about fulfilling a promise. It revealed the heart of God. David spoke words that lifted Mephibosheth out of exile and gave him a place at the king's table.

This passage shows us what life-giving words can do. It reminds us that speaking life has the power to restore what was lost and to rewrite someone's story. People are waiting for words that will bring them home.

Recognizing Profound Brokenness

When we speak life, it begins with seeing the brokenness people carry. David saw Mephibosheth's pain and chose to respond.

We can't bring healing if we refuse to see the damage. Recognizing profound brokenness means seeing the person behind the pain, while preparing to speak words that restore.

1) Speaking life begins where brokenness is deepest.

- David didn't seek out the well-connected or the strong. He sought the forgotten.
- When we look for those hidden in shame, we position ourselves to bring life where it is needed most.

2) Mephibosheth wasn't just crippled in his feet; he was crippled in his thinking.

- The deeper brokenness that Mephibosheth was experiencing was internal. It was shaped by years of rejection, loss, and false labels.
- Recognizing profound brokenness means we listen for the lies people have believed so we can speak the Father's heart into them.

3) Fear had become Mephibosheth's closest companion.

- His life was defined by fear. He feared rejection, harm, and being unwanted.
- Profound brokenness distorts identity and paralyzes purpose. The solution is to speak the Heart of the father over that person.

CALL TO ACTION

- Ask the Lord to help you see people through His eyes this week.
- Don't rush past the ones who feel forgotten. Slow down, intentionally look for them, and choose to respond.
- The people God places in front of you may not ask for help, but they need to be seen. Let your words bring comfort to someone who feels invisible.

Healing Begins with Life-Giving Words

David started the restoration process by addressing Mephibosheth's heart. Healing starts when our words reach into the soul, reminding people who they are and what is possible.

David's words unlocks what had been trapped in shame. When we speak life, our words release healing and bring restoration.

1) Life-giving words search out and address heart issues.

- Life-giving words penetrate the broken places no one sees.
- They bring nourishment and begin reshaping what pain had misshaped.

2) Speaking identity addresses the soul.

- David didn't just offer resources. He offered identity.
- When we speak life, we call out what God sees in an individual.

3) Life-giving words are authorized to resurrect the dead.

- David's words didn't just encourage. They restored the identity that Mephibosheth had lost.

- When we speak the Father's heart over someone, our words breath life and extinguish despair.

CALL TO ACTION

- Your words have the power to begin a healing that someone has been waiting for.
- This week, speak the Father's heart over someone.
- Don't wait for perfect conditions. Speak what brings life and trust the Father to work through it.

See with the Father's Eyes, Speak with His Heart

David didn't see Mephibosheth through the lens of disability or shame. He saw him through the lens of covenant and honor.

When we see people as the Father sees them, our words become instruments of healing and restoration.

1) The Father seeks out the forgotten to pour his heart.

- David's search for someone to bless reveals the Father's heart.
- We need to follow His example and look for opportunities to demonstrate kindness and restore dignity.

2) Life-changing words create anchors of hope.

- David's promises didn't just lift Mephibosheth for a moment. They secured him in a new identity and place of belonging.
- When we speak with the Father's heart, our words give people something firm to hold onto in a world full of shifting sands.

3) Speaking from the Father's heart releases purpose.

- David's words invited Mephibosheth into a new role. He was no longer identified as a beggar, but as a son.
- When we speak life, we speak identity, which births purpose.

CALL TO ACTION

- Look for opportunities to speak identity over someone.
- Ask the Father to help you see what He sees and say what He would say.
- Let your words reflect His heart and create life.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Speaking life begins when we choose to see people as the Father sees them. David didn't speak life into Mephibosheth because he was worthy in the world's eyes. He spoke because his heart was

aligned with God's heart.

- Opportunity are all around you. The people around you are longing for words that will restore hope and bring them out of hiding.
- Your words can remind them they belong. They can help someone believe that restoration is still possible.
- Make it your prayer to to see the broken, to speak life with purpose, and invite people to the table where they can find identity.
- When you speak from the Father's heart, you are partnering with Him to heal and restore lives.

Chapter 4

Sermon Outline

Designed to Commune

Exodus 33:7-11 (CSB)

⁷ Now Moses took a tent and pitched it outside the camp, at a distance from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. Anyone who wanted to consult the Lord would go to the tent of meeting that was outside the camp. ⁸ Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would stand up, each one at the door of his tent, and they would watch Moses until he entered the tent. ⁹ When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and remain at the entrance to the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. ¹⁰ As all the people saw the pillar of cloud remaining at the entrance to the tent, they would stand up, then bow in worship, each one at the door of his tent. ¹¹ The Lord would speak with Moses face to face, just as a man speaks with his friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his assistant, the young man Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the inside of the tent.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

This passage shows us the difference between visiting His Presence and abiding in His Presence. Moses would meet with God and hear His voice, but Joshua remained in God's Presence, longing for more. The story invites us to see that abiding is where transformation happens, and life flows from remaining there.

