

Theme Topic Speaker Date Beyond Our Comfort Zone Brave Mighty Warriors Senior Pastor Daniel Foo 27th and 28st February 2016

Wessage Summary

Spiritual Objective: Becoming Brave Mighty Warriors of Christ

Senior Pastor Daniel Foo opened by pointing to the story of Gideon (Judges 7:2-18), and how from the 32,000 gathered before him, only 300 brave mighty warriors were eventually selected. These 300 warriors were then equipped with <u>a trumpet, empty pitchers, and torches</u>. (v. 16) These 300 brave, mighty, and equipped warriors were then "the sword of the Lord and of Gideon" (v. 18), ready to be used by the Lord.

The 3 pieces of equipment that Gideon gave to each of the warriors were the focus of SP's message. Each piece of equipment signifies a key component in our becoming brave mighty warriors for the Lord.

1) Empty Pitchers / Jars of Clay

The pitchers distributed to each warrior were <u>empty</u> – their purpose was <u>to hold something</u>, to <u>be filled</u> <u>with something</u>. Cross-referencing to 2 Corinthians 4:7 – SP exhorted the congregation to realize that we ourselves need to be like <u>empty</u> pitchers, where "this treasure is in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us." We are the earthen vessels, and the treasure that we must hold within us must be the life of God. Thus, we must be willing to empty ourselves, to deny ourselves (Luke 9:23), and yield to the Word of God and the inward witness of the Holy Spirit.

A mark of one who denies oneself and is being filled with the life of God is growing to exemplify the fruit of the Spirit. Another is the continual experiencing of God's love for us (Ephesians 3:17-19), experiencing how He not only fills us, but overflows from us. <u>Boldness is thus understood as this:</u> we intentionally empty our self-life and intentionally fill ourselves with the Life and Love of God.

2) Blazing Torch

The blazing torch signifies the <u>application-manifestation of the Word of God</u> in our lives. In Jeremiah 23:29 the Lord says "is not my word like a fire? And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces." Armed with the sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17), we are to be conquerors for Christ. SP rebuked the congregation for holding to the ungodly belief that as we step out in faith, the devil will overwhelm us with spiritual attacks and demonic harassment. Rather, having been given authority to trample over the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19), SP exhorted the church to have a conqueror mentality, for it is the Lord of Light whom we fight for, the Light which dispels all darkness and fear in our lives (Psalm 27:1). It is important to note the details of the torch, which was that it was placed inside the pitchers. As Colossians 3:16 reminds us, the Word of Christ is to dwell richly in us. <u>Boldness is thus understood as this:</u> living a life filled with the Life and Light of the Word.

3) Trumpet / Ram's Horn



The trumpet was used in Old Testament times for communication. In the same way, as we breathe, as we expend breath – pneuma, rua – we must ask ourselves, <u>how do we breathe?</u> <u>What is it we are communicating?</u> We must realize that we need to breathe as of the Holy Spirit in us (John 3:5-6). In order to do so, SP exhorted the congregation to picture all the doors to areas in our lives. What is required to live and breathe of the Holy Spirit is to intentionally open every door and invite the Holy Spirit to take over every area of our life, even our faculties of thought, emotion, and physicality. Though this may sound simply conceptual, the Word is unambiguous of the power of the Holy Spirit (Zechariah 4:6). As we yield to, and grow more sensitive to, the Holy Spirit transforms our lives and becomes <u>the very source of the life of God in us</u> (John 14-16) <u>Boldness is thus understood as this:</u> we are very much living not by our own ways, but by the Life of the Holy Spirit which anoints and readies us to be used powerfully by God.

Conclusion

Isaiah 8:11-13 reminds us that as followers of Christ, there is but one fear we are to have in our lives – the fear of the Lord Almighty, for He is Holy. No other thing of this world are we to fear. This boldness, this mightiness, this fighting spirit, comes not from our own will or strength... no, it comes from a being, a settling in with, a living with Jesus Christ. Let us begin to do so, and more and more become brave mighty warriors that the Lord can use powerfully for His Will, in His power.

Questions

1.) How did the numbers of Gideon shrink from 32,000 to 300? (Fill In Answer Here)

2.) Share a time in which you felt vulnerable or fearful. What obstacles did you face in being bold? (Fill In Answer Here)

3.) How can we identify if we are growing to be bolder for Christ? Which key to boldness do you thus need to act upon?

(Fill In Answer Here)

