

## Don't give the enemy a seat at your table

### Life is not easy.

- I have been challenged in many ways but most of all God has been asking me to trust him.
- One of the many messages I've listened to that I've touched my heart is Louis Giglio's "Don't give the enemy a seat at your table."
- It has been so profound, but I really feel I want to share it with you today.
- The Bible is penned by the breath of the Holy Spirit and it's available to us so let's have a look again at the favorite part of Scripture for many of us.
- Psalm 23
- God wants you to know that you have the authority to change the way that you think.
- In the battle for
  - your life
  - Your Family
  - Your sanity
  - Your well-being
  - Your peace of mind
  - Your marriage
  - Your children
  - Your grandchildren and generations to come.

---

### That battle is going to be won or lost in your mind.

- That is why the Bible teaches us to renew our minds. (Romans 12:2)
- The enemy is targeting your thinking.
- And you are the gardener of your mind.
- So, what gets planted and uprooted there is UP TO YOU!!!
- Our enemy is bold and brash.
- He went into paradise and lied to Eve.
- He had no circumstantial Avenue to create doubt in her mind.

- 
- It wasn't:
    - Oh, you lost your loved one in an accident...so God must not be good...
    - The war in Gaza is horrendous and it's going to change the world as we know it.

- 
- There was no circumstantial Avenue... so he just went straight at her confidence in God.
  - So, he said: "Paradise, right? ... except that one thing right there... what did God say about that?"
  - Eve says: "that we will die."
  - He says: "Did He... did He really say that?!"
  - Ha, I wonder why he said that?
  - Maybe He is not as good as you think He is?
  - Maybe He does not love you as much as He wants you to think He does.
  - Maybe there's something about this... perhaps if you eat the fruit, you will be just as good or even better than He is.
  - Maybe He is trying to keep you down and him up and that is why He told you not to eat all that fruit.
  - And just like that he attacked the
    - *character*
    - *purposes*
    - *way*
    - *will*
    - *word of God.*
  - And undermined Eve's confidence in God that he is a good God. And that he cares for her and has her best in mind.
  - Once he planted that seed of doubt in your mind, we don't have a TIMELINE...
  - We don't know if it was 1 day later, 1 week, or 3 years later but...
  - Eventually, just like me, and just like you, when that seed got planted it was not uprooted by truth but got to root in her way of thinking...
  - Eventually she acted on that thought.

- 
- So, what that means is that you are not harboring any thought today that ultimately you are not going to act on.
  - Right? .... NO, that is also a lie!
  - "I'm never gonna do it, I'm just thinking about it."
  - "I would never act on that; I've just been thinking about it."
  - But the truth is the more you think the more that root is going to take hold.
  - And ultimately, whether in this season or the next, you are going to do what you are thinking about.
  - Because thoughts lead to actions.
  - And that is why the enemy's goal is to plant lies in your mind.
  - If we are truthful today every single one of us in this room has got a lie in our hearts today.
-

- 
- And Jesus is going to make an incredible invitation today.
  - He will say again today: “If you allow me, I will lead you to all truth and my truth will set you free!”
  - We can believe in freedom today!
  - NOW I have something to confess today... I’m very human!!
  - And because I am so human I know the first thing you are probably going to tell me is: “this is not going to work for me.”
  - This is the first lie we fall victim to.
  - And some of you are already there...
  - She’s here... going to talk about the way we can change the way we think... about people being set free... but it’s not going to work for me.
  - Some of you have already written yourself off from this message today.
  - And you have already positioned yourself to protect yourself because that’s what we’re best at.
  - you’re thinking: “I am not going to get my hopes up again because this is not going to work for me because I have been to these things at church before where I got my hopes up and I’ve prayed, and nothing happened I did not change and that is probably what is going to happen today. – you see my mum was a worrier and her mum was a worrier and that is why I am a worrier... we are just from a warring family... it is just the way it is... it is in our DNA... and it is not going to change. I don’t know what she’s going to say today, and I don’t know what God is going to put on the table today, and I’m probably going to walk out of here being a worrier just like I walked in here because that is all I’ve ever loved and seen all my life. And that is exactly what I’m teaching my children to do.
  - The enemy has already convinced you that you do not like yourself.
  - What is she going to say in the next 30 minutes that will change the fact that you have not liked yourself for the last 30 years?
  - IT IS A LIE!!!
  - The enemy is already lying to you and telling you that God cannot set you free.
  - So, you will continue to come to church every week and give to a good cause and go to a conference, but you know that stronghold is not going to be broken... you know that pattern is not going to change... you are really not going to see a breakthrough of God in your life.
  - I AM TELLING YOU THAT IS A LIE!!