Designed for Communion

Intimacy with the Father isn't optional. It's how we were created to live.

Before God ever gave us an assignment, He simply wanted to walk with us.

Moses went to the Tent of Meeting for relationship; he wasn't going through the motions (vs 7).

1) Intimacy is in your design

- You were not made to live at a distance from God.

- Your life begins and flourishes in relationship with the Father. Every other part of your purpose flows from this connection.

2) God calls you to walk with Him

- Before God gives you a mission, He calls you to Himself.
- Your identity is found in walking with Him daily, not in the work you do for Him.

3) Moses sought relationship first

- Moses didn't go to the tent for duties or titles. He went to meet with God (vs 7).
- When you prioritize relationship, you step into the life God intended for you.

CALL TO ACTION

- Stop living like intimacy with God is optional.

- Cancel something this week and give that time to Him.
- Choose communion over busyness. Let Him remind you why you were made.

Called to Abide

Abiding is what happens when we choose to stay. Joshua remained in the Tent because he wanted more of God's Presence.

Abiding transforms us as His life shapes how we think and live (vs 9, vs 11).

1) Abiding Begins with a Choice

- It's easy to visit God in moments of need, but abiding takes intention.
- Staying changes you in ways visiting never will. God is looking for those who will remain.

2) Joshua chose to linger in the Presence

- Joshua didn't rush out when the meeting was over. He stayed because his heart wanted more of God (see vs 11).
- Those who linger are the ones God uses to bring transformation.

3) Abiding transforms how you live

- The longer you stay in His Presence, the more your thoughts and actions look like His.
- Abiding shapes you from the inside out. It's the key to lasting transformation.

CALL TO ACTION

- Don't rush out of God's Presence. Ask yourself, "What am I so eager to get back to?"
- Take one step this week to stay longer. Linger in prayer, turn off distractions, and let worship lead you past comfort. Let

Him reset your pace.

Life Flows from Abiding

Life-giving words and impact come from abiding, not striving.

Like the vine feeds the branches, His life flows through us when we stay connected (vs 11).

1) Impact comes through connection

- Your authority doesn't come from effort or striving. It comes from staying connected to the Vine.
- Your impact and influence ONLY find fuel in abiding.

2) His life feeds yours

- Like the vine gives life to the branch, God nourishes you when you stay in His Presence (see vs 11).

- Abiding ensures that what you say and do carries His weight. It ensures that the words that come out of your mouth are not your own.

3) Life-giving speech is the overflow of the heart

- You don't have to force the right words. When you abide, life-giving speech becomes natural.
- "For the mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart." - Matthew 12:34

CALL TO ACTION

- Stop striving to say the right thing. Instead, pour your energy into staying connected.
- This week, before you speak, pause and ask yourself, "Am I speaking from a place of abiding or from a place of effort?" Let your words reflect His heart, not just your strength.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Now that you know that as you abide in His Presence, your words will shape your environment, so go in God-confidence and speak life.
- Don't visit. Stay. Abide, and let His Presence define who you become.

Chapter 5

Sermon Outline

Designed to Speak Life

John 1:40-42 (CSB)

⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard John and followed him. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated "the Christ"), ⁴² and he brought Simon to Jesus. When Jesus saw him, he said, "You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which is translated "Peter").

Matthew 16:15-19 (CSB)

¹⁵ He said to them, "But you," he asked them, "who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ Jesus responded, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and

the gates of Hades will not overpower it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been loosed in heaven.”

Acts 3:6 (CSB)

⁶ But Peter said, “I don’t have silver or gold, but what I do have, I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!”

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

These three passages show us how Jesus spoke identity over Peter before Peter saw it for himself. Peter didn’t chase identity. He received it as he stayed with Jesus and acted on what Jesus revealed.

His authority and boldness didn’t come from effort or position. They came from abiding in alignment with God’s heart. Peter’s words carried weight because they flowed from intimacy with Jesus.

The same is true for you. God designed you to speak life. That design comes alive as you abide, align, and act.

God Has Designed You to Speak Life

You were designed by God to speak life. That isn't optional or extra. It is part of who you are because you are made in His image. God's words create, and yours were meant to do the same. Your speech was made to release His heart.

1) God built your identity into your DNA.

- Who you are didn't come from a title or accomplishment. God spoke it into you from the start.
- You were designed to reflect His image and release His heart through your life and your words. (John 1:42)

2) Your words carry weight because God designed them to create.

- Your words are not meant to fill the air. They were made to create, to shape, and to bring life because you bear God's

image.

