

Torrey Conference 1997 Faith for Living 3

By Keith Johnson

Hola. Hey, you all are the you all are the faithful ones. I mean, I'm assuming you're either here because you want to be here. Are you just had one session left to make eight. How many had to make eight. Hey, man, OK, how many wanted to be here? Hey, man, that's good. That's good. Now, today, I want you to stand up and meet seven people that you've never met. Say hello to them. Hello, sir, how are you, Gigi? OK, we're going to do something just a little different. I need everyone in the last eight rows, the last eight rows to move forward. If you're in the last eight rows, stand up and move forward real quick. Let's give a hand to those people so they feel encouraged to come on the last eight rows. So move forward. Great.

How many people have not been in any of the faith sessions? OK, stand to your feet. If you've not been to any of the faith sessions, stand to your feet. All right. Now make sure you notice the people that are around you. Everybody notice them. OK, you people sit down now, folks, explain to them what they just did. Go ahead. Hey, y'all are as tired as I am. What's going on? You explain it to them. I hope they explained to you that when you sat down, you sat down, believe that the chair was going to hold you. You didn't think anyone would sabotage the chair. You sat down and knew it was going to hold you. That's faith.

But we have faith in God, which is greater than a chair, a man, and also faith. It means forsaking all I take him. We talked about faith, the Hall of Faith and Hebrews, Chapter 11. And yesterday

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

we talked about the other side of faith, which is all those folks who didn't have all the victory, but they were saddened to persecuted, had disease, pain, struggle.

And a lot of folks that were here realize that even in their life, they're living on the other side of faith. But today we're going to have somebody say short session. That means we're going to get out of here early. Can I get in on that one? All right. Because we're not going to sit in a line for long at lunch, right? We like to get in the line early just to bless those cooks, you know, because, see, the cooks will feel real bad if it's open at eleven, fifteen and no one's, like, waiting and excited to get there. And so we're going to be out early because we want to bless them. They're one another's burdens. In this way, we fulfill the life of Christ. Amen. All right, good.

I want you to know I came to Los Angeles and I didn't know anyone except for me house, so I didn't know B house. I met B house when he was at the airport, but I saw a familiar face today. This young lady is all the way from Fuller Seminary and she actually worked at our church and she was one of the leaders in our summer program, our summer ministry. And Karen Hill is here from Fuller. Karen, where are you at? Just stand up. Would you all greet her with the Biola greeting? Yes. Now, these people that are walking in now are not late, they're not late. So could you greet them? They're not late. Right on time. All right. This is great.

I'm excited about this little message that I'm going to share with you, because it it reminds me a lot of my own growing up. And I'm going to be sharing, as I mentioned, this issue of fearless faith. But before we do that, I need you to wait a minute. Where are you from? You come here. You come in here. Now, what do you do with that camera that a camera or a gun? OK, go ahead.

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

Take the picture right here. Stand up with me, friends. Come on. Come on. Come on. Yes. Good, good, good. OK. Now I'm going to I'm... where she'd go? Hey, come back here, you see, this is what they do it Biola, they swipe the card, they steal pictures and don't stay for the session. I don't you know, I got to ask you guys a question. Is it true that this is a Christian institution? Yeah, that's true. Right. And in the last couple of days, some folks have gotten saved. We weren't saved. Amen.

But, you know, I went in the library today and they have one of these things. You know, when you walk to beep beep beep, did you guys know that at the Christian institution? I mean, and it beeped because I took a couple of books. I didn't know it was going to beep. Oh, I didn't know. But why do they have that? Oh, my. What? I'm trying to figure out why they have the beeper at the Biola University library. Who can explain that to me. What? Oh, non Christians come on campus, OK?

They would never have that for anyone at the school. All right. OK. Hey, man, good. Let me ask a question. You know who feels like they could pray for us right now? Who feels like raise your hand real quick. Who could pray for us right now? Come here. All right. Please come. Come in. Oh, you see, I feel like it, but you won't be not nearly here of the word, but doers of the word. You all stand on behalf of my man, my sister. And she prays for us for this session.

Well, our heavenly father in this hour, we just coming for you, Lord, to thank you for the blessings you've given us throughout the week, Lord, and for using your servant father. Lord, I just ask you that you open our hearts and our minds, Lord, and our ears to accept the word. What

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

do you have to speak to us? Father helped us become doers of your word. And I just listened to your word. Father, in this hour. I just want to thank you, Lord, and help us to understand what you have for us in your precious name. We pray. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Shake somebody's hand before you sit down. I bless somebody.

