

VISUALIZING IN THE SPIRIT SERIES

FACTS AND TRUTHS

In today's message, we want to define facts and truths and see how they relate to the Word of the living God. Just tell me in one simple sentence what you define as a fact and as a truth. (Five persons came to the mike to give their definition of facts and truths.)

1. A truth is something that is real whether we accept it or not. A fact is something that appears correct to us at that moment.
2. Truth is something that will never die; it will be perpetual. Heaven and earth may pass away but the Word of God, the truth will remain. Facts are what man makes; it can change and it can vary.
3. Facts is what I believe is. Jesus died for us on the cross. It's fact and it's true.
4. Truth as the Word said, truth shall set you free. Fact is fact, which is not so strong as truth.

5. Jesus said, 'I am the Truth.' I believe He is the Truth.

Now you can see that the definition of fact and truth needs to be clarified, otherwise after when we use that word you will not be able to understand. The dictionary definition of a truth is that a truth is a real state of being. It is the reality of the state of being.

A fact is a piece of information. The information may both be true or false. But it is perceived as information. So facts are not necessarily true. But truths are always fact.

In the Word of God we have what we call the truth. As we look into the Word of God in visualizing, we have to realize that we pick up all kinds of sensation. We pick up all kinds of information. Some of the facts we perceived are true only within our area of experience. I am sure you are familiar with the 3 blind men who were feeling the elephant. One blind man felt the elephant's body and said an elephant is like a wall. Now that was true as far as he perceived. True to his perception but not the total truth. We know walls don't look like elephant. And elephants are not walls. Then another fellow felt the elephant's legs. When he felt the elephant's leg he said an elephant is like a tree. Now we know that is true to his experience but it's not the truth. He perceived from his experience. Another blind man happens to be right at the tail. He felt the elephant's tail and said that an elephant is like a rope. Now was what he said true to his experience? It was. But what he said was not the truth because the combination of all the experiences can give a better indication of what an elephant is like to a blind person.

In the same way, God speaks His words and He says that the things, which are seen around us, are made of things that are not seen. So the things that are not seen create and made the things, which are seen. And His Word declares here that the things, which are seen, are changeable and temporary. The things, which are not seen, are eternal. Look at II Cor.4 His word declares unto us in verse 18, "*While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary.*" Temporary means changeable. Today here, tomorrow

gone. Temporary means it does not last and it's moldable, changeable, and removable. But the things which are not seen, that is in the realm of the spirit are eternal. But because we have been walking on this planet earth, society around us goes by our 5 senses.

We many times allow what we see to mould our lives instead of allowing what is not seen from the spirit realm to mould our lives. And sometimes what we perceived with our 5 senses is contradictory to the spirit world. Sometimes in our experience we are like the 3 blind men. We need our spiritual eyes to be opened to see our problems. And we see it not in the perspective of God where God said He saw. We see our sicknesses and problems that the devil tries to put on us but the Word of God says *by His stripes you are healed*. We see our financial problems but the Word of God says that *He was made poor that you may be rich. My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory*. God's Word says something but your perception is saying another. The things that are not seen are the real things and the truth but the things that we perceive are not necessarily the truth. We have to subject our 5 senses to the Living Word - The Word of God.

Heb.11: 1, *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."* In order to operate in the unseen world you need to get a hold of the unseen world. You have to somehow reach into that realm and hold it, and perceive it and touch it with the eyes of faith and hands of faith. How can we operate the things that are not seen unless we could get a hold of it by a different realm? And we can, through our spiritual eyes and through our spiritual senses. We can reach into the spirit realm, which is the realm of the unseen and begin to mould our lives accordingly. This is where we say that our heart is where we draw on the things of the spirit. It's in the heart where faith operates. It's in the heart of man that the faith of God is implanted. It's in our spirit. It flows into our hearts and unless faith comes into the heart you cannot perform and do what God wants you to do in this life.

Last week we defined the heart. Let's go a little bit on the definition of the heart. We all will realize that all your bodily system goes back to one control center. Your bodies, hands, organs all have nerves. And even your heart has nerves that control them. The pumping of the heart, everything goes back to the nerve center in your head. Every nerve goes back to the spinal cord and your spinal cord goes right up

to where it joins the brain, where all the nerves meet together and where all the action take place in your body voluntary and involuntary. It flows to the spinal cord in your brain. And if your spinal cord is severed your body will be paralyzed immediately. So there is a nerve center in our head and that nerve center controls our whole body.

