

## SESSION 4 – FOUNDATIONS FOR PREVAILING PRAYER

### INCUBATION: A LAW OF FAITH

The Bible says that faith is the substance of things hope for, a substance which first has a stage of development – **of incubation** – before its usage can be full and effective. You might now ask, “What are the elements needed to make my faith usable? There are four basic steps to the process of incubation. To use your faith you must be able to:

#### 1) ENVISION A CLEAR-CUT OBJECTIVE

Faith is the substance of things, **clear-cut things**, hoped for. If you have only a vague idea about your goal, then you are out of touch with the One who could answer your prayer. You must have a clear and defined faith goal.

*John 14:14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.*

*If God were ever to answer your vague prayers, then you would never recognize that prayer as being answered by God. You must ask definitely and specifically.*

*Mark 10:46-52* <sup>46</sup> Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. <sup>47</sup> And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

<sup>48</sup> Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”<sup>49</sup> So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called, then they called the blind man, saying to him, “Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you.”<sup>50</sup> And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.<sup>51</sup> So Jesus answered and said to him, **“What do you want Me to do for you?”**

The blind man said to Him, “Rabboni, **that I may receive my sight.**”

<sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

But before he asked specifically for the healing of his blindness, Christ never pronounced the healing.

When you bring your request to the Lord, come with a specific request, with a definite objective, with a clear – cut goal.

God is within you. God never works anything independently of you that concerns your life. God is only going to work through your thinking, through your beliefs; so, whenever you want to receive answers from the Lord, bring out that **clear-cut objective**.

Do not say, “Oh God, bless me, bless me! Do you know how many blessings the Bible has? Over 8,000 promises. Then God might ask you, “What kind of blessing out of over 8,000 promises do you want?” So be very definite. Take out your notebook, write it down, see it clearly.

## 2) HAVE A BURNING DESIRE

If you have a vivid picture, you should have a burning desire for those objectives. Many people just pray casually, “God answer my prayer.” And before walking out of the church have forgotten all the things they prayed for. That kind of attitude will never bring the faith and touch of God. You need to have a burning desire.

Proverbs 10:24 reads, “The desire of the righteous shall be granted.”

Psalms 37:4 says, “Delight thyself also in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” You should have a burning desire for a goal, and you must keep on seeing that goal accomplished.

## 3) PRAY FOR ASSURANCE

You must have the substance, or assurance. “Substance” in the Greek language is Hupostasis. In the English language this can be translated “title deed, or legal paper.” When you have a clear goal, and you have this desire burning in your heart to a boiling point, then you should kneel down and pray until you receive the substance, **the assurance**.

**PUSH = Pray Until Something Happens**

Sometimes it takes seconds, minutes, hours, days, months, years.

## 4) SPEAK THE WORD

You should show evidence of your faith. The Bible says God raised the dead. Means that God performed miracles, calling “those things which be not as if they were.”

Abraham was one hundred years old, and Sarah was ninety. They had a clear-cut-goal to have a son. They had a burning desire to have this son, and they prayed for twenty-five years. Eventually God gave them **a promise**, and when they received the **assurance**, God immediately changed their names: “You are no more Abram, but

Abraham, the father of many nations; and you should not call your wife Sara but Sarah the princess.” Read Genesis 17:1-23

Miracles come not by blindly struggling. There are laws in the spiritual realm, and you have endless resources in your heart. God is dwelling within you; but God is not going to do anything for you without coming through your own life. God is going to cooperate with you to accomplish great things. God is the same, for Jehovah never changes; but before a person changes, God cannot manifest himself to them.

God used Moses and Joshua, and other men of giant faith; but when they passed away and people began to backslide, God stopped manifesting His power.

God wants to manifest Himself through Christ 2,000 years ago. He is just as powerful as He was before, and He is depending upon you.

WHAT BECOMES PREGNANT IN YOUR HEART AND MIND IS GOING TO COME OUT IN YOUR CIRCUMSTANCE.

. Watch your heart and your mind more than anything else. Do not try to find the answer of God through another person, for God’s answer can come to your spirit and through your spirit the answer comes to your circumstances.

Your word actually goes out and creates. God spoke and the whole world came into being. Your word is the material which the Holy Spirit uses to create. Remember Moses and the Red Sea:

Exodus 14:13-15 <sup>13</sup> And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. <sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

<sup>15</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, “**Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.** <sup>16</sup> **But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it.** And the children of Israel shall go on dry *ground* through the midst of the sea.

<sup>17</sup> And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen.

<sup>18</sup> Then the Egyptians shall know that I *am* the LORD, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

THERE ARE TIMES FOR YOU TO PRAY, BUT THERE ARE ALSO TIMES FOR YOU TO GIVE THE COMMAND.

You must pray through in your prayer closet, but when you come out to the battlefield, you are coming to give the word of creation.

When you read the life of Jesus Christ you see that He always gave the command. He prayed all night, but when He came out to the front lines He commanded that the people be healed. He commanded the sea to be calm. He commanded the devil to leave.

And His disciples did exactly the same thing. Peter 3:6 Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: **In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.**”

In Acts 9:40 <sup>1</sup> But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, “**Tabitha, arise.**” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

THE BIBLE DOES NOT SAY THAT A SIGN SHALL GO AHEAD OF YOU; THE BIBLE SAYS THAT A SIGN SHALL FOLLOW YOU.

Abide by the law of incubation, and throughout your life watch as sign after sign follows your path of faith. You have the resources within you, and now you know the elements needed in incubation to make your faith usable. So,

- 1) Get a clear-cut goal and objective.
- 2) Have a desire that burns to the boiling point, then
- 3) Pray until you have the substance, the assurance, then
- 4) Begin to speak the word about which you have been given assurance.

This teaching was from the book: “The Fourth Dimension” by Dr. Paul Yonggi Cho