

Pastor Dolapo Lawal



LONDON SUMMER WORD CAMP 2026

Day 2 (Afternoon)

Title:

Confession of Faith

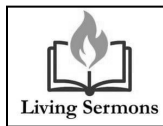
Transcribed and Published by Livingsermons.com

Confession of Faith

Preacher: Pastor Dolapo Lawal

Publisher: LivingSermons.com

Watch Live Video [Here](#)



Title: Confession of Faith

Source: London Summer Word Camp 2026, Day 2 (Afternoon)

Preacher: Pastor Dolapo Lawal

Publisher: Livingsermons.com

© 2026 Livingsermons.com

All rights reserved.

No portion of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise—except for brief quotations in critical reviews or articles, without prior written permission from the copyright holders.

For the advancement of the Gospel of the Kingdom and the edification of the Body of Christ. **Scripture quotations** are taken from the *King James Version (KJV)* of the Holy Bible, which is public domain. **THIS BOOK IS NOT FOR SALE**

First Edition — 2026

All inquiries and permissions:

info.livingsermons@gmail.com

www.livingsermons.com

Transcribed, Edited, and Published by Livingsermons.com

For Kingdom impact worldwide.



Foreword

There are messages that inspire, and there are messages that reshape the way we think. This sermon belongs to the latter.

Throughout these pages, the preacher carefully unfolds one of the most misunderstood subjects in the Christian life—faith. Rather than presenting faith as a formula for obtaining personal desires, he reveals it as a response to what God has already spoken. The central emphasis is both simple and profound: **faith begins with hearing God.**

As you read, you will discover that biblical confession is not positive thinking, affirmations, or human optimism. Genuine faith is born when the Holy Spirit quickens God's Word to the believer's heart. What follows is steadfast prayer, patient endurance, and unwavering agreement with what God has said until His promise becomes visible in experience.

The message is rich with scriptural exposition, practical illustrations, and personal testimonies that demonstrate how hearing from God produces confidence, perseverance, and supernatural results.

From Abraham to Elijah, from the woman with the issue of blood to Ezekiel's valley of dry bones, the preacher consistently points the reader back to the same unchanging principle: God speaks first; faith responds.

At LivingSermons, our editorial commitment is to preserve the voice, conviction, and spiritual weight of the original message while presenting it in a clear, readable format for study and meditation. Every effort has been made to maintain the preacher's intent, improve readability, and carefully reference Scripture without altering the substance of the sermon.

We encourage you not to rush through these pages. Read prayerfully. Pause over the Scriptures. Allow the Holy Spirit to illuminate the truths presented here.

More than acquiring information, seek to cultivate a lifestyle of fellowship with God—a place where His voice becomes the foundation of your faith, your prayers, your confessions, and your daily walk.

May this message strengthen your confidence in God's Word, deepen your communion with the Holy Spirit, and encourage you to live by faith that is rooted in divine revelation rather than human effort.

To God alone be all the glory.

— *Wisdom Epsi*

Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

Table of Contents

Foreword

Publisher's Note

Main Message

Introduction

A Word of Appreciation

Confession of Faith

The Technology of Miracles

The Prophetic Edge

The Requirement for Miracles

The Woman at the Well

The Heart Determines the Miracle

Revelation Always Precedes Manifestation

God's Timing Is Maturity

The Logic of Faith

Why God Chose Abraham

Faith Requires a Word from God

When the Word Is Stolen

You Believe What You Keep Hearing

The Wrong Conversation Can Cancel Faith

Protect the Word God Gives You

Be Careful What You Agree With

Guard Your Mind

About The Speaker

About Living Sermons

Join Our Team

We Are Social

Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

Watch the live sermon from which this message was transcribed on YouTube, **at [Pastor Poju's Official YouTube Channel](#)**

Livingsermons.com does not claim ownership of this message. All spiritual credit and ministerial authority belong to the preacher through whom the Word was delivered. Our role is that of stewards and editors—serving the Body of Christ by preserving and distributing life-giving messages in accessible digital formats.

Our commitment is excellence without dilution.

Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— ***Livingsermons.com***

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



Introduction

You know, some time ago in our church we had Pastors' Fast Prayers, and I caught myself saying something.

I said, "Oh my God, this is disgusting."

I was making reference to our days on campus, where we used to laugh in the Spirit, where there was such a move of the Holy Spirit.

Then I realized I was talking like those old people who always say, "Those days..."

Can we have it back?

A Word of Appreciation

I want to share for about thirty minutes, and then you can begin to play so I can start winding up.

First of all, I want to say a very big thank you to Pastor and Pastor.

Thank you so much for these opportunities you've given to me.

My God will bless you.

Amen.

