

*Father, this morning we just come to You. We come to You with simple faith, absolutely simple faith. The oldest who's listening to the youngest, all of us come as children to our Father, with absolute trust and faith in the goodness, in the love, in the kindness, in the mercy and the absolute power of God of every situation we're facing. All those who are listening are not going through the virus, but they may be going through something else. It may have been in their life for a long time or it may be something recent. It doesn't matter. We bring it all to you Father. We bring all our problems. We bring all our fears. We bring all our doubts. We bring everything before Thee Lord and we lay it at Your feet, because You said, "Cast your burdens onto Jesus." We lay it at Your feet and we leave it there, Lord. You're able more than able to handle all our issues, every issue of ours. And after laying at Your feet we will stand up by faith and we'll gaze at Your face and our liberty comes from that one look. You said, "Look up and live." And we have come to a ministry of life and not of death. For You are our life. You told Israel thousands of years ago, "I set before you life and death, blessing and curses. Choose life." Then you said, "I am your life." Then Jesus when you walked on earth you showed us how God was Your life and You showed us You are our life. So we choose life this morning and not death. We choose healing and health and not sickness and we declare in Your presence, 'We shall live and not die and declare the works of God.' We live for one purpose—to declare Your works. One purpose to glorify God. So anybody in any country who's infected with this disease or any other disease, I speak healing into Your body in the name of Jesus of Nazareth. I take authority in the name of Jesus and I command that spirit of infirmity to leave in Jesus' name. I command every oppressing spirit to leave in Jesus' name. I command the spirit of distraction and restlessness to leave in Jesus' name. All you have to do is in simple faith receive the deliverance of the Lord. Behold whom the Son sets free is free indeed. For us to live or die, both is gain. You cannot be defeated anymore, unless we choose defeat for Christ has overcome. That same Christ in us through faith takes us in triumph each day. So let this day be triumphant for everyone who's listening, a day of victory, a day that brings great glory to our father in heaven that our Father can point to His people and His children and say, "Is there anyone like that who believes in the work of My Son?" The Father can declare in heaven, "I am well pleased with him. I am well pleased with her. I am well pleased with that child." Let faith arise this morning, let faith arise and believe for your unbelieving family members. If your husband doesn't believe, believe for him today. If your wife doesn't believe, believe for her today. If your children do not believe, believe in the Lord for them. Lord, I know I will see one day, all of them turning to the Lord. That's what the jailor was told. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you and your household shall be saved. Believe today that God is able to do exceedingly abundantly more than we can even imagine, more than we can imagine, believe. Father we just come to You Lord, all we want to say is, Lord we believe absolutely. All things are possible with Thee. So we lay all our burdens and all our prayer requests at Your feet, come Lord Jesus and be magnified in our lives. For in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*

Now, we'll go straight away in to the Word. If you've been with us, the past eight days, today's the ninth day, and we're continuing each day. Those who have joined in recently remember it's all there in our webpage and our YouTube channel and even on our Facebook page. You can join on our facebook page. You will not see anything on our facebook except the message. We don't chat. There's no social. Nothing over there. It's solely dedicated to the Lord. So, the past two nights when I have been teaching and pastor Vijay has been teaching primarily on the work after salvation and sanctification and how to allow the Word to search us. But we saw who is a believer. We saw the only life that is acceptable for a believer before God and we saw what is the greatest sin before God. Once again, we'll go to the most familiar verse.

### **John 3:16-18**

**<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**

The only thing God demands is that we believe in Him. And we keep on believing in Him. When we come to Christ, we believe on one thing that He died for my sins and He died on the cross. He was buried and He rose on the third day and because I believed in that fact and I repented, I am saved. That's all primarily most of us knew when we believed. But belief doesn't stop there. We continue believing as God starts exposing Himself, revealing Himself through His Son, through the ministry of the Word and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. That is also what Jesus did after He rose again. Through the Holy Spirit, He

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started teaching about the Kingdom of God which is the life of God, because the Kingdom of God is encompassed by the will of God and the life of God.

***<sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. <sup>18</sup> “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already...***

People think they are condemned because of their works. Now, nobody is condemned because of their works that is secondary. They're all condemned because God has given a solution to their works and they don't receive that solution. Let us say, I'm really ill and Dr. Richard gives me a prescription. He says, "Take this antibiotic for three days." The diagnostic is absolutely right the medicine perfect, but I don't take it. Now why am I in the ICU? Because I didn't believe. I didn't believe in the solution that was right and that which was given to me. If I had taken that solution, my sickness would have gone away. People are dying, because of the sickness called sin. And God has given a solution. And the solution is My Son. Take Him. Imbibe in Him. Believe in Him. Let Him become your life. That's what Jesus meant when He said, "You need to eat my flesh and drink my blood." My life has to become your life. The more you're saved. And we know from Hebrews that He's able to save us to the uttermost, all those who come to Him. That's what believing means.

***...because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.***

All those who are condemned are not condemned because of their actions or sickness, they're condemned because they did not take God's prescription. God's prescription is His Son. But those who believe, that is what we call faith, they put their trust in Jesus alone, not in any work of the law or in good works. If you go to *Romans 3:21-24*, we'll just recap.

### **Romans 3:21-24**

***<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,***

Let me put it in terms of Corona virus. Now the healing and the health of God is revealed apart from all medication—isolation, quarantine, antibiotics, ventilators. The healing and the health of God is revealed apart from everything man can do. Only then we'll understand what God is offering. Put salvation in that terms. Everything and anything that you can do ultimately, you die. But God is offering you, hundred per cent sure solution. And that is the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ. Why this faith in Jesus Christ? Why can't I believe in God alone? It doesn't work that way, because Jesus Christ is the one who did the work of God. You're believing in God, but you're believing in the work of God that He did through Jesus Christ. Why do I have to believe in the name of Jesus Christ? Because that is the name that saves. God doesn't have a name, but when He came down to earth and He lived our life, He gave a name to Himself which is Yeshua, the one who saved. Somebody who lives in eternity who's not caught in time who has no beginning or an end cannot have a name. The very name signifies you have a beginning and an end: date of birth and date of death, in between we're caught in history. When God gave Himself a name He was caught in history. So, when God stepped into history, He gave Himself a name, the name 'Jesus Christ'. Even that name describes what God is doing through that.

***<sup>22</sup> even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus***

So, when we are just, God is declaring you are righteous. And then once you have been declared just, all those who are listening, all those who are saved are those who have been declared righteous and forgiven and declared without sin. It's not enough to be forgiven. You have to be declared without sin. You have to have that new nature. That's why in the Old Testament nobody overcame sin. That's why in the New Covenant anybody and everybody can overcome sin, because your nature has overcome sin. Then if you're just there's only one way of life. There are two ways of life for the believer. *Romans 1:17*, *Galatians 3:11* and *Hebrews 10:13*, all three say the same thing, but we'll look at only one.

### **Romans 1:17**

***<sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”***

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We cannot live any other way. This is one thing believers need to understand and the ministry of the Word of God is to always bring us back to it. Our problem is we understand this concept in a very weird way. The just shall live by faith. When we have a problem, we try to apply faith to that. The rest we do it our own way. God doesn't say, "The just shall apply faith to their troubles." The just shall apply faith to their trials. The just shall apply faith to their sicknesses. He doesn't say. He says, "You shall live by faith, your entire twenty-four-hour day, seven days a week life is determined by faith and faith alone." There's no other way to live. So, if you go back to the law or to the world.

### **Romans 8:8-9**

***<sup>8</sup> So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit...***

Remember the Spirit comes in. So it's not just the written word because the Jews in the old covenant were in the flesh with the written word. They were in the flesh with the Word outside, the law outside But we are in the Spirit and the law written inside, the spirit of the law. That is the difference. So God says, "You are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit."

***...if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. (That's the key. ) Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.***

The Bible does not say, "If anyone does not memorize Scripture, he's not His." You can memorize the entire Scripture and not be God's. That's the key. Think about a child outside. The child outside has been watching me and he's been taking pictures of me. If you go to his room, all the pictures he has are of me and he has all my sermons. Does he become my son? No, he doesn't become my son. To become my son, he needs to be born of me. That's what God is talking about. Flesh gives birth to flesh. So, born of flesh. Spirit gives birth to spirit. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he's not His. So, you have to be very careful and use discernment when dealing with people, because a lot of people have the Scripture but they don't have the spirit. And because they have the Scripture we think they have the Spirit, and when you deal with them you realize this is all flesh. And we wonder why they are acting like that. It's because they don't have the Spirit. If you come to *verse 13*, Scripture says,

### **Romans 8:13**

***<sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.***

So, he says, "Without the Spirit you cannot even try this. It's not even possible. You need the Spirit." In verse 14 it shows us the narrow way.

