

WILL THE REAL YOU SPEAK UP!

Part 3 - See and Speak

WORDS MATTER

- Zechariah and Elizabeth were good people **(Luke 1:5-7 ESV)**
 1. He was a priest and she was from a priest's family
 2. Both righteous before God - not a phrase you see in a couple
 3. Could not have children because of Elizabeth, and both were advanced in years
- Zechariah gets some good news **(Luke 1:8-14 ESV)**
 1. Their prayers were heard, and Elizabeth would have a baby
 2. The baby, John, would be great in the sight of the Lord
- Zechariah gives the wrong response **(Luke 1:18-20 ESV)**
 1. How shall I know this?
 2. Gabriel wasn't having it - Sent from God with this good news
- The silent treatment imposed on Zechariah was not punitive; it was preventive
 1. The birth of John had to take place, and Zechariah would have hindered the plan **(Proverbs 18:21 ESV)**
 2. Nine months of silence got through to Zechariah **(Luke 1:57-64 ESV)**
- For many of us, the silent treatment is a step in the right direction
 1. If you can't agree with God, at least don't voice your doubts/feelings **(Romans 8:31-32 ESV)**

ABRAHAM'S EXAMPLE OF SEEING DIFFERENTLY

- He had a relationship with God **(Genesis 15:1-6 NKJV)**
 1. But he had no children
 2. His relationship with God had a level of confidence that he could speak freely with the Lord
- God made Abram a promise
 1. And changed what he was looking at
 2. Had Abram look at the stars
 3. Abram believed what God had spoken to him
- We must change what we are looking at **(2 Corinthians 3:18 NKJV)**
 1. The mirror we need to look into is the mirror of God's Word **(Titus 2:13-14 NKJV)**

ABRAHAM'S EXAMPLE OF SPEAKING DIFFERENTLY **(Genesis 17:3-6 NKJV)**

- God confirmed the covenant relationship with Abram
 1. Changed his name
 2. Abraham began to speak this about himself
 3. Gave him circumcision - a sign of the agreement they had
- We speak about ourselves what God has done for us in Christ **(Philemon 6 NKJV)**
 1. We see what God has done for us in Christ - through the Scriptures
 2. We speak these words about ourselves