CHAPTER ONE

Confession of Faith

I want to share on **Confession of Faith**.

I had mentioned this before, and Pastor even shared a video where I was teaching last year. To be honest, I cannot come here and start forming.

I said it by faith.

I said I would preach this message at WBEC. I said it, but I didn't think it would be this year's WBEC. I thought maybe seven years from now because... from where to where?

So I said I have to share on **Confession of Faith** today because I didn't share it then.

This message works. If it works, it works. I'm preaching my conviction. It really works.

Amen.

The Technology of Miracles

Yesterday, I started talking about **the technology of miracles**, and I want to establish it more clearly. When you read the Scriptures, you discover that there is not just one way of receiving miracles from God.

When the Bible says He healed all, it truly means He healed all. However, I think that sometimes, when we pray for people or release the healing anointing—and it does not work, quote unquote—it is because there is no prophetic undertone to what we are doing.

For example, Jesus touched a blind man and asked,

"Can you see?"

The man replied,

"I see men as trees, walking."

So Jesus touched him again, and then he saw clearly.

Yet that same Jesus healed another blind man by spitting on the ground, making clay with the saliva, placing it on the man's eyes, and telling him to go and wash.

It was the same miracle of healing blindness, but it was routed through a prophetic instruction.

Many times, we repeat what worked before, and when it doesn't work, it is because we are operating by experience instead of by faith.

Every time it doesn't work, it is because we have lost the prophetic.

The Prophetic Edge

The first thing God taught me about two years ago—I only learned this two years ago—was this:

"If you want Me to help your teaching ministry, you have to be prophetic."

I asked Him, "How?"

He said,

"In intercession, don't pray about your ministration. Pray for the people."

He said,

"If you enter priesthood, you'll begin to operate what I call upload and download."

When you pray in tongues, you upload. When you begin preaching, because you spent time in intercession, there will be a download. Then He taught me something else.

He said:

"A powerful message is a message people need."

Once that prophetic edge is absent, you're simply another lecturer. You can preach a sermon, and people will take notes.

That's fine.

But when people desperately need that message, and it answers the cry of their hearts, they leave saying, *"What a sermon!"*

Why?

Because it met a need. Do you understand what I'm saying?

The Requirement for Miracles

There is no single pattern for miracles. Naaman was told to dip seven times in the River Jordan. The widow's vessels had to be gathered before they could be filled. The man with the withered hand had to attempt the very thing he could not do.

Jesus said,

"Stretch forth thine hand." (*Matthew 12:13, KJV*)

If he never stretched it, there would have been no miracle.

At Lazarus' tomb, Jesus was about to call a dead man back to life.

Yet there was still human participation.

Someone had to take away the stone.

Only after they removed the stone did Jesus cry,

"Lazarus, come forth." (*John 11:43, KJV*)

Then Lazarus came out.

Jesus said,

"Loose him, and let him go." (*John 11:44, KJV*)

The Word brought him back to life.

But removing the grave clothes required participation.

Do you see what I'm saying?

This principle also applies to favor. There is a technology behind favor. If you were God, it would make perfect sense to choose Moses. He was the only Hebrew educated enough to write. It also makes sense to choose Paul.

He was a scholar. He possessed dual citizenship. Did you notice that when Jesus wanted to bring money out of the mouth of a fish, He sent a fisherman?

Miracles often flow through skill.

Don't joke with what I'm saying.

This is serious.

There is a technology behind favor.

The Woman at the Well

Why did Jesus choose to meet that woman at the well?

She was encountering a prophet for the first time in her life, and she had plenty of issues. First, she was living with a man who was not her husband. She had relationship problems. She had already been with five men.

Many people would immediately interpret that as a generational pattern. But sometimes, perspective changes everything. God can be positioning someone rather than merely exposing their failures. Now imagine this woman standing before a prophet.

Israel had not heard from a prophet for about four hundred years. She looked at Jesus and said,

"Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet." (*John 4:19, KJV*)

What did she ask Him?

She did not ask for money.

She did not ask Him to solve her relationship problems.

She asked,

"Where is the place to worship?"

That's why Jesus went to her. She was not a user. Her response to the revelation of who He was authenticated why she had to be the one.

- She became an intercessor.
- She became an evangelist.

The Heart Determines the Miracle

Did you notice the man Jesus healed at the pool?

When Jesus told him,

"Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." (*John 5:8, KJV*)

Where did he go?

He went to the temple. He did not go home first. His heart was in the temple. That is why Jesus spoke to him. Scripture must interpret Scripture.

If the Bible says God is "**no respecter of persons**" (*Acts 10:34, KJV*), then there must be an explanation for why certain people experienced certain miracles.

