11 September 2022 Faith, Finances, and Fasting: Foot in the Message Pastor Sharon Bendixen (WTB)

<u>Scripture Reference</u>: James 1:21-25 (AMPC); Romans 10:6-10, (AMPC); Psalm 91:16, (AMPC) Deutoronomy 30:9-10, (AMPC); Deuteronomy 30:11-14, (AMPC); Joshua 1:7-8 (AMPC); 1 Peter 1:23 (NKJV); 1 Peter 1:22-25 (AMPC); 1 Peter 1:23 (TPT)

So, one of the most important reasons why the Lord wants you, another way of putting it, wants the message in your heart. Instead of me saying put your foot in the message, the Lord says: "Put the message in your heart." Put the message in your heart. Because then there's every possibility that it comes alive in you and alive to you. Right? That's the only way you can get God's Living Word to live in you, is because you put it in you. Because you want to put it in your heart. It is a living thing when God sends a messenger to speak to you, even like Jesus spoke on earth and He said: "The Words that I speak to you, they are Spirit and they are Life." That's not the end of it for the receiver.

So, you can even sense the Lord in you when you're receiving a message, but that's just the start, for you. Now you've got to sow that Word in your heart and grow it. Because, this seed, the Words are Spirit and they are life, they must be living inside of you. You've got to lay up His Word in your heart. You've got to believe it with your heart. Believe it. Receive it. And then the way that you and I, as new creatures, with born again spirits, new hearts, we were created to receive the seed of God's Word. But you're the only one that can sow that seed into your own heart. You cannot presume because you sat and heard words, Spirit and Life, that you got it. You can't. Every born-again believer can receive revelation knowledge from God because God recreated you to receive revelation knowledge. But to contain it is a different level.

So, I'm going to go to some scripture, there's just a group of ladies that are late. So I'm going to go to the scripture, while we're waiting for them. We're going to go to... Alright. That's it, that's the one I wanted to go to. It's in James, and I'm going to read out of the Amplified Bible. Here it is. Right. So, you see that's the way... Aw, so much, too much. I'm going to stick with this. So it says this in James 1:21 (AMPC), I'm going to be reading from the Amplified Bible. It says here: <sup>21</sup> So get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness... But here's the part that I want your ear to hear. And in a humble (gentle, modest) spirit receive and welcome the Word which implanted and rooted [in your hearts] contains the power to save your souls. You see?

<sup>23</sup> For if anyone only listens to the Word, if anyone only listens to the Word without obeying it... I would say to you as well, without sowing it, without letting it be implanted and rooted in you, he is like a man who looks carefully at his [own] natural face in a mirror. Whenever you hear words of life, like this morning with Pastor John, like now, they come to you as Spirit. Because you're born again, your spirit instantly recognises: 'That's who I am, that's what I can have, that's what I can do.' It happens to all of us. 'This is for me, this is for me, this is who I actually am', when I'm hearing Pastor John. 'This is actually what I can become.' We all have that experience, but that's just the beginning.

He, it says, he looks carefully at his own face in the mirror. I can see myself in the Word, I can see who I am in the mirror of God's Word. God's Word tells me who I am, what's mine, who I am, right? It says? <sup>25</sup> But he who looks carefully into the faultless law, the [law] of liberty, the Word of Liberty, and is faithful to it and perseveres in looking into it, being not a heedless listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he shall be blessed in his doing (James 1:21-25, AMPC).

I'm gonna go to Romans here. This is the process. So this is the way God has intended for you and I to live our lives for the rest of our lives. Taking the Word, putting it in our hearts. The seed that grows in us, that bears the fruit in us of becoming. Right? So, This is the process. It's so simple. It's so simple.

So, Romans chapter 10 says this, <sup>6</sup> The righteousness based on faith says "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into Heaven to bring Christ down?' <sup>7</sup> 'Who will descend into the abyss to bring Christ up from the dead?' <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "The word, God's message, is near you, on your lips and in your heart". There is such relief in me when I read that. Oh, Lord, You've made it so easy. Didn't Pastor John say recently in one of his messages 'It's not hard to serve the Lord'? I'm so relieved that He's made this way for me to live my whole life sowing and reaping from my heart into my life, all the days of my life. Right.