### **Romans 8:14**

***<sup>14</sup> For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.***

Now, to be led, you need to hear. Hearing means your faculties. It can be seeing or hearing. If I say like this, three people sitting there will say, 'Me?' If I say, 'Peter', it becomes much clearer and specific. So, when you use hearing there is sight and there are ears. But ears are more important than the eyes when it comes to God. So, though God talk about eyes, He says, "Even though they have eyes they do not see and even though they have ears, they do not hear." But He always repeats about the ears and very little about the eyes. It's the hearing that matters. So, if you cannot hear, you cannot be led. So, the hearing is the most important part. So, we will use illustrations today from Scripture to establish this way of life, because one of the best things that has happened to Christendom in our lifetime is this quarantine. You can sit at home, listen to the messages, reflect on it, study on it and learn how to live this life of faith.

The first thing every believer, I'm talking to believers and would be believers, every believer has to do every day is to rest and not to work. Rest and not work. Rest in what? First in the work of God, in Christ. When you wake up in the morning the first thing you should do after today is you should open your eyes and open your mouth and say, "God is perfectly satisfied with the work of Christ Jesus for salvation. I don't have to do one thing to get saved." The pressure is off your shoulder. God is absolutely, totally, perfectly satisfied with the work of Christ Jesus when it comes to salvation. This is the fear—am I saved? What more do I have do? Do I have to pray two more times? Do I have to fast three more days? This has got nothing to do with salvation. First rest you enter is the rest of salvation every day. You have to enter into that rest. Now one more thing is required. When Christ said, "It is finished," it is finished. And it is an insult to God if you try to add to the work of Christ. All

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we do after that is we fall, because the flesh is still there, we're just learning how to handle the flesh when we fall, we repent and confess.

### **1 John 1:9**

***<sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins...***

Why do we have to confess our sins to God? Confession is like bringing something that is in the dark into the light. What is in the dark is controlled by the powers of darkness. What is brought into the light is set free from the powers of darkness. So, we have to confess. If you don't confess, the devil will have a hold on it. So don't get upset when you go through times of fasting and prayer and may be messages like pastor Vijay's which are tough and the Holy Spirit bring to your remembrance things from the past. Don't doubt! Oh my gosh! Am I saved? I never repented of this twenty years ago when I got saved. We're just bringing something out of the dark; the enemy has a hold over it in your life. I brought you. You forgot. I was waiting for the time, bringing into your remembrance from the darkness. Now confess and let it go. You're questioning your salvation. You're just bringing things out of the dark and releasing it in the light of God and it is gone. And even when you do that, don't put your faith in your confession. That's not what brings it about, it is because He is faithful and He is just.

***...He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

You're banking not so much on your confession, because people will sit on a 21 say fast and a big register. Lord, show me. January 22<sup>nd</sup> okay, January 23<sup>rd</sup> 3 pm, okay. Now, you're putting trust in your confession. You've gone back under the law. This is the problem with the law. The law said, "Keep the Sabbath day and you shall do no work." It was one law. They made around 636 different divisions of it; what work can you do on a Sabbath and what work you cannot do on a Sabbath. There are certain works which you have to do regularly. You can't just lie on your bed on a Sabbath. So, they came up with okay if you do this, this is work according to Sabbath and if you do this, this is not working according to Sabbath. Even today, you go to a Jewish dominant community, there is something called an iruva line. If you go to Manhattan and all these places you will see a clothes line from one section to another section in a circle. That means on a Sabbath day you can walk only till there and that's the distance you're allowed, till today. Check it on Google after service is over. Till today, one law they interpreted it into some six hundred subdivisions of the law. You go back under the law you're finished. You try to repent legally, you're done. First remember you're forgiven, and whatever God is bringing into your memory is for your deliverance not to tell you you're not saved. Don't worry about it and even your confession is not what is setting you free, He's faithful and He's just. Lord I confess and I believe I'm forgiven. I believe I'm free. Why? Because You are faithful. You're forever faithful. And you're absolutely just. You'll not say one thing and do the other. If you said, "I confess and I'm cleansed off of unrighteousness," that is it. I'm not going to listen to anything anybody is going to say after that. It doesn't matter what it was. I believe what You said. You said, "You will cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I believe it and that's enough. You see, faith matter. Faith really matters, because sometimes we don't realize we take something very godly thing called repentance and go under the law. We confess, He is faithful. Not only is He faithful, but He's just. He cleanses us from all unrighteousness. Take it by faith. So, you have to enter into that rest. That is the first rest that Jesus talks about in,

### **Matthew 11:28**

***<sup>28</sup>Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.***

This is the weight of sin, the weight of guilt, the weight of whatever anxiety and whatever it is. "Come to Me," He says, "Whatever is weighing you down each one's weight is different, whatever is weighing you down today, may be an unsaved spouse, a rebellious child, whatever it is," God says, "Come to Me." You're laboring. Your mind is preoccupied. The labor is in your mind, in your soul and you're not able to focus on the message. Yesterday, if you look at Sammy and Roshan, the first part of the message, did you listen? No, why? Because they were laboring over the battery of the camera and they have to, right? They have to handle it. That's why you always say there's a preparation for Sabbath. If you've done everything before that, like we've done now. Why is it that quarantine has come and God told us, "You need to preach twice a day, fourteen times a week, sixteen times a week and we're not anxious about it, because like Joseph during the times of plenty we've stored enough. Now in the time of famine, it is easy to bring it out. The ones who panic are the ones that haven't done their homework. Each one is called to do their own homework. Sammy and Roshan are not to be blamed because they were not called to do this and this is not their homework. All the stuff they've been doing suddenly came into use. Everything fit into it. Sammy was telling me, that one part he went all around the city for before the lockdown came, he didn't get it. If he had

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gotten that, all it takes is a flip of the switch and without that, he's been flipping many switches. But remember, this has all got to do with when you're focused, you like something and you're focused on it, getting good on it, and when the time comes God takes it out and uses it and it's a blessing for so many. And you also need to realize on a normal Sunday, actually today is a normal Sunday, in the time of famine we're preaching to many more people than the ones who actually were there at Church. You need to understand how scriptural principles work whether it is of God or not. So, it does not matter. Come to me all who are labor and are heavy laden, I will give you rest. So, the first thing we do is enter into that rest. Lord, I cast my fears about my future, everything into Thy hands, O Lord.

### Genesis 2:1-2

***<sup>1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.***

And verse 3 will say, "He blessed everything and sanctified that day or hallowed that day." That's where you get that term 'hallowed'. That's the first time if I'm right that word is used in the Bible. He hallowed one day. So, He rested on the seventh day. You need to understand the fundamental principle. God blessed the seventh day, sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. So, first day of creation, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh. We know man was made on the sixth day including animals. And the end of God's creation is man. After everything, the last part of God's creation is man. On the sixth day God created man, everything is over and seventh day God rested from His work. But the seventh day is man's first day. Seventh day of creation is the first day for man. So, God says, "This is the principle that I'm putting for you, man does not work and rest, man enters into God's rest first." And it's a very difficult thing for us. You have to really struggle to do that. But you need to win that struggle. It's a battle every day. This is the principle. You don't work and rest. Then you become God and you realize you cannot handle it, because there is only one God and you are not God. I will tell you how you can handle it. First, enter into My rest and then go out and work. So, when you turn to *Hebrews 4:10-11*, you will see this is the principle.

### Hebrews 4:10-11

***<sup>10</sup>For he who has entered His rest (God's rest) has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. <sup>11</sup>Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.***

What is that we have to be diligent about? It's not work first. It's rest first, about entering into God's rest. That is why the seventh day that is coming, six days of creation, six thousand years will be over and the seventh day beginning is when Jesus comes with His saints. It won't be ram rajya. It will be Christu Rajya. He will rule for a thousand years. And why will it be that time called rest? Because it's easy for everybody to work, because they know what to do because Christ and the saints will tell them exactly what to do. Nobody has to worry about what to do. Everybody's confusion is about what should I do? But during Jesus' reign and the saints reign everybody will know what to do, because it will be very clear. Everybody will have rest because the power is supplied by God. Everybody will have rest because the provision comes from God. Everyone will be at rest because there will be no violence, no sin, nothing manifested outside. Rest. So, the principle is there, come to me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest. And rest has a poster. Go to the second one, that is *Matthew 11:29*. Continue further into the rest. Jesus goes further. You want to continue entering into the rest and resting from your sin is one thing. How do you walk further? We all rested our sins with Christ someday in the past, but after that what has happened? That is the second part. This is how you live by faith. First you are saved by faith. That was one day. One day you got married. That was the wedding day. And then the marriage begins, that is when the trouble comes.

### Matthew 11:29-30

***<sup>29</sup>Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.***

So that's the second rest.

***<sup>30</sup>For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."***

He comes and tells, "Take My yoke. The yoke of the law is gone. The yoke of the world is gone. You have to take My yoke upon yourself. And you have to learn from Me. I'm gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls." So, in the second part, yoke and rest. The whole thing is that you will find rest. There is a posture for rest. There is a pasture for listening.