In that same way the heart is the nerve center of the soul. The soul consists of the emotions, of the intellect and of the will. Now your soul does not function as 3 different parts. The 3 different parts of your soul flow back into one nerve center and that nerve center that controls your whole soul is your heart. Your heart is the control center of your whole soul system. There could be many other aspects of your soul - your conscious and sub-conscious mind. Your heart is the nerve center and if I could control your heart, I could control your soul.

In the same way physically your nerve center in your head controls your whole body. The bodily organs and tissues could be different but they are controlled by the same nerve center. So if I want to control and channel some sicknesses to my hand, it has to flow through my nerves. So the brain processes all the information that comes in and makes the decision.

In the same way, the heart is the nerve center of the soul and when God want to flow through our soul, He works at our heart. Remember Jesus said that out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, imagination, fornication, etc. What is He saying? He is saying that what affects the heart is going to affect the whole man. And when the Spirit of God wants to control our soul and our body, definitely He has to control the heart. See the heart is where it touches the spirit realm. The Spirit of God lives in our spirit. Through our spirit He touches our heart and through our heart it can give signal to every part of our soul. Our soul can give signal to our body and our whole being is then under control of the Holy Spirit.

Having understood what takes place in our heart, now let's look at Heb.11: 1, "*Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of thing unseen.*" Let me read to you from the Amplified Version on this particular passage. It brings out some thing

beautiful in that realm. Heb.11: 1 from the Amplified Version, *“Faith is the substance, the confirmation, the title deed of the things we hope for, being the proof of things which we do not see and the conviction of their reality. Faith perceives as real fact what is not revealed to the senses.”*

That is the whole mouthful of words but basically what it says here is that faith is the perception of the things that are the truth, the reality - the real state of being. Faith perceives the things, which are not sensed by your sense, and our heart is the container where faith operates. If your heart doubts it spoils the whole power. It short-circuits the whole system. It won't work any more. Faith operates upon the heart. Faith and doubt are the operation of the heart.

Jesus said in Mark11: 23-24, *“If you say to this mountain, be thou removed and be thou cast into the sea..”* Then He goes onto say, *“and shall not doubt in his heart, he shall have whatever he says.”* That tells us the importance of the heart not doubting and not sending contrary signal or pictures. Faith is evidence. Faith is the perception of the things in the spirit realm.

Paul says in II Cor.4: 18, *“While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.”* We perceive the things, which are not seen. The act of perception is called faith. Faith is the act of perception, of visualizing of seeing the things of the spirit and having it written on the canvas of our heart.

Turn to II Cor. 4 we will see that he is talking about visualizing and faith. II Cor.4: 13, *“but since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what it was written, “I believe and therefore I spoke.” We also believe and therefore speak.* Then verse16, he says, *we do not lose heart.* Then verse18 he says, *we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.’* He is talking about the spirit of faith. We have the same spirit of faith and if you are born again, you have the same spirit of faith and the ability to see into the spirit realm. It's the spirit of faith that sees the unseen and receive it and grasp it and takes it into the physical realm and makes it happen. We have to reach into the spirit realm by faith.

How does it all relate back to the heart? Now this is where it connects to all the rest of the teaching. Heb. 8 talks about God writing the covenant in our hearts. And it says in verse 10, *“This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel, after those days”, says the Lord, “ I will put my laws in their minds and write them in their hearts and I will be their God and they shall be My people.”*

Then He repeats that in Heb. 10: 16, *“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord; I will put my laws in their hearts, and in their minds I will write them.*

Then in verse 19, *“Therefore brethren having boldness to enter the holy of holies by the Blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us through the veil, that is His flesh. Having a high priest over the house of God.”*

Verse 22, now this is the part where they have to do. God says, ‘I will write.’ Then the author in writing to the Hebrews says this is what you have to do. Let us do something about that. Let us do something about God writing His Word in our hearts and in our minds. He says, *“Therefore let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.”*

The heart operates on faith. Doubt is the wrong image in the heart. Doubt is the wrong fact and information fed into the heart. It will produce doubt. Faith is the correct truth that is passed into the heart to have it recorded and coded an image inside. That is why the author of Hebrews tells us to have our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. That is the Word of God. It says that we have to have our hearts cleansed and washed.

We have mentioned about all the wrong images that need to be removed in our life. A lot of wrong images have been stored into our hearts from our past and all those images have to be removed, washed away by the Blood of Jesus and the Word

of God. These are the only elements that can get rid of the dirt in our hearts. The Word is the only antidote for healing and removing all the wrong images and wrong programming in our hearts. Once we get all these things removed, we have to implant the right images inside our hearts to see what God wants us to see. To receive what God wants us to receive. And there is where we have to differentiate between truth and facts.