Now, I'm just going to confess to you right now, since I don't have to preach again till Sunday morning. This is my last this is my seventh time preaching in two days in a morning. So this is like, you know, the last time, of course, unless they invite me back. So I'm just going to go ahead and say what I have to say. All right. OK, all right. Now we're going to be sharing about what I say is fearless faith. And the reason I like it is that this remind me of my own neighborhood where I grew up, my neighborhood. We've had a pretty good change in the last ten years.

But when I was a kid, there was that we had what we call a dog problem in south Minneapolis about ten, fifteen years ago before they started doing a real aggressive dog catching. You know, they had dogs that sort of had geographical areas, you know, like this with the German Shepherds Block. This was the St. Bernard's block. This is true. They ran in gangs. And so whenever you would be going from one place, you can laugh about it.

Whenever you go from one place to the other, you always had to figure out how you were feeling physically based on where you were going based on the dog, no question. So, for example, if I was going to Lenny's store, I'd have to decide, OK, now am I feeling like fast? Because I've got to go through the German Shepherd, the Doberman Pinscher and the mutt to get

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

to Lenny's store. And what the dogs would do is they would they would wait for you and they'd always know who was coming. And so I learned to take like different utensils. Some would call them some weapons. But I don't like to talk about weapons.

I would take different utensils and I would place them in different parts of the neighborhood depending on where I was going. So I'd know that behind the bush, I've got the big two by four over here. I've got the bottle over here, I've got the chain. And we had all sorts of little things we do when we walk through the neighborhood. We always know sort of what what the, um, what you call the strategy is for running from dogs. Now, I don't have any.

Can you come here for a second, brother? Let me come in real quick. Here I going. Just show you guys some of the things that we did. Dog running 101. Now, if you're walking with your friend and you see that in you're walking.

Hey, man, you said, come on, walk. Walk with me. Now you have a hey, man, you know. This is this is Greg, the friend in front of the dog move, OK, that happened to whoever grabbed each other first was always the winner. And then, you know, you put the dog in back and forth like that. The other the other thing we do is some folks hated having new cars in our neighborhood because of the dog problem, because they always ended up having shoe prints on top of their car because it was the old jump on top of the car move when the dog would come.

There's the drop and roll, all these other situations that you do with the dog. But I learned something. After a while, I learned that dogs could smell fear or that they could at least sense

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

fear. And I don't know if you know it or not. There are there are three groups that actually smell fear, BS, smell fear. You all know that. You did. You know that smell fear cooking. Is there anybody that can testify that smell fear? OK, these are by older people. They would take bees, can smell, they can sense fear. And so if you're afraid to be runs toward you, the second sort of group that can smell fear is dogs. Dogs. If I walk like I'm afraid and certainly if I run, the dogs are going to say, hey, I got you and they'll chase me.

OK, but there's a third what I call a well, let me just say, bees smell fear, dogs smell fear, and the devil smells fear. The devil smells fear, and when the devil senses that you're afraid, guess what he does? He's just like a dog. He comes at you when you say, I'm afraid of this thing, guess what he'll do? He'll put more of those situations into your life. Because you see the opposite of faith is fear.

You're either full of two things, either you're fearful or you're faithful. Bottom line, because if you're faithful, you know that your trust in God completely and fear doesn't have as much room in your life. But if you're fearful, faith doesn't have much room. So you've got to make a choice whether you're going to be a fearful person or a faithful person. It's two ways to live, either fearful or faithful. The question that we've got to ask is, how do I get what I call fearless faith?

Because there is only really one kind of faith and that's fearless faith. How do I get fearless faith? I want you to turn to the book of Daniel, if you would. And I think we've got an example for how you get fearless faith. I'll tell you something. You guys are in a great situation. I talk to my little boy last night, tailor. He's going to be 12 in November. And I'm convinced that this is the college

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

that he should go to. You guys are. Yeah, I'm convinced. And the biggest reason I'm convinced is then I could visit him.

