

Father, we just thank You, Father. Every opportunity You give us to come into Your house to worship You to come together as Your people because we know, Lord, when we come together, the way we experience Your presence is different from the way we experienced You, Lord, when we were at home, when we were at office when we were at school, today, now, it's different because we all have brought Christ in us to this place. And now, as we sit tonight, as we study, as we learn, I pray You continue to teach us, because we have one teacher, Lord – the Spirit of God. Today, on Teachers' Day in India, we look to our teacher, our Rabbi, our Jesus, our Holy Spirit, teach us once again, and as we heard and as we prayed, open our ears and open the mind, Lord, understanding. Let us understand the things that were even hidden from the patriarchs and the prophets of old, but You have opened to us the children in the New Covenant, Lord. Let us not ever, Lord, take it for granted the Word that we hear, Father, because the prophets longed to see these days, they longed to hear and understand these Words, but it was hidden from them because the mystery of the Church was hidden to every eye but open to us. Speak to us, Father. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

So, this evening, we continue where we stopped but in a slightly different tangent. So, first, we'll go to *Hebrews*.

Hebrews 11:1-3

¹Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.²For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. (We see that God created everything, through) ³By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

It doesn't seem when you go to school and start learning from science about creation which they don't teach you, they teach you about evolution but when you come over here, you put all of that outside and understand; we understand the worlds framed by the Word of God so that the things which are seen were not made of things which do not appear. We know from the record we have which God has given us in the Bible in *Genesis* chapters 1&2, it records creation. And if you notice, all of creation recorded there is done by God through His spoken Word. But when it came to man, we see the narrative changing, first, God says, "First, God, let Us make man in our image." Second, it says He created man, probably, with His own hands from the earth. And third, He says, He breathed His Spirit into man. So, these three things make man absolutely different, unique all of creation. We may be like dazzled by the sun and the moon and the stars and all these, but you need to realize – the most unique creation of God is man. Because one – we were made in His image. Two – He did not create by the word of His mouth; He actually framed us with His hands. And then, He breathed His Spirit into us and Scripture says, "Adam, the first man, became a living soul." And then, He had a prepared place, and put man over there and He put man to do something over there and then, He put choices before Him. He said, "You can do this," and, "you cannot do this. I am not restraining you, but I am telling you if you do this, you will live but if you do this, you will die." But He did not restrain him. Therefore, we see the fourth thing – the man who was made in the image of God was given a power to choose, which is only we have. We are the only ones who can literally choose our destiny. Even satan and one-third of the angels by that one choice they made to rebel against God, they no longer have the choice to determine their destiny. Their destiny is already determined. They cannot change their destiny. We have the power to choose and change our destiny. So, understand that. Please remember, even young ones sitting over there. Young ones sitting over there, you have a choice to listen or to dream. That is God given. But I will use my choice to get your attention back to me. We are all using choices to let our minds wander or to focus. We have to learn we are the only unique creation which has the power to choose.

And if you notice, one of the reasons certain nations in the world are far advanced than the rest, it's simply because of education which basically gives people more information to choose. That's one of the reasons why we go to school and college. The more you study, the more information you have; the more information you have, the more you can make wise intelligent choices in life, pertaining to this life. Most of this education which we receive is basically based on what is called 'science'. Even if it is economics, there is a science behind economics. Economics is not random; economics also works on certain principles. So, there is this science behind everything, that you learn. And one of the important principles which Jesus said the Kingdom which is true about this world also is said in,

Matthew 13:12

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¹² For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

This is a principle which God has established. The more educated you are, the more informed choices you make, the more educated you can become. The more you know what certain subjects are, the more you make choices, the more you will have. That's why we keep telling you to listen carefully acquire knowledge because ultimately, this is how, fundamentally, the law which God has established works. *"Whoever has, to him more will be given."* Understand that. All of creation, seen and unseen, and this world's system in which we live are founded on certain principles established by God the Creator. Creation is not random; creation has been established on certain fundamental principles by its Creator. Even world's system governs on certain laws. And if you understand it and you harness it, you can succeed. The problem is many kids go to school, many kids receive a certificate but very few actually receive knowledge and understanding and know how to apply it. The whole purpose of going to school is not passing an exam, though you need to pass an exam the next level; the whole purpose of going to school is to receive knowledge, information, and then, learn how to apply into whatever area God leads you or you choose and the more you choose, the more information you have, the more successful you are in life. Almost every successful person in this world, unless he got by crooked means, everyone who is successful is because he had information, he understood that information and he'll learn how to apply that information. One of the key things is why we tell you to listen carefully is to see that you understand. Because even this world's systems work, all of the creation works principles laws established by God.

Let's say economics; if you are good at economics principles of how the market works which includes stewardship, spending, investment. Let me give you an example. 100,000 rupees in the hands of a man who understands how the economic system works is more powerful than the same amount in the hands of someone who has no clue how the system works. So, either he will waste will always be in lack or it remain useless in his hands. In *2 Kings chapter 4 verse 1*, remember long time ago, we saw,

2 Kings 4:1

¹ A 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."

What does it tell you? This man was excellent in the things of God, terrible in economics. When it comes to fiscal manager, (not physical) fiscal management – how to handle money, this prophet was a dummy, to the point his sons could get into slavery. You need to understand; you give money into hands of a person who doesn't understand the principles in which the money works, he will lose it, he will waste it. He will always be a pauper. On the other hand, the second thing, he didn't know, he went into debt. The second thing, giving into hands of man who doesn't use it.

Matthew 25:24-27

²⁴ "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed."

These are all excuses people make for not actually studying and apply how the market work. So, they will come up with all kind of excuses because they don't want to work hard and learning how certain things work.

²⁵ And I was afraid and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours ²⁶ "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed."