The facts may tell you it 's not working yet. You see claiming the Word *by His stripes I was healed* but your body may scream in pain. The truth says you are healed but the symptoms that you perceive say contrariwise. The truth tells you that you are free but your perception of the fact is still not in line with the truth. Sometimes the facts are in line with the truth but sometimes the fact seems to be contrary to the truth. The reason being that there is something wrong with our perception ability. Even since the fall of man our perception of truth have been perverted. It is true only in the sense of the circle of your experience. Just like the blind man said that the elephant was like a wall. Was it true to his experience? We have to say, `Yes.` But it is not the truth. Sound strange to us when we say something is true but it's not the truth.

Let me illustrate here. Supposing we are all having an annual general meeting and this is the A.G.M. of the XYZ Company. So at that AGM the chairman makes a statement and said in AGM of XYZ Companyso the meeting was on and the secretary was writing down all the minutes. The chairman stood up and said, "All cats have 3 legs." So the secretary writes them down too. Then the next year AGM, they gathered together again. Then the secretary read out the minutes of the last AGM. So the secretary said, `the chairman said that all cats have 3 legs.` Now is that true, what the secretary recorded. Did the chairman say that? It was true. But was that the truth? We don't find cats with 3 legs. All cats have 4 legs. So it was true as far as the recording goes but it was not the truth. And so sometimes we perceive things that are true to our experience. We are not denying those experiences. Remember that!

What the world cannot understand about faith is this. They say, "Oh you are just lying." No, it's not lying. There are some cults like Christian Science that says sicknesses don't exist. We are saying they do exist. We are not denying the

experience. We are denying the right of the experience to continue. We are denying the right for those kinds of facts that are not in line with the truth to continue its existence because the facts are the things that are temporary. They are telling of temporal things happening and we are denying their right to continue its existence. When we say, "No, I am not accepting this fact. I am accepting that fact over there." Which is the true fact, which is the truth too? And so by holding on to the truth, you will be able to blow apart all those wrong acts. You go around saying, "By His stripes I was healed. Thank You, Jesus! I am healed." Your bodies scream, "No, I am not healed yet." You continue saying, "By His stripes I am healed." You hold on to the truth. You visualize the truth. Sooner or later the truth is going to blow apart the facts that are not in line with the truth. That is where the power of visualizing and the spoken Word come into the picture.

If you think that God is not like that, then you have to examine very carefully because in the Bible here it tells me that God functions in the same manner. Rom. 4 again, it talks about the spirit of faith. Verse 16-17 onwards, *"Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seeds, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham who is the father of us all."*

Now that is a significant statement. He is saying here that everything that we are going to receive in the Christian life has to come through faith. If you are not going to learn how to exercise faith in the spirit realm and bring it into your experience, you are missing out on the total realm of God's promises. The Bible says all the promises of God are yea and amen. And it tells us that the just shall live by faith. That is our covenant. We live in the covenant that operates by faith. The Old Testament believers had a different form of covenant but our covenant; the new covenant operates by faith. Everything that you receive in the Christian life, from the time you are born again, until you are raptured to be with Jesus is received through the operation of faith. For the Bible declares in Heb.11: 6, *"Without faith it is impossible to please God."*

Abraham is the father of faith and the father of that covenant that we have made. This is how faith operates. In verse 17, *"As it is written I have made you a father of many"*

nations. In the presence of Him whom he believed – God, who gives life to the dead, and calls those things which do not exist as though they did.” God calls those things, which are not seen as though they are seen. God calls those things, which are invisible as though it is done.

That is the same spirit of faith that operates in visualizing. You have to receive in your heart that it is done - past tense. You must see the image of it accomplished. God did not say I would make you a father of nations. He said, “I have made you a father of many nations.” And at that time Abraham did not even have a single son through Sarah. He did not have a descendant. It was not manifested yet. Sarah was still barren and God said, “I have.” Why could God say that? It is because the image was already settled. It has been spoken. It was settled in the spirit world and in your heart. You must have the right tenses. The wrong tenses and the wrong sense defeat you. In your heart, the vision that you receive must be a vision of something done even though it's not done in the physical realm yet. It must be a vision of something already accomplished. You must see it clearly. You must call those things, which are not as though they were in existence.

