

The Power of Affirmative Prayer
Discussion Notes- July 27, 2025

1. What's one thing you prayed for this week—big or small?

This week's sermon highlighted the power of affirmative prayer and how the words we speak shape our lives. Scripture reminds us that life and death are in the power of the tongue, and our words can either align us with God's promises or trap us in doubt. The story of Zachariah showed how unbelief can delay what God desires to do, while faith-filled speech opens the door for His power to move. We were challenged to speak life, declare God's truth over our circumstances, and avoid negativity that hinders spiritual growth. In the end, while only God moves mountains, it is our faith—spoken out loud—that moves God to act.

Read Luke 1:11-13, 18-20

"And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And Zechariah said to the angel, 'How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.' And the angel answered him, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time.'"

Zechariah's story in Luke 1 reminds us that even when God answers our prayers, our response matters. His doubt and negative words didn't stop God's plan, but they did silence him for a season. When we speak fear instead of faith, we can hinder our own peace, progress, and ability to partner with what God is doing.

2. In what ways can speaking negativity or doubting—like Zechariah did—limit or delay what God wants to do in our lives?

Read Matthew 17:20

"He said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.'"

Even faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains, showing the power of believing and speaking with confidence in God. While only God moves mountains, our faith—expressed through our words—moves God. When we apply this truth by speaking life instead of doubt, we align our hearts with God's power and make room for the impossible to become possible.

3. What would "affirmative prayer" look like in your daily life?

Read 2 Kings 7:1

“But Elisha said, “Hear the word of the Lord: thus says the Lord, Tomorrow about this time a seah of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria.””

In 2 Kings 6–7, the city of Samaria was under siege by the Arameans, causing a severe famine so extreme that people were resorting to desperate and horrifying measures to survive. In the middle of this hopeless situation, the prophet Elisha boldly declared that by the next day, food would be plentiful and affordable at the city gate—a promise that seemed impossible. One of the king’s officers doubted the word, questioning how such a miracle could happen. But Elisha assured him it would, though he wouldn’t get to enjoy it. The next day, God miraculously caused the enemy army to flee, leaving behind all their supplies, and Elisha’s prophetic word was fulfilled exactly as promised.

4. What makes it hard to speak faith in the middle of impossible circumstances?

Read Psalm 147:2-5

“The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.”

Our God can take that which is impossible and make it possible. God is bigger than your problem. God is bigger than your words. No matter how impossible your situation may seem, God is able to restore, heal, and move in ways far beyond our understanding. As we wrap up, let’s choose to speak life, trust His power, and believe that He is already working on our behalf.

5. What situation in your life do you need to start speaking life and believing God to move in?

Prayer/Closing:

1. Pray for faith to speak life – Ask God to help you replace doubt and negativity with words of faith that align with His promises.
2. Pray for breakthrough in impossible situations – Bring specific needs before God and believe that He is able to move powerfully, just as He did for Zechariah and Elisha.
3. Pray for hearts to trust God’s timing and power – Ask for patience, confidence, and peace while waiting on God’s answers, knowing that His understanding is beyond measure.