He says, "I know you know what you are a wicked and a lazy fellow." You just making excuses. You are a lazy fellow. Let's leave the wicked out. You are a lazy fellow," and the Lord has established a principle in the system lazy people will not prosper. The fundamental of the Creator is connected with lazy. A lazy person will not prosper; He doesn't not encourage laziness because the Father and the Son have been at work from the beginning till this moment. They are working. That's why we are sitting. Otherwise, you would be dead.

²⁷ So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers...

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He said, “Why didn’t you do an investment? Okay, you didn’t want to work! The bank would give you 7.25 Interest, 6.25 Interest and if you are little old, senior citizen, you get 6.75. Why didn’t you put it? And when I came back, you would have said, ‘Lord, I didn’t know how to invest it, but one thing I knew – I put it in bank; I had basic knowledge. I could have given you back. I understand Economics’.” Everything is established on principles. So, when it comes to Economics, God has His principles; you have to be frugal in your spending. I am giving you Kingdom principles of Economics today, That’s not the subject today. Frugal in your spending, generous in your giving, and wise in your investment. Frugal in your spending – what you spend on yourself. Generous in your giving – what you spend on others. And wise in your investment. And if you look at successful people in this world in any field they’re those who harness certain law established by God and they have worked hard, they’ve managed time, they’ve understood how relationships work; they pursue knowledge and therefore, they made wise decisions, and they prosper. The rest of creation don’t do it. They cannot do it because God did not give that wisdom, understanding or power to choose. See, one of the channels I watch; not on T.V. but on net is NG (National Geographic). I like this part where you see the animals, the lions and the buffalos the wilder beasts and all that. It is you see when you look at them, what dummies! Let’s say, 200 buffalos. Their strength, their power, their mass is unbelievable. They can smash into bits any pride of lions, anybody. Always, the lion will scare, make them run, pick their prey, go and eat his dinner. Why? Because they cannot think; they don’t know how to choose. Can you imagine, if you look at the history of war, battles and all, Alexander onwards or before that all of them, small armies defeating larger armies, and all is battle formations. You have one of these battles formation which I – the army come like that and then, it goes like a crescent moon, draws the enemy in, then cuts them off and kills them in the middle. I always want to tell the buffalos, “Why don’t you do that? Just why don’t you do that? Can you hear me?” Because sometimes, it’s live, go sideways pull the lions in close the circle, stamp them, but nothing happens. Why? In the original Bhutanese language, you say, “Guthu na ganey mendhu”; meaning – “There is nothing in their heads.” They cannot think. “Don’t be an animal’ think. He did not make us an animal. Though science would say we are an animal, we are not; we are made in His image. See, there’s a fundamental difference between us and them. You need information to make choices. See, all of creation can only work on the principles laid out by the Creator. In the Bible, this is called ‘sight’. What we perceive through our primary five senses and process it through your mind. the problem with the processing center the mind. the more information you have. the better you can process the information that comes in, okay? The better the more and more like me, my math stops with class 12, Pastor Vijay’s math goes on and on. I had a headache when I was in class 12. listening to sin theta and cos theta, I was wondering, “When will this end?” But you know, the more you have on a particular subject, the more you can process it, the more you understand; you choose that field, the more you apply, the more successful you can be because that is how God created. All the creation functions by sight, what they can understand what a mind can function but the greatest knowledge available to man, unlike the rest of creation, is not the knowledge of creation. I told you all of creation works on certain fundamental principles. That’s how you have electricity fan and all because the ones who went into that, understood that there are certain fundamental principles in which electricity is generated, how it functions; you tap it you bring it; you can use it to harness your stuff. All works on certain fundamentals, economics, commerce; everything works on certain fundamental principles. Yeah. Understand those principles, harness it, apply it; you can work. So, all creation works on certain principles and it is called ‘sight’. But the greatest knowledge available to man is not the knowledge of creation, how creation works but actually is the knowledge of the Creator. Creator not creation. All the world can only, at the maximum, understand how creation works. We have been given the knowledge of the Creator, and how He works. The person and the ways of the Creator. You see this beautiful example between these two.

Acts 7:22

²² And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was mighty in words and deeds.

He’s a guy, wisdom of the Egyptians meaning wisdom of the world he learnt, he understood, he applied, and the result to was he was mighty in speech and mighty n deeds in work. Because he understood the work. But when you come to *Exodus*.

Exodus 33:13

¹³ Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people.”

You see, he’s moving from how creation works to how the Creator works. Sometimes, you sit here, and I look at your faces it’s not that you don’t understand I look at how your attention wavers when your being offered information not about

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creation information about the Creator, which the world will never understand unless they come to Christ. And you tell me this question: is the knowledge of the Creator superior or the knowledge of the creation superior? With the knowledge of the Creator, this man destroyed the entire army of Egypt which he had once led. Forty years ago, he led the Egyptian army. Forty years later, without the help of anybody, without doing one thing, knowing the way of the Creator, the mind of the and the power of the Creator, He destroyed the entire army of the Egypt. So, you look at what God is trying to tell His people. The whole world is in the pursuit of the knowledge of the Creator. That's where faith comes in.

Hebrews 11:1

¹ Faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things unseen.

Faith can catapult a person far above the reach of the most qualified person walking by sight. Faith can take you faith far above the most qualified person, the most powerful person because one can only harness creation. The other is able to harness the ways and the power and the power and the person. I am not saying you can control but you understand how the Creator works. Let me explain to you in Scripture how we put science which is the understanding of creation and God the Creator. Let's look at the examples from the Bible, common familiar examples.

Mark 5:25-26

²⁵ Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years. ²⁶ She had suffered many things from many physicians and she spent all she had and was no better but rather grew worse.