---

## **There are only 2 voices!**

- There is Yahweh and there is the other way!
  - And if you are believing right now that you cannot change guess where that is coming from?
-

---

**So right now, in Jesus' name, we reject the lie!!**  
**And pray by the power and the authority, the blood of the risen Jesus Christ**  
**that revelation will happen in this room.**  
**LORD JESUS let us see that we can change the way that we think!**

---

- Because nobody else can do it for you.
  - As hard as it is to accept, we cannot blame this on anybody else.
  - God is giving us the authority to change the way we think.
  - And Jesus has done everything possible to help you win the battle of your mind.
- 

**So, Father God, we trust right now that you will do that because only you can in Jesus' name amen.**

---

- We are looking at Psalm 23 today.  
**The Lord is my Shepherd...**  
**I shall not want...**
  - Wow.... something went wrong.... Because there's a lot of want here today
  - David tapped into something that I need to tap into.
  - He said: "I know who is
    - leading my life
    - directing my steps
    - Walking beside me
    - Leading me
    - Restoring me
    - Fighting for me
    - Defending me
    - Providing for me
    - Anointing me
    - Giving me everything I need
  - Following me... I am not looking over my shoulder worrying about who is following me, I know who is following me.... goodness and mercy are back there ...all the days of my life.
  - Directing my steps- I am not aimless... I am headed to the house of the Lord, and I am going to dwell in that house all the days of my life.
  - And I know all these things because the Lord is my Shepherd!
- 

**Everybody has got a shepherd!**

- We were made by God and for God.
  - That means that we were made to be led.
-

- 
- So either Yahweh is leading me or somebody else including me.
    - Somebody's opinion
    - Something that happened in the past
    - Someone's approval
    - Or I'm leaving me.
      - I have the bank account
      - I make the decisions
      - I call the shots
      - I am in charge
- 

## This is fine if you want to be in want.

- What song goes something like:
    - I am my Shepherd
    - I lead my life
    - I run my show
    - And therefore, check back with me in a little while not only will I have a place where my heart is not satisfied but I will be in want.
    - I will not have found the green pasture.
    - I will not have found the quiet water.
    - I will have run my life in the ground and probably the lives of all those around me into the ground as well.
  - Because if we are in charge of our own lives, it does not go that great.
  - Yahweh is our Shepherd!
- 

## Let us look at verse 5

- It kind of leaves us with a conundrum.
  - David says: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."
  - then he says: "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup overflows."
- 

## Wait a minute:

- If I had written this Psalm, I would definitely not have written verse 5 like that!
  - I Would have said: "and you repair a table before me in your presence"
  - Forget the enemies!!!
-

- 
- I want to sit with you Father!!In fact I would love a table by the window, so I can watch you wipe out all my enemies while we are enjoying our meal together.
- 
- But God’s plan looks a little different than the theology that we proclaim today.
  - He does not want to push the object button and get you out of a broken planet.
    - He wants to come into the broken story.
    - He wants to put his presence inside of us through the power of the Holy Spirit and the person of Jesus Christ
    - He wants to walk with us through this life so that we have a table prepared for us in the middle of
      - the storm
      - the conflict
      - the difficulty
      - The person who is trying to stab us in the back
      - The person who is saying things about us that just are not true
      - The person who is trying to take us out
      - the crisis
- 

Whatever it is you are facing God is saying:

“I Yahweh am going to provide a table before you and it is a table of abundance.”

---

- Let us have a look
  - It is a table of:
    - God
    - The most high God
    - The alpha and the omega
    - The God of eternity past and the God of eternity future
    - Our God. – Yahweh!
  - He came down in a person of Christ (mind-blowing action)
  - And then he sat down at a table he prepared for you (Open mouth action)
    - “Hi...how are you?....
    - “Are you thirsty? ...here is some water”
    - “It is so good to see you...
    - “You are so amazing...
    - “ I am the living water but I’m going to join you“
    - “How’s it going?”
-



- 
- “I love you...”
  - “Please have some...”
  - **And you realise:**
    - Hey, I’ve still got a pressure...
    - I still have enemies(I don’t think you’re my enemy – but you look a little suspect)
    - I still have the storm
    - The doctor's report is what it was
    - Our marriage right now... it’s not great
    - My mental situation – it’s like hanging by a thread
  - But in the middle of this reality – Yahweh just poured a glass of water....  
At a table that he prepared for me.
  - And it is a table of abundance!
  - It is not a table of him going: “You know things have been really difficult this year, so just to be on the safe side,” and in the abundance of caution... (give someone a cherry) “you 2 share that”
  - Nooooo!
  - He’s like: “I’m not gonna do it because I don’t need to but, I can turn the loaf of bread here into 10,000 loaves if I need to... I’ve done it before”
  - So if you think there is not going to be enough when you don’t realise with whom you are sitting with!
  - God loves you and he has created this for you.
- 

Dear God in heaven help us right now... we have turned this into some kind of a thing when it always was and always will be about a person.