I live in Minnesota. I mean, come on, give me a break. I mean, I would be able to say I must go visit my son at the university in southern Los Angeles, you know, I mean but the other reason I'm convinced is that I really do believe that you all are open here to the word of the Lord. I sense that at Biola University, there's an openness to truth. There's an openness to be challenged. I know that everyone in the institution isn't necessarily in the same place, but there seems to be an openness. And I want to say this, too. I didn't get a chance to say it in the larger sessions. But there is something that's impressed me about Biola, and that is for a Christian college. There's a lot of diversity in comparison to some of the other Christian colleges that I've seen, and our diversity is a good thing. But we can't stop at diversity. It's not good enough just to have different people at the same school. We've got to learn how to not just tolerate each other. We've got to learn to celebrate each other. That means our sisters, our brothers from other countries, our sisters, our brothers from different ethnic cultural backgrounds. We've got to learn to not just say, well, you know, we go to the same school, but we celebrate one another.

So I must say that there is potential at Biola University for what I would call the Ministry of Reconciliation in a powerful way here for the main reason that you're not just speaking to the choir. It's not everyone of the same cultural base. There are people of different cultural ethnic areas. So you guys have a great potential here. And I would love for my son to consider coming here, especially if they give him a full ride. Can I get an amen? All right.

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

Fearless faith. How do you get it, Daniel? Chapter six, I want to share this with you. Daniel, Chapter six. Now, I'm hoping that when you all did your evaluations that you said, please bring Keith Johnson back between December and March, did you say that, Amy?

Good, because between December and March in Minnesota is absolutely. Can you say hell here? Whatever the opposite of hell is, temperature wise is what Minnesota is with the same word. OK, all right. It please Darius to a point one hundred and twenty satraps to rule throughout the kingdom.

Chapter six of Daniel with three administrators over them. One of them was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. Now, Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the King plan to set him over the whole kingdom. At this, the administrators in the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so.

They could find no corruption in him because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. Wouldn't that be great if they said that about you, that they could find nothing corrupt in you, that in fact you were a student that always got your work in on time? You're a student that was always there on time. You didn't skip you were a student that didn't cheat. I mean, wouldn't it be great if even though they were jealous and envious?

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

And you do know jealousy and obviously envy even is in operation at a Biola University. Did you know that there's jealousy and even envy here? Some folks are jealous of the fact that you get A's all the time. They're jealous about the fact that you get your working all the time. And so even in a place like this, this sort of thing can be an operation. This what they could find no corruption in him because he was trustworthy. These finally these men said we will never find any basis for charges against this man, Daniel, unless it has something to do with the law of his God.

I would love for people to say we can find nothing about this man, Keith, unless it has got something to do with that God he keeps talking about. I mean, that's the kind of persecution that you want. You want the kind of persecution where they say, listen, the only thing that we can get against her is that she is a woman of God.

Oh, man, that's something that we can push for, so our success, so the administrators in the satraps went as a group to the king and said, Oh, King Darius live forever. That's how they talk when they talk to kings. The royal administrators, perfect satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any God little guy. Or man, during the next 30 days, except you O King shall be thrown in the lion's den.

Now, O King issued a decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered in accordance with the laws of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be repealed. And so dinking Darius put the decree in writing. Now, when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went to the

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

king and began to campaign against him. Then say that. If you're reading along into this now, when Daniel learned the decree had been published, he went to the satraps under the governors and pleaded with him to change it. It doesn't say that. It says when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows open toward Jerusalem.

Three times a day, he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. This is very radical, you all, Daniel. It says that he was probably close to 70 plus years old at this time. And we know that he came to this this region when he was a teenager with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednago. That's right. We know that he came with them. So for a long period of time, it was his habit to pray three times a day.

And it says that Daniel went home when he heard that the decree had been published, that if he does this thing in line with his God, he's going to be thrown into excuse me, the lion's den. He went to home to his upstairs room with the windows open toward Jerusalem. Three times they got on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God. Now you are there's something about that. Why would Daniel give thanks to God? He just heard that there's a decree that says, if I pray to you, I go to the Lion's Den. Thank you.

I mean, there's something about that that's a little weird, kind of reminds me of yesterday's message, even though the world says even though the disease comes, even though the persecution comes, you are still gone, you still deserve worship, you still deserve praise, and you still deserve Thanksgiving.