Look at application here. This woman is sick, and she's got a serious sickness. She had money; therefore, she must have been good with money or someone who had good money left her money. But Scripture says, "She spent all that she had." So, economics came to an end in her life. She suffered from many physicians, but she was no better. So, medical science came to an end in her life. You seeing it? These are the principles in which creation works medical science are based on certain fundamental principles on which body works, but it had its end. Money has its use, but money comes to an end when everything of creation comes to an end, who begins? God begins. Scripture says, she heard about Jesus. So, where sight, which is fundamentally how this system works, science works, in this case, economics and medicine ceased, what came in? Faith came in. They both ended reached its natural conclusion and couldn't do anything further; faith went beyond. And by faith, she receives what neither money could buy, or medicine could achieve because one is based on the principles of creation; the other, the Person of the Creator. So, you need to see the difference – when you come to Church, put your sight away. Put your understanding away. Normal school college scholarly put it all away because sight will only connect you to creation while faith will connect you to the Creator.

When it comes to faith, we are coming back to faith, we have to keep coming back to faith, and Priyanka, the last thing she said, remember; we have to come back to faith. First step about faith is – we have to believe in God. It's a first step. You need to realize; the world is divided into two categories; one – large who believe in God or gods and one set who don't believe there is God. Those who believe in God and those who don't believe in God. so, the first step of faith is you have to believe in God, any God. You must believe in God. You must believe that God exists. That's the first step. At this step, we're only equal to the demons we know from Scripture, but it's still good because there is no atheist among demons. All demons are believers. All demons are believers. An atheist, in God's eyes, is worse than a demon because the demon believes in God and religious people in God the atheist doesn't believe in God. I am proving you from Scripture

James 2:19

¹⁹ You believe that there is one God you do well.

Its profitable. If you move polytheism to monotheism, there's only one God; He says, "It is good. It's not bad; it's good." Even demons believe and tremble. But you are as good as demons because demons can be good. That's good. It's not bad; it is good. That's the beginning. But from there, we must go beyond that, believe that is exhibited by demons to the next level, which is faith in Christ. That's what,

Romans 10:17

¹⁷ Then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

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In many translations, if you look, it will be written *by the Word of Christ*. And almost all regional languages, most regional languages I have read, will say the 'Word of Christ'. The 'Word of God', the 'Word of Christ' – the both are the same. From believing in one God, we have identified that God and He's identified to man as Christ. Jesus said, "If you know Me, you'll know God. If you don't know Me, you'll never understand God." So, from believing in one God, actual faith the next step, you believe in Christ. Not only that, the next step;

1 Thessalonians 2:3

³ ***For this reason...***

There's some problem with the Word of God. The problem is – the Word of God will only work in those who believe. You can sit here; you can stare in my face; you can take all the notes, write every reference; all that is meaningless if you don't believe. The Word of God will only work in those who believe because what you write will never come for an examination. You're not going to pass a single exam with what you write; it will only work in those who believe. All the days I studied in school, in Kerala, in a Protestant school, every hour we had Bible study and every year, we had exam on that Bible book. We had a book and we were taught from the Bible and every exam, I scored the top without knowing the Christ. It made no difference in my life. If you don't believe, the Word of God will not work in our lives. So, first, we believe that there is one God; then, we narrow it down that God is Jesus Christ, *faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God*. And second – the Word of God that we hear, we need to believe, and if we don't believe our faith believing is faith, our faith has no meaning. You don't really have faith, we only have knowledge. We don't have faith. Knowledge doesn't save you; faith does. So, the question is: when we sit, when we hear, do we believe what we hear? That's why we are focusing on faith and why God is so gung-ho about faith? He keeps talking.

Ephesians 2:8

⁸ ***We are saved by grace through faith.***

If you don't believe we are not saved. There is no way man can be saved except by believing what God has done. And that is faith in Christ and Christ alone. We saw that on Sunday His work alone. Why is this so important? Why do we preach Christ crucified? Because that's the starting point. Unless we see that and our eyes are open, like last Sunday, we saw on the incredible righteousness and love of God and you believe, we don't start there, this book is just a book. But if you start there, this book changes. And I honestly believe that most people; I'm not a judge, but I'm saying that many people are really not saved, because this book is not a living book for them. It's not a living book for them. Because if you are saved, this book is different. You see, you can make the best meat curry of bones of biryani, but you cannot feed a dead dog. You cannot. You can keep it all around him. You can even forcibly open and put it in his mouth, it's not going to make any difference to his life, because he is dead. And you need to understand that most Christians are actually dead. They have a name, like Jesus talks about in one Church in Revelation – you have a reputation that you are alive but you are dead. See, for dead people, this is a dead Book. For living people, this is a living people. When you go back home, nobody has to tell you to eat. Do you still have to be told do your devotions? Sounds funny, right? To a living man? The child is coming back from school. The first thing he asks is, "What is there to eat." Do you have to tell that child, "Do you want to eat?" He says, "Bring it on!" Ask yourself. These are questions you need to ask: am I really alive? Am I dead to this (the Bible)? Am I dead to This? Because once you are alive, this Book becomes true, even if you don't comprehend all of it. It becomes true, because this Book is called 'the Word of Christ', meaning – it is connected to a Person. That's the reason. See, when the average, good, righteous Hindu reads his Scripture, for him, the Scripture is not connected to a person. His mantra is connected to a person. According to that, he recites certain mantras, which is connected to a particular god. But his book is not connected to particular person. So, he will only use that book as more like devotions. Understand that. That's the fact of religion. It's not connected to a person. So, you don't feel anything if you don't read it, because it is not person. But this is connected to a person and if you don't read it, there is something wrong with me. If I'm not hungry for it, then there's something wrong with me. Right?

Next thing we look, we saw on Sunday,

Romans 3:24-25

²⁴ ***being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*** ²⁵ ***whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith...***

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Jesus died for everybody, for everybody. For God so loved the world, He sent His Son and He died for everybody. But it is through faith, I realize that He died for me. By faith, it is no longer everybody; by faith, it is for me. It is by faith I receive the work of Jesus that happened two thousand years ago.)

