

**Changing the World with Words: The Power of Holy Orders**  
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**I. Words create reality:**

**Gen. 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. **3** And God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

**John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God; **3** all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. **4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**II. Words do things: the “performative utterance” or “speech act”**

**Is. 55:10** “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and return not thither but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, **11** so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

**Heb. 4:12** For the word of God is *living and active*, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

**III. God gives Adam the power of the Word:**

**Gen. 1:26** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness”

**Gen. 5:3** When Adam had lived a hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.

As created son Adam mirrors the uncreated Son who is the Word.

**Gen. 2:7** Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils *the breath of life*; and man became a living being.

**Gen. 2:15** The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. (Heb. “work” and “guard”)

**Num 3:7** (The Levites) shall *guard* his *guardianship* (i.e. do his duties) and the *guardianship* of the whole congregation (i.e. duties for the whole congregation) in the Tent of Meeting, by *working* the *work* of the Tabernacle.

**Gen. 2:19** So out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. **20** The man gave names to all ...

*A priest is a son, and from his sonship flows the power to speak the Word of God his Father and grant existence and life to the world!*

#### **IV. Priests had power to bestow the Name through the Word:**

**Num. 6:23** “Say to Aaron and his sons, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them, **24** *The LORD* bless you and keep you: **25** *The LORD* make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you: **26** *The LORD* lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. **27** “So shall they put *my name* upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

**John 17:6** “I have manifested your Name to the men whom you gave me out of the world ... **8** For I have given them the Words which you gave me, and they have received them ... **11** Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me... **12** While I was with them, I kept them in your Name, which you have given me; I have guarded them... **13** But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have *my joy fulfilled in themselves*. **14** I have given them your Word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world... **18** As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world...”

#### **V. What do we do with the Name and the Words?**

**John 14:12** “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father.”

**John 2:7** Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them ... **8** He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the steward.” So they took it. **9** When the steward tasted the water now become wine, the steward called the bridegroom: **10** ... “Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.”

**John 9:6** As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man’s eyes with the clay, **7** saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.” So he went and washed and came back seeing. **8** Those who had seen him before as a beggar said, “Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?” **9** Some said, “It is he”; others said, “No, but he is like him.” He said, “I am ~~the man~~.”

**John 20:21** Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.” **22** And when he had said this, *he breathed on them*, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

**Col. 4:6** Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer every one.

**Discipleship: The Shepherd's Plan for His Flock**  
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**I. Jesus Was a Great Mathematician**

**Mark 1:14** Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, **15** and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."

**Mark 1:16** And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. **17** And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men." **18** And immediately they left their nets and followed him. **19** And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. **20** And immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and followed him.

**II. Jesus Discipled Others Through Personal Relationship:**

**Mark 3:13** And he went up on the mountain, and called to him those whom he desired; and they came to him. **14** And he appointed twelve, (1) to be with him, and (2) to be sent out to preach **15** (3) and have authority to cast out demons: **16** Simon whom he surnamed Peter; **17** James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, whom he surnamed Bo-anerges, that is, sons of thunder; **18** Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Cananaean, **19** and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

(1) *to be with him*: communion, relationship

(2) *sent to preach*: education to the point of reproduction, learning till one can teach

(3) *authority to cast out demons*: manifested in sacramental power and other gifts of the Spirit

(4) Notice they are \_\_\_\_\_!

(5) Notice one \_\_\_\_\_!

### III. Jesus was Realistic About Human Nature:

**Mark 4:2** And he taught them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: **3** “Listen! A sower went out to sow. **4** And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. **5** Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it had not much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil; **6** and when the sun rose it was scorched, and since it had no root it withered away. **7** Other seed fell among thorns and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. **8** And other seeds fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.” **9** And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

### IV. Jesus Invested Generous Amounts of Time Forming His Disciples:

**Mark 6:30** The apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. **31** And he said to them, “Come away by your selves to a lonely place, and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. **32** And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves. **33** Now many saw them going, and knew them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns, and got there ahead of them.

### V. Jesus Worked According to Basic Principles, Replicated by the Apostles

A. Principle one: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Principle two: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Replicated by Paul:

**2 Tim. 2:2** and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.