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Parents used to be tough. And we try and then they grow up. Incline your ears. *Ephesians 2* says there is a posture, a spiritual posture for rest.

### **Ephesians 2:6**

***<sup>6</sup>and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus***

The posture of rest is sitting. This is a spiritual thing and not physical. You can be sitting and not be sitting. It is not whether you are sitting or not, the question is: where are you sitting? In Christ Jesus. If you are seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, there is rest for your soul. Then from that vantage position you are looking at the Corona virus. And you have rest. If you are sitting here, you are also sitting in your homes in isolation in a chair and you're looking around, you have no rest for your soul. So, this is the spiritual posture of your rest. Where are you sitting? So, the first discipline of a child of God is rest and you have to struggle every day to enter into that rest by faith. And that's why you need to know all the Scriptures that are connected to this, about God, get to know God more and more.

Let us look at a well-known example for us in the ministry of Jesus Christ in,

### **Luke 10:38-42**

***<sup>38</sup>Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house.***

So, He went to a village and went into a house and there is a lady called Martha. We know now very well, Martha, Mary and Lazarus, three people in the house. Martha seems to be the oldest, the head. There seems to be no parents. So, it's the siblings living together and she welcomed Jesus into her house. And we all do that. We welcome Jesus into our house. We all do.

***<sup>39</sup>And she had a sister called Mary...***

Now the narrative changes. The second person enters into the scene. We believe Lazarus was not there in the house that day. So, it was Martha who welcomed, Mary was also there. I believe Mary was also part of the welcome. So, Martha welcomed and also Mary. It cannot be otherwise, Martha says, "Welcome" and Mary says, "I don't want Him here." That can't be possible. And there after verse 2, there is a digression of what two people did in the Church. Both people came to the Church. Both of you are sitting in your house. Both of you welcomed saying, "Come, Lord Jesus, today is Sunday. I'm here." And then, there is a digression.

***...who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word.***

Mary also, meaning there might have been others along with the disciples.

***<sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted***

So, there is a digression there. Mary was sitting. Martha was distracted. What was she distracted with? She was distracted with much serving. It could be anything. In her case it was serving. She probably said, 'O my gosh, the Lord has come. He's come with twelve people. There are others also who have come along with them to hear the Word. As the hostess, shouldn't I feed these people?' Earthy concerns have taken over spiritual necessities. The Kingdom of God, the kingdom of the world, and the kingdom of the world has gone over the Kingdom of God. That's what happens. *Matthew 13:22* Jesus talks about it.

### **Matthew 13:22**

***<sup>22</sup>Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the Word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the Word, and he becomes unfruitful.***

Martha also heard the Word. But it was of no effect, because her mind was distracted. That's why it's a labor to enter into this rest. If there are no distractions then you don't have to labor. You have to labor, because God knows the reality that you live in this world with all its problem and all its attractions. Problems and attractions, that is, the wealth and the problems

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and you have the flesh too. This body which is connected to this world. We are not living in other worldly experience. We are living in the within the body experience. So, you have all these cares and all the cares bring distraction. The Word is also there. It's a simple thing we all go through. The Word is being preached. We have the Word in our head, in our mind, and we have all these cares and distractions. And what happens? They choke the Word. Why does it choke the Word? Because we did not enter into His rest. So, you cannot blame your problems, because the problems are the same. Mary is there. Martha is there. It's their house. So, both are facing the same problem. Twenty people have come into the house. All have to be fed. One chose to sit down. One chose to be distracted. It's a choice one makes. The problems are identical to both. That's what we see in the book of Ruth. Naomi is a widow. Ruth is a widow. Ruth is in a worse shape than Naomi, because Ruth is going into a hostile land as a pagan. Well, Naomi is returning to her homeland. She's got everybody whom she knows. But she's proud. She will not go out. This is a gentile girl. But both are widows. This one has lost her husband and her son. This was has lost her husband and has no sons. So, both are widows, but they react completely differently. So, don't blame your problems. It's our response to our problems. What is our spiritual posture? Mary, Scripture says, sat down. Why did she sit down? It's not that she didn't have burdens, she cast her burdens onto Jesus. We know that. *1 Peter 5:7*, for all the brothers who are watching.

### *1 Peter 5:7*

*<sup>7</sup>casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*

By now they have testimonies of Jesus and what He is all about. The problem is that we are able to apply faith in one area and not able to apply faith in the other area. We are like the children of Israel. Okay, He parted the Red Sea, but can He give us food? He gave them food. Oh, He gave us food, can He give us water? He gave us water. O, He gave us food and water, can He give us meat? That's our problem. We compartmentalize our faith. That's our problem. Our faith it's like we leave streaks on the wall of our soul. I believe this. I believe this and the rest are dark areas. We don't whitewash the whole thing with the Word of God. We leave streaks. That's the difference between a zebra and a horse. They're both horses, but the zebra has got streaks. It's like the story of a guy who bought a color camera, put a color film and took the picture of a zebra. Photographers understood it. So, do we understand what is happening over here? If Jesus could do all these things, we have to grow in our faith. I believed in Him in this. I believed in Him in this. These areas are there unfilled. You know what, I'm going to put a blank check. All things are possible with down. I'm just going to sit down. That's why I'm not even asking anybody, "Please, you know we have all these things to take care of, Sammy will post the Church's account number. Send in your tithes and offerings." I'm not even asking. If the quarantine was decided by God, then the provision was also decided by God. I'm not going to fear. I've never feared all these years, why should I fear now? Now, I should exercise even more faith that before. It's the test of my faith. At the end of the day, I'm at the top and I have to take the decisions and I'm not going to fear. I believe it is going to come through. It will come through, because everything is a test of faith. Do you believe God is faithful? The integrity and the very character of God, we cannot question. This is the problem with unbelief. Unbelief is questioning the character of God. And I cannot question the character of God. I believe it will come through. We will be clear this month also. He has taken us through every month and actually we are eating too much. But it's good. The problem is you know, what happens... spiritual children and all who are watching listen, our major issue is that, when a problem comes we start fasting and prayer. But that's not when we fast and pray. Fasting and praying should be your lifestyle so that when the problem comes you know how you handle. Now feast and eat, because now you need strength to do your work, because the work has come. But you were not preparing for the work when the work came. You were always preparing. So, when the trouble came you know what to do. That's why Jesus says, "When you fast..." "When the day of evil comes..." that is not the day when you put on the belt of truth. You always have been wearing it, so now that the day of evil has come. You stand.

Martha was distracted. Because she was distracted, she did not listen. Think about it. The very living Word is in a seating room. God is speaking to her. Literally, God has entered the house. How many houses did Jesus actually go and repeatedly? What a blessing! Jesus has gone into the house and He is speaking. Now the Word is coming into your houses. Are you sitting? Don't blame your children. Do you know what? All our children and I know there are so many children in our homes who are sitting there with a notebook and pen and they are listening. Do you know why? They are all children but some children were taught the value of the Word of God and trained in it. So, don't blame your children. Don't feel condemned. Start now and say, "All these things can be taught." How do I know? It's because I get all the pictures from the mothers. They sent me the photos of all the notes the children have written. I get excited by all the things children are doing. Who said you cannot teach a child? You can teach a child. I am not talking about babies; I am talking about the small ones.

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This discipline has to be learned in these 21 days, 'how to be still'. The Word is coming into your living rooms now. Are you listening? Are you concentrating? The living Word came into Martha's living room and she remained unfruitful because the cares choked her. So, we have to decide practically; mentally prepare. Both are sisters, same space, same preacher, same Word; one heard and one didn't. Two different reactions! And she comes and accuses the Lord. That's the problem. Do you know when you accuse the Lord? It's because you do not hear from the Lord! Do you know when we accuse the Lord? It's when we do not hear from the Lord, we accuse the Lord.

### **Luke 10:40**

***<sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."***

Do you know why you accuse God? It's because you do not hear from God. Do you know in those 40 years in the wilderness, there was only one man who never complained? And his name was Moses. Do you know why? It's because he heard. Do you know why all the others complained? It's because they never heard. Jesus' reaction is there in verse 41.

### **Luke 10:41-42**

***<sup>41</sup> And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. <sup>42</sup> But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."***

What is that good part? "She has learned how to enter into My rest." One thing! She has learned to hear. You will see the difference if you go to *John 12: 1-7*. Did Martha learn that lesson? No! But she is a nice girl. No issues! She doesn't get offended or anything.

Now, this is the end of Jesus' ministry.

### **John 12:1-7**

***Then, six days before the Passover,***

That means this is His last visit to that house. They don't know. He is not going into that house again. Last opportunity in that house to serve Him!

***Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.***

Martha is still serving. Thank you Martha! You are still busy.