When the Bible says,

"Many are called, but few are chosen." (*Matthew 22:14, KJV*)

it does not mean God randomly selects some people and ignores others. Let me explain it this way. Everyone here is chosen. But everyone in London was called. Think about a movie audition.

If I announce,

"Auditions are open. I need actors."

Who have I called?

Everyone who believes they can act.

But who gets the role?

The people who show up.

That is what Jesus meant.

Many are called.

Few are chosen.

It isn't random.

We are called a chosen generation because we responded to His call.

This is not an abstract mystery.

It can be learned.

If it couldn't be learned, why would I be teaching it?

If one plus one was not consistently two, nobody could teach mathematics.

If God has given the Body of Christ teaching ministries, then He must be systemic.

There are reasons behind what He does.

And that is what separates **miracles** from **magic**.

CHAPTER TWO

Revelation Always Precedes Manifestation

Let's read **Acts 1:3 (KJV)**:

"To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God."

Notice what Jesus did during those forty days.

He showed Himself alive by many infallible proofs, and then He taught them the things concerning the Kingdom.

When you continue reading, the Bible says He told them to tarry.

Remember, this is still Acts 1.

They had not yet spoken in tongues.

So "tarry" did not mean speaking in tongues.

What were they doing?

They were searching the Scriptures.

They were worshipping.

They were praying.

Now think about this.

If they had not attended that forty-day seminar with Jesus, when the Holy Ghost came in Acts 2 and they began speaking in tongues, Peter would never have been able to explain what was happening.

Is this a tough crowd?

Do you understand what I'm saying?

If you cannot explain it, you will not receive it.

It is **Matthew 16** before **Matthew 17**.

First, Peter receives the revelation that Jesus is the Son of God.

Then Jesus takes them up a high mountain and reveals His glory.

You first see it by revelation before you experience it in manifestation.

So there is no miracle you are waiting for that is delayed on God's side.

Everything is on our side.

God's Timing Is Maturity

People often say, "*God's time is the best.*" Many times, what we call God's timing is actually **maturity time**. Forgive the example I'm about to use. As I keep teaching, perhaps you'll help me find a better one.

Suppose you have a twenty-one-year-old woman and an eight-year-old girl. If both of them receive the same seed from a man, who will carry the baby?

Is there anything wrong with the seed?

No.

So when will it become the eight-year-old's time?

When she matures. The issue is not with God. The issue is that what He wants to give you carries weight. If you place weight upon something that lacks structure, it will be crushed—even if that weight was intended for it. That is why there is a technology to miracles.

Miracles are not magic.

Magic fascinates.

Miracles require faith.

The Logic of Faith

I have been thinking about this because I believe true depth is the ability to simplify mysteries.

So I have tried to explain faith in the simplest way I know.

I call it **The Logic of Faith**.

1. Faith Begins with Hearing

Let's read **Romans 10:17 (KJV)**:

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

That means you cannot claim to be in faith if you have not heard from God.

Faith comes by hearing—and hearing by the Word of God.

Not merely hearing anything.

Hearing God's Word.

Let me give you an example.

Some years ago, I listened to a sermon from a preacher I still deeply respect.

He taught about claiming things by faith.

Not long afterwards, I was passing through an area in Lagos where they were selling cars.

There was a BMW that caught my attention.

It looked beautiful.

I remembered the message I had heard.

I thought,

"If I don't doubt, whatsoever I say will happen."

So I entered the dealership.

They welcomed me warmly.

I was even surprised they greeted me so well.

I thought,

"Thank You, Jesus!"

I walked around touching the cars.

Then I laid my hands on that BMW and declared,

"You are mine. Nobody will buy you until I'm ready."

Till today...

I'm still not ready.

(Laughter.)

I asked them how much it cost.

They told me.

I said,

"Thank you. I'll be back."

A few days later, I passed by again and noticed the car was gone.

I said,

"My car!"

I rushed inside and asked,

"Excuse me, where is the BMW that was here?"

The salesman replied,

"Oh, we sold it."

I was deeply disappointed.

At that time I still had what I would call childlike faith.

I believed God could never lie.

I saw it in the Word.

I believed it completely.

So I asked God,

"Lord, I said it, and I truly didn't doubt. Why didn't it happen?"

Then the Lord began explaining this Scripture to me.

He said,

"You cannot believe Me for Isaac if I never promised you Isaac."

Faith is not trying to make God do what you want.

Faith is using what God has already spoken.

If you don't understand this, you will think God disappointed you.

But in reality, God never disappointed you.

You simply never had an appointment with Him.

Your faith journey always begins with a promise.

Let's look at **Romans 4:19–20 (KJV)**:

"And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead... neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb."

"He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God."

Notice something.