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

Daniel was still in relationship with God, even though he could have tried to be political, as some of us try to be. He could have changed his convictions if some of us do and when the pressure is lifted up. But Daniel didn't do this. It says that when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, this is what he did. He gave thanks. Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help.

The Bible says you make your supplications known with Thanksgiving. In other words, we do want to ask God, but we thank God first, then we say God. So Daniel did get around to the real request, which was, God, I need your help. So they went to the king and spoke to him in verse 12 about this royal decree. Did you not publish a decree that during the next 30 days, anyone who prays to any God or man except you or King would be thrown into the lion's den?

The king answered. The decree stands in accordance with the laws of the Medes and the Persians. Which cannot be repealed, then they said to the king, Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day. When the king heard this, he was greatly distressed. He was determined to rescue Daniel and made every effort until sundown to save him.

Even the king couldn't save Daniel. But Daniel had already talked to the king of Kings A. Now there's something about fearless faith here. It takes fearless faith that in the midst of possible destruction, you would still be a person of prayer. It takes fearless but fearless faith in the midst of jealousy, envy, attack to still be a person of prayer. And I'm going to give you a secret. I won't

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

tell you why I believe that Daniel had fearless faith and how he got it was absolutely because of prayer.

I'll tell you something about prayer. When you are in prayer, you get God's perspective. And guess what? God's perspective, and I mention this to you a couple of days ago, God's perspective is so much bigger than our perspective. When we're afraid and when we live and lean on God and faith, God will begin to give us God's perspective. And when we get God's perspective, all of a sudden the situation we're in looks different. Now, some of you say, well, yeah, what might look different, but but it's still the same. Daniel had this sort of faith where he could pray and get this fearless faith. It says that.

So the king gave the order after he realized that he couldn't do anything and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lion's den. The king said to Daniel, May your God, whom you serve, continue to rescue you. Because the bottom line is I can't do nothing for you. That's basically what he's saying, this God that you have decided you're going to pray two, three times a day. This God is the only way that you're going to be rescued.

Stone was brought placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. That's a revival verse right there. Man's plan was, we're throwing you in the lion's den, your. We already know the story, but you won't hear it like I'm about to tell it to you. Man's plan is we put you in the lion's den. We have rolled a stone in front of the lion's den and we have sealed it with the

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

king of the meat and the Persians and all of the governors so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. Kind of reminds me what they tried to do with Jesus.

Listen, King Herod, you know, there's a there's a mystery about this Jesus. And so we would like for you to make sure that you put some guards at the grave and that you roll a stone in front of the grave just in case someone might want to try to come and change Jesus. The situation, God changed Jesus, the situation.

Can I get a name in over that God changes the situation and God changes Daniel's situation in a radical way. Then it says that the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without entertainment being brought to him, and he could not sleep. At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the Lion's Den. I have to do something that's not sort of biblically correct. It doesn't say what I'm about to say right now, the Bible doesn't say it, don't tell any of the Bible teaches, but I have a theory I want to share with you between verses 18 and 19.

It says that the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating, without entertainment being brought to him, and he could not sleep. And then it says at the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the Lion's Den. Verse 20 says when he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished Burris voice. You all of the living God that was your God, whom you, sir. I mean, do just to say, hey, Daniel, you did it, not kings after talking it, you know, long language.

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

I mean, if it had been your day, that's what I would have said. But he says, servant of the living God has your God. You saw continually being able to rescue you from the Lions. Now 18, says he went to his palace. Verse 19, says it's morning verse twenty one says Daniel answered. Did anybody hear that? Now listen now. They threw him in the lion's den. They rolled the stone, put the signature on his situation, might not change.

It says all night long the king was worried. My question is, what happened between the time Daniel was thrown in the lion's den to the time that Daniel answered the king? I have a theory.

I have a theory. Does anyone want to hear the theory? This is what my theory is. I think that what happened was Daniel got thrown into the lion's den and it was probably dark and there was probably five to seven lions in the lion's den. And when Daniel hit the deck of the Lion's Den Cage or whatever it was, he probably thought to himself, well, it must be noon. I better pray.

I'm convinced that when Daniel hit the deck, he prayed and I'm thinking the Mayans must have been looking over there at him like, you know, the saying never had before. I mean, every time they throw us lunch, they run in and we take them and hit him in the end, knock them around. And I mean, it's always just like, what? What's the school doing? And I'm convinced that when Daniel hit the deck in the midst of lions who were bitten and, you know, how have you ever seen a lion? Listen, I'm going to tell you something. This a true story.

