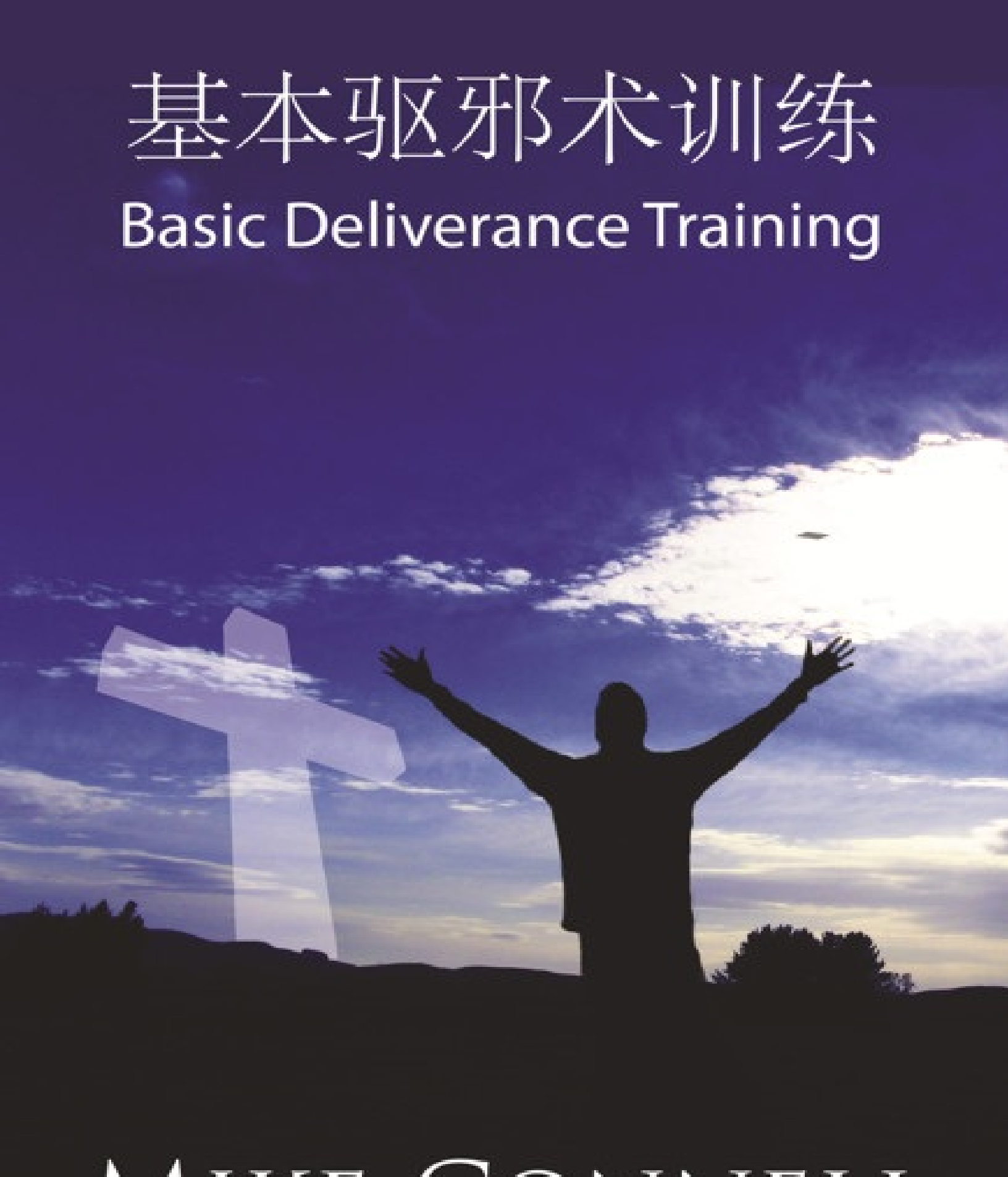
# 基本驱邪术训练

# Basic Deliverance Training



MIKE CONNELL

# Basic Deliverance Training

## Mike Connell

Audio Transcripts of Sunday Sermons

Smashwords Edition
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# Basic Deliverance Training

*Following Jesus includes progressively walking into freedom; and the empowerment to advance the Kingdom of God.*

*Understand what demons are, and how they enter people and work to destroy lives; and then what Jesus has done to purchase freedom from oppression for us.*

*Learn about the important part we have to play in positioning ourselves to experience freedom.*

*Understand the anointing upon Jesus, and the impact of that anointing in our lives.*

*Learn about the basic doorways that demons use to enter people, and the issues of the heart that give them access.*

*This powerful series of teachings will give you insight to Spiritual Freedom.*

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Ministering Deliverance for Leaders (1 of 8) To advance the Kingdom, we must overcome an inferior one, that currently has dominion over people's lives. This doesn't happen by our will power or hope, but by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we depend on Him and grow in God. To be free we need to remove the armour, or belief system, from our lives that have bound us up, so the demon or strongman can be easily cast out. Demonic strongholds creates an energy, but the Holy Spirit can energise us, to get great victory and freedom over any area of our life.

(1 of 8)

(1 of 8)

Foundations for Freedom (2 of 8) Explore the different doors of entry into a person's life, from generational curses to inner vows. We get freedom through the Power of the Holy Spirit, by what Jesus has won on the Cross for us. He won the total victory, which was utterly complete, covering all intentional and un-intentional sin. As you open your heart, and take ownership for your sin, rather than blame others, and then repent and release forgiveness, healing and freedom will flow into our lives.

(2 of 8)

(2 of 8)

Bondages of the Heart (3 of 8) Explore the issues in the heart that can hold us in bondage. Discover that ungodly soul ties, inner vows and word curses are three entry points into our lives, where we can open ourselves to bitterness, jealousy, anger, complaining, addictions, etc, which then become strongholds in our lives,

that the enemy can come in and take hold of. This includes other peoples words and actions towards us. As we recognise these traits in our lives, we can take ownership of them, renouncing and releasing them from our lives in Jesus Name.

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Legal Right of Entry (4 of 8) Explains three main legal grounds, upon which demons can gain access to your life: generational curses; the occult; and sexual sin. The issues and bondages that come into our lives through these door ways can be broken and cast out by the power of the Holy Spirit, because we are redeemed and set free by the Cross of Jesus Christ. We need to acknowledge and identify these areas of sin; then renounce and release forgiveness as necessary; then call upon the name of Jesus, who will set your free!

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The Two Kingdoms (5 of 8) Humans are very unique - not only living in the natural world, but can also connect to the spiritual world. Jesus came to tell us about the Kingdom of God, which is full of light, peace and joy; but there is another Kingdom which we are all born into - the Kingdom of Darkness - which rules by tormenting people, and using sin to control them. Jesus came to set us free, by shedding his blood on the Cross. When we accept what Christ has done for us, we need to continue and allow the Holy Spirit to change our thinking, by the renewing of our mind - that we would be kind, tender hearted and loving to one another, and set free in our hearts.

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Traumatic Experiences (6 of 8) Many problems we have in life come from traumatic experiences, which have often happened in early childhood: in the womb; early childhood; or during school years. These experiences tend to shut us down, and control the memory of the trauma. We do not realise that these experiences are actually controlling you: relationships; reactions; and approach

to life. The effect of these traumatic experiences can only be overcome and healed through prayer; by exchanging old memory pictures with scripture memorisation; and by inviting the Holy Spirit and the truth into the situation - for total restoration in Jesus name!

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Called to be a Minister of the Holy Spirit (7 of 8) We are called to pray for people, and to be a minister of the Spirit of God. Come spiritually prepared, and believe that God is with you - guide people's attention to the Lord, not the prayer! There will be conflict before, during, and after ministry, and the battles will be within you. Believe God is with you, take risks, and reach out in prayer. Keeping your eyes on Jesus, and listening to the Holy Spirit, you will be able to minister healing and freedom, in Jesus name, to people.

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Ministry of Jesus (8 of 8) We learn that Jesus came to touch people's hearts, by bringing revelation of the Power of God, for: salvation; healing; deliverance. Jesus made it clear we would have difficulties and problems, but He has overcome all evil with good - on the Cross, and through His ministry to us. As we face the reality that we are hurting and suffering, and allow the Lord to help us repent and forgive, He will always respond. God is committed to our character and growth, not our comfort.

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## Paperback

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## Audio

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# Ministering Deliverance for Leaders (1 of 8)

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*To advance the Kingdom, we must overcome an inferior one, that currently has dominion over people's lives. This doesn't happen by our will power or hope, but by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we depend on Him and grow in God. To be free we need to remove the armour, or belief system, from our lives that have bound us up, so the demon or strongman can be easily cast out. Demonic strongholds creates an energy, but the Holy Spirit can energise us, to get great victory and freedom over any area of our life.*

Introduction:

I have with me one of my daughters, her name is Joanna. My wife sends her love - she's at home looking after Jo's children. She's being a good Nana with the three little boys. For those of you who don't know us, we have 7 children and 20 grandchildren - very big family, very blessed!

