

VISUALIZING AND CONFESSION

In Genesis chapter 12 we want to see two of the most important aspects on peace and faith. I notice some of it may be familiar to you. But since we are on the topic on faith we will need to cover systematically and not miss out on these two points. There are two very important keys when we look at faith. In the exercise of faith and believing God for any area of our Christian life, we need to make sure that we do these two things.

Gen. 12:4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. Sarah was ten years younger. Sarai would have been sixty-five years old. The next part of the scripture that I would like you to pay attention to is in Gen. 17:1 *When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty," walk before Me, and be blameless.* When he was ninety-nine years old God changed his name and his name became Abraham. So for twenty-five years he went by the name Abram. And in his final year when he was to have that promised child that God spoke to him about his name was changed to Abraham. So for one year he confessed his name. He started calling himself Abraham, which means father of many nations. And Sarai's name became Sarah the mother of many nations. For twenty-five years he went by the name Abram.

Abraham is the father of faith. And we need to balance these two aspects of faith. When we talk about faith and believing God some people have the impression that

Abraham changed his name and was confessing his name for twenty-five years. Actually he only confessed it for one whole year. For twenty-five years what happened was God was dealing with his vision. The bible tells us that God gave him a word saying that your children shall be like the dust of the earth Gen. 13. Then later in Gen. 15 God told him that your children would be like the stars of the sky. If you can number the stars of the sky then you can number your children. Gen. 13:16 *"I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your descendants also can be counted.* In Gen. 15:5 *Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them."* Then He said to him, *"So shall your descendants be."*

So Abraham was given the vision of his children as numerous as the dust, his children as the stars. God made him meditate on the vision that He was implanting into his spirit day and night. In the daytime he meditate on the dust. In the nighttime he meditate on the stars. Day and night God caused him to meditate and visualize.

That is the first area when you exercise faith. Some people when they exercise faith they are never able to receive. Yet the bible says that faith pleases God. Without faith it is impossible to please Him. The opposite would be true. Faith pleases God. And God always hear our faith. He always seeks to answer what we can exercise our faith for. Why is it that the answer doesn't come to people's life? Faith sees the result of what you are asking for. If you cannot see the result, if you cannot visualize it, faith has not taken a hold on your life yet.

Faith must see into that realm of the spirit and regard those things as if it is real. Faith is a vision. That is the first important key. Faith is a vision in the spirit realm. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. You began to see in the spirit world the evidence of something. Heb. 11:1 says *Faith is the substantiation of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen.* Notice it very carefully that it says faith is the evidence. If for example you came to the church this morning and you found my bible lying there on the platform. So you can conclude that I was here. I have been there. If my bible is there, there is evidence that I have been there. The evidence proves the existence of something else. The evidence proves that something else has happened. The evidence is not the real thing. But the evidence

shows and proves something else that exists. For example if Susan were to go off and leave her bag here. And you came around looking for her. You see all the evidences, you see her bag and you said she must have been around. There is evidence that she was around.

But the evidence is not the real thing. The evidence takes the place of something else that is real. In the similar manner if your account clerk says that he has banked in a certain amount of money into your company's account. And he gives you a bank slip. The bank slip is not the amount. But the bank slip proves and is the evidence that there is a certain amount that has been banked into your account. The bank slip itself is just the evidence. It is not the amount itself. You can't use the bank slip to buy things. The bank slip is only evidence.

Faith is an evidence of the things that are not experienced yet. Faith is evidence of things that are still in the future. See things hoped for means things that are in the future. The things that are not seen mean the things that are in the spirit realm. So there are two places where the things you are praying for is. One is in the future and second it is in the spirit realm. Now faith is required. Faith is the evidence of the things that are coming to pass. It is evidence, sure evidence. When Susan finally comes and you said now I have the evidence that she is really here. She is not the evidence she is the real thing. So we must differentiate what is real and what is evidence. By the time you see Susan you don't need evidence any more. She is right here. You don't need to prove her existence.

