



Lecture 5

The Power of the Word

Bearing fruit is not limited to leading people to Christ or helping others or being kind etc. As we trust God for our lives, humbly receiving His love, peace, joy, wisdom, power; learning our authority in Christ and how to stand in the Word to receive His promises, fruit will manifest in our lives first. **Bearing fruit begins with us, and then we give to others what we have received ourselves.**

As we develop faith and trust in God, let us desire for our hearts to become that good soil. A heart polluted with fear, unbelief and religiosity, and a deceitful mouth, will not experience or manifest the good fruit God intends to produce. God instructs us clearly how to receive and keep the Word and also describes the fruit He has promised: life and health (Proverbs 4:22).

It is by faith that we keep the truth in our hearts. Every Word of God is a seed which will grow during our lifetime, as the Holy Spirit will continue to refine our hearts until Jesus comes to take us home. The wonderful truth is once we are saved, God teaches us in His Word that healing, deliverance and all the blessings of Abraham are ours; this is simply the abundant life of Jesus in us.

In the Gospel of John 1:1 (Wuest translation) we read:

“In the beginning the Word was existing. And the Word was in fellowship with God the Father. And the Word was as to His essence absolute deity”

Consequently, the Bible (God’s Word) is to be taken literally.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (Wuest translation)

“Every scripture is God-breathed, and is profitable for teaching, for conviction, for improvement, for training with respect to righteousness, in order that the man of God may be complete, fitted out for every good work.”

John 1:14 (Wuest translation)

“And the Word, entering a new mode of existence, became flesh, and lived in a tent [His physical body] among us. And we gazed with attentive and careful regard and spiritual perception at His glory, a glory such as that of a uniquely-begotten Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SEED (THE WORD) IN MARY

Luke 1:26-35 (Wuest translation)

This is a great display of the seed (the Word) bearing fruit when received, believed and embraced in full trust in God. Here is the progression of the miracle of the virgin birth:

The angel said (verse 28, Wuest translation)

a) **God’s favour, acceptance and blessings:**

“Be rejoicing because you have been encompassed with favour. The Lord is with you.

But she was greatly agitated by reason of the Word, and began reasoning what sort of an exotic greeting this might be.

b) Assurance of protection and care:

The angel said to her, stop fearing, Mary (taking fear away in order for Mary to receive the Word). *We also need to let go of fear and doubt in order to receive the Word of God.*

c) Message = (the seed) to be received:

God's Word spoken by the angel Gabriel:

"for you found favour in the presence of God. And behold; you shall conceive in your womb and you shall give birth to a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. This One shall be great, and Son of the Most High shall He be called, and God, the Lord, shall give to Him the throne of David His father, and He shall reign as King over the house of Jacob forever and of His kingdom there shall not be an end".

Mary, considering the natural world, was questioning:

"How shall be this possible, since I do not have an experiential knowledge of a man?"

d) The answer from the angel:

"The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow you. Wherefore also the holy thing which is being begotten shall be called Son of God".

Luke 1:38

Receiving the seed (the Word):

And Mary said; behold the Lord's bond slave. May it happen to me according to your Word. And the angel departed from her.

Note that first the angel said: "The Holy Spirit shall come upon you"...

First the Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary and then the seed (the Word) was given to her.

It is the same with us; the Holy Spirit will make the seed of God's Word grow.

Mary received the seed. *First she let go of fear in order to receive*, then submitted herself to the Word. At that moment, she entered into the supernatural. The seed (Word) always bears its fruit, provided the believer receives, believes and acts upon it. It can be a seed of physical healing, of healing of the soul, of restoration, of provision, peace, joy or any other promise of God.

Our Christian walk started supernaturally. When God gave us faith to believe in the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we believed in the supernatural. In that moment, God the Holy Spirit came to dwell within us. We must be fully aware of this. The seed of salvation (believing in the truth) caused it to happen. If we do not receive the seed (the Word), it cannot happen.

So now, as believers, we are to continue receiving the promises of God as we believe in His Word for every area of our lives. This is God's will for us. How exciting!!!

In the same way Mary conceived Jesus by the Holy Spirit, God has also given us His Holy Spirit for our new birth; we are born again of the Spirit of God and we are new creatures. Mary indeed experienced the amazing miracle of giving birth to our Saviour, but we have also experienced the miracle of being born again of the Spirit of God and now we are like Jesus in our spirit for eternity.