

they should look forward to a time when nothing would be impossible to them! The company of Jesus is the company of possibility. Psalm 1:1-3 paints the picture of possibility. The conclusion is that the godly man will prosper in everything he does. The ungodly is a contrast (Psalm 1:4-6). God takes pleasure in the prosperity of His children (Psalm 35:27). Consistent progress requires virtues of selflessness, love and cooperation, which are difficult for the natural man to exercise. You need an environment where the fear of God rules and people are committed to loving God and their fellowmen. This is where the seed of possibility prospers best.

THE EXPOSURE OF PROGRESS: LEARN IT!

“Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?” The disciples saw Jesus do it and knew it was possible. The example of Jesus challenged them to find out why they failed. If you always dwell among failures, the incentive to success will be limited. They were not satisfied that the job was done; they wanted to do it themselves. Even if Jesus would always be there (which was not going to be the case), they were not satisfied to be spectators! Success always has a starting point and it is usually small (Matthew 13:31-33; Job 8:7; Zechariah 4:10)! Starting small enables you to learn from your mistakes without great or even fatal consequences. Starting small builds confidence as you celebrate little successes. Nothing succeeds like success! Starting small develops your character of patience and perseverance. Starting small is natural and logical. This exposure requires learning from those who have succeeded. You cannot stay in an island and excel in possibility thinking and acting. Proud people hardly make significant progress: you must expose yourself to opportunities of progress to make progress consistently (Proverbs 13:20; Acts 4:13).

THE EXERCISE OF PERSEVERANCE: DO IT!

“And Jesus said unto them... If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.” A grain of mustard may not remove all mountains but it will remove **“this mountain”**. The truth is, the grain of mustard can grow if only it is sown and nurtured (Matthew 13:31,32). You must feed it, tender it, nurture it and let it grow. **“Nothing shall be impossible unto you”** has a future element in it: it is perseverance that gets you there. How? **One**, start small but dream big! Every great thing starts small. Even great men and women were born as babes. **Two**, beware of endless dependency: if there is something crucial to your life, develop it even if others can do it for you (I Kings 5:2,6-9; Ezra 3:7; Acts 12:20). **Three**, never wait endlessly for the ‘ideal time’: it never comes! (II Kings 4:22,23). **Four**, never wait for the multitude: God doesn’t need a majority to work (I Samuel 14:1,6). And **five**, talk less and do more: failure and impossibility flee when you translate your intentions to concrete and consistent actions (Proverbs 14:23).

We value your life in its entirety. For more information, please contact us at eindhoven@deeperlife.nl.

MESSAGE 1: “ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE”

Genesis 11:1-6

“And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do” – Genesis 11:6. Whether you are a believer or not, the principles of achievement are similar and timeless. One can succeed in a wrong cause or in a noble one. The beginning of success in anything is the conviction that it is possible! All advancement in human history has followed the pattern of possibility: Constant inspiration-Creative imagination-Continual impartation.

PURPOSEFUL DREAM

“And now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do” – Genesis 11:6. Whatever captures the mind captures the will. The way possibility is shaped is by casting a dream on the man. Possibility begins in the spiritual and thought realm. A man of purpose is a man of possibility. It is the will that paves the way. You have to visualise it before you can actualise it; you must see it to seize it. We see the story of Joseph in Genesis 37. Verse 4 shows us a youth of 17 years. He had a dream, which obviously would take a long time to materialise (verses 5-11). Yet the purpose was real. That is what you need for your life to become a possibility. To create a direction for your life, you need a picture of possibility in your mind (Genesis 15:4-6; 31:10-12). A purposeful dream comes in different ways. For Joseph, it was God-given: he dreamt. At other times, it is seeing others making progress that stimulates you, like Rachel seeing her sister bear children. That is why you should stay in an inspiring environment. Other times it comes from hurting, like Jabez or Israel in Egypt. And it can also come through a strong challenge from other people, reading an inspiring book, at the place of prayer or Bible reading or listening to a message or attending a seminar or other event.

PASSIONATE DESIRE

“And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth” – Genesis 11:4. Purposeful dream begets passionate desire. Passionate desire is a dream that has captured the dreamer. It is like cancer that has spread through the entire system: it is no longer curable. You can test how passionate your desire is by observing what alternative options do to it. Entertainment cannot quench real hunger. Nothing else but food can do! Nothing quenches real thirst like drink. See Proverbs 30:15,16; II Samuel 23:14-16; Genesis 40:14,15.