- What you speak either aligns with His design or works against it (See John 1:42).

3) You were designed to call out identity in others.

- Speaking life isn't just about shaping your world. God designed you to speak His heart over others so they can see who He made them to be.
- Calling out identity in others is part of living out your own. (John 1:42)

CALL TO ACTION

- Don't underestimate the power of your words. God designed you to speak life, and your words are already shaping the world around you.
- Choose to use them the way He intended. Stop waiting for permission.

- Call out what God sees, in yourself and in others, and let your speech reflect the purpose He built into you.

Identity Is Found in Abiding

This point shows how you live into that design, through abiding and response. You don't find your identity in a moment or through someone else's words. You discover it as you stay with Jesus and act on what He shows you. That is how Peter stepped into who God called him to be. That is how John discovered who he was. The same is true for you.

1) Authority is found in aligning with God's heart.

- Peter didn't speak with authority because of a position. His words carried weight because he stayed close to Jesus and spoke what the Father was doing.
- This same authority is available to you when you align with God's heart.

2) Your words reveal who you are connected to.

- If you are aligned with the Father, your words will release His life.
- If you are not aligned with the Father, your words will fall flat.

3) Transformational words come from abiding, not effort.

- Peter's words carried power because he stayed with Jesus, not because he tried harder. The same is true for you
- Transformation in the people you minister flows from your abiding. (Acts 3:6)

CALL TO ACTION

- You don't have to have everything figured out before you respond.
- Stay with Jesus and take the next step as He leads.

- As you abide, trust that He is shaping you into who He says you are.
- Your part is to stay close and follow as He reveals the way.

Alignment Produces Words of Life

Your speech carries life and authority, through alignment. You don't need to chase identity or strive for authority. When you are aligned with God through abiding, life flows from your words and your actions carry weight.

1) Don't focus on your identity. Focus on abiding.

- When you focus on the Father, your identity comes into focus.
- Your job is not strive, but to abide. (John 1:42)

2) The more you abide, the more life flows.

- When you abide, His life fills your words. What you speak ministers His heart. (Matthew 16:17)
- There is no limit to His anointing, therefore, abide all the more.

3) Abiding fuels bold, courageous risks.

- Abiding is like tapping into God's super-powers.
- Peter didn't speak or act boldly because he worked up confidence. The courage was the outflow of abiding. The same is true for you. Bold, courageous risks flow from abiding, not effort. (Acts 3:6)

CALL TO ACTION

- Dedicate your life to abiding.

- When you abide, your words carries His heart and minister to the soul.
- Don't settle for man's words, or man's wisdom. They don't land, they fall flat.
- Alignment with Him is what gives your speech true authority.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- God designed you to speak life, and that design is already in you.
- Let the Lord speak identity over you.
- Don't make identity your focus. Focus on abiding. Identity will come.

Chapter 6

Sermon Outline

Authorized to Speak Life

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (CSB)

¹ The Lord said to Samuel, "How long are you going to mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem because I have selected a king from his sons." ² Samuel asked, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me!" The Lord answered, "Take a young cow with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' ³ Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will let you know what you are to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord directed and went to Bethlehem. When the elders of the town met him, they trembled and asked, "Do you come in peace?" ⁵ "In peace," he replied. "I've come to sacrifice to the Lord. Consecrate yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and said, "Certainly the Lord's anointed one is here before him." ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or his stature because I have rejected him. Humans do not see what the Lord sees, for humans see what is visible, but the Lord sees the heart." ⁸ Jesse called Abinadab and presented him to Samuel. "The Lord hasn't chosen this one either," Samuel said. ⁹ Then Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel said, "The Lord hasn't chosen this one either." ¹⁰ After Jesse presented seven of his sons to him, Samuel told Jesse, "The Lord hasn't chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel asked him, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," he answered, "but right now he's tending the sheep." Samuel told Jesse, "Send for him. We won't sit down to eat until he gets here." ¹² So Jesse sent for him. He had beautiful eyes and a healthy, handsome appearance. Then the Lord said, "Anoint him, for he is the one." ¹³ So Samuel took the horn of oil, anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully on David from that day forward. Then Samuel set out and went to Ramah.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

This passage takes place during a critical turning point in Israel's history. Saul had disobeyed God, and God rejected him as king. Samuel was mourning, but the Lord called him to move forward. God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint David, His chosen king.

The authority David received that day wasn't about status. It was the Spirit of the Lord resting on him that marked his calling. True authority comes from God's Presence. Samuel's obedience and David's anointing gives us a clear picture of what it means to be authorized to speak and act for God.

You Are Authorized to Speak Life

The authority to speak life is not something you wait for or work toward. It is already yours because the Father has entrusted it to you.