It's so wonderful to be with you; to have a chance to share with you, to pray with you, and to minister to you. We really love coming to this church. For us, this has been the doorway to Taiwan. It's been the connection with Pastor Jonathan and Euan, and made the way for us to come to Taiwan. We've been coming two or three times a year now, for probably ten years; and seen thousands upon thousands of lives transformed. So, I really want to honour Euan and Jonathan for making room for us to come to this nation, because it was their invitation that made it possible for us to build a connection and some wonderful relationships in this nation.

God has given us incredible favour and we've been able to minister to pastors and leaders across the nation, to minister to churches, and privately, to some of the most influential people in your nation. I've been able to go to people that others would have no access to; and see God move in their private homes and touch them. We just love Taiwan. I love coming here, and feel a great affinity with Chinese people.

When we first came here, we had the most enormous spiritual conflicts that I

have faced in ministry. Every day, the interpreter would get sick; day after day, a new interpreter. I'd say: "Hey, what happened to the last one?" "Oh, sick." I never see them again. Finally at the end of the first week, I got very sick. It's quite embarrassing when you come to bring the power of God to people, and you're sick - I just had to push through what was actually just demonic resistance. I think about the first three or four visits, I would get sick each time, and so would the people around me. Then we just broke through it completely; and there has never been any trouble ever since.

Sometimes in our ministry, the resistance we face, we find, is very real. We just have to have the courage to stand up and face it, and push through, so I just determined that I would not back down. In my first week of ministry here, I think about day 4 or 5, I got so sick I couldn't even speak. I remember waking up with no voice; and saying: "God, I did not come here to be sick. I came here to help." So, I just kept quiet all day, and when it came to the meeting at night, immediately I had my voice. I finished speaking - no voice; and then there's hundreds of people to pray for. I said: "Lord, I will not back down. Help me." He showed me a key to releasing the power of God without me having to speak. So, we're always learning all the time; and I hope to be able to share with you things that will really help you.

Main Message:

Our theme then, is deliverance and ministering deliverance. Since all of you have had some foundations in this area, I want to do more focus on removing demonic houses. I want to go past just the casting the demons out, to looking at the structures demons live in.

Just as a way of leading into that, we'll just look at something Jesus taught on deliverance. We'll look at Matthew 12:28. In verse 28, Jesus said: "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you."

Jesus is teaching about deliverance; and He brings out several things.

1.) Deliverance is a manifestation of the kingdom. So, it's the kingdom of heaven coming into the Earth. It's the authority of Jesus establishing itself in someone's life. It's an advancement of God's kingdom, by overthrowing the

demonic kingdoms. So, deliverance is a manifestation of the kingdom of God. Jesus said to pray for the kingdom to come. So, when you are doing deliverance, it is really kingdoms in conflict. It is a superior kingdom, and King, displacing an inferior one.

2.) Secondly, the power to make this happen is the Spirit of God. You can't do this work except by the Spirit of God. It requires the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit; and for that to happen, it requires a person to exercise faith. So, one of the things I want to do with you, is to share about working with the Holy Spirit; because deliverance is not about methods. It's helpful to have a process, or a way of approaching deliverance, but we should not depend on it. We should depend on the Holy Spirit to help us. You can't do the deliverance work without the Holy Spirit, so your own relationship with the Holy Spirit is vital. "If I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons", so the power that you need working through you, is the anointing of the Holy Spirit; and that comes by faith. We need to learn how to listen to, and respond to, and work with, the Holy Spirit. So, constantly in your ministry, you need to be listening to the Holy Spirit. We'll talk a little more about that later on.

3.) You notice the next thing He teaches here, "If I cast out demons". So, deliverance requires a person to confront the spirit. You can't just pray for God to do it. You yourself need to confront the spirit. "If I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you". So, we see now, in the dynamic of doing deliverance, it requires the person to work with the Holy Spirit, to exercise faith, speak and directly confront the demon; and when the Spirit of God works with them, then the kingdom of God becomes established. So, when we're doing deliverance, we need to be sensitive to, and working with, the Holy Spirit. We'll talk a little more about that in another session. We're just giving some foundations now.

Now, look over to verse 43-45, Jesus said: "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, but finds none. Then he says: 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first."

Notice some things that Jesus speaks here. What He is sharing is extremely

important, because He's helping us to understand the invisible spirit world; and He also identifies a problem with deliverance. The issue that He identifies is the one we want to focus on: "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through the dry places", or: "he walks through dry places". Jesus is describing what happens after the person is delivered; and this is of concern for you as a small group leader or a cell group leader: what happens to the person after they've been set free. We need to understand that there's a spiritual dynamic happens after deliverance; and the problem is: so many people focus on doing deliverance, that they miss the bigger picture.

Casting out the demons is only a part of the work; our main work is to disciple people to follow Christ. Deliverance is about removing the spiritual forces that hinder the person; but we have to do more than just remove the demon, and here's why. Jesus said: "When the unclean spirit goes out of a man". So, in other words, after deliverance, the spirit is forced out of the person. The question is raised, well what happens to the demon?

Firstly, we notice that it walks. Demons are low-level spiritual beings. They're quite limited and confined in their activities. When someone exercises deliverance, the demons are literally forced out. Then, they walk through dry places, or in other words: they move to where there is no anointing of the Holy Spirit. They rapidly exit; but they seek rest. Evil spirits constantly seek somewhere to live. They seek a dwelling place. They're not looking to lie down; they want to gain access to some place they feel at home in. So, the demon is looking for another spiritual home. Evil spirits constantly seek to find a person to get into, so they can express their nature - that is their goal. They want to enter; and then once they've entered, to increase their hold and destruction in the person's life.

You notice it's seeking someone to get into. When it can't find someone to get into, it plans to return. You notice an evil spirit has personality. It's a spirit being, with a mind to think, and an ability to make decisions. It has the ability to speak and communicate. So it's an invisible spirit being, with an ability to think, to plan, to speak. It's like you're dealing with a hostile spirit being. Notice what he says: I will return to my house, out of which I've come. The spirit can remember the person they came out of; and the demon is a legalist – notice what he says – 'my house'. He claims the person, to have a right to enter them - so evil spirits look for a legal right to establish entry to a person. We'll come back to that and

develop that shortly.

So, the demon looks at this man, and said: “This is my house.” Now, the Bible tells us that: our body is the temple of the Spirit. We are redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, we belong to Him. So your body is the house you live in; and you invite the Holy Spirit to come in. So your house becomes a temple of the Holy Spirit. Evil spirits look at people and say: ‘that’s my house.’ In other words, they claim legal grounds to enter.

Notice what it says: “When he comes, he finds it swept and put in order”. So, an evil spirit can locate the person they came out of. You can imagine from the realm of the spirit, that they can identify people. If I cast a demon out of him, and the demon moves a long way, it remembers who it came out of, and can relocate him again.

You say, ‘well, why can’t we just cast him into hell?’ There’s absolutely no scripture that indicates we are able to do that. In fact, there are many demons that are bound in hell, and they will be released in the last days. The Bible also tells us, that at the end time, Jesus will confine the demons into hell. Until then, they are Earth-bound spirits that look for people to gain access and destroy.

Notice the next thing: the demon can assess your spiritual condition. He finds it empty, swept, put in order. The word ‘empty’ means on holiday, loitering, not productive. The word ‘ordered’ means literally, to look good on the outside. Here’s a disturbing thing to realise: when we look at people, we only see the house they live in. It’s like a veil that covers the person. The Bible tells us that he is a spirit being, with a soul, living in this house.

So, the spirit sees us differently. When we look at a person, we just see the outside; when a demon looks at the person, he sees the inner man. When we look at a person, the body seems solid; when a demon looks at a person, this is just water vapour, and he sees the real person inside - and your spiritual condition is visible! From the spirit-world point of view, the real man is visible; and the evil spirit can assess the person’s condition.

I was doing deliverance one time, and I had a man come with me. It was quite a difficult deliverance, and the demon manifested strongly, and began to threaten me. I stood up against it, and then it did an unusual thing. The man turned or

backed away from me, and he turned and looked at the man who'd come with me; and I saw him look, and then he laughed; and then he began to talk about the things happening in this man's life. He uncovered what he could see! The man got very embarrassed, went very red in the face; and I said: "You're not able to do this ministry. You haven't established your authority properly."

It was quite a shock for me to realise that the demon could recognise the person's condition. If we're going to maintain deliverance, and move the person into freedom, we must ensure that the root issues are dealt with, and the demon has no grounds to re-enter.

You notice it says in verse 45: "He goes and brings with him seven other spirits more wicked, they enter in, and the man's state is worse than when he began." In other words, evil spirits can communicate with one another, and they work together to increase the bondage in the person's life.

So, here is a conclusion we reach, when we look at that passage: it's not enough just to cast the demon out; we must deal with the root issues in the person's life, and they must become established in their walk with God. In other words, they can't remain just passive, idle; they need to be now active in their spiritual life.

