

GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



GIG237 – God's Word is for Now

Hi, and welcome to the podcast. This is a special edition for our Growing in God podcast, as it is produced from a Zoom call that we at Hargrave Ministries have occasionally with our donors. When we have these times together and feel it is important for others to be a part of what we are discussing, we create the meeting into a podcast for release. So, I hope that you will enjoy this podcast; and if you like being a part of these discussions, I would encourage you to go to our website at hargraveministries.org and join our Fellow Workers.

I have felt something really shift; and of course, a lot has happened since the last conversation that we had. We have a new president who is bringing in a definite new administration, and there has been a lot happening in Israel with seeing hostages returned, and many, many things taking place. But what I have felt, too, is a shift in the Spirit; and I would say very simply that I have felt the ability, with what is changing, to end the spiritual realm behind the negative that we have been under for the last several years. I feel like there is an ability to break that now, and it is interesting, because it is like what is happening on the natural level is actually opening at a door to end something in the spiritual level. So, I very much feel like that is happening, and I do not want us to stop praying for these areas, for Israel, for the United States government, for the nations generally speaking, and what is going on within the national side of things. But I do feel like there has been a shift where I think we should be focusing to a great deal on ourselves individually in our walk with the Lord.

It is almost like getting out of an emergency situation, and backing up and saying, "Okay, now let me take care of myself for a second, and pull some things together." The reason, as always, is that I feel like my personal drive is effectiveness. I want us to be effective in our walk with God. I know that there is a greater level of effectiveness that we can achieve in our walk in the Spirit than what we have. So, to back up is not to go backwards, but it is to take a step backwards so that we can take several steps forward with a greater level of effectiveness in what we are doing through our intercession, what we are doing through our prophecy, what we are doing in our spirits. That is kind of the sense I have had. I personally have been really going into a time of seeking the Lord, of repentance, of crying out to God and reaching for what we need in order to have that breakthrough into a greater level of effectiveness than what we have had. Even though we do see ourselves being effective in what we have done, I think there is still more that we can get out of this; and, to me, it is all what comes from within us. So I think that we have to see what God is doing in our own hearts, and really believe that there is something that we are, and that we are supposed to do and supposed to accomplish.

I hope that makes sense, because that is all just by way of introduction. I want to read a Scripture out of John 1:13. It says, "Who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." I want you to capture this. I want you to go back and read it. I want you to write it down on a piece of paper or something. This would be a good one to make a phylactery out of, you know, somehow paste it to your forehead, so that when you look at yourself in the mirror, you go, "Oh yeah, that's right — I was not born by the will of man, or out of anything from a natural level. I was born of the will of God. I am here by the will of God, not by the will of man, not of the will of flesh, not by flesh and

blood.” I think this is important, because I feel like we tend to relate to ourselves that way. We talk about when we were born; “Here is when my birthday is, and when I was born; and here is who my parents are, and here is who my family is; and here is what I went through; and I went to kindergarten, and I went to elementary school.” We see ourselves really after the flesh, because we look at all of the ways in which we came into this earth, and we attribute our being here as being from or by the flesh. “My parents, in whatever state they were in, I don’t know, maybe they had a great party, or maybe the electricity went out and they were caught in an elevator, or whatever. But somehow I was conceived, and I came forth by parents, by the flesh.” And this Scripture is saying that is not true; that we are here by the will of God – not by being born, not by flesh and blood, not by the will of flesh or the will of man, but by God, by God’s will. And I think that we have to have a clarity of the reality that we are here because of the will of God, who sent you here to be in this earth at this moment in time, in this history of the world, and that you are placed with a purpose in God to be here.

It is important that we do not lose that; because to me, if we lose that, we lose the power behind knowing. We think about Christ and we say, “Yes, He was born of God,” and we think of the apostles or the prophets. No. You are as sent as any human has ever been sent by God into the world; that is the way I read that Scripture. So I encourage you to go back and read that Scripture, and to confirm that, because there is a starting point. This has to be our starting point – because if I am here by the will of God, then I am here in the will of God, and there is a will of God that I am to fulfill in being here. God did not send me here by His will in order for me to sit on the couch and drink beer and watch football games. Now, I am not saying you cannot do that, but you know what I am talking about – we are here for a purpose. And I think that we have to keep the clarity of that in our hearts if we are going to progress into the things.