...to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed

So, the key is this – it is by faith. Without faith, the death of Jesus Christ has no meaning in your or my life. It is by faith I receive the death of Jesus Christ and I'm justified. Otherwise, I'm not justified. In,

Philippians 3:8-9

⁸Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the(what?) excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, (Not the knowledge about. Knowledge of Christ) for whom (Not for what!) I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish...

When we went to study, Pastor Vijay and all, when we were doing our Ph.D., we suffered for the sake of knowledge. He's not suffering for knowledge, he is suffering for the knowledge of My Lord, a person. Okay?

...that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, (Through faith. In Christ,) the righteousness which is from God by faith;

There's no other way. That's why we talk and preach and preach and preach hoping that faith will arise. Like when I was teaching the Pastors in Nepal from morning till evening, I said, "I come from Kerala. In Kerala, we have a very typical saying in households: when the mother is feeding the small babies, in Telugu land also, I see that, they take and put it into that baby's mouth and put a handful and three-quarters falls out, but one little goes in. And the fathers will always say, "Why are you doing it?" The mother says, "When I put in, at least little goes in." So, when we preach for two hours, we pray that at least two minutes goes in, because *faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God*. And the righteousness of God is only by faith. There's no other way. I'm justified by faith. His death works for me. His righteousness comes to me by faith. In,

Colossians 2:12

¹²buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith (When did Jesus rise? 2000 years ago, in time. When did I rise? By faith, 2000 years ago. By faith, raised through faith, raised Him from the dead. Only by faith,) in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

In,

Galatians 3:14

¹⁴that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

There is no other way. All the successful in the world with all their knowledge and hard work cannot receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit is received only through faith. Salvation is received only through faith. You are justified only through faith. You are raised up only through faith. And faith comes by hearing and hearing from the Word of God. There is no other way. You hear. You believe. You act on your belief and God says, "This is how My kingdom works." The rest of creation is dealing with created things. You are dealing with the creator, it is only through faith and by faith.

Galatians 3:26

²⁶For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

When you look in the mirror, it doesn't look like you're a son of God. But by faith, you know who you are. You see, I'll tell you. God created us in His image and He didn't create the lion or the cat or the dog in His image. You see women doing

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catwalks, but you never see a cat going to a beauty parlor. Have you ever seen a dog going for a haircut? You know why? Because deep inside, there is this desire and a longing in us, “I need to look better than this,” because it is actually spiritual. But the problem is – because our spiritual eyes are shut, we waste all our money and effort and time and money into looking good outwardly, but God has created us and the fallen man actually knows, “I am better than this,” because you are created in the image of God. And some of the things we do in the physical, we don’t realize, it is actually God trying to tell you, “You know why you keep looking in the mirror and you’re not satisfied with your looks? You know why? Because you are a child of God and as long as you look through your carnal eyes, you will never be satisfied.” I keep telling people, 99 per cent of the things which people do is to be accepted by others and yet, they don’t realize that you’re accepted in Christ Jesus. And because they do not know and receive it by faith, they are forever trying to be acknowledged and recognized and to be accepted when God says, “Dude, I accept you. You are My son. You are My son.” That’s what He’s saying; by faith, we are all sons of God. We never have to work towards acceptance anymore. We are already accepted as sons of God. All we had to do is live like sons and daughters of God. We are children of God through faith.

Ephesians 3:17

¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith (How does Christ dwell in my heart? Through faith.); that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Faith comes by hearing and hearing from the Word of God.

Acts 15:8-9

⁸ So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us, ⁹ and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

How is our heart purified? There’s no other way. That’s why in the house of God, the Word is always about try to build up the faith of people, God can’t do anything. God won’t do anything.

In,

Acts 26:15-18

¹⁵ So I said, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And He said, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶ But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. ¹⁷ I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, ¹⁸ to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.’

Sanctified means? Set apart for a holy use. Purification and sanctification is not the same thing. Purification brings sanctification. Sanctification doesn’t bring purification. These are not the same; meaning, when you buy this cup and you clean it and you wash it and say, “Okay. We’ll use it for Pastor on Sundays.” So, it was purified and set apart for a purpose. The more you purify and the more you sanctify, God says, “I use you for a higher and a higher and a higher purpose. The purpose of a person differs by how God uses. You could be out in the world, you got saved. God uses you in the outer courts. You sanctify. He may use you in the holy place. You sanctify, He may use you in the most holy place. And how are you sanctified? The same way everybody is sanctified in the Kingdom of God. How? By faith. We will say, “Oh! I cannot be sanctified. To be sanctified, you have to be a Pastor, like Pastor Vijay or Pastor James.” God says, “No. Anybody can be sanctified. They all got sanctified the same way—by faith.” Remember? Weeks back, I told you, faith is an incredible equalizer. Unbelievable equalizer! Because you can’t say, “I’m not tall. I’m not rich. I’m not smart.” All that, you can say, but you cannot say, “I don’t have faith.” God says, “Why don’t you have faith?” Faith comes from hearing.

Romans 11:5

⁵ Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

There is a remnant and after every judgement God will have a remnant coming out of it. There is a remnant according to grace. What happened to the people of Israel? Let’s go to the next verse I gave you.

Romans 11:7

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⁷ ***What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded.***

Israel sought it, but they did not get it. Why? Because they sought it by the works of the law. They did not seek it by faith. And the elect because of unbelief they were broken and you stand by faith. How does elect stand and how do you become the elect? By faith. What Israel couldn't do, God says, "My elect can." But how? By faith. You become part of God's elect by standing consistently by faith and then we know of course,

Hebrews 10:38.

