

CREATING A PERSONAL SET OF FAITH DECLARATIONS

I. Introduction

- A. One of the biggest goals of this campaign is to position ourselves to see greater miracles done in and through our lives for God's glory, by cultivating scriptural mindsets of faith. Though we don't believe in making confessions or declarations as a formula that presumes upon God; we do believe faith is positioning ourselves to hear and partner with God. Part of that includes "*setting our minds on things above*" where Christ sits at the right hand of God. (Colossians 3:2)

Declarations are an important part. James tells us that our tongues are like the rudder on a ship; what we speak sets on a course towards blessing or cursing. As we speak what God says about us, our minds and heart grow in an awareness of God and His purposes. Our declarations of faith also help us to recognize lies the enemy may be trying to introduce to sabotage our faith. I like to say speaking truth shines the light on the "cockroaches" of the enemy that love to slip into dark places. We have the ability then to pull the weed and plant the seed. We have been learning that one great way to do that is to "laugh" at the enemy's lies. Joy is a "defiant irritant" to the devil's lies.

- B. In one of our recent "40-day negativity fast/positivity feast," Steve gave us some examples of lies to laugh at.
- "The situation is so bad even prayers are pointless."
 - "The devil won a complete victory therefore prayer is pointless."
 - "Breakthrough is always difficult and will take a long time."
 - "God is angry and does not want to help those involved."
 - "God does not have the wisdom for this situation."

Let's just laugh at these. It is in speaking truth that these kind of lies get opposed.

II. As you develop a personal set of declarations, it is very helpful to go back to our belief assessment tool.

- A. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you discern the lies that have held you bound in the past and that you are vulnerable to yielding to. Especially look for areas where you've struggled with hopelessness in your past.
- B. I would encourage you to take an inventory of possible declarations that would be good for your situation. A great way to do this is to go to Ignitinghope.com and find the section on declarations. You will see hundreds of declarations to choose from.

C. Write your declaration list that coincide with areas you are trusting and believing God for victory.

Below are personal examples of declarations that directly relate to struggles I deal with and growth in areas of faith I'm believing God to help me walk in.

Some of Dale's personal declarations

1. Because I am righteous no matter how many times I fail, I will rise again. When failure happens in my life, I will own my mistakes, receive grace, take note of the lesson, put it in God's hands, trust His grace and choose to forget the past and press towards my future.
2. There are always many solutions to any problem through God's wisdom. I have the ability to discern options and choose the best one. By the grace of God, I am a powerful problem solver.
3. Even when I don't see a way, God is making a way. No matter how many closed doors I run into I know there will be a door that God is opening for me to get through the problem to the other side. (I Cor. 10:13)
4. My prayers are not last resorts; they are first choices with supernatural, nuclear power. "The effective, fervent prayers of this righteous man avail much." (James 5:18)
5. I don't let shame take over and tell me that "I'm not enough." I rejoice and boast in my weakness because where I am weak His grace is sufficient, so I am strong and more than enough. (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
6. I am not striving and becoming exhausted; the yoke He gives me is light and His work is easy because I'm not a pauper; I'm a partner with God. I am constantly being refreshed and renewed in my strength. (I Cor. 3:9-11, Matthew 11:28-30, Isaiah 40:31)
7. I don't struggle to have faith; Jesus is the Author and Finisher of my faith. I live by the faith of the Son of God who loves me and died for me. (Hebrews 12:2, Galatians 2:20)
8. I am what I am by the grace of God. I don't boast in anything but Christ who has given me His righteousness and identity. (I Cor. 15:10)
9. Because I'm planted in the house of God I flourish in the courts of my God. I will still bear fruit in old age. I will stay fresh and green;

proclaiming the Lord is upright, He is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in Him. (Psalms 92:13-14)

10. All my children are taught of the Lord and great is the peace of my children and grandchildren. (Isaiah 54:13)
11. Because I'm claiming God's promises today, I am a partaker of His divine nature. I have patience, love, joy, self-control, faithfulness, goodness, and gentleness. (2 Peter 1:4, Galatians 5:22)
12. God is giving me the grace to stay in my health zone, to prosper and be in health as my soul prospers. (3 John 1:2)
13. My anxieties do not steal my peace; they fuel prayer and thanksgiving in me so that I go to a higher place when I face anxious moments. I declare for every worry there is a word and for every reaction there is a direction. (Philippians 1:6-8)
14. I refuse to allow procrastination to prevent me from my full potential; I make the most of every opportunity by sensing what the will of God is for this day and doing it. (Ephesians 5:16)
15. I am a powerful decision maker because the Lord is always there to give me wisdom. I refuse to be doubleminded or wishy washy; I make decisions by faith. (James 1:5-6)
16. Because I'm His, I hear His voice, He is leading me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. (John 10:27, Psalms 23:4)