

The Giving Series Week 5: Declarations Daily Devotions

Day 1

You Are What You Speak

The outcome of your life is ultimately influenced by what begins in your mind, by what you believe. A single thought can have a viral effect and take over other aspects of your life, ultimately transforming who you are, for better or for worse.

Real transformation happened after my old pattern of thinking and speaking was completely intercepted and replaced with the truth of God's Word:

"I am not timid, but I have power, love, and a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7)

"I am chosen, accepted, and adopted into God's family" (Ephesians 1:11-12)

"I have the Holy Spirit, so I am not a slave to fear" (Romans 8:15)

You will notice that each of these confessions is not a word-for-word quotation of the verse on which it is based. And that is OK.

Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to scriptures that counter whatever situation or emotion you face. Then personalize the scriptures into confessions that you keep with you. Finally, speak them over yourself throughout the day, as often as necessary. This will help you begin to genuinely believe what you confess. You must identify with God's Word in order for it to change your identity.

Day 2

I Am More Than a Conqueror

Peter not only likened Satan to a lion, but he said that he is a "roaring lion" (1 Peter 5:8). The devil's roars might sound something like this:

Threat: "If you step out to do that, I will expose all your dirty secrets and nobody will ever trust you."

Lie: "The road ahead is too difficult; you should give up now."

Accusation: "Look at all your failures; God is disgusted with you."

Roars such as these have tremendous power to evoke overwhelming fear and cause you to retreat, which is just what the devil wants.

Don't flinch or look away. Stand. Make declarations about who you are and what you have in Christ.

When the devil hears you assert your identity in Christ, he no longer sees only you; he sees Jesus. And if he is smart, he will shut his mouth and retreat.

When you stand your ground by meditating on God's love and declaring His Word, you will beat the devil down.

#ActivateTheWord - I am more than a conqueror. I don't fight for victory, but I stand in the victory of Jesus. His finished work on the cross assures me of forgiveness, healing, peace, provision, protection, and acceptance of God. No attack, threats, lies, or accusations can steal these away from me - not now or in the future. I declare that in Christ I am above the influences of Satan!

Day 3

I Can Do All Things

Paul emphasized that the power of Jesus lives inside of each believer.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" is one of the most beloved declarations of the faith. We see it on posters and wall art, on bracelets and greeting cards, and even painted on the faces of sports personalities. At first glance, Paul's words seem to bolster our American idea of personal empowerment—that we can achieve whatever we set our minds to.

But Paul's words weren't those of self-empowerment, turning him into a superman. Rather, Christ's Spirit in Paul empowered him to endure the difficulties and challenges of his calling. He was strengthened to achieve exactly what God had ordained him to achieve. And most importantly, he was able to go through it all with the joy of contentment and the assurance that God would finish what He started.

What Paul's declaration means to you is that the Holy Spirit will supernaturally empower you to do whatever God asks you to do.

What is it you have to do? Know that whatever it is, God never planned for you to do it on your own. No, He will do the heavy lifting if you will do the heavy trusting.

#ActivateTheWord – I can do whatever God wants me to do! Because the Spirit of Christ is in me, I am filled with the same power that raised Jesus from the dead and am empowered to do the greater works He promised. Christ in me gives me strength when I am weak, clarity when I feel confused, the right words when I need them, hope when I feel discouraged, joy when I am weary, and the ability to do whatever God asks of me.

Day 4

How is your heart?

1 Proverbs 4:23

'Keep your heart with all vigilance for from it flows life.'

2 For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. Matthew 11:24

Be careful what you feed your heart for life flows from it.

Declarations are manifestations of what is inside of our hearts. So this evening I ask you what are putting into your heart? Are you surrounding yourself with people who bring hope and joy or those that bring despair?