³⁸ ***Now the just shall live by faith; (My righteous shall live by faith. You have been justified by faith and you shall live by faith.) But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.***

Therefore, we live by faith; we die by faith or rather, we die by faith or we live by faith

Galatians 2:20

²⁰ ***I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.***

Understand this; even if we don't know Scripture, devil knows Scripture. That is why he will not allow you to go easily to go walk in faith.

In *Ephesians 3:12*, Scripture says,

Ephesians 3:12

¹² ***In Christ we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.***

Boldness, access and confidence in him through how? Through faith, you can go to God, we have access to God in boldness with confidence if you are walking by faith you have access, the boldness and confidence comes only through faith, understand that, use these things, how do we receive our healing? by faith.

Acts 3:16

¹⁶ ***And His name (Jesus' name), through faith in His name has made this man strong. (This is the man who was crippled kept at the gate called Beautiful) whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.***

Can you imagine how much money Christians would have been saved if they came to Church instead of running to hospital, if they actually came to Churches where the Word is preached, heard and walked by faith, and walked in your healing, walked in your deliverance. Because Scripture says, "He has given Him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all," how? Through faith in His Name. That's how it comes. Question is: do you believe? Even when you are sitting over there and you are taking your notes and when you go to class tomorrow and you struggle in all your subjects, do you really believe, "Through faith, I can do well in my life"? Because all the ones who are getting marks are connected to creation and I am connected to the Creator, do you believe you can do better? I am not saying you will do better than them in exams; I am telling you will do better than them in life. Exams is one thing, because in exams, you are tested on creation; in life, the difference is you are connected the Creator. Do you believe if you have faith, do you believe your breakthroughs will only come because of faith or your breakthroughs can come because of faith?

Matthew 17:20

²⁰ ***Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.***

Do you believe, that is what people wanted – breakthrough; they are waiting for a breakthrough, fighting for a breakthrough in their life, but do you believe that thing that is blocking you in your life can be moved by God only by faith? We want peace, we want joy, we want hope but do you know this can be received only by faith?

Romans 15:13

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All the hope and the joy God has for you and me is not going to come to me and you unless we believe and if we don't believe, you cannot say, "Why I was so hopeless in life?" He says, "You didn't believe." "Why wouldn't I never experience the joy on a daily basis?" He says, "You don't believe." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and hope and peace in believing and you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

You look into the Bible, anything with God, the connector is faith, connection is faith. That is why we focus on the Word because faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God. Faith has to arise. It's not receiving knowledge; it's more than that – it is receiving the faith. How do you overcome the trials and testings that come? Only through faith. In *Hebrews 11*, it gives a record.

Hebrews 11:33-34

³³ who through faith subdued kingdoms, (and you want to work out righteousness the way they worked,) worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

How? All through faith. You look at the list and apply it to your personal life and say, "Lord, this is only possible only through faith." Even this world which is like breathing down on our neck in *1 John 5:4*,

1 John 5:4

⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

All the promises in the Bible, we say are Yes and Amen in Christ Jesus. You agree? Yes and Amen?

Hebrews 6:12

¹² that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

All the promises are yes and Amen but how do we inherit it? By faith, through faith and in patience. No other way, God has not put any other way. How are we kept till the end? There is a beginning of salvation and there is an end of salvation. How?

1 Peter 1:5

⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Not only are we saved by faith, through faith, like a race we are also kept till the end only through faith and there is no other way. We will ultimately receive the salvation of our souls, through faith that is the end of our salvation.

1 Peter 1:7-9

⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ whom having not ^[d] seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ receiving the end of your faith (what is that?) —the salvation of your souls.

Right now, we all are fighting for our body, forgetting that this body will perish and will be buried in the grave one day; then, we will know whether our soul was saved. That is the dangerous moment and it is by faith. The end of your faith is, what? Not the salvation of your body but it is the salvation of your soul. People are so caught up in this material world that they don't realize that the world passes, the body passes everything will pass only the soul will ultimately be decided by God where it goes. So, we conduct our lives as God directs and not according to the principles of science or of this world.

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2 Corinthians 5:7

⁷For we walk by faith, not by sight.

What is sight? How creation works and what is faith? How Creator works, that is why faith is so important. That's why Paul says at the end of his life.

2 Timothy 4:7

⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

That's the key. Why could he say that he fought the good fight? Why could he say that he finished the race? Let us say, you are running this relay race; in the relay race, how do you know that you have finished? You know not because how you ran but because you passed the line with the baton in your hand. If you drop your baton, you are disqualified. You have to, what? And each person, when he passes on, what does he have to do? He has to pass on the baton to the other hand and if the baton drops, the fellow has to come and pick it and that's how they lose pick seconds, right? How do you know that you have finished the race? How do you know that you have fought a good fight? Because when you cross over there, you realize, you still have the faith with which you began, which increased on the way and you have finished because your faith is stronger today than when you began. That's how you know, the test is faith. So, ask yourself today, 5th of September – is your faith stronger than 5th of August? Because that's how you know, by faith through faith. The whole Bible echoes with these words. From Abel till the last man who will be standing, by faith. The question is not that you came to Church. I'm talking about the young people; the question is that, one day, when you have the freedom and you are no longer brought to Church, what is the choice you will make? You see, a lot of people are not here in the Church, half the Church is not here because some are working and some are not working but they have the freedom to choose. I'm not saying that they should to come to Church because it is mandatory, no. You come for the ministry of the Word because that's the only way your faith will increase. God has made no other way. He has used the foolishness of preaching, it's called foolishness in the world. Because they will say, "Why are you wasting your time? Why don't you join for a course?" God says, "There is no other way, absolutely no other way." There is only way because that will absolutely determine eternity before us, by faith through faith starting from Abel onwards.