I know I am kind of blending what I am saying with another podcast that I want to bring, because there is more to it than that, and because this, again, is just by way of introduction. One thing that we want to see is that it is God. In Philippians 2:13, it says, “For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.” So we have two things. Number one, we are here because of His will. Number two, He is working in us to perfect that will, and to bring about that will, His will, in us. It is God who is at work, both to will and to work of His good pleasure in us. So, the first thing we have to do is stop selling ourselves short. This has to be the plumbline of how we think.

Now we are closing in on what I want to talk about, because the Word of God has to be our present reality. We have to come to the place where what God said is our truth now, in this moment. There is a quote in the meditation that we have been doing with Dr. Joe Dispenza; he is always saying, “We do not live in a time where it is enough to know. We live in a time where we must know how.” And I think that that is touching, it is close to what I am really feeling with this. I would reword it this way: I would say, “It is not enough to know or teach the living Word,” talking about the Scriptures and the Word God has given us; “It is not enough to know or to teach the living Word. We must know how to manifest it.” We have to know how to manifest the Word. So, how do we manifest these Scriptures that we just read, that it is God; God is at work in me to will and to do His good pleasure? When I look at this, I want to recognize that this is present tense. To get where I am going, we have to understand that everything about the Scripture only works in the present. It only works in the present. And for us as humans being planted here, if God put us here, He put us here with the equipment that we need; and having given us the equipment that we need, He is at work in us to make that function so that we become the expression of His Word.

Now, if we do not get this – and that is the problem with religion: religion takes the Scripture and the Word of God and it is always making it past or future. I went to, whatever you want to call it, seminary, Bible school, and it is always that way. One thing that personally I fell in love with, with my mentor – and I know that for many of you he is your mentor, John Stevens – his life was about the Word now. How many times did I hear, “It is not about pie in the sky, it is about pie on my plate.” Everything that God said has to be for now. And of course, when you get into religion, think about it: Denominational Christianity for years has been saying, “Oh, there is no more baptism in the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues. There is no prophecy in the church. There are no more miracles, there is no more this, there is no more that. That was back then, that was for an age. Yes, it is all in the Bible, but what the Bible is talking about is what is past, and what is past is past. That is not in this age.” And what religion says is, “We know the age we are living in, right? We are living in the age where we are waiting for the future, because when you die, then you are going to go to heaven,” whatever they think that means, “and you are going to receive your reward in the future.” So, do you understand? This was the battle that John Stevens was in from the very conception of God meeting him, that he lived in an age that was absolutely against anything that was *now*. “Nothing can be *now*. Do not bring the Bible into *now*. You can read it all you want to, as long as you mentally, emotionally, are putting it either into the past or into the future; and if you are doing that, then you will never endanger the status quo and the system as it exists today. So you are going to be a very, very safe Christian, and we will welcome you into the Christian community with open arms, and we will all get along.”

This reality is that nothing in the Bible can be for now, at least nothing big. I am not sure how salvation is supposed to work, because it has to be now. So, I guess the cross can be now. But, well, the cross can be now as long as you are talking about the forgiveness of your sin; but if you are saying you got saved and healed, then that does not work, because there is no healing now. You understand that I am overkilling this, but I am not really overkilling it. It goes deep, deep, deep, and it has been imparted deeply into the psyche of church, and Christianity, and Christian teaching, and theology, and doctrine; and we have been imprinted with this concept. It works very easily for us, because this imprinting that has taken place has been imparted to us since before we were born. And I want to get into that a little bit; but I want us to see, first and foremost, that if something is going to change, it has to start because when you read the Scripture, the Scripture has to be now. It has to be now.

