SERMON TRANSCRIPT

Speak Life

Steven Morris

October 25, 2026 | Acts 1:8; 1 John 5:12; Acts 5:17-42; Matthew 16:18

Prepared from the spoken message and lightly edited for readability. Scripture quotations and spoken phrasing are preserved as delivered.

So, a long time ago, back in 1912 - that's 114 years ago, if my Aggie math is right. The Aggies lured me in again yesterday, and they disappointed me again yesterday.

But 114 years ago, a man named William Leslie, who was a missionary, traveled to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Africa. He felt called by God to share the good news of Jesus with people who had never heard the name of Jesus before. He was willing to go where no missionary had ever gone before to do what God had called him to do.

As he got there, it was not easy. In fact, it was a pretty rough experience for him. But he spent 17 years there, deep in the jungles, doing his best to speak life, to speak the name of Jesus to the people there. After 17 years, with little to no fruit at all to show for the major investment of time, money, and effort, he came home. He died just a few years after that.

Many close to him say that he was still frustrated by the lack of success that he felt he had in the heart of Africa. We might look at this story, read this story, and even feel a little bit discouraged for him. We might wonder why things ended the way they did for him, and it might even remind us of areas in our own lives where we wish things had gone differently. We might even get to a place where we agree with his assessment of himself: that he was unsuccessful.

If that's the case, we just need to slow down, zoom out a little bit, and look at this from the Lord's point of view. At the end of the day, God's called us to be His witnesses, to faithfully share, and then to leave the results up to Him.

This morning, that's what we're going to see in Scripture: We are called to speak life. That's our title. That's our main idea today, if you're taking notes. We are speaking words of life.

If you've got your Bible, I want you to join me in Acts chapter 5. We're going to see in Acts chapter 5 that there are a lot of scenarios and situations in our lives where we have the opportunity to speak that life, and I want to make sure, for myself and for you and our church family, that we don't miss those moments.

We're going to start in verse 17 here in a moment, but here's the context briefly first. The disciples were doing what God had told them to do. They're being His witnesses, right? They're all in Jerusalem right now. Jesus has ascended to heaven, and they're telling more and more people, "Hey, the Christ has come. His name is Jesus, and you can have life in Him."

Literally thousands of people are becoming Christians. They're confessing faith in Christ. They're joining this

church family, and it is stacking up. Exciting things are happening. Miracles are being performed. It's just an incredible moment in the church.

The religious leaders of Jerusalem, the people of the day, didn't like all the attention that the disciples and these Christians were beginning to get. So look, starting in verse 17, at what happens:

> *The high priest rose up, and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison.*
>
> — Acts 5:17-18

The Sadducees were just a religious group that was part of the council there. And "public" matters. We're going to see why in a minute.

The leaders of Jerusalem were filled with jealousy. The apostles had the attention of the people by speaking about Jesus. The apostles became popular. They were gaining favor among the crowds because they continued to speak about Jesus, and the religious leaders of the day just couldn't handle it.

Their solution was a display of power and public humiliation, trying to silence these guys. Look at verse 18. They were put in a public prison. People could walk by and see them. It's a power move. They're trying to keep the followers of Jesus quiet.

Well, they didn't have to stay in jail too long. Look at verse 19:

> *But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."*
>
> *And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.*
>
> — Acts 5:19-21

They were arrested in the temple. The angel busts them out, saying, "Go back to the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." That's where we get our title and idea: Speak to the people all the words of this life.

I love this thought: God freed them physically so that He could free other people spiritually. He sets them free from prison to go about speaking words of life to the people again.

Speak Life Even When It's Risky or Uncomfortable

That's our first point today, if you're taking notes: Speak life even when it's risky or uncomfortable.

You're going to hear the phrase "speak life" over and over and over today, so let's just make sure we're on the same page. When I say "speak life," all I'm saying is tell people about Jesus. That's what we mean. Point people to the life we have in Christ, because it's in Jesus alone that we have life. It's in Jesus alone that our sins are forgiven.

God's Word points us to Jesus as the Savior. It's the promise that God has given us to bring us back into a relationship with Him. It all happens through Jesus.

In fact, in Jesus' final words to His followers in Acts 1:8, He's ascending to heaven, and what does He say?

> *You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*
> — Acts 1:8

"Go and be My witnesses. Tell people what you've seen in Me and what you've heard Me say. Speak life." We know there's no other name under heaven by which we can be saved. It's all about Jesus.

