

THE SPIRIT AS COMMUNICATOR

Have you ever been SPEECHLESS?

We have phrases in Eng langu to describe this condition:

- I'm at a loss for words
- I was Tongue tied
- "I couldn't say A word" - go into "brain freeze"

Ex. Story of my wife leaving me speechless

TODAY, we're going to look at **3 Experiences** where we're SPEECHLESS....

And HERE'S WHERE HEADED - we will see how right when we are speechless... THE SPIRIT CAN HELP US COMMUNICATE

NT records 3 speechless EXPERIENCES where SP Baptism helps us:

- 1) DESCRIBING **AWESOMENESS** TOO WONDERFUL FOR WORDS
- 2) ARTICULATING **CONFUSION** TOO INEXPRESSIBLE FOR WORDS
- 3) COMMUNICATING **SPIRITUAL REALITY** TOO SUPER-NATURAL FOR WORDS

Let's back up a bit. To when Jesus started teaching his disciples about a **future supernatural spiritual experience that would really help them**

Apostle John HAD A FRONT ROW SEAT TO HEAR JESUS SAY:- "when I've completed my mission, **I'm returning to heaven**, but...

*"⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you **another** advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷the Spirit of truth. ... he lives with you and will beⁱⁿ in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; **I will come to you***

Another- means one just like me,

J: *"When the Spirit comes, it will be the same as having me right there with you" (CN: can you imagine what like to face every day of 2019 and beyond with a real awareness that **Jesus right there with you?**)*

Luke writes about how it happened:

-part of JESUS' last words before ascending back into Heaven:
"Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized withⁱⁿ water, but in a few days you will be baptized withⁱⁿ the Holy Spirit But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"

SO WENT TO JRSLM to WAIT for SPIRIT BAPTISM Jesus had promised

- about 120 of them, men and women, incl. J's mother and brothers, all went to the upstairs room where staying

What doing during the days waiting??? “**constantly in prayer**” SO MUCH TO PROCESS FROM LAST 50 DAYS – **regroup** after traumatic DEATH of One given future to, deep, grief and confusion, **before recover from that...** there was DRASTIC shock of seeing JESUS RISEN FROM THE DEAD – lots to process

- Acts 2 describes people **unified, preparing, expectant** and **surrendered** to however Jesus would send His SPIRIT to empowerTHEN, DAY OF PENTECOST came.....

“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them”

but, CAN YOU IMAGINE **WHAT LIKE FOR people visiting Jerusalem** FOR THE FEAST OF PENTECOST –on way to Temple, walking by room when hear sound of 120 voices praising God in different languages coming from 2nd floor ???

- I counted from Acts - 16 ethnic/geographical/linguistic groups
- excitedly making way to Temple for Pentecost gatherings.
- **Luke uses 3 phrases** to describe their **reaction** to what hearing:
 - o “*BEWILDERED*”, “*UTTERLY AMAZED*”, “*PERPLEXED*”
- WHY? Same reason repeated 3 times – “**HOW IS IT THAT EACH OF US HEARS THEM IN HIS OWN NATIVE TONGUE???**”

WHAT SAYING IN ALL THESE LANGUAGES??? V.11 “*We hear them declaring the **WONDERS OF GOD***”

1) HOW Does the Holy Spirit help us TODAY, to DESCRIBE AWESOMENESS TOO WONDERFUL FOR WORDS?

- There are situations where **we. can't. find. words** to express response of hearts to the goodness and presence of God
- “*I've run out of words to describe how good God is*”
- “*Language fails me*”
- “*this is beyond description*”

SAME PATTERN HAPPENED IN A GENTILE CITY ON COAST OF MED

ACTS 10 tells about Roman Centurion, Cornelius, who lived in Ceasarea who had huge hunger for spiritual reality

- when AP PETER came to speak to the group Cornelius had gathered, as soon as Peter gets to the part of the Gospel about what Jesus did to **forgive our sins**....(this is what hungering for.... *Praise You God*) It happens....
- Sp came upon them
- ⁴⁶ For they heard them speaking in tongues^a and praising God.
- What saying when spoke in new languages??? Join the dots:
 - o **to speak in tongues..... was to praise God**

ex. personal experience story

??? Ever get place where so aware of presence of Jesus, so grateful for life given, forgiveness, future.... SPEECHLESS. GOT A PLACE TO GO. ***PRAISE WITH YOUR SPIRIT***

²For anyone who speaks in a tongue^a does not speak to people but to God.