So, <sup>8</sup> "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" — that is, the word of faith which we preach. So, when Pastor John says, like this morning, Brother Jerry said to him: 'Don't ever stop preaching the Word of faith'. It's this Word of faith that Paul preached. That the Word is near you, in your mouth, and in your heart. In your mouth and in your heart. Hallelujah.

And then it goes on to say, <sup>9</sup> because if you acknowledge... I want you to look at the principle here... <sup>9</sup> if you acknowledge and confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord, and in your heart believe that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Now verse 10 listen, <sup>10</sup> For with the heart a person believes, with the heart a person believes not with the mind, with the heart. The heart and the spirit are the same thing. With my spirit I believe. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart a person believes, and with the mouth, here it is again. With the heart a person believes, and with the mouth he confesses and declares openly and speaks out freely his faith. That goes for everything that I have faith for in my life. This is how I live. Jesus lived like this, speaking only what the Word said and what He heard the Father saying. So, With the heart, a person believes, and with the mouth, he declares and speaks and confirms his salvation (Romans 10:6-10, AMPC). <sup>16</sup> With long life does He satisfy me and show me His salvation (Psalm 91:16, AMPC).

He shows me His salvation though I am born-again. God wants me to be experiencing the fulness of what I've been saved from all the days of my life, and because I believe it with my heart and I confess it with my mouth. Confession is made unto my salvation today. Glory to God!

The Lord taught His people this. The Lord taught Adam and Eve this in the garden. He said, "I give you seed. I give you seed." And in the book of Peter, it says that the Word of God is incorruptible seed. "I give you seed." And so, the reason this is so

important, people, is God is coming. God is coming in January. God is coming in January in a special way to come to bring things that are in His heart. And He said this to me.

He said, "If the people's hearts are not ready for... And their hearts are not soft and the seed is not sown, it doesn't matter how much My Spirit moves, there's nothing for supernatural harvest to come, cause the Word is not in their hearts. My rain, Spirit rain..." He said to me, "My Spirit is coming to rain, R-A-I-N in my people's hearts." But if He finds there's no soft soil and He finds there's no seed, there's nothing to rain on. Nothing's been planted there. He said, "But if they will soften their hearts," and Pastor John has said to me I have to do this full teaching on the sower sows the Word. I'm doing it this week and it's gonna be available to everybody. You have to have the revelation for yourself that the Word of God is incorruptible seed. That, if it's sown and grown and watered and weeded, you get the weeds out of your heart of doubt and unbelief, of that Word that you're putting in there, the Word that you're putting in there has got to be weeded. Weeds are doubt and unbelief. We've got to have such soft hearts by the time Brother Jerry comes. And the way we're going to do that is we're going to be more diligent to put the message in our hearts than we've ever been before.

I am a person besides myself since God has spoken that to me. I am sowing the Word. I am devouring the messages in a way that I never have before. I'm finding everything in a message with my eyes to say "Where's the seed? Where's my seed to put into my heart?" All of the messages of Pastor John's because He said this to me, "If they're not sowing Pastor John's messages into their hearts, they'll get nothing from Brother Jerry, very little." So, He told me, because I said to Him I want to prepare, Lord, for Brother Jerry. I want to prepare. Show me how to prepare, because He said to me, "Brother Jerry, yes I've arranged for Brother Jerry to come, he is the vessel but I'm coming. Sharon, I'm coming. I'm coming with legacy transfer." Everything Pastor John said this morning. 'I'm coming with legacy transfer. I'm coming with gifts', He said, 'to give My people but their hearts and the soil must be soft'. I'm gonna be teaching on that this week. It's gonna go on the video.

Their hearts, their soil must be soft, I'm gonna be teaching on that this week coming, it's gonna be on the video. Their hearts, the soil must be soft, because there's a scripture in Hosea that says it's time to plough up the hard ground of your hearts so that I can come and rain righteousness in you. So I am trusting Him like a little child. I'm getting my heart so soft, I am putting so much seed in there, I'm on such a mission. Glory to God! I pray that same fire, the same zeal of God that is in me, is activated in you today. That you will just know that this is what I must do. This is how I get ready, and I say thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord, that You show me how to prepare and to be ready. So, in Deuteronomy 29 He was teaching, He was teaching His Old Covenant, His people back then already, how to love their lives. Deuteronomy chapter 30 says this, verse 10. Here it is, supernatural increase. 9 And the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in every work of your hand,...for the Lord will again delight in prospering you... 10 If you obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the Lord your God with all your [mind and] heart... (Deuteronomy 30:9-10, AMPC). How do I turn my whole mind and my whole heart? Well, my heart is turned towards Him when I

am putting His Word in it. My mind is being renewed, that's how I love Him with my mind. I am renewing my mind with the messages and the Word of God. I am laying up His Words in my heart, that's how I love Him. I command you to love the Lord your God, walk in His ways.