But faith has some issues; faith has to be guarded. Faith has to be nourished; faith has to be acted on. How does faith come? Faith comes from hearing. All the children, especially say, faith comes from hearing. Therefore, you should be very careful what you hear and whom you hear. First question God asks Adam and the second question is, "Who told you?" Faith has to be guarded. Be very careful what to hear and whom you hear. What you hear especially when you are young in your faith. When the Word of God become strong in you, it's easier to hear different people because you have discernment by now to know what is right and what is wrong. It's the same thing in the Word. When you are in primary class, those who teach you are more important in your life in your primary class than those who teach you in the higher class. If the fellow, who taught you math in class two, taught you two plus two is five, you are in serious trouble. But the guy who is teaching you in class ten makes a mistake and tells you two plus two is five. You will say, "No, Sir; it is four." So, when you are young in your faith, always ask God, who gave you that faith and show me whom I should listen to, what I should read and what I should listen. Reading is a part of listening. Be careful of whom you hear and what you hear. When you get stronger, it's easier because discernment comes. First thing is faith has to be guarded, we saw in *Peter*, it's more precious than gold. People don't leave gold at home; they keep it in the locker because they know it is precious. God says, "You have to guard your faith and because faith comes from hearing." How do you guard your faith? By guarding your ears and your eyes. What you read and whom you hear because if your faith goes, you go.

Second thing about faith is this, God told Joshua, "Meditate upon My Word, day and night." Now, you need to realize this – there is nobody in the world, unless you are insane; even the insane fellow, I don't know what it is like. I haven't ever been able to get into the mind of an insane fellow. So, I can't tell but I've been able to talk to others. Everybody meditates. There is not a single person who does not meditate. To meditate, you don't have to be religious. If you are thinking over something over and over again, you are an expert meditator. Worry is meditation in the wrong way. Worry is meditation. You know that? It is meditation. Because why do you worry? Because you are thinking about something negative over and over. Bitterness is meditation which has gone deep. Anger is meditation that has turned violent. These are all meditations. You are thinking over something over and over. So, everybody sitting over here, even Venkat sitting over here, though he is staring over space, he is meditating. He is meditating. He is a small kid. He doesn't understand English better but still he is.

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Nobody can sit still and say, "I am thinking nothing." No, you cannot. It's not possible to think nothing. We all meditate but God told Joshua, "The principle for success in My Kingdom is this – *meditate on my Word day and night*. Meditate upon My Word." That's the key. It's not reading the Word; it's thinking the Word. You dream about the Word. You have visions about the Word because that's what you meditate. You get up angry because you were meditating about somebody before you went to sleep, right? In your sleep, you are chasing somebody with your knife and all. People come and tell me their dreams; I said, "Boy, what dreams and all they see; chasing people and all!"

You know, when I finished all the meetings and the final meeting on Saturday; it's totally unknown place. See, teaching Pastors and this kind of meeting because you are familiar and have come in an order, it is easier, than to go to a suddenly different place; you don't know anybody there and it's the Sunday service. Only God knows the people; I don't know people. Sunday service is not a teaching session. You have to give them, what God wants for them. And you won't believe, the meeting was in the morning, at 3 in the morning, I dreamed what I was preaching. I dreamed. Actual Scripture, I was dreaming and God was telling me, "This is what actually you need to tell those people." Meditate upon the Word day and night. The question is: what are we meditating on? The past, problems, treasure, possessions, pleasure, or God's promises? What are we meditating on? Something, we are meditating on. What we are meditating on will usually come out when we are casually sitting and talking. It comes out and then, we realize that's what we are meditating on. Because Jesus said, "*The mouth speaks but the heart is full of evil.*" If you are meditating on the Word of God, you don't have to struggle and be an encyclopedic; it will naturally you see through the conversation, it will turn towards the word. But if you are thinking on something else you don't have to do anything; it will naturally flow out. What are you meditating on? Faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God and Jesus told Joshua, "You really want to be successful, possess everything that I have told you, all the promises are yes and Amen, meditate upon my Word day and night." We'll come to the next part later.

Third thing – Faith has silence. What does faith have? Faith have silence. Faith is built in silence. The first lesson of warfare, for the new generation. They are going to fight a warfare, they haven't fought a single battle yet. They have crossed river Jordan, they are circumcised, they are set apart, Jericho is shut in, nobody can go in, can come out. The walls are huge, the mighty men inside, they haven't won one single battle, they haven't fought, they are going to fight. But, before they can fight, remember the walls of Jericho came down by faith. So, one first lesson of God before the first battle is given in *Joshua 6:10*.

Joshua 6:10

¹⁰ And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

The first lesson is silence because faith is built in silence. Did you have those periods of silence? That is the simple lesson He was teaching them saying, "Your fathers lost their inheritance because they kept their mouth open – talk, talk, talk, unbelief-sight, unbelief-sight, when they open their mouth, looked around and talked what the world was telling them." So, God said, "First thing, don't talk. Keep quiet. Let your faith be built. When I tell you to speak, speak." Remember, God had tried to teach this lesson but they didn't learn. Remember, they left Egypt, came out all, because of God, they didn't do anything at all, God left them; then, the Pharaoh came behind them with 100 of chariots. God took them to the banks of the Red sea, the Pharaoh is behind them, the Red sea is before them, it's an unbelievably fearsome sight. That's what the enemy will always try to manipulate us into sight where our emotions are kept up, you look Red sea, you look back don't know which way to turn or sometimes the circumstances become like that. And God had tried to teach them in *Exodus 13* and *14*, I want to look at the amplified version. Is that amplified version?

Exodus 14:13-14

¹³ Then Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid! Take your stand [be firm and confident and undismayed] and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for those Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see again. ¹⁴ The Lord will fight for you while you [only need to] keep silent and remain calm."