I believe that is true, because what we believe about the Scripture is that it is the Word from God. It is God’s Word. So, as soon as God says, it is. He is I am, and what He says, is. That is how creation was accomplished. He said, and it was. “Let there be light,” there is light. He did not say, “Let there be light, but you have to wait twenty years for it to land, and then there will be light twenty years from now.” He did not say, “Let there be light,” and I am talking about what happened back in history, “and now there is no light for this generation.” What God says, is. What God says, is. So when God says, “You are here, not by the will of flesh, not by the will of man, by the will of God,” then you are here by the will of God. But you have to take that in your mind, and you have to make that your present reality. And anything that says anything different than that is a lie.

We cannot go back and forth. It is either true, or not; and if it is true, then it is true *now*. It is true now. Scriptures like, “The Kingdom is within you.” “I am with you.” “Lo, I am with you, to the end of the age.” “Lo, I am with you” – don’t worry about the end of the age part, He is with you, now. But we keep waiting for Him to be with us at the end of the age – that is what we pick up on. That is where our brain goes: “Yes, the end of the age, we are going to live in the Presence of God. It is going to be so wonderful.” No. “Lo, I am with you.” So, we have to go back over the Scriptures and see these things

God is speaking to us in the now. And what is hindering our effectiveness is that we are caught in this duplicity of it being past or future, and we have to stop doing that.

Lord, bless this to our hearts and minds. I am going to read this statement again: "It is not enough for us right now to know or teach the living Word, the Scriptures. We must know how." We have to learn how to manifest it, now. It is only good for right now. He has given us all things pertaining to life and godliness – now. But if I do not hold on to that and make that now, and thank God for it now, and feel it now, and relate to it now, and battle off everything that comes that says anything but now, then I will let go of it by letting it go into the past or the future. And I think that is where we lose so much of what we are trying to do.

I am going to read a Scripture out of James 1, verses 5-8. "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways." I will read another one, James 4, verse 8. "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." This one grabs me, because there is so much that has to happen in our heart with all of this. Why? Because the heart is feeling. The heart goes only by emotion. Do not try to be logical with your heart; you have to be emotional with your heart. It feels things. So it is saying to purify your hearts, you double-minded. We have to go back to emotion. Our emotion is what brings this now reality to us. And if we do not have it, then I think we are living as double-minded.

I want to stop talking about doubt. I want to stop talking about unbelief. I do not think there is one of you here that has a struggle with unbelief. I think what you have is a double mind; and you were born with it, and there is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ. It is only the reality. So, how does this work? Because, again, we have to learn how. If we are not going to learn how, we are going to go nowhere other than where we have been for the last thirty years, because we love the Word. We have tried to relate to the Word. We have tried to walk in the Word. We have tried so many different angles at this. But I tell you, I think that there is something in here for us to grasp. And that is, the double-minded person receives nothing from God. I think that there is a lot we are asking for, there is a lot we are speaking into existence, that does not manifest because of the double mindedness. And maybe unbelief is the right word, but I think it is deeper than that. I think it is systemic. I think it is the way we were born. And we have to believe at some point that it is to our advantage, because again, we are here by the will of God, and He gave us the equipment that he gave us.

So, how is this working? You are double-minded – you have a conscious mind, and you have a subconscious mind. I do not think anybody would argue that, it is a very scientific fact. Conscious mind, subconscious mind; we have two minds. We are double-minded. We know our conscious mind – we can think, we can reason, we can relate to it, and we can work with it. We know how to teach our conscious mind; I mean, we really have a relationship with our conscious mind. Maybe it is not the best relationship on the planet, but it is a relationship nonetheless. And we know how to work with our conscious mind, and we know how our conscious mind works. We know how thoughts work. We get thoughts, and we get bad thoughts, and we say, "Stop thinking that bad thought," or whatever. So we go, "Hey, I have a test. I have to study. I have to learn something, because my conscious mind, when I sit there in that test, has to regurgitate all these facts and stuff, and I have to bring that about." We know how to educate our conscious mind. We know how to talk to our conscious mind. I mean, how many of

you talk to yourselves? You are going along talking to yourself; you should be careful with that, you know, you could get locked up if you take it too far. But anyway, we know that we sometimes get our best answers when we talk to ourself. So, we know that we have this conscious mind; and when you think about it, which is what I want you to do, we really, really know a lot about our conscious mind and how it works, and how to relate to it, the problems it has, the positive things it has, and all of that.