There's an interesting scripture, where Jesus poses a question; and it says in Ephesians 4:28 – "Let him who stole, steal no longer; but rather let him labour, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need." So, this is what Jesus is saying: it's not enough for the thief to stop stealing; he needs to have a change, where he becomes willing to work, and to give. "Let him that stole, stop stealing; rather, work and give." You notice for the thief, his freedom comes not when he stops stealing; but when he's giving. Stop lying; but rather, speak the truth and love to one another.

So, it's not enough to just deal with or confront the negative, the person must move their life to starting to embrace kingdom life. Another way of putting it: there's no neutral position. We know we've passed from death to life, when we love. A clear teaching in this is: once we've cast the demons out, the person needs to be established so they're walking with the Holy Spirit - that there's real change in their life.

Let's have a look in Luke 11, and Jesus is again talking about deliverance. Luke

11:20 – “But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.” Now, notice what he says in verse 21-22: “When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armour in which he trusted, and divides his spoils.”

So, in this, the context is deliverance. Jesus identifies some things: 1.) A strong man. 2.) Armour. He says : if you want a person to be free, remove the armour. The strong man is a demonic spirit, who prevails over an area of a person’s life. It could be, for example, a stronghold of rejection. The person’s life is dominated by feelings and thoughts of rejection. At some point in their life, a stronghold was established. A stronghold is a mind-set. It’s a way of thinking, and it’s resistant to truth. So, when a person, for example, has got a deep root of rejection in their life, it is a stronghold. It’s a way of thinking about life; and every interaction with life, the person interprets it through the stronghold.

I’ll give you an example – suppose two people are standing talking, and the pastor walks into the church. He’s very busy, preoccupied, thinking about the next thing he must do. The two people say – “Hello pastor”; but he doesn’t hear them, and he just carries on. One of them thinks: “Oh, he’s busy, I’ll catch him later.” The other one thinks: “He doesn’t like me. This man doesn’t like me. I knew it! He doesn’t like me. He’s got something against me.” All through the service, they’re all stewed-up. The more they think about it, the angrier they get; and the whole worship service is ruined for them, because they can’t get it out of their mind – “the pastor rejected me today.”

Now, you notice that both men had the same experience, but each interpreted their experience differently. One had no root of rejection – “He obviously didn’t hear me, he’s busy. It’s ok, I’ll catch him again.” The other one – “He didn’t want to hear me.” The other one, same experience, but when you ask the question: “what does that mean?”, “It means he doesn’t like me. I knew he didn’t like me!” So, the person’s emotions get stirred up, the stronghold gets stirred up; and the demon constantly torments them.

What Jesus is saying, is that the spirit of rejection is the “strong man” exerting influence on his life. The “armour” is what conceals him, or protects him from being cast out. The armour is the root systems of bondage in the person’s life. The key way that demons gain access, is through deception. The person believes

the lie, and the demon hides behind the lie.

So, if the person has a root of rejection, there may be a spirit of rejection, but there's also a lie; and there's also some emotional pain; and there may be some experience they had where it has come in. What Jesus essentially is saying is this: remove the structures that the demon lives in, and you can easily get it out. Remove the armour, or the defence system of the demon, and it's easy to deal with it.

So in our ministry, we should not just focus on casting the demon out; but work with the person to find out the structures that the demon lives in. Remove the demonic house, and there's nowhere for the demon to take hold. Remove the demonic house, and there's nowhere for the demon to grip on, and so it has no place to come back in again. So, if you cast out a demon of rejection, but the person still believes the lie (I'm unloved and unwanted), then after a few negative experiences, soon the demon will come back in again. So, deliverance is not just casting out demons; it involves us ministering to the person, and dealing with the strongholds that allow the demon to sit there.

To do that, we need to identify what they are, and how they work. So, in ministering to people, we want to find out what are some of the structures the demon used, to occupy and hold them in bondage. That raises the question then: "how do demons gain entrance to people's lives?" Now different deliverance ministries approach this in different ways. Some don't even look at the root systems, but I think this is a mistake, because once the demon has gone out, it will come back in again. So, different ministries have different ways of looking at it; but in the end, it will come down to the same things.

So, number one group is legal rights. Legal rights mean sin. I'll just list these 3 things, and then we'll come back to them later. 1.) Legal rights. A legal right means the demon has a right, under spiritual law, to occupy the person. It has authority to be able to go there; and that authority has been given to them because the person sinned. For example, in Ephesians 4:27 "Give no door or room for the devil. Give no foothold to the demon." The word 'door' or 'foothold' is the Greek word 'topos' meaning: a legal ground. So, don't give a legal ground for an evil spirit to enter. We'll explain what some of those are later. A major door that demons use, are legal rights.

When we walk in God's order or guidelines, or when we walk in the law of God, we live under blessing. When we break the law of God, there are consequences. We reap what we've sown, and demonic spirits have legal right to access. A little later we'll demonstrate that Jesus, at the cross, dealt with legal rights; and when you are ministering to people, you need to deal with the legal rights, and remove all grounds for the demon to be there - it's quite simple to do.

A second major doorway is the area of traumatic experiences - trauma, or traumatic experiences. A trauma is an emotionally painful or shocking experience. It could be an accident, it could be a frightening experience, or it could be a long period of stress. So, a trauma has an emotional and physical impact in a person's life; and demons use it to ride into the person's life. Sometimes when you are trying to help a person, you'll find there's a traumatic experience with pictures and memories, and the demon is locked in on that.

Then a third major area is personal reactions to trauma and pain. When a person is hurt, they usually react, and try to control the pain. They try to control their life; and in attempting to control their life, often they create legal grounds for demons to come in.

So my experience in working with people indicates that all of these are connected. Legal rights, trauma, reactions. When we're working with a person, working with a problem in their life, we need to be thinking of: the legal rights; the traumatic experiences; and the internal reactions. We'll talk a bit more about these, and then I'll give you a step-by-step way you'd look at a person's problem, to try and analyse what the issues are.

Now, when demons get into a person, they create a number of problems inside them; and they tend to affect different areas of a person's life. These are the areas that get affected:

1.) They may experience spiritual manifestations. So, if a person has got, for example, bad dreams, tormenting nightmares, spiritual manifestations that are obviously wrong, you know it's occultic, or there's a spiritual root.

2.) Evil spirits also affect the mind, the thought life, with thoughts that keep prevailing.

3.) Evil spirits affect the emotions, with emotions that rise up, that can't seem to be managed.

4.) Evil spirits affect the body, with sicknesses that don't seem to be able to respond.

5.) Evil spirits affect a person's life, with cycles or patterns of failure.

Now, how does this work in a person's life? I want to just explain, and help you understand the dynamic of it. We'll just look at just a few scriptures; and we'll start off first of all with Ephesians 3:20. The working or operation of demonic spirits in strongholds creates energy inside people; but the Holy Spirit also creates energy in us.

Let me just give an example – here's an example. When a person gets angry, you feel angry. It's like this enormous energy inside you; and it's a negative energy. When a person is depressed, they feel this pressure and energy around their life which is quite negative. When a person is being tempted to sexual sin, they feel this passion of energy inside them. I want to show you just two sides of the coin here.

The first one, we find in Ephesians 2:1-2. It says: "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience". Notice what it says here – spirits work in people. The word 'work' is the greek word 'energaio', from which we get the word 'energise'. So, when a demonic spirit is inside a person, it releases strong negative energy into them; strong spiritual pressure. Demonic spirits release a strong energy into people. It pressures them. It pushes on them; pushes on their mind, pushes on their emotions, pushes on their will. So, when a demonic spirit is operating, there's literally a flow of energy.

Now, have a look in Romans 7:5 – "For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death." Notice how it says 'something at work inside us'. Sin works in people. The word 'work' means 'energise'. So, evil spirits energise people. Bring pressure, negative energy into their life; but sin also does the same thing. So, sin, when sin is working in a person, it creates negative energy in them. You notice,

in trying to describe the spiritual effect of sin and demons, it uses the word ‘energise’.

When demons are operating, or sin is operating, the person experiences strong pressure and energy flow inside them that’s very negative. You can’t overcome it by willpower, because it’s a spiritual energy. Sin releases spiritual energy in us. It’s something living inside a person. It’s something that works in you, constantly demanding more and more. Demonic spirits release negative energy, it works in people. When a person is under the influence of sin, and demonic spirits, there’s this massive spiritual energy pressuring their life. So, if we’re going to deal with the demonic, we need to remove the sin, and remove all of that negative energy.

Now, look back in Ephesians 3 again, and we’ll read down to verse 20 – “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us”. Now its saying: for a believer, there is a power also, that works in us for good. It’s the same word – ‘energise’. The power that works in us is the power of the Holy Ghost. In other words, one work of the Holy Spirit is: to energise our life; to impart in us strength to overcome.

