“Let Them Hear You!”

Series Title: The Sound of Faith
Pastor Jim Lowe III
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hashtags:
#guidinglight #pastorjim
#givingthanks #hearinggod
#hearing #voiceofGod
#faith #whatdoesGodsay
#forgiveness #Godworks
#savedtoserve #overflow
#protector #Expectation
#worry #Favor
#deliverance #listeningears
#Godspeaks #blessings
#servingGod #heartafterGod
#treasure #stillbelieve
#money

{All scriptures are “NIV84” unless stated}

New Series:

The Sound of Faith

Message Title:

“Let Them Hear You!”

Opening Thought:

Faith Doesn’t Only Speak About What He Can Do. Faith Also Gives A Voice To What He’s Already Done!

In Week 1, we learned that our faith has a voice.

out of the mouth the heart speaks…

what we say comes from what we believe.

those words can influence others…

and should be willing to speak up.

In Week 2, we learned to let what the Lord has said shape what we say.

David spoke with a confidence against Goliath because he believed…

in God's faithfulness, power and purpose for him.

There is still more to talk about.

We are quick to talk about our problems…

we're quick to talk about and explain what we're waiting on.

We're quick to describe things that haven't happened yet.

But what about what the Lord has already done?

Sometimes we can forget while we're waiting for the NEXT thing…

we forget to acknowledge what He has already brought us through!

Don't Let What You're *Waiting* On Silence What God Has Already Done!

Our story:

Luke 17:11-19

> **12 As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance 13 and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" 14 When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. 17 Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."**

So there were ten people who were considered lepers.

the bible states the greek word referenced people with different skin conditions.

it was different skin conditions they possibly had.

They stood at a distance and shouted to Jesus.

have pity on us!!

Jesus tells sends them on a journey and on the way they're healed.

Only one of them comes back.

All 10 were healed…

only one comes back.

The 10 people were willing to use their voices to ask for help…

only one was willing to use it to thank him.

So we have our points on what we can learn from this.

1. Don’t Forget Who You Called On

We have the 10 men…who were all standing together.

they all had a similar problem.

They recognized Jesus as someone who could help them.

all cried out together.

'Jesus have mercy on us!’

Jesus tells us to go show themselves to the priests.

As they went…they’re healed.

Before we get further…

They All Knew Who To Call When They Needed Help!

The source of their healing wasn’t a secret.

But as we read…not all of them knew what to do when they WERE healed.

This ties back to us.

we all know who to go to when we’re in trouble.

we pray when we need healing.

we pray when we’re having a financial difficulty.

we pray when our families or marriages are falling apart.

And that’s fine!

The Lord wants us to bring our concerns to Him.

BUT!

Don’t Let Your Need Be The Only Reason He Hears Your Voice!

Each of us has had someone only reach out to us when they wanted something…

what if that ALL they do?

It makes us feel used.

When we pray…

do we only pray with requests?

or do we pray giving thanks?

This gives us room for #2.

2. Remember To Give Him The Credit!

Luke 17:15-16

> **15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and *thanked him*—and he was a Samaritan.**

They all had seen they were healed…

but ONE of them.

one of the 10…came back.

He praises God and throws himself at the feet of Jesus.

Who knows the reasons the others didn't come back.

maybe some wanted to go back and be around their friends again.

maybe some wanted to go back to their old lives…

we don't know…

but we do know only ONE of them came back.

Jesus notices him also.

Verse 17-18

> **17 Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"**

So of the people Jesus had healed…they were Jews.

except one.

Why does he call him a foreigner?

Because the bible states he was a Samaritan.

Why does that matter?

Because the Jews and Samaritans had long conflict going back for hundreds of years.

The hostility had gotten so deep…they usually didn't speak to each other.

this is what the Samaritan woman said to Jesus when they spoke.

In that story Jesus sits at a well.

The woman comes up to draw water.

Jesus asks he for a drink.

She responds with "You are a Jew and I'm a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?"

They Didn't Talk!!

Even the story of the "Good Samaritan" is crazy.

a jewish man is beaten and left for dead…

yet a GOOD Samaritan comes and takes care of him.

That's not how this was supposed to go.

So Jesus knows that out of the people who SHOULD have come back…

the one less likely to do it shows up.

He comes and gives praise and thanks…

when the ones who KNEW they should come back didn't.

Don't Become So Familiar With God That You Ever Forget To Say Thank You!

We should never get to a place where we confuse his love for obligation.