The essence of the first scripture is guarding your heart. What does that look like? We need to surrender our hearts to Jesus and allow Him to heal every scar and crush every lie of the enemy. It's not easy to undo something once it has made its way into our hearts. Our past hurts can cause us to look at life through lenses that are tinted with negativity. In order for our declarations to be positive, we will need to undo the negativity that has embedded itself on our hearts and that family comes through surrender. Surrendering every negative thought and the pain that we have not healed from.

The second scripture emphasizes the importance of what is on our hearts because it can either be a blessing or a curse. It can build and destroy.

#ActivateTheWord

The next time you have a quiet time, do a heart check. Reflect on the things that you have thought of lately and what painful experiences have changed the way you see yourself.

Day 5

I Don't Worry About Anything

Perhaps no emotion is more common to the human condition than fear.

Left unchecked, the mind believes that danger is imminent, so it seeks to protect by influencing someone to stop, give up, run and hide, or do anything but what is influencing the feeling of fear.

Surely you have heard someone boast that the solution to worry, anxiety, and fear is to "have faith." The idea is that faith is the opposite of fear and can simply be mustered up at will to overcome it. Faith, however, is defined by the dictionary as "complete trust of confidence in someone or something." Its biblical definition is similar: "the evidence of

things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). In other words, both the dictionary and the Bible describe faith as confidence in a particular outcome you can’t yet see. This can be either positive or negative.

Your faith just has to be directed in the right way. Ultimately worry, anxiety, and fear happen because the measure of faith you do have is misplaced on the negative. Simply put, fear is faith, or the confident expectation, that something bad is going to happen. Therefore, in order to overcome it, you have to learn how to redirect your faith to positive expectations set by God’s Word.

#ActivateTheWord I don’t worry about anything. I am not influenced by feelings of worry, anxiety, or fear, but I have love, power, and self-control. Because God’s Spirit lives within me, I am strong and courageous. I cast all my cares on the Lord, and I know that His peace is guarding my heart and mind in Christ Jesus.

Day 6

You Chose Me!

Hearing Jesus assure me with the words I chose you was like a healing salve to my emotions. These three little words suddenly affirmed that although others had rejected me in the past, God chose me from the beginning. They confirmed God’s call on my life, easing my apprehension about whether people would accept me in the ministry.

With this I quickly took these words and personalized them into a declaration: “God—chose—me!”

Yes, you! He didn’t decide to adopt you because of your family history, your impeccable past, or your abilities. He didn’t reject you because of a lack of those things, either. The Bible assures that the only requirement for our adoption into His family is faith in Jesus.

Before the creation of the world, God made a decision about you. Think about that. He saw all the good, the bad, and the ugly of your life, yet He still desired for you to be a part of His family. What’s more, He sent His Son, Jesus, to suffer the excruciating pain of the cross to ensure that you could come into His family. No worldly rejection can measure up to the truth about the lengths God went to choose you.

#ActivateTheWord – God chose me! I am not an accident; I am not a mistake. Even before the world began, God desired to have me in His family. Regardless of where I am from or what I have done, because of Jesus, I am a child of God!

Day 7

The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.

Proverbs 10:11

Speak life

One of my favourite songs is speak life by Tobymac. The reason why I love this song is that it mentions the impact of words of encouragement.

My fav lyrics:

So speak life, speak life
To the deadest darkest night
Speak life, speak life
When the sun won't shine and you don't know why
Look into the eyes of the broken hearted
Watch them come alive as soon as you speak hope

The scripture above speaks mentions that the words out a righteous mouth are a fountain of life. The words that we speak can bring life or death.

Let us choose to speak(declare) life in the deadest darkest night. As we learnt on Sunday, declarations give us vision. When we speak life in those deadest darkest nights, we will be encouraged to go on knowing that victory awaits.

#Activate The word

Speak life in every area of your life even when you are around people and things appear to go wrong. Speak life and watch the hopeless be filled with hope.

Be blessed💕

Remember to declare these over your life:

- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
- I am chosen
- I will not worry for God is surrounding me