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[2Ki 4:18-37 NASB95] 18 When the child was grown, the day came that he went out to his father to the reapers. 19 He said to his father, "My head, my head." And he said to his servant, "Carry him to his mother." 20 When he had taken him and brought him to his mother, he sat on her lap until noon, and [then] died. 21 She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut [the door] behind him and went out. 22 Then she called to her husband and said, "Please send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys, that I may run to the man of God and return." 23 He said, "Why will you go to him today? It is neither new moon nor sabbath." And she said, "[It will be] well." 24 Then she saddled a donkey and said to her servant, "Drive and go forward; do not slow down the pace for me unless I tell you." 25 So she went and came to the man of God to Mount Carmel. When the man of God saw her at a distance, he said to Gehazi his servant, "Behold, there is the Shunammite. 26 "Please run now to meet her and say to her, 'Is it well with you? Is it well with your husband? Is it well with the child?" And she answered, "It is well." 27 When she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught hold of his feet. And Gehazi came near to push her away; but the man of God said, "Let her alone, for her soul is troubled within her; and the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me." 28 Then she said, "Did I ask for a son from my lord? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me'?" 29 Then he said to Gehazi, "Gird up your loins and take my staff in your hand, and go your way; if you meet any man, do not salute him, and if anyone salutes you, do not answer him; and lay my staff on the lad's face." 30 The mother of the lad said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." And he arose and followed her. 31 Then Gehazi passed on before them and laid the staff on the lad's face, but there was no sound or response. So he returned to meet him and told him, "The lad has not awakened." 32 When Elisha came into the house, behold the lad was dead and laid on his bed. 33 So he entered and shut the door behind them both and prayed to the LORD. 34 And he went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth and his eyes on his eyes and his hands on his hands. and he stretched himself on him; and the flesh of the child became warm. 35 Then he returned and walked in the house once back and forth, and went up and stretched himself on him; and the lad sneezed seven times and the lad opened his eyes. 36 He called Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite." So he called her. And when she came in to him, he said, "Take up your son." 37 Then she went in and fell at his feet and bowed herself to the ground, and she took up her son and went out.

- The Bible teaches that there is power in the words we speak.
- We will have the results (eat the fruit) of our words: positive or negative.
- We see this illustrated in a story about a mother and her son.
- II Kings 4:18-37
 - God gave her a son.
 - Son died.
 - She went to the man of God.
 - Kept saying it is well or shalom (nothing missing, nothing broken).
 - God raised her son. He, like Jesus, took on his form. Jesus became like us so we could live.
- Her words affected what God was doing in her life.

Why do our words matter?

Our words matter for the following reasons.

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I. Affects our listeners.

- a. The mother spoke to her husband and to the Ghazi. She declared in the midst of tragedy what she believed.
- b. She understood that faith affects others; she was not about to let other people's negativity affect her miracle.
- c. 12 spies; the 10 spies with the evil report caused the whole nation (1,999, 998) not to inherit God's purpose for their lives.
 - i. [Num 13:32-33 NASB95] 32 So they gave out to the sons of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone, in spying it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people whom we saw in it are men of [great] size. 33 "There also we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak are part of the Nephilim); and we became like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."
 - ii. [Num 14:6-11 NASB95] 6 Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; 7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. 8 "If the LORD is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us a land which flows with milk and honey. 9 "Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them." 10 But all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Then the glory of the LORD appeared in the tent of meeting to all the sons of Israel. 11 The LORD said to Moses, "How long will this people spurn Me? And how long will they not believe in Me, despite all the signs which I have performed in their midst?
- d. Whether positive or negative, we will affect people through our words.
- e. Stone in a pond: ripples of our words affect those around us.
- f. Learn to speak faith-filled, encouraging words.
- g. Family, friends, church, job.
- h. Your words can affect whether your listeners receive God's blessing.

II. Defies our situations

- a. By saying, It is well: this mother defied her situation.
- b. NOTICE SHE DID NOT DENY IT, ONLY DEFIED IT.
- c. She only went because her son was dead.
- d. She defied the right of her situation by her words.
- e. Jesus taught us to confront things with our words.
 - i. Luke 17:6 sycamore tree.
 - ii. Matthew 21:21 mountain moving.
 - iii. Both cases speak to the situation that confronts us and deny their right to remain.
- f. God uses His words to accomplish His Will. [Rom 4:17 NASB95] 17 (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, [even] God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.
- g. Don't allow facts to override truth.
- h. Sickness does not override your healing that was paid for.
- i. Lack not override God will supply all our needs.
- j. Your words deny your situation the right to remain.

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III. Proclaims our faith

- a. That mother was convinced that God was going to raise her child. Her words were evidence that she believed everything would be well.
- b. Our words are our faith speaking. [Mar 11:23-24 NASB95] 23 "Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be [granted] him. 24 "Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be [granted] you.
- c. Our words are signposts to what we really believe.
- d. When we pray, we need to believe that we receive.
- e. The believing comes before the receiving.
- f. Our words will indicate whether we believe.
- g. [Luk 6:45 NASB95] 45 "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil [man] out of the evil [treasure] brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.
- h. If you want your words right, get your heart filled with the Word of God, not a little, but filled with abundance; then your words will be right.
- i. Your words proclaim your faith in God.
- The loss of her son devastated this mother. You will have things trying to steal what God has given you.
- Our words determine whether we receive God's plan, promise, and purpose.
- In football, no matter how great the quarterback is, he needs a receiver.
- Romans 10:9-10 Our words even determine when we get saved.
- Confession: I decide today that my words will encourage and build people up. I decide today that my word will defy any area of my life that does not align with God's word. I decide today that my words will proclaim faith in God. It is well in my life. Nothing is missing. There is nothing broken!