



Life and Death

What is in your words?

A South Pacific Christian Ministries Sermon

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About Us

South Pacific Christian Ministries is a Non-Denomination Missions Oriented Ministry that sprang out of a small tourist focused church in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. After 16 years serving as the Senior Pastor the LORD redirected our steps from the little chapel by the sea to the small island communities of the South Pacific.

Our Vision is to bring the living water to the small islands of the South Pacific; a vision summed up in the Hawaiian phrase Ke Ola Wai, which means the living water. Ke Ola Wai encompassing our greatest spiritual and physical need, pure spiritual and physical water.

Our Mission is to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the people who live on the small islands of the South Pacific that can only be reached by boat. To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to their shores, assisting local Pastors, providing Bible Training for believers and conducting outreaches to draw in non-believers. To provide gravity fed, family sized, reverse osmosis water filters; emergency medical supplies; medical services; and disaster response training.

Summary

This messages takes a look at a critical subject. It is one that often overlooked, even ignored. It is something that impacts our lives and the lives of others. It is something that everyone will be held accountable for by God, but yet, few pay any attention to it. That is our words and how we pray.

Scripture References

Genesis 1:26-28 Isaiah 55:10-11 Matthew 5:22
Genesis 2:7 Matthew 12:33-37 Luke 11:2-4
Proverbs 18:20-21



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Sermon Notes

Today we are taking a look at a critical subject. It is one that often overlooked, even ignored. It is something that impacts our lives and the lives of others. It is something that everyone will be held accountable for by God, but yet, few pay any attention to it.

Genesis 1:26-28

- 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
- 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
- 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 2:7

- 7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

God spoke the universe and every living thing into being. By His Words He created them. He spoke man into being and also formed him out of the dust and breathed life into him. Why the difference? Have you considered that? Everything else, God simply spoke them into being. Man He formed out of dust and breathed life into him.

While all of creation was made by God, only man was made in His own image. God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness". In order for man to be like God, be made in His own image, man had to be different. All of the animals, fish, insects and other living things, were spoken into existence. Only man was formed by God and given the very breath of God, imparting life. What God imparted into man was something more than what He spoke into the other living things. He imparted His life and His spirit into him.

Man was created in the very image of God. We are like Him. We have eternal life. God creates and destroys with His words. According to God's Word, man, created in His image, creates and destroys with his words as well.

Proverbs 18:20-21

- 20 A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.
- 21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

The word death in Proverbs 18:21, is the Hebrew word *mâveth*, which means death (natural or violent); pestilence, ruin.

The word life in that same verse is the Hebrew word *chay*, which means alive; fresh or strong.

Isaiah 55:10-11

- 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
- 11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.



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God's words contain the power and authority to accomplish what ever He wants. When He spoke the universe into existence, His words went forth created all those things. His words had all that they needed to complete the task. Likewise, the words of man has the power and authority to perform what man wants. That should be a sobering thought.

A man who speaks life into others and himself, imparts the power of life unto those to whom he directs it. A man who speaks death and destruction into others, imparts the power of death and destruction unto those to who he directs it.

When you read the Old Testament, in particular, the Book of Genesis, you will find that people understood the power of their words. A blessing given could not be undone. Their words were few and measured, spoken with care.

Matthew 12:33-37

- 33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit.
- 34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.
- 35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.
- 36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.
- 37 **For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.**

Jesus said, a good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil things. What we say reflects what is in us.

Jesus also said, that we will be judged for every idle word that we speak. That in the day of judgement will shall be required to give account for our words. The "why" is an important question considering the potential consequences and rewards.

When you consider that our words have to power of life and death, the power to create or to destroy, then it is plain to see why they matter. While it is foolish to speak death and destruction unto ourselves, we cause grave harm when we speak against others. If we, out of anger or our own desire, speak against another person, we loose destruction against them.

Today's society has become extremely loose with how we speak. Common phrases speak against ourselves and others, releasing destruction, sickness and death. While the intent of our hearts is important, the power of our words have an impact.

Matthew 5:22

- 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Calling a brother a fool places you in danger of hell fire. Have you ever consider the why? It is because your words are defining who they are and how they will act. A fool is destined for failure. A fool will make the wrong choices.



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We can say, that something they did was foolish. In that case, we are defining the action taken, not the individual. What we say is important.

Consider how Jesus instructed his disciples to pray.

Luke 11:2-4

- 2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.
- 3 Give us day by day our daily bread.
- 4 And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Jesus instructed them to pray for God's will to be done. He did not say, their will. There are some things that we know is always His will. It is always His will for people to be healed. Why, because Jesus paid for our healing with the stripes that He took for us. It is always His will for people to be saved. Why, because God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, so that any who wants to will be saved. There are other things that may or may not be His will.