When you belong to Him, He equips you to release His heart through your words. Many believers

hesitate, waiting for some sign or special moment, but God has already granted authorization.

1) Your authority is already settled.

- The Father has authorized you because you are family.
- Sons and Daughters don't need permission to speak on behalf of the family.

2) Speaking life is evidence of relationship.

- As a believer, the evidence of your relationship with the Father is that you will reflect His heart by speaking life.
- When you Speak Life, you demonstrate the nature of God, which reveals that your relationship with Him is in right alignment. If life does not cross your lips, you show that your relationship with God is out of alignment.

3) Authorization is a gift, not a reward.

- David was anointed because God chose him, not because of what he achieved (vs 7).
- Authorization is granted the moment you become a believer. Authorization to speak life is not granted with maturity, it is expected on day one.

CALL TO ACTION

- You must believe that the Father has already authorized you to speak life. Until you believe it, you will never walk in it. Stop waiting for permission, it has already been granted.
- Believe what God has already declared and speak life with confidence.

Authority Flows from His Presence

Your words carry power only when they flow from God's Presence. It is not about your title or position. True authority comes from abiding in Him.

The source of one's authority is abiding in His Presence. When your words come from His Presence, they release life. Without His Presence, your words fall flat.

The goal is not to try harder. The objective is to abide in His Presence. Kingdom success only occurs from those who abide in His Presence.

1) Abiding in God's Presence gives your words power.

- David carried authority because he lived from God's Presence. His words carried weight because his heart was aligned with God (vs 13).
- The power of your words come from connecting with the Father in real-time.

2) Abiding is required for Kingdom impact.

- No matter how hard you try, without abiding in Him, your words have no power or Kingdom impact (vs 13).
- Pursue His Presence, and stop chasing your influence. Chasing influence exposes pride. Chasing His Presence exposes Him.

3) Abiding in God's Presence always outperforms human effort.

- When you stay rooted in Him, what flows from abiding produces an exponential effect that no amount of human effort can match (vs 7).
- Always ask, "Am I abiding?" Abiding is required for impact.

CALL TO ACTION

- Stop chasing influence. Pursue His Presence.

- Your words will only carry weight while abiding in Him. Chase His Presence.

You Have an Authorized Mandate

God has given you authority so you will use it. This is not optional or for a select few. He has called you to respond in real time to His heart, and His heart is known as you abide in His Presence.

Authority that is never used accomplishes nothing. The Father expects you to step out in faith. The mandate is clear. Speak life boldly and trust Him as you do.

1) Authority without action accomplishes nothing.

- Stored fruit that you don't eat rots. In the same way, authority that isn't used serves no purpose in the Kingdom (vs 13).
- What are you afraid of?

2) The Father expects you to speak life, not just know about it.

- Knowledge accomplishes nothing. Only when coupled with action will it accomplish something.
- He entrusted you with His authority so you would release His heart in real time, wherever you are. This is not optional. It is your assignment (vs 1).

3) When you speak, his Presence flows from your words.

- The anointing isn't for display or status. It is to speak life (vs 12)
- Understand that everything comes from abiding. When abiding, the words you speak will be His voice, and His voice ministers to the soul, heals the heart, and restores relationships.

CALL TO ACTION

- Speak life. You have a mandate to do so. Speak life well.
- Stop making excuses, they expose your lack of trust.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- The Father has entrusted you with His authority so you can release His heart into the world. You are not speaking on your own.
- Stop waiting for ideal conditions and stop making excuses. Abide in His Presence and live in the authority He has granted. Speak life boldly and trust Him with the outcome.

Chapter 7

Sermon Outline

Speaking Life to Yourself

Matthew 25:14-30 (CSB)

¹⁴ “For it is just like a man about to go on a journey. He called his own servants and entrusted his possessions to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to another one talent, depending on each one’s ability. Then he went on a journey. ¹⁶ Immediately the man who had received five talents went, put them to work, and earned five more. ¹⁷ In the same way the man with two earned two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five talents approached, presented five more talents, and said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents. See, I’ve earned five more talents.’ ²¹ His master said to him, ‘Well

done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful over a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy.'

²² The man with two talents also approached. He said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I've earned two more talents.'²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful over a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy.'

²⁴ The man who had received one talent also approached and said, 'Master, I know you. You're a harsh man, reaping where you haven't sown and gathering where you haven't scattered seed.'²⁵ So I was afraid and went off and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'

²⁶ His master replied to him, 'You evil, lazy servant! If you knew that I reap where I haven't sown and gather where I haven't scattered,²⁷ then you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and I would have received my money back with interest when I returned.'²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents.'²⁹ For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have more than enough. But from the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.'³⁰

And throw this good-for-nothing servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

Jesus told this parable to His disciples during His final days before the cross. He was speaking privately to them on the Mount of Olives. The conversation started when they asked Him about when the temple would be destroyed and what signs would point to His return and the end of the age. Jesus was preparing them for the time when He would no longer be physically with them.