Notice what Paul’s prayer is, in verse 16 – “to be strengthened with might in the inner man through His Spirit”. So, it must be possible there, for us to be strengthened with might, in the inner man, by the Holy Ghost. The word ‘strength’ means: ‘greatly increase in vigour’. Strengthen with might - that’s the word ‘dunamis’ – ‘miracle power’. So, what he’s saying in here is this: that even though sin creates negative energy that leads to isolation from God; and even though demons create negative energy; we have something else that energises us for good! It’s the power of the Holy Spirit! So the Spirit of God can energise us, to get great victory over any area in our life.

Look what it says in 1 Thessalonians 2, we read in verse 13: “For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.” There’s that word again – ‘work’. The word of God can energise your life! The word of God can greatly energise your life. We see now, that there are sources of negative energy – sin and demonic spirits; and there are sources of energy for victory – it’s the power of the Holy Spirit and the word of God.

So if I'm going to help someone come into freedom, I need to remove the sources of negative energy, deal with the issues of sin and the trauma, remove the demonic spirits; but willpower alone is not enough to walk in victory. It's not enough just to exercise willpower. So often, what we tend to try and do, is we try to get people: "oh, stop doing that. Do this, do this, do this."

What is needed is: the person needs to be energised with life. They need to know how to activate, and be strengthened, in their inner man; and they need to know how to be energised by the word of God. So whereas their lives were characterised by defeat; now their lives become characterised by the power of God, and the word of God. I always ask this kind of question: "How do you get the word of God to energise you?" The Bible says that's what it does; but how can my life be energised by the word of God? How can my life be energised by the Holy Ghost?

So it's not a matter of just dealing with the negatives; you want to bring people into life. Don't think just of deliverance as: 'we cast out the demon'. Think of it as: 'we move them out of a place of negative life flow, into a place of life in God'. The casting out of the demon is just one part of that. In bringing the person into freedom, my goal is to uncover what is creating negative energy in it, and confront it; and then lead them into a life where the power of God is flowing, where they are energised with the life of God; and we want to know how to do that. How to identify and remove the roots; and then how to bring people into a place of life?

When people are in a place where they are energised by the Holy Spirit; this is what the Bible says: "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ sets me free from the law of sin and death". In other words, I need to be in a life flow in God; not just trying to cast my demons out. I need to transition out of being in bondage and darkness, and come into a place of life and strength. So, this is the process called discipleship – moving people into a place where their life is vibrant in God.

You'll find when you're working with people, usually they just want you to take away the pain, to fix them up; but our goal is to bring them into life in Christ. When there's life in Christ, there's a flow of the power of God.

[Student is invited to come forward for a prayer demonstration]

“Come, come.” We’ll just finish with this. “Look this way. I want you to just put your hand out, towards me. That’s right. Take my hand. I need someone behind her right now.” Now, God wants us to be able to bring his life to others. It should not be hard. It should be very easy. “You just close your eyes right now, and just in a moment the presence of God will come on you. Thank you Lord, for your presence coming right now, the Presence of God.”

In other words, don’t just try to fix a problem; bring them to the source of life. Don’t just try and get rid of demons, bring people into a place of life in Christ; and we’ll show you some ways of doing that.

“Just come. Come. Just take my hand. Close your eyes. Just open your heart to receive; and let the presence of God just touch you like that.” So, we believe for God’s presence to come. We’re called to carry the presence of God. So, have a vision for people carrying the presence of God, rather than living under demons. We’re often so negative in the way we think about things. So, we think – “oh, demons. Got to fix them up”; but think that people are made for God’s Spirit. So, we want them to be carriers of the presence of God; to have a life that God fills. So where before they were under demonic influence, now they’re under the influence of the Holy Spirit. The presence of God is touching them.

“Come. Close your eyes. Holy Spirit come on her; come on her right now; and we can just open ourselves to the presence of God.” I always want to know how does this happen? How do you build then, a life that God lives strongly in? It can’t be hard, it must be easy. I want to help you in that part of it as well. So, what are the things we look for that we need to confront? How do we deal with them? How do we begin to build people’s life in God, so they move from being demonised to being filled in Spirit and power?

If you only think of deliverance as casting out the demons, you’ll be happy to chase the demons; but if we think that God’s heart is concerned about getting people filled with the Spirit, then our desire is not just to confront the demons. It’s to move people in their life in what they experience. Amen.

# Foundations for Freedom (2 of 8)

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*Explore the different doors of entry into a person's life, from generational curses to inner vows. We get freedom through the Power of the Holy Spirit, by what Jesus has won on the Cross for us. He won the total victory, which was utterly complete, covering all intentional and un-intentional sin. As you open your heart, and take ownership for your sin, rather than blame others, and then repent and release forgiveness, healing and freedom will flow into our lives.*

We want to look now at some of the doors of entry for evil spirits; common ways that spirits enter people; and what to do about dealing with them. If we just try to confront spirits, and we don't deal with the root issues, you'll find that it's very difficult to get them free, and then they tend not to stay free. So, we want to look then at just some of the ways that spirits would enter a person's life. Some of these, you will be aware of; there may be some new ones. We'll look at each one, and then look at what you would need to do to deal with that specific issue.

We looked at three main areas: 1.) Legal rights – we're going to look at legal rights. So, we want to understand: what does this mean; what are some examples of doorways that spirits use; and then how do we demolish that legal right.

Before I go into the list of that, I want to look at what Jesus did for us on the cross. We're just going to look at 3 areas of scripture, and we'll see the extent of Jesus' work on the cross, and realise that He addressed every area that we need to deal with. Then, when we look at each specific area of ministry, we will look at how you would address the problem. Before we go to the doorways, we're looking at foundations for freedom.

First of all, we look in Colossians 2:13-15: " And you, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."

We see here what Jesus has done on the cross. It says: He forgave us ALL our trespasses. A trespass is an intentional breaking the law of God. So, Jesus has forgiven ALL our trespasses; and it says: “He wiped out the list of requirements against us, contrary to us, took it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.” Jesus completely removed something that was written against us. In other words, every law of God that you broke - whether you knew it or didn’t know it, every possible violation of God’s law that has been listed and recorded against you. Sometimes it’s hard for us to understand that everything is recorded.

In the Old Testament, deliberate breaking of the law had an offering required. Also, if we sin through ignorance, there was still an offering required. Can you imagine someone and they’re watching your life; and the angel has a big role in recording every breaking of the law. For some of you, he’s writing very fast, it’s a very big roll! It’s a hard-working angel writing down all these things. The Bible says: Jesus took the whole roll. It says: He took it to the cross.

So, everything the devil could say to you: ‘Hey, you did this. Oh, you did that’. Every kind of accusation he could make, he just points to the scroll – “See. On this day, at this time you did this.” Every possible error, mistake you’ve made. Jesus took it all to the cross. Notice what it says: when He took it to the cross, He forgave all the trespasses. Forgive means: release the debt. The devil says: you sinned, you must pay. Jesus took it to the cross - release! Every person released!

Then it says: “Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them”. So, when Jesus took our sin to the cross, He’s removing the weapons the devil has against you. He’s removing, and taking away, all his weapons. We see in Colossians 2 - every possible sin, every possible legal right the devil has for you, Jesus took it to the cross, shed His blood, in order that that can be broken.

Remember we saw the scripture in Luke 11 – “Remove the armour. Remove the sin.” We must confront the sin issues. God has a remedy for sin. If you say: “Oh, it’s just my weakness, you know.” Oh, ok - it’s not sin then, it’s not going to go to the cross. However, if we acknowledge sin, we bring it to the cross. 1 John 1:9 – “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” We notice what Jesus has done. At the cross He took all our trespasses. So, if a person is demonised, and the cause is

sin - take the sin to the cross. People just want you to pray for them. We must bring the truth to them, and point them to God's solution.

The second scripture's found in Galatians 3:13-14 – "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." You notice now that the issue of curses are addressed. These two verses talks about blessings and cursings.

Let's have a look at blessing. "The blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ, we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith". A blessing are: words spoken that bring power. Notice that blessing means: receiving the Holy Spirit. To be blessed, is to receive an impartation of the Holy Spirit, enables us to go forward in life. So, the blessed life is empowered by the Holy Spirit. A blessed life is living in the flow of God's spirit.

It says in verse 13 – "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law". Cursings are words spoken that have spiritual power behind them, spiritual power that's destructive. The power behind a curse is an evil spirit. So, it says that Jesus became a curse for us. There is a little known verse in the Old Testament that says that everyone who goes to death on a tree is a cursed person. This was written hundreds of years before the Romans invented crucifixion. So, when the Romans put Jesus to death by crucifixion, the very method of death that they chose meant all curses of humanity fell on Him – all generational curses, the curses of God's laws being broken, all the curses of Deuteronomy 27, all of those curses were broken at the cross. Christ redeemed us. In other words, He paid the full price. It is a legal price. He paid the price to ransom us away from the captor.

So, when you are dealing with people, if there're cursings resting on their life, whether they are generational or other kinds of cursing, the blood of Jesus shed at Calvary is the remedy. We must bring curses to the cross, where their power is broken. So, every time you face someone who has a cursing around their life, there is a process of bringing that cursing to the cross, where its power is broken, and release of the Holy Spirit and blessing comes. When we are ministering in the area of cursings, we would expect deliverance from evil spirits, and a release of the presence of the Holy Spirit. We'll show you what to do with those a little

later.

