

## Day 5 – January 13, 2023 - Spoken Word

*“God waits for you to communicate with Him. You have instant, direct access to God. God loves mankind so much, and in a very special sense His children, that He has made Himself available to you at all times.” - Wesley L. Duewel*

### **Topic Scripture: John 11:38-44 (NASB)**

*“So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, \*came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus \*said, “Remove the stone.” Martha, the sister of the deceased, \*said to Him, “Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days.” Jesus \*said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me.” When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth.” The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus \*said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”*

The story of Lazarus’ death and resurrection reflects the power of Jesus’ spoken Word. He already knew in His heart the miracle that was about to take place, but His words spoke the miracle into existence.

While prayer is our way of communicating our dependence on God, our spoken words can be the manifestation of what’s happening in our hearts. There is power in our spoken words – whether they are used to build up or tear down. It is so important to keep our hearts filled with the truth from God’s Word so that our words will produce good fruit.

As you seek God in prayer, ask Him for the words and discernment that may help someone today. Pray that your words would be encouraging, edifying and aligned with the truth of God’s word. Building others up around us with our words allows us to be God’s instrument – a vessel for His good work.

As God continues to fill us through this time of prayer and fasting, He wants to take what is now in our hearts and share it with others. How can you use the power of your spoken words to speak God’s truth in the lives of others?

### **Additional Scriptures (NASB)**

**Isaiah 50:4** - *“The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple.”*

**Ephesians 4:29** - *“Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.”*

**Matthew 12:33-37** - *“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil. But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”*

**Proverbs 18: 21** - *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”*

**Proverbs 12:18** - *“There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”*

### **Prayer**

Father, Thank You that Your Word is life and power to me and to others. Your Word brings hope to things that appear to have no hope. May Your words take root in my heart so that I can bring life, power and encouragement to others who are weary. Place a deep hunger in my heart for Your words so that I can retain and recall Your words when needed. May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, oh Lord, my rock and my redeemer. Amen