

5/9/21

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FB 10

Sermon – Can't; or Don't Want to
Scripture – Phillipians 4:13, Judges 6:11-17

Main Message – There are many ways we limit ourselves, but the worst one might be our lack of desire.

We have all said it. We have all heard it. No, its not a swear word. It's, "I can't." Children, naturally with little life experience, often say, "I can't." They haven't fully matured, learned, or understand when there are true limitations to their ability. One of my earliest recollections of learning the power of overcoming the "I can't" dilemma was in a wrestling match as a 7 year old in a bar in Bigfork Montana. That'll get your attention. A friend and I were in there at lunch time with the dads and we got into an "authorized wrestling match" and he ended up on kneeling on top of my chest and was pinning my hands down. My dad said, "swing your legs up over his head and pull him down." My response, "I can't." I said that without even trying. My dad said, "Yes, you can." So, I acted on what Dad said and to my surprise, and the boy I was wrestling with, he was flat on his back with his own legs bent and pinned underneath. The match ended there. We both learned something.

My "can't" was from a lack of knowledge, not a lack of desire in that wrestling match. If you have desire, and knowledge, you can overcome the situation and dare I say anything. The problem is when, "I can't" becomes an excuse to not want to do something, even if is to your own benefit. I'm going to be honest here. Back in the day, folks simply couldn't get away with, "I can't." Today, its, "oh you poor thing. To all of you here I will remind you of this very popular piece of scripture.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. KJV

Words have power, almost as much as actions and sometimes more. So I have learned this lesson like many of you. Tell me, I can't and I'm gonna wanna prove you wrong – as long as I have the necessary desire. Imagine the following...

- Moses – Who am I who am slow of speech to lead your people –(God says, I will be with you)
- Jeremiah, I'm too young... (God Says I will be with you)
- Gideon – My clan is the weakest – (God says, I will be with you) (Read Gideon)

Today when I hear the someone say, "I can't" I believe it to be more of, "I don't want to." If God tells you to do something, do you think you can get away with, "I can't." He's going to get His way, regardless of how you feel about it.

Every single time you draw upon the power of I can't, you are dismissing the POWER OF GOD! Every time you draw upon the power of I can't, you are being a disobedient child of our Father in Heaven. Why do you think Christians are limited in scope, power, and authority over things of this world? Because we say, "I can't," which if we are honest really means, *I Don't Want To*. We pray the Lord's prayer and it says, **THY WILL BE DONE**. But we through around I can not all day long and ignore what the prayers we say often actually means. God uses us to perform His Will, but if we say, "I can't" then we aren't walking in the fullness of Spirit that He has intended for us. When we say I can't, consider the message we are sending to God. ***I Don't Trust You to be with me!*** Gideon didn't realize that the battle is the Lords which is why he reduced the army from 32000 to 300 and going up against an army of Midianites of 135000. Logic doesn't explain it, but the power of the Living God alone does. Stop saying I can't and start saying, ***Thy Will Be Done.***"