Now we know that many things that are invisible exist. Scientists tell us that there are radio waves in the air. How can you prove that the radio waves are there? You can't feel it; you can't touch it. You need an instrument to detect them and to bring them into the realm where they are tangible to us. The instrument called the radio receiver makes the radio signals into sound waves. The radio receiver itself is not the signals. But it gives us evidence that the radio waves do exist. It alters the radio waves into sound waves so that we could hear it. In a similar manner when you have evidence it is not the real thing. When you have the real thing you don't need the evidence any more. Some people don't understand it. They say that I will believe when I see it. When you see it then you don't need to exercise faith. You

don't need to exercise faith on the fact that you are sitting on the chair now. The chair is real you don't have to have difficulty believing that it is there. But if the chair is not there that's when faith is required. You need evidence. Whenever you don't have the manifestation that is when you require faith. If you could see it, you could feel it, you don't need the evidence any more. It is manifested. When the evidence comes in you don't need to exercise faith.

Faith is required when the thing that you prayed for is not in manifestation. So God gives you a bank slip, God gives you evidence in your spirit that says that it is there. And it is yours and it is coming to pass. That evidence that you received called *the assurance, the convictions of the things hoped for* is placed in your spirit. So although the world cannot see it yet in your spirit you have that assurance. You have the evidence that it is real and it exists in your spirit. You carry it about until one day it manifests then you don't need the evidence any more. You have the real existence of the things that you prayed and hoped for.

So what we are saying here is that it is when you are exercising faith and the things had not been manifested yet then you need to exercise these two keys constantly. You need to be able to see and visualize. Lets take for example, they go to a place and they start digging up the sand. And on the sand they dug up a huge big bone. It's a dinosaur bone. And as they finished digging it they saw the whole structure of the dinosaur. Now those bones proved that dinosaur exists. Here you have the evidence buried in the sand that it is real. The evidence is not the real thing its dead its only the bones. But you know that it existed. That once upon a time there was a huge animal that moved upon this earth. As they see the evidence they try to visualize what the animal look like. The evidence helps them to picture what is real. Have you seen all those drawing of dinosaurs in children's books and in some science books? Nobody had actually seen a dinosaur. They took that evidence and visualized the dinosaurs.

The difference between them and you is that they took the evidence and visualized the past. You take the evidence and visualize the future. It is too bad that they are studying things that have passed away. What can you do now I mean what's the point of visualizing dinosaurs. But here we are changing lives; we are changing our future. The seeds of our future are in the present now. So God gives you evidence.

Instead of using the evidence you just say thank God I have an assurance the evidence of what is to come. Perhaps you are believing God for your business. What is the skeletal structure that you have evidence now that you can visualize. Or you are believing God for your family to be saved. Can you see it? My question is you got the evidence but can you see it? Don't just leave it hanging there. That evidence is supposed to be visualized.

Perhaps you have a prophecy an assurance of the ministry God has for your life. It is an evidence inside you. You have a conviction and assurance. Can you see it? Can you visualize it? The Holy Spirit will help you paint the picture if you would allow Him to. The evidence is only the skeletal structure of what is to come. And we need to visualize it vividly, clearly of what is to come. We have the assurance of our own land and our own church building. But it's only in the spirit realm. We have the evidence of it in the spirit. But we need to visualize it. We need to see it. We need to see clearly. Perhaps you are praying for your needs in your family. Can you see the answer? The question is not seeing your problem but seeing the answer. Can you see the answer; can you visualize it.

God dealt with Abraham's life and help him to see for twenty-five years. Mk. 11:22-23 *Truly, I say to you, whoever* (These are the words of Jesus for truly, I say to you whoever, any one any body, Tom, Dick or Harry. Say the *whoever* means me. So you place your name there.) *says to this mountain, "Be taken up and cast into the sea," and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.* It says *whatever* that means anything you ask.

Sometimes preachers say this God supply your needs and not your want. If you believe that statement you go to the other extreme and you forget the fact that the Father wants to give you more than your needs. I know what they are trying to come against. They are trying to come against people who are covetous and abuse God's Word for their own selfish gain. But why do it to the exclusion of our Father's desires to bless us above what we ask. If we want to teach on that we should not make a statement like that. But we should make a statement and say that you can have what you desire except don't use it for your selfish gain. That would be better than say my God supply all my needs and not my want. And those

who say it don't realize that God is much more like an earthly father. Those of you who are parents, will you just supply your children's needs? Or do you include some of the things they want. Think about that. Your children come to you and say could I have an ice cream for dessert. You say no, you just need food. That is your want and I don't supply your want, an ice cream is extra. No, but you can have that rice and vegetables and that's what you need. Think about parents doing that. What kind of relationship will you have with your children? As parents to a certain extend you try to meet your children's want. If your children want something that you know is not good for them, you may teach them what is not good for them. And those who say it do not read the bible because the bible says the Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want. The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not need anything. No, the Lord is my Shepherd you shall not want. God supply your want that He knows that is good for you. The book of Psalms 34 tells us young lions don't lack and suffer hunger, but those who trust in the Lord shall not lack want; shall not lack any good things. So we realize that is in the bible God does supply.