What is he saying? "Keep quiet, He will fight for you." God will fight for you. The only way God can fight for you in this situation is keep quiet. Don't say anything." Keep your mouth shut. Why? Why is it so important? *Romans 8:10*

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Romans 10:8

⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

Where is it? It’s in your mouth. How is faith expressed? Through your mouth. You need to understand, all of us in the world or in the Church, everybody is involved in a religious activity. Life is a religious activity. In this life of religious activity, there are two high priests. One is called – Jesus, the High Priest; the other is the devil. There are two high priests, original and duplicate. One is the High Priest of light; the other is the high priest of darkness. One is the High Priest of Kingdom of God; the other is the high priest of the kingdom of darkness. Two high priests. When we speak, both priests are waiting. Both are waiting for our confession. *Hebrews 3:1*

Hebrews 3:1

¹ Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

First, the term ‘Apostle’ means is ‘the sent-out one’. Jesus was the first Apostle of God. He was sent to us for our redemption. So, He came for us to redeem us because He was the sent-out One. “As the Father has sent Me, I send you,” He told His disciples. He was sent by His father, for a particular work to redeem us. Now that He has redeemed us, now He is in heaven. What is He? He is the High Priest of our confession. What is the devil? He is the high priest of our confession. So, whatever you confess, it goes. If the confession is according to the God’s Word, Jesus takes that confession and declares it before the Father. If that confession is according to the devil and its world, they are both high priests and he is the high priest of our confession. *Hebrews 4:14*

Hebrews 4:14

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

What does it mean? What does it mean? Without wavering, what does it mean? When you are flying and after some time, they will put a sign and say you can take your seat belts off as everything is fine. Suddenly, the signal will come and the announcement will come, “Please fasten your seat belt.” Then, everybody is seated because there is turbulence on the way. So, when the Scripture says, “Hold fast,” it is saying, “In this walk of faith, there is going to be turbulence. Don’t change your confession for the One who is promised and faithful.” Don’t change your confession according to your situation. Hold fast. Hold fast, because when the turbulence; that’s what happened to the children of Israel; when things are okay, they took the guitar and danced. The minute the things changes, their confessions changes, “Why did you bring us? Did you bring us to die? Weren’t there enough graves in Egypt?” Finally, what happened? They all died. Why? The high priest of their confession called ‘death’ swallowed all of them, because the devil has, when God is righteous; he is saying, “God, every time I hear them confessing me, not You; they are declaring with their mouth, ‘they were brought to die.’” Remember? When Job was tested and tested even when his wife told him, “Curse God and die,” “you are talking like a foolish woman,” what does Scripture says? “*In all these things, Job did not sin with his lips.*” He is very careful about what he was talking. Be very careful. So, we have to start changing what we say because God is the High Priest of our confessions and faith comes from hearing, hearing the Word of God, meditate upon the Word of God, day and night, hold fast. Don’t change the narrative. Don’t get discouraged. Don’t back off.

Hebrews 10:21-23

²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,

Faith is the substance of things. Okay, you know what he is actually talking about? When you believe and you walk in your faith and you confess your faith according to your belief, after sometime, your confession starts having substance. You know that and you know that it is true; and you don’t need anything else to convince you. Your faith has substance and Scripture says, “That faith, when it has substance is hope.” What is hope? Faith which have substance. Hope is faith which has substance. That’s what he is talking about,

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²³ ***Lets hold fast the confession without wavering for He who promised is faithful***

Lot of people don't have hope because their faith doesn't have substance. Faith has no substance. Without wavering. When we have built a substance of faith, hope comes and sometimes, even the opposition we face or the struggles we face or the devil we face, itself becomes the substance of our hope, when faith have substance.

Remember the twelve spies who went and came back and all that? Listen to Caleb in *Numbers 14*.

Numbers 14:9

⁹ ***Only do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread*** (for us)

And look at Caleb; what is he saying? "These people are giants. The cities are huge and there are armed men over there; but you know what, God has said something, God said, 'If you believe Me and you walk by faith and you don't turn to left or right; nobody can stand against you'." If God has said, "Nobody can stand against you," the biggest guy who stands against me is also what for me is also what for me? Bread for me. That's the substance of your faith. Your faith has substance. He is saying "You know what? You see enemies; I see bread." They see enemies; they say, "We are grasshoppers." You see; look at the people, the people are seeing themselves as grasshoppers and they are giants; one man says, "The giant you see is bread for us, because his faith has substance." Do we have substance? That's what God is asking, "Do we have substance?" Because that is how God builds everything; that's how God does everything.

Remember how God built the faith of Gideon? He is a fearful man, very fearful man and the Angel came, the Angel of God came, he said, "Okay. You offer me a sacrifice," the Angel said. Gideon says, "Okay," and offers him a sacrifice. Broom! Fire comes and he says, "O Lord, it is You." A little sight and faith mixed. "Lord, it is myth." Lord says, "It is okay. Do Me the second thing – you kill a bull and sacrificed. Now, kill the second bull and cut down all the Asherah, Baals in front of this thing and make another altar and offer it there." Fearfully and wonderfully, he did it. When he did it, what happened? The people of the town came, for the first time, the father of Gideon stood by him and said, "Leave him alone. Don't go after my son. If Baal is Baal, let him fight for his own altar." So, he sees, "Wow! Daddy also stood by me." Faith grew a bit. Okay, it grew a little. He blows a trumpet, 32,000 people come; he says, "Wow." He is still fearful. "Yes, Lord. I am putting a fleece. (it's like a carpet) I am putting this carpet and in the morning, when I come, carpet should be wet, ground should be dry; then, I know, Lord, that You are real." He comes in the morning, and the carpet is wet and ground it dry, he says, "Hallelujah," but still fearful. Next day, he says, "Lord, carpet is dry and ground has to be wet." God says, "Okay." Next day, when he comes, carpet is dry and ground is dry. Then, God says, "Tell all those who are fearful can go." Then, 22, 000 left. "Again say, take them to the water, separate them." Finally, he has only 300. You see, when God allows your faith to be tested and you test God and God allows that to be tested and you are now sure; do you need numbers? If he has known this in the beginning, he would have said, "Lord, I am not testing You, but just let me go with 32000 men." But now that you have passed the test of faith, God says, "Take all those who don't believe out of the circle. I don't need anybody." Only to those who come through the waters (which is through the Word). Let them pass those test the Word and only them, you take. Still, he is fearful. Then, God says, "One more thing, I will tell you," in *Judges 7:10-11*,

