

GOD'S ECONOMY IN FIATH , Week 5**Speaking by the Spirit of Faith**

Scripture Reading: Heb. 1:1-2a; Acts 1:8; 4:20, 29, 31; Rom. 10:14, 17;
1 Cor. 12:13; 14:26, 31; 2 Cor. 4:10-13; Eph. 5:18-19

Hebrews 1:1 Hebrews 1:2	God, having spoken of old in many portions and in many ways to the fathers in the prophets, Has at the last of these days spoken to us in the Son, whom He appointed Heir of all things, through whom also He made the universe;
Acts 1:8	But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
Acts 4:20 Acts 4:29	For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard. And now, Lord, look upon their threatenings and grant Your slaves to speak Your word with all boldness,
Acts 4:31	And when they had so besought, the place in which they were gathered was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.
Romans 10:14 Romans 10:17	How then shall they call upon Him into whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe into Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without one who proclaims Him? So faith comes out of hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.
1 Corinthians 12:13	For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.
1 Corinthians 14:26 1 Corinthians 14:31	What then, brothers? Whenever you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. For you can all prophesy one by one that all may learn and all may be encouraged.
2 Corinthians 4:10 2 Corinthians 4:11	Always bearing about in the body the putting to death of Jesus that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus' sake that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.
2 Corinthians 4:12 2 Corinthians 4:13	So then death operates in us, but life in you. And having the same spirit of faith according to that which is written, "I believed, therefore I spoke," we also believe, therefore we also speak,
Ephesians 5:18 Ephesians 5:19	And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit, Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord,

Day 1

Hebrews 1:1-2	God, having spoken of old in many portions and in many ways to the fathers in the prophets, Has at the last of these days spoken to us in the Son, whom He appointed Heir of all things, through whom also He made the universe;
Psalms 119:105	Your word is a lamp to my feet / And a light to my path.
John 6:63	It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

I. Our God is a [speaking God](#)—Heb. 1:1-2a:

- A. The whole universe came into being by [God's speaking](#)—Rom. 4:17; Heb. 11:3; Psa. 33:9.
- B. The essence of the Epistle to the Hebrews is [God's speaking in the Son](#)—1:1-2a:
 - 1. God speaks in the Son, the Son speaks as the Spirit to the churches, and ultimately the [Spirit speaks with the church](#)—Rev. 2:7a; 22:17.
 - 2. It is altogether by this speaking story that [God is brought into man and man is brought into God](#)—John 1:14; 6:63.
 - 3. God's speaking to us proves that [we are under His blessing](#)—cf. 1 Sam. 3:1, 10, 21.
 - 4. The life of the believers hinges totally upon the [Lord's speaking](#)—Heb. 1:3; Matt. 17:5; Rev. 2:7a; S. S. 8:13; Heb. 5:13-14.
 - 5. The living God imparts and [infuses Himself into us by speaking](#)—2 Tim. 3:16-17; Ezek. 37:4-6:
 - a. When God speaks, the light shines, bringing us [understanding, vision, knowledge, wisdom, and utterance](#)—Psa. 119:105, 130.
 - b. When God speaks, [life is imparted](#), and this life includes all the divine attributes and human virtues of Christ—John 6:63; 1:1, 4.

Day 2

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.

Acts 4:31 And when they had so besought, the place in which they were gathered was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

- c. When God speaks, power is transmitted, and this is the [growing and reproducing power of life](#)—Mark 4:14, 26.

- C. Since God is a speaking God, when He created man in His image, He created man with the ability to speak just like Himself—Gen. 1:26-28:
 - 1. In God's creation of man, the most marvelous thing that He created was a spirit within man, and the second marvelous thing was that [man was given the ability to speak](#)—2:7, 19-20, 23.
 - 2. God shows us clearly in the Bible that His purpose in creating man was that [man would speak for Him](#)—John 12:50; 14:10; Acts 4:20, 31.
 - 3. God wants us to express Him and represent Him mainly by our [speaking for Him](#)—Gen. 1:26.
 - 4. As God's representatives, [we must speak God's words](#)—John 3:34; Acts 2:40; 5:20.

God is a speaking God, and when He created us, [He wanted us also to speak](#). Not only do we have His image in love, light, holiness, and righteousness, but we also represent Him and have His image in our ability to speak. According to Genesis 1:26, God created us not only that we might have His image but even more that we might rule for Him. Therefore, He gave us the authority to have dominion over all the other creatures, that is, "over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth."