***<sup>3</sup> Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. <sup>4</sup> But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.***

We have a secret about Judas here. Let's leave Judas out.

***<sup>7</sup> But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.***

Did you see that? Why did Mary do this? It's because she heard. From whom? Not Jesus, from the Holy Spirit! Do you know how she heard from the Holy Spirit? It's because she had learned to sit at the feet of Jesus. When you learn to sit with the Word, you will learn to hear from the God of the Word. When you sit with the Word, you have to be at rest. You cannot be restless before the Word. There is a preparation even to read Your Bible. This is not religion. The purpose and the intention behind reading the Bible is to hear the God of the Bible speak to you. So Mary had a discipline of sitting at the feet of Jesus Christ. So she heard something nobody else heard. None of the disciples heard. One of the disciples totally misunderstood and accused her for the work of God being done through her. This is the problem with people who do not hear from God.



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They accuse those who hear from God. She is doing a work that is preparing Jesus for His glory. Only she heard, even the disciples did not hear. If Peter had heard, Peter would have asked, "Mary, do you have any oil here?"

"Why?"

"Because I heard from the Spirit something. The Lord needs to be anointed today." Nobody heard. So it's not how long you walked with Jesus in the physical realm, are you hearing when you are walking? Are you hearing? "I have gone to Church for past 50 years!" Good for you! Are you hearing? You cannot take it out because that's the most important component of faith. Faith comes from hearing. If you take 'hearing' out, everything is gone. How do you live by faith? This is the most fundamental principle of faith. Faith hears!

### **Ephesians 2:8-10**

**<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.**

So, that's the beginning of salvation!

**<sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship...**

Meaning, you are saved now from inside. Spirit of God has come. A new person has been born inside, created in Christ Jesus. For what?

***...created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.***

So before we were formed here, God had already prepared what we should do. Now that I am here, my priority should be- 'I need to hear what is that I have to do.' Lot of things, which are already written how I should live. That's a different thing. That's not what it is talking about. It is talking about the works I need to do. Those are the works of faith. Should I feed the poor? Yes, if you see a poor, feed him. You don't have to be told about it. It's written already. That's all there. We are not talking about that. We are talking about something that is specific to everyone. Certain things, which are written for you in His book! These are the works of faith. Works of 'your' faith! Works of my faith! It's important. Absolutely important! Look at that- *God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

### **2 Corinthians 5:7**

**<sup>7</sup> For we walk by faith, not by sight.**

There are lot of things, the world is controlled by sight. Believers are different. Believers are controlled by faith. There are a lot of things which match with sight and faith. Common areas- honesty, integrity and all! No religion will say, 'lie'. Nobody will say 'cheat' unless it's the old red Indian religions because that was also different. Red Indians were like this – If I steal from my tribe, then I am a thief, but if I managed to steal from another tribe his horse, I am a hero because I learned the art of how to sneak through everything undetected and steal his horse. So you can be a warrior because you have learned how to move through the grass and the terrain and without being detected. When you left, you left your tracks also. Basically for them stealing meant they were training them to be warriors. So you have to read it their way otherwise you will call them thief. Different cultures worked in different ways. But these are religions, these are man's.

There are lot of things that may be common. But that's not what we are talking about. We are called to walk by faith. Faith life is a walk. Faith is a lifestyle. Sight is also a lifestyle. Sight is also a walk. But faith hears! What is the intention behind being still? To hear! We have to identify within us the causes of restlessness. Deal with those things. While we are doing this live streaming and all, suddenly one crackle from there and we immediately identify. Sammy runs over to that mixer and he knows which knob to turn. If he turns wrong knob, the volume will turn up from here. So he knows. I go over there, I wouldn't know (there are 300 knobs over there) which one to turn. I wouldn't know. But somebody who has worked on that system will know the crackle is coming from here, I need to turn that off and again audio is clear.

We have to learn to identify what causes restlessness in us. We have to learn. It's not like our 'sadhur' going to the mountains and sitting. Nothing has changed. After sitting there for 20 years, he comes down, one apsara comes and dances and he goes and creates a 'Shakuntala'. So what were you doing all up over there? What did you hear? You heard nothing. Elijah went

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onto the mountain, heard and came and walked for 10 years and raised a generation, which would turn Israel upside down. That is hearing! He was also a 'sadhu' in Israelite terms. Another guy comes and this poor Shakuntala is thinking about her boyfriend. He looks at her, "Oh! You didn't serve me? You will forget the man whom you are thinking of. Go!" Did you hear? He is saying, "Do you know who I am? I am sadhuji. Serve me first." Here is a genuine sadhuji, He came and said, "let Me serve you first. Show Me your feet. Let Me serve you first." Who is the genuine sadhu? Yeshua!

It is the fallacy of religion that you have these practices but nothing changes because you haven't heard. You can sit still like this and come out worse than before because you did not hear. It is not your posture alone that matters. Did you hear? Have you dealt with the restlessness in your soul and handed it over to Him? You cannot handle it on your own. You have to handle it one by one by one to Him. "Lord, I am worried about the finances. I am going to come every day. You said, *if you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth!* Every day, I am going to come and lay it at Your feet, Lord, until it is gone. I lay my finances at Your feet and I believe You are my provision, my provider and You will take care of me." Two days, three days, four days, five days and after some time, you will realize it is gone. Do you know why it is gone? It's because you actually, really, practically and spiritually laid it at His feet and He took it. The problem is every day you laid it earlier and then when you got up, you took it back. One day, you laid it there and He took it. You are free! Faith has to be practiced over and over and over again until it becomes part of your soul. So we have to learn and remember- worry is a sin, anxiety is a sin, doubt is a sin, unbelief is a terrible sin. *Cast your burdens unto the Lord.*

### **Psalms 55:22**

***<sup>22</sup>Cast your burden on the Lord, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.***

Take a look at that. Didn't God declare me righteous? Didn't He declare me just? Then He is speaking to me. He said, "You shall not be moved." So why should Corona Virus move me? I have to take the precautions. That is all good but why should I be moved about it? You said, the righteous shall not be moved. I am not looking at if I did anything righteous yesterday or today I did something. No! You declared me righteous. I will go by Your verdict. If there is anything unrighteous You are showing in me, I am going to repent, I will confess and again I am going to bank it on Your faithfulness and Your justice. It says, You cleanse me of all unrighteousness. *The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses you of all unrighteousness.* I shall not be moved. Why? Because You said so!

### **Psalms 55:22**

***<sup>22</sup>Cast your burden on the Lord, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.***

It's a spiritual position!

### **Philippians 4:6-7**

***<sup>6</sup>Be anxious for nothing...***

What does it say? Be anxious for nothing. Does it say, 'be anxious for certain things'? 'Be anxious for almost everything?' He says 'nothing'. It doesn't stop there.

***...but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;***

Let God know it. God already knows it but for your relief, speak it out. When people are troubled and when they come and speak, even if there is no solution, they feel better because they let it out. They pour it out. So God says, "Speak it out. I have already known all your problems. You are not surprising Me. I already know before you ask but you speak it out so you will feel good."

"I spoke it so He must have heard it."

"I am not deaf anyway but speak it out." What will happen?

***<sup>7</sup>and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.***

We don't realize that is what we need. That is rest. That peace is rest. That rest passes all understanding which will guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus.

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**Psalms 55:22**

***<sup>22</sup> Cast your burden on the Lord, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.***

You look at that.

**Isaiah 41:13**

***<sup>13</sup> For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.'***

Can you imagine a father holding a child by the right hand? You don't have to worry. That is what Jesus said in *Matthew 18:3*.

**Matthew 18:3**

***<sup>3</sup> and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.***

What does that mean here in this context? You need to have the faith the child has in his parent. Do you think Abigail and Emmanuela are worrying about the Corona virus? Absolutely nothing! They have nothing. You look at any one of the children, they have no worries in their heads at all. Do you know why? Let their father or mother leave them for 2 minutes and go outside. Then you will suddenly realize the worry. Even when they are small and you are in the bathroom, they will cry. You are there but the door is shut. That's all! That's what Madhulika used to do with me before she left. I said, "Madhulika, wait I am coming."

"Pappu, are you finished?"

"Madhu, just wait there. I am coming. Grandma is sleeping outside. You just sit there outside. I have put a chair for you outside. I am inside. You just sit there. I am there." What does the child want? The child wants to hear the voice of a parent a couple of times to know that everything is okay.

The problem is not that our God doesn't talk; we don't listen. Whole of creation declares God. They are speaking all that. God says, do you know? For day 9 of lockdown or more and one set of people should be at rest and our rest itself is testimony. Like little children! All you parents sitting over there, you have to walk like that at home so that children would know and want the God of their fathers. Each day, we have to labor to enter that rest. The lockdown is for us, not for God. God is not locked down. He is still speaking and He is still moving around. Nobody can lock Him down. It doesn't matter which room you are locked down in, God visits you there. The prison doors and the chains were there for Joseph, not for God. He walked into that prison. The fire was heated 7 times over for three boys, not for God. The lion's den was for Daniel, not for God. He opened and walked out. Corona Virus is for us, not for God. God walks through the streets. He's not infected. He doesn't need a mask. He doesn't need sanitizers. Diseases flee before Him. They don't run to Him. Start thinking differently of God. That is faith. Our eyes should be on God. The question is- where are our eyes? On whom?

