

The Most Important Voice in Your Life

Part 2

This is the second part of the message we started last week. And this was the last scripture we looked at:

Matthew 9:20-22 - ²⁰ *And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment.* ²¹ **For she said to herself**, *“If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.”* ²² *But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, “Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And the woman was made well from that hour.*

This is the story of a powerful miracle that happened to a woman with a long-term condition. This miracle couldn't have happened without Jesus, and clearly without the cooperation of her faith. Another thing that cooperated with this miracle is found in **verse 21**:

*For **she said to herself**, “If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well.*

What do we say to ourselves? What kind of dialogue do we have going on the inside of us? The woman could have talked herself out of the greatest blessing of her life. She could have said to herself, *I am not worthy, I am unclean, this will never work for me*, but she didn't. Your internal dialogue can place you within reach of what God has for you or push you away in a different direction. That is why this is so important!

1. We all have an ongoing dialogue happening in our minds all the time.

Researchers say that we speak up to 1300 words per minute to ourselves. We talk a lot with ourselves. Our mind is a busy place. There are many scriptures in the bible that describe these types of conversations we have with ourselves, just in our own thoughts: Gen 17:17; Deut. 7:17; 8:17; 9:4; 18:21; 1 Sam 27:1; Psa. 14:1; 42:11, 43:5, 16:2, 31:22, 55:6, Isa 49:21; Jer. 3:17-25; Luke 7:39; 16:3; 18:4 etc.

Some of David's Psalms show his own internal dialogue:

Psalms 42:5 – *“Why are you cast down of my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance”...*

Psalms 103:1 - *“Bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me bless His holy name”*

2. Discerning conflicting voices in our minds

Sometimes the loudest voice in our lives are the voices of our own thoughts. However, while it is easy to discern an external voice, sometimes we are left confused about the origin of our own thoughts. Is it God? Is it just me? Is it the flesh? Is it the devil? That is why it is so important to know the word of God.

Hebrews 4:12 - *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a **discerner of the thoughts** and intents of the heart.*

Once we discern the origin of certain thoughts, we can then take charge of them and set the right narrative. It is always important to go with what God says. Let the Word set the direction of your thoughts (that is the most important voice in your life).

3. We have to be careful not to give in to the wrong voices and talk ourselves out of the best God has for us.

The woman with the issue of blood said to herself, if I may only touch His garment, I shall be made well! She said the right thing. However, many times, especially when navigating through the storms of life, we are tempted to say the wrong thing to ourselves:

- **1 Samuel 27:1a** - *And David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul.*
- **Psalms 31:22 NLT**- *In panic I cried out, “I am cut off from the Lord!” But you heard my cry for mercy and answered my call for help.*
- **Deuteronomy 7:17-18** - *If you should say in your heart, “These nations are greater than I; how can I dispossess them?”—¹⁸you shall not be afraid of them, but you shall remember well what the Lord your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt*
- **Genesis 17:17** - *Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, “Shall a child be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?”*

18:10-15 *Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. ¹² Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, “After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?” ¹³ And the Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?’ ¹⁴ **Is anything too hard for the Lord?** (...) ¹⁵ - But Sarah denied it, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. And He said, “No, but you did laugh!”*

The enemy wants to talk us out of our destiny in God. He will say, ‘you are not qualified, you are not good enough, you can’t to do anything right’. We cannot allow the narrative of the enemy to become the words we speak to ourselves.

When God called Jeremiah to be a prophet, young Jeremiah said, “I cannot speak for I am a youth”. God said to him, “Do not say, I am a youth”!

Jeremiah 1:6-9 - *Then said I: “Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth.”⁷ But the Lord said to me: “Do not say, ‘I am a youth, for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. ⁸ Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you,” says the Lord ⁹ Then the Lord put*

forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

Jeremiah gave in to the thoughts that were prevalent in his mind: thoughts of inadequacy and inferiority. He saw himself not qualified. God had to correct that. God's voice is always the most important voice in our lives! Later, Jeremiah declared,

Jeremiah 15:16 - *Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts.*

4. Dealing with worry

Matthew 6:25 KJV - *Therefore I say unto you, take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.*

This is precisely what we think about all the time. Most of the conversations we have with ourselves are precisely around these topics. Yet Jesus says, 'take no thought'.

V.31 - *Therefore **do not worry, saying**, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'*

Do not worry, saying!

Worry always wants to say something. Worry always wants to prevail and speak the loudest. No wonder so many of us live stressed out and without peace. We talk ourselves into more and more worry. We need to correct our conversation.

Conclusion

After His resurrection, Jesus said told the disciples,

Luke 24:38- *And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts?"*

Message Translation says, "don't let those doubting questions take over" – in other words, don't let that kind of narrative prevail.

Let the most important voice, the voice of God, be what your mind thinks, all the time.

Also, let us be like the woman with the issue of blood and speak faith!

Matthew 9: 21 ***For she said to herself**, "If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well." 22 But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; your **faith** has made you well."*