I was in Kenya. I can't believe this man did this. We were in Kenya and we were looking and we got time. Can I can I can. Is it all right for me to share this thing? All right. I'm in Kenya and we

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

look for it. We were on a safari and every day they looked for the lion and they couldn't find the lion. Because the truth of the matter is, the people who really work in the kingdom is not the lion.

Did you know that you know who hunts for the food? It ain't the line, it's the lioness, you know, who runs the show over there? Can I get a name in from the women? The line is, listen, I thought I saw them big water buffaloes running and it was that lioness who ran up. And I saw this happen, pop that thing in the head. It fell down, knocked it all up in the head and brought our babies come on and meet.

The kids came and ate them. But big line, he's back in the shade. So for three days we looked for the lion. Three days couldn't find it. Finally, the third day, the people are with the man. I ain't going out there again looking for them. Dumb life. I said, I'll find a life. We went and found the lions. I'm telling you guys, there is no site like a lion and we're in a jeep where the top of the jeep is open, so, you know, you can look out over the thing. And the man said, please, God, let us look at the lions. And so I found them, he said. So we pull up to the thing and he says, Oh, look out over the top. And I'm like, they give me enough. I mean, like the lions, like from here to you, OK?

And Alliance pretty quiet. And all of a sudden I'm not kidding. I looked out over the thing and that lion custody and the lion roared, and I swear you all I mean, I can't I don't even want to tell you how loud it was. I mean, it was like I mean, I don't want to even scare you how loud it was. If I if I told you how loud it was, it would scare you. It just rumbled throughout the jungles of Kenya, wherever we were.

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

And I thought to myself, oh, my God. I mean, I thought the lion was just going to jump right up and get in. Now, this is one lion. I'm in a jeep, the lions outside of the Jeep, and I'm scared.

Daniel, on the other hand, is in the mist. There's no cage, there's no Jeep, there's no guide. These lions are right there. And I'm convinced that what happened is Daniel got down on his knees and prayed. I'm convinced of it.

And then it says this. Daniel answered, O King live forever. My God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions. I'm convinced that what happened is Daniel was praying and the lion one lion said the other night, Hey, man, go ahead and get it now, man. The Bible says, touch, not non profit. I mean, I can hear the last say, come on, man, you know, the Bible says I mean, I think that the lesson I would just tell you what I think happened. I think the glory of the Lord filled the lion's den. I'm convinced that one of them lions got saved immediately when they saw danger. And I can see the last say, look, I touched him. That's my main man back then. I mean, as a result of that, evangelism took place by the night.

The revival is taking place and all the lions got saved right in the Lions den. I'm convinced of it. I am convinced that that will happen. In fact, this the age of the Lord came down and shut the mouth of the lions. Why did the Lord come down? Because Daniel asked God for help and God heard his cry and his help came. And it says that the that the lions mouths were shut. They have not hurt me because I was found innocent. And whose sight? God's sight. Nor have I ever done anything wrong before. You O king. All I'm convinced that there's a way for us to get fearless faith. Daniel had to have had fearless faith to be in prayer regardless of his situation, and I'm telling you that regardless of your situation, you cannot go wrong by praying about it.

Now, I have a challenge for you. First of all, you know, Evander Holyfield, when he went to fight Mike Tyson and I have a little story about that. I don't know if we have time. Well, I'm gonna tell you anyway. I know. OK, I'll take the second. Evander Holyfield, when he fought Mike Tyson, you know, they had that big problem. Where to? Mike turned into a dog and bit Evander. Right.

Anyway, yeah, I don't know why he did that, but he did that. Evander says that fear prohibits you from being all that you can be. Fear prohibits you from being all that you can be, another famous man came up with this quote. OK, I did all right.

This man says faith promotes you to be all that you can be. Fear is going to prohibit you. Faith is going to promote you, but I don't believe that you can have real faith unless you're in communion and communication with God on a regular basis. Now, it just so happens that right now I have challenged some people and I'm going to challenge you to do something that's made a major difference through testimony. In the last few weeks, I've challenged people to take 30 day period of time because, you know, within 30 days you can start a habit.

