

What Do You Have?

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Father, this morning, we just come to You. Almighty God, eternal Word, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega. Everything, Lord, was created by You, for You, through You. And as we are seated in Thy house today and as we offer our bodies by faith as living sacrifices, I pray You touch our ears, touch our minds, help us to focus. Help us, Lord. Our minds drift, our minds wander. So, today, by faith, we offer our minds, O Lord; help us to be focused. Help us not to miss what You are teaching us. Because not only our life on earth but our eternal destiny will be determined by Your Word and how we heard Your Word. Speak to us. Let Your light come in, let Your light go into the deepest most part of our soul, dispelling the darkness that is hidden even from our eyes. Only Your Word can do it, for it is a two-edged sword, more powerful than a two-edged sword, God. Cut deep, cut clean and heal us. Speak, Father. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

How many of were there for the wedding yesterday? Show me your hands. Srikar-Prasanna, you don't have to show; we know you were there. Show me once again. Be careful, okay? Let me see how many of you heard the message.

You know yesterday, at the wedding, after the wedding actually, after the wedding is over, there were so many people from different backgrounds, different Churches, different denominations, all denominations were there, but the most excitable group interestingly were the Pastors were lot of them and those who came from Chennai. And you listened to their feedback about the Word. But the most interesting part was, you know the gentlemen, the professor who prayed over Srikar and Prasanna at the end? Now, he's a professor at IIT, Chennai. So, you know, because people always think believers are fools; they don't realize believers are brilliantly placed by God. You have to understand that. That gentleman was sharing a testimony which was very interesting because you know; you pray, you preach God, God preparing a person and placing a person, a prepared person is placed in a prepared place. He said he applied straight away for the post of professor in IIT Chennai. And he has no work experience. And if you know central universities and IIT's, it's not easy to get into these places. It's almost impossible to get into these places unless your resume is like unbelievable. The only qualification he actually met for professorship was that he was 40 years old. But they accepted his application and called him for the interview. And before going for the interview, the person sitting over there asked, "What is your experience?" He said, "I have no experience." They said, "Then, how did they accept your application? Anyways, you go for the interview." When he went for the interview, the first question that was asked, "What is your experience?" Now, in the board of people who were interviewing him, there was one person who is the director, a representative in that board from the president of India. Because you know institutes have their chancellor has the president or the governor and all. The presentative of the president of India was there in the interview board and he opened his mouth and said, "It doesn't matter; I've heard him speak." And in that committee, he is the only person who has the authority to overrule experience. And he's a professor in IIT.

You need to understand; when God places people and He open doors nobody can shut, absolutely nobody can shut it. Nobody can shut it. You need to believe. I just put that as very powerful experience for me hearing yesterday because we always look for; we always think that, what does it mean – in our weakness, His strength is manifested? That was his weakness; that was the weakness that was highlighted. That's when the strength of God comes in. So, this morning, we'll go to familiar topics, but you probably will learn new things.

Hebrew 11:6

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God,

Say "impossible". You know what impossible means, right? It means just that – impossible. *Without faith, it is impossible to please God.* Let's think everybody sitting here, their body functions are normal, their taste-buds are normal. Somebody made a wonderful dish. And it smells so good. So appetizing and everybody takes the first spoon and then, puts it down and says, "You forgot to put salt." That one ingredient is missing. One ingredient missing can mess up everything else. There is "with God". There is one thing, that ingredient you cannot expect anything from God, do anything with God, walk with God, live for God, work for God, you cannot do anything. If you want to attach God to it, God has to attach you to His work, without faith it is impossible. You may pray regularly more regular than Daniel and longer than Elijah but if you don't bring faith in, your prayer will have no effect. Prayer without faith does not please God. You may seek holiness, rigorously than

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the ancient sadhus but if you don't bring faith in, it will have no effect. You may hunger and thirst for righteousness but if you don't bring faith in, you still remain crooked in your ways. You may bring, you may be a very loving person but love without faith still does not please God. You name it; faith is the key. If faith is missing, God's power is missing. That's why we come for the hearing of the Word, we spend even for a wedding; every wedding of ours, and sometimes, people who are not used to it start like moving in their chairs because they have never been able to digest more than 5-10 minutes. But we know every wedding, every occasion is an opportunity to build faith up. That's the whole idea.

So, if you were there yesterday, I hope you listened. God has got a solution and He's got an answer to everything, everybody is facing here. Anything you are facing and everything you are facing God has an answer. The answer is only found in Jesus Christ. It is only found in Jesus.

2 Peter 1:3-4

³as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life (everything each one needs for life. Here and eternity) **and godliness, (How?) through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,**

Without knowledge of Him, we are missing out on the actual day to day presence and power and provision of God we need for everything pertaining to life. Whatever area of your life you are struggling with, the knowledge of Him, the knowledge of God's own Son, Jesus Christ, the Living Word, that is where the power comes in.

⁴by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature,

That is the key. God's nature, you look at the most powerful, successful man who walked on earth was Jesus Christ. Never overcome; defeated sin, defeated the world, and defeated the powers of darkness. And God says, "Through My Son, I want to give you His nature." Partakers of His nature but the key is faith. *Without faith, it is impossible to please God.* If you were there yesterday, you would have seen, God's answer is two-fold – redemption and restoration. He cannot restore without redeeming. See, our problem is – you may go to a Church or a meeting without looking for a restoration, without being redeemed and the Word of God does not seem to make much sense to you because the Word of God is first spoken to the ones who are looking for redemption. That's why Jesus will leave the crowds who are after the miracles and still keep on going to places to teach because redemption comes before restoration. Talking about Jesus, the baby brought,

Luke 2:38

³⁸And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

Anna the prophetess could only speak to those in the temple who were looking for redemption. The others won't accept that Word not interested. It's redemption that comes first. Redemption of our soul, redemption of our bodies. Because these are the two areas we struggle with. Either we have ailments in our bodies or our body has other issues. Or our issues with our soul – anxiety, worry, anger, lust, wrath, you name it. Our soul and our body these are the two things and God has redemption for both. And it's only in Christ.

Romans 3:24

²⁴being justified freely by His grace (That is His divine power Peter was talking about) **His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,**

Only in Christ Jesus, redemption is there; only in Christ Jesus. That's why religions can never set people free. They can bring a level of discipline into your life, but they don't have the power to set you free because to be free first, you need to be redeemed. Before restoration can take place, you and I have to be redeemed. So, in Christ alone, there is redemption.

Ephesians 1:7

⁷In Him we have redemption (How?) **through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace**

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That's the power of His Holy Spirit. Through grace, we receive redemption; we have forgiveness. And every single miracle Jesus did while walking on earth and the Apostles till today, every miracle actually is a symbol, is a sign of redemption. When He walks into Cana, a wedding, and the wine has run out and He brings and does a miracle over there, and the steward says, "This wine is the best." He's showing us the redemption of our soul that, if, Jesus redeems us, our latter end will be greater than our former. The joy that we'll actually experience; we'll be always greater than previous. It is redemption; it's a symbol. Wine is a symbol of joy in the Old Covenant and God is showing in every miracle was a symbol. There is redemption. When the leper is being cleansed, when the blind can see, the lame is walking, the dead are raised back to life – everywhere, it is showing the redemption of the soul or the redemption of the body. There is a redemption for the body.

