

The gift of gab

Through times women have been oppressed, suppressed, compressed and ended up depressed. It is no surprise.

God warned us in *Gen. 3:15* *"I will put enmity between the serpent and the woman."*

Enmity means hatred, to treat someone as an enemy. The devil has always had such hatred towards women and I can easily see it in some of the countries I travel to. Many have been convinced that women are second class citizens. Even the church has believed the lie and hindered, even forbade women to fulfill their call and destiny. God needs women! If you don't believe it, then read the Bible!

In Judge 4, God used Deborah as a judge & military leader for Israel. Myriam and Hildah were prophetesses (Ex. 15:20 - 2 Kings 22:14). Esther was chosen to deliver the nation of Israel. So was Hahab, who hid the spies and thus helped Israel conquer their promise land. In Luke 2:36 Anna a prophetess was chosen by God to pray through and announce the birth of Jesus. In Luke and John, Mary was chosen to bear the son of God & to instigate the first miracle. In the Gospel of Mark women were the last at the cross, the first at the grave, and the first to preach the Gospel. In the book of Acts, Philips' daughters were recorded in because they prophesied (it must have been a frequent occurrence). And notice Lydia who was instrumental in introducing the Gospel in Macedonia (Acts 16)... and these are only a few!

Called by God for such a time as this

God has a purpose for everybody... Anna prayed and ushered the first coming of Jesus, and we have been called to usher the second coming of the Lord. Like these women, it is good to come to a place of usefulness for God's kingdom. We have not been called to defensively hold on until we make it to heaven but rather we all must ask ourselves, what can I do for God for He has done so much for me.

How about using a gift God gave you... your tongue! In an experiment done in a school playground during recess, after plugging hidden microphones they discovered that little boys expressed themselves through "vrooms, booms, bang bangs", and any other sounds you can imagine, while little girls easily communicated with words. It was clear that girls or women have a greater ability (and desire) to talk. Women's ability to talk is a gift given to them by God.

Called to prophesy!

Before you think you must go and tell everybody their future, listen to the meaning of the word. To prophesy: Greek - *Propheteou* = to speak forth, declare by divine inspiration, to teach, to admonish & comfort. In 1 Cor. 14:3 Paul explains that to prophesy is to simply speak edification, exhortation & comfort (note that there is no element of future in the simple gift of prophecy). Our tongue is our most powerful weapon, but it is a double edged sword. It can be used either for God's divine purpose, to exhort, edify and comfort, to build up all those around us or to tear down, to hurt, and destroy people's dreams.

I still remember the words my elementary teacher spoke to me as a child. Her words hindered me and scarred my spirit for a long time, keeping me from going forward. It was not until I became a Christian and understood who I was in Christ and who Christ was in me that I was free, free to be all God wanted me to be.

Maybe some of you are still imprisoned by words spoken over you. Forgive the person and choose to see yourself like God sees you... Read the mirror of the Word, it will tell what you look like, what you have and what you can do!

The tongue is powerful

Prov. 18:21 says that life & death are in the power of the tongue.

Prov. 10:20-21 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver...the lips of the righteous feed many.

Prov. 12:18 The tongue of the wise promotes health.

Prov. 15:4, 7 A healing or wholesome tongue is a tree of life, the lips of the wise disperse knowledge.

Prov. 31:26-27 She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law (instruction, direction, teaching) of kindness (goodness, mercy, favor), she watches over the ways of her household.

Like the virtuous woman, watch over the ways of your house and the house of God. Pray, prophesy over it, speak words of life to encourage, instruct, build up and comfort people around you.

Speak things into existence

If you don't like what you see... change it by your words. We have been made in God's likeness and just like God we have the ability to change things and situations with our mouth. Rom. 4:17 tells us that God calls things that do not exist as though they did. In Mark 11:24 Jesus affirms that we will have what we say. In James 3 we find interesting word pictures. He compares our tongue to the bridle in a horse's mouth, able to control the beast's will and walk. Then he continues by describing the rudder of a huge ship that will direct it and keep it stable despite the strong winds and outside forces. May I suggest to you that likewise when we learn to control our tongue we have the potential to not only control our will, our emotions and our walk, but also to come against strong and intimidating forces or circumstances. Our tongue can keep us stable and on course in the midst of strong opposition.

The law of consistency

Okay, you have decided to change your confession. Good, but after a while you get discouraged because things don't seem to change as fast as you had anticipated. Well one good thing to remember, the rudder of a ship can change its direction from north to south but how many of you have ever seen one of those boats make a 180° turn in a split second.

I don't think so! It takes it time to change its direction. In the same way if things in your life were going the wrong direction, don't give up because you expect them to change overnight. It might take some time and efforts on your part. Keep the bridle in your mouth, let it keep you stable and strong, keep drawing near to God and soon or later you will witness change.

What's in the quark?

A few years ago there was an amazing article in the New York Times. Its title was "What's in the Quark?" Many of us know that matter and materials if put under a microscope can be broken down to what is called an "atom", one of the smallest elements. What is extraordinary is that they found something even smaller, "the Quark". With further study they discovered that the Quark was made out of..... pinch yourself before you read this! Yes it is real, the quark is made out of sound waves! So you have guessed it, matter and things are made out of sound waves. Science continues to prove that the Bible is true... God created the World with His Words... and we can create our world with our words!

Be a wise woman, let your words build up, encourage, restore people around you, speak good things to and over your children, your husband (behind every great man, there is a great woman), your pastor and all those you come in contact with. Speak good words over your president, over your country. Isn't it good to be part of the solution, not the problem! Words are like vessels, they will carry life, hope, peace, joy, health... or strife, confusion, hopelessness, death.

We are called to prophesy...

For you can all prophesy, one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged...

Therefore brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy... 1 Cor. 14:31, 39.