



Need Prayer? Call us at 530-620-2717

Dear Partners,

May 2020

What are you eating? You're probably wondering why on earth we're asking you this question. No, we don't need a list of what you've eaten for breakfast, lunch and dinner, but we do want to talk to you about what you've been feeding your spirit man? Are you feeding your spirit man with fear? Conspiracy theories? Doubt and unbelief? Maybe you're constantly on social media listening to endless videos or watching the news for most of the day? Are you the pessimist who constantly confesses that your business will never reopen again? Or that the economy will never bounce back? You may have said, *We're never going to make it. It doesn't matter how many grants we get from the government: this will destroy our business and income.* We all want answers! We all want to know what the future holds for us as Christians. It's so *easy* to fall into the trap of fear when we hear things around us ALL day long. Jesus tells us that just because we live in the world, we are not to be *of* the world, which means we belong to the Kingdom of our Heavenly Father (John 15:19).

It is so important to feed our spirit man with the incorruptible Word of God by renewing our mind every *single* day. Sometimes we may need to do this multiple times a day (1 Peter 1:23).

*"And do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:2)."*

It's not easy to renew our mind every single day with the Word of God. Things come up. We get busy. We're preoccupied with the daily cares and troubles of the world (especially now) and we neglect to feed our spirit man and renew our mind. It happens. That's why the Apostle Paul urges us *hold tightly* to the confession of our faith *without wavering*. The question is, "What are we confessing?" We can spend our days confessing the *reality* of what we see with our eyes or we can spend our time confessing what the Word of God says. That means staying in faith, staying in the power of the Word of God and not allowing the world to steal what we've worked so hard to build up. The more we perk our ears to what the media, newspapers or "theories" say, the less time we're spending with Jesus. It can be hard to **discern** the truth from lies. We begin to question. We allow fear, doubt and unbelief to creep in. Let's look at Hebrews 10:23 and find out how we can get back on track,

"Let us seize and hold tightly the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is reliable and trustworthy and faithful [to His Word]."

God is faithful to His Word! But in order for the Word to work, we have to put it in our mouth. The Word won't work unless we confess it. And let's be honest, as human beings, we talk about (confess) what we hear and see. *Did you hear that the economy may never bounce back? Have you heard how many millions of people will lose their jobs and homes when this whole thing is over?* The problem with confessing these things is that they **DO NOT** line up with the Word of God, and if they **DO NOT** line up with the Word of God, then they **DO NOT** belong in our ears or in our mouths. We have so many promises to hold tightly to! We have countless verses that need to be confessed every day and spoken over ourselves and family.

First things first- in order to have the Word active in us, we need to bring every thought under captivity to the obedience of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 10:4-6). This means first thing in the morning, throughout the day and before bed, we need to bring every thought under captivity. If we don't take authority over our thoughts, then it makes it almost

impossible to focus on the Word of God or confess it. **This action makes room in our mind to receive what the Word of God says and believe it at face value.**

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,⁶ and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled (2 Cor. 10:4-6).”

Once your mind is renewed, you can overcome any sickness in your body. You can use the Word to come against arguments in your family or confess the Word over your children. Many of you might be homeschooling your kids right now and that’s definitely NOT an easy task! You can start the day by confessing scriptures and you can either speak over your kids or they can speak over themselves. Maybe you’re believing for one of your grown children to have a relationship with Jesus. Some of you are praying and believing God for your business not to fail during this pandemic. Whatever it is that you’re trusting God to do in your life, you have to *hold tightly* to the confession of your hope (in God and in His Word) *without* wavering (Hebrews 10:23). And the only way to hold tightly to that confession is by consistently feeding on the Word and renewing your mind. Allow God’s incorruptible seed (the Word) to infiltrate your entire mind, body and soul. God will always be reliable and faithful to His Word (His promises) for our lives!

We’re leaving you with these special promises from Deuteronomy that you can speak over yourself and your family.

Deuteronomy 28:1-14

If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. ²All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:

³You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.

⁴The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

⁵Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed.

⁶You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.

⁷The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.

⁸The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.

⁹The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in obedience to him. ¹⁰Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you. ¹¹The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity—in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground—in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you.

¹²The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. ¹³The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom. ¹⁴Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.

In Christ,

John & Alexandra