Romans 8:23

²³ Not only that, but we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. ²

There is a day when this body will be redeemed. Meaning – this body will be replaced with a new body where you won't have sight problems, ear problems, sinus problems, high karam (spice), low karam; it won't affect the tongue. Because the body will be new, absolutely new. That's what post resurrection He showed there. He says, "This new body is faster than light or internet, from heaven into the room and in an instant and goes." It's a new body. And all those who have the first fruits of the Spirit, they are actually groaning. That's the difference. You see, people, believers, who are caught in the carnal are forever caught in the physical while those whose eyes have really been opened are groaning to be released from this body. Our souls could be so darkened that we are not able to see the darkness in our soul and we stand before a mirror upset for 2 hours, because of a pimple on our nose. That's what people do. I believe more Christians spend more time before the mirror than before God's Word because they are not able to see the darkness of their soul. The redemption, the price that is paid, the value of the soul. While this body, Scripture says, "This body will go, nobody is going to take their body with you. Soul, yes; to heaven or hell, body? No." The redemption of this body is for another day. But every miracle, He did was a symbol, a sign for your body too, there is redemption. You'll receive sight which will never fade. You'll receive hearing which will never be affected. You'll be cleansed of your leprosy that you'll be clothed in righteousness. You, who are lame, who will walk; you will say, you'll walk with God one day. Everything was a symbol of the redemption of the body and of the soul that is coming. That is why Scripture says, "When we see all Jesus said prophetically happening, we see it unfolding before our eyes in this age, above any other age." Because now, you can sit and watch it on your mobile, anywhere happening – floods, in Japan, the most, technologically advanced nation – ravaged by flood till today; 37-40 dead. Thai gave live one set of young kids and the coach is stuck in the cave for days, they are running out of time, we are sitting there and watching it all – earthquakes, floods, storms, political chaos, all around. But Scripture says, "*Those who have been redeemed and have been restored you should know in your Spirit.*"

Luke 21:28

²⁸ Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.

First, He redeems. Only that He redeems does He restore because He cannot restore what He hasn't redeemed. Let me explain the difference and the nature of the work. If redemption is primarily the work of Jesus Christ. Through the work on the cross, through the shedding of His blood, restoration is the work of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit. Jesus redeems us. And Jesus through the Holy Spirit now restores those who are redeemed. Who is the one, who is restoring us now? The Holy Spirit. That's why the warning.

Ephesians 4:30

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, (Don't grieve Him. Because through Him,) by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

There is a day of redemption when your body and soul will be redeemed. Then, you'll be set free, but through Him. Don't grieve Him because when that day comes, allow Him to complete the work of restoration. Don't grieve the Holy Spirit. That's what in *Thessalonians*, we have seen it so many times. He is able to sanctify us completely – spirit, soul and body at the appearance of Jesus Christ. Restoration is the work of the Holy Spirit and Scripture is very clear – do not; be careful. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit.

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In *Ephesians 1:14*, who is the Holy Spirit?

Ephesians 1:14

¹⁴ **who** (Holy Spirit) **is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.**

One day, we will be redeemed completely. Our body also will be redeemed; our soul – everything. And, till then, guarantee-down payment, we call it in English. The down payment, you know what is that? That is the Holy Spirit. Don't grieve Him because He is the One who does the work of restoration.

I'll just get into the little bit of parts of yesterday's message and then, continue to today's. Let me explain to the kids sitting over here, because sometimes you worry, you struggle with what does 'redeem' mean? Let us imagine, you go to this antique shop where you find old things. There are couple of shops in Hyderabad too and you go and you see and sense it – "This is very valuable; old, but very valuable." It's damaged but you know because of when it was made and who made it. Let's say a painting, who made it, when it was made, it's very valuable. So, you pay a high price for this painting which is damaged and you redeem it. It was lost, you found it, you redeem it. That's what Christ did with all of us. We belonged to God, you walked away from God, we were lost but God saw our value. He paid through the blood of His Son. We receive forgiveness and He has redeemed us. Now, you have this painting before you. The problem is – the painting is very badly damaged; it has to be restored to the way it was in the beginning. So, let us say this painting was made in 800. At that time, another artist had made an original copy. So, what you need to restore it, you need to look at the original copy and keep on cleaning it up and restoring it. That's what we were looking at yesterday. If you want to restore something that is redeemed, you need the original. In the New Covenant, the original is Jesus Christ. That's what *Romans 8:29*, is talking about.

Romans 8:29

²⁹ **For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.**

The Holy Spirit is doing the work of restoration in every believer's life. What is He doing? He looks at my life, and He looks at Jesus Christ and He starts allowing situation into my life. Good, bad, terrible situations. Why? To allow these situations to shape me, according to the image of Jesus Christ. Now, we all know *Romans 8:29*, we also know *Romans 8:28*, what does Scripture says?

Romans 8:28

²⁸ **And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, (Christ Jesus) to those who are the called according to His purpose.**

What is His purpose? To be conformed to the image of His Son. So, all things are working together. We know, we studied in the Church, the example of Joseph thrown into the well by the brothers, stripped naked, sold as a slave in Potiphar's palace. We looked at it all but all these things working in Joseph's life because God was conforming him in the image of His Son. And let me explain to you, restoration is easy with the thing. You don't understand painting because you don't like paintings. So, let me tell you something. You buy, you see on the Ad – "Car for sale." "Ah! only 50,000." You go and you look at it, and you see, it's got 250 dents, the seat cover is falling off, two of the 3-4 tires are flat, but the engine is good. If you are smart, you need to realize, engine is the only thing that matters. Single, driven. Good vehicle; so, you buy it, you redeem it and then, you give it to the workshop to restore it. That fellow, who was banging, "Tang, tang," can the vehicle feel anything? He takes the tire and opens. You know how rough they are with these things. And then, the tire says, "Please don't do it! It's hurting me and all" See, to restore a thing is painless, to restore a living being is not easy; it's very painful.

I tell you the example; a lot of parents sitting over here. Let's say, Pastor Vijay's two little ones – Abigail or Emmy. Let say, Abigail is ill, high fever not going and she is in hospital and the doctor says, "She needs injection." If she takes this course of injection for 3 days, 5 days, she will be restored back to health. Now, you tell me – how easy it is to give a child an injection? You need 3 people to hold them down first, and if you are in U.S, you have to charm them with a visit to the Disney Land

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before a shot will get in. Are you realizing how restoration is so difficult? The child has to be restored to health. She needs an injection, but all she sees is the needle and the pain. The picture feels no pain; the picture doesn't fight but we do. That's why *Romans 12:1*, says

Romans 12:1

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

What does it mean? Tie it down; everything that God is doing in your life is good for you. It is painful but the nurse in that white suit is not your enemy; she is your friend and what she is holding in her hand is also not your enemy; it's to help you. The surgeon that cuts you open is also not your enemy; he is your friend but he knows he cannot cut you open. So, he puts you to sleep for a few hours. And, you voluntarily surrender your body into his hands, and he gives you a shot over here and you feel nothing. But, in life, God gives you no anesthesia. Because if we are given anesthesia, and then, God allows these situations, those situations won't change us. It won't change us. So, God says here, "*Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.*" Offer your bodies. That's why I say, every Sunday, "Give me your ears," it is difficult; yet, it is not difficult. You are disciplined in your indiscipline because you can listen to carnal music for hours together, non-stop. And you have option in your playlist also; it keeps on playing non-stop, while you are falling asleep also. Or you can watch movies, non-stop, watch football non-stop. So, it is not that you have an issue with focus; you have an issue with focus with things which are real and good.

