

A SCATTERED NATION - SPEAK LIFE!

ser5064 God & Country, Pt 3

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(HOOK)

(Speak Life Video Toby Mac)

“Somedays life feels perfect. Other days it just ain’t workin. The good, the bad, the right, the wrong, and everything in between... We can turn a heart with the words we say. Mountains crumble with every syllable. Hope can live or die.”

Think about the words from this song. “Mountain’s crumble with every syllable. Hope can live or die.”

The title of our message today is, “SPEAK LIFE.”

Church Family, today we are going to talk about words...because this book, the Bible, is filled with words that will speak life into you! Words that will mend broken hearts, broken lives, and will bring healing, peace, and joy, even in the middle of a scattered nation. We can bring healing by the words we speak.

Would you pray with me for the message today?

(PRAY)

The theme for our sermon series for July is *God and Country*. God and Country...A scattered Nation

Why is our nation so scattered, so divided? I am sure we can come up with many valid reasons, but today we are going to focus on one reason: WORDS.

We are going to talk about how we can speak life over our nation and our families and how we can influence people instead of alienating them before we can ever share our faith and hope in Jesus Christ.

Your words and my words can cause an entire nation to become divided, one person at a time. Our words can cause division in our families, with our friends, and even in our church. It starts with our minds and then we speak it with our words. And Church Family the enemy knows this.

(BOOK)

Let's take a look at ***Proverbs 18:21***.

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat of its fruit.

Do you really believe that the Bible is the word of God? Every word is God breathed.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Do you believe that God speaks to us through His word? God breathed? If we believe this, we need to take these words very seriously.

Life and death are in the power of the tongue.

Think about it. We watch the news, we listen to words, words that cause fear. Fear may lead to anxiety and depression that may lead to health issues that could even cause death.

But what about when we watch our favorite preacher give a message or listen to our favorite worship song or pray with a friend whose words will lift you up? Those words can bring us peace and joy.

God's word will bring us peace, wisdom, hope, and most of all, life! So why aren't we speaking His word more over our own lives? Why aren't we more careful with what comes out of our mouths? Are we building people up or are we tearing them down?

On social medial, for whatever the reason, people feel the need to share their opinions even when they know it will build a wall instead of a bridge to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Do we pray before we speak? I read this quote from TD Jakes that has always stayed with me: "I want people to know me by what I am for, not by what I am against." TD Jakes

What are we for? For God so loved the world...the world. We are for the world, for even those who don't agree with us. We are for the world coming to know Jesus Christ.

I want to talk about the title of my message today, *Speak Life*.

Are we speaking life into our families, our friends, ourselves? The words that come out of our mouths can either produce discouragement, anxiety, fear, even death, OR our words can produce life, joy, hope, love, and help people to live out the purpose God has for them.

My son-in-law prays a blessing over my grandson Christopher every night. Do you know why he does that? It's because he learned it growing up. His mother told me that she and Matt's dad would pray this blessing every night over both their little boys. Let's take a look at that blessing.

Numbers 6: 24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

You know what really blessed my heart? There was one night Matt had to work late and Mary put Christopher to bed. Christopher said, "Mommy, Daddy isn't here right now, so I am going to pray the blessing over you."

He is four years old and his dad taught him how to be the man of the house and to pray a blessing over his mommy.

Your kids may be older now, maybe even out of your house, but it's never too late to pray a blessing over them!

Most of you know that years ago John and I had a youth ministry called Word on the Street. We had 25 to 40 kids fill our house every Thursday evening at 8 pm for more than ten years. All the kids were from surrounding high schools. We shared the Word on the Street from God's word.

I remember when it first started it was so plain and simple, but the kids loved it. I started out with white poster board and I would write a word and we would do a message from scripture that went with that word. Corny right? I don't even know how we got kids to come other than it had to be by God urging them to come.

I was not cool at all, but I was anointed! How many of you know that you don't have to be cool to be anointed with the Holy Ghost?

***Look up the word "anointed." What is the definition?**

After a few weeks had gone by and I had gotten to know the kids, I would talk to them on Facebook. They were growing in their relationship with God, and I was excited about all God had been doing in this ministry.

However, there was this saying that the kids would say or post on their Facebook page when things weren't going well for them. Some of you may remember it. I won't say the word because they wouldn't either. They would only use the letters, and the letters were FML. I am sure you can guess what it means.

They would say things like, "My teacher is so annoying. I got a C on my Spanish test, FML." Or, "My girlfriend broke up with me, FML." This was actually flooding Facebook at the time.

I prayed, "Lord how do I address this and use it as teaching tool?" So, one night I held up the white poster board and I told them the Word on the Street tonight is FML.

Can you imagine the gasps in the room that night? I told them that they all know what this means because I see it on your Facebooks, all over the place.

"Tonight kids, we are going to change the word to BML: BLESS MY LIFE and I am going to tell you why."

BML...BLESS MY LIFE!

And I shared the scripture from *Deuteronomy 30:19*

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before your life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.

I said to the kids, “Do you guys know by speaking these words even if they are just letters, you are choosing to curse your life. Every time you say F...ML you are choosing to curse your life and things will never get better because you are speaking it into existence. Let’s change the word tonight. Let’s Change it to BML; Bless My Life. Start saying those words instead and choose life.”