This parable was given as part of His warning and instruction about how to live while waiting for His return. The disciples would soon face His death, His resurrection, and a long season of waiting for His second coming. Jesus was teaching them to stay active and faithful. He was showing them that they were expected to do something with what He gave them, not to sit idle or live in fear.

The parable describes a master who entrusts his servants with his wealth while he is away. The ones who take bold action are rewarded. The one who hides what he was given out of fear is rebuked and

cast out. The message is clear. Jesus expects His people to steward well what he has entrusted to us.

Your Words Shape What You Believe

What you say to yourself shapes how you see God, how you see yourself, and what you believe is possible. These inner words are not harmless background noise. They are feeding your soul, or destroying your soul.

Your words set the direction for your life long before anyone else ever hears them. They fuel either truth or lies and lay the foundation for whether you will act in trust or stay stuck in fear.

1) You speak to yourself more than anyone else does.

- No one influences you more than you do.
- The constant inner dialogue you have is shaping what you believe about everything.

2) Your words either fuel truth or feed fear.

- The words you speak inside don't stay neutral.
- The words you speak over yourself either build on the foundation of what God sees in you, or they authorize and empower fear to confine you.

3) Your inner dialogue sets the ceiling for your faith.

- What you speak over yourself determines what you are willing to trust God for.
- You'll become what you believe, so start speaking life over yourself.

CALL TO ACTION

- Pay attention to what you say inside, and if it does not align with the heart of the Father, know that you are grieving the Holy Spirit.

- Stop letting fear have the last word. Start speaking what He believes about you. It will change who you become.

What You Believe Drives How You Steward What God Entrusts to You

Your actions flow from what you believe. When you believe God is good, you will see what he has placed in your hand and steward it to honor Him.

If you don't believe that God is good, you won't pay attention to what he has given you to steward, and as a result, won't honor Him with it.

1) Stewardship exposes what you believe.

- You will naturally act on what you believe.
- Stewardship reveals what you believe.

2) Right belief produces action; wrong belief produces excuses.

- When you believe what the Word says, you do it. In other words, when you trust God, you will look for ways to produce fruit.
- When you don't believe his Word, you find reasons not to take action. In other words, when you don't trust God, you will find excuses for inaction.

3) God measures what you do, not what you meant to do.

- The Father is not looking at your intentions. He is looking at what you did with what He gave you.
- What will you do with what he has placed in your hand (with what you have)?

CALL TO ACTION

- Don't just think about what you believe. Show it by what you do.
- Steward what God has given in a way that shows you trust Him.

Bold Stewardship Is What the Father Requires

The Father requires us to take risks because risk shows whether we trust Him or not. People will do almost anything to avoid risk, but that is not what the Father is looking for. He wants us to step out and take risks with what He has given us and take action.

Success is not measured by how things turn out. Success is measured by whether we had the courage to take the risk.

1) Risk exposes trust or lack thereof

- The moment you step out, it becomes clear whether you trust the Father. Risk

strips away appearances and shows what is really inside.

- The Father took a risk in sending His Son, Jesus. Paul said, "But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." - Romans 5:8 (CSB)

2) Avoiding risk is an excuse, not wisdom

- People call it caution or strategy, but more often than not, it's just fear in disguise.
- Avoiding risk is a way of covering up the refusal to trust God with what He has given. If risk is not involved, God is not in it.

3) The Father honors bold stewardship

- Bold Stewardship always involves risk, and it pleases the Father to no end.

- The one who hides what has given to him proves his lack of trust in God. It is God that makes bold stewardship fruitful.

CALL TO ACTION

- Stop playing it safe. The Father is not asking for you to find comfort.
- He is asking for bold action that demonstrates trust.
- What has He given you to steward. Are you partnering with the Father as you take risks?

FINAL THOUGHTS

- The Father is not looking for good intentions or safe living. He is looking for people who will take Him at His word, and steward what he has placed in your hand by taking risks with it to demonstrate your trust in Him.
- Success is measured in whether or not you take risks with what he has placed in your hand. When you steward with risk,

you will please the Father, and He will trust you with more.

Chapter 8

Sermon Outline

Partnering with the Father

Nehemiah 2:1-9 (CSB)

¹ During the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was set before him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had never been sad in his presence. ² So the king said to me, “Why do you look so sad, when you aren’t sick? This is nothing but sadness of heart.” I was overwhelmed with fear ³ and replied to the king, “May the king live forever. Why should I not be sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”

⁴ Then the king asked me, “What is your request?” So I prayed to the God of the heavens ⁵ and answered the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor with you, send me to Judah and to the city where my ancestors are buried so that I may rebuild it.” ⁶ The king, with the queen seated beside him,

asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you return?" So I gave him a definite time, and it pleased the king to send me.