Abraham's faith began with **the promise of God**.

Before faith can begin, God must first speak.

Jesus is called

"the author and finisher of our faith." (Hebrews 12:2, KJV)

He authors faith.

You don't start it yourself and ask Him to finish it.

That is not how faith works.

Why God Chose Abraham

Terah had three sons. Abraham needed a child. But God needed a father. God wanted someone who would prophetically represent Himself as **the Father of many nations**.

Why?

Because redemption means buying back lost relatives. God did not merely redeem strangers. He redeemed His family.

So He needed a father who would point toward His own fatherhood. Then He also needed someone who would typify resurrection. That is where Sarah comes in.

The Bible says Abraham did not consider the deadness of Sarah's womb. Her womb represented death. Yet Isaac came forth from that place of death. Isaac became a prophetic picture of Jesus Christ rising from the dead and bringing us into newness of life. Abraham was the perfect man for that assignment.

But what qualified him?

His need.

His barrenness.

If he had not been barren, he could never have fulfilled that prophetic role.

Every need is God's invitation into a life of faith.

That is why Pastor said yesterday that if you pray the problem away too quickly, you may miss the opportunity hidden inside it.

Because what God wants to give you is

"...exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think..." (Ephesians 3:20, KJV).

Imagine if God had simply asked Abraham,

"What do you want?"

Abraham would have answered,

"Give me a child."

He could never have imagined becoming the father of nations.

If you are Elizabeth and the baby has not come yet, perhaps it is not delay.

Perhaps it is timing.

If the child you are carrying will become the forerunner of Jesus Christ, then you must wait until Mary is ready.

Faith Requires a Word from God

You cannot claim to be in faith unless you have heard something from God.

Look at **Matthew 4:23 (KJV)**:

"And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people."

Notice the pattern.

He taught.

Then He healed.

Now look at **Luke 5:17 (KJV)**:

"...and the power of the Lord was present to heal them."

When was the power present?

While Jesus was teaching.

As they heard the Word, power was released into the atmosphere for miracles.

Do we understand that?

When the Word Is Stolen

The real problem is often not hearing.

We all attend church.

We all hear sermons.

The problem is that what we hear is often stolen.

Sometimes a pastor preaches a powerful message on Sunday about being complete in Christ.

Everyone rejoices. People testify after the service. Then by Wednesday they are calling the pastor for counselling because they are depressed.

What happened?

Instagram stole the Word. On Sunday they believed they were complete in Christ. By Tuesday they had compared themselves to pictures online and concluded that their lives were meaningless.

The Word came. But the cares of this world choked it. If faith comes by words, then faith can also be stolen by words.

You Believe What You Keep Hearing

I once heard about a woman who received healing from cancer during a crusade.

Several months later, the cancer returned.

She interrupted another meeting of that same minister and shouted,

"You are a false teacher! You are a liar! I was healed at your crusade, but the cancer came back!"

The minister calmly invited her forward.

He said,

"I have three questions for you."

He never even got to the third one.

His first question was,

"What church do you attend?"

She answered.

His second question was,

"Does your church believe in miracles?"

She paused.

Then she quietly answered,

"No."

The minister said,

"You carried a miracle into an atmosphere that does not believe in miracles."

Then he simply told her,

"Go and sit down."

She understood immediately.

The miracle had been stolen—not by sickness, but by a message.

People can preach you out of your breakthrough.

Didn't Paul ask the Galatians,

"O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you...?" (Galatians 3:1, KJV).

He was talking about teaching.

He was talking about words.

Because you eventually become what you are continually taught.

It is not merely what you know.

It is what you have believed because someone taught it to you.

Whoever controls your ears controls your destiny.

Many people eventually begin to think exactly like the voices they listen to.

The Wrong Conversation Can Cancel Faith

Now let's read **Mark 6:2 (KJV)**.

"And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue..."

Please read with me.

As Jesus began teaching, the people started whispering among themselves.

They said,

"From whence hath this man these things?"

"What wisdom is this?"

"How are such mighty works done by His hands?"

If you compare this with **Luke 4:23**, you discover they had already heard reports about the miracles Jesus performed in Capernaum.

This was His hometown.

They had heard the testimonies.

They were amazed.

They were fascinated.

They listened to His teaching with wonder.

Then someone said,

"Wait a minute..."

Someone in that synagogue suddenly said,

"Wait a minute... I almost believed Him. Isn't this Jesus?"

That was how they stole the Word from themselves.

Many times, the problem is not the absence of faith.

Jesus said that **faith as small as a mustard seed** is enough.

The real problem is often the greatness of our unbelief.

Someone tells you,

"I tried it and it didn't work."

But that's your story.

It is not mine.