Do you know, the next day I went on Facebook and all over it was BML...Bless My Life? There were still some negative comments but they were putting BML at the end of them. “I failed my English test today, oh well...BML.” “My girlfriend broke up with me today, BML.”

We even made Word on the Street bracelets with the letters BML on them and even the teaches started wearing them. It was so cool to watch God take three terrible letters and change them into three beautiful letters that stood for a blessing!

BML... Bless My Life. Choose today, blessings or curses. Choose to heal a scattered nation by using words that Love, Heal and encourage a lost and fallen world.

We are going to take a look at scripture and see how Jesus feels about the negative or positive words we speak. Jesus raises a dead girl and heals a sick woman.

(**LOOK**)

Mark 5:21-24

21) When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around Him while He was by the lake. 22) Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at His feet. 23) He pleaded earnestly with Him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live. 24) So Jesus went with him.

We are going to stop here. This man is desperate for his little daughter to be healed. *Verse 23* says he pleaded earnestly with Him.

We all know what it feels like to plead earnestly with God to heal or help someone we love. This man is desperate for his little daughter to be healed. Then *verse 24* says, “So Jesus went with him.”

But something happened on the way that seemed to get in the way of Jesus getting to his house and healing this man’s daughter.

(I am going to share the story because we don’t have time for all the text.)

In the middle of this story, as Jesus is on His way to Jairus’ house, a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years pushed through the crowd just so she could touch the hem of Jesus’ garment. When she did, Jesus felt the power go out of Him and He asked His disciples who touched Him. This woman was healed instantly of her bleeding when she touched Jesus.

The Bible tells us she told Jesus it was her who touched the hem of His garment. And He said in *verse 34*, “Daughter your faith has healed you go in peace be free from your suffering.”

Remember, Jairus is still with Jesus waiting for his miracle as this miracle is taking place.

Who is God speaking to right now? Are you watching other miracles take place as you are waiting for yours?

It's hard. Sometimes we want to be happy for others, but we've been praying a long time and we watch God do amazing things in other people's lives and we wonder, when is our turn?

Hold on my friend, please hold on. God is with you. Remember, Jesus went with him. No miracle yet for Jairus, but Jesus is with him.

Continuing in **Mark 5:35-42**

35) While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead" they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?" 36) Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid: just believe".

Jesus didn't even address the negative words. He spoke over them! He said "Don't be afraid; just believe! "

Who is God speaking to right now through this passage? You don't have people around you who speak life into you. You try so hard to have faith and believe but the people closest to you continue to speak doubt and fear over you.

They said, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher anymore?"

- Why bother Jesus with that prayer—your marriage is over?
- Why bother Jesus anymore—you were diagnosed with a disease or illness that may take your life?
- The doctor gave you six months to live. Don't bother Jesus, the verdict is in.
- Don't bother Jesus, your depression isn't going away. Your dreams are dead, let them go.

These are lies straight from the pit of Hell. This is the enemy speaking into you through others, trying to steal your faith. Church Family, I've said this before. We have to fight back with the sword of the Spirit, which is the WORD OF GOD!

I tell you, it doesn't matter what people say to you because it ain't over until God says it's over! Amen?

Let's see how this end.

Mark 5: 37-43

He did not let anyone follow Him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. 38) When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep.

40) But they laughed at Him. After He put them all out, He took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with Him, and went in where the child was. 41) He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum!" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!") 42) Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around. (She was twelve years old) At this they were completely astonished. (43 He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this and told them to give her something to eat.

Why did Jesus put the people out of the house who were there wailing and crying and mourning this little girl? **Because they were NOT speaking life into her.** They were actually ridiculing Jesus for speaking life over her. He put them out because of their words which were showing unbelief!

Let's examine our words very carefully because they show God what we really believe. If we continue to speak doubt or fear, God will push us aside and put us out just like He did them.

He will do His miracles without us. He will still love us, but He won't use us for His Kingdom purposes.

Don't let anyone speak negative words over you. Wait for your miracle! It's coming. Keep believing it and keep speaking it. God hears you!

Let's start declaring God's word and promises over our country, our family, and our church! Life and Death are in the power of the tongue.

I am going to end with a short story I just heard the other day: *Turtles Memorial Service*. ([Share story](#))

(TOOK)

He spoke life into this man, and it not only saved his life, but the words of a stranger sent by God changed his life forever!

(INVITATION)

Before you can declare God's Word you need to have a relationship with the one who wrote the Word and who is the Word! **In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. *John 1:1***

God sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ who was with Him from the beginning of time, to die on a cross for our sins.

You see, God is Holy, and sin can't enter heaven. We are sinful human beings. But Jesus Christ took our place on the cross and our sin upon Himself so we could have a relationship with a Holy God.

He did that for you and for me, but we have a choice to receive Him or reject Him.

When you receive Him into your heart, God sees you as sinless because He sees Jesus Christ living inside you.

If you want that relationship with Jesus today, it's as easy as A B C

A...admit you are a sinner.

B...Believe God sent Jesus to take your place and die on a cross for your sins.

C... Commit your life to Jesus Christ.

Pray this prayer with me today...

“Dear God, thank you for loving me. I admit I am a sinner. Please forgive me for all of my sins, past, present, and future sins.

Dear Jesus, please come into my heart. I give you my life. Please be My Lord and Savior. Holy Spirit help me live my life for Jesus Christ. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.”

You have made the best decision ever, to follow Jesus Christ!

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