So, offer your bodies first. So, God can do the restoration and He tells us something in your mind, "Please don't be conformed to this world," because then, you are fighting Him, because God's Holy Spirit is trying to confirm us to the image of Christ, and we are trying to be conformed to the image of the world which are like absolute opposites, because the world is already judged; the sentence has already been passed as far as the world is concerned. God has said everything in this world, which has not been redeemed will burn. So, if I and you get conformed to the pattern of the world, we are already walking with judgment on our heads to be burned. God says, "No, that is not your destiny. That is not meant for you, conformed to the image of My Son because He is the redeemer, He is the successful One. He is the Overcomer, and the one who overcomes will inherit all in eternity. So, confirmed to His image; don't conform to the image that is going to be destroyed by fire. Understand that. That's why Scripture says, "Heaven and earth will pass away but not My Word." Understand; when you and I stand, we are not standing on earth; we are not standing even on heaven; we are standing alone on the Word because even heavens will be destroyed by fire. Only the Word will remain and God says, "Stand on the Word." Allow the Holy Spirit through the Word to conform us to the image of His Son. But if we fight Him all the way, we struggle with this process. That's why God took the children of Israel out of Egypt into the desert. We also do that – secular people do that they go in for two weeks Ayurveda treatment, detoxify the body and they come back very healthy. My mother goes every year two weeks and comes back. The entire diet is prescribed by them, toxins are all removed, loses weight, massage everything, comes back and walks around at 84. The problem is once you come back after detoxifying, if you go back to the old toxins again, it doesn't work. God is trying to bring these people, He brought them out into the wilderness to get this world – Egypt out of them and He is not able to because they refuse. They fought Him every inch of the way, they refused to believe. One ingredient was missing. What was that? Faith was missing.

Hebrews 4:1-3

¹ Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. ² For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them (talking about them); but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.

Everything what God did for them for forty years, one thing they didn't do; they didn't mix it with faith and because faith was missing, it did not matter what God did from them they could not enter into the Promised Land and they all died in the wilderness without overcoming. If you don't mix faith, it will not profit. A lot of Christians, sadly, walk this walk though their entire life, never mixing faith with what they heard – they heard through Moses, they heard through Aaron but what they heard, they did not mix it with faith. What you and I hear from God the question is: do we mix it with faith? If we don't mix faith, let's say, today, Sunday morning, we came and we had worship. If we did not fix faith to our worship, we just had a musical experience. That's all. And you see, many were having just a musical experience; some were not even having musical experience because body talks. You know why? Because there is no faith. If we don't mix faith to our worship, it

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doesn't do us any good. But so many people who sit like this in Church, if they were to go to a secular concert, they dance; they do. But when they come to Church they become a stoic, Greek philosopher. If we don't mix faith to our worship, our worship will have no meaning. I mean, I'm not saying they should not. You have to worship the way you are and keep changing and become the way God is but you worship. If you don't mix faith to prayer, our prayer is pointless. If you don't mix faith to our giving, our giving was in vain. If I don't mix faith to what I am speaking and if you are not mixing faith to what you are hearing, then you are just wasting time. Faith! Let's look at *Romans 10:17*, we know this verse very well, right? Very well if you know by now.

Romans 10:17

¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

Stop there. Don't go to the second part of the verse.

¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing...

This is common to everybody whether you are a believer or not. Why do Muslims have Islamic faith? Because they heard. Why do Hindus have Hindu faith? Because they heard. Why do Buddhists believe in the Buddhist faith? Because they heard. Why do atheists not believe in any of the religion? Because they heard. Why do the evolutionists believe in evolution? Because they heard. Faith comes by hearing, period; any kind of faith. And if you didn't believe in anything, that's also because you have heard that you don't believe in anything and nothing has meaning. You heard; faith comes by hearing common to every man, except the one in the mental asylums. Faith is common to every man. What you are listening to is what you will have faith in. The movies, the programs you watch is what your faith will work on. So, what is the faith that is coming in? A faith that is coming in is absolutely perverted. The lustful, the obscene, the naked, the foul language, the profanity in the songs and the movies, your faith is in that. That's why it doesn't shock you anymore that the abhorrent has become the norm in your mind because your faith comes from what you have heard and seen; it doesn't shock you anymore. The world is going down and down morally because that's how everything after the fall is. It doesn't shock you. It's because of what you are hearing and what you are watching.

Your solutions to problems are always violent; your responses are always violent because of the amount of violence you watch. That's why the old movies were very nice; they were family oriented with good core because it was made for the whole family to sit together and watch. Today, they expect the whole family to watch because the family itself has become like that. Why are our responses so violent? You look at the violence around the streets of the world – people being lynched over rumors on WhatsApp. The amount of violence against women. Why? Why is there so much violence about women? Because an entire set of secular media has made women into objects and women also swallowed the same media and allowed themselves to be made as objects. And objects don't need love, compassion and protection. They are to be used and to be thrown. If this is a plastic cup, we know what is that for – use it and dispose it off and the entire media, the Antichrist world system is objectifying human beings and God says, "The Church has to stand up against it and say, 'I am not part of it and I will not be confirmed to the patterns of the world. I am being confirmed by the Holy Spirit, His restoring the fallen image into the image of His only Son because I have been redeemed with an invaluable price. I am redeemed and I am being restored'." Understand where our faith comes from. Every movie, millions and millions are being made, you will see so many famous actors, actually, in their hearts, they are so corrupt, you will see thieves breaking into banks, incredible plots and finally, they will go away with whole millions of dollars and last frame is that they all come in an island, lying in a hammock and enjoying life after stealing somebody's money. And you keep watching and watching and the righteousness of God doesn't make any ethical difference in your life. Because that's what you are seeing and that is what you are hearing. Faith is there in everybody, there is faith but what is the source of your faith?

That is what God was trying to do with the first generation. "Get them out of this junk of Egypt. I redeemed you. Let Me clean you up." They refused to be cleaned. God said, "You know what? Sorry! I brought you in, I fed you, clothed you, kept you and kill you. I cannot take you into that place because if I take you into that place, this land, you will make it like Egypt." So, when God actually speaks, we are not able to hear or believe and all the miracles of life becomes no effect. After sometime, we have this mentality that, "I am the child of God. So, I am entitled for miracles. Why You didn't do any miracles for me today?" We devalue the supernatural works of God and take it for granted as if God is our servant. He is bound to take care of us. You go back home and read the entire *Psalms 78*. It's an unbelievable Psalm where God speaks

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about this generation with whom He did so much and it made no difference. Why? Because they refused in their minds to be changed by the Word. Let's look at some verses of,

Psalms 78:12-22

¹²Marvelous things He did in the sight of their fathers, In the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan. ¹³He divided the sea and caused them to pass through; And He made the waters stand up like a heap. ¹⁴In the daytime also He led them with the cloud, And all the night with a light of fire. ¹⁵He split the rocks in the wilderness, And gave them drink in abundance like the depths. ¹⁶He also brought streams out of the rock, And caused waters to run down like rivers. ¹⁷But they sinned even more against Him. By rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness.

They sinned even more. The miracles have no effect on you because the minds have set on junk.

¹⁸And they tested God in their heart By asking for the food of their fancy. ¹⁹Yes, they spoke against God: They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness? ²⁰Behold, He struck the rock, So that the waters gushed out, And the streams overflowed. Can He give bread also? Can He provide meat for His people?"

You see, whatever miracles; here are the people who have been supernaturally taken of God but the heart of full of unbelief because they refuse to mix it with faith, refused to believe. Because their minds were filled with the filth of Egypt.

²¹Therefore the LORD heard this and was furious; So a fire was kindled against Jacob, And anger also came up against Israel, ²²Because they did not believe in God, And did not trust in His salvation.

They had been redeemed from Egypt by the Blood of the Passover Lamb but they refused the restoration work of the Holy Spirit in the wilderness. They refused that work and it always manifested in their life. The minute Moses is out of sight, what happens? You have a mini Egypt in the wilderness. Everybody is eating, drinking and it shows in their clothing too. They are running around half-naked or fully naked; no covering! Why? "Moses is not there." They refused God to allow to restore them to that image. "Did they redeem them?" "Yes." "Were they restored?" "No." You are not a piece of painting; you are not a car or a house; you are not a bike or a piece of furniture; you are a living being. You cannot be restored unless you co-operate with the Restorer and they refused. How do you co-operate? By Faith. He said, "I believe and I do. And when I do, His power comes in. I hear, I believe, I do, His power comes," and you are being restored and as you are being restored, your image is changing from glory to glory until you conform to the image of His very Begotten Son, the first born. That's the work He is doing but that's the work we fight.