Here's a great summary of life:

> *Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*
> — 1 John 5:12

That's it. Whoever has Jesus has life. The Word of God is clear. It is all here. Life is found only in Jesus. We can sit here and read verse after verse, on page after page, that's all saying the same thing: My hope for life, your hope for life, the hope of the world - it's in Christ. That's where we have life.

So when we say "speak life," we're talking about telling people about Jesus. We're not saying just go give people good advice. We're not saying just go be an encourager. We're not saying give somebody a good pep talk before they go out on the day. We're not saying bust out the self-care or the self-help handbook. We're saying give people Jesus.

Listen, the angel busted them out of prison, not to be friendly, not to just smile and be a good neighbor. They weren't busted out of jail to go on with a comfortable life or a self-serving life. No, the angel busted them out of jail and sent them right back to where their trouble started: the temple.

Why? Because it's filled with people who didn't have a personal relationship with Jesus. It's filled with people who needed to hear words of life. They were sent to tell people about Jesus, to step right into the middle of the temple, right into the center of life for the nation of Israel and the Jewish people. It wasn't easy, but they did it.

In doing so, it should be an encouragement to us, a reminder to us, that we too can show up and speak life. Not just in easy moments at church, not just in our life group class, not just with friends in the house who are also believers, but we can speak life when it's risky. We can speak life when it's uncomfortable.

The truth is this: We never know in those moments how people are going to respond, but we do know what we are called to do. Speak.

At some point, in the relationships and opportunities that God has provided for us, we've got to take the risk. We just have to. We have to take the risk. We have to get bold. We have to push ourselves past our comfort zone to share words of life.

The angel sent the disciples where people needed Jesus. Think about that. He busted them out, and He directed them specifically to a place where there were people who needed to hear about Jesus.

I want you to think about that, because in the very same way, God has sent you to a place where people need Jesus. He's sent you to a place where people need Jesus, and He might not be sending anyone else.

He sent William Leslie to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He sent you to your street, to where you live. You're there every day. Maybe He sent you to your office building. He sent you to your math class or to your football team. He sent you into your group of friends or onto the airplane you're traveling on for work this week.

God has sent you there, to that place. It very well could be that the people sitting around you need to hear words of life. Your waiter at lunch today - goodness. God's sending you there. You've got words of life. Speak them, even if it means stepping out of your comfort zone.

Maybe you haven't yet because you don't want to risk a relationship you have. You don't want to make things awkward or uncomfortable with a friend, family member, or co-worker. To that, I would just say, push through. Push past that moment and speak.

I've shared this before. Here's just a simple opening that might help you break the ice or the tension. It's a phrase you can use that will essentially have somebody giving you permission to speak those words of life.

You could just say something simple like, "Hey, can I share with you something that's really important to me?"

If you've got a friend or somebody you spend a lot of time with and you say, "Hey, can I share with you something that's really important to me?" listen, unless it's a really socially awkward kind of thing, 99.9 percent of the time they're going to say yes. They're going to say yes, and the moment they say yes, they've asked you to begin to speak words of life.

Or you could phrase it a different way. You could say, "Hey, listen, can I tell you something that's really changed how I see the world these days? Our world's crazy. Things can be confusing. Can I just share with you something that has changed how I view the world today?"

Again, most of the people in your life are going to say yes. When they do, be ready to speak words of life.

Let me caution and encourage you at the same time with this phrase: It might be that you have to faithfully speak these words of life for a long time. It might just be this constant drip of your faithfulness in somebody's life, your willingness to share over and over and over again. You never know the moment that God's going to do something really, really special in their life.

There's a friend of ours who posted something online not too long ago. I read it, and I'm sitting at my desk crying, like, "What in the world? This is incredible. God, thank You. Thank You. Thank You."

This friend of ours posted that, after more than 30 years of praying for her dad to trust in Christ, just a few weeks ago he trusted Christ as his personal Lord and Savior. He's almost 70 years old. She's been praying for him for years and years and years.

Here's the deal: She was not passive in this. She wasn't passive. She continued to open her mouth and tell him about Jesus. Why? Because she loves Jesus, and she loves him. She wanted him to know the Savior she had, the hope she had, and the life she had in Christ.

So she continued to faithfully share, and at a certain moment, God removed the scales from his eyes, softened his heart, and he trusted in Christ.