---

- Sometimes we miss out on this and that is because of a few problems:

We just don't know there is a table - or if we do we just don't make enough time.

- We show up and we're like:” Oh my goodness I had no idea“ (check watch)
  - “I’ve got so much going on – May I get a to-go cup?”
  - “This is beautiful by the way – so before I go, real quick... do you mind” (borrow phone and post a picture #breakfast with a king) “This is so good, I’ve gotta run, but you are so awesome!!”
  - (walk away and show someone the phone)
  - “Hi, you are not going to believe what happened earlier today- just have a look at this! (Show phone and brag)
  - “So, about that thing that we are working on...”
-

- 
- (gesture disbelief)

You have to know someone is waiting for you!  
And you have to sit down!

---

The second problem is when we finally sit down it is amazing how fast things can get interrupted!

- You know like when you're trying to have a romantic dinner...
  - The point is how fast the enemy can get at your table
  - In a nanosecond
  - You can walk out of this gathering, this atmosphere of worship, truth, and faith, and on the way home today... BAM!
  - And he always comes through the side door.
  - It is very rare that he says:
    - "I am the one that he has told you about - I'm the one that when he said the thief comes to steal kill and destroy... he was talking about me - so I am going to gouge your eyes out. And ruin everything good in your life - ready?"
  - 2. NO! He comes alongside that point in every one of our lives today where we feel that we have been:
    - Wronged
    - Overlooked
    - Mistreated
    - Taken for granted
    - Or where we are confused or afraid
  - And he comes right through that door and just puts his hand on your shoulder and asks: "How's it going?"
    - And we go: "It's not going good"
    - "I know - your boss, what a piece of work. Honestly, I don't know how you stay there.
    - (Drink water and eat food)
    - "You know that colleague of yours that's quit? That with your boss... if I were you, I would've been out of there long ago. I wouldn't care... I'm out!
    - "Mind if I borrow this?" (Use napkin)
    - "How are things at home?"
    - "Do you know that is terrible? You really do not deserve this. Most people would've been gone long ago. I don't know how you do it"
-



---

## And before you know it he is eating your lunch! At the table that Yahweh prepared for you!!!

---

- It's like when you are going through a really tough time and suddenly you have a breakthrough and you go to your friend or partner and tell them: "You will not believe what just happened...."
- And then they tell you: "So what did you expect will happen?"
- What are you trying to say if you are acting like an orphan when in reality you are a child of the king!!
- You're acting like you are down here on the ground looking for a crumb.
- Like we are all just beggars trying to find a crumb to give to another beggar... I wonder who put that truth in the Bible?
- I am pretty sure it just said He prepared a table for us in the presence of our enemies.
- So he might be saying to you today: "Get up off the floor!"
- Forget the crumbs and see the table!
- And see that you are the child of the king!!
- You have Yahweh as a shepherd To protect you defend you and provide for you!
- He will prepare a table for you right in the middle of the trouble so that no matter what is going on you are going to have what you need.
- Not because of what is on the table but because of who is at the table!!
- Now if we can get our minds around this concept we can do something very powerful...
- You can get the enemy away from your table!
- We cannot stop him from prowling around, but you can't stop him from sitting down at your table!
- Because this is your table!!
- And you can in the power of Jesus Steward the garden of your mind!!

---

## How does this work in practice?

---

- You don't get the enemy away from your table by fighting the lie...
- You get him away from your table by focusing on the truth.
- This probably will not happen instantly.
- It takes 66 days to create a new neuro pathway in your brain.
- Truth or lie that is how long it takes.
- I can't offer you the 66-second path to healing - Where you just pray a prayer at the end and bam ✨ all your negative thoughts that have taken up root in your mind for all of your lives are all going to go away.
- Not 66 hours.