Many people end up looking exactly like the words spoken over them.

Just because it didn't work for you doesn't mean it won't work for me.

People touched Jesus every day.

But when that woman touched Him, virtue flowed.

Everyone was touching Him.

Yet there is a difference between touching and touching.

Protect the Word God Gives You

The woman with the issue of blood did not receive her miracle because she merely joined the crowd.

The Bible says:

"For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole." (Matthew 9:21, KJV).

Notice where she said it.

She said it **within herself**.

One thing I have learned is this:

You can spend time with God.

You can study the Scriptures.

The Holy Spirit can quicken a Word to your heart.

You know beyond every doubt that God has spoken.

But if you share that revelation with the wrong person, they can steal that Word from you.

The Word remains inside you, but instead of becoming the **Chief Cornerstone**, it becomes **a rock of offence** because of the way someone interprets it for you.

Be Careful What You Agree With

Someone once tried to give me a prophecy.

Let's just say it is not my portion. The person wanted to tell me that something terrible was going to happen to me. Notice how they began.

They said, *"Three weeks ago I had a dream that someone died... and the person died."*

"Four years ago I dreamt about my father dying... and he died."

Then they said, *"I also saw you..."*

Hold on.

Why are you telling me about all the previous dreams?

They are trying to establish a track record. They want you to believe that because their previous dreams came to pass, this one must also come to pass. But remember what the Scripture says:

*"...in the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established."
(2 Corinthians 13:1, KJV).*

If that person is one witness and I join my agreement to it, I become the second witness. Do you understand what I'm saying?

Then if something eventually happens, they will say, *"Didn't I tell you?"*

No.

It was our agreement that established it. That is projection.

CHAPTER THREE

Guard Your Mind

Do you know how strange the idea of Uber first sounded to me?

One day I entered an Uber.

The driver had a beard.

Immediately my imagination started running.

I thought,

"What if this man carries me somewhere else?"

Another time, my wife and I were watching a television commercial advertising a particular medicine.

After listing all the benefits, they started reading the side effects.

When they finished, I looked at my wife and said,

"This advert sounds more dangerous than the sickness."

If all you keep thinking about are the negative possibilities they mention, you may never enjoy the healing the medicine was intended to bring.

Many times, the problem is not receiving the Word. The problem is that the Word is stolen afterward. Are you understanding what I'm saying?

Respond to Faith with Faithfulness

Like Abraham, you must **stagger not at the promise of God**.

You receive the Word.

That is faith.

Then you respond to that faith with **faithfulness**.

That is exactly what Elijah did.

Once you receive God's Word, you protect it.

You keep declaring it.

The woman with the issue of blood did not tell everybody what she believed.

She kept saying it to herself.

"If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole." (Matthew 9:21, KJV).

She did not broadcast it.

She guarded it.

It became personal.

It was her revelation.

She kept saying it to herself until manifestation came.

I hope that makes sense.

The Prayer of Faith

Now, if Jesus is both the **Author** and **Finisher** of our faith, let's look at **James 5:14–15 (KJV)**:

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church..."

"...and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up..."

Now jump to **James 5:17 (KJV)**:

"Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain..."

I deliberately asked us to read both passages because verse 17 explains what James means by **the prayer of faith**.

James says,

"Faith without works is dead." (James 2:26, KJV).

Then he gives Abraham as his example.

Abraham offered Isaac.

Notice that James was not talking about **works of the Law**.

He was talking about **works that flow from faith**.

If James had been referring to the Law, he would never have used Abraham because Abraham lived before the Law was given.

Abraham believed God.

That faith was counted to him for righteousness.

When Paul says,

"...by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified..." (Galatians 2:16, KJV).

Paul is discussing **works of the Law**.

James is discussing **works produced by faith**.

The context explains the writer's intention.

Do you understand what I'm saying?

Why James Used Elijah

James introduces Elijah because he wants us to understand what **the prayer of faith** looks like.

If faith comes by hearing the Word of God, then Elijah's prayer must have begun with hearing God.

Faith is always spoken by God before it is believed by man.

You cannot hear words that have never been spoken.

Faith first comes from the lips of God.

Then it is received in the heart of man.

Are you still with me?

If the prayer of faith begins with hearing, then the prayer of faith is really **the prayer that is born out of hearing God**.

Prayers that are always answered are prayers that agree with God's will.

Even Jesus, the Son of God, prayed,

"O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me..." (Matthew 26:39, KJV).

Yet the cross remained because the Father's will required it.

Many so-called unanswered prayers are simply prayers that were never aligned with God's will.

In fact, sometimes the safest place to be is for God to refuse your request.

The most dangerous place is succeeding at something God never wanted for you.