We are interested in His holiness but half the time, we are listening to the filth. We want peace but all we watch is violence. Or we say that we want righteousness but we run with the unrighteous crowd and all that we hear is of any effect because there is no faith. Like I said, yesterday, God as a Person works on a person, He has a prepared place for that person. The whole earth was there but He planted a garden in a particular place and He prepared a person and put Him there in that place. He has a purpose for that person; He has parameters for that person but that person needs something. He needs passion for God. God can do all these things for us but what if has no passion for God? In,

Numbers 14:23-24

²³they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it.

He had sworn to Abraham, "You see the stars in the sky, sand on the earth? Your descendants shall be like that and they shall possess the land and as a sign, your descendants will possess the land" – Abraham start walking. "You mark out the boundaries for your descendants." A hundred-year-old man walked and walked the land, believing one day, his descendants would come and receive the land and possess the land because God has sworn it to him, to his son, Isaac and to his son, Israel but God says, "Whom I swore, I will not give it to them because they rejected it." But among them,

²⁴But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him

Because he is passionate about Him, "He is passionate about My Word," he is passionate about His promises, "he is passionate about following Me, he is passionate about obeying Me."

...and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.

“With him, it’s a different thing. He is a prepared person and have a prepared place for him and he has got a purpose there because he is a man of purpose. And he will stay within the parameters I have drawn for him. That is not enough; he is a man of passion for God’s own heart and he is will see that purpose and passion in that man.” Forty-four years later in,

Joshua 14:7-12

⁷I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land, and I brought back word to him as it was in my heart. ⁸Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I wholly followed the LORD my God. ⁹So Moses swore on that day, saying, ‘Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children’s forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.’ ¹⁰And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. ¹¹As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; (my strength has not come down at all) just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.

... *for going out and for coming in* - we use this – we don’t understand this as we don’t compare Scripture with Scripture. I also pray when say, “Pastor, I am travelling,” and I say, “O Lord, watch over in our going out and coming in.” That’s a battle promise, it’s a promise over those who are fighting the battles of the Living God, He says, “Your going out and coming in, I will watch over you, your strength shall be the same all the days of your life.” Because you understand the purpose of God, you understand for what God has called you. You understand what God is making and he says,

²Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day;

“So, what if I am eighty-five? So what if these boys are forty or forty five?” He says, “I will go and fight and I will drive them out. Don’t think that my strength has vanished or my passion has gone down. I am ready for battle to go out and to come in.” You need passion. Caleb and his descendants and you need to realize the spiritual descendants of Caleb are still possessing the lands and the mountains. They are taking mountain after mountain from the hands of the enemy. These are spiritual truths because they are still fighting the battles and they still go out and come in the strength of the Lord. Don’t take your life lightly. Don’t take your destiny lightly. Because God is always passionate for us but the question is: are we? Do we have faith? Do we mix everything that God with faith? Not with man. What we hear from God, when we read our Word, when we hear the messages, when we study the Word of God, do we mix it with faith? Because if we don’t mix it with faith, it’s pointless. It will not have any effect. Remember the parable of persistent widow? You know what Jesus said in that parable?

Luke 18:6-8

⁶Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

Let’s say that all the people sitting here over are elect. And everybody have got problems in their lives and they are crying out, “Lord, Lord, I am in debt; Lord, I am in sickness; Lord, my family is messed up.” God says, “I hear your cry but the question is when Son of Man comes to answer your prayer, is there faith?” That’s what he is saying. Will he find faith? He wants to speedily answer you but when He comes to answer your prayer and the faith in your heart doesn’t match. There is no faith because *without faith, it is impossible to please God*. Without faith, I cannot receive anything from God. God’s grace, abundant grace, grace upon grace is available but to receive it, I need faith. He says, “Even if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, the power of God can come through it.” But He says, “I can’t find faith. Do I find faith? Will I find faith.”

So, the second part of *Romans 10:17* is *faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God* because even if you have faith in the world, the techniques of the world, talents of the world and you end up as successful in the world, when you die, you go to an eternal hell. You are not a success; you are a failure. Eternal failure! Success should count on both sides. Lot of people are successful because they know how to do things. They have money, they have influence, they have

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power, they have talents; it can take you places but even Steve Jobs will leave Apple and then, die. All of them will die and where do they go when they die if they were not redeemed? Where do they go? There are only two places in eternity – one where God is and one where God has removed His presence. One is called heaven, new heaven, new earth, new city and other is called lake of fire. If you are not redeemed, where do you go? So, if you are not successful, you are a failure. So, God is looking today – do you have faith? Do you believe? Do we have faith? That is the purpose of the reading of the Word. That is the purpose of the study of the Word. That is the primary purpose of the preaching of the Word. When you hear God does not like this, you receive it by faith and say, “God, there are these things in my life that You don’t like. I want to change and I am changing and God’s power comes.” Then, you have crisis in your life and you realize, God has a solution for this, and this is the solution, you receive it by faith, you start walking in it even you don’t understand it. The power of God comes into your life, the crises passes both sides it by faith and you have been restored.

Let’s look at an example. It’s an Old Testament example through which we learn New Testament principles.

2 Kings 4:1-7

¹A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, “Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD. And the creditor is coming to take my two sons to be his slaves.” ²So Elisha said to her, “What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?” And she said, “Your maidservant has nothing in the house but a jar of oil.” ³Then he said, “Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few. ⁴And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones.” ⁵So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured it out. ⁶Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, “Bring me another vessel.” And he said to her, “There is not another vessel.” So the oil ceased. ⁷Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, “Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest.”

It’s real, common even today ‘do or die’ situation. And she cries out, go back to the first verse onwards – her husband was a righteous man, he was one of the sons of the Prophets which Elijah, Elisha, you need to understand; it is very interesting when you look into the Old Testament. What you had, you called the Bible Schools, but they were not called Bible Schools; they were called Schools for Prophets. Meaning, the preaching of the Word is supposed to be prophetic. Today, they come from the Bible College and all they talk is; I don’t know what they talk of their head; there is no prophetic significance in what they talk because they have changed the model. They brought it down to earth and they only talk about things that pertain to flesh and not of dying to the flesh and changing of your life and looking into the prophetic future.” Now, let us look at this – her husband was a righteous man but foolish in finances. There are lot of people like that. Good men, good women, righteous but terrible when it comes to finances. And now, he is gone, the family is in a deadly trap. And this is the story in those days if you can’t pay your debt, they come and take your children and sell them. They take them as slaves. Are there any parents who wish that of those types sell a few of my children? But those days. you got a good price for your children because they were trained to work. So here is a problem; here is a lady who has got a serious problem in your life, whatever is your problem in your life, put yourself there. That’s why I said one request today. What is your problem? One request. Put yourself in her place and you go to Elisha who is a type of Christ over there. The first question that comes from Elisha’s mouth is, “What shall I do for you?” In other words, “What do you want me to do for you?” You know this is a frequent question from Jesus. “Lord, have mercy.” “What do you want Me to do?” This is the constant thing that we face as Pastors every place I go even here. “Pastor, pray over me.” “What do you want me to pray for you?” “Anything. Generally, pray.” “What do you want me to do for you?” The question is: do you have a vision? Because so many children of God live visionless lives. From crisis to crisis, their entire life is; if there is any job that they would excel is ‘Crisis Management.’ Because that’s how their life is. From morning to evening is crisis management. Because there is no vision. Remember yesterday? Shall I ask questions? Call out names and ask?