- 
- But for 66 days if you focus on what God says is true about you - in any area - you will literally create a new highway in your mind!
- 
- If God says to daily really knew your mind to the truth, He knew what he was talking about.
  - We are not talking about spiritual mumbo-jumbo here; we are talking about actually recreating the way that the neuron processes in your mind works based on a thought that you commit to for 66 days.
  - You may have been thinking that you are not good enough for the last six years...
  - But in 66 days if you put the truth of God in your mind about who he says you are... you can create a brand-new way of thinking!
  - If you are now wondering what the truth will be...
    - Yahweh came down
    - Yahweh sat down
    - At a table that he booked and paid for
    - Takes the time to join you at the table
    - Because he believes that you are so valuable that he wants to be in a relationship with you!
    - He created you in his image and for his glory and he loves you.
    - He pursued you when you did not even know who he was.
    - He was relentless and he never gave up on you.
    - He gave his son in exchange for your life
- 

## The bottom line is you are worth Jesus to God!

---

- So, to sit at this table and have the enemy tell you that you are:
    - not good enough
    - not smart enough
    - You don't come from the right family or background
    - I'm never gonna make it
    - God does not care about me
    - People do not care about me
    - I don't even know if I love myself
    - I don't think I am enough
  - You need a revelation today that you are sitting with Yahweh!
  - And when he is serving you today, he is serving you with scars in his hands and his feet.
  - Now if you want you can listen to the enemy and sit there and say:  
"I know, I see the scars and I know that you have come down for me to have a relationship with me and open a way for me to know oh my God. But I still can't believe that I am good enough!"
-

- 
- But if you choose to lay that down, add to embrace truth, you can change the way you think!!
- 

John 1:14

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

---

- The truth but you need to change your mind is at the table.
  - So, you don't need encyclopaedias and commentaries because you have got the truth about who is the living word of God at your table.
  - And what he wants to tell you this in this book – so we need to get it open!
  - Because we have got to empower ourselves with the truth so that's when the lie comes you can say: "Where did you come from? Did you come from Yahweh or the other way?"
  - You will know right away if the word you are getting matches:
    - the Character
    - The heart
    - The will
    - The ways and
    - The word of God
  - If it doesn't you do what Paul says in 2nd Corinthians:  
You take authority over it and you bind it and you bring it into captivity to the person of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:4
    - You take every thought captive and make it obedient to Chris Jesus.
    - HOW?
    - (Collect notepad and pen)
    - Let's write it down. If this is you, raise your hand...
    - WHAT IS THE LIE?
      - I'm not going to make it... through what? ... just ask them... they will tell you:
        - Through this diagnosis
        - Through this relational conflict
        - Through this situation in our business
    - And how we know that the enemy told us this is that it does not match the:
      - the Character
      - The heart
      - The will
      - The ways and
      - The word of God
-

- 
- Because of our separate sitting over there are you saying that we are going to go through the valley of the shadow of death?
  - Not to the valley but through the valley
  - Write it down!
  - Because he lied to you... just like the last time he told you that!
  - WHAT IS THE TRUTH?
  - You can pick any number... The word of God is full of them!
  - We can right above the lie:
    - God has brought me through every situation and every season...
    - Jaco has been teaching us about beacons of faith!
      - For me he's brought me through a debilitating childhood that ill-prepared me for adulthood.
      - I am not scot-free... I have scars all over!
      - He brought me through the death of my mum when I was 25 and she 49
      - Through a marriage that was on the rocks 8 years ago
      - Through the death of my brother and a very beloved sister-in-law within a very short time.
      - And he will bring me through what I am facing right now.
  - Can we have a show of hands if God has brought you through every situation, you have ever been through?
  - Lift them up high... 100%
  - Anybody got any scars?
  - But God brought you through!!
  - Cross out the lie!!
  - And now we can make our new narrative the truth.
  - Because you don't win the battle of your mind by fighting the lie - you win by focusing on the truth.
  - If I am focusing on the truth I am uprooting you are not going to make it and I am planting God will bring me through.
  - And if I focus on God's faithfulness for 66 days I get a brand-new highway of the faithfulness of God created in my mind and the normal thought Of my mind is: I am going to make it!
  - We can change the way we think!!
  - Why is this table here?
  - Because in the middle of the storm, we will still confess God has brought us through every situation and every season.
  - And people around you will look at you and say: "What is happening to you? How are you so confident?"
  - And eventually they are going to stop looking at you and start looking at who you are looking at.
  - And they are going to want to know who is at the table with you?!!
-

- 
- The table is in the presence of our enemies so that our enemies can see us being satisfied by Jesus. NO MATTER WHAT!!!
  - And we get good, and He gets glory!
  - And ultimately that is what it's all about
- 

**DON'T  
GIVE  
THE ENEMY  
A SEAT  
AT YOUR  
TABLE**

*IT'S TIME TO WIN THE BATTLE OF YOUR MIND . . .*

**LOUIE  
GIGLIO**