So here we are on Mk. 11 verse 24 whatever things you desire, whatever that is good for you, God will supply above and over what you need. God doesn't just supply what you need. We have to go beyond that point to have the abundance of God in our life.

So here we are talking about the two main keys in exercising faith. We need an assurance. Notice in verse 23 that unless you believe and don't doubt in your heart, what you say will have no power. And the heart must believe. How does the heart believe? Do you know that the main primary function of the heart is to have an assurance and to visualize? Your heart is first your visualizing machinery and mechanism in your spiritual life. When the bible talks about the heart it always uses the word *dianoia*, which means imagination. Lk. 1:51 the imagination of the heart. And in Eph. 1:17-18 Paul pray that they would receive the spirit of wisdom and revelation that the eyes of their understanding which is the eyes of their *dianoia*. He is actually talking about the part of your mind that visualizes.

There are about five Greek words for the word mind. The word *dianoia* speaks about the visualizing ability of your mind. This is closely connected to your heart. So when Mk. 11:23 is exercised in your life in faith you must use the evidence that

God placed in your life to visualize. If you know that God has spoken to you and said that you are going to be a song leader in the things of God, you need to visualize it constantly in your prayer if you want it to come into being. If God speaks to you and say you are going to be an evangelist or a pastor you must be able to visualize it in your life with the evidence God has placed in your life. So in order not to doubt in your heart we must have the vision crystallized in us. When you could see something clearly you won't doubt it any more. The reason why many people doubt is that the vision has not taken a hold of their life. The picture of the things that are to come is not locked into their spirit yet.

Abraham took twenty-five years to build it into him. And if you read the story of Abraham, you will notice that in that twenty-five years he doubted here and there. One of his biggest doubts was when Ishmael came about. Same like most of us. Your struggle is many times in the area of visualizing. You could see it clearly in a meeting when faith and the Word of God is preached. It got a hold of your spirit and you could see exactly what God wants you to be and to do and to have. When you leave the meeting circumstances come and try to put adverse pictures into you. The other types of pictures come into your mind - pictures of want, pictures of need and pictures of yourself not being able to do the things that God wants you to do. And your doubts begin to rise. However if you have the evidence in your heart and the vision is built clearly into you doubt will not arise.

That's the first thing that must be done. The first key when you exercise faith is that the evidence must produce a picture, a vision in your heart. And it is not necessary instant. Sometimes you received a picture it takes time to lock into you. You need to visualize and there are four steps of the picture that we have already touched on Heb. 11:13 *Those who have died in faith, not having received what was promised but (No. 1) having seen them afar off (No. 2) were assured of them, (No. 3) embraced them and (No. 4) confessed...*

So your vision must go through these four areas. No. 1 you have the vision. You could visualize it. And as you visualize everyday and you pray, you began to have an assurance of them. It builds up. You know that you know that it will come to pass. The doubts become eradicated from your life. If you keep seeing them and

seeing them the day comes when the doubt get eradicated. The assurance is so strong doubts cannot arise. If doubts cannot arise Satan is defeated. Thirdly even though those doubts have stopped you continue until you could embrace them. To embrace means to experience it as if it is real. Your feelings and all your senses began experience it even when it is in vision form. No. 4 confession which is what we are going to talk about the second main key.

Lets look at Mark chapter 11. Now verse 22 and 23 are connected. He emphasizes on the heart here. But three times in verse 23 he emphasizes on what you say. Verse 23 *Truly, I say to you, whoever says* (that is the first time the word *say* comes) *to this mountain, "Be taken up and cast into the sea," and does not doubt in his heart, but believe that that what he says* (second time) *will come to pass, it will be done for him* (he will have whatever he *says* {the third time} in place of it will be done for him.)