Person, place, provision, purpose, parameters – five-fold blessings their destiny, your destiny, my destiny, not that we fulfil it, we have to fulfil it; if we have to follow God’s parameters, what is it? Be fruitful, multiply, fill, subdue, have dominion. Instead, they are being readied to be sold as slaves. Fruitful, multiply and fill are outside. But I cannot have this happen in my life until I subdue and have dominion inside. Until we learn to subdue the powers of darkness; we learn to subdue flesh; we learn to have dominion over this world, the outside is not going to happen. And it is all oriented on faith. How does it orient? Greater is He that is in me, but who is in you? I’m not talking about whether Christ is in you or not; Christ may be in

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you but how is your thinking? Does it align with Christ? If it doesn't align with Christ, then what is in you is the thinking of the world and it won't fight the world. It will go with the world. Jesus talks about the devil and He says, "His kingdom is not divided." If his kingdom is in your head and you're walking in his kingdom, both will go together. The Word of God will have no effect. "No! Jesus is in me." That's not the point! There are a lot of babies at the back. Can they fight? That's why we may be Pentecostals and protestants, but we're Catholics in practice. We love infant Jesus. Because the Jesus in us is an infant. He won't do anything. Infant Jesus did nothing. His father and mother had to carry Him and run to Egypt. And that is the Egypt-Jesus in you. It won't do anything. So, that's the question. Do we have faith? Do we have a vision? Christ comes and asks today, "What do you want Me to do?" Because yesterday, you wanted to do another thing. Day before yesterday was another thing. Today, you are not sure. Tomorrow will be a new one. Where there is no vision, people fail. I'm not talking about career, having a target, etc. That takes time. I'm saying, "At least, a broad outline." I don't know what my house should look like, but at least I now I need three bedrooms. That's what God is saying. You don't need to have an absolute picture! That takes time. But at least, you should know. Do you have a broad outline. Do you have a vision? "Lord, this is what You want me to do for You." "What do you want Me to do for you, Bartimaeus?" Bartimaeus, "I want to see. I want to see." "What do you want?" "I want to be clean." "Are you sure about what you want today?" Like today, you had a surprise – only write one request. Even that people wrote three to four. Because even then, they're not sure what one is, two is, three is. Do we realize our minds are because of this media, the world we are living in, bombarded by media, our minds have lost their capacity to focus. Yet, this human mind is the greatest computer which no man can ever invent or replicate. If man is able to replicate. Don't worry about artificial intelligence. It won't work. This is not artificial. This is divine – the mind of man. Even the artificial intelligence is invented by the mind of man which is the invention of God. Imagine this – if our computers could speak, our computers every time we type, something comes up on the screen, "I envy your brain! I envy your brain!" Instead, we say, "Wow! My computer, how fast it is!" Yet, we are not able to focus on a single thing for two minutes. Focus! Like I keep telling you, if you can focus light, this very light can cut through steel. You don't need anything. Laser beams can cut through steel. It's simple the same light that is focused. Jesus was focused. You have that mind. So, when God says, "What do you want?" Do we know what we want?

Second question: Tell me what you have in your house. Let me ask you this second question: Do you know what you have? When you read Scripture, ask the Lord, "Show me what You are trying to tell me. Because this is not the order when I come to You. My order is not like this. This is what I have. What do You want me to do?" We put provision ahead of vision. Therefore, our vision is so small. Do you realize? We look at ourselves. We look at our lives. We look at our future and we say, "You know what? I have this much. Lord, what do You want me to do?" That's not what the Lord asks. God says, "What do you want Me to do?" Then, He says, "What do you have?" Do you know what we have? Because we invert the question, we actually shorten the arm of God by our unbelief. We'll say with our mouth, "Is there anything impossible with God?" But our hearts, "No. Most of the things in my life is impossible for You." But that's not because we're looking at God; we're looking at what we have. Because our vision is not connected with the power of God; the power of the Holy Spirit doesn't come from the faith in the Word of God; it is connected with what we have. Because we have put provision before vision. So, vision becomes very very limited. So, we say, "Lord, please give me a 15K job to pay off my debts. 15 nahi hai to, I will bargain, 12 also will do." But what does *Psalm 2:8* say?

Psalm 2:8

⁸ Ask of Me, and I will give the nations for you to own. The ends of the earth will belong to You.

There is a God willing to give nations as your inheritance and you're asking for a 12k job. God says, "You see, your vision is has come because of the poverty of your mind." Your mind hasn't expanded. Your vision hasn't expanded to the possibilities of God. It has shrunk because all you're looking at is what you have. Because we put provision ahead of vision. Jesus never did. Tens and thousands, He says, "Hey guys! Let's feed them!" "What? Feed them? Five loaves and two fish. Feed them?" "Just give it to Me." He's just trying to show them what is possible with God. Look at her response. "What is there in your house? Tell me what you have in the house." And she replied, "Your maidservant has..."; how do we say? Emi ledu (I have nothing). Even if we have ten rupees in our pocket, we will still say, "I have nothing." Women especially, even if the wardrobe is full, they will say, "I have nothing." Our statements are contradictory. First, always – I have nothing. I have nothing. Emi ledu. Nothing. The problem is we disdain the little we have. We are not able to see what God is able to do with little. We are only able to see what we are unable to do with little. So, there is no faith. Whatever they heard, the gospel was preached to us as it was preached to them, but the gospel was of no effect to them and it will be of no effect to us if we don't mix it with faith. It will be of no effect. That's our problem. Everybody will see. Lot of people. "O your descendants!"

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"What's the point? I have no son." "Moses!" "I can't speak. I can't talk. I can't talk at all. You know my wife, no? She is the one who invented the zip. She is Zipporah. She zipped my lip. I can't talk. Please don't send me. A leader has to talk. I cannot talk. Forty years, I have been walking in silence. I can't talk, Lord. If you'd called me forty years ago, that was my plan for You. You rejected it. I had plenty of provision. You said, "I don't want it." Now, You're calling me. I have nothing." "What do you have?" "Oh! I have this stick." "That's enough. What did you do with this stick all these years?" "Just led sheep." "That's all I need. You can lead sheep, My sheep. You are ready. You don't realize. The little you have is more than enough for Me. With this stick, I will lead My people out of Egypt. Not only that, with this stick, you will lead the people for forty years. That's enough." You didn't see the little you have is enough for God. Every time you read Scripture in the *Book of Judges*, they sinned. The enemies will take over. They're crying out to God and God will raise somebody. And one of the judges, Othniel will rise. They have peace. Ehud will come. And Ehud in their times, he's got a disability. What is that? He's left-handed. In a land where everybody uses their right hand, you are left-handed. And left hand is not a strong hand to fight. Maybe I can write with a left hand, but to go to battle with a left hand? But because he believed, God turned his disability into God's ability. What is your disability? Because you're looking at your disability and you're counting, you have nothing. God says, "You have something but you think it is nothing. I said I can use that nothing." Scripture says, "Ehud made a small little sword, strapped it on the right thigh and went to see the Moab king, Eglon. You see, if you've gone through Indian Airlines and Air India, unlike other this thing, after you go through security and before you board the Air India flight, the Air India people also will pat you down. Because he was left-handed, nobody ever thought his sword was here. Until Saurav Ganguly came in, they didn't realize left-handers could really blast. Because a left-handers disability became their ability because every pace-bowler and spinner was right-handed, bowling to right-handed batsmen. Now, a left-hander comes and takes a stance in the other way, this fellow has to think, "How do I bowl to this fellow?" Have you noticed left-handers doing well and left handed bowlers doing well? Because right-handed batsmen are used to right-handed bowlers and then, this left-hander comes like this. This fellow is totally confused. Now, what do I do? So your disability became an ability. Do you see? Because the problem is when we say we have faith, our faith is like Moses' faith at forty, in ourselves either because of our talent or because of lack of talent. Our faith is not in God. All He asks is, "What do you have?"