How we pray matters. We are judged by our words; the words we speak we shall give an account for them. The words we pray loose power and authority. If we pray our will and that will does not align with God's will, then we are in agreement with the enemy. By our words then we loose at the worst the enemy into that situation, at best a work of the flesh. If we pay God's will, then we loose His Words, His power, His authority into that situation.

Praying for a person to fall in love with another person would be wrong and potentially against God's will. Such prayers are in reality speaking curses; in other words, practicing witchcraft. Because that would be forcing their will on another person. That is not God's way. Praying that they find the one God has chosen for then and that no one else steals their heart would be praying God's will.

The fruit of our prayers is also dependent upon what and how we pray. Godly fruit can only come from praying God's will; in other words, praying in accordance to His Word, His love and His character. Bad or even simply good, not Godly, fruit will come from praying our will or that which is in accordance to our ways, love and character.

For example, two husbands of believing wives entered into an adulteress relationships with other women. Both men left their wives for the other woman. Both wives prayed diligently. Both saw the husbands eventually leave the adulteress relationship and return to their marriage.

One wife prayed that her husband would be sick every time they looked at the other woman. The other wife prayed declaring who God said her husband was. She did not complain about what he was doing or how he was acting. She did not pray against her husband. She did not even talk about what he was doing. She spoke and prayed who God said he was and what God said was his character. His name was Cliff. They were a couple that I personally knew.

In time Cliff the type of man that God said he was; the type of man that his wife prayed he would become. He became a loving and Godly husband who remained faithful the rest of his life. That couple had a visible love for each other for the rest of Cliff's life. They went on to have a powerful ministry for marriages and helping those who had been divorced. The fruit of her prayers was Godly fruit that kept giving and multiplied in the lives of thousands of people. The fruit of her prayers when on to save many more marriages and to see many come to know the LORD. Cliff when he was in adultery did not know the LORD. Cliff became a mighty man of God who



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loved the LORD greatly because his wife prayed according to God's will; prayed what God said to pray. Cliff and his wife often spoke about how she prayed. It was something Cliff was grateful for.

The other husband return to his wife. From what I have been told they are still together. Consider how he views hearing about the prayers of his wife, assuming he knows. At best, he would feel manipulated. At worst, he would feel trapped and forced. He would have no reason to draw close to a God who, according to his wife, was willing to force him to comply with her wishes.

One man entered into a lasting and fruitful relationship with God. The other man, if he did turn to God, did not do so by the prayers of his wife. One man testified of the love and faithfulness of his wife who helped him become a mighty man of God. The other man could only testify of being forced to do his wife's will, forced to do what was right. The difference is the fruit of their prayers. One praying God's will and words. The other praying against her husband.

Was it God's will for him to stop living in adultery? Certainly. But there is a difference between praying for the right outcome according to man's way and His way.

What difference is there between someone practicing witchcraft to force someone to do their will and someone praying against another person. The are exactly the same. Praying that God will do your will, contrary to His ways, love and character, is witchcraft. The fruit of such prayers will never be Godly fruit.

How we pray is important. If you pray sickness, death or lack against someone for an outcome that you desire, then you are practicing witchcraft. If you pray the LORD's will for their life, His provision, His direction, then you loose God's word to work on their behalf. If you pray your will, instead of what God would have your pray, then you loose evil against them and you will be judged accordingly.

Matthew 12:36-37

36 But I say unto you, **That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof** in the day of judgment.

37 **For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.**

The other thing that you risk when praying against someone is reaping what you have sown. If we sow that which is good into the lives of others, then we will reap the same in our life multiplied. If we sow, lack, sickness and other negative things, then we will reap that in our own life in multiplied form. A seed will always produce after its kind.

Praying according to God's will and direction is vital for every believer. That means there will be times when your heart may want to pray one direction, but the LORD will dictate another. Just because we want something for someone does not mean He does.

There was a time in our life when we were considering a major move, between two states. A relative who lived in one of those states began praying that we would move there. She was not praying God's will, but her own. We would find ourselves suddenly dealing with confusion after having peace about choosing the other state. After a time we found out how she was praying and told her what she was really doing. She repented of her actions and began praying for God's direction for us. Shortly there after, God confirmed where we were to move and we left as soon as we could. We were being hindered from doing God's will because someone was trying to force their will. Their intent was well meaning, but they were not praying God's will. Had we moved according to her will, then the people we touched and the work God did in us would not have taken place.



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How you pray is important. What you say is important. If you have been praying your will for others or against them, then I urge you to repent and ask God to cancel your words.

If you have been praying against people, praying your will and not just God's will, then I urge you to repent and praying His will only. If you don't know what God's will is in a situation, then you can pray that His will be done in their lives. If they are sick, have financial needs, don't know Him, then you can pray for healing, provision or salvation because His Word declares that it is His will.

Remember, what you say has power. What you say releases life or death, destruction or health, lack or provision. You are either lined up with God or you or lined up with the enemy. Consider with whom you stand in agreement with before you speak or before you pray. Remember, you will be held accountable for your words by the one who is perfect and knows all.