Listen, as followers of Jesus, we can't be stopped by risk or discomfort. A long time ago, I heard a phrase - I believe it was from Mike Taylor - that has always stuck with me: Don't let your comfort get in the way of somebody else's eternity.

Be willing to share. When we share, guess what? It's not about us. It's about the Lord and what the Lord wants to do in the hearts of others.

So speak life even when it's risky or uncomfortable.

Speak Life Even When Others Tell You to Be Quiet

Look back at verse 21. That's what these guys did. At daybreak the next day, they go back to speak words of life. As they did, something else was happening at that moment.

They're in the temple speaking words of life, like the angel had told them to do, and the council that had them arrested sent to the prison and said, "Hey, bring these disciples out of prison and back in to us."

But when they got there, the disciples were gone. The guards were there. The doors were locked. But these guys were gone.

As a side note, there's some humor in the story if you know a little bit of the context. I love this. The Sadducees were the group that was sort of in charge of that council at the time, and they were a group that did not believe in miracles and did not believe in angels. Look at how God chose to work here: with an angel performing a miracle to free His people. You've got to love how God does what only God can do.

So this council hears, "They're not in the prison. Where are they?"

Then the word trickles in: "They're back in the temple, and they're teaching again what we told them not to do."

The council brings them in again. They do it a little more gently this time because they're afraid of the response of the people. Look at what they say in verse 27:

> *The high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us."*
>
> — Acts 5:27-28

Peter, John, and the rest of the disciples who are there are charged with two things in front of the council. One, they're charged with teaching Jesus. Two, they're charged with blaming the council for His death.

Look at their response in verse 29:

> *Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."*
>
> — Acts 5:29

Think about his situation. Think about what can happen to him in this moment. Think about the boldness he's speaking with and the clarity he's speaking with. There is no confusion here: "We must obey God rather than men."

Then he continues:

> *The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree.*
>
> *God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.*
>
> *And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.*
>
> — Acts 5:30-32

He's placing Jesus on the cross. Even in their defense in court, at their trial, they're telling people about Jesus.

If you're wondering how to tell people about Jesus when we say "speak life," verses 30 and 31 give a great little summary of what we can say. They say, "Listen, Jesus died on the cross. God raised Him from the dead. When we trust in Him and repent, our sins are forgiven, and we have eternal life in Christ."

That's the message. They spoke life, and that brings us to our second point this morning: We've got to speak life even when other people tell us to be quiet. We've just got to push through and keep going.

There's a lot going on here in this passage that is very relevant to our world right here, right now. I just want to repeat it: We've got to be willing to speak words of life, words of Jesus, even when people tell us to be quiet.

It all comes down to this: Who are we going to obey? Who are we going to listen to?

As followers of Jesus, this is not a multiple-choice thing. We have one option. Peter, in verse 29, nails it:

> *We must obey God rather than men.*
>
> — Acts 5:29

It's the second time he's told these leaders this in just a couple of chapters. It's important for us to take note because he gives us a model for what to do.

I want you to think about this: When we are placed in this scenario of having to choose between the Word of God and the word of man, God is very clear on what we are supposed to do. We obey Him every single time.

Our loyalty as Christians is not to a governing authority. Our loyalty is to a life-giving Savior. Our loyalty is to Jesus.

Now, let's walk this out, because Scripture teaches that all authority and all governments are established by God - the good ones and the bad ones. God uses them. All through Scripture, Old and New Testament, you see God using them for His ultimate glory.

In Scripture, we're taught to pray for and to honor those in authority over us, whether we agree with them or not, whether we voted for them or not. By the way, on that note, as believers, we vote. As believers, we need to vote.

We have the Holy Spirit of God living inside of us. Peter just said it here in Acts 5: the Holy Spirit of God is living inside of us. We need to vote prayerfully. We need to vote guided by spiritual discernment through the Word of God. We need to vote for policies that would support a biblical worldview, not a man-made worldview.

We've got this responsibility. We go back to the Old Testament, right? We are to seek the welfare of the city we live in. We've got to steward this responsibility, that vote, in a way that honors Him, knowing that at the end of the day, that's where our loyalty lies. Our loyalty lies with our Lord and Savior, not the one who gets the most votes.

Listen, we pray for the one who gets the most votes. Absolutely. Scripture says we're to pray that they would know Christ and know Him well. But at the end of the day, our obedience is to God.