I want to look at an interesting verse, because we read in *Hebrews 4* right? Therefore, He swore because they did not mix faith, "They will not enter into My rest." Look at the coinage in *Judges*. *Judges 3:11* After Othniel,

Judges 3:11

¹¹ So the land had rest for forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

And then, Ehud,

Judges 3:30

³⁰ So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest for eighty years.

And then Deborah, Barak, let your enemies perish -- Deborah's song.

Judges 5:31

³¹ "Thus let all Your enemies perish, O Lord! But let those who love Him be like the sun When it comes out in full strength." So the land had rest for forty years.

Why did the land have rest during those times? Because weak people took the little they had and said, "Lord, I believe!" God says, "My Spirit will come upon it and the land shall have rest." Because rest is a result of war. If you're not willing to fight, you will never have rest. We sang that song. The offertory was prophetic – "I will fight with you but you have to be willing to fight. If you don't fight, you will never experience rest." Rest is something spiritual. You have to bring faith in and say, "Lord, I don't realize. When I look at myself in the mirror, I don't look like a fighter but Your Word says You're training my hands for war. I am a warrior in the Name of Christ Jesus. His Name is Captain of the hosts. And I want to march right behind Him and He will make me into a warrior. So, it doesn't matter who I am." Sisera, with his nine hundred chariots, are all coming after them. Barak refuses to go unless Deborah comes. Deborah looks at him and says, "You could have won the victory. You could had the glory but because you're hiding behind a skirt, the woman will have the glory today." And Sisera is losing the battle. He's running. He goes into a tent. And a woman called Jael. He's so tired. He falls asleep. All she takes is a nail and a hammer and hammers it through his head. The land had rest for forty years. One woman. One nail. One

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hammer. The land had rest for forty years. Why? Because Jesus said, "Unless you bind the strong man, you cannot free the house." Every time they had rest, because the strong man was bound. Sisera was the strong man. Through his head went the nail and the hammer. God said, "Land will have rest." We are called for spiritual war. Rest is a result of war. And for a war and victory, it is not dependent on our strength; it is dependent upon our faith. *Everyone born of God overcomes the world.* Why? Because of their faith. That's the question God asks. What do you have? If we don't fight with the little God has given in His power, we will never have rest. If she doesn't act on faith, this lady in *2 Kings 2*, in Elisha's time, poverty will destroy her, her household and her life, even though her husband was a prophet. Her family and her household will be destroyed unless she learns to act on faith and fight the spirit of poverty, because the enemy comes to steal, to kill, to destroy. Our problem is – we usually discount what we have. What we are counting out in our life, is often what God is counting in.

I still remember when God called me. He said, "What do you have?" And the fact was that I had nothing. The only thing I said was, "Lord, I don't know if anybody has been used for that, there's one thing I can do. I can read. I can read for hours and days. I can read." But what I didn't realize is, speaking is a gift. Reading is a discipline. If you don't have the discipline of reading, you'll be a lousy speaker. God can give you the gift of speaking, but the question is: do you have the discipline of reading? Let me tell you, expectations without preparation will bring frustration. The work of redemption on the cross was entirely God's work, but the work of restoration God does is in partnership with man. If I don't do my part, He won't do His part. We are expecting all these things to come as a gift, God says, "No. The gift will come if you've done your preparation." That's why listening and reading falls in that one bracket. That is a discipline, because when you're reading, you're also listening, because you're listening to the printed words. When you are listening to somebody, you are listening. That's why Scripture says, "Quick to listen. Slow to wrath." It doesn't mean you should not speak. If you learn how to read and listen carefully, when you speak there will be coherence, there will be substance in it. You can listen to people on Youtube channels. When you listen to people, immediately, you will know whether they have substance or not. Whether they're secular, atheistic, or whatever, you will know whether this guy is read. Especially in the Indian Parliament, when Shashi Tharoor speaks, you know this guy has got substance. You know. When Ravi Zach preaches, you know this guy not only knows his Bible, but he's read through. That's why he's used in that platform. Because you have to contend with those others who have read. So, you look at discipline because that's what happened to me. I couldn't speak for nuts. I was the most fearful person who had no language. I grew up speaking one language, hearing one language in the classrooms, speaking another language with my friends and listening to another language at home. Three languages. Jack of three trades; master of none. And I've shared this testimony; things which my brothers used to tell me is that, "Please don't speak in English in front of us. You embarrass us." No grammar. Sentences were all wonky but I read. I could. When God put me; I was telling Pastor Vijay again. I said, "It was baptism by fire." He put me in a classroom to teach Shakespeare to a guy who is nervous and never spoken in public except once. I stood for elections for my college when I went canvassing from class to class. When I went to one classroom, they said, "If we have to vote for you, you have to speak." My heart sank; everything sank. I don't know what I said; I don't know whether I said anything sensual but I won. I think because of sympathy. Then, here I am, younger than many of these twenty-year-old, Eric and all – young, in a classroom, to teach Shakespeare, with most of the students older than me. I still remember the nervousness. "Lord, I have never taught. I have never spoken. I am in another country." And out of the blue, of all the institutions in this country, the top institution, the previous man was a UN volunteer; he resigns and goes to South Africa; I am the replacement. Rookie. Not even a rookie. Even a rookie had played some shots, this rookie had played no shots. To replace a man like this in the institution like this, here I am. I worked and I worked and I taught and I taught. One afternoon, the most difficult to teach – right after lunch. Ask Pastor's Conference; you know. All of them. I used to teach Shakespeare, Cicero, red-eyed. They all. You can't even wake these students up because you are a foreign national in another country. These guys are huge like giants, grey hair and all, sitting like this and if you wake them and say, "don't sleep," they will stare at you like, "who are you? You came yesterday. This is our place." I still remember – that was the day, that afternoon when the gift of teaching came. I just shut the Shakespeare text and I spoke and it was just coming. This, I knew, was God gifting me. It came and one by one, they started waking up and they starting looking. From that day onwards, things never were the same. See, the gift God can give; like I said, He can anoint your head but if your head is full of manure, how is the anointing going to work? Do your part. We have a God, incredible God. Do our part. Don't always say, "I have nothing." No, you do have something. Don't begin with, "God, I have nothing." Say, "I am nothing but I do have something because then, You would have been unfair to have created a human being with nothing. No, You have given everybody something." So, how can You tell the fellow as an unprofitable servant. No, even he had one talent. That's enough. One talent is enough. If you have two, three, use it; maximize it. You need faith. Without faith, it is not possible. You can imitate somebody who has walked by faith. You can

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follow in the same footsteps but you will sink if you don't have His faith. Peter walked on water. Everybody who tried that afterwards died. You need. You can try to imitate but you need faith. *Faith comes from hearing and hearing by the Word of God.*

What did the prophet say?

2 Kings 4:3

³Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels from everywhere..."

I'm telling you stuff; listen carefully. Are you in a crisis, debt trap or any crisis? What about the first one? God says, "Go, borrow vessels." Not steal; borrow. You have no clue how many vessels I have borrowed in life. I have read through every preacher in the world. I borrow. But the oil is mine. You can borrow other's ideas, other's principles; you look at successful models, you pick up and borrow their ideas and their principles but the oil should be yours. But the problem with the foolish virgins is – they are trying to buy and borrow oil which you can't. You can borrow as many. Successful people in this world are also successful because they borrowed principles of successful people. But in God's Kingdom. Those who are successful are not only that they picked up the principles of successful people but they had oil. That's what God is talking about. Go before God. You have to hear your personal solution from God because He is a speaking God; He is a Living God. He will tell you according to your situation what you need to do. Act on it with faith and your deliverance begins, your restoration begins. The same Word could be, in 15 different ways, being received by people because according to the situation, the Holy Spirit is speaking. Borrow. It doesn't matter. "O Lord, I have nothing. All I can do is jadhu-poncha (sweep and mop)." God asks, "Are you good?" "Yes, Lord. I'm good. Everyone says that I can clean well. They scold me about everything else but they shall 'you leave the room spick and span'." "Will you give that into My hand?" "Really, You want this? Yes, Lord." "If you trust Me and you believe Me and you hear from Me and you obey Me, in five years' time, in ten years' time, you will be running a cleaning agency in this city, minting millions. Do you believe Me?" That's how successful entrepreneurs have come. Little things.

