

Living Your Dream Series:
“The Power of Confession”
Pastor Rick Shelton
May 16, 2010

Romans 4:17 (NKJV) *“(as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;”*

- This shows us the power of our words. More than anything else, the words of our mouth get us into trouble. It is so important to line up our mouth with the Word!
- We need to focus on the statement “God calls those things which do not exist as though they did”. This shows us the importance of our words. God calls things to exist and He asks us to do the same.
- Pastor Rick feels the need to qualify what he is saying about confessions of the mouth because of the abuses of the past – such as “name it and claim it”. This is not a gimmick. The Bible never says you can have what you say. There is a lot more to it than that. It is about your heart not your head.
- The Bible says we are to believe it in our heart first and that isn’t an easy quick thing!!!
- Our speaking must be lined up with the Word, not according to what is going on in the world – our fears, doubts, criticisms, and skepticisms.
- We need to speak where good, blessings, abundance, righteousness are coming out of our mouths.
- **Ephesians 4** tells us to let only that which ministers grace to the hearer come out of our mouths.
- Your tongue affects your relationships. Don’t criticize and judge. Don’t say whatever comes to your mind.
- Here is some personal advice:
 - When people are going through tough times, people don’t know how to talk to them. They don’t need your advice, they need your understanding.
 - Five years ago, Pastor Rick and Pastor Donna went to a counseling place to make their good marriage better. They asked Pastor Donna to tell them something, and Pastor Rick interrupted them and started talking. This was exactly what he should not have done. Women don’t talk to be fixed, they talk to be understood.
- People need to give you entrance into their lives in order to speak and give advice. If they don’t, just love and encourage them.
- Look at **Romans 4:17** again. How can it be that He calls those things which do not exist as though they did? Let’s break down this lesson to understand it.
 - God says to Abraham, “I have made you a father of many nations”.
 - Abraham believed God, “in the presence of Him whom he believed”.
 - God spoke then Abraham believed.
 - When we get a Word from God down in our soul, we believe and faith comes.
 - When faith comes; to God, it is done.
- You can pray over something before faith comes. To God, it is not done yet. But you can **pray through** something till God speaks to you and adjusts your mindset. Then a seed of faith drops in your heart and to God, at that moment, it is done! When this happens, you know it. From that point on you pray from a point of knowing it is done.
- Don’t call something done till you pray and until you know it is!
- When the verse says “He calls those things which do not exist as though they did”, it means they don’t exist in this physical realm but they do in the spiritual. We live in two worlds; the natural and the spiritual.
- We must grasp the fact that we are spirit beings; and live in the spiritual realm as much as the natural.
- Right now, in church, there are more angels here than people – if God would only open our eyes to see.
- When Elijah was surrounded by the enemy, he prayed that his servant’s eyes would be opened. His servant then saw the hills filled with angels. Elijah could see them because he lived in the spirit realm as much as he lived in the physical realm.
- Angels are not fat babies with wings! Look in the book of Daniel. An angel came to him saying he was “warring” against the Prince of Persia. This was a “warring” angel. They are not trinkets you get in a store.
- One time a person in the congregation saw two tall angels on either side of Pastor Rick when he was preaching. One bent and spoke something into his ear and Pastor Rick said “yes yes yes” and had a new revelation for the congregation.
- The spirit world is filled with angels and also demons. We must understand how real this world is.
- Sam Sasser was a missionary to the Marshal Islands. He was invited to a ceremony where warriors stood in a circle. They placed two women in the middle and started circling them and chanting to their god. As the men chanted, the

women raised about ten feet off the ground as a challenge to God and to Sam. He asked God, "What do I do?" God said to break through and just praise Jesus out loud. He did and the women dropped to the ground. It broke the power of the incantation.

- The devil's power is no match for God because God created ALL power.
 - If you think this is wild, you don't understand that we are "spirit beings" and that is where our faith functions.
- Genesis 17:4-5 (NKJV)** *"As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations."*
- Verse four says "you shall be". This is future tense. This is in the natural.
 - Verse five says "I have made you". This is past tense. This is in the spiritual.
 - These two versus coexist. God speaks "you shall be because I have!"
 - Faith is when you have prayed it through and know it shall be because it has already been done in the spirit.
 - God said, "It is done" so I am changing your name to reflect that. When was it done? Look ten years earlier in Genesis 15 to see.

Genesis 15:5-6 (NKJV) *"Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness"*

- Abraham believed in the Lord and the Lord gave it to him because he believed – Only when Abraham finally believed was it done.
- You must pray something through until God drops the seed of faith into your heart. THEN you should no longer cry and beg for something to happen, but rather praise God that it has already been done. Your words MUST reflect that same thing.

- Charles Spurgeon, a pastor, once stated that **Psalm 2** should be viewed like a three act play.

Psalm 2:1-3 (NKJV) *"Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us break their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us."*

- Verses 1-3 / Act 1

- These verses describe the way things presently are in the world, even as today.
- Curtain down.

Psalm 2:4-6 (NKJV) *"He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision. Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure: "Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion."*

- Verses 4-6 / Act 2

- These verses describe what is going on in heaven while all the other stuff is happening on the earth.
- God sits in the heavens and laughs at the silly strategies of the enemy, knowing they can't stop His plan.
- Your back may be up against the wall but look at these verses. This will not be your undoing!!
- You may be going through a lot of "junk" right now, but if you could peel back the curtain to see what was going on in the heavens, you would know God is not bothered by that because He knows it is not your undoing. He is still on the throne and you are His child.
- Curtain down.

Psalm 2:7-9 (NKJV) *"I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to me, "You are My Son, today I have begotten you. Ask of Me, and I will give you The nations for your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; you shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel."*

- Verses 7-9 / Act 3

- This is the picture of the authority of the believer. Not just any Christian but the one who KNOWS in whom he believes and knows his authority. The one that knows he is the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.
- This is the one who knows it is not by his might and power but by the spirit of God that has been bought for him through the blood of Christ.
- This is not just any person but the person who knows that God is fighting for him and that angels are in battle for him against the enemy in their life.
- This is the person who has the Word of God on their lips and in their hand and who stands with the blood of Jesus Christ.

• **SATAN CANNOT CROSS THE BLOOD LINE!**

- God says "You are My Son, today I have begotten you. Ask of Me, and I will give you the nations."
- This is for those who know who we are and know Satan's defeat. Who know what runs through our veins and what authority we have. To us God gives us the authority to ask Him for the nations.
- If you can ask for nations, then ask for healing, for your marriage, for your kids, for your finances.
- Once you grasp this, you too will be a fanatic fan. You won't be able to keep quiet.