Now, we were just saying that we are double-minded. We have a conscious mind and a subconscious mind. How much do you really know about your subconscious mind? That becomes the issue. I am just going to throw out facts, and I have this from several sources, so I am not going to give you one specific source; but they are all people who are scientists and different ones studying this different realm, because there are many people out there that are starting to recognize that this is the problem. And I think it is fun; it is definitely not coming much out of religion, because, again, religion does not want to do this. But the subconscious mind, even when you are awake, and during your whole twenty-four-hour day, 95 percent of your day is controlled by your subconscious mind. Most of us do not think that way. We think, "Okay, when I am awake, then everything I am doing is conscious. That is my conscious mind. Once I wake up, I am in my conscious mind. My conscious mind is functional, and I know what it is doing; therefore, I am in charge now with my conscious mind and controlling my life, and making my decisions, and doing this and that." The problem is it does not work that way.

Our conscious mind, when we are using it to think, for instance, or to analyze – see, our conscious mind analyzes; so when you are analyzing something with your conscious mind, or you are thinking about your day and what you are going to do, you just turned control over to your subconscious mind. When you are thinking about what you have to do at work all day long, your subconscious mind is what is driving you to work. That is why you can get to work and go,

"I do not even remember driving here! I do not remember the road I took."

"How did you get there?"

"I do not know; I have done it many times."

You see, there is so much that comes out of our subconscious mind. Your heart beats because of your subconscious mind. Your autonomic nervous system is running your body, not your conscious mind. Your conscious mind has nothing to do hardly with anything physically. You can decide, "I am going to get out of this chair and walk across the room"; that is true. But the inner workings of your nervous system are not controlled by that conscious mind. So, what I am trying to point out is the fact that our subconscious mind does not flow with our conscious mind. These two things are not necessarily in sync with each other, and a lot of problems are born out of that.

So, when all of a sudden you make a decision: "I am going to go do this, I am going to start exercising. Man, I am going to do this. I have made up my mind. I am setting my will, my conscious mind. I have thought this through, I have studied the exercise program, I have learned how to do the exercises. I am going to exercise." All of a sudden, two days later you are not exercising anymore. All right, did your conscious mind torpedo that will and that thought? No, but there was nothing in your subconscious mind that supported it; and therefore, you are in a battle. I think we had a word one time called *The Cross-out Principle*, and I think we live crossing ourselves out more than we recognize, because the subconscious mind is different than the conscious mind. And until we get these minds in sync, we do not have agreement, even within ourselves.

This is a big deal, because how do we get to oneness? We have to get to oneness in ourselves. It has a lot to do with the Holy Spirit, and it has a lot to do with learning our subconscious mind the way we know our conscious mind. We know our conscious mind very well, but I would go so far as to say that you do not even know how to talk to your subconscious mind. It does not speak English; and one of the things about the subconscious mind is that it does not relate to the past, and it does not relate to the future. It relates to now, only now. And when we relate to the Word, this is what we have to get in sync with. My subconscious mind has to be brought into the unification with my conscious mind, and vice versa, in order for me to live in the present moment. If I do not do that, then I am constantly living in this throwback of the past or the future, and there is no power in that. I mean, you can think about the future all you want. You can make plans for the future. You can visualize your future. But tell me, how much power do you have to change the future? How much influence do you have right this moment over that future? You say, "I don't want to die this way or that way." How many people say that? You cannot control that. You do not have the power through your conscious mind to control things like that. So, we lose this power, and we lose it in the Word, because we go back to something being in the past or the future.