Please look at the verse very carefully in verse 23. Truly, I say to you; who is saying that, Jesus. Whoever, who can do it, whoever, anybody say to this mountain be removed and be cast into the sea. Does not doubt in his heart but believe that those things will come to pass he will have what he says, he will have what he says (repeated several times). I want you to get it into your spirit and get a revelation. Did He say he will have whatever he believes? Did He say he will have whatever he thinks? Did He say he will have whatever he sees? See seeing and speaking both must work together. Visualizing may be twenty-five is to one. Visualizing may be the main area of faith. It's the hidden part of the iceberg. Visualizing is the hidden part, its important we have emphasized that. Let me remind you that you have what you say. In other words Jesus is saying that he will have not just what he believes. But he will have what he *says*.

Do you know that many people don't have it because they didn't release the material for the things to be formed? What is happening in your life is like what is happening when this earth was created. In Genesis one the Holy Spirit was brooding over the earth. It tells us that there was darkness and the Holy Spirit was hovering over the earth. Nothing happened. We don't know how long that happened. That hovering process speaks about the visualizing process. Do you know that I could go on forever unless some words are said? And the Holy Spirit was hovering over the earth the Hebrew word is brooding over the earth like a

chicken hatching an egg. He is visualizing something. So the Holy Spirit was hovering over the earth and nothing happened but a lot of things are taking place but nothing happened yet until God said let there be light and the light came. Let me emphasize here if you try to confess before you visualize, your words have no power. But after you have visualized you must give out words as materials for God to form it into whatever you want. Mk. 11:23 says he will have whatever he says. If you don't say it you don't do the fourth step it will never come to pass. It is not just having what you believe. It is having what you say. Not saying your problems. It is not just coming to God and say I don't know why things are that way. You are not doing what Jesus said. That is not Mk. 11:23 you are saying the circumstances. Like for example if you are believing God for a job. And every one you go to you says I don't know why I cannot find a job. I don't know why I cannot find a job. You are saying what you have and you will continue to have what you say. You say what you have and you have what you say.

The first thing that must happen is to see. You must allow God's Word and God's Spirit to place a vision in your life of what He is able to do. The Word of God paints a picture in you. So you realize my God supply all my needs according to His riches in glory. God is able to get me that job that I desire. You just graduated from the university you are qualified but there is no job available. You know what you are able to do. You know what you would like to do. You know what is the key area of professionalism. But you have no job. What must you do No. 1 visualize. Can you see it? Only when you can see it crystal clear it begin to take place. So you begin to work at it. And you begin to visualize. You begin to see it clearly. At first you see it blurry. You need spiritual glasses. You know what spiritual glasses are. Your spiritual glasses are the Word of God. It helps you to see into the spirit realm. So put on the spiritual glasses call on God's Word. And you look at it carefully and you say now I can see clearly in the spirit realm. And you begin to visualize the things in the spirit realm.

Wait you haven't complete the process yet. And as you see clearly, you begin to have an assurance. Third you began to embrace it. It becomes more and more in you. You know that it will come to pass. The assurance builds up in you. You got step No. 4. You must give God the material to bring it to pass. You won't have just what you see. You won't have just what you believe. *And he will have what he says, and he will have what he says, and he will have what he says.* So you come before God

and say, "Father God I will have what I say so I say it now. Father God I am working for a good firm. I have a good job. It's a well paid job. And it has good working hours. That gives me enough time to spend time with your Word. I have it God in Jesus' name. Thank you Lord. I have what I say. I say it now I have it in Jesus name. That in the spirit realm I am working in a good company. I have good working hours. I have a good pay." You say it. Then everyday when you wake up you come to God and say it again. You don't come to God and say God when is it going to happen? Why is it not happening? You can have what you say. So you got what you say. Some wives are praying for their husbands. But as they are praying for their husbands they say I don't know why he is so nasty still. You shall have what you say. So he will be nastier. Some husbands are praying for their wives. And they say I don't know why my wife is going this way and that way. He can have what he says. And she will be worse.