Sometimes becoming too familiar makes us stop saying thanks.

We teach our children better than that.

When they ask for something..

we ask for the magic word - please.

and when we give them something…

we teach them to say "thank you."

Yet when it comes to the Lord:

we might EXPECT him to provide.

we might EXPECT him to protect.

we might EXPECT him to heal.

And it takes us from gratitude to entitlement and we don't even see it.

THIS is why we have to remember to give him credit!

There Is A Responsibility That Comes With The Blessing!

Don't be so excited for the blessing…

that you forget to say something to the blesser!

Luke 15:15

15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice.

Then what we see is when the man who was the least looked at came back…

he came back praising God in a loud voice.

He came back…

he wasn't silently praying.

or waiting until no one else was around…

A loud voice…

This leads to the third one…

3. Make Sure To Let Someone Hear What He Has Done!

This is where the former leaper was on to something!

He didn't care who was around at the time…

because the thing he had been carrying was now gone.

The disease that he dealt with…

now was over…

how could he NOT say thanks?

Others around could be looking at him crazy…

they could wonder why he let out a loud voice thanking him.

But they hadn't lived his life.

experienced his pain…

and they also had not just received the healing either.

Your Praise Isn't For Someone Else Watching…Who Cares About Them? Your Praise Is For The One Worth Praising!

Cece Winans said it well in Alabaster Box…

who cares what someone else has to say?

"You weren't there the night Jesus found me.

You did not feel what I felt when he wrapped his arms around me…"

Psalm 107:2-3

2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, 3 those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

We need to learn from him…

when he has done a great thing,

we need to be willing to talk about it!

Because now there's another reason:

Sometimes people need to hear more than what someone tells you they believe he can do.

sure we can read about it…

but others need to know the same God who was operating IN the bible

is the SAME God today!

If you've been redeemed…you need to speak up!!

Psalm 66:16

16 Come and listen, all you who fear God; l*et me tell you* what he has done for me.

How Many Of You Have A Story To Tell?

That's a testimony…

and that testimony is one of the ways our faith finds a voice!

People need to hear about what the Lord is doing!

Just yesterday we prayed for a 7 year old who had beaten cancer…THREE times!

and she and her parents are TELLING her story!

people need to hear it

yes some might say…wow 3 times?? At 7??

and spend time focused on the problem…

but we ALSO better talk about EACH time, it came…

and it's now gone!

Now we have a LIVE example of Isaiah 59:19.

that says when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Lord will lift up a standard against him.

That each time something came that could take her life…

The Lord said no…

and NOW she and her parents are telling her story.

That no matter how hard it looks…

HE is still able!

We learned to remember our lion and bear last week

We see that David didn't stay quiet about that Lion and Bear.
He told someone about it!

That time when only he could do it?

That time when no one else was there?

when YOU survived that major health crisis?

when YOU made it through that challenging period?

when YOU were given peace during that overwhelming situation?

That's what we need to speak about.

Because while that might not promise that EVERYONE will have the same story…

it reminds us that God is still faithful today.

Someone Else Might Find The Courage To Believe Because YOU Were Willing To Tell Your Story!

Last week, we talked about saying what God said.

We learned that our words should agree with the Word.

But there's more we should be saying.

If he's been faithful to you…

brought you through something…

made a way for you…

THAT should be worth telling someone!

Your faith has a voice…

that means it's not just talking about what God has promised…

it's also saying something about what he's done!

{closing:}

Ten men cried out for mercy.

Ten men were healed.

Only one of them returned to say thank you.

Even Jesus asked where the other 9 were.

That leads to questions:

Question:

How often have we experienced God's goodness but failed to acknowledge it?

Question:

How many prayers have we prayed that he has already answered?

Question:

How many difficult seasons has He brought us through?

Question:

How many times has HE done it when we didn't know

how he would?

Question:

And how often have we made it known?

In July we talked about the demon possessed man…

and out of all the times Jesus asked someone to follow him.

THIS time he told the man NOT to follow him…

but to go back and TELL others about what happened.

There is a point in your praise.

If God Has Done Something Worth Remembering, You've God Something Worth Telling!

We still want to hear your story.

we want to find a way to mark what the Lord has done.

Because some of you are STILL sitting on some unbelievable stories…

some of you are STILL some walking unbelievable miracles…

But EVEN if your story is how is how you're not the person you used to be…

THAT is a testimony.

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Next Week:

The Sound Of Victory