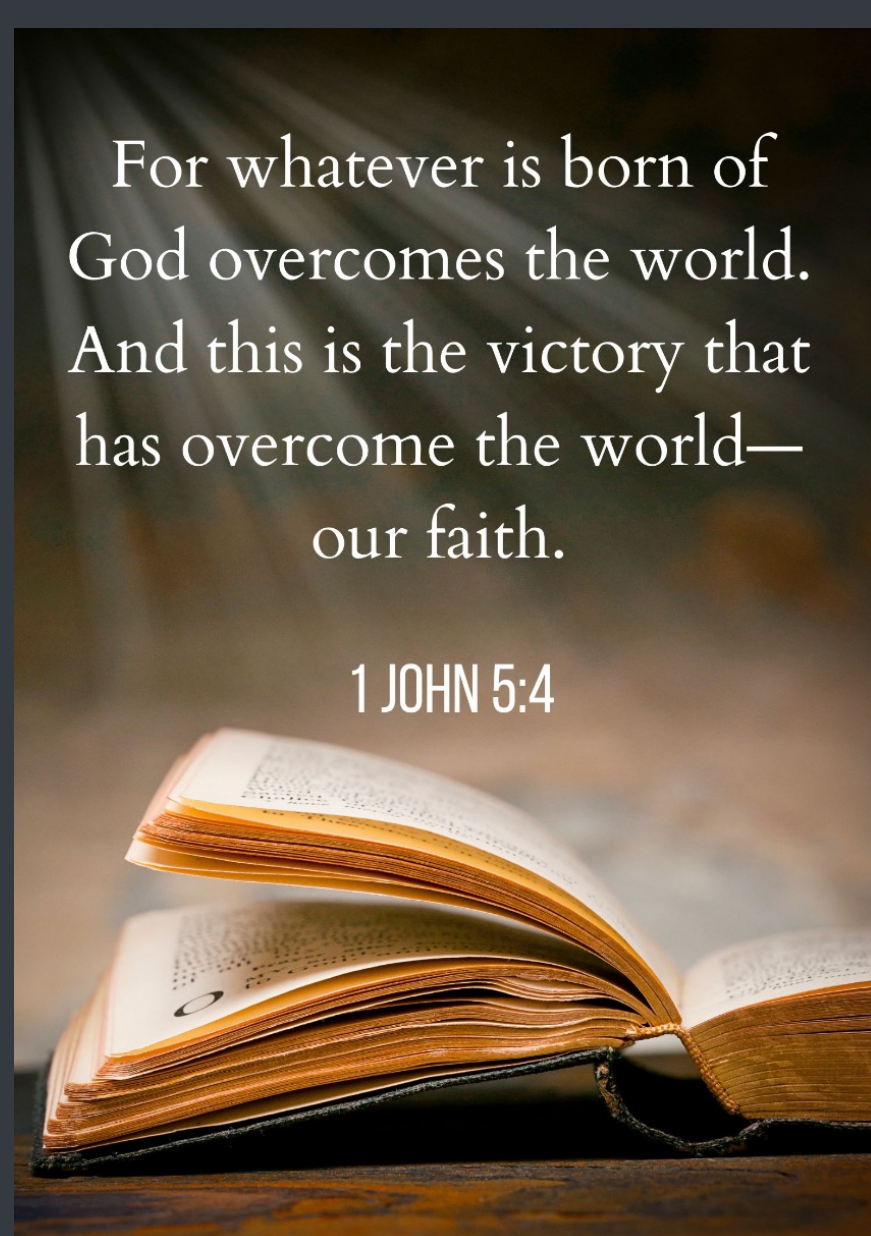


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The Secret Sauce Part 6: The Key To Producing Thirty, Sixty and a Hundredfold



Dear Friend

1 John 5:4 NKJV says "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith" 1 John 5:4 (NLT) states, "For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith." With this scripture, the Apostle John sets the foundation for winning in this life. Every child of God is well able to defeat the devil through faith. Faith is the key to victory in this life. No child of God can be victorious in this life without faith, James 1:5–8 NKJV says: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his way". Faith is being single-minded on the Word of God. When you become single-minded on the Word, you are a person operating in faith. It is therefore very important that we allow God's Word to shape our thinking. Our entire outlook in life should be based on what the Word is saying.