So in those moments, like we see here, where God has said, "We need you to go and be a witness, to speak life," and the government has come in and said, "Hey, don't be a witness. Don't speak words of life," we see that our obedience is to God.

Again, this takes spiritual wisdom and spiritual discernment. We have the Holy Spirit of God living inside us. Jesus said He Himself would be our Counselor and our Guide.

The disciples here aren't rebelling against the leaders of the day because they have a personal issue with a law. They're not rebelling because they have a personal disagreement with a leader. That would be wrong. The situation unfolding here is an earthly authority forbidding biblical obedience.

When that happens, in those moments, understand that there will be consequences, because there will be consequences. Every single one of the disciples died as they were speaking words of life. They were disobeying earthly authorities, obeying a heavenly authority, and they all ended up paying a price for it.

But even understanding that there will be consequences, as believers, we must choose Jesus.

The Bible is full of examples of this kind of civil disobedience that we see right here. The Hebrew midwives back in Exodus disobeyed Pharaoh, and guess what? They took care of Moses. How did God use that? In a pretty big way, right?

You've got Daniel. His government said, "You can't pray." He said, "My God has called me to pray." He's thrown into the lions' den for it.

You've got Esther standing strong and saving the people of God.

In all these examples, we see that obedience comes with a cost, and every single time, it is worth the sacrifice.

Today, here and now, we don't have any laws or anything that extreme preventing us from doing what God has called us to do. There might be people in our lives who wish we would tone it down a little bit, or that we wouldn't speak of Jesus as much, or who just say, "Hey, you need to keep that stuff private."

You might run in social circles where people want you to keep things quiet. Maybe your family would prefer you to stop bringing up the name of Jesus. Maybe your co-workers don't want to hear about the hope you have in Christ on a bad day.

But listen, the biblical example we have here is to use the voice and the opportunities God has given us to speak life.

Think through your life. What's going on in your world today? Where are you? Who do you know? Who does God place you around every single day? Think through those scenarios where you can speak life.

Be encouraged. Be emboldened, knowing that when you speak, you're not speaking alone. Look at verse 32. What do you have? The power of the Holy Spirit inside of you, bringing those words of life out of your heart and through your mouth.

These guys knew that. They knew it, and they used their moment of trial to speak life.

Look at the response of the council. They're sharing the gospel with the council, hoping the council will trust in Christ. So the question is, does the council trust in Christ and change its view or not? Well, verse 33 gives us our answer:

> *When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them.*
> — Acts 5:33

It didn't work out too terribly well, right? The council did not receive the gospel. It was a witnessing opportunity that did not end up how I'm sure they hoped it would.

That's okay, because there are going to be moments when you tell people about Jesus that don't end with you holding hands with them and praying a prayer. Listen, that is okay. It's going to happen.

I've had people ignore me. I've had people get mad at me. I've had people walk away from me. I've never had anyone say they wanted to kill me like the disciples here. It's a moment.

But look at what happens next. In verse 34, one of the older ones in the group, Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, is held in honor. He's esteemed and respected by all the parties of the religious leaders of the day. He puts the disciples outside and has a council-only meeting with the guys.

He says, "Hey, guys, listen up. People have come before and said they were something special and that people should follow after them. When those people died, their followers dispersed."

He essentially said, "Hey, listen, if this is of God, get out of the way. If it's not of God, it's going to fizzle anyway."

Look at verse 39:

> *But if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!*
> — Acts 5:39

Speak Life With Confidence

That reminds us of our third point this morning: We can speak life with confidence, knowing that God's message won't be stopped. It will not be stopped.

Peter, one of the disciples in the middle of this, knew that. Jesus Himself told him. Do you remember that? In Matthew 16:18, Jesus looked at Peter and said:

> *I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*
>
> — Matthew 16:18

The gates of hell won't prevail against believers living in obedience to Christ, against believers who are willing to share the gospel.

Listen, when you're in a game and you've already won the game, you play with a different level of confidence and boldness. So you can be encouraged this morning that the life you have in Jesus, the life He has called you to share with the world around you, cannot be stopped. You're playing for a team that has already won the game.

My kids play a lot of baseball. Sometimes, when they were little, the rules were different. When they were winning a game by a lot, beating the other team by a lot, the umpires would stop the game. They'd call it and say, "This is a mercy-rule situation. The game has gotten out of hand. Your team has won, and so that's it. The game's over."