Why is it that we human beings are able to speak? It is because [we are God's representatives](#). He created us that we might [represent Him](#). The most important requirement of a representative is that he must be able to speak. If today someone sends a representative to us, yet this representative, being dumb, is not able to talk, then in the end no agreement can be reached since there is no possibility of having any discussion. This kind of representative is a useless representative. [Today we can represent God because we can speak](#). I believe that many Christians have not thought about this. We can speak because we are like God. (*Speaking for God, chapter 3*)

Day 3 & Day 4

2 Corinthians 4:10	Always bearing about in the body the putting to death of Jesus that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.
2 Corinthians 4:13	And having the same spirit of faith according to that which is written, “I believed, therefore I spoke,” we also believe, therefore we also speak,
Romans 10:14	How then shall they call upon Him into whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe into Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without one who proclaims Him?
Romans 10:17	So faith comes out of hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

II. “Having the same spirit of faith according to that which is written, ‘I believed, therefore I spoke,’ we also believe, therefore we also speak”—2 Cor. 4:13:

- A. **Speaking by the spirit of faith** in our practical life is a great, crucial point.
- B. Spirit of faith is a very particular expression used only once in the Bible—v. 13.
- C. The spirit of faith is a **mingling of the Holy Spirit with our regenerated human spirit**—1 Cor. 6:17:
 1. The phrase spirit of faith **places spirit in apposition to faith**—2 Cor. 4:13.
 2. Faith is of the spirit; therefore, the **spirit of faith is faith**—v. 13.
 3. Our faith is the **mingled spirit**—1 Cor. 6:17; 2 Cor. 4:13.
- D. We must **exercise such a spirit to believe and to speak**, like the psalmist, the things we have experienced from the Lord, especially His death and resurrection—Psa. 22:1-22.
- E. **Faith is in our spirit, which is mingled with the Holy Spirit**, not in our mind; doubts are in our mind—1 Cor. 6:17; Rom. 8:6; Eph. 4:23.
- F. Our believing faith becomes the speaking faith; **when we turn to the spirit, we believe**—2 Cor. 4:13b.
- G. Second Corinthians 4:10-13 indicates that **it is by the mingled spirit** that the apostles lived a crucified life in resurrection for the carrying out of their ministry:
 1. From the context of verse 13, we know that Paul was talking about his experience concerning the Lord’s death and resurrection:
 - a. The apostle Paul testified concerning the putting to death of Jesus that the **life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body**—v. 10.
 - b. In verse 11 he went on to say that we who are alive are always being delivered unto death for Jesus’ sake so that **the resurrection life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh**.
 - c. Paul also said that death operated in us in order that His resurrection **life may be dispensed into others**—v. 12.
 2. Paul spoke all these things in the **spirit of faith**—v. 13.
- H. Faith comes from hearing, and hearing comes from the **preaching of the word**—Rom. 10:14:
 1. The source of faith is the word; this is why **we must get into the Word**—v. 17.
 2. The more we get into the Word, the **more we will have faith**, and this faith is the spirit—2 Cor. 4:13.
 3. By the spirit of faith **we may speak the Word that is the source of our faith**.
 4. Here is a cycle: the Word produces faith, faith is the spirit, and **by this spirit we can speak the Word**—Rom. 10:14, 17; 2 Cor. 4:13.

A Christian meeting is not a Sunday service—it is like a basketball game. Since we come to the meeting to “play ball,” the first thing we should do is to put on the uniform. Second, we need to be in position, ready to play. What is the “ball” in a meeting? It is **speaking**. **We meet to speak the word of God**. We do not meet merely to speak, but we meet to speak the word of God. If we come together merely to talk, there is no need for me to labor so much to teach you. On the way to the meeting, have you not been talking constantly? You have talked all the way up to the door of the meeting hall, but when the meeting is about to begin, all the mouths close. **We come to the meeting to speak the word of God**. Brothers and sisters, do you know how to speak the word of God? Are you able to speak the word of God? Do you want to speak the word of God? Do you love to speak the word of God? I hope that from today our meetings will have a change.

If you would all come to the meetings to speak the word of God, then my burden would be released. Do not think that I am too much. Today’s Christianity is short of the word of God. Much of what you can hear in a church building are stories and parables. Everyone laughs heartily and then goes home. Perhaps you will say, “Praise the Lord, there is so much speaking in the church in the Lord’s recovery!” It is true that in the church the Lord’s speaking is abundant. However, I would like to ask, Do you speak the word of God? Would you speak the word of God? Can you speak the word of God? Do you love to speak the word of God? (*Meeting to Speak the Word of God, chapter 1*)

Day 5

Acts 1:8	But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
2 Timothy 4:2	Proclaim the word; be ready in season and out of season; convict, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and teaching.