Psalm 106 says:

"...he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul." (Psalm 106:15, KJV).

That is a frightening place to live.

Why Elijah Prayed for Rain

Let's look at **1 Kings 18:1 (KJV)**:

"And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD came to Elijah... saying, Go, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth."

Notice the order. God spoke first. Then Elijah acted. Elijah prayed for rain because God had already declared,

"I will send rain."

He heard it before he declared it.

Confession Is Not Affirmation

There is a difference between **confession** and **affirmation**.

Affirmation says,

"I'm beautiful."

"Everybody likes me."

"Everything is working for me."

Confession is different. The Greek word translated "confession" is **homologia**. It means **to say the same thing**, to agree with, or acknowledge what God has already spoken.

True confession is simply repeating what God has said. You are not inventing words. You are echoing heaven.

Impressions Are Not the Same as Hearing God

During prayer meetings we sometimes ask, *"Did anyone hear from God?"*

Someone responds, *"Yes, I heard from God."*

But many times we are simply sharing impressions. There is a difference between having an impression and genuinely hearing the voice of God. Let me explain with a personal testimony.

My first opportunity to pastor came unexpectedly.

I was preaching somewhere at the University of Lagos when a man from South Korea happened to be listening.

Afterward he invited me to the United States to preach and offered me a position to pastor a church.

Initially I said no.

Then he mentioned that he would pay me in dollars.

So...

I said yes.

I'm just kidding.

...Or maybe I'm not.

(Laughter.)

It was a missionary organisation.

They rented a building around Adeyemi Street in Akoka.

The annual rent at that time—around 2016 or 2017—was about ₦1.8 million.

Meanwhile, I was pastoring students.

We had plenty of glory...

But very little money.

On a good Sunday, our offering was about ₦8,000.

Yet our rent was ₦1.8 million.

Then the missionary organisation travelled to Zambia.

They discovered a community where they wanted to establish free primary and secondary schools as a platform for evangelism.

As a result, the financial support for the church plant stopped.

In simple terms, they said,

"You're on your own now."

Looking back, that disappointment gave birth to Zoehousehold.

Things happen for a reason.

When Everything Fell Apart

I explained the situation to our church. We gave sacrificially and raised about ₦600,000. We approached our landlord and asked if we could pay gradually.

He laughed.

Then he gave us one month. When the month expired, we were asked to leave.

After that, I spent six or seven weeks praying and fasting at Chapel Ground.

One particular day, the Lord led me to **Genesis 22**.

I already knew the chapter.

I had read it many times.

But that day something happened.

The revelation of **Jehovah Jireh** came alive inside me.

Not merely as information.

It became revelation.

Only three times in my entire life has the Word of God come to me with that kind of force.

That day I finally understood what the Bible means when it says,

"The word of the LORD came unto Elijah."

The Lord spoke clearly to my heart:

"I have provided."

That settled it.

It was almost time to break my fast.

I simply went to buy rice and beans.

God had spoken.

The matter was settled.

Three days later, a friend called me.

She said,

"The Lord has been speaking to me."

"He told me to give your church one million naira."

Then she added,

"I don't actually have the money."

"But I have my jeep."

"I have a friend who lends money. I'll use my jeep as collateral so they can release one million naira for your church."

I tried to discourage her.

Immediately the Holy Spirit reminded me of the Word He had spoken.

I realised I was about to talk her out of the very provision God had arranged.

So I said,

"Let's go tonight."

We completed the arrangement.

At the time, I didn't fully understand the repayment terms.

The lender was charging heavy interest.

One million naira would become ₦1.1 million the following month, then ₦1.2 million after that.

Honestly, I wasn't paying attention.

I simply wanted the money because God had already spoken.

We found another building.

The rent was ₦850,000.

Agency and agreement cost another ₦150,000.

Remember, we already had the ₦600,000 we had raised.

We secured the property.

It was a four-bedroom apartment.

We knocked down walls.

We renovated it.

We installed air conditioners.

We spent the money.

A friend pulled me aside and said,

"Dolapo..."

Notice he didn't call me Pastor.

He said,

"Why don't you wait?"

"Let's use this ₦600,000 to repay part of the loan first so that this woman won't get into trouble."

I looked at him and said,

"I heard Jireh."

God told me He had already provided.

At that moment, something came upon me.

I knew what I had heard.

So we went ahead and spent the money exactly as the Lord had directed.

Every time we bought another air conditioner, people would look at me and wonder.

Three days before the payment of the ₦1.1 million was due, something happened.

I had ministered somewhere in Charlotte years earlier. A woman there said, "The Lord would not take your picture out of my mind." She sent me **\$3,157**.

When we converted that amount to naira, it was exactly **₦1.1 million**—the precise amount we needed.