Let’s have a look at Isaiah 53. These are good scriptures to know and to memorise. There is a legal ground for us to be set free. If evil spirits use legal grounds to enter us, then God removes the legal grounds to free us. So, when you are ministering to someone, remove the legal grounds; and the evil spirit has no room to remain there. Let’s have a look in Isaiah 53:3, and I want you to notice as we read these 3 verses, I want you to read the scope of Jesus’ work on the cross.

“He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.” Here it is – “Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows”. Grief means to be weak, sick, diseased, to be afflicted. Sorrow means mental and emotional pain. So, He bore our griefs and our sorrows. Verse 5 – “He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities”. Transgression is an intentional breaking of God’s law. Iniquity is the crookedness inside us that bends us towards sin. Iniquity is the twist towards sin. So, He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquity. “The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

So, we see here, in the 3 scriptures we’ve read, at the cross, Jesus dealt with our sins and transgressions. He dealt with all curses that are against us, He dealt with our griefs and sorrows, our traumas and painful experiences we’ve had, and He dealt with our iniquities, the crookedness in us that leads us away from God. So, Jesus made full reconciliation for us.

Our part is then: how do we apply this? You remember in the Old Testament they had to apply the blood. It wasn’t enough that the blood was shed; the blood had to be applied (to the door). So, always, we have to apply what God has done. In other words, there’s a faith action people must take, to apply the work of Christ to their life. So, when you are working with people, there is a part you play; and a part they play. They have a part in their own freedom.

For example, when you consider salvation - Jesus died on the cross for people to be saved, for every person to be saved. So legally, every person can be saved;

but for salvation to manifest in their life, there's something they must do - they must repent and believe. So, there's always something people must do, to position themselves for God to work. Our role is to work with people to bring them to a place where they apply what Jesus has done to their life - first to get free; second to stay free. They need to apply what God has done for them. It requires faith. So, there's always the foundation you must lay in a person's life for them to be free.

I found the most common reasons people are not freed, or don't stay free, is that the roots have never been pulled out of their life, or the person hasn't cooperated in the process. So, we will now look then at the foundations for freedom; and we looked at what Jesus has done. However, every person also has a part to play. They have something that they must do.

I will give you a list of the things that people must do. Number 1, a person must recognise and take responsibility for their life and their failures. It's very common for people to want to blame someone. It's common for people to want to make excuses; but a core part of a person getting set free, is taking responsibility for their own sin, and their own failure.

For example, in Proverbs 28:13 – "He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy." So, if we conceal our responsibility for our life - usually people do that by blaming someone else, or minimising it, or just denying there's a problem. So, if we deny or minimise or blame someone else, this is frustrating the work of God to set them free. If you're working with someone, and they won't own up and take responsibility, you can't go any further. If a person doesn't recognise what their part in this is, they won't actually get free. I find this very common; the biggest challenge is to help people see the truth, because often people cover it or bury it or pretend it isn't as bad as it seems.

I had one woman I was praying for recently, and she was struggling because she could not get pregnant. She wanted a family, and I talked with her and listened to her story. I said to her: "You have a family already. You have 4 children, but you took the life of each of your children. The children are in heaven now. They're real people. They have a name. What you have done, is created the problem you have now, where you can't conceive." So, it was quite difficult for her to come to face the reality, that her inability to have children now, is because she'd had 4

abortions.

I said: “If we’re going to pray for you to be healed and have children, you have to face the reason why you’re in this condition. You have 4 children in heaven, whose lives were cut short by your hand; and Jesus knows them all. You need to come to Him, He has forgiven you, you need to reach out to Him and receive that forgiveness. Then, we can pray for you, that the results of the sin can be healed.” She preferred to be healed without dealing with the reason why she was like this. So, I said “You need to come to forgiveness, first of all, and to acknowledge the children you have, and what you did.” So, God touched her very deeply, and she named each of her children. So, the first challenge in working with people is to find out what the roots of the problem, and bring people to the place of recognising and being responsible.

You’ll see this in 2 Timothy 2. It says in 2 Timothy 2:24 – “And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel, but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.” You notice in this verse, you see a person who is taken captive. In other words, there’s someone who has gotten influence over their life, and they’re acting against their will, they’re doing things according to what the devil wants them to do. There’s a need to get out of that snare, or out of that trap.

You notice that the key to getting out is the person has a truth encounter. You share with them the truth. If they acknowledge the truth and come to repentance, then they can escape the snare of the devil. Notice it says in verse 26 “they may come to their senses”. The word literally means “to sober up again”. So, when you share the truth with the person, often there’s a conflict for the person to come to admit that’s what’s happened; that’s when they can come free. As you are working with people, you may find that there’s almost like a conflict going on, like confusion in their mind, until they acknowledge the truth. You notice that acknowledging the truth and repenting, precedes getting out of the snare.

In our process of working with people, we will ask questions to diagnose the problem, present people with the truth, and then show them the journey out of their problem; then confront them with power. Does it make sense? We spend time asking the questions, diagnose the problem to its roots, and help them see

the truth. If they'll acknowledge the truth, and come to the place of repentance, you can set them free. If they don't acknowledge the truth, or are unwilling to repent, they don't get free; or if you get them free, they don't stay free. So, always in our ministry, it's a ministry of the truth, and then the power.

As I was talking with this woman, and she was a leader of some years, she was very distressed at not being able to have a child. When I said 'You have 4 children', you could almost feel like this fog of confusion around her. I had to be quite slow and clear in trying to help her see the truth, because she had believed a lie: this is just something I got rid of, it's solved a problem in my life; but I had to get her to understand 'Actually, you have 4 children. They live in heaven'. The reason you have the problem, is because you've taken their lives. Of course, she had all the reasons why she had to do this, and how she buried all of the pain related to it.

I said: "We can't proceed for freedom, until you face the reality. This is what the Bible says about this situation." You could feel the confusion around her mind, and then suddenly you could see it come clear, and she realised what she'd done. Then, she began to grieve over what she had done; and then we're in a place to pray and minister to her, because she'd acknowledged the truth and come to a place of repentance. So, always in our ministry, it follows kind of like a process of diagnosing the problem, find the roots, and bring the person to be responsible for what they've done. At first she was very bitterly blaming people. I said to her: "While you blame people, you remain a victim. You can't be free, if you blame someone else. If you blame someone else, then you are giving them the power for the situation. If you take responsibility, you are now becoming empowered."

So, the first area that you will strike or work with people is, they must recognise and be responsible for their sin. Once a person has recognised and taken ownership, then something can happen. I had one woman that I prayed for, well I was going to pray for, I was asked to pray for her; and she said: "I've got this man who wants to marry me. What should I do?" That's always a trick question! So I said: "Tell me about your situation." She said: "Oh, well I was going with him for quite a while, about 3 or 4 years, and then we broke up. I went with another man, I had a child to him and now we're broken up too. So, now this man wants to marry me." I said: "Can you tell me why you broke up?" She said: "He was unfaithful to me 3 times." I said: "Sounds like a good reason to break

up. Maybe after number 1 would be better. Is he a Christian?" "No he's not a Christian."

I said: "I don't think we should keep talking. The answer's very obvious. He's been unfaithful 3 times, he's had no change in his heart - he's going to keep doing the same." But I could tell she wasn't listening, because what she wanted is to marry this man. I said: "By the way, tell me about your own family. Tell me about your father." "Oh, I don't see my father." "Why is that?" "Well, our family broke up when I was 13; and he lives somewhere else now." I said: "Out of interest, why did it break up?" "Oh, he was unfaithful." "Just out of interest, how many times?" "Oh, 3 times."

Now, it was quite unusual that that came out like that. I said: "You have bitter roots against your father, and judgements against him, you have never dealt with. This is why you are attracted to the same kind of man, and are blind to what he's really like. So, this relationship is a disaster. You need to deal with the bitter roots in your heart against your father." To my surprise, she said that she couldn't see it. Actually, she didn't want to see it. She just wanted to marry this man. So, I said: "I'm sorry. I can't help you. You won't face the truth, that you have deep bitterness and demonic spirits inside you."

So, when working with people, the first part is the diagnosis and establishing what the problems are. Help the person to see their part in it. Then there are some steps out of it.

1.) Recognise and take responsibility.

2.) Repentance and confession of sin. It's crucial if a person's to come free, that the sin issue is dealt with. If sin creates the legal rights, sin has to be removed; and it's removed by repentance and confession. 1 John 1:9 – "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." So, we need to deal with sin. People need to repent and deal with this issue of sin. Repent means turning away from it. Sin leads to death. Turning away from it leads to life. Many times, if you find deliverance difficult, it's because the person has not really repented.

3.) The person must release forgiveness. Mark 11:25 – "And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him; that your Father in

heaven may also forgive you your trespasses." Forgiveness is another major reason why people are not free.