And as you are praying for your family salvation, there are two areas that are preventing your faith. No. 1 you are not seeing them saved. You are seeing them unsaved. If I were to be able to cut your spirit heart open and take out the picture of what is actually inside. And if I see a picture of you still having that unsaved husband or wife. No wonder your husband is not coming forth there is no faith. And many husbands are praying for their wives and inside they are still seeing them as they are. They are not seeing them as they should be but as they are. Some wives have been so quote unquote persecuted by their husbands. They have very clear visions of the horror, the beast of their husband still inside them. What are they doing meditating on that vision? And inside their mind they see their husbands losing their temper, shouting at them persecuting them. And the more they pray the more beastly their husbands become. The more clearly they see the more they become a beast. What happen is the wife has to change that vision. Put away the evidences of the things that are. Reaching into the spirit realm, let me ask you this question, what do you want him to be like, you say I like him to be a man of prayer, the head of the family. Can you see it? You say I can't. Every time I try to see it I see him coming at me. Read the bible. Can you see Jesus gentle, loving, kind, compassionate? Can you see Jesus? I want you to right now see your husband next to Jesus and see the same attributes of Jesus in your husband. You are putting on your spiritual glasses. The evidence of things hoped for. So you began to see it. It may take you months. Can you see the answer to your prayer? Unless you see it you haven't even got the first step of faith.

Finally the wife sees it and the assurance starts coming to her. And finally at the third stage of seeing she begins to see herself with her husband going to church. But that's not enough. You must release step four. She is not going to say in front of her husband I say you are going to be bible carrying, tongue talking hand laying, demon chasing. No, you can have what you say. As I teach on faith remember I talked about the free will of another person. So here a free will is involved. But what is happening is you are making it easier for that person to choose. It is of course easier to believe God when you are the only one involved. But when the free will of another person is involved you must have the Word of God about them. Which you have Act 16:31 they have salvation plan for them. So you can visualize what is in the bible for them too. To make it easier for them to come to God. Every morning you look into the mirror and you could see your husband with you there. And you say praise God lets go to the church now. In the name of Jesus Father I can have what I said. I say it now my husband and me are going to the church. My husband is the head of the house. He is reading the bible. He is a good man. He is a man of prayer.

You have released the Word into the atmosphere. You have released the creative force. And everyday you would say it because you can have what you say. There are many Christians exercising faith who don't do that. Think about the things you are believing God for. You have learned about visualizing but have you been saying them? Have you been releasing the creative force to create those things? Have you been speaking them out? Have you been saying them? Not say what you are but say what you are going to have. You can have what you say. So here we have the importance the second key in exercising faith is to say it. Go to a place or a prayer closet and say it out what is going to have. If it is a financial need say it in the presence of God. Say Father God I can have what I say. I see it now, I believe it, I visualize it, I embraced it I have an assurance of it I say it now Father God in Jesus name I have abundance. Say God I thank you I have such and such an amount every month. I release it in Jesus name. I thank you for it. You must say it.

One of the reasons why we have to say it is that Jesus is the High Priest of our confession. Jesus needs materials to work from. And the words you say becomes the materials He works to produce the things that He can give to you. Once you are born again you have in you the creative ability of God in your lips.

Lets look at the book of Hebrews as we close. Heb. 3:1 *Therefore, holy brethren, who share in a heavenly call, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession.* Heb. 4:14 *Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, he lets us hold fast our confession.* See every time Jesus is mentioned as a high priest our confession is mentioned. Jesus takes what you confess and say out. Some of you in the ministry is wondering why it's not happening. Let me tell you, some of you could be song leading. Do you say what you want to have? Perhaps you visualize. You see all those things. But do you go in the morning to God and say Father God I say in the name of Jesus that it shall be a good service. I say in the name of Jesus that your angels are all around us. And I say in the name of Jesus that your presence is with us. You must say it. You shall have what you say. So if you are not saying it, you won't have it. Jesus said you shall have what you say. What are you saying? Are you saying that it's difficult all the time? Are you telling your situation all the time? You are going to have what you say. And even Mk. 11:24 when it say whatever things you desire when you pray believe that you received and you shall have them. The word *have them* is tied to the verse 23 have which is tied to your confession. Having is having what you say. If you don't have something spoken you cannot have it. The force and the power of releasing to the spoken word must come forth. You have what your word says.

If there is no saying, you are not having. One of the reasons people exercise faith and are not having is because they are not saying what they are going to have. There is nothing, no materials to form what they are to have. Jesus said say it to the mountain. Jesus said you can have what you say. We can have what we say. We must say it. Say it in your private closet. Say it in front of people. Keep saying it all the time because as you keep saying it you will have what you say.