⁷ I also said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let me have letters written to the governors of the region west of the Euphrates River, so that they will grant me safe passage until I reach Judah. ⁸ And let me have a letter written to Asaph, keeper of the king's forest, so that he will give me timber to rebuild the gates of the temple's fortress, the city wall, and the home where I will live." The king granted my requests, for the gracious hand of my God was on me.

⁹ I went to the governors of the region west of the Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent officers of the infantry and cavalry with me.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

The book of Nehemiah opens with news that Jerusalem's walls are broken down and its gates burned. The people are in disgrace, and the city is vulnerable. Nehemiah is serving as the cupbearer to King Artaxerxes of Persia, far from his homeland. When he hears about the ruin of Jerusalem, he weeps, mourns, fasts, and prays for days, seeking

God's mercy and guidance. By the time we reach Nehemiah 2, months have passed, and Nehemiah is ready to act on what God has placed in his heart. His burden is deep. He knows what needs to be done, and now the moment has come to make his request before the king.

Nehemiah 2:1-9 shows what partnership with the Father looks like. Nehemiah didn't just feel burdened. He moved. His partnership with God flowed from abiding. It demanded risk, and it was met with God's provision as he stepped out.

Partnership Begins With Abiding

Communion draws you close, abiding anchors you in His Presence, and partnership sends you out as one who abides.

Partnership is not working for God but walking with Him in real time. This is the foundation for authentic partnership. It ensures the work flows from intimacy, not striving.

1) Communion begins the connection

- Communion is where you first encounter His Presence, but it was never meant to stand alone.
- You are invited to Commune with the Father, but this is only the beginning of your journey to intimacy.

2) Abiding anchors you in His heart

- Abiding means living with continual awareness of His Presence, staying near and rooted in Him.
- If communing is being invited to the campfire, abiding is remaining there. Jesus said, “. . . The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit”. Fruit is the byproduct of abiding with Him.

3) Partnership flows from abiding

- When you remain in Him, your words and actions carry His weight because they

reflect His heart. This is where partnership comes into play.

- Partnership allows you to minister to others. It's speaking from the heart of the Father.

CALL TO ACTION

- Don't stop at communion. Abide in His Presence, and let abiding lead into real partnership that moves with His heart.
- When you speak from the heart of the Father, there is no limit to the influence of your words, because they are His.

An Anointing Reserved for Those Who Abide

There is an anointing that flows from deep alignment with the Father's heart.

This anointing doesn't come from gifting or performance but from proximity.

Without abiding, what looks like partnership becomes empty effort.

1) True anointing flows from proximity

- Authority and anointing is not earned by performance but is granted through abiding.
- Anointing is not earned, just as relationship is not earned. Anointing is cultivated from abiding.

2) God anoints those who stay

- Powerful anointing does not reside on those who visit His Presence on occasion. It flows from those who remain in His Presence.
- The reward for abiding is intimacy.

3) Power flows from those who abide.

- When your heart is aligned with His, your words carry all the authority of Heaven. The more you abide, the more power.
- The goal is not anointing. The goal is abiding.

CALL TO ACTION

- Stop chasing opportunity and start cultivating alignment.
- Invest yourself in His Presence and stay there. The more you stay in His Presence, the more you look and sound like Him.

Partnership in Everyday Life

Partnership with the Father isn't limited to pulpits or platforms. It shows up in unseen, ordinary moments when you listen and respond in real time.

God isn't looking for titles, but for a surrendered heart.

1) Partnership shows up in small choices

- Partnership is evidenced in everyday acts, including texts, handwritten notes, and spoken conversations.
- These carry the weight of heaven when they flow from abiding in His Presence.

2) Seeds from abiding carry weight

- Plant seeds of life to everyone you speak to.
- Even the smallest words of encouragement release the Father's heart when rooted in His Presence.

3) Partnership is walking with Him

- It is not about doing more for God, but about living step by step in rhythm with

His heart.

- Partnership is living from His Presence.

CALL TO ACTION

- Abide in His Presence.
- Look for one simple way to respond to His whisper today. When you respond to His Presence from a place of abiding, even ordinary words carry the heart of the Father.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Partnership with the Father isn't about waiting until you feel ready or qualified. It's about choosing to stay connected to Him, listening to His Voice, and take action when He speaks.
- When you abide, what you build won't be about your effort, and you won't burn out trying to make it happen. When you take the risk, trusting that God will provide what's needed as you go, you'll see fruit.

- Don't try to figure God out before responding. Just abide, listen, and move when He speaks.

