

Topic: Anointing Formula
Text: **Matthew 17:14-21 (NKJV)**
Theme: “Learn and apply the spiritual formula of Anointing = Faith + (Prayer & Fasting)”

INTRODUCTION

- Anointing is similar to sound waves. The best way to detect sound is through your ears, as it travels (approximately 343 metres per second) and vibrates your eardrum.
- If you are deaf by birth, or lost your hearing by accident, then you are deprived to hear the birds' chirping or the seashells' humming.
- The same is true with the anointing. If you are spiritually “earless” or supernaturally “deaf,” you won't “hear” a tiny bit from the Holy Spirit.
- Whether it concerns God or the Devil, anointing is essential. It MOVES God's hand to answer the most impossible prayer, and at the same time REMOVES Satan's hand that blocks answer to the simplest prayer.
- The secret formula of Anointing is now revealed through this sermon.

I. FIRST EQUATION OF THE ANOINTING FORMULA: HAVE FAITH

V17 Then Jesus answered and said, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.”

V19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?”

V20 ... “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

A. For those without faith (or those who are faithless, or those with weak faith, or those whose faith have run-out), have faith at least as small as a mustard seed.

1. Jesus was so exasperated (extremely annoyed) with them for not having faith at all. (V17)

2. The mustard seed is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. (Mark 4:31)
3. The apostles were asking Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus replied to them if they have faith as small as a mustard seed, they could command the mulberry tree to be uprooted and be planted in the sea. (Luke 17:5-6)
4. The context was about the disciples having no faith at all, and He EXAGGERATED (Hyperbole) to them by saying that they could command the mountain to move and be somewhere with a seed as small as a mustard seed. (V20)

B. For those with faith, have GREAT FAITH that will arrest God's attention

1. A woman whose daughter was demon-possessed was willing to be treated like a dog just so her daughter would get healed had great faith. (Matthew 15:26-28)
2. A centurion's great faith healed his servant.
 - a. Jesus offered to come to his house to heal his servant, BUT, he refused (Matthew 8:8)
 - b. Jesus was astonished with his faith (Matthew 8:10; 13)

II. SECOND EQUATION OF THE ANOINTING FORMULA: PRAY AND FAST

V21 However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.

- Faith needs prayer for its development and full growth.
- Prayer needs fasting for its development and full growth.
- Fasting has done wonders when used in combination with prayer and faith.
- Fasting without prayer is simply called a hunger strike.

A. Meaning of fasting

1. It means to abstain from food that caused Adam and Eve to sin. It is the best way to humble before God.
2. It weakens our body (flesh), but cleanses our soul and strengthens our spirit.

B. When to fast

1. When under chastening. (To get rid of unavoidable sins)
2. When under judgment.
3. When in need. (When an answer to prayer couldn't be delivered.)
4. When in trouble or asking for guidance/direction

C. Physical effects of fasting

1. You become hungry and feel dizzy for the first three days.
2. Bad breath
3. It gives the digestive system a rest

D. People in the Bible who had long fasting

- David (7 days); Paul & 276 men (14 days, Acts 27:33-34); Daniel (21 days); Moses (twice 40 days); Joshua (40 days); Elijah (40 days); Jesus (40 days).

E. Spiritual effects of prayer and fasting

1. You become sensitive to God's voice.
2. Your soul is refreshed and your spirit is strengthened.
3. The Word of God becomes so alive in you.
4. God gives you deeper wisdom in understanding His Word.
5. Your faith grows tremendously.
6. Your prayers are answered.