**Hebrews 12:1-2**

***Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,***

Meaning, first get rid of all these things that cause restlessness.

***<sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.***

Meaning, through this entire race, train and labor to keep your eyes on Him. Eyes on Him! Keep your eyes on Jesus. These weight and sin have to be removed because that will bring you down. It will bring your focus down. Where is your mind at the time like this?

**Colossians 3:1-2**

***If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.***

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You know it is good to read Scriptures but this is a practice daily. God loves that. God is very pleased when He sees the thoughts in our mind. He knows the feelings in our heart. He hears the Words in our mouth and He sees the deeds of our body. Everything! Nothing is hidden from God. When God sees a man or a woman, whose thoughts, emotions, words and deeds are falling in line with this – He is incredibly pleased. That’s what He was talking about Jesus. *“This is My beloved Son. I am well pleased with Him.”* Lot of people regularly, faithfully attend Church but miss hearing. Even now, hearing requires that atmosphere. You look and learn from Old Testament pictures of what God did and now I have to do it by faith. They had to be done by sight.

### Deuteronomy 8:2

***<sup>2</sup>And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.***

God led you. The Lord your God led you. You need to remember that. They were led. Where did He lead them? Into the wilderness! A place of quietness! You always have to realize from this pattern, God took an entire nation and led them into the wilderness. Why did He lead them into the wilderness? What kind of a place did He lead them? Into a quiet place! So I also need quietness in the soul to hear from God. I don’t have to go search for a quiet place. It’s good if you have but even if you don’t have, you need to have quietness in your soul, away from distractions. It’s good to have a place like that. He took them into a quiet place. He not only led them into a quiet place, He led them into quiet place where there were no resources. A quiet place without resources because if there are resources, then the quiet place is irrelevant.

Lockdown has come, it’s absolutely quiet and not a dog is barking like written in Israel. Your bank account is full, you are absolutely quiet and thinking, once this is over, how I should spend it. You need to realize how He deals with His children. He deals with His children differently. He led them into the wilderness and into a place where they couldn’t do anything. What did He do to humble them? What is the most humbling situation in our lives? When we are helpless! That’s why we need to understand the ways of God are so different from the ways of the world. Why did the government proclaim 21 days of quarantine? To stop the virus in its tracks! Why did God allow 21 days of quarantine for us? To humble us! It’s different. God uses governments but for us the purpose is different- to humble ourselves. Then what does Scripture say? He tested them. He led them into the wilderness and He tested them. Only then we will really know. Only tests reveal who we are. Everything is a test. What is inside comes out.

I told you about (it’s not a joke, it is a real incident, I can’t remember, I think in 1930s or 1940s), one news reporter decided to play a prank. There were about 12 or 13 millionaires in Chicago (or one city). So he sent a letter or telegram to all 13 of them. Same telegram he sent with one line- ‘All is found. Escape!’ 12 of them fled and ran for their lives. One fellow stayed because he had nothing to flee from. His life was straight. Do you understand? “Look at the telegram. I have been found!” and they ran. Last year, there was an issue in the Church. I sent a set of people the same message, (but it was “bcc”) “If you are involved in this mess, please leave quietly.” Some people left. They didn’t know lot of people got it and most of them didn’t leave. Why did you leave? They are saying, “Pastor asked us to leave.” I never asked you to leave. I wrote very clearly. “If you are involved in this mess!” because I am looking at the Church. I will not allow anything to happen to the Church. “If you are involved in this job, trying to mess up the Church, please leave quietly.” What you didn’t realize is it was like that telegram. Everybody got the same telegram. How come most of them didn’t leave? Everything is a test. Please remember everything is a test.

Our issue is this. We praise and worship God but we don’t learn the ways of God. We learn the ways of God how God leads His people. If we don’t understand God, we don’t understand His ways and we don’t understand His leading and we don’t appreciate His leading. Bible is very clear He led them. There is a certain way God leads all His people and the intention behind is to humble us. We ask God, “why do You lead me in such way where I am humbled?” He says, “because I am humble. Didn’t I say, *take My yoke upon yourself and learn of Me; I am meek and lowly?* So you want to walk with Me but I am humble and you are not. So if you don’t humble yourself, I have to create situations in your life, I bring you down to My level. Do you think I am up there? Yes, I am up there but spiritually, when it comes to humility, I am down there. I don’t want to come. You are sitting on your high horse over there. I want to bring you down to My level so that we can walk together.” Isn’t that what our life is all about? That’s what He is talking about.

“I want to really, really help you. I am there. Do you believe I am for you?”

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“Yes, Lord! But why are you humbling me?”

“Haven’t you known? Haven’t you heard? I give more grace to the humble. What is that you require in your situation?”

“Lord, power!”

“Yes, son, that is called grace. Grace is the power of God that saved you and did everything but it can be only given to the humble. That’s My way. That’s My character. That’s My nature and I don’t change it for anybody because if I change it for anybody then I change and I don’t change. My character is what upholds this universe. I am set.” This is our issue. But remember God can create all these situations, that doesn’t mean the situations humble us unless we choose to humble ourselves. That’s why in *1 Peter 5*, it says,

### **1 Peter 5:6**

***<sup>6</sup>Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,***

It’s a choice I have to make. Situations don’t humble me. Situations are made so it is easy for me to humble. Like we have set up everything, Roshan and Sammy have been working day and night and they have figured it out. You have free audio, if you have no 4G. You have Facebook, if your internet is little slow and you have YouTube if you have got really fast internet. Three levels we have given to you. You don’t even have to step out of your front room because you are not allowed to. Sit in the comfort of your houses. Your children have vacation. Everybody has vacation. Everybody is locked in. We have made it all possible but the question is- will you humble yourselves and sit before the Word? That’s a choice! God can create a quarantine. God can lock down everything. God can put cops on the road. God can bring the army into the city and put them in every by-lane but that doesn’t mean you will humble yourself. You have to humble yourself before the mighty hand of God. When you don’t, what is in your heart comes out because God is humble and God can lead only the humble. In so many ways, these 21 days, this Corona Virus will define how the Church in the world emerges out of it. Will we emerge even more humble, with even more clarity of hearing and vision? That’s a question! Or come out even more selfish and even more hardened?

### **Deuteronomy 8:3**

***<sup>3</sup>So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.***

The question is- how will you live? Will you live by bread alone or will you live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God? That was the problem with Martha. Martha was very worried about the food. Everybody is worried about food right now. Provisions! Provisions! Provisions! Are we worried about food? We are not boasting. We are also hungry. Now we are fasting because we ate too much. So many people are fasting because they ate too much yesterday. We are eating continental, Chinese, Hyderabad ‘dum’ biryani, (I don’t know what all) fish, meat, chicken. This is too much!

Martha couldn’t hear. All of Israel for 40 years couldn’t hear because they were defined by their hunger. You are defined by your hunger. Will you live by every Word? It’s because faith is generated by hearing. God can only speak to the humble. God can only lead the humble. Are you getting the picture?

### **Numbers 12:3**

***<sup>3</sup>(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)***

He was a very humble man. In this particular chapter, in this incident, there are three people. Read from verses 5 to 8.

### **Numbers 12:5-8**

***<sup>5</sup>Then the Lord came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward. <sup>6</sup>Then He said, “Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream. <sup>7</sup>Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house. <sup>8</sup>I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?”***

So, there are three people. Miriam is mentioned first, then Aaron and Moses. Who is Miriam? Let us identify her by her profession. ‘Professional call!’

**Exodus 15:20**

***<sup>20</sup> Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand...***

Miriam the prophetess, Aaron the priest and Moses the shepherd! One has got a gift, another has a position and third man hears. The point is that the third man hears. He may not have a position but he hears. The other has a gift. That's the question God is asking. "Why did you oppose the guy who hears? If you had any issue with him, why didn't you come to Me and ask?" "Lord, I have an issue. Is he right?"

"I would have told you- stay back. You had an issue with his wife, with his marriage. If you had an issue with his marriage, why didn't you come to Me? I would have told you. If you had an issue with his leading, I would have told you."

God speaks. We actually serve a God who speaks. Will it change the way we think, we believe, we walk, we live? It is not the Word of God alone, it is hearing and the Word of God. Don't take hearing out. If you take hearing out, you become Lot. If you put hearing there, you become Abraham. Your choice is- what do you want to be? Abraham or Lot? Both came out of judgment. One came through the fire. The other, fire didn't even touch him. That's a question! Go to *Hebrews 11:1*. I wish you could use 'Bible gateway' and cut it into different translations!

