

Rivers of Living Water

Occasionally, some of us who print things at the Aglow Headquarters office are challenged. I am because I let it challenge my patience. I push all the buttons and really mess the printer up. It doesn't know which command to obey.

One day I had been in a long meeting and when I came out, one of my co-workers had been trying to print a label for 45 minutes! Unlike me, she has the patience of Job!

As I listened to several different co-workers attempting to figure out a solution, something came to me that the Lord has dealt with me about more than once. He reminded me that sometimes I have to break the words I have been speaking over people and situations, including politicians and maybe other things where I haven't spoken life. So, I said out loud, "I am just going to pray for the printer."

I did not get up from my desk. I did not raise my voice. I kind of sheepishly said, "Lord, I break all the negative words any of us might have spoken over that printer when we were being challenged by it - I was sure I had made a negative comment or two. And I ask that the very purpose, the identity that this printer was built to accomplish would begin to work."

Well, the label sheet was put back in and that printer printed the label with excellence.

Oh Lord, help me to speak life over everything and never death. Let all my words align with words spoken in Heaven.

Listen to what is coming out of your mouth - over your kids, over your husband, over your mother, over YOURSELF! And then break any word curses you have released and call forth destiny from Heaven in every situation. Heaven has a destiny for everyone and many are living far below their line of privilege. Do not let negative words come out of your mouth that would hold them in a narrow, unfulfilled place. Negative statements and attitudes are not simply harmless musings of a pessimist. Those statements activate demons.

When Dutch Sheets spoke at the 2022 Aglow Conference in St. Louis, he spoke about feeding the rivers in our community. (You can find the transcript of the message on aglow.org under the resource tab and look for the 2022 Conference messages. You can also find the video of the message on Aglow's YouTube channel.) He spoke about a dream that was shared with him where the people of God need to feed the rivers in our communities. Remember, Jesus said in John 7:38 that "rivers of living water will flow out of everyone who believes in Him."

Dutch told the story about Elisha who took a jar of salt and dumped it in a nearby body of water that had been cursed and was unusable. After salting the water, the curse was broken and the water was pure and usable again. Matthew 5:13 says that you and I are the salt of the earth. Our 'salty' words can break negative situations in our community!

In questioning the Lord as to the meaning of the dream for today, the Lord responded to Dutch saying, “I want you to stop cursing cities with your words. I want you to start believing that I can redeem even places that are under centuries long curses because I do not desire to judge them. I desire to redeem them and I want you to pour the salt in and cleanse the water.”

Practical Applications

Using negative words brings irritation into your life. Those words irritate your destiny. Irritate means to annoy, exasperate, aggravate, infuriate, annoy.

You and I cannot live any way we want to and have God’s Kingdom back us up. We cannot live undisciplined, uncommitted lives, and make our decrees and see them come to pass. Angels many not assist us as they have been assigned to do. Negativity holds them at bay.

1. All have sinned – spoken negative words – and fallen short of the Glory of God – speaking words of life. Let’s pray together: “Father, we come before You today having heard what the Spirit is saying to us. You have called us for such a time as this to be the help You have sent into our generation. We ask You to forgive us for not setting a guard over our mouths for in Psalm 141: 3 You said for us to ask You to set a guard over our mouths that will help us to keep watch over the door of our lips. We are here to repent and to ask You to set that guard over our mouths. Negativity must cease and words of life that You have place within us must spring forth. Thank You for forgiving us and giving us this opportunity to change what we are saying over our families, our communities and nation, and ourselves.
2. As His people, place strategically in the earth, God has called us to be a movement like the 120 that were in the Upper Room when the Holy Spirit came. What those 120 people did, what they spoke, what they taught is still turning the world upside down today. The Gospel of the Kingdom is alive and active and produces after itself.

Movements do not sit or stand around dazed and confused, wondering what is going on and why isn’t God taking things back from the devil for them. Movements get up and move, KNOWING that all of Heaven is moving with them.

Make the decision now that you will be part of the movement that moves as directed by Heaven. Pray this prayer:

Father, with all my heart, I make the decision to step up and step in. I will not leave the future of my family, my community, my state, or my nation to another. I will begin to speak aloud words of life that shift atmospheres and bring life out of chaos. Holy Spirit, give me the words that Heaven is speaking over my spheres of influence that I might partner with You and see Heaven come to earth.

3. Have paper to write decrees as you take time now, to sit quietly. Perhaps put on soft worship music. Ask Holy Spirit to direct you as you write decrees to speak over your family, your community, your state, and your nation. Have a page for each topic, or even a journal. Now listen and allow Him to guide you as you write decrees that are taking place in Heaven. Remember that one decree, fitly spoke (Proverbs 25:11) is so precious, so powerful that it can cause a river to carve out a new path. It can cause flowers to spring forth in the desert. Atmospheres will shift as you speak.