

The Call!

After praying and thanking God for answered prayer Jesus cried out loudly to Lazarus to step forward. John 11: 43 says,

He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!"

1. Faith In Action

This 'call' is an example of faith in action. For James 2:17 declares:

"Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

Remember, in His call there is NO LAZARUS IN SIGHT....it is only a call. However, Jesus acts out his *faith* because He believes that Lazarus' resurrection is a 'done deal.' God has already heard His prayer.

We cannot say that we have faith and don't act on that faith. For example, I have faith and believe that millions of people will be blessed by *Insights*, and so in faith, I continue to write because I already see these exhortations being published in books that impact the lives of readers around the globe! Amen!

On the other hand, I cannot expect results if I do nothing. Like Jesus, I need to act on my faith!

2. The Power of the Spoken Word

Jesus is also demonstrating another important principle: the power of the spoken word. The heavens and the earth, and all other creations were formed by the spoken word of God!

Also remember, *"Death and life are in the power of the tongue."* – Proverbs 18:21.

We cannot have faith for a job, but keep saying that "I'll never get a job!" or "Jobs are hard to get!" We cannot believe God for a turnaround in our relationships, but keep harbouring resentment, anger and non-forgiveness and not wanting to communicate. Finally, we cannot say we are believing God to pass Math, but keep saying "Math is hard!" or "I'm not good at Math!" In short, Jesus believed that Lazarus was already resurrected so He acted and spoke the correct and positive words that reinforced His faith and belief: *"Lazarus, come forth!"*

We need to follow in His steps, and do the same thing. What situation is your 'dead Lazarus?' Call it back to life by speaking life-giving words!

3. Be Aggressive!

If our faith tells us that God has already done something great, then we may need to act as Jesus did and make a victory shout: *"Lazarus, come forth!"* In the spiritual realm, these loud and 'violent' declarations serve to dismantle the works of darkness, and secure our breakthroughs. For example, in Joshua 5:6, victory over the city of Jericho was accomplished only by the shouts of the people:

"...all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat...(and) when the men gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed;" (Joshua 6: 6,20).

Don't shout only when you are afraid! Refuse to stay calm and let the devil walk all over you. Open your mouth and make a great shout, for God has already given you the victory! Those walls of sickness, unemployment, depression, suicidal thoughts, insomnia, low self-esteem, anger, anxiety, abuse, drug addiction, sexual immorality, insecurities, non-forgiveness, financial woes, broken marriages, relationship problems, gambling and the likes (you name your wall!) has already tumbled down, in Jesus' mighty name, I pray. Amen.

4. Jesus Is Calling!

Just as He raised Lazarus from the dead, Jesus is calling you back to life! The Bible says that although we may be dead in sin, we can still find life in Christ.

"And you were dead in your trespasses and sins.."- Ephesians 2:1.

'For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you."'- Eph. 5:14.

"But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions."- Ephesians 2: 4-5.

Will You answer the call?

Heavenly Father,

"Thank You for Your Son Jesus, the Life-Giver. Today, by Your supernatural power, and in the mighty name of Jesus, I call back to life my Lazarus' situation! (state the problem). I declare life over this dead situation. Even right now, O Lord, I surrender my life to You. I am dead in sin, but now Jesus has breathed new life back into me. Forgive me of my sins, and let Your Holy Spirit live inside of me. Give me the grace to live a renewed life in Christ. In Jesus' mighty name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen."

Memory Verse:

²⁶For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."- James2:26

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