Applause.

If you hear from God, it is as good as done.

The problem is that many of us do not wait long enough to hear.

Now, what I just said sounds exciting, but remember I told you I showed up to pray for six weeks.

There is no faith without patience.

Patience is not merely waiting; it is **how** you wait. It is your posture while waiting.

God can do it, but many people are unwilling to wait and listen.

When you make declarations, they should not originate from your own imagination. Your declaration comes after God has spoken. You simply agree with what He has already said, and then you begin to declare it boldly.

At that point, no devil can stop it. No demon can stop it.

Hearing Gives You the Strength to Persevere

Notice that the Lord told Elijah, *"I will send rain."* Yet if you continue reading from **1 Kings 18:41 onward**, Elijah still went to pray.

Did you notice that?

He kept sending his servant to check seven times.

Where did Elijah get the strength to persist?

Because he had heard from God. Hearing from God does not eliminate prayer. Hearing gives you the fortitude to continue praying until what you see matches what God said. The purpose of hearing is to give you staying power—to keep praying until your experience agrees with God's Word. When God spoke to Moses, He said, "Bring My people out of Egypt."

If Pharaoh had simply offered them more money, that would not have fulfilled the promise. If Pharaoh had said, "We won't beat them anymore," it still would not have satisfied God's instruction. God said, "Come out."

And that process lasted over a year. It was not accomplished in one week.

Are you still here?

We Speak What We Have Heard

2 Corinthians 4:13

My story has taken much of my time. There is no special pastor's prayer for more time!

I'm just kidding. Let's read together:

"We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak."

We speak because we believe. And what we believe is what God has first spoken to us.

Look at **Romans 10:9**.

"...If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus..."

The word *confess* there is the Greek word **homologia**. It means to say the same thing—to agree with what has been said. So I am not merely saying random things.

I am saying what I believe. And for me to truly believe it, the Lord must first quicken it to my heart.

Faith is a gift.

The Bible asks,

"He therefore that worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?"

Then **1 Corinthians 12** identifies faith as one of the gifts of the Spirit.

The gift of faith comes into my heart, producing genuine belief.

Then, out of that belief, I begin making declarations.

The Greatest Question Is: How Do You Hear?

So the obvious question becomes:

How do I hear from God?

From everything we have discussed, we have established that the real issue is hearing.

So how does hearing happen?

Look at **Genesis 1:2–3**.

"And the earth was without form, and void... And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. Then God said..."

Notice the sequence.

The Spirit moved.

Then God spoke.

I hear when the Spirit moves.

That means I am not praying only because I have a need.

Prayer is my lifestyle.

If my prayer life exists only when I have problems, then I do not really have a prayer life.

A Lifestyle of Prayer Prepares You for Victory

A woman once shared her testimony with me. She was around seventy years old. This happened about five years ago. She and another woman had been prayer partners for over twenty years. Eventually, her prayer partner went home to be with the Lord.

Sometime later, she herself was diagnosed with cancer.

She explained that years before, during one of their regular prayer meetings, the Lord had instructed her friend to keep making a specific confession concerning one area of her body.

Years later, when the cancer appeared, it appeared in that exact area.

When the doctor gave her the diagnosis, she laughed.

She told the doctor,

"Doctor, I am fully prepared."

Within one month, the cancer was gone.

She had not been praying in panic.

She had been preparing for battle.

Many believers only begin praying when the battle starts.

By then, fear has already taken over.

Faith Does Not Panic

Remember when Jesus was sleeping during the storm?

The disciples woke Him up.

Yet Jesus called them men of little faith.

In other words, if you see Me sleeping peacefully in the boat, perhaps the faith response is to pick up your own pillow.

If you are panicking in that moment, that is not faith.

That is fear.

The Word comes in the atmosphere created by the moving of the Spirit.

That is why praying in the Spirit is so important.

Pray in the Spirit.

Keep praying in the Spirit.

Many of you understand what I call the "autopilot" dimension of prayer.

There comes a point where you are no longer struggling to pray.

You can remain there for hours because you are under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Paul compared it this way:

"Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit."

He was illustrating that the flow of the Spirit is so overwhelming that it resembles intoxication.

There are things I have said under the influence of the Holy Spirit that later made me wonder,

"Did I really say that?"

When the Spirit Moves, Boldness Comes

I was once ministering in Maryland. A young lady came with her arm in a brace. Immediately I saw a picture in my spirit. I saw myself pulling her arm down, and I saw the people rejoicing. As I continued ministering, I walked over to her.

I asked,

"What happened to your hand?"

She replied,

"It was recently broken."

I knew if I simply asked her to stretch it out, she probably would not.