What is the vision in your heart? What do you see? Do you see the present circumstances? Then you are allowing the wrong facts to program your heart. But if you see what God sees, then you could begin to change your circumstances. God has called us to be changing circumstances, not controlled by circumstances. We are not subject to the control of circumstances. We by the authority of God's Word control and change the circumstances around us. We are more than conquerors through Christ. We are the overcomers, not the overcome. We are more than conquerors, not the conquered. We are the victorious blood washed army of God, not the defeated stooges of God. God have called all His people to see before it happens. We must have it in the past tense in your heart.

Let's look at our dear Abraham, Gen.17, when God spoke to him. God says in verse 5, *“No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.”*

See it's the same covenant. Remember the covenant. God writes the laws in our hearts and in our minds to be God to you and your descendants after you.

Verse 8, *Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.*' Now you will find in verse 5 it says 'I have made' a perfect tense, something already done. Although it was not manifested yet and God even went and said, "Abraham change your name because as far as I am concerned you are changed.'" Now in the English it does not come out that strong. In the Hebrew, there is a special tense that gives the translators a headache. They found it very difficult to translate that vowel consonant. It is a tense that God use the present and the past tense to talk about something still in the future. It really makes all the translators scratching their heads. They have struggled to translate it and try to put it in good English because we don't speak that way in English. We never come to a brother and say, "Brother James, tomorrow I have met you." We never talk that way. So they all were very shy that God talks that way in the Bible. And so they wanted to correct God's English and modernize it a bit and bring out the future tense. In the end we miss out what God was saying and here and there when they cannot avoid it, they have to still put it in the perfect tense. God many times talk that way. God told Abraham and said, "Tomorrow I have already made you. I have made you a father of nations."

In every introduction to a Hebrew Bible they will tell you of the translators' struggle with God's use of the tenses. Young the fellow who gave us the Young Concordance was an expert in the Greek and Hebrew. He put a whole subject about the vowel congregation and consonant. He speaks about how they had struggled to translate what God says because God kept using the present and the past tense. Very rarely does He use the future tense and yet all the time God keep speaking about the future but what was happening is that all the translators did not realize that God was revealing Himself there. That God was revealing His nature and His character. That God was revealing that He is someone who calls those things, which are not as though they were. He was revealing Himself in that special language.

I will just give you a small example of the same passage in Gen.17 that we have read in the literal Hebrew translation that we have for you here. This book is also by the same Young that translated the Hebrew Bible and this is what God said to Abraham in Gen.17 verse 1 onwards, *When Abraham was ninety-nine years old, Jehovah appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. And I will give My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." Then Abram fell upon his face, and God talked with him, saying: "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name **shall be** Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.*

The word *shall be* in the above should be the word *have been*. The latter is not in your English translation but is in the original Hebrew. You can see the translators' dilemma if they put in *have been* instead of *shall be* and translated that verse as *but your name **have been** Abraham*. It doesn't sound right or coherent with the rest of the passage.

In all your translations the translators put in that future tense *shall be* instead of the past tense *have been*. They wanted to correct God's grammar. See they don't understand what God was saying. God was calling those things, which are not as though they were. Now here is where God continues saying in verses 7 and 8. They English translators also put that in the future tense in your English translations.

Let's look at the English translation first: *And I **will establish** My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. And I **will give** to you and to your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."*

Now let us look at the Hebrew original, *And I **have established** (past perfect tense) My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for*

*an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. And I **have given** to you and to your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.'*

There is not a single drop of the future tense in the whole passage of the original Hebrew. You can see in your English translations how much future tense they have used there. There is not one drop of future tense inside the original Hebrew. Everything was in the past tense or in the perfect tense. Something that has already being accomplished and done.

But you and I know when Abraham was there listening to God, the facts told him, "Abraham, you don't have a son." The facts told him, "Abraham, the land of Canaan is still filled with all these other inhabitants. It's still not yours." The facts told him that. But the truth says, "I have given it to you," and the truth is more powerful and stronger than the fact. The facts told him, "Abraham, your name is Abram, that's who you really are. You are not someone very fruitful and your wife Sarai, she is not fruitful." The facts told him that all these things are not so but the truth says, "Abram, your name have been Abraham. A father of many nations I have already made you." And the Bible tells us Abraham had an image implanted in him; he saw it in the right tense.

What is your vision? Is your vision being affected by the fact or by the truth? If your vision is being affected by the facts, you are a sense ruled creature and when you are a sense ruled creature, you are an easy prey for Satan. Satan operates in the sense realm but God operated in the faith realm. And as long as you refuse to operate in the sense realm Satan cannot touch you. He cannot prevent you; he cannot deter you. He cannot stop you. He cannot do anything to go against you what God wants you to do. Choose you this day what you want to follow. Whether you want to follow the truth or the facts. When you follow the facts you will be governed by circumstances. Bullied by the devil, overcome and conquered. When you follow the truth and what God said, you will change the temporal facts. There are eternal facts. There are temporal acts and the temporal always have to give away to the eternal because the eternal is the truth.