**Hebrews 11:1**

***Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.***

In different translations, you should look at this one particular verse- ESV, RSV, KJV, NIV and all because this is the most important verse connected with definition of what faith is.

**Hebrews 11:1 (ESV)**

***Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.***

Faith has deep convictions and solid assurance.

**Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)**

***Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.***

How deep are your convictions about things unseen? Faith has deep convictions; unshakable, immovable convictions. Your faith has to go not sideways, it has to go deep within until it is unshakable.

**1 Corinthians 16:13**

***<sup>13</sup> Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.***

Stand fast- steadfast, immovable, unshakable- in faith.

**1 Peter 5:8-9**

***<sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.***

The devil, the demonic realm 2 is above realm 1. We are here, the demonic realm is above and God is in realm in 3 above. So God controls these 2 realms. So, God is sovereign in everything. But realm 2 is there. Never forget it. This demonic realm overwhelms the world. How do you resist him?

***<sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.***

If your faith doesn't have deep-rooted convictions, you cannot resist the devil. Absolutely sure! "If you are Son of God, turn this (stone into bread)." He says, "I am absolutely sure who I am and therefore I absolutely know what to do. *It is written!*" Steadfast! He knew the Word but the Holy Spirit brought to His remembrance what was the one to be used. He had no doubt about the nature and the character of God. How deep are our convictions? *Hebrews 11* is the chapter on faith. We read verse 1.

**Hebrews 11:1-2 (ESV)**

***Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> For by it the people of old received their commendation.***

Why were they commended? It's because they had deep convictions about their faith. Solid assurance and deep conviction about their faith! How deep is our conviction about God? How deep? Let's look at the first thing they were convicted for- the deep convictions the ancients held until modern times. All believing people had deep conviction about verse 3, the first thing that is mentioned.

**Hebrews 11:3**

***<sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the universe was created by the Word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.***

What is the first conviction they had? They were absolutely sure whether he was a great scientist or a man on the road, whether you were Isaac Newton or a simple Isaac, you knew God created this universe. You did not believe in evolution. That's where it begins. They knew *Genesis 1:1* was absolute truth and they received it as truth because your conviction - whether it is creation or evolution- will define how you think about everything else. Churches have moved away from creation to evolution and along that they changed the nature of God and then came abortion and transgender and homosexuality and everything. Do you know where did you open the door? You opened the door on *Hebrews 11:3*. You changed your convictions about that. The rest came in. That's where you went wrong. The ancients were commended because they were steadfast in their faith about the first thing. If you doubt *Genesis 1:1*, you will start doubting everything else.

The first verse in the Bible is: *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.* We do not realize how it affects our thinking and our actions. Everything! Science has taken over our thinking. What does science say? Evolution! What does God say? Creation! Science has taken over the entire realm of the world. Based on science, decisions are being made that affect a society, a nation and whole world. Even now, this whole world over Corona Virus is split into two scientific groups: one is total quarantine and one is gradual isolation. Actually, everything they are saying and asking us to do, nobody knows whether it will work. That's why one of Trump's tweet was- 'will the cure be worse than the disease?' Science will never tell you with absolute surety anything because they still do not know; science is in the process of evolving and they keep on correcting themselves. God is set. That's why these two modules were there from science and Boris Johnson went by module 2 and when the pressure increased, he went to module 1- 'Complete quarantine, shut down the country!' Two modules are being tested on the entire universe by science that has taken over because you don't believe in *Genesis 1:1*. If this had happened in a time when all the scientists were like Isaac Newton and Madame Curie and all believers, what they would have heard was something different.

So the question you have to ask is- when the whole world is being shut down and affected by an unprecedented crisis, where is God? God is not in the picture at all. Where is God? What you have is religion. One man who supposedly leads one billion people, going and bowing before a saint, that guy doesn't even know what he is doing. He is speaking to a billion people. They are all looking at the view, "Our leader is doing this!" and they are all feeling so good. Is there any solution? No! Your country is facing more deaths than anybody else's. Yet he is supposed to be a man of God and in their religion, it says, 'when he speaks, God speaks' (Ex Cathedra)? You are going to some place and bowing before some saint, who is supposed to intercede in this crisis? Look at the plight the world is caught in. That's where we see religion. Two versus one! Prophet and priest! Moses was vindicated. Why? It's because he heard. Did Moses say anything? No! He kept quiet. If you have heard from God, you don't have to defend yourself; God will defend you. A little later, it is 250 leaders. "Does God only speak through you?" 250 versus 2! They just disappeared from the face of the earth. God turned up! A little later, 600,000! You know every time Moses was vindicated. Now, you look back, whether it was his own brother and sister older to him, priest and prophetess, position and gift or 250 leaders or the whole nation; why was he vindicated every time? Because he heard, it was as simple as that. Whatever he did, he did because he heard. God lead Israel through whom? Through Moses. How did He lead? Through Moses and he heard. In the midst of every crisis whether is a pandemic like this which affects us all personally, locally. You know what you need? All you need is to hear from God. That's why I keep telling, I've heard, stay in. Listen to what they are saying, stay in, don't fear and nobody is going to die. Stay in but don't test the Lord thy God. Just stay in. Nothing is going to

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happen. Just stay in and be wise. Don't have Dutch faith. There is no word called Dutch faith. So, the whole question is: has our minds like *Romans 12:2* says?

### **Romans 12:2**

***<sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.***

World has its own way of thinking. Has our thinking being transformed?

Has my thinking been radically changed? Because if you believe *Genesis 1:1*, then God factors into everything. Then all I need to do is use my free will to surrender to God's will. To use my free will to utilize it to fulfill His will. Before any of their journeys in the wilderness took place, God took Moses first 40 years earlier into the wilderness; his quarantine was 40 years. Forty years quarantine this man got. Shut him in 40 years in the dessert. God spoke to him only when he was ready. You'll see that in *Exodus 3:3-4* and we will look in little detail. Forty years is up, he has been a Sheppard taking care of his father-in-law's flock and suddenly, then, he sees a rare sight. This bush has been burning for a long time and then he realized, there is no smoke. Then he thinks, something that is burning for a long time should burn up but it is not burned up and what is this? Strange sight.

### **Exodus 3:3-4**

***<sup>3</sup>Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." <sup>4</sup>So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!"***

That was the first time God spoke to Moses. He turned aside but you need to realize there were many turns in his life before that. There are different turns in a person's life and some of the turns are what we called providential. You without even having any clue that God is doing stuff in your life because you are already chosen before the beginning of the world. There could be other turnings in your life where God doesn't speak to you but God speaks to you through secondary sources. Then a day has to come into your life that you need to hear from the primary source Himself. Providence, secondary source and primary source. This is the first time, the primary source. When he was born he was hidden for 3 months. *Exodus* account says but *Hebrews* accounts will say by faith. So, parents had an idea, whatever way by faith. Somewhere they heard. So, providential that is first turn. Second turn, 3months later another turn, he went into Pharaoh's house as a baby that was a providential turn. When all the boys were killed, the one who would kill Pharaoh is being fed nicely in the Pharaoh house. That is God's idea of a joke. The one who will destroy Pharaoh one day is being fed nicely at his own table is eating. Third turn, getting out by faith. This is what I called secondary faith and this is my term. Not primary faith but secondary faith. You have heard through somebody that this is who you really are, you are a child of God do you know? So, he heard by secondary source and *Scripture* says at the age of 40 you don't have a primary source where you know the ways of God. You have secondary source where you have heard about this God. So, you thought, "Okay, I've been chosen." For what? To deliver the children of Israel because you don't have the primary source of the ways of God so you went through the secondary source and you took God and brought your ways into it and he took the sword and killed. The next thing you know is that he is running for his life. That was God's plan, quarantined him for 40 years. Fourth turn is what would change his life. Like I said, do you know why the world is in such a mess? It's not because of plagues or poverty. Egypt went through the worst situation than that. Israel went through the worst crisis than that in that 40 years it's because there are no men who hear. Ten plagues, unbelievable plagues all over Egypt with no casualties in the Egyptian camp and you know why? Because one man heard and they obeyed him. When they came out, you have to look at this stage by stage before I go there. Let me tell you, why did He lock him up for 40 years in Egypt? Go to *Acts 7:22*.

### **Acts 7:22**

***<sup>22</sup>And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds.***

If you go to *Hebrews 11:25* onwards, you come down to the pleasure of Egypt.