In the record book, the team was officially given a win. The game was over. The umpires would leave.

But the reality is that it takes a lot of work for these families to get a bunch of people to the field. So the coaches would look at each other and say, "Why don't we just keep playing anyway, even though the game is already won?"

A lot of times, both teams would agree, and they'd stay out there and play. Whether the kids realized it or not, there was a massive difference in the way they played the game. It was already won. There was no pressure anymore. They played more aggressively. They played with a different level of confidence and a different level of boldness. They would take risks they wouldn't normally take.

Why? Because they knew they couldn't lose. They knew that no matter what they did out there, they had already won the game.

You have Jesus. You have life. You're on a team that cannot be stopped. It cannot lose. So as you go out there, don't be uptight. Don't be anxious. Don't be stressed out. Be relaxed. Take risks. Speak with boldness. God has already won.

Think about all the people who have tried to stop the gospel over the last 2,000 years. Think about all the opposition Christians have faced: the imprisonments, the beatings, the martyrs, from the days of Nero all the way through the reign of the Taliban and different regimes in other parts of the world today.

No matter what these opponents of the gospel do, they cannot stop the gospel. They cannot stop Jesus from changing hearts and lives, from bringing life where there is no life.

Listen, the parts of the world where the gospel is spreading the fastest right now are the parts of the world where the church faces the most oppression.

Just know this: God won't be silenced. His message will not be stopped. When you speak life, when you share Christ, you can be confident, knowing that you have already won.

The council agreed they couldn't stop it. So look at what they did:

> *When they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.*
>
> *Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.*
>
> *And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.*
>
> — Acts 5:40-42

Speak Life Every Day With Joy

Point four: Speak life every day with joy.

Look at this. These guys took a beating, got threatened, and then left. I want you to notice how they left. They didn't leave mad. They didn't leave complaining to one another that life isn't fair or that they weren't treated correctly by the people over them. They didn't leave ready to blast someone on social media or looking for a lawyer.

They left how? Rejoicing. They left rejoicing.

Why? Because they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name of Jesus.

I want you to look at how this happened. These guys acted like Jesus. That's what they were doing. They were acting like Jesus. They followed after Jesus. They acted like Jesus, followed Jesus, and were obedient to Jesus. Because of that, what happened? They were treated like Jesus.

These guys weren't crazy. They weren't happy that they got beaten. They were happy that people looked at them and said, "Man, these people are acting like Jesus. These people are following after Jesus."

They were happy they'd done what Jesus had called them to do.

When we're living out what Jesus has called us to do, when we're speaking life and sharing Jesus with the world around us, people are going to see that. One of the byproducts of us living in obedience to Christ is that we're going to be filled with joy, no matter how the message is received once it leaves us.

If we are obedient, we're going to experience joy. Obedience to Christ brings joy to our hearts and to our lives.

So let's speak life, and let's experience the joy that comes with doing that.

Don't point at anyone in the room when I say this, but there are a lot of Christians who walk around angry all the time. There are a lot of believers who are just upset, maybe a little grumpy, because they're focused on the wrong things.

Listen, we have the Holy Spirit of God living inside of us. So when people look at us, they should see this sense of joy in our hearts and lives. That should be a big part of the description people give when they

describe us to others: joy that comes from knowing Christ.

Not grumpy. Not doomsday. Not angry. Not agitated, but joyful.

Listen, it can't just be our words or our answers to questions that point people to Christ. Just ask yourself, "Does the joy that's flowing through and out of my life make people want to know my Jesus?"

Don't walk around frustrated at all that's going wrong. I get it. There's plenty. There's a lot that's going wrong, sometimes in our personal lives, of course, and in our society. But let's keep the main thing the main thing. Keep sharing Jesus and trusting Him to work like only He can.

Most of the time, when we share Christ, it's not going to be at a trial in a courtroom like these guys here. Look at verse 42. This is more like our lives, I think, every day:

> *Every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.*
>
> — Acts 5:42

They're going from house to house. It just means they're going about their daily lives. As they did, what were they making sure they did? They were going house to house, and they were speaking Jesus.

That's us. Day by day, we're going places. We're going to school. We're going to work. We're going home. We're going to practices. We're going to meetings. We're traveling. We're in our social circles. Whatever it is, we're just doing our daily lives. As we do, speak words of Jesus, and speak them with joy.