- “I will praise with my mind but **I will also praise with my spirit**”

SO THAT’S 1ST WAY HS HELPS US WHEN SPEECHLESS, WHEN RUN OUT OF WORDS TO ADEQUATELY PRAISE GOD, the SPIRIT gives us whole new vocabulary

2) ARTICULATING CONFUSION TOO INEXPRESSIBLE FOR WORDS

How pray when multiple options and all look good

- 2 job offers and both equally good
- 2 universities accept you and both look good
- you’re a guy and 2 girls both amazing
- how pray when so confusing?

Romans 8 says there are times **WE ARE SO CONFUSED**, the best we can express IS A GROAN

APOSTLE PAUL writes about this – first he says **CREATION GROANS** – It's Broken, and longs for day made new

(I THINK OF THAT every time hear about natural disaster, earthquake, sunami, Creation is groaning, things out of whack)

Then says, just like CREATION GROANS **WE GROAN TOO.**

-BECAUSE HUMANS ARE IN A BROKEN WORLD THAT LONGS TO BE MADE NEW (Suffering, tragedy, death)

EX. - ever experience situation so heavy - best get out is a groan?

- betrayed in a relationship? – hurts so deeply

- Have you ever lost someone DEEPLY LOVED? – grief/pain too deep for words

²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

EX. GIRL doing what did every night as went to bed – prayed

-except this time mother walking by heard very reverently ABCD

- mom asked ??? "I'm so confused ..., I don't know what ...so just gave God all the letters ..."

EX. Personal story – alert to pray in Spirit – breakin of church building

PEACE, SP READIED me

- Apostle Paul describes what happened to me: **"He who speaks in a tongue Strengthens himself"**

THANK GOD, EVEN IN TIMES WHEN SPEECHLESS because of

- OUR, EMOTIONAL GRIEF OR MENTAL CONFUSION, WE DON'T HAVE TO remain SPEECHLESS. **THE SPIRIT FATHER SENT, THE HS RIGHT THERE ADVOCATING FOR US AND IT'S JUST LIKE HAVING JESUS RIGHT THERE, HEALING and HELPING US EXPRESS our DEEPEST PAIN or CONFUSION – we're speechless BUT He speaks on our behalf**

SO THAT'S THE 2ND WAY SPIRIT HELPS US WHEN WE'RE SPEECHLESS *****ARTICULATING CONFUSION TOO INEXPRESSIBLE FOR WORDS**

3) COMMUNICATING SPIRITUAL REALITY TOO SUPER-NATURAL FOR WORDS

3 stories... pray

When Jesus told disciples GO AND BE MY WITNESSES**BUT FIRST WAIT FOR SPIRIT empowerment EMPOWERMENT FOR WHAT??? FOR WITNESSING**

WHEN THEY WERE SPIRIT BAPTIZED ... TONGUES CALLED "SIGN"

- **what if you invited someone for EASTER services this year?**
- Following week told you "I was at your church Easter Sunday morning!"
- How go? **Got right to the SIGN: " "**
- **Helpful? "great sign, nice graphics, liked the lettering**
- **Did you go to Easter Service – people, message about JESUS did?**
- **NO, I STOPPED AT THE SIGN!**