Unforgiveness keeps the person's soul bound to the demonic spirits, and whatever's been done against them. When a person is holding unforgiveness, they usually have resentment and anger in their heart because some injustice has been done, something's been taken from them. It may be real or it may be imagined, but unforgiveness is a debt they must pay. It's a demand: you owe me! It could be against a father – you broke up our family, I've suffered these years - you owe me. So, it's a demand that there be a repayment of some kind.

Forgiveness is: we're letting go of that demand. "I release you. You don't have to say sorry. You don't have to pay me back. You don't have to do anything. I have let go my demand." So, if we're going to get people set free, we need to understand the importance of forgiveness. In Matthew 18:34-35, Jesus said: "If you do not forgive every person, his brother, from their heart, then you'll be delivered to tormentors." In other words, evil spirits have a legal right; they can access your life, if unforgiveness remains in your heart.

Now, I have found increasingly, this is a problem. It's not enough just to tell the person – "Hey, you need to forgive." The person must let go from the heart. It has to be a heart decision: to move from death to life. "I let go the unforgiveness, I release forgiveness, and I'm willing to bless the person." Jesus said: "Bless those who curse you, forgive those who despitefully use you. Pray for them." So, forgiveness is letting go and blessing. So, I have found, rather than just mechanically say: "You have to forgive"; and then the person prays a prayer, but their heart isn't in it - they generally don't get free. Forgiveness is a decision. It is a choice; but it needs to involve the heart. It needs to be a heartfelt letting go.

So I found often, people pray a simple prayer to forgive, but in their heart they have not let go, because they've buried the hurt and buried the anger. So, if you're working with people, I've found this is a helpful approach. Sometimes you may be aware a person's been deeply hurt by someone. Now, let me help you understand this.

If Jonathan comes to me saying: "Pastor Mike, can you forgive me. I've caused some damage. Will you forgive me?" I say: "Yeah. Yeah. No problem." Now, the question is, he didn't tell me what he did; and I didn't ask. Was this a dollar; or

was this a million dollars? How much have I been affected by what he did? If it's a dollar, I say "Hey, nothing." If it's a million dollars... "Ahh. You ruined my life! All these years I save and you've taken it all away! You want me to forgive you?! I'm so angry."

You notice now, there's a difference - I have got connected to my loss. Now when I forgive, I understand what I'm letting go. Many times when people forgive, they just say a prayer from the head, but the heart isn't really in it. So it helps, when you're working with people, to address the pain of the heart. What did this person do? How did it affect you? How do you feel about this? Now, a lot of people just deny how they really feel. It's very common in Asia. They endure, with a knife in the heart; but bitter, very bitter inside. When people are bitter, it shows up – sharp words, the bitterness flows like a river, and it defiles.

So sometimes before I pray for a person for deliverance, I get them to talk or to write, how this thing has affected them. How do you feel about this? Are you angry? How angry are you? Because often people have pushed it down; and I found it very helpful, I just interact with the person through questions, because the moment the person acknowledges the feelings, they start to connect with the heart. When you think about this person, what do you feel? "Oh, I don't think about them at all!" Yeah, because you want to avoid! But when you think, what do you feel? Afraid, angry, hurt. So, let the person bring these things out.

Sometimes I get people to write an "anger letter". It's never to be seen by anyone but them and God. It's to take out of the heart, and put the feelings in front of themselves. Sometimes with the father, sometimes with the mother, sometimes with other people; I tell them: "When you write the letter, write the good things first. Then start to say a bit... because if they don't write the good things first, they'll go through this process. They start to talk about the bad – "oh he's so mean to me". "Oh but he wasn't that bad". "Oh, I feel so angry about this." "Oh, but he wasn't that bad. He was kind." So they can't connect with the heart.

If the issue is with your father, write down all the good things, and say 'thank you for the good things'. Then, write down the things that have caused hurt and pain; and write how you feel, and allow the feelings to come out, and then grieve over them and weep over them. Now release forgiveness - you know what it is you're letting go of. "I release them, I forgive them, I bless them." Forgiveness is very important for being free. God calls me, not to live in this place that

demands on people, but to live in a place of blessing on people.

So sometimes I'll just stop ministry, and get the person to journey through the process of facing their feelings, and expressing them, and forgiving - especially if the person has been abused or traumatised. So release forgiveness. "I forgive them, I bless them." I encourage a person, if this has been a deep longstanding pain with a family member, for the next 3 weeks or so, each time you worship God, think about that person, put your arms around them and bless them and pray for them; because you can't do that, and have anger and hurt in your heart. These are foundations for people to get free. Failure to recognise sin stops the whole process. Failure to repent of sin stops the process. Failure to forgive stops the process.

The next thing is that people need to renounce or cancel bondages in their life. I'll explain what these are, and how you do it. Bondage can be as simple as a generational curse. It could be an inner vow a person made. Like for example, I was praying with a person recently, and she was trying to get pregnant. As I spoke with her, I asked her: "Have you been pregnant before?" She said: "Yes. We have one child; and I want another child, but I've had 3 miscarriages." I said: "Tell me about the first child, and the process of pregnancy." It was extremely painful, extremely difficult for her. I said: "Did you ever make an inner vow – I will never have another child again." She said: "Yes I did." I said: "That's what's happening. Your body is reacting. It is rejecting each new child. You've made an inner vow – I will never have another child. You need to renounce and break that curse over your life."

So I'll identify the specific things to renounce shortly. There it is: Recognise; take responsibility; repent and confess sin; release forgiveness; renounce any bondages, speak words to cancel them; and then reach out for God to set you free. So, we see now, the foundations for freedom. Notice the last one I had – you reach out to Jesus to set you free, because otherwise, people make an idol out of you in ministry. They want you to fix them up. They put the responsibility on you, rather than being responsible to reach Jesus for the help.

[Demonstration and Exercises]

I'll just show you what I mean. I'll just demonstrate something with you. I just need one volunteer. Just please stand here. Can I take your hand? So when it

comes to ministering to people, if the person looks to you, to come-through for them, there is a pressure that comes from them. You are under pressure to perform. You're under pressure to do something; and pressure from people can lead to quite strong witchcraft. Jesus never allowed Himself to be pressured by people over ministry. He always did what He saw the Father doing, or was moved with compassion.

I have found a very simple thing you can do. It's something like this: "I want you to close your eyes now, and I want you to look towards Jesus. From within, look towards Him, expecting for Him to touch you." Now, I've directed her attention away from me. So immediately, pressure comes off. I've directed her towards the Lord, expecting to receive; and even as she does that, the presence of God will start to come on her. There's a flow of God's presence. Now, if I was to do the same thing, not focus on her, or trying to fix her, I just set my attention, focus my attention on Jesus, the source. His presence starts to come, and she starts to feel the anointing come on. Ministry flow needs to be Holy-Spirit-directed. So, we work with the person's heart, to open up to the Holy Spirit; and then we listen for him [Whoosh] and it's very easy to minister his power.

So, always turn the person towards Jesus for their help, because people tend to want you to fix them; which makes them a victim, and you're the rescuer. That's not empowering, because here's what happens: if I'm the victim, and you have to rescue me, then if I don't get free, it's your fault. 'I need someone more anointed. I come for someone more anointed.' Same thing, "you have to get me free. It's your responsibility". See, I'm still thinking like a victim, rather than being empowered; but if it's my decision to receive and respond in faith, then my faith will release the power of God.

"Just come stand. Just come and stand there. Can I take your hand? Close your eyes and just in your heart, look up to the Lord; and as you look up to the Lord, the presence of God will come on you." See? Just like that. Now, ministry should flow out of rest. You notice, I really didn't do a lot. I just directed him to the answer, and He could feel the presence of God come on him. So, I have noticed in ministry, it's the anointing that flows from within us, the energising power of the Holy Spirit; and there's an anointing that rests on people when they open their heart to the Lord. I can release the power of God very strongly, because we've created an environment for ministry.

So, don't think about having to perform, and fix people. When you think: "I've got to fix you up", then you are the rescuer, they are the victim; and you have to play Jesus to them, and if nothing happens, you'll feel very bad. Next thing, you feel you're the victim. "God, why are you not doing this?" That's a problem - you all know that. So, it's important that you get right alignment for power to flow. I always direct the person's attention to the Lord, away from me, so we are working with the Holy Spirit to administer freedom; and you'll find the flow of anointing comes much more easily.

"Ok. Come? You know you want to be prayed for. That's right. So, just stand there. How're you doing? Alright? Praise the Lord." So, in working with the person now, I need to realise I cannot rescue her. I cannot fix her, and it's not my job. It helps if you realise that. I'm here to represent Christ. I'm here to bring Christ to her; and help her come to Christ. So, my ministry is about bringing her to the one who can rescue her. So if I keep thinking "I've got to fix her", I'm under pressure now to get the right answers. But if I'm just a minister, to bring God to her, and her to the Lord, I can just relax; and ministry always flows best when you are at rest inside. The dove doesn't rest where there's agitation. So, if you are at rest inside, the anointing flows easily. Ok.

