

## MAKE YOUR MOUTH WORK FOR YOU

by Fubara Ibama

In today's study, I want to show us from God's Word how you can use your mouth to your advantage. A friend of mine says it this way: "As New Testament believers, we walk with our mouth not with our legs." Our Bible reading will be taken from **Mark 11:23**, ***"For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."***

This scripture is not just concerned with believing but **speaking out** what you have believed. Simply put, your heart and your mouth must work as a team in order to get the result you desire. Jesus says: if you shall **'say'**. Many times our miracles elude us because we never progress from the believing to the 'saying' part. The Bible has made it clear that we must put in to words whatever we believe in our heart. ***"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."*** (Rom. 10:9-10)

As Jesus and His disciples made their way from Bethany to Jerusalem, He stopped by a fig tree to eat some fruit off it because He was hungry. But unfortunately, this fig tree had only leaves without fruit. Jesus was disappointed with its classical demonstration of hypocrisy – leaves without fruit and cursed it. It should be noted that a fig tree has the characteristic of having both leaves and fruit simultaneously. It should not have had leaves since there was no fruit. The fig tree was judged instantly because of its hypocritical behavior. "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever", Jesus declared. When Jesus spoke to the tree, nothing happened visibly but in the spirit realm it was already dead. When God speaks, it is as good as done! In Isaiah 55:11, God says His Word will not return to Him void and in Jeremiah 1:12, the Lord will hasten forth His Word to perform it. If God has spoken to you about anything (especially good things), He will surely bring it to pass. Do not doubt it because God is not capable of lying. By the next day, the disciples realized that the tree which Jesus cursed, the previous day, had dried up from the roots and they told Him about it. Jesus' response was, HAVE FAITH IN GOD! He proceeded to say that if the believer shall **say** to the mountain, be removed and be cast into the sea without doubting in his heart, he would have whatever he says. From the foregoing, we can see that faith and confession are twins – they must go together to produce result.

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It would make no sense to make any confession with an empty heart. The Bible says, ***“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.”*** (Luke 6:45)

We need to store up God’s Word in our hearts in order to make the proper confession at the right time. In Colossians 3:16, the Bible says, ***“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”*** Of course, faith comes by hearing God’s Word. In all circumstances, we must find out what the Word says. A lot of times our confessions, our songs, etc are based on tradition and fables that have no bearing to the Word. Wrong teaching will produce wrong belief which will give birth to wrong confession resulting in failure/defeat. On the other hand, if we learn to stick with God’s infallible Word, it will produce the desired result. Some people have the habit of placing the Bible under their pillow and expect it to solve their problems. No, it does not work that way! We have got to open the book, read it, believe what it says and apply it to our lives. For instance, if you have need of healing, look for scriptures on healing, read and meditate on the Word. By so doing, you will develop faith to receive your healing. ***“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”*** (Romans 10:17) You will then confess what you have believed and give God thanks.

When David came against Goliath of Gath, he declared his victory over Goliath before he ever took the sling shot. ***“Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will give you into our hands.”*** (1Samuel 17:45-47) Listen to David’s faith confession: ***“This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand, and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; ....”*** David finished Goliath with his mouth. In Job 22:28, the Bible says, ***“Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: ....”*** Joshua, when he was fighting the wars of Israel, went as far as speaking to the sun and moon and they obeyed him. The Bible says, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.” (Proverbs 18:21; Matthew 12:36-37) Jesus said, if you shall say to this mountain ... We must learn how to use our mouth properly and get results. Even in our salvation, God has given us the privilege to participate with our mouth. “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth

unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Romans 10:9-10, Acts 2:21)

I would like to conclude with a personal testimony: My wife and I were living in Des Moines, Iowa at the time. She was a full time post-graduate student at Des Moines University and I was an itinerant evangelist. When I was not busy with preaching engagements I took up temporary jobs to pay the bills and put food on the table. In 2002, I had just two speaking engagements in Montana for the month of July. So I tried to get a temporary job but there was none. We were stranded financially. I had begun to use credit cards to buy grocery. In my frustration, I asked my wife if God was aware that we were there. My desperation led me to a fast. I rented a motel room and fasted for one week. On the 7<sup>th</sup> day, the Lord simply said, “It’s okay, go home!” I was actually expecting the Lord to appear or send an angel to show up with a bundle of money. But that did not happen. Well, the Lord said it was okay so I thanked Him and checked out of the motel. As I was stepping into my apartment, the phone rang and I picked it up. It was a friend of mine, calling from Las Vegas, whom I had not spoken to for awhile. She called to ask for my mailing address because the Lord had spoken to her to sow a seed into my ministry. The check came in three days later and it was for \$1,000.00. I was very excited seeing that kind of check. I pulled it out of the envelope, lifted it up and declared, “If God can give us \$1,000.00, God can give us \$10,000.00. I got to Montana in about 2 weeks after this event. By divine connection, I was asked to preach in church I was not scheduled for and a lady in that church said God spoke to her to write a check for \$10,000.00 for me. God honored my declaration in Des Moines, IA and brought it to pass in Montana. “Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: ...” God told Joshua, “This book of the Law shall not depart out of your **mouth ....**” *not out of your heart*. Let us be filled with God’s Word so that our mouths will speak from the abundance of our hearts without doubting. God has given us a mouth for us to declare our destiny. That is why we have our mouth in front of us and not at our back. You can speak to the mountain to move and it will obey you!