So we must have implanted into our hearts and minds a vision in the right tense. If you have a spirit of faith, faith perceives what is not perceived by the sense. And count it as done what the senses have not counted as done and the first things that God starts changing is your heart. Many Christians says to God, "Lord, please change my circumstances." God replies, "Change your heart!" You say, "God change and free me from sins and disease." God says, "Change your heart!" Cause when our heart is changed, transformed we see what the Word of God sees. We say what God's Word say. We perceived what the Word says. Then the circumstances begin to change. Let the vision of God, which is in line with the truth and with the Word, be in your heart. Thy word is truth. The word of God let it be implanted into your life as a past tense fact or a perfect tense. Something already accomplished and something already done. What you see is what you get. If you are going to see what you see now as facts, you are not going to change the circumstances. You must see what God sees. What do you see right now about your life, about your future, about your circumstances, your problems? What do you see? What you see is what you get.

And the second thing that needs to change is our mouth. When you have it in your heart, instead of talking the circumstances, you began to talk what you believe. God told Abraham, 'Abram change your name to Abraham. Call yourself that and call Sarai, Sarah.' The Bible says they don't consider their own bodies. They did not consider the facts. Rom. 4 tells us that he did not consider his body was dead. He did not consider Sarah's womb, which was dead. They did not consider the facts. They considered the truth. Cause God says you are going to have a son. God says it. I believe it. That settles it. So what did God say about your circumstances and about your life? Take a hold of the Word because the Word will bring you through. The Word will bring you victory in your life. What did God say about your circumstances? What Word did God give to you? What scripture did He give to you? What vision did He give to you? What truth is He revealing to your heart that you have to take hold? Hold on to the Word because the Word will bring you through. The Word is your sailboat, your motorboat, and your vehicle to travel through the storms of life. The Word is God's lifesaver. You cling to His Word. You don't do the fighting. The Word does the fighting for you. Do you know what kind of fight they call the Christian fight? The fight of faith! What is faith? The only fight is to hold on to the Word until the Word brings you through.

Read the parable of the Sower and the seed. The sower went out to sow the seed. The same Word fell on different types of ground. Why were there different types of ground? It is because there were different degrees of holding on to the Word. Some of the ground held on to the Word with their little finger tips. They rejoice a bit and let go. Some of them held on to the Word of God but there are some other things that distracted them that are the cares of life. Then they let go of the Word. Then there are those that held on to the Word 100% and Jesus said, 'They produce 100 fold.' It was the same Word, the same powerful Word given to all. They were not different types of seeds. They were the same seeds. And the seed was the Word. But the holding power was different. These were some who held on to the Word for life's sake. They will never let go. The Word is his hand stretched out to you. You hold on to His hands. The Word will bring you through.

Abraham and Sarah started holding on to the Word. They started calling each other by the names that God has given them. When God met them in Gen.17 and changed their names Abraham had to call for a servants' meeting. He told them, "From now on I want all of you to call me Master Abraham," and all his servants would laugh. The fact is he is an old man. He is getting senile, they say. The facts tell us that there is something wrong with him. He has been out too much in the sun. Poor Abraham, now he wants to change his name and then he says, "I also want you to call my wife Sarai, Sarah." They ask themselves, "What are Abraham and Sarah trying to do? Start a new show?" See the facts told them that they don't have children but the truth says that they already have children and descendants as numerous as the stars and the sand on the shore and they persistently held on to the Word.

The Bible tells us in Rom.4 Sarah's womb was dead. There was no possible way she could bear a child. The word tells us in Rom.4 that Abraham's body was dead. There was no possible way he could father a child. But they heard the truth and they believe the truth. They visualized the truth, as stars and dust are their descendants. And they start speaking the truth. They spoke the truth rather than the facts and they changed their confession. Every time Abraham meets somebody, he says, "I am Abraham." When he started talking that way and changing, one fine day Sarah came to Abraham and announced, "I think I am having a baby." See the truth will work for you. The facts may not work but the truth will work.

Jesus said, in John17, "Thy Word is truth.' John14, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' The Word is the truth. It is life changing, life transforming if you will see the truth, believe the truth, speak the truth. It will blow apart all those facts that are pressurizing you.