So I'll just take her hand, touch her like this. "Now, I want you to close your eyes, and I want you to look up to the Lord, just expecting Him to touch you, expecting His presence to come on you." So, I'm in a place now, I'm just directing her towards the Lord. Now, I can just reach out to the Lord too. "Thank you Lord for Your presence." So, when you're reaching out to the Lord, what do you do? What I do is, I just begin to picture Him standing there; and He's very close to me, and I just fix my eyes upon Him. Jesus said: "What I see the Father doing, that's what I do." So ministry flows easily that way. Connect the person to the Lord, you connect to the Lord, and then it's like it just flows. [Whoosh] Holy Spirit just come. Very easy, and it'll flow very easily.

Now, we haven't gotten into deliverance yet; I just want to show you about positioning people for ministry. So when we're preparing a person, we're preparing their heart to reach out to Jesus for their miracle. You're taking it away from: I fix you up; to: this is your problem, and I'm working with you to find God's solution. Is that clear? Then that keeps a lot of pressure off you and it keeps everyone's thinking right. It has something you'll notice, that when the person's heart is prepared and right, you literally can feel the Spirit of God come

on them. When the person's heart is not right, or there's something missing, it's like the Holy Spirit stays away. Notice that. Notice it.

"Just come. We'll just see if we can do this over here. Can I take your hand? You don't have to do anything. Just close your eyes. I want you to just open your heart to the Lord, like you're opening up doors to let Him in." What I'm looking for now, is just for the presence of God touching her. Every time I do this, I can feel how open a person is to the Lord. You can feel it, because you either feel the Spirit of God settle on them; or you feel like hesitancy, like a lack of flow. Now, the Spirit of God has started to settle on her now. She's just relaxing now. So it becomes easy to minister.

Sometimes you feel like almost an invisible wall. You feel these things. You either feel a flow, or you feel resistance; and you've got to learn to notice those things. Notice the flow. Remember it says in John 7:38 – "Out of your innermost being will flow rivers of living water." So the Spirit of God moves in flows. What I've done is given you some of the foundations of how you prepare the person; some things they do, and then your part is to work with the Holy Spirit, and direct the flow of ministry. Amen?

"Just come again. Ok. That's right." The flow, we're looking at the flow. So I just take his hands, and see, I'm not trying to make anything happen. Just open your eyes and your heart up to the Lord; and I can literally feel the flow of power from heaven coming. Notice all I did was direct him to the source; and watch the flow come; and then I am open to the flow as well. That makes ministry a lot easier for you. Instead of trying to make things happen, become more sensitive to the movement of the Holy Spirit, sensitive to His flow. Sensitive to His moving, listening for Him all the time. Once you move in your thinking that way, instead of just trying to fix someone; we're working with the Holy Spirit. "If I, by the Spirit of God, cast out the demons". Now, we haven't got into casting out yet, we're just getting you to think about working with the Holy Spirit. Amen? Amen.

Alright then, rather than teach some more, I'll get you doing something. That would be probably quite a good move. Perhaps you could put away your books. We've got about 10 minutes to go. I'll get you to do some things. Just remain seated for the moment. I'll show you what I want you to do. Books away... Now, we're all ministers of the Spirit. In other words, God has put an anointing upon

us, and we can stir up that anointing. We can stir the flow of the Spirit. This is what I'm going to get you to do. In a moment, we're going to pray strongly in tongues, and stir up our Spirit man. Then I want you to get into groups of 3. You can go anywhere in the auditorium to be in a group of 3, and this is what we're going to do.

I'll just get a couple of people here. 1,2, 3. Ok. Come. Come on up here. This is just a lot of fun. "You're going to be a catcher. Always have your eyes open." Ok. "You're going to be the one who receives; you can close your eyes." "You're going to minister. Yes? You're going to release the power of God." This is what we do. We're going to follow it step by step. This is how we do it. First step, "Can I practise on you?" "Yeah, do your best". OK then. "Your close your eyes". Take her hand. That's right. Now, I want you to pray in tongues, because praying in tongues, your spirit stirs up. Don't try to do anything yet. Just pray in tongues. I'm just asking her to stir up her spirit. Even while you're doing it, without even trying, the Holy Ghost is coming on her. Ok. Can you feel the anointing on her now? Yeah. It's strong isn't it? Well you just release the power of God from within you, on the count of 3 just blow on her. Holy Ghost come. There you go. Look at that.

"Now, what did you feel?" I'll ask again. "As you began to pray in tongues, did you feel yourself rising up inside? As you prayed in tongues, what did you notice happening to her?" "I felt the Holy Spirit just begin to fill her." "You start to feel like a flow, like something has come on her. It seems like she was then having trouble standing. As you were praying, and she was looking to the Lord, the Spirit of God starts to come on her, and you recognised that. That's great. It's important to recognise the movements of the Holy Spirit. Then you can just quite easily release the power of God." [Whoosh] "Like that. Just from within you. It's not the external things; it's what happens within, by faith."

"Now you notice, I've positioned you so you couldn't push her over. Some people want to push people over - as soon as you do that, you are leaning into your flesh, and not drawing from the Spirit. Yeah? That's exactly what's happening; and the Holy Ghost will lift off you like that. You'll have to push more? Don't do that! People don't like it! If you start to push, they'll push back. Don't like it. No one wants to be pushed. I've seen them go like that. That's not ministry. That's pushing. Good. So you didn't have to do that." "Stand up again." Right, so we're going to get you all to do this. Get into groups of 3. "Can

I practise on you?" "Yes please. Smile." Take a hand. Pray in tongues. Just relax as you pray in tongues. You are stirring the flow of the Spirit; then release the power of God. 1, 2, 3 - power of God. Look at that. That wasn't hard was it? That was easy wasn't it? Was that easy? No problem. Give her a clap.

Ok. Now, you notice, "Can I just take your hand?", if I am praying like this, there's no way I can push her - absolutely no way. Now you can lay hands like this if you like. It's fine to do that; but train yourself to minister to people without pushing, so you learn to release the power of God. "Cough it out. Out in Jesus' name! Let it go. Now, now, now. Loose in Jesus' name. Thank you Lord." Now, we didn't expect that to happen. I wasn't even looking for that to happen. It just started to happen, because we're in the flow of the Spirit. "Thank you Lord. Touch her. Touch. Right now. In Jesus' name. Thank you Lord." Now, what's happened is, the anointing flowed, and then spirits started to manifest. I didn't even want to do that, but it happened anyway. "Thank you Lord. Touch her. Touch her."

Now, we haven't had a chance to look at the root systems, things just started to flush up. So, I'll just listen to God. We'll just pray. "In Jesus' name. Fear.,Spirit of fear: Go. Let her go now. Now, in Jesus' name, release! Release her now, In Jesus' name, let her go. Thank you Lord. Touch her. There we are. There you go. Feel a bit better now? Lord touch her. Just let your power flow out of heaven."

So, when you are in the flow of the Spirit, that's when things happen; so rather than trying to make things happen, learn to flow with the Spirit. You just never know what will happen. So, I'm not asking you to do deliverance; I'm just asking you to get in the flow of the Spirit. There's plenty of time for doing the deliverance later. I just want you to understand the flow of the Spirit. So here it is, we get into groups of 3: one catching, one receiving, one praying. Then just follow me, quickly. Groups of 3. Anywhere you want to go. Find a space.

# Bondages of the Heart (3 of 8)

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*Explore the issues in the heart that can hold us in bondage. Discover that ungodly soul ties, inner vows and word curses are three entry points into our lives, where we can open ourselves to bitterness, jealousy, anger, complaining, addictions, etc, which then become strongholds in our lives, that the enemy can come in and take hold of. This includes other peoples words and actions towards us. As we recognise these traits in our lives, we can take ownership of them, renouncing and releasing them from our lives in Jesus Name.*

[Introduction]

Let's welcome the Holy Spirit this morning. Lord we open ourselves to You, we want You to touch us, we welcome You. May the kingdom of heaven come into this place. May we see your presence established, your kingdom established. We reach out to You Lord today, we thank You for all You've done so far, and all You will do today. In the meeting this morning, in the meeting tonight, we thank You. We treasure Your presence. We love what You do. Most of all, we set our heart on You. We give You the honour Jesus, and we thank You for what You're doing. Amen.

That was very exciting last night wasn't it? I always love it when God moves, just surprises us. I didn't expect that demon to manifest so quickly. Let's just this morning, continue where we were; and as I teach, I'm changing the flow which I normally teach in.

[Summary of Last Session]

What I want to do this session, is I want to look at heart bondages. We'll just quickly look at where we were yesterday. We looked at Jesus was anointed to set people free. We looked at Jesus teaching on deliverance, and how deliverance is a manifestation of the kingdom of God. We saw that Jesus taught that once demons were cast out, they will try to come back and re-enter the person. This has brought deliverance into a lot of discredit over the years, because people have focused on the demons, rather than focused on the issues the person has.