Mark 4: 3–8 says: "Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow: And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up. And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth: But when the sun was up, it was scorched, and because it had no root, it withered away. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit. And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred". Jesus explained this parable in Mark 4:14–20: "The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred" The only constant throughout this parable is the seed. The same seed was sown and the variable was the type of ground in which the seeds fell. Jesus said the seed is the Word of God. Just as the natural seed will not germinate until it is put in the ground, so it is with the Word of God. The Word of God does not produce a harvest sitting on the coffee table. It must be read and planted in our hearts. Jesus also describes the four different types of hearts:

1. The Wayside

Mark 4:15 says: "And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts". In Matthew 13, this heart type is explained by Jesus Himself. He said, "When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside."(Matthew 13:19). This is the only class of people whom Satan literally snatches the Word from them. The reason for this is a lack of understanding. People never perish for a lack of inspiration, shouting or goosebumps during an exciting service, but they perish from a lack of knowledge. That is why the Bible says, "In all your getting, get understanding." Seek to understand the Kingdom principles. Once you get an understanding of a specific subject, that Word cannot be stolen from you. You will live in a state of conviction.

2. Stony Ground

Mark 4:16–17 says "These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness, and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble" The stony hearts have zeal. They just love the Word but they do not spend enough time in the Word. They do not meditate in the Word, and therefore the Word has no root. When a Word develops root on the inside of us, there's a conviction that cannot be shaken. Excitement alone cannot win against tribulation – only conviction does. Root is developed when we meditate on the Word of God

3. Thorny Ground

Mark 4:18–19 says "Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful" The cares of this world are one of the sneaky ways the enemy keeps us from being fruitful in the world. It is possible to be so consumed with what needs to be accomplished every day that we kick the Word out of our lives. The cares of this world twist our priorities. We end up thinking that taking care of ourselves and accomplishing much in our careers and businesses are all there is to life. We can be caught up in the treadmill of chasing money and success. Our lives can be so consumed with making money that we end up choking the Word of God in our lives. The deceitfulness of riches will make us think that we are doing okay without the need for being obedient to God's Word.

4. The Good Ground

Mark 4:20: "And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred" The fourth and final heart type is the good ground. This is a heart that receives the Word of God. This heart type does not only receive the Word, but it keeps the Word until it produces a harvest of thirty, sixty and a hundredfold.

Beloved, let the Word of God that is in your heart produce a great harvest.

With love,

Pastors Tafara & Chipo Butayi

Faith Hill Church

Faith Hill is a multicultural, family friendly church where all people from all backgrounds are welcome. Our church is led by our Senior Pastors, Tafara and Chipo Butayi. Both of whom are passionate about the Word of God and seeing lives being transformed.



Prayer for today's devotion

Dear Father
I thank you for your lovingkindness. I thank you for your love that has been shared abroad in my heart. Father, your lovingkindness is better than life itself. I am the apple of your eye, greatly loved by you. You have given me the tools that I need to live a victorious life and for that I say, thank you Lord. (Psalm 63:3)

Lord Jesus, I thank you for your wisdom with regards to guarding my heart. I will endeavour to fill my heart with good treasure as all the issues of my life flow from it. I believe that your word is the good treasure. I will value Your word always. (Luke 6:45)

Lord, from today, I will endeavour to have thoughts that are based on your Word. I will not pay any attention to evil thoughts, thoughts that are contrary to what you say. Even if the news says that there are no jobs or that the economy is slowing down, I will not pay any mind to it, for mine is the economy of Heaven. I will continuously transform my thinking by filling myself with your Word. (Romans 12:2)

In Jesus' name I pray,
Amen

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