But I was under the influence of the Spirit.

I simply grabbed her arm and pulled it down.

She immediately cried out in surprise.

Later, when I watched the video, I laughed to myself.

I thought,

"What if she had slapped me?"

But that is what it means to be full of the Spirit.

In those moments, you become another man.

The words begin to flow.

What you hear from God in those moments becomes your daily confession.

Speak Only What God Has Spoken

Let us finish with **Ezekiel 37**.

The principle is simple. The way to have a powerful confession is to wait until God speaks. Then continually put His words in your mouth. For example, while praying, the Lord showed me how the leaders of our church would be identified.

I took those words and made them part of my daily confession.

I continually declared that God would bring the right teachers and leaders into our ministry according to His Word.

Today, those things are happening.

At one conference in the United States, people testified that they had attended because they saw me in dreams inviting them.

Some said,

"I never saw your advertisement. You appeared in my dream and told me I must attend."

Even now, nearly seventy percent of the people who have joined our church testify that they first saw me in a dream where the Lord told them,

"This is your church."

That became my confession long before it became my experience.

I have no greater secret to give you than this.

My confession flows from what God has spoken.

Prophecy Only as You Are Commanded

Let's finish by reading **Ezekiel 37:1–4**.

The hand of the Lord came upon Ezekiel and carried him out in the Spirit into a valley full of dry bones.

Then God asked,

"Son of man, can these bones live?"

Ezekiel answered,

"O Lord God, You know."

Then God said,

"Prophesy unto these bones... and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord."

Notice carefully.

God first told him **what to say**.

He was not speaking his own ideas.

He was declaring God's words.

That is why it worked.

If you simply decide what you want to say, your cheque will bounce.

You must prophesy as you are commanded.

Before Ezekiel spoke, the Spirit carried him.

Likewise, you cannot truly speak in the Spirit while living in the flesh.

You must wait until the Spirit comes upon you.

Otherwise, you are merely practicing affirmations.

You are not making biblical confessions.

Does that make sense?

"The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." — 2

Timothy 2:2

God bless you.

Praise the Lord.



About The Speaker

Pastor Dolapo Lawal is a teacher of God's Word with a clear, practical, and uncompromising voice. His ministry is marked by biblical accuracy, spiritual depth, and direct application to everyday life.

He is committed to raising believers who are grounded in Scripture, mature in character, and intentional about growth. His teaching addresses real issues—faith, relationships, purpose, leadership, and personal responsibility—without exaggeration or sentimentality.

Pastor Dolapo Lawal is known for clarity, accountability, and balance. He challenges listeners to look inward before looking outward, to embrace process over shortcuts, and to pursue transformation rather than appearance.

His desire is simple: that believers grow into stability, wisdom, and Christlike maturity through the uncompromised teaching of God's Word.

Follow on:

- [*Official Website*](#)
- [*YouTube Official Channel*](#)
- [*Official Instagram Account*](#)



About Living Sermons

Our Vision

To become the world's largest digital platform for ebooks transcribed from live sermons, preserving and spreading the spoken Word of God across nations and generations.

Our Mission

At LivingSermons.com, our mission is to take the living voice of God spoken through His servants and transform it into accessible PDF resources, making salvation-centred truth available to the ends of the earth. We believe that the spoken Word carries divine power, and by preserving these messages in written form, we help extend their reach beyond pulpits, borders, and generations.

Why We Exist

Many life-changing sermons are preached and forgotten with time. We exist to preserve these divine utterances, making them available for study, meditation, discipleship, and spiritual growth. Through this work, we are committed to ensuring that no revelational truth is lost, but that every inspired message can continue to speak, heal, transform, and bring men into the knowledge of Christ.



Join Our Team

Let us preserve God's spoken Word together and take the Gospel further.

LivingSermons is raising Kingdom-minded volunteers across the world to help transform live sermons into lasting digital resources. If you have the burden to serve and the skill to contribute, there is a place for you.

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Prayer Intercessors:** Stand with us in prayer as we labour to spread God's Word across nations.
- **Transcribers:** Convert sermon recordings into accurate transcripts.
- **Editors:** Refine transcripts into polished, readable eBooks.
- **Bloggers:** Create SEO-friendly posts to announce and distribute newly published books.
- **Social Media Managers:** Share books online, grow our reach, and engage our global community.
- **Language Translators:** Help translate sermons into different languages so more people can access the truth.
- **Graphics Designers:** Design book covers, promotional materials, and visual content for outreach.

Become a Volunteer Today

Join the mission and use your gift to help preserve revival voices for generations to come. [Join Here](#)

We Are Social

Instagram: [instagram.com/livingsermons](https://www.instagram.com/livingsermons)

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/livingsermons>