Even last week's news – a guy who sold homemade things is a multimillionaire now. We don't see these things. Everybody wants a blue-collar job, sitting in the Secretariat, to take bribes. Nobody is going to God and say, "Lord, give me ideas." You know the number of successful people, potentially successful people sitting here with little things, if that little thing was given to God? How many brilliant singers are there in this Church? But will you sing? Will you practice on it? And just put it on YouTube like that kid from Warangal, Navindra Vottepu, 2 million hits. Why don't you do it? Because you don't believe that little you have can be used by God. Do we believe? Borrow ideas. Borrow talents. Borrow. You look at this Church. Ten years ago, what did we have? Nothing. I came with one talent and borrowed. Worship team? It's all borrowed vessels. Sound team, borrowed vessel. Internet, borrow vessel. I can go to sleep at any hour of the time in the day; somewhere, or multiple parts of the world, my voice never stops. It's being heard 24X7 around the world in different time zones by people I do not know. Why? Because I took one little thing and I said, "Here, You have it, Lord." Why don't you believe? Do you really want to see? Today, go back home, those who have Google maps. Take the map of Hyderabad, the actual map of Hyderabad and type in 'Grace Tabernacle Church, you will see Jeevan Jyothi right in the middle of the city. Why do you think He has given us this place in the middle of the city for the 9 o' clock service? It's not about being big; it's about being effective. Put it up on Google and see where we are – right in the middle of the city. We are not at the other end at Madhapur or at the other end at Chintal or anywhere; we are right in the middle of the city. Why? Because we believe God's got a purpose and He will just do what He is telling us to do and He will do the rest. Borrow. Bring them. Go, borrow. It may not be yours; it doesn't matter. Is it an idea that worked? Yes, it worked. Borrow. Oil. The anointing should be yours. Don't try to do anything without the anointing. The anointing is what you see. The anointing is what you pursue. The Holy Spirit is whom you try not to grieve. The Holy Spirit is whom you don't try to quench. Ideas, you can borrow. Guard the anointing. At the midnight hour, when the door was shut, those who went in, they had guarded their oil. Everybody had vessels; only five had oil. Guard your anointing. Don't let the devil steal it. Don't let the devil rob it.

Even in the Church, middle of the Sermons, people play with the phones. You think I don't see it? And I'm telling you, young people, try to get a book and a pen. Even if you are gadget-savvy, don't bring a gadget because you confuse the others sitting around you because the people sitting will be distracted, wondering whether you are taking notes or texting your girlfriend. When you are sitting with a book or a pen, nobody misunderstands you. you are not writing a thesis to her. Try.

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Always think about the people sitting around you. Don't create confusion because the devil, if he cannot destroy you, he will definitely distract you. He will destroy you through distraction. Go, borrow.

In *1 Samuel 22:1-3*, he said,

1 Samuel 22:1-2

¹ ***David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam...***

Who is this? David. Who is being pursued? Saul and his army. He escaped to a cave.

...So when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him.

Did you see? First, the brothers were all angry at him; now, they are all quietly coming under him. Father also. The father, who forgot him on the day of anointing, now, he is coming quietly.

² ***And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about (how many?) four hundred men with him.***

By the time we come to the next verse, how many were there?

1 Samuel 23:13

¹³ ***So David and his men, about six hundred...***

These were the six hundred men, empty vessels. The anointing that was on David was what filled these vessels. And with these six hundred men, he will establish a kingdom. Want to look at another picture in *1 Samuel 14*?

1 Samuel 14:2

² ***And Saul was sitting in the outskirts of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron. The people who were with him were about six hundred men.***

He had six hundred empty vessels but he had no oil. So, with those six hundred men, all he could do was sit there and shiver because the Philistines were around. So, it's not vessels; it's the oil. David will take those six hundred and make them into an invincible army and all the days of his life and his son's life, Israel never lost a battle. Borrow as many. That's what he said, "Borrow as many." Make no restrictions. I just thank my father who did not know God, who said, "Read as many books as you want. As many," without knowing he was laying a foundation for my destiny. As many. Borrow. Remember Elisha dying and King Joash?

2 Kings 13:18-19

¹⁸ ***Then he said, "Take the arrows"; so he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped.*** ¹⁹ ***And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times;***

Don't be conjoined when you are borrowing ideas and skills. Don't worry about the oil if the oil is from God and you are connected to God, the oil cannot run out. If you are looking at your provision, "Two vessels will do. Son, you go get small ones, okay? Not, big ones; small ones." That's our problem. Do we understand? Have we been structured? Have we been prepared? Can God bring us out of debt? The problem is – if God brings us out of debt, we will immediately take off and within six months, we will be back in debt again because we have no vision. Be very sure you have a vision, "What do You want me to do?" Whatever God wants us to do in our lives, there is always provision. It doesn't matter how little you or I have in our lives, that is enough, more than enough.

The two sons went and borrowed every vessel in town and into the village, they brought. The prophet told her one thing. What did he say? "Shut the door behind you." *2 Kings 2*. What did he say?

2 Kings 4:4

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⁴ And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you...

You have to learn to shut the door behind scoffers, sceptics, those who pretend to believe but don't believe, shut the door behind them and God is doing a work in your life. That's the first mistake Joseph made in his life. "Brothers, did you know I got two dreams?" "Dreams. We shall see what shall come out of this dreamer!" Shut your mouth. Shut the door behind you. When you share your vision, be sure you are sharing your vision with those who know what visions are, who have visions themselves. Don't share your vision with visionless people. What they will do, they will take a bucket of cold water and pour it on you and your zeal is gone. Shut the door behind you. That's why he told the children of Israel, "Your first battle, the toughest battle, did you see the walls are, how strong the walls are? I'm going to teach you something. It will take you seven days to overcome this. Seven days, all you will do is walk. Seven days, you will keep your eyes on the ark; seven days, you will keep your mouth shut." Learn to keep your mouth shut because everything that God is pouring into our lives is being lost through our mouth. Shut the door behind. It is lost because we hear the Word of God and the minute we step out, we speak our feelings; gone. We see it. Everybody experienced it. The disciples experienced it too. It didn't matter how many miracles they saw; the next time, "What will we do? Five loaves!" After that, "Seven loaves!" They fed four thousand. After that, He just said, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees." Sitting in the boat, "I think He is scolding us because we didn't bring bread." It's simply not getting in of what God is able to do and every time they open their mouth, what is going out is that they are losing their faith. God says, "Shut. Learn to shut."

So, this morning, I want you to learn little by little, to hear from God clearly. Keep broadening the vision. I want those who know coding to work on the website. That's an outreach to the world. In ten years, it took us round to the ends of the world. Now, the site is down. Don't sit there doing nothing because God is going to move us to the next level with that outreach. The first thing that happened when 10 years are up, the enemy came after that site. So, don't sit there lightly; work on it fast. Commit your little into God's hands, whatever little it is. Don't worry about your weaknesses. Just give it into God's hands and leave the results into His hands. Just believe and act.