Chapter 9

Sermon Outline

Influence with Intent

Acts 16:11-15 (CSB)

¹¹ From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, the next day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, a Roman colony and a leading city of the district of Macedonia. We stayed in that city for several days. ¹³ On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate by the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and spoke to the women gathered there. ¹⁴ A God-fearing woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, was listening. The Lord opened her heart to respond to what Paul was saying. ¹⁵ After she and her household were baptized, she urged us, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

Acts 16:25-34 (CSB)

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the jail were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw the doors of the prison standing open, he drew his sword and was going to kill himself, since he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul called out in a loud voice, "Don't harm yourself, because we're all here!"

²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He escorted them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him along with everyone in his house. ³³ He took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds. Right away he and all his family were baptized. ³⁴ He brought them into his house, set a meal before them, and rejoiced because he had come to believe in God with his entire household.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

These two stories from Acts 16 show how God can work in one life can change the environment around them. Lydia didn't keep her faith private. She opened her home and helped others encounter Jesus through her hospitality and generosity. The jailer didn't stay silent about what God had done. He invited Paul and Silas into his home, and his entire household came to know Jesus. These are not just stories of salvation. They are stories of influence. As was the case with "Lydia" and "The Jailer" in Acts 16, when God transforms your life, His plan, is for that change to ripple out and touch your family, the people you work with, your church, and your community.

Influence Your Family by Speaking Identity Every Day

Transformation at home begins with the words you choose to speak.

Your words will either help your family see who they are in God's eyes or leave room for doubt and discouragement.

Simple, intentional choices each day shape the atmosphere of your home and point them to the Father.

1) Speak identity over your family.

- Your words have power to help your spouse and children see themselves as loved, chosen, and secure.
- A quiet blessing at bedtime or a word of affirmation at the breakfast table, or a spoken word can change how they face the day.

2) Leave written reminders of who they are in Christ.

- Slip a 3x5 card with an identity statement into a lunch bag.
- Tape a note to a mirror that says, "You are loved and chosen by God."

- These small acts speak loudly over time.

3) Use text messages to reinforce their worth.

- A simple text, to remind them who God says they are will shape identity.
- When the Lord brings a family member to mind, don't question it, send them a text speaking identity into them.

CALL TO ACTION

- Ask God to help you slow down and see what your family needs today.
- Today, choose one way to speak identity, through a spoken blessing, a note, or perhaps by sending them a text.
- Let your words remind them that they are loved and seen, and that God is with them.

Influence Your Workplace by Combining Encouragement with Integrity

Your influence at work is not just in what you say, but in how you carry yourself.

When you encourage and affirm your coworkers, you reveal the heart of the Father.

1) Call out effort and success in your coworkers.

- In a team meeting, make it your practice to highlight someone's contribution.
- A simple word of affirmation may be what helps a coworker feel seen in a place where they often feel invisible.

2) Choose encouragement Over Criticism.

- When you bring encouragement to the conversation, you'll find that your

meetings are far more productive.

- Building people up, [OBJ] reflects God's heart.

3) Let your speech reflect the integrity of your work.

- When what you say lines up with what you do, people will see that your faith is more than words.
- Do everything with excellence, especially the small things. People take note.

CALL TO ACTION

- Ask God to help you be the voice that lifts the atmosphere at work.
- Look for the coworker who needs encouragement and let your words remind them that they are valued.
- Your integrity will give those words lasting weight, and they may be exactly what that person needs in that moment.

Influence Your Church and Community by Using Your Words to Build People

God is in the business of building people. You are too.

The church and your community need people who are willing to use their voice to call out what is God sees in them.

When you choose to speak life, you are partnering with God to affirm their identity, and at the same time, healing what is broken.

1) Go beyond small talk and speak identity over people at church.

- When you greet someone, look for a way to call out identity in them.
- A simple, “You are the best fan I know”, or, “You and your Husband are doing such a great job raising your kids“, or, “I love how you worship God with reckless abandonment”. These identity statements will speak life into them more

than you know.

2) Use your words to encourage those who serve your community.

- Write a thank-you note to a teacher or to the Police Department. “I don’t want anything from you, but I want you to know that I sincerely appreciate your service to this community.”
- Take a moment to speak encouragement to the grocery-bagger or the person cleaning your table at a restaurant. Speak identity over them. “I love that you approach your job with excellence.”

3) Make a big deal out of the people who go above and beyond.

- Always celebrate excellence.
- Everyone loves to be recognized.

CALL TO ACTION

- Look for opportunities to celebrate someone in the Church Body.
- Make it your purpose to make a BIG deal out of someone in your community.
- Let your words remind them that what they do matters.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Your sphere of influence is not about how loud your voice is or how many people hear you.
- It is about how faithful you are in speaking identity over them.
- Every day you are provided with opportunities to speak life into your family, your coworkers, your church, and your community.
- You do not need a title or a platform.