And I challenge them that within a 30 day period of time to take twenty one minutes a day and to pray twenty one minutes a day, they say, well, Jeez Louise, how can I do 20 minutes a day? OK, just do seven minutes, three times a day. I'm saying when me and I don't usually pray that long. Let me show you how you pray, how we've ever heard of praying, according to Acts, A adoration that's going to take you two minutes. God, you are good. You are precious. You are

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

great. C confession that's going to take you five if you're anything like me, you already have seven minutes just through confession, adoration, confession, Thanksgiving. Thank God for what? Thank God for having me at Biola. Thank God that I can breathe. Thank God that I can learn. Thank God that I can a b c d e f g. Thank God that's going to take you another five minutes. And then s is supplication to ask God after you've thanked God. According to what Daniel says here and also according to Philippians four, six and seven, it says that we thank God and then we, we ask God, we make supplication. And the supplication is not just for you, the supplication is for your mother, your father, your brother, your sister, your roommate, the president of the college, the dean, the provost, Ron, everybody else. I'm telling you guys, if you just go through A C, T and S, you'll have spent seven minutes within the first two things and you'll think, man, I've prayed already. Ten minutes.

Now, my challenge is, is for you to take the Daniel challenge, which would say for thirty days on the 24th of October until the twenty fourth of November, I would challenge you for thirty days to pray. Twenty one minutes a day. And I'll tell you what happens with me on this. There's some days where I don't do it three times a day. There are some days where it gets to be one or two o'clock in the afternoon. And I think, man, I've got thirty minutes here.

You can ask me any time I come to the college, I say, let me take a walk, see, OK, I go for a walk and I pray because I love that you know the story. Enoch, we won't go there with Shasta Nate again. But you know, the story of Enoch was God and Enoch walk together. I'ma tell you guys, you live in sunny Southern California. I mean, the weather is ninety percent of the time a good place to go out and walk and pray.

Now, my challenge to you that you might have fearless faith is that for thirty days you spend seven minutes, three times a day or let's see what's twenty one divided by two, huh? Eleven and a half. Eleven and seven minutes, huh. All right. Ten and a half. OK, who's that. Eleven and a half. All right. I was a freshman. OK, listen, you can do it three times a day, seven minutes. Twice a day for ten and a half minutes. Once a day for twenty one minutes. But I promise you, this is what's going to happen after about the fifth day, God is going to have shown you your situation. And the thing that causes you fear and struggle and pain may not go away, but your view about it will change. And I'm telling you guys, this is the most exciting thing that can happen in your Christian life, where you're walking with your daddy God Abba and he's already told you the situation.

And so that when the lions come and they will come, because we know that the devil says he roars like a lion, he comes to kill and steal and destroy. He smells fear. And he's very upset at me right now, because if you get this formula down, all of a sudden his spitting and his cussing and it's pushing becomes ineffective. Why? Because you become people of prayer and we become people of prayer. All of a sudden you're not fearful, but you become faithful.

And at the end of 30 days, you will have established a habit. And that habit will take you not only 30 days, but it will take you 40, and then it'll take you 60 and it'll take you six months. And the end of the school year will come and your parents will look at you different and your friends will look at you different and your teachers will look at you different and God will look at you different because God will say you and I are in communion with one another.

I see you walking without so much fear. Now I see you walking with faith. You remind me of Daniel and I'm telling you something. You have this kind of attitude long enough, the lines around you will get converted and they will they'll get converted. I'm telling you the truth. Until the Bible professors, if you want to, I will stand on the word that those lines got converted because Daniel did not respond the way that everybody else that had been thrown in there responded.

Daniel prayed. And as a result, the king had his life changed. Daniel was again exalted to a situation that God wanted him to be in. The Bible says God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble, humble yourself. They're under God's mighty hand that he might lift you up in due time.

How do you get there through prayer? How do you get fearless faith through prayer? Now, I've got to ask you the question and you're going to have to make this decision on your own without any hands raised, without any heads bowed. I don't want anybody to respond publicly, but this is my question for you. Are you more fearful, are you more faithful? That's a question. Do you believe now that you have all the faith that God wants you to have, or is there more for you? Are you living according to the way that God would want you to live or is there more for you? And if you say no to that, then I would challenge you to take seriously, as of today, the 30 day challenge from Keith. And that 30 day challenge is the challenge of prayer, a challenge of being in communion with God, getting God's perspective on your situation.