Judges 7:10-11

¹⁰ ***But if you are afraid to go down, go down to the camp with Purah your servant*** (you will not go alone, you are a coward; So, do one thing. Hold your servant's hand and go) ¹¹ ***and you shall hear what they say; and afterward your hands shall be strengthened to go down against the camp.*** ***Then he went down with Purah his servant Then he went down with Purah his servant to the outpost of the armed men who were in the camp.***

What is God telling you finally? "You know what? Go quietly in the night, go to the enemy camp and listen to what the devil is saying about you. When he heard what the devil, the enemy was talking about Gideon, he says, "Boy! Is this what they think about me?" That's what God is saying, "Do you have any clue what demons think about us? Do you have any clue?" Our very opposition should strengthen our faith. The more you go through the life, you seem to be facing hurdle after hurdle, bigger you cross, the bigger; and you cross one, the bigger; that itself should become the substance of your faith. You enemy should define your faith. If, after 20 years in the faith, you are fighting the little demon on the road side, that means you haven't grown. They still see in the dreams demons chasing, instead you chasing the demon. There's something wrong. That's what it says, "You go and see, they are terrified of you. They are talking about the God of Gideon; Gideon-

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Gideon; the enemy is all talking about Gideon.” How do they even know about Gideon? Gideon had done nothing, but how did they know? Because these people are all into the occult and their demons have told, “God have found a warrior and you are all finished! He found a man of faith; and he is going to come and he is going to destroy.” You need to understand that enemy recognises the faith, God also only recognises faith. And faith has to be carefully nurtured like I said, “Faith is built in silence.” I will close now.

1 Kings 17:1

¹ And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.”

As I close, what do you know about this man before this? Nothing. Is there anything written about Elijah before this verse? We don't know who his father is. We don't know who his mother is. We don't know who his home is. We don't know anything about his relative; the only little thing we know is – he was from a place called Tishbe, which is in Gilead. That's all we know. Yet, one day, he stands before king and says, “Until the Word of God comes from my mouth, there will be no rain and no dew.” Where did his faith come from? It was built in silence. For years, God was building this man's faith, speaking to him. When the time came, God says, “Stand up. Go and stand before the king,” and the key is here, “before whom I stand.” They have to first learn to stand before God. If you can stand before God, then we can stand before any man, and say what God has to say. But, that is built in silence. So, learn these lessons – everything in the Kingdom of God is through faith. If there is no faith, God will not work. Faith comes from hearing; hearing from the Word of God. So, guard your faith, be careful what you listen, whom you listen, what you watch, what you listen? The news is not news; it is propaganda. There is no news! There's no news. There is no news anywhere; it's just propaganda.

I was telling yesterday to my wife and to my pastor Vijay; I mean most people don't even know, but the next supreme court justice for the year supreme court is going through his senate confirmation. US democracy is one of those most incredible democracies. Anybody who is appointed as Supreme Court like we are going to get a new chief justice on October 3rd; but theirs is a difference. The President selects him, he has to go through the senate and when he goes through the senate, there will be a Senate committee and then, hundred senators later; everything in his life which is available will be brought out. Meaning, hundreds and hundreds and thousands of documents; if anything that he has spoken in his legal life, in his court life; anything negative in his personal life; every word, he has uttered; if negative will be brought out and he will be questioned; Why? Because, he is going to sit on the Supreme court and he is going to dispense the righteous one day. And I was telling my wife, if this is what is demanded from a supreme court justice in America; what is demanded from us? God says, “You will rule over angels.” What is the standard He demands from us? To overcome and to reign with Him, Think. In the kingdom of man, this is what is demanded from a man to sit in the highest post because he will dispense justice and righteousness. What is demanded from the overcoming sons and daughters? Think. By faith and faith alone, nothing else; faith comes from hearing, hearing from the word of the God; and every time you hear, you obey, righteousness is being added into your life. From righteousness to righteousness so that one day, God says, “You have overcome. You can sit on the court and dispense judgment for the next thousand years because you have qualified. Everything you went wrong, you repented and it's under the Blood; it is clean and everything that you were right was right because you have heard Me and it was not the opinion of man or of this world; it was by faith and faith alone.” You have no clue how eternal consequences are going to be determined by what we hear. So, be careful what you hear. Shall we pray?

Closing Prayer:

Father, this evening, we just come to You, Lord. We just thank You; we just praise You, Father. We just thank You, Lord. Who we are, O Lord, that You even speak to us? Who are we, O Lord, that You even give us Your Word? But we just want to thank You, Father, for Your enormous kindness and Your mercy and Your goodness. You sent Your Son; You redeemed us and Your Son still stands there, confessing what we confess on earth, O Lord. And I pray, as we continue to hear Your Word, faith will arise and we will learn to allow Your faith to grow in silence and we will not waste words because You said, “Life and death is in the power of the tongue,” that we will be careful about what we hear, what we think, what we meditate and what we speak so that, truly, You can stand in the presence of the Father and declare our confession to the Overseer of our souls, O Lord. O Father, help us, Lord. Even the youngest ones here, Lord, the little word they know, help them to concentrate; help them to think on those; help them to meditate on it so that all Your promises and plans for them will come to pass one day, Lord. We just surrender ourselves once again into Thy hands; this day, this month into Thy hands. Go with us. Go before us, Lord. Thank You, Father. We just bless Your Holy Name. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