I will give you one example. This is a Scripture that the Lord gave me very specifically about a situation that I am in right now, and I was just reaching in to the Lord, going, "What do I do about this? How do I deal with it? How do I handle it? How do I apply what I am learning into manifesting this?" Of course, the first thing I thought was, "Okay, I need a Word. I need a Scripture that absolutely anchors me in what has to happen." So then this came. This is Isaiah 54:17: "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their vindication is from Me," declares the Lord." I said, "That's it! Now that has to be my permanent, present reality. Every second, that has to be my reality. I have to repeat it, and I have to, in my heart, be thankful for it. That's it. I take it. I have it. That is my reality. That is it." And somebody can look at me and say, "Well, I don't see that you have that." I say, "Shut up, this is the truth! This is the Word of God. I have this, this is mine. I am grateful for it, I am thankful for it. I am rejoicing, I am dancing around the living room, going, 'Hooray, hooray, this is the answer and it is mine right now,'" and you live in that. You live in that because it is present, and your subconscious mind will understand that because it is present.

I can take nothing about this as past or future, this is right now. God spoke this and it is now. It is my reality now. You say, "Well, look around you. Everything around you is different than that." Sorry, you are looking with your conscious mind at a bunch of logical thoughts that are brought about by feel, taste, touch, visual, whatever; and all of that is the world of matter, and it is all a lie, because the Word of God is. "Let God be true and everything else, including man, be a liar." So, when you get this, you will be in an arm-wrestling contest at times with your conscious mind, because the only way you can connect with this is through now. By His stripes, I am healed. By His stripes I am healed. His stripes are a present reality, and I am healed is a present reality. Now, my conscious mind is what is going to fight that, not my subconscious mind. My conscious mind is going to go, "Well, look in the mirror, stupid. You are not healed. You have this physical problem, and that physical problem, and it is causing this in your life, and causing that in your life." All you can say is, "Sorry, you need to line up with the Word of God and the subconscious mind," because it is far more powerful than the conscious mind is. It moves at rates that are staggering compared to the conscious mind. The amount of computing power that exists in the subconscious far outweighs the conscious mind.

So, you get into this, and you start to struggle with it; and I thought about Mary coming out to Yeshua after the death of Lazarus. She said, "Master, if you had been here, he would not have died." There is your doctrine of history. And He says, "No, I am the resurrection." She goes, "I know he will be resurrected. I know he will come alive at the resurrection." There is your future fulfillment of the Scripture. And the Lord says, "I am the resurrection and the life." I think one of the things that John Stevens was most maligned for was his belief that resurrection is now. Resurrection life is for now. Resurrection health is for now. There is no past to it. But you say, "Well, it happened in the past when Christ was raised from the dead." "Oh, it is going to manifest in the future when He returns. We are going to put on this new body." The new body is already there. My body, my new body, exists. It is now. But I do not put it on, because I think of it as something in the future as an experience for me, and my brain is thinking that. My conscious mind is thinking it is some future event that I am going to have. But the Scripture says, "Put on the Lord Jesus!" – not in the past; not in the future; put Him on now. "I am the resurrection. I am the life." It is now.

I do not want to go into condemnation again. "There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ." This is a learning experience. We have gone a long time learning this lesson. I want us to learn it, and I want us to learn how to put on the Word of God now, as our now, and to hold onto it for now, and to recognize that it is now; and if we line up to it, it will manifest. It will happen. That was the thing about Christ – He was unwavering in His manifesting. Think about what He did – He performed miracles before He went to the cross! So, He realized that by the Word of God, His crucifixion, His suffering, His resurrection, "by His stripes we are healed," all was a reality because it was already done by the Word of God. Therefore, it was, at that moment, and He went around healing people. How did He do it? Because the Word of God to Him was now. He was unmoved by that, and we can be unmoved by that. We can stop being double-minded. We can find ways, which we must do, to work with our subconscious mind to learn it, to bring the conjunction between our subconscious and conscious to where we are no longer double-minded, we are of one mind.

When we look at the Church at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, it says, "They were of one heart and mind." What an amazing thing. So, there is a way in the Holy Spirit that we can see this happen for us and to us – and that, for me, is what I am reaching for. I hope this has been clear. I know I have tried to cover a lot of points, because we really have not had a lot of foundation for this, but I just want to explode it in your hearts that you can say, "I believe. Thank You, Lord, this is true. Your Word is true. Your Word is true, and it is not going to return to You void, because I am going to make it my reality right now, in this earth." And when we have that, then we will be moving on another level.

Amen.