

1992 Missions Conference Talk - Part 2

by Richard Wurmbbrand

Richard Wurmbbrand's sermon emphasizes the importance of giving, listening, and the role of suffering in deepening faith and community connections.

Duration: 9:52

Scripture: Psalm 34:15, Psalm 46:10, Proverbs 12:15, Proverbs 18:13, Proverbs 19:20, Proverbs 21:13, Ecclesiastes 5:2, Matthew 5:3, James 1:19, James 1:22

Topics: "Prayer Life", "Humility In Ministry"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of giving and listening, drawing from the story of St. Louis and the significance of prayer amidst distractions. It highlights the value of listening to others' tragedies and joys before speaking, reflecting on the experience of prisoners who learned to listen during their confinement. The message encourages a posture of humility and attentiveness, prioritizing listening to God and others before speaking or preaching.

Transcript

Open your mouth only if you want to give. This is the sense of the Hebrew word, to give, to take. In Hebrew, you can't divorce.

Because in order to divorce, you must go to her. And the lawyer will ask you, what is it about? You answer, you can give me. If you don't have a gem to give me, you can't go to her.

You can't even call her. In family, in church, in the city, anywhere. Because everyone has to give gems.

And therefore, I will try to give some little gems also, that I make. People talk very much also the question of abortion and all the other questions. They don't listen.

The Catholics liberate the name of St. Louis in the 12th century. He was a monk. He created the name, or the sensation of the high street of Montevideo.

And it is said that he was a very holy man. And one Sunday evening, he was in his room. It was hot, so the window was open.

And he tried to pray. He couldn't because the first window was a pond. And in the pond there were many frogs.

And the frogs quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack, quack. For prayer, he was concentrating, so he couldn't quack, quack, quack, quack, quack. It was impossible.

But this was the holy way. And he knew he had the Holy Spirit. He went to the window and said frogs.

And to pray now. So please stop quacking. Every time when you finish praying, then you can quack again.

In weeks of avoiding you, the legend says, the frogs stopped quacking. And when he tried to pray, but he could not. Because the spirit of God tried to kill him, so then he used those frogs.

How do you know that your prayer is more pleasing to me than the quacking of the frogs? How is it that frogs quack? Who gives them notes? Who gives them vocal chords? Who gives them a tongue to make it possible for them to quack and give them music? You don't understand what the quack-a-quack means. If you learn the English and meditate, then you hear how one frog says, quack-a-quack, which means in this language, I love you very much. And you hear the other one says, quack-quack, I love you too.

And another frog says, I have so many verbs, come and eat with me, which was a very nice gesture. You don't understand what the frog says. I understand you, tell the frogs to speak again.

To quack again. And then to the window and say, now you can quack. And then he spoke.

Then what happened? Then I read this story. It was such an impression on me. I was a talker.

And I couldn't talk. I mean, there used to be no pastor to talk much. And that evening, that night I could not sleep.

It was that night in Egypt. I saw myself running towards a church. And it was only a woman that had to preach.

Because pastors had no cars. And never had a car in their life. And never had a bicycle in their life.

Neither a car nor a bicycle. Thus, pastors walked. So, I went towards the church.

It was late. And the lady stopped me and said, Pastor, I am very glad that I met you. I have such an important task.

There is such a tragedy in the church. Please listen to me. I am sorry, I am sorry.

I am expected in church. I am late. I have to preach.

And she says, why do you think that for God it is more pleasant that you should preach than you should listen to my tragedy? I said, all right. But we need a church. We need a church.

Because I am a girl. And she means it as shortly as we need a church. I listened to her.

And now I am really angry. It was late. And the second lady, she has stopped me.

Oh, you are such a burden on my heart. Please, I have such a drama in my family. Just listen to me.

I can't. It is already late. I have to listen to somebody else.

I have to preach. She again is the same situation. Sometimes I know that God likes more what you may preach than to listen to me.

Than to listen to her church. But now it was, I knew. This story has happened since long time.

A servant stops me. A servant who serves on a mission. A nice man.

Very happy. Very jolly. He stops me.

He says, this servant, how good that I found you. I said, you made a joke. You must listen to the joke.

I said, I don't make jokes. The service I have to preach is almost finished. I have to go to preach.

How do you know that God likes it more that you should preach than that you should be with the joy. To listen to a joke of mine. So I listened to the story.

Then I came to church. The service was almost finished. The pastor sends me up to the temple.

Glory to God. And I saw that I found you. And I said, thank you so much.

The first commandment. We give you worship. And it is good to remember this.

It is a list of commandments. God has given me the privilege to be with many other prisoners under the communist under the fascist. And when he appears, he is only himself.

30 feet in distance. I am proud. I don't speak only about myself.

God loves me. And when he appears, he is only himself. 30 feet in distance.

Never seen sun, moon, stars, moon, birds, flowers, butterflies, trees. None of it. This part I have forgotten that nature exists.

I do not know anymore to see these things. 14 years time, which is not much. Because recently I read in the news, I forgot.

In China, just yesterday, I got the news about three Chinese brethren who died after 40 years in jail. And I didn't know it. 40 years in jail.

For the words of Tsang Tsong-la, in the year of 1982. Poor me, very wrong. And poor Xi Chun-li, in the year of 1972.

After 40 years in jail. I was in the new country. It was after 40 years.

But within 40 years, within 40 years, we never saw the economy. We never saw the vehicles of success, that are being reformed. I have forgotten the meaning of the meaning until now, why it exists.

Never, not yet. We never had money, money, money. During 40 years.

This was during 40 years. 40 years, I have never seen the meaning of a change. I have forgotten what it means, change, change, change.

Never seen a change, never seen a change, never seen a change. You know, people sometimes scold me, but they can't ask me to change. Because I can't change it.

It's not a big deal, it's a little infuriating, because I have only seen children in these years, who have been working in China for many years now. And also some of you, responsible news, I cannot say anything, because I don't know the meaning of any of this. Well, everything that you need to survive, as it appears to us, there is almost nothing to eat.

You eat your food, in that period, of solidarity, of family. You never be near a boss or a mistress. The boss gives some food, if you can call it food.

They put it somewhere in the room, because they were bored. Then they took out the size of the pieces, you never spoke with anybody, you never heard even a whisper. It was a special experience for me.

I learned to listen. When you say something, that is the best commandment of Jesus. Many years ago, at the age of 30, when he started to preach, when he did something very important, he listened.

And if anyone knows something to say, that would be good, then listens. A husband has to say something to his wife, he doesn't like what he has done. All right.

But first listens. Listens to the rest of the world, listens to God, and then he will change what he has to say. Let us listen, we will hear, we will learn, we will choose to do nothing else, but listen.

And when we need it, then we have to listen to the rest of the world, and listen to God. First of all, I think we should listen to God.

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