



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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The Power of Your **YES**

This message preached on Christmas Sunday Morning, December 24, 2023

Today, I want to talk to you about the most important word you will ever use in your Christian walk. Now, if I were to ask you to name that word...I am sure we would come up with several different thoughts: Jesus, faith, love...all of them would be right in their importance. But I that is not the word I am talking about today.

What is that word? **YES!**

THE QUOTE WE HAVE ON OUR WALL: "Our YES is our invitation for more of God."
More direction, more blessing, more of Him...YES!

If there is any word that you learn to use in your Christian walk...it needs to be yes. When God gives you directions...information...we say YES!

A lot of Christians miss a lot of what God wants to do in their lives...

- * His promises
 - * Healing and prosperity
 - * Ministries, gifts, callings
- ...because they FAIL to learn this word...YES!

The first thing Dr. Luke shares with us in his Gospel is the Christmas story. We immediately see two examples of the importance of this word.

1.) Zacharias

We learn that Zacharias was a priest and was married to Elisabeth. Elisabeth was barren (no kiddos) and was VERY OLD (no kiddos coming in the natural).

So, Zacharias was in the temple...doing his priestly duties (burning incense) and an angel of the Lord appears to him.

Luke 1:11-20

- 11 And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.
- 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.
- 13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: **for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.**
- 14 And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.
- 15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.
- 16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.
- 17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

18 And Zacharias said unto the angel, **Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.**

QUESTION: What should his answer have been?

ANSWER: Yes!

But he couldn't figure out how it could ever happen! So, he IMMEDIATELY gave an excuse of why it couldn't happen. Too old!

RESPONSE: What will you give me to show me this? He wanted some proof that it would happen!

BELOVED: No faith...NO YES...words are off!

19 And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.

As long as Zacharias was saying everything else...John was going to be an afterthought. John HAD to come just before Jesus...to be the fore-runner of Him. He had to manifest. So, his mouth was shut up! Until...

Luke 1:63-64

63 and having asked for a tablet, he wrote, saying, 'John is his name;' and they did all wonder;

64 and his mouth was opened presently, and his tongue, and he was speaking, praising God.

BILL JOHNSON: God, in His mercy, silences those who are about to destroy their own destiny with their mouths.

2.) Mary.

Luke 1:26-38

26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, **Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.**

29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

30 **And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.**

31 **And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.**

32 **He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:**

33 **And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.**

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, **How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?**

Mary needed understanding of what this angel was talking about! She was confused.

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

NOTE: Mary probably didn't have any more understanding after that explanation than she did before...yet she said YES!

38 And Mary said, **Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.**

She said YES...and it changed everything for her!

UNDERSTAND: These things...

- * Zacharias was given a Word and it made no sense.
- * Mary was given an even harder Word that made even less sense.
- * Zacharias wanted proof/evidence before he said YES.
- * Mary wanted understanding...didn't necessarily get full understanding and said YES!

Mary did not hold back her YES (obedience) until she had full understanding...she was moved by the Word.

Watch Out When You Say YES!

1.) Make sure your heart follows with the yes!

REMEMBER the parable of the two sons who were asked to go work in their father's vineyard... the first one said NO...but repented and went and did it.

The second one said YES...but his heart was not in it...and didn't go!
Which one did right?

BILL JOHNSON: "Being willing to do what you're not qualified to do is sometimes what qualifies you."

2.) It is NOT too late to change your indifference or disobedience to a YES!

That will still grab the heart of the Father.

3.) Keep saying yes!

REMEMBER: Abraham saying YES to sacrificing Isaac?

Isaac was VERY glad that his dad didn't just hear, but kept hearing. There are a lot of dead Isaacs (promises) because people didn't keep hearing.

Hebrews 11:1 – Faith comes by hearing...not having heard!

Key to Standing in Your YES?

1.) Meditate on that thing!

Let it go through your heart and mind continually! Don't let it go.

In Luke 2 the angels come to the shepherds and tell them about the baby in the manger. The shepherds then go and announce it to Mary and Joseph and to anyone that would hear.

Luke 2:19 – "But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart."

If you keep focusing on all the reasons that you can't or that it can't happen to you...filling your mind with the problem...then your problems and shortcomings are self inflicted.

2.) Keep confessing it.

Don't be like Zacharias and speak the problem.
Keep speaking the other side of the mountain.

Conclusion

There is power in your YES.

Your YES will take you from dreams to destiny.

From the prison to the palace.

From the promise to the manifestation.

Say YES...live in the YES...watch the YES come to life.