Just like here, not everyone is going to respond like we hope, but we can't worry about that. Our call from Jesus Himself, in Acts 1:8, is just to speak life, giving people around us the chance to trust in Him like we have.

We may never know on this side of heaven the impact our words have in the heart and life of somebody else. They may never tell you the impact it has. You might be planting seeds now, helping turn their heart now, and it's not until years down the road that God brings that moment to fruition.

We're just called to faithfully speak.

William Leslie, in the Congo, that's what he did. He just spoke life. For 17 years, in all circumstances like we see here, he spoke life when it was risky. He spoke life certainly when it was uncomfortable for him to do so, when people wanted him to be quiet, all of those things. But he continued to speak.

He left wondering, "Did this matter? Did that even make a difference?" He died not knowing. He died wondering, "Did I make a difference?"

But get this. This is incredible. This is one of my favorite stories.

In 2010, almost 100 years after he first arrived there, more Christian missionaries went back to this part of the world, deep into the jungle where he had spent his time. It's hard to get there. They flew in, got canoes, and went up a river. Then they got out and walked 10 miles into the jungle where William Leslie's ministry had been.

When they got there, they were blown away. They found this network of churches that was planting other churches deep in the jungle. They found villages with gospel choirs. They would go around singing from church to church. They found churches in eight consecutive villages that spanned over 34 miles.

Listen, I've had the opportunity to go deep into the jungles in Africa. I know pastors and small groups under trees, sitting in the dirt. What happened in the Congo was so much more developed than that.

In one of the villages, so many people in the area had trusted Christ that they had built a 1,000-seat church. This room has 900-something seats, not quite 1,000.

The team that found this in 2010 was blown away. Nobody knew it was there. So they asked some of the people, "How did this happen?"

Some of the older people told stories of a man a long time ago named William Leslie, who showed up and told them about Jesus.

Our lives here on this earth have an impact on eternity that many of us won't ever know until we get there. This passage should be an encouragement to us that our words matter. They matter in every circumstance.

Just speak life. Speak Jesus to the people around you.

Would you pray with me this morning?

With heads bowed, let me just ask a question as we wrestle with what we see here. The question for myself and the question for you is: Are we faithfully speaking words of life?

Get before the Lord with that for a minute. Are we faithfully speaking words of life?

You know your routine. You know your daily life. You know the opportunities you have. You know the people God has placed in your path, whether it's at work, at school, in your family, at home, or on your street.

Listen, you know. You know. You know. You know.

Are we faithfully speaking words of life?

If the answer is no, it could be for a couple of reasons. It could be that you don't know Christ yet. You can't speak words of life unless you have that life that only comes from Him.

If that's you this morning, let me just say that in a moment we're going to stand and sing the last song. We'll have pastors down at the front. If you don't know Christ as your Savior, I guarantee there's probably somebody in your life who's been praying for you and would love to celebrate you trusting in Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

If that's you, just come pray with one of us and say, "Hey, listen, I'm ready to trust Christ."

Maybe there are more of us in here who aren't speaking words of life, not because we haven't trusted Christ, but just because we're a little shy. We're not willing to take that risk. We're not willing to get out of our comfort zone.

If that's you, I just want to encourage you: Push through. Push through, knowing it's the Holy Spirit speaking through you and working through you. Trust God with the results. Get before the Lord and be committed to sharing with the people He's placed in your life.

Like I mentioned before, in just a second we're going to stand and sing one last song. Our pastors and prayer partners will be down here at the front. If you're ready to trust Christ, come pray with us. If baptism is your next step, come pray with us.

If you've got somebody in your life and you know God's put it on your heart right now that you need to share with them, you need to approach them this week and say, "Hey, can I just tell you something that's really important in my life?" Then you need to speak words of life.

If there's a person in your life you want us to pray for, we'd love to pray for that person with you, that God would soften their heart and that they would be receptive to the gospel.

Or maybe there's something altogether different going on in your life. Whatever it is, when we stand in just a minute, pastors are here, prayer partners are here, and we'd love to pray with you and for you.

Father, we love You. We trust You. We thank You for Your Word. God, I pray that we would faithfully walk it out, that we would faithfully speak words of life to the people You have placed in our lives.

God, we love You. We trust You. We thank You for Jesus and the opportunity to share Him with the world around us. It's in Your name we pray. Amen.