Ok, I am in verse 10 ...if you turn to the Lord your God with all your [mind and] heart and with all your being. (Deuteronomy 30:10, AMPC)...may you turn, from this day forward to the Lord your God with all your mind. Meditating on the Word day and night. With all your heart, sowing the seed into your heart, and with all your being. <sup>11</sup> For this commandment which I command you this day is not too difficult for you...it's not too difficult for you...nor is it far off. <sup>12</sup> It's not [a secret laid up] in heaven, that you should say, who shall go up for us to heaven and bring it to us that we may hear and do it" <sup>13</sup> Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, who shall go over the sea for us and bring it to us that we may hear and do it"? (Deuteronomy 30:11-13, AMPC) It's right here, every Sunday. The message is right here, every week. Who does this? We do, it's how God has trained us and raised us on this journey He's had us on.

Heritage of Faith, South Africa, this is the journey He has us on. It doesn't matter what other Christians anywhere else are doing. That's between them and God. But this is our responsibility to be bringing you this kind of Word so that you can come up to this kind of place in God. You and Him and then us together. But the Word... Okay, so, "Who shall go over the sea and bring us, and bring us, and bring it so that we may hear and do it." <sup>14</sup> But the word is very near you... (Deuteronomy 30:14, AMPC). The Word is very near you. Every Sunday the Word, I hear You, I hear You, the Word of God coming to me on sound waves, through the vessel. I hear Your words speaking to me. The same way in which Adam and Eve...they heard the voice of the Lord, walking. I hear Your voice, walking. I hear Your voice, walking. Walking towards me, walking. I take Your Word. I imbibe it. I inhale it. Glory to God! Hallelujah. <sup>14</sup> But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your mind and in your heart, so that you can do it. (Deuteronomy 30:14 AMPC).

So that you can do it. That's how you do it. It's because it's in your mouth and it's in your heart and it's in your mind. That's how you fill your life with heavenly realities. You fill your heart with it. You fill your mind with it. Glory to God! It's very, it's a spiritual thing that you are doing. It's a supernatural thing that you are doing. You are not, we are not... we are spirit beings. It's how God created us to live in the realm of the supernatural. It's because His Word is supernatural seed, it's Spirit seed. To grow in my spirit heart. It's ethereal. It's not tangible. It's caught, you catch this message with your heart. Glory to God! So, 14 ...the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your mind and in your heart, so that you can do it. (Deuteronomy 30:14 AMPC). Now we are gonna go to another beautiful scripture. It's new to me, it's...I have known it for 45, 50 years but it's new to me, it's like it's just come to my heart. Glory to God!

Joshua 1. They are going into the promised land. We are on a journey. God said through Brother Jerry in 2011, your exodus has begun, we are journeying. Pastor John and I have been journeying. Coming out of Egypt since 2011. I mean my whole salvation journey is coming out of Egypt, coming out of Babylon, coming out of the world of whom Satan is the god of. My whole life is that. But God has had us on a

journey with very specific scripture words. All the prophecies are in scripture. Right. And they are of scripture and they are in scripture, and of scripture. So we are going in now, to the promised land. And it says to Joshua <sup>7</sup> ...be strong and very courageous, that you may do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you. (Joshua 1:7 AMPC). You see, Moses spoke to them, he spoke to them words from God, that would bring them into their promised land, that would draw them. Oh yes, every now and again the Lord would bring back that song to my heart, it's only words and words, it's not only words but words are all He has to take your heart away. (Pastor Sharon singing) words are all I have, to take your heart away. That's it, His words. Glory to God!

And so, this book of the law. So, <sup>7</sup> Moses My servant commanded you. Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.<sup>8</sup> This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall deal wisely and have good success (Joshua 1:7-8 AMPC). I'm putting it into my heart, but you shall meditate on it day and night that you may observe and do according to all that is written in it for then you shall make your way prosperous. You shall make your own way spiritually prosperous with God and then you shall deal wisely and have good success. Hallelujah!

