

Breakthrough

***Marshmallow! Looks like Tarzan, plays like Jane! Failure! Can't! Won't! Never!

These are the words that characterized and defined Michael Oher's life, the young man about which the movie the blind side was made.

Those were the words that defined him, until one day truth was brought into his life by, of all people, a successful middle class white lady named Leigh Anne Tuohy.

She brought truth in his life by seeing in him the very things that God saw in him and told him the truth about himself. Forget about why you CAN'T do it. Let's talk about why I think you CAN!

Through the revelation of this truth, and his belief in it and action upon it, he experienced a breakthrough in his life that took him from just another statistic in a failed, fatherless society, to an All-American left tackle for Mississippi State University, as well as a 2009 NFL draft pick of the Baltimore Ravens.

It's because God had a plan and the people involved in that plan cooperated with Him in it, and as a result saw Breakthrough.

There's a message in that film clip that we need in this church, desperately!

But I'm not here to preach a film clip, I'm here to preach the truth of God's word, and His word is full of examples of Breakthrough. But there's one in particular that I want to focus on today.

***Turn with me to Joshua 6.

Breakthrough

Two weeks ago I called Real World to a week-long fast. Many of you fasted for the first time in your lives, and while I haven't had a chance to hear all that happened, I know God moved in all of your lives.

On Tuesday of the week that week I got a note from Paul Cousins, one of our Pastoral Team Leaders, that stated this:

This morning I asked God what gives with Real World I know you didn't bring us through the difficulties and trials of the past years for us to be an irrelevant and mediocre church so what gives?

Now guys, when you're in the midst of a fast, this is the kind of question that God loves!

***God said I brought you out of Egypt I sustained you in the desert and I stopped the flow of the Jordan River so you could cross safely. You are in a time of preparation a time of circumcision the cutting away of the flesh the wounds are cleaned and all most healed; soon I will instruct you to turn your faces to Jericho and march. BE READY.

During the fast, I also set aside 2 hours a day for prayer, at 6am and 6pm here at the church. It was during the 6pm hour on Monday of that week that God spoke the word Breakthrough into my spirit. Then after I read the message that the Lord shared with Paul, I began to cry out for Breakthrough for our entire church. Literally each night God would show me each of your faces as I cried out to Him for breakthrough in your lives.

Breakthrough

If you're here today, I have personally prayed for breakthrough in your life! If you're listening to the sound of my voice, know that God has breakthrough for your life and if you want me to pray for that for you send me an e-mail via the website and I'll be happy to.

***Joshua 6

1 Now Jericho was tightly shut because of the sons of Israel; no one went out and no one came in.

2 The LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and the valiant warriors.

3 "You shall march around the city, all the men of war circling the city once. You shall do so for six days. 4 "Also seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark; then on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

5 "It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people will go up every man straight ahead."

***Breakthrough is defined as the following:

- discovery: a productive insight
- making an important discovery
- a penetration of a barrier such as an enemy's defense
- ***An advance through and past enemy lines ; Any major progress; such as a great innovation or discovery that overcomes

Breakthrough

a significant obstacle; characterized by major progress or overcoming some obstacle

***1. Breakthrough can't happen without an obstacle.

The children of Israel were in the promised land.

If you don't have any obstacles in your life, you can't experience breakthrough!

David didn't have breakthrough concerning his role as the King of Israel until Goliath came on the scene.

There has got to be an obstacle in form of an enemy in your life keeping you from the promises of God in order for you to see a breakthrough happen.

Also, God's view of those obstacles are always in the form of opportunity. He's NOT WORRIED!

Your decision today to begin to look at the obstacles in your life as God-covered opportunity is called faith.

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

***2. Breakthrough can't happen without a promise.

In v2 God says, "See?"

God had promised them that he would give them the land.

Now when they showed up in Canaan they remembered when they spied out the land and found out that this promise was conditional.

This promise, though, was conditional on their obedience.

God never asks you to put your faith in a promise. He asks you to put your faith in the giver of the promise

Breakthrough

Let me also say, that the promise of God, when it comes to breakthrough, is always particular to the person receiving the breakthrough.

Look at the context of the Jericho promise. Fear, grumbling, intimidation.

Just to show you that I'm for you and that is enough, you're going to conquer this city without lifting a sword.

When you receive a promise from God, it HAS to be revealed to you by the Holy Spirit!!

***3. Breakthrough can't happen without a plan.

The very next thing that God did for Joshua after reminding him of His promise, was he gave him a plan to see breakthrough happen.

Notice that God's plan was ultimately to bring glory to God!!

If there is not a supernatural component in the plan, it's not God and breakthrough will not occur.

This is the main thing that frustrates most believers and prevents breakthrough from happening.

Breakthrough is spiritual, so the plan has to contain a spiritual component!!

Russ and Kim Kline tried for 18 years to have a baby.

Also notice that the plan was to deal with the obstacle to their breakthrough.

If they had decided to ignore the plan or depend on their own strength they would have failed.