Jesus said that after a person's delivered, and the evil spirit's gone out, they will seek to re-establish their hold in the person's life. So we saw as a result of that, the need to deal with underlying root issues. In other words, our role is not just to cast out demons, but it's to bring the person out of darkness and into light. It's to help them journey in their life so they're walking with God. We saw one of the scriptures in Ephesians 4 – when is a thief, not a thief? It's not when he stops stealing; it's when he works and gives.

We identified different avenues, or ways, evil spirits get in. We saw number one, they come in through legal rights. This is where a person has broken the law of God, and the demon claims a right to access. Remember in Jesus' teaching, how the demon says "I will return to my house". If you were listening yesterday, when I began to pray for that girl at the beginning of the meeting, the demon began to speak to me and say "She belongs to me". In other words, the demon is claiming "this is my house"; or that I have a right to ownership. So, it's important, if we're going to set people free, that we remove all rights to ownership. We'll show you how that's done quite simply.

Now, for a Christian, Jesus Christ is their owner. Demons can never own a believer. When the Bible says: "we are redeemed by the blood of Jesus", that means we are purchased, a price has been paid to set us free. A person is saved when they believe in their heart, and confess with their mouth, that Jesus Christ is my new owner, my new lord; and we are moved by the Spirit of God into a new kingdom, with new rights and privileges.

You remember when I was inviting people to come to Christ, I quoted John 1:12; and it says – "To whomever who received Him, even those who believed in His name, He gave the right, the legal right, to become a child of God." So, when we put our trust in Christ, there is a legal standing, we shift in our legal standing, and we are now privileged to be sons of God and heirs. So, a demon can't own a Christian, they can just oppress a part of their life.

You may have noticed at the beginning of the corporate prayer, I led people in a confession of faith. "Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I am redeemed by the blood of Jesus from every curse, every evil spirit, and all the power of sin. I belong to Jesus Christ." This profession of faith helps position the person for deliverance. When the demon says: "she belongs to me", it's absolute nonsense, because the person has already confessed: "I belong to Jesus Christ". Sometimes

I will remind them: “she belongs to Jesus Christ”. So, we saw a major doorway of entry is through legal rights.

A second major doorway is through traumatic experiences, where a person has a painful experience, and it affects them emotionally, and hurts them deeply. Similar experiences can affect different people in different ways. We’ll come back to the trauma area a little later; but let us say this: that when a person has a traumatic experience, the shock can open the door for a spirit to come in. For example, during teenage years, many people have some extremely distressing experiences at school; and the mental pictures and the beliefs that formed often are open doors for demons to affect them.

Then we saw the third area was how people react to painful or traumatic experiences. We’ll come back to each of these a little later.

How is it then that people are set free? What is the basis for setting people free?

We saw first of all, we must know what Jesus has done. We looked at the work on the cross; and what Jesus has done legally for us. You need to know these things; able to quote them, able to speak to demons the Word of God.

Secondly, we looked at what the person’s responsibility is. We found they need to recognise, and take responsibility for their problem. They needed to repent and confess sin, they needed to release forgiveness, and usually to renounce any bondages or agreements that they’ve entered into with evil spirits; and then actually make a stand to resist the devil.

In James 4:7 it says – “Submit to God, or position your life in alignment with heaven. Resist the devil and he will flee from you”. Very clearly from that scripture, we are to position ourselves aligned with God. The word ‘submit yourself’ is the Greek word hupotasso. The word tasso is to position yourself. Hupo is the word beneath. So, hupotasso means literally ‘position yourself and the leadership of Jesus, so together you can get a victory. The word ‘hupotasso’ is a military term. It’s an alignment in God’s order, so that great victory can be won. It would be used of troops aligning for battle. You understand it? It’s not a subservient; it’s actually a functional word.

When it says for example, ‘wives submit to your husbands’, this is not a

controlling, superior kind of thing. It's about alignment for victory. 'Submit to God' means: align your life with God's order. If there's sin, repent. If there's unforgiveness, forgive. If there's bondage, renounce. So, submit. Position yourself you can get the victory.

The second word is the word 'resist the devil'. That's the word antitasso. 'Anti' means against; 'Tasso' means position yourself. You notice the use of the language is 'position yourself under God, so you're aligned for victory'; 'position yourself against the devil, and he must flee or run away from you'. Now, when you look at that scripture, it's quite clearly puts a responsibility for the person to align themselves and take a position in the battle. Remember that scripture - it's a very powerful one to remember, when you're preparing people for ministry. Your role is to help them align with God, and make a stand against the devil.

You can see then, if a person loves their sin, and doesn't really want to let go of the sin; they're not submitting to God, and they're not resisting the devil. If a person is unwilling to forgive, they're not submitting to God, they're not submitting to His order, they're staying on the side of the devil.

In James 4:7 –Submit to God, or position your life in divine order or in align with the kingdom; resist the devil; then it says draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. You see the person is able to move from being oppressed by a spirit, into enjoying the presence of God.

The key point is the issue of change. When we're ministering to people, we want to help them see what their part is in getting free. Otherwise, we have this kind of 'victim culture'; or 'you come to me, I come and fix you'; which keeps the person a victim, and makes you the rescuer. We need to build in people faith for their breakthrough. We need to look at how to do this.

[Main Message]

What I want to do now, is I want to look at some of the bondages that come in the heart. I want to identify what the bondages are in the heart, and how you could break these bondages. Then, we'll go back to the doors of entry, identify each one, and show what you do to help a person get free. What we're going to do now is look at heart bondages.

You remember we saw in Luke 11, the need to remove the armour, so we can then set the person free. I want us to look at a verse in Proverbs 4:23. It says – “Guard your heart with all diligence, for out of it, flow the issues of life.” In other words, be a watchman over your heart. The Bible says: there’s a reason you need to guard, or watch, over your heart carefully; because it’s out of your heart that the borders or limitations of your life are established. What is happening in your heart will always find a way to manifest in the world around you.

Jesus said: when people speak, they speak what is in their heart. In Proverbs 4, it says – ‘out of your heart flow the issues of life’. In other words, we don’t just live from our head and our thoughts; we actually live out of the flow of what’s in our heart. If there’s a root of bitterness if your heart, it will just flow like a river of poison, into every relationship you’re in. It will be demonically empowered; and it will just show up in your life. It will defile all your relationships. So, we need to be able to recognise these things, and to deal with the root.

Inevitably, what’s in the heart will find its way out through the words, or the countenance will be seen by its fruit. For example, if someone is bitter, if you ask them “Are you bitter?” They say “No, of course not.” “Are you harbouring deep anger and unforgiveness?” “No. No. Why do you think that?” If you know what to look for, you will find so many people are very bitter. Let me just share what you look for. These are some signs of bitterness flowing. We’re just going off course now, but I may touch it again another time.

Bitterness shows up in a number of ways.

1.) First of all, it shows on the face – there’s no joy. A bitter person cannot be joyful. Their joy doesn’t last, because their heart is bitter.

2.) Secondly, if a person’s got bitterness, often you can see it on them on their face. It looks sour. It just shows on some people. The older they get, the more it shows - it can’t be hidden. You find some people, when they’re older, they’re sweet and loving; other people when they’re older… You can feel it.

3.) Another way it shows is in sharp words. Sharp, cutting words. The word ‘bitter’ means literally ‘to be sharp’. When you hear sharp, cutting words, bitterness underlies it.

4.) It's also seen by anger that's suppressed. When a person's bitter, they often hold anger underneath. You can literally feel their disapproval, but they're not saying anything.

5.) Another way bitterness shows, is complaining. Complain this, complain that, and complain about something else. They can never rejoice and be thankful.

6.) So, another sign of bitterness is ingratitude; because underlying bitterness is anger and unforgiveness; unforgiveness is a demand. So, when a person is bitter, they can't be grateful for what they have, there's still a demand for what they don't have.

7.) Another evidence of bitterness is blaming. It's all you. You, you, you. That constant blaming, accusing people, is evidence of bitterness, and resentment, and anger.

8.) Another symptom of bitterness is the inability to congratulate other people on their success. So he gets promoted, "Oh, why did he get promoted. He doesn't deserve it." There's an ability to celebrate the victories of other people.

You ask the person "I think you're bitter." "No. Why are you saying this to me?" So, I used that just as an example, to show you that: what is in the heart, will find a way out. These are some of the evidence of bitterness, which is like a root that defiles. So, I just use it to illustrate that if things are in your heart, they find their way out. No matter how much you try to pretend and make your life look good, it flows out; and if you're spiritually sensitive, you can often feel it. It's like there's a tension around the person.

We've established then, that whatever's in your heart will flow out into life. I want to just share with you then, some typical bondages of the heart; and then what do you do to deal with each one of them, because demons will attach to these bondages of the heart and intensify them. It's very helpful, when you're ministering people, to be aware you have to deal with heart issues. Here's a list of some of the ones I have commonly found – bondages that affect the heart of people, and affect their lives. Later on we'll talk about trauma as something specifically separate.

Number one: Ungodly Soul-Ties. A soul-tie is a bonding between one person

and another. It holds them in close connection. It is a bonding between people. God intends that we be connected, and bond to other people. So, bonding is a very important aspect in life. For example, a child needs