### **Hebrews 11:25-26**

***<sup>25</sup>choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, <sup>26</sup>esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.***



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Four things are here. All the wisdom of Egypt, meaning he was brilliant, academically in the world. Might in words, he was an incredible speaker, mighty soldier. See, these combinations happen very rarely. One of the rare breeds in the world. Incredibly intellectual, incredible speaker and soldier and had lived a life of sin, of flesh. These four things he has got and God has to use him. He is the one who is chosen, shut him for 40 years. One, take his wisdom out, the ways of Egypt. Two, don't trust your oratory skills to gather Israel, no. Don't use your military academy, wars and skills for Pharaoh to lead the people out, no. Four, a man of flesh cannot be led by God. 40 years shut him up. Training was tough. Incredibly tough training God gave. Humbled himself emptied him and how did he humble himself? By working for his father-in-law, humiliating. Nothing he brought into Jethro's house. Humbled him and then he heard. He had to be brought to the end of himself and when he was ready, God knew when he was ready. God knows everyone of us when we are ready and then he speaks to us. It's our job to get ready. It's not that God's does speak; He knows when He can speak to us. He spoke to me in 1988 and I said no way I am coming into full time ministry. He kicked me in by 1994 and I was just waiting for Him to speak again. He said, I'm calling you and I said, "Here I am." Six years have passed by and he knows when we are ready to hear Him. He doesn't waste words please remember. God is a Man of few words in the beginning, and then, He speaks to you when you obey.

So, we come to *Exodus 13*.

### **Exodus 13:17-18**

***<sup>17</sup>Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt."***

So, we don't understand God's ways but He knows us, He knows the people. He knows the enemy and people. So, God lead the people around by the way of wilderness of the Red Sea. So, God knows each one of us, you may say, "God, why can't You take me from here to there? So, He says, "No but go this way." "But, Lord, that is very far." "Just go that way. I know the obstacles on the way, you think you can handle it but I know you cannot handle it. So, go this way." Because we all think we can but God knows we can't.

***<sup>18</sup>So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.***

How are they going? If you see them marching, you will think they will fight anybody, that is the flesh. You are ready and that's what they think. When you come to chapter 14 and verse 6 onwards.

### **Exodus 14:6-10**

***<sup>6</sup>So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him.***

Who is that? Pharaoh and how did he go?

***<sup>7</sup>Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness.***

They are going out with boldness, march. Then they looked to the back.

***<sup>9</sup>So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon. <sup>10</sup>And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD.***

So, all their boldness just evaporated and this is the boldness of the flesh. You see that? Everything went away and verse 13-14.

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**Exodus 14:13-14**

***<sup>13</sup> And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.***

One man who has heard. You see the difference? One man and that's a different message all together. He asked you to do spiritually. First, don't be afraid. Second, be still, rest. Deal with what causes restlessness in you. Fear that is seen that is causing you the restless in you. Be still, why? For the salvation of the Lord. Keep your eyes on the unseen. Those you are with us are more than the ones who are against us. Stop being afraid by the seeing, keep your eyes on the unseen and deal with the restless in the inside and be at rest. Why? The Lord will see the deliverance, the salvation that is accomplished for you today.

**Exodus 14:14**

***<sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”***

You know why he was able to say all that? Because he heard. You know who you can handle crisis situation in your life? There is only one solution. You hear!

Exodus 5, you know what has happened? He opened up the Red Sea, took them through. Let's look at,

**Exodus 15:22-25**

***<sup>22</sup> So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. <sup>23</sup> Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.***

Pastor Vijay explained how it was called Marah. It is bitterness inside reflecting outside.

***<sup>24</sup> And the people complained against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” (Solution? Verse 25) <sup>25</sup> So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet.***

What was the answer? He heard. There is a situation in your life and he heard. When you look at all these things you need to believe. Forget all the main line good preachers who would tell you, this is it and everything has closed, cannon has closed and you have to go by the written word. Yes, the Spirit speaks through the written word. He still speaks, He is still alive. He stills speaks and everything in your life will change in a crisis. God spoke and He showed him what to do. The interpretations of all that you know, the key point here is not that, He heard. If you go to chapter 16:4

**Exodus 16:4**

***<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not.***

Why? They were now hungry and what did Moses do? He cried out and He said, this is what is going to happen. So, these are all situations that are either facing the enemy which you cannot defeat which is like the virus or you are facing a lack, an incredible lack in your life. Lack of bread is a lack of word in your life. These are all life and death situations but in every situation, in the wilderness a man who had been humbled, heard and brought salvation to the people.

**Exodus 17:4-5**

***<sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!” <sup>5</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, “Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. <sup>6</sup> Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.”***

People are getting mad and agitated and like Boris Johnson shift from module 1 to module 2, people are agitated. So many people are in the verge of spreading. So, he immediately shifted to quarantine concept. That's what political leaders do who doesn't hear from God. So, what will they do? They will look at the pulse of the people. They will shift one side to another

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because they hear and without realizing they are changing the destiny of millions because democracies are run on the pulse of the opinion box, it's all that. But God's Kingdom is not run on opinion polls or feelings, the people are so mad that they want to kill Moses and God says, "Not a problem, stand there and take a stick. You got your stick with you, right?" "Yes, Lord." "Hit." What was the whole purpose of it all? What was the whole purpose of God humbling Moses? So that he could hear and be a leader. Turn to *Exodus 19:6*,

### **Exodus 19:6**

***<sup>6</sup> And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the Words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.'***

Who is He talking to? Entire Israel. So, why is He leading them to the wilderness? To make leaders out of all them. Did you see that? You know why He lead? He led them into the wilderness for the same reason why He lead Moses into wilderness. To make leaders who are priests to make leaders on earth. What do they do? Lead people into salvation. But did they become leaders? No! Do we know how to read? Because the Corona Virus is like a Red Sea. It's like a Red Sea. You can't go back. Why? Pharaoh is there. You can't go forward because the Corona Virus is there. Everybody is shut inside, in their houses. Everybody is shut in their houses. You cannot go forward. You cannot go backward. What did we do and many Churches are doing? We lifted the Word up and God made a way. And He has made, now, three ways. God made a way. But I will tell you what happens in all Churches. Everyone will have a Service today and that's it. And you know what they actually do after that? They worship. Sing and sing and sing. Because they have no Word to feed their people in famine, without realizing – these 21 days are God-given. In 21 days, 5 hours, 6 hours, 7 hours, you can have a set of Bible graduates coming out, who know their God, who understand the ways of God, if they choose. What an opportunity for the Kingdom of God! What an opportunity! Think about it! What an opportunity! That's what I said – these two will be wasted, sadly. What an opportunity.

Turn to *Hebrews 11:4* again, as we come to the close.

### **Hebrews 11:4**

***<sup>4</sup> By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice...***

How did his worship change? How is the first man in the world, who defines worship? Because he heard. Abel offered a more excellent sacrifice. That's what we do. What is our worship?

### **Romans 12:1-2**

***<sup>1</sup> 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.***

Who is the one who taught us first? Abel, that you cannot worship without a sacrifice. And Abel worshipped once and died. God is saying, "I'm calling a set of people who will always worship Me." What are they worshipping? What are they sacrificing? Their flesh. They are a set of people who sacrifice their flesh. They sacrifice their flesh. When their flesh is sacrificed, they start hearing. And when you start hearing, you start your walk with God, step by step. You cannot hear when your flesh is strong. That's why Israel never heard. If you listen to all their complaints, every complaint was a complaint of the flesh. It was not a complaint of the body. It was the complaint of the flesh. You have to understand the difference between the complaint of the body and the complaint of the flesh. If your body is very thirsty, you will still drink bitter water. Right? If you are really, really thirsty, even if it is bitter, you will drink it. Because you are thirsty. What quenches your thirst is the water. The bitterness is not the problem. It's the water that quenches. The water is there but if it is your flesh also, that is thirsty, then you want sweet water. "Can I have tang, please?" "Oh, Sprite!" Have you seen people who come from the west ever drink water? I've seen deliverance Pastors sitting with a big bottle of Pepsi. I think this man needs to be delivered first. Have you seen them drinking water? Wasn't Manna good? So, it was not the hunger of the body; it was the hunger of the flesh. "I'm tired to this manna." There was thirst; there was hunger. God was testing them, showing them what is inside. "Your problem is not that you are thirsty or hungry. If you were just thirsty and hungry in the body, I can speak to you but I cannot speak to you as long as your flesh is alive. You won't hear Me. I cannot speak to carnal men and women. I cannot." These are the stuff that the Church needs to know because if we don't hear and God loves us, He won't us take back but He won't take us forward. Did He feed them? Yes. Has any Christian any complain that he has not eaten. Yes. Are you moving? Yes. In a line or in circles? Circles. Good exercise. God says, "I'm feeding you. You need exercise. Keep walking." After some time, they will