III. Christians are a speaking people; **a genuine Christian is a speaking Christian**—Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 12:3, 13; 14:19, 26; Eph. 5:18-19:

- A. The speaking God created the universe and continues to do all things through His speaking; therefore, everyone who has been **saved**, has been **begotten of God**, and **has His life should learn to speak for Him and to speak His word**—Acts 5:20; 2 Cor. 4:13.
- B. As Christians, **we all are able to speak for the Lord**—Acts 4:20, 29, 31.
- C. We need to realize that as believers we have been made witnesses of the living Christ; **witnesses are speakers**—1:8, 22; 2:32; 3:15; 5:32:
 1. **A witness is a speaking one**, one who only speaks things concerning the one he is testifying—1:8.
 2. We should **speak God’s word in season and out of season** for the carrying out of God’s eternal economy—2 Tim. 4:2.
 3. We are His witnesses, and we have to **speak Him, speak for Him**, and **speak forth Him** on every occasion.
- D. In the church meetings, **all the saints should be speakers**—1 Cor. 14:19, 26, 31:

Our meetings should not have any form. **A particular meeting could be started by anyone**. Whoever comes first should begin to play the ball game. You may **pray-read, sing a hymn, or stand up to speak something**. You may say, “No one is here yet. To whom will I speak?” You can speak to the meeting hall, “O Lord! Fully sanctify this meeting hall. Anoint every seat so that those who sit on them will touch You, will sense Your presence.” Brothers and sisters, we do not realize how much we have been poisoned by religion. The New Testament does not tell us to sit still in the meeting and wait quietly for the pastor to arrive. On the contrary, 1 Corinthians 14:26 says, “Whenever you come together, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation.” It says that we should not wait for others to bring something, but **everyone “has” something**. (*Meeting to Speak the Word of God, Chapter 1*)

Day 6

1 Corinthians 12:13 For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18-19 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit, Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord,

1. As speaking people, we should not be **dumb** or **silent**, for the **God whom we worship is the speaking God**—v. 26.
 2. Christian meetings should be **full of mutuality in speaking**—Eph. 5:19.
- E. As members of the Body of Christ, we need to be **filled in spirit**—v. 18:
1. **That with which we are filled will overflow from within us**; this overflow is “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and psalming with your heart to the Lord”—v. 19.
 2. If we are **filled in spirit** unto all the fullness of God, **we will spontaneously speak to one another concerning Christ**; therefore, speaking is the way to overflow.
- F. First Corinthians 12:13 reveals that Christ has baptized us in the Spirit into the Body, and now **we all are drinking of the Spirit**:
1. **We are in the Spirit, and the Spirit is in us**—Rom. 8:4, 6, 10-11, 14, 16.
 2. This makes us **fully qualified and able** to function in the meetings by **speaking for the Lord and even by speaking Him forth**—1 Cor. 12:13; 14:26, 31.

You may have the faith, you may have the spirit, and you may have the Holy Spirit as well, but when you try to speak, you feel that you have nothing to speak about. Of course, you say that you are short of experiences. That is right, but I would say that you are short not only of experiences but also of the word of Christ. Colossians 3:16 says, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.” You have to notice that in this verse Paul says, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you.” This kind of tone indicates that **the word of Christ is here waiting for you to let it come into you**. It seems that a person is waiting here, waiting for you to let Him in. Years ago when I read this verse, I did not agree with this kind of tone. Why does Paul say, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you”? **The indication here is that today the living word of Christ is waiting for you to let it in**. This word is personified as a living person. You do not say, “Let the table dwell in your room.” The table cannot dwell, because it is lifeless. Anything that can dwell in your home must be a living person. A lifeless thing cannot dwell. Paul says, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you,” and the New Testament tells us that **Christ is the Word**. Not only so, the **Spirit also is the Word**. The Word, Christ, the Spirit, and God—these four actually are one. These are four synonyms referring to this same one person. God is Christ, Christ is the Spirit, the Spirit is the Word, and the Word is God, Christ, and the Spirit. Therefore, the Word is a living person. Paul does not say the word of some other one or other thing. He says the word of Christ. Surely this is the organic Word, the living Word, the Word which exists as a living person. This Word is waiting to get into you. **You have to open up yourself and let Him in**. (*The Home Meetings—the Unique Way for the Increase and the Building Up of the Church, chapter 5*)