One final word – there are two sides of faith where God looks for faith – act tough on sin in your life with an iron hand. Constantly battle that because we are prone to sin and act firm on what God tells us to do. Otherwise, life will be a waste. A lot of people have faith. They have heard and received faith. They think to do things but ultimately, it will be a waste because they are not fighting the battle with sin. That's the heresy of modern faith preachers. They will focus on faith but will not take that faith to battle sin. In *Isaiah 59:1-2*,

Isaiah 59:1-2

¹ Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

If there is anybody who thinks God does not hear you, His ear is not heavy. Heavy means, He is sleepy. Ear heavy; the construction in English means – "The head is heavy; you are falling asleep. So, you are not able to hear." God doesn't fall asleep. The God of Israel neither sleeps nor slumber. His ear is not heavy. Anybody who is crying out to God, God says, "I hear you." And His hand is not shortened. His hand is long enough to reach the furthest part of your life and your problems but He says, "The problem is,"

² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

This is something which preachers will not speak about but this is fundamental to God. God says, "You deal with this, that means you believe, you have faith. You believe I am holy God; you believe I'm a righteous God; you believe in the judgment that is coming; you believe in the wrath that is coming upon the sons of disobedience. You believe. I see you believe. Why? Because I see you repenting. Now that you believe and you have repented, ask Me; what do you want Me to do for you?" That's what we forgot about the widow. "Lord, your servant is," you forgot what you read already. "Your servant is dead. My husband, your servant is dead and he was a man who feared God." Any man who fears God will shun evil. "So, Lord, hear my prayer." God says, "Of course, I will hear your prayer. Your husband made foolish financial decisions. That's a different thing but he is a man who feared God." Two sides of faith. And this is what I have issues with preachers; they hide this fact of God because it is not palatable. The rest all you heard today, you like – vision and when it comes to this, you don't like it. Why? "Because I like my sin." It's like our babies when they are growing up. "Take your thumb out." "No. I love

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my thumb.” “Don’t.” “No, I like it.” “Your teeth will stick out one day.” “It doesn’t matter.” “There is no nourishment. Doesn’t matter. I like my thumb.” You give the child anything through the day; when the night comes, you take the thumb out, that’s what happens to Christians. When you come to this part, excitement is gone. “I want faith with sin, please. I want lots of faith and a life of sin.” That was what the first generation was thinking, “We are going to the Promised Land. We will make it like Egypt. Imagine the parties we are going to have there.” And they had a trial run in the wilderness when Moses went up. “Let us try it out. We should not forget our dressing code and our parties.” And everybody. That was in their mind. God said, “I cannot hear you. I’ll take care of you. Kao, Pilo, Solo, Maro (eat, drink, sleep and die). Promised Land? No.” “Why are You feeding me?” “Because Abraham, your forefather, was faithful.” “Why are You keeping me on the throne?” “Because your father, David, was faithful.” A lot of people are being fed because their forefathers were faithful. That is what is happening to America on the last stages before destruction because their forefathers were faithful. His hand is still there on them. God says, “Remember this.” If you don’t change this, verse 20:21, He says,

Isaiah 59:20-21

²⁰ ***“The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob (means Israel; for us, the Church),” Says the Lord.*** ²¹ ***“As for Me,” says the Lord, “this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants’ descendants,” says the Lord, “from this time and forevermore.”***

He says, “If you turn from transgression,” to anybody, He says, “then, My Spirit that is upon you and My Word that I have put in your mouth, move from your mouth to your descendants to your descendants and to your descendants.” Spiritual. He says, “I’m faithful.” But He says, “Don’t ask Me for this without doing this. It won’t work.” Otherwise, what will happen? You will listen to all these word of faith preachers and they prosper. They take your money and they laugh all the way to the bank because they major on faith and they minor on sin. God says, “It doesn’t work that way.”

So, this morning, I want the Worship Team to come. Come, Worship Team and we will pray. That one thing in your heart today. Two things, I’m making them into one thing. One thing you need to turn away from; one thing you need from God. Bring them both before God by faith. One thing you need to turn away from; one thing and you know what it is. I don’t know and God will show you. Just ask Him, “Lord, show me that one thing I need to turn away from.”

Peter, I will give you the song. We will sing that Hindi Song. That’s the Name. Come, shall we rise? Yeshu Tera Naam, Sabse Ooncha Hain. For those who don’t understand Hindi, the name of Jesus is the Name above all Names.

Closing Song: Yeshu Tera Naam

Closing Prayer:

Father, this morning, we just come to You by faith. Your people before the Service, Lord, before the Word, wrote that one thing. But after the message, it could have changed for many. By faith, we bring that one thing we need to turn away and one thing we need from You. for both, we need Your power, Your provision. Your Word says, “All things are possible with him or her who believe.” And with our God, nothing is impossible. I bring that one thing, Lord. It may be a besetting sin but as we sang, there is no name greater than the Name of Jesus. Where sin abounds, Your Word says, “Grace abounds.” There is no sin stronger than the power of grace to break it. So, Father, today, in the Name of Jesus of Nazareth, I command every besetting sin to be broken in every life here in Jesus’ Name. And I pray, by faith, each one will go home and take that step that corresponds to that confession of faith. She believed Elisha; therefore, she sent her sons out to borrow the vessels and I pray, everyone who believes today that that sin is broken will also do the corresponding thing that You asked them to do; to get rid of the stuff, to get rid of computers, to get rid of clothes, get rid of whatever it is; You know, Lord, which causes this sin to continue in their lives, even if it is a person, remove that person from their life. Let that yoke be broken in Jesus’ Name and each one according to their struggles, show them the way out. That one thing they ask, above everything else, that one thing; it could be the salvation of the loved one, it could be healing for a loved one, it could be a breakthrough in finances, whatever it is, Lord, there is only One who can do it; it’s You. In one day, a widow, who was looking at death, bondage of her children and her debt in poverty; so, not only were her debts paid off but she also had plenty. That’s Your promise for everyone, the sons and daughters of Abraham – blessed to be a blessing. Not only to be saved but to have the rivers of salvation flow through us. I pray, Father, this morning, that one thing, whatever it is, that one thing, they will have that clear vision. A clear vision and You will broaden their vision and I pray, Lord, we will have a clearer vision as a Church, what You

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are asking us to do starting this 11th year and broaden our vision. We are not looking at what we have; we are looking at what You want done. We believe; therefore, we confess it will come to pass. I commit families here, broken families; maybe represented by just one or two persons; a child who has no parents, a brother, a sister, broken homes, that one thing, restore, Lord. You are a God of restoration. Restore. Restore, Lord. Conform us to the image of Your Son. Make us whole. Even those who are married, make them whole in their singleness and those who are single, make them whole before they get married. Restore piece by piece that is broken down. Restore. We have been redeemed but I pray, Lord, we will humble ourselves and offer ourselves to be restored. Help us not to grieve Your Spirit, Lord. Help us to be cautious and conscious in our inner man for the strivings of the Holy Spirit for our soul; for Your Word says, "He envies intensely." For Your Word says, "Friendship with the world is enmity with God." Help us to see when our soul is being pulled away from You. Give us that spirit of discernment to see that even in those innocent looking things, the hidden danger – the trap and the bait of satan; yet, to enjoy everything to the fullest that You give us from above; for Your Word says, "Every perfect and good gift comes from above, the Father, with whom there is no shadow of turning." Let every yoke, every bondage, every curse be broken in Jesus' Name. In our lives, we lift the Name of Jesus. As we sang, we confess once again the Name above all Names. Let every area in our life be brought under the Lordship of Jesus Christ one day at a time. Let the Kingdom of God come in us first. I commit the Church into Thy hands, Lord, everyone here. As we go into another week, go before us. So much to be done in our lives and through us. We surrender each one. Work in us. Work through us; that Christ may receive that pre-eminence and that glory and that honor in everything. Now, by faith, believing we have been cleansed and sanctified, we lift up holy hands and we bless Your holy Name. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Benediction:

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest and abide with each one of us, Amen.