I think I'll go to one last scripture and then we're going to start because we're going to have people share what important points came to them from their study of the message, right. So, we're going to have ears to hear [Pastor Sharon singing], I don't want to miss a thing, I don't want to, I don't want to fall asleep because I don't want to miss a thing, I don't even want to close my eyes. It's a bit of Aerosmith. Glory! God's presence is just wonderful here with us today. Hallelujah! Some BeeGees, some Aerosmith. All right then, all right. Where was I going to go now? What did I say? Oh, Peter. Where? What did I say? Oh okay. You know why the presence of the Lord is here so strong? Because He wants you. He was taking your heart and He wants you to know this is His way for you. Everything that I have been saying. So, glory! Lord. Oh Jesus. Lord. There it is, here it is. 1 Peter 2:22 (AMPC), 22 Since by your obedience to the Truth through the [Holy] Spirit you have purified your hearts for the sincere affection of the brethren, [see that you] love one another fervently from a pure heart. 23 You have been regenerated and born again, not from a mortal origin, not from a mortal seed, not from mortal sperm but from one that is immortal by the ever living and lasting Word of God (1 Peter 2:22-23 AMPC).

<sup>25</sup> But the Word of the Lord (divine instruction, the Gospel) endures forever. And this Word is the good news which was preached to you (1 Peter 1:25 AMPC). Glory! Glory! Glory! Glory! There is another translation somewhere, have you got another translation there, Ester? Find 1 Peter. Find 1 Peter 1:23.

Let's read these beautiful translations. Where have you got it open? I've just read the Amplified. Okay, then find it in The Passion. Let me read it in the New King James. 1 Peter Chapter 1. 1 Peter 1:23 NKJV, help me here. Which verse? Thank you.

<sup>23</sup> You having been born again, not of corruptible seed but ]incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever. <sup>24</sup> "All flesh is as

grass... Our flesh profits nothing. "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, <sup>25</sup> But the word of the Lord endures forever." The Word of the Lord, in me, that I put in heart is eternal. I will live in eternity with the Word that I sowed and grown and weeded and watered and bore fruit from, for the rest of eternity. Because I'm putting eternity into my heart, eternal things. Thank you, Ester. Where is it? Where's it. Okay. <sup>23</sup> For through the eternal and living Word of God you have been born again (1 Peter 1:23 AMPC). So, I've got born again through an incorruptible seed that was so simple, so small, little mustard seed. If you have faith as a grain of mustard, little, little seed. You just heard. How little was that seed? Jesus died for you on the cross, and He rose again so that you can be born again and have a heart that can grow seed forever, until you die, all the days of your life.

This is flowing from me brand new, right in your very presence. It's for you today, brand new. This anointing that's on me, is to break and destroy the yoke of bondage that is in you. It's to help you in your unbelief, and in your hard-hearted condition to not want to change. This anointing is here to destroy those yokes, in you, and at the same time, I'm receiving it, as I'm speaking it in me. <sup>23</sup> For through the eternal and living Word of God you have been born again. That's how small that seed was. Look what's grown up in my life, look what's grown up in your life, already. From that time, little mustard seed of 'I receive Jesus into my heart'. And now I continue with my heart I believe and with my mouth, I continue to speak, all the days of my life unto my fullness of my salvation. And this "seed", The Passion says, that he planted within you can never be destroyed but will live and grow inside of you forever (1 Peter 1:23 TPT) Living Word of God living in your heart. Wow! How about that Passion Translation? Sjoe, and so, we give God glory here this morning.

I know Pastor John is wanting me to minister all the things the Lord has put in my heart for our preparation for when the Lord comes with His visitation, and His manifestation, and His demonstration. And our anticipation should be like this for every message from now until then. That's how your heart will be prepared and ready. You cannot anticipate that God is coming in January with a heart that is not prepared, and suppose that it will have its maximum impact in your life. You cannot suppose that, because the honour that we give Pastor John and the message that is coming through him is going to determine our level. The honour we're giving the message that is coming through Pastor John now is going to be the level to which we are able to receive from Brother Jerry. Isn't that right? That's the fact, that's the truth. Right! We're going to share now. We're going to share. Thank you for letting me take this time to share this with you, and there we go. Hallelujah!