

Words of Life

(January 17, 2007)

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us

Ephesians 3:20

What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of the power of God? For me, my mind immediately goes to those times when I have experienced His miraculous intervention in my life or in the lives of those I know or have read about. I think of the times He has supernaturally met a need, healed a disease, fixed a problem, mended a relationship or provided direction. These are the first thoughts of His power that come to mind.

However, that is not the kind of power I believe the apostle Paul is referring to in this passage. As we read the preceding verses, we see that the power being spoken of here is NOT related at all to what God will do “for” us but what He will do “in” us. He will strengthen us with might through His Spirit in inner man. He will increase our faith and our love for Himself and for others. He will fill us with all His fullness. It is the power of God working on the inside of our lives.

Of all the prayers I have ever prayed, there is one that stands far above all others in terms of God’s response. About 12 years ago my wife and I began to pray and ask God to increase our faith. We wanted to have a faith like George Mueller. It wasn’t as much that we wanted to receive the answers to our prayers as it was that we wanted to live in such a state that we would live in complete and unwavering dependence on our God. There is a fear in praying a prayer like that. It is a scary thing to step out on the limb of faith. There are times that I felt like the flying trapeze family but someone snuck in just before the act and pulled the safety net down! If we miss a rung, it’s all over! But without praying the prayer, we would have never seen God do far beyond anything our feeble imaginations could conjure up.

Are you struggling today in an area of faith? Are you fearful about the future? Ask God to increase your faith. Ask Him often and don’t stop until He grants your request. He WILL grant it because it is His desire for you to live by faith (Heb 11:6). He will do exceedingly abundantly beyond all you can ask or think.

Pastor Ted

The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.

John 6:63