PERSEVERING DEVOTION

“And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there. And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone,

and slime had they for mortar” – Genesis 11:2,3. They kept moving. It is difficult to see opportunities if you don’t move from one position. As you move, put your eyes around and something will turn up (Genesis 24:7,12-17). Waiting idly on God is laziness in the disguise of impotent spirituality. Make creative use of what is available rather than waiting for the ideal time or resource that never shall come (Genesis 11:3). Only idle dreams require no labour; true desire makes expensive sacrifices (Proverbs 18:1; Genesis 29:18; 31:40).

POSITIVE DELIVERY

“And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the Lord said, Behold... nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do” – Genesis 11:5,6. Nothing can defeat the purpose of actualised imagination! Possibility is the language of progress. Life grinds to a halt unless things are possible. Enlarge your dream, expand your desire, expend devotion and expect delivery.

MESSAGE 2: TAPPING INTO GOD’S UNLIMITED POWER

Isaiah 50:4-7

“For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed” – Isaiah 50:7. Faith is central to possibility. You must have faith in your purpose, faith in the power of God to enable you and faith in God’s provision for the way. You must believe enough to know God’s will, not to kick against the pricks and to be thereby energised to do that will: **“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”** – Phil. 4:13. In our last message, we saw how some people achieved to the point God had to acknowledge their success and do something to put their dream to a halt. That is the danger of succeeding in the wrong cause. To tap into God’s unlimited power, your vision must be aligned to His purpose. Then your possibility becomes His possibility!

YOUR CONVICTION: SEE IT!

“For the Lord God will help me...” – Isaiah 50:7^a. You must be persuaded in your mind that what you are doing will attract God’s help. How? See verse 5 of our text: **“The Lord God hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back”**. Conviction comes when you allow God to put His word of promise in your heart and you trust His power to fulfil it (Romans 10:17). The word of promise is the seed for our conviction (Genesis 18:9-14; Luke 4:17-21). To build your conviction, meditate on what He has done before. Read or hear the success stories of others. He has turned a retailer to a wholesaler (II Kings 4:7), etc. Conviction needs food (Mark 5:25-28). Let your conviction be based on truth. Conviction on error leads to limitation or fanaticism, e.g. the earth being flat, John 16:2, etc. Conviction empowers: **“...therefore have I set my face like a flint”**. A man of conviction does not waver.

YOUR CONFESSION: SAY IT!

Whatever your heart believes, your mouth must confess (Romans 4:18-21; II Corinthians 4:13). The fact that God has done it before means He can do it again. Confess that. The fact that He has not done it before does not mean He will not do it since He can do it. Confess that. Confession is independent of feeling: it is to say what you believe though you have not seen it (Luke 1:34-38). You must renew your mind to transform your life (Romans 12:2). Old data, old software, old mentality, old way of thinking, old assumptions and beliefs must be renewed. That will lead to new behaviour, new habits and new results. That will change your confession: “I cannot” → “I will”. “I’m waiting” → “I’m moving”. “This is impossible: no one has done it before” → “It is possible because I will do it!” “I might fail” → “I’ll learn and grow”. Do not say, “I am not like that” when success demands it. Say, “I’ll be what success demands” (Jeremiah 1:6-10; Romans 10:6-8).

YOUR CONQUEST: SEIZE IT!

If you only expect what is humanly possible, you will never experience a miracle. When we talk about all things being possible, it manifests itself in several ways depending on what the need is. It is not arbitrary or irrational. Examples include restoration from ruins (Jeremiah 32:15-17,26,27), moving mountains (Matthew 17:19,20), salvation (Matthew 19:25,26), deliverance (Mark 9:20-23), unusual conception (Luke 1:31-37; Genesis 18:13,14), etc. Whatever man can conceive, man can achieve! It is faith that brings God into your programme.

MESSAGE 3: SAYING FAREWELL TO FAILURE AND IMPOSSIBILITY

Matthew 17:19,20

“Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you” – Matthew 17:19,20. You can be free from the mentality and thinking of impossibility. You can get to a point where failure and impossibility no longer exist in your consciousness. How? You must feel it (you need an environment for it), learn it (it requires exposure) and do it (it needs exercise). If you can believe, all things will be possible to you.

THE ENVIRONMENT OF POSSIBILITY: FEEL IT!

“Then came the disciples to Jesus apart...” Successful achievement needs an environment to develop. The disciples knew where to go to when they failed... they came to Jesus privately. Jesus loved them and wanted them to succeed; that’s why they could come to share their failure with Him. He listened to their question because He wanted to help them. Then He lectured them, showing them the reason for their failure and the way out of it. And He lifted them up: they had failed now but