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

And I'm telling you, there's a Bible verse that says Isaiah thirty, twenty one. Whether you look to the left or to the right, you shall hear the voice behind you saying, this is the way I walk you in it. Do not be wise in your own eyes and all your ways acknowledging that's Proverbs three. These things are ways for us to be in communion with God that we hear from God. And I'm telling you, the safest place to be is in the center of God's will. How do you know God's will? God lead you and guide you to that place. The blessed place for you to be is in the center of God's will. But you're never going to know that unless you are absolutely in communion with God.

I want to share one last scripture with you all before we get out of here in Psalm 27. Actually, there's two more scriptures. Psalm 27 verses one through three. The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear the Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid when evil people advanced against me to vote, to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they shall surely stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear the war break out against me. Even then, will I be confident? I tell you that I think dogs, bees and the devil all smell fear. But there's a last scripture that I want to share with you in James.

There was a time where I took the whole book of James and just memorized it because it's so practical for us and all scriptures practical, but this this whole book was just so practical and it was just it's just wonderful. But I want to share this with you one way that I finally learned what those dogs that used to chase me. It's kind of funny. It's kind of funny now. But, you know, I learned that if I charge the dog, the dog would run. Now, I'm not suggesting you to do this. This was done on a closed track.

Johnson. Torrey 1997.

But, you know, they do that with the cars. I'm not suggesting that you do this, you know, because you might get bit. But with me, I found out that there were some dogs, specifically the St. Bernard and the Doberman Pinscher, that when they would bark at me and I went to them, said, what you want, they would turn and put their tail between their legs. And I learned that with the dogs. So pretty soon I started walking around. Neighbor. Yeah, come on. You want me? You know, I started resisting those dogs and the dogs started running from me. Now, James, chapter five or seven says, submit yourself then to God, resist the devil. And his tail will go between his legs and he will run. Did you know the Bible says that is not me now. It says if you resist him, he will flee.

Now, I know for a fact there's some of you that have been oppressed by demons, evil spirits that come to discourage you. But there is a way to resist them. First of all, you've got to be willing to be in communication with God and to get God's perspective on the situation, then you've got to be willing to stand in the face of it. One thing about Ephesians six says, you know, the full armor of a God, but the full armor of God was not front and back armor. If you are running this way, you get hit. The only way that you can do it is by standing face to face like David did with Goliath. There's all sorts of examples of it because then we have the shield of faith in the helmet, et cetera, et cetera, the breastplate of righteousness. We've got to be willing to stand. And when we resist evil, evil willfully. Amen. Amen. You all stand to your feet, if you would.

Now, I challenge you all to consider fearless faith, according to Daniel's testimony of being a man of prayer. I don't want to embarrass anybody. I'm not going to ask anyone to come forward. But I do want to ask this question. How many of you would consider 30 days? And maybe you

could say, Keith, I can't do twenty one minutes, I can't do twenty one. Maybe I'll only do 10 and a half. Maybe I'll only do seven. But let me just ask this question right now, and this is going to make the devil very nervous. How many of you would say for the next 30 days you'll make a commitment to prayer, put your hands down, grab hands with someone across the aisle and we're going to pray.

Amen. Praise the Lord, it's a lot of people that are saying they're going to be in prayer, let's now be in prayer. God, we thank you for all of your goodness and grace for the ministry that you've given us by your mercy. We thank you for the application of the word. We know that evil's peeks in and gets very upset and nervous about a praying people because of praying people will get instruction from God and know how to act God. A praying people will be people that will not be fearful, but faithful are praying. People will be people that will resist the devil and the devil will have no place in their life. We pray God in Jesus name that you would bound by and every spirit that comes to discourage to kill, steal and destroy. We plead the blood of Jesus Christ over this group of young folks and all of those that they're in communion with. I pray that over the next 30 days that you would get a habit in them and as a result they would ignite other students to go with the same challenge. Let them be like Daniel, let people be upset with them, not because of their character, but because of you. We want to blame you, God, for people that attack us, not our own shortcomings. So we thank you in advance for Biola University's revival that will take place, which starts in prayer. We thank you, God, for salvation. We thank you, God, for everything you have done, are doing and will do even this year in the name of Jesus Christ, everyone said together, Hey man, repeat after me. I will live with fearless faith. Amen.