- You simply need a willing heart.
- Let God use your voice this week to point people to Him.
- Your words will have a far greater impact than you think.
- Use your words to speak identity into them. They need you to speak life into them.

Chapter 10

Sermon Outline

Anchoring the Journey

Matthew 28:20 (CSB)

“And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

These words were spoken by Jesus immediately after giving the Great Commission. He had just told His disciples to go into all nations and make disciples, baptizing and teaching everything He had commanded. What followed wasn't a motivational phrase or theological summary. It was a personal promise: “I am with you always.” That promise wasn't temporary. It wasn't meant only for the eleven standing there. It was His way of reminding every follower, for every generation, that His presence would remain—constant, unshaken, and active. The power to speak life doesn't come from trying harder. It comes from knowing that He is still

with you. His presence is the key to both your confidence and your legacy.

What You Speak Reveals What You Carry

The presence of Jesus is not abstract, it's internal. If He is with you always, then His words should be shaping the ones you speak to.

When your heart is filled with His Presence, your words begin to reflect His authority. If your words consistently carry fear or frustration, it's time to ask what you've allowed to take residence. The words you speak reveal what you've chosen to carry.

1) Your words expose the weight your heart is holding.

- What consistently flows from your mouth shows what's consistently in your heart.
- "For the mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart" - Matthew 12:34

2) You cannot speak life while carrying death.

- Unforgiveness, fear, bitterness and resentment will always contaminate what comes out of your mouth.
- In order to speak life, you must prostrate your heart before God, asking him to clean your heart of anything and everything that does not look like His heart.

3) If Jesus is present, His nature should be audible.

- What comes out of your mouth exposes what is in your heart. Does your heart obviously look like Jesus?
- When He is truly *with* you, the fruit of His Spirit becomes the tone of your speech.

CALL TO ACTION

- Take an honest inventory of your words. Don't dismiss them as random or harmless. They are the overflow of what

you're carrying.

- If what you're speaking is not producing life, then it's time to ask the Holy Spirit to confront what's taking up space in your heart.
- Repent of any attitude that does not express Him.

What You Speak Builds What You Leave Behind

Every word you speak is building something. Whether you realize it or not, you are creating a culture in your home, in your relationships, and in the people you influence.

Legacy is not measured by what you intended. It is shaped by what you consistently spoke.

Life-giving words leave more than a momentary impact. They leave a trail others can walk in long after you're gone.

1) Legacy is formed one sentence at a time.

- You don't need a microphone to shape generations. You need a heart that abides.
- “. . . The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit” - John 15:5

2) You are either reinforcing truth or making room for lies.

- Every word you speak either confirms identity or offers confusion a foothold.
- Each day, purpose to speak life.

3) What you sow with your mouth will take root in someone.

- You may never see the harvest, but someone will live in the soil of what you planted.
- You ARE building, so be sure to build with excellence.

CALL TO ACTION

- Don't underestimate the weight of your words. Speak as someone who is building something that will outlive you.
- Speak what you want to be remembered for.
- Choose to speak what you would want echoed in the next generation. You're not just influencing moments. You're setting foundations.

What You Speak Must Be Anchored in His Presence

Jesus said, "I am with you always." That promise is not just about comfort. It's a reminder of where your authority comes from.

You don't speak life because you're wise. You speak life because He's present.

When your words are anchored in His Presence, they don't need to be loud or clever. They carry

weight because they're coming from the right source.

1) His Presence turns ordinary words into spiritual authority.

- Authority is not found in how you say something. It's found in who you have partnered with. If you speak death, you have partnered with the enemy. If you speak life, you have partnered with the Father.
- An ordinary word from one who abides with Jesus, is far more powerful than the roaring heart of man, no matter how eloquent they speak.

2) Words not rooted in Him may sound right but fall flat.

- Encouragement not spoken from His heart will always fall flat.
- Not every encouraging phrase is transformative power. Words only carry power when they come from alignment

with the Father.

3) You were never meant to carry influence apart from His Presence.

- The goal isn't to have a strong voice, or eloquent speech. The goal is to be a conduit for His.
- If you want to have a voice of influence, lay your heart prostrate before Him in worship.

CALL TO ACTION

- Always prioritize His Presence.
- Before you speak, ask yourself if what you're about to say is rooted in His Presence.
- Your legacy won't be measured by how many words you say, or how you say them. Their influence will be measured to the degree they carried His Presence.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Your legacy is not in the grand gestures. It's in the words you choose to speak every day. You're either reinforcing the presence of Jesus or misrepresenting it.
- You don't need to be perfect. You do, however, need to be intentional.
- Cultivate your words with His Presence.
- Speak FROM His Presence. When you do, your words will minister His heart.