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say, “Hey! Aaron. Miriam. Isn’t there where we camped last month?” “Ah! So, we’ve come back to the same point.” “Yes.” “I also thought it looked familiar.” Two years later. What a sad story of Christianity. What a sad story of life. “Pray for me, Pastor. Today is our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.” Meaning, you have been married for 40 years but those 40 years have been like the 1<sup>st</sup> year; nothing has changed. Have you grown in each other? Have you grown knowing each other? Because the whole purpose of marriage is that you would become one. So, this is not the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This is the first anniversary repeated 40 times. Because everything is connected with God. Because if you do not look into God in *Genesis 1* and *2*, you don’t understand purpose. *Genesis 1* and *2* gives you everything what God is. *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.* “Yes, Lord. That is who You are. I am a creationist. You are a creator and everything, I will go back to God. What does God have to say about it. Is this evolution? Is this evolutionary science? Or is this God? If it doesn’t match, it doesn’t matter to me. God says so. God made them male and female. So, first, know your identity. Are you male or female? “No, I’m transiting.” “No, you are not.” If you are struggling and it’s a real struggle in your body, it’s okay. You understood the Word. Go to God. He will stop that transition. He will conform you in your sexuality. Don’t worry. There is a God that is above all this. There is a confuser in the realm 2; there is a Conformer in realm 3. Go to Him. He will conform you in your sexuality and in your gender. You don’t have to migrate up and down. “Today, male. Tomorrow, female.” There is somebody who will conform you. Your identity in Christ. In Christ, you have to be either a man or a woman. You cannot be, “I don’t know. Today, I think I’m a man in Christ. Tomorrow, I think.” No, there is no confusion in Christ. You are absolutely clear. This is the problem and once you have known your positions, you need to realize – where do I stand? Am I a man or a woman? So, if I am a man, what am I? I am a head. That means – I need to lead. The question is: to lead, every leader has to be, first, a follower. Every good leader is a good follower. Otherwise, you cannot be a leader. If I am a head and I’m called to be a head and I’m positionally put there as a head, am I following? I cannot follow unless I hear. I have to hear so that when my wife asks, I should be able to say, “It’s okay. I heard. Since you said it, it’s good. What you heard is the same. What I heard is the confirmation for me but I heard. I’ve heard.” And that’s where it happens and once you know that you are a woman, you need to realize, “I am called to follow.” And why is Sarah exalted in *Peter*? Because she followed. What do you see about Sarah in the entire *Genesis* account? She followed and she is accepted as a holy woman of the past. She followed. Why did she follow? Because she had deep convictions that her husband had heard from God even when he had not heard from God. She never questioned what he heard. And therefore, God protected her. We need to look at all these things because you need to realize – without faith, it is impossible to please God. Once I am born again by faith and the Spirit of God dwells in me, my entire motivation of everything that I and you, we do, have to be – I want to please God. Read the Bible with that heart. You will suddenly realize – God will open your eyes. Any child who is listening. Any child, who is listening, you really want to know what your father wants you to do? Go ask your father, “Daddy, what do you want me to do? What will please you?” Suddenly, you realize – your father will speak to you. Because all these times you went and told your father what pleased you. So, your father had very few words for you. “Daddy, can I have ice-cream?” “Okay.” Or, “Don’t eat. It’s not good for your throat.” You only heard from your Daddy connected with what pleased you. Now, change the trajectory. Go to Daddy and ask, “What pleases you?” That’s why Jesus always heard because He said, “I will not please Myself. I will only please My Father.” And therefore, He says, “My Father has never left Me. He is always with Me.” Children, change. Practice now. All my little ones who are watching, starting with Abigail, the leader. Start. Establish rocks. That’s your gang’s name, right? Establish rocks. All you, establish little rocks. Go to your Daddy and Mummy and ask, “What is that will please you if I do?” That’s how it begins. Samuel pleased his mother. David pleased his father. Joseph pleased his father. They grew up and pleased God, all three of them. Three boys about whose upbringing we know. Joseph’s 10 elder brothers never pleased their father. So, they never pleased God at any point in their lives, except once – Judah. David’s brother never pleased anybody. So, they have to live under David. You have to look at these things from examples in the Bible and say, “Hey! That’s what you are saying.”

### **Romans 12:1-2**

**<sup>1</sup> 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.**

He first says, “Sit still. Put your body on pause button. Then, start hearing My Word.” That is what Mary did. You know what? She looks. 20 people have come in. More are coming in. Our culture demands that we feed all of them. “I know my sister will get mad at me. She will scream at me. I know.” So, it’s a living sacrifice for her to sit there. Not easy. There’s a sacrifice involved. She knows, “After they leave, I will get an earful.” She got it when they were there. She thought after. She knew her sister very well. So, it had to be a living sacrifice, quietly, sitting there. It will cost you to hear from God. You should be willing to pay that price. Moses was willing to pay that price. 40 years. 3 years, Paul. 30 years, Jesus. 20 years, Jacob. Boy! These people’s lives, you need to realize. They all heard. That’s what changes lives. You cannot take out. Fathers and brethren, you

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need to hear. When our father Abraham was in Chaldeans, God spoke. And Abraham heard. They had no doubts. They were not children. They were not babies. They were not like little Samuel. "Samuel!" "Did you call me?" "No." "Samuel!" "Did you call me?" "No." Why? Because he has never heard from God. So, he didn't know. He was a kid. "Did you call me?" Then, he said, "Okay, you know what? If, again, you hear, this is what you say." That was the only time Samuel ran to man to confirm. After that, Samuel understood and he heard. So, don't take that hearing out of faith. But we establish in the Word so that when you hear, you know it is God who is speaking and not the devil because the devil also can speak with the same tone and deceive you if you do not know your Word. You know your Word, "For it is written." "It is also written." Who told you? The Spirit told you. So, don't have this hearing like so many big time Pastors have this hearing and there is no Word there at all. "The Lord spoke to me." And? "No, He spoke to me. He appeared before me and He spoke to me." Okay. But what He spoke doesn't agree with the Word. "No, I was miraculously conceived in my mother's womb. My mother carried me for 19 months." Then, you must be an elephant. Because the gestation period of elephants is 19 months. There is one big man in Africa. There are stories about him that his mother carried him for 19 months. Big time preacher. Even Jesus was delivered on time and these people have mass following. And when people do not know their Word, they are opened to being deceived but when you know your Word, when you do not hear, again, the problem comes.

So, this morning's message is – Lord, let me hear. These 21 days, Lord, speak to me. It's not like how God spoke to Abraham. He will speak from within as you read Your Word, meditate upon it or even now. He will speak to you. God who really speaks and in the midst of this Corona Virus, He is preparing and teaching a set of people to hear because more terrible times are prophesied ahead in His Word. You can either believe Your Word or believe the government. The government says, "Uski baad ache din aayega." (After this, good days are ahead). Jesus says, "Nahin. Bura din aa yeha." (No, bad days are ahead). You can choose. Worst things. To the point, God says, "It will be so terrible that it never happened in human history." If God did not shorten those days, even the very elect will not be saved. Meaning – the pressure will be so much that even the elect also would want to give up. And God shortens the days. The kind of trouble never seen from the beginning of human history. That's God's Word. And God asks, "How do you come through that darkness? You hear." Learn to hear.

So, there is rest. There is hearing. When you have rest, when you hear, then God is able to do the works He has prepared for us even before the foundations of the world were laid. And what are those works? The works of Christ and Christ lives in you. Everybody is saved. Now, Christ works through you. Those are the only works that are counted. Amen? Let's pray.

### Closing Prayer:

*Father, we just come to You, Lord, in the Name of Jesus. We just thank You. We just praise You. We just worship You. Thank You, Lord. This afternoon, this last Sunday of the month, we just surrender ourselves into Thy hands, O Lord. And I pray, Father, each one of Your children who listened, are listening or who will listen in the days to come, will first labour to enter into that rest, identify every issue in their lives that cause that restlessness and lay it at Your feet. If it is a sin, repent, forsake and believe You are faithful. If it is a weight, just cast it down. Because God cannot speak to restless people. All of Israel was restless. So, You couldn't speak to them. One man was at rest and You spoke to him. So, I pray, each one will enter into Your rest day and learn to hear of You, Lord, in their own personal situation. So, that every one, when that hour comes, will rise up as a servant of God in their own settings – a true leader who hears and makes decisions because he has deep convictions of who God is, deep-held convictions. Not shallow. Starting from Genesis 1:1 that God created everything, down all the Revelation 22:21, deep-held convictions about God. A mind that is being and is transferred completely in the ways and will of God. Unshakeable, immovable, steadfast in faith and in that faith, men and women will stand resist the devil and he will flee from them. I plead the Blood of Jesus over all the Church, Lord. Our Churches and our people and over the doorpost, over their lives. This plague will pass over them. If anybody is infected, I speak Your healing into their bodies. Your healing. The body for the Lord and the Lord for the Body. Be healed in Jesus' Name. Be encouraged and empowered in Jesus' Name and be still in Jesus' Name and see the deliverance of the Lord. Thank You, Father. Thank You, Lord. Now, by faith, we bless Your holy Name, Lord. Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory. We ask all these in Jesus' Precious Name. 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.*