WHAT SAYING? THE **SIGN** IS JUST THERE TO POINT TO **REAL EXPERIENCE** THERE FOR

The same thing started to happen IN JERUSALEM on D of P

PEOPLE FOCUSED ON THE SIGN, PEOPLE SPEAKING IN TONGUES.....
UNTIL freshly SPIRIT BAPTIZED PETER FEARLESSLY STANDS IF FRONT OF THOUSANDS TO SAY – "THIS IS NOT ABOUT TONGUES, ABOUT **JESUS and what done for you**"

"A lot of you saw Jesus did with own eyes, some saw Crucified (so you have forgiveness and be restored to God), He rose from dead so have eternal life, ascended into Heaven and sent SPIRIT"

- *AND ALL OF THIS IF FOR YOU TOO*
- 3000 said YES to JESUS

- BUT NOTICE NOONE said YES to CT BEC PETER SPOKE IN **TONGUES**
- PPLE said YES to CT BEC PETER TOLD THEM GOOD NEWS OF JESUS IN his everyday Language
- **HS HELPED PETER COMMUNICATE SPIRITUAL REALITY TOO SUPER-NATURAL FOR WORDS**

EX. Story # 2 is a present day Statistical Affirmation Story

- **because:** IF Jesus said SPIRIT BAPTISM was to enable His followers to WITNESS, then should be able to look at Christians anywhere in world where SPIRIT BAPTIZED and see happening through them TODAY, what happened to the first Christians in Jerusalem

JUST A FEW YEARS AGO, SOCIOLOGISTS reported on a 4 YEAR INTERNATIONAL STUDY they had just conducted FIRST STEP WAS TO FIND CHURCHES WHO A) WERE THE FASTEST GROWING, AND B) WERE ACTIVE IN SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION – surprised by results....85% were churches experienced what teaching about today - Spirit Baptism.....Pentecostal churches

IN WORDS OF MESSAGE TODAY, THE SPIRIT BAPTISM ENABLED THEM TO BE WITNESSES IN THEIR COMMUNITY

3RD STORY MOVES US FROM The WORLD TO PERSON

EX. Personal Story

HS HELPED keith smith COMMUNICATE SPIRITUAL REALITY TOO SUPER-NATURAL FOR WORDS

AND IF YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN, YOU ALREADY HAVE THE SPIRIT OF GOD IN YOU (B.A. of Spirit, Spirit of God indwells you)

- and if you are never Spirit baptized you are a Christian and heaven bound as much as any Christian.
- THE SP BAPTISM IS NOT ABOUT **MAKING US CHRISTIANS**

- THE SP BAPTISM IS ABOUT **EMPOWERING US** AS CHRISTIANS

LET ME ILLUSTRATE

- MID WEEK AT CHURCH OFFICE in Toronto – water bottle?
 - o left on platform? Rather turn on all lights, I tried using light from screen of BB - fell off platform
- I'm sure it was over YEAR LATER when playing with menu screen and saw pic on menu looked like a flashlight, what happen if press?
- POINT IS – THE POTENTIAL WAS THERE ALL THE TIME

(WHY DIDN'T SOMEONE TELL ME I HAD THAT RESOURCE???, COULD HAVE BENEFITTED FROM THAT EXTRA POWER FOR YEARS???)

PETER SAYS TO THEM IN JERUSALEM: THIS IS FOR YOU, CHILDREN, MEN /WOMEN, future generations, want this for our children and grandchildren

So that when PRAISING GOD, and heart overflows with GRATITUDE for all Jesus done, NOT LEFT SPEECHLESS... GO TO WHOLE NEW LANGUAGE OF PRAISE

WHEN PRAYING and confusion or emotional pain leaves not knowing what to pray, not stuck there speechless, you have a way to express it - SPIRIT gives you words as you pray in Spirit

WHEN WITNESSING and at a loss for explaining supernatural Loving actions of JESUS, HS ENABLES YOU AS YOU PREPRAYER and then right when you need them, He gives you words to say

Ex. I need all the help I can get, (pls don't say amen) I don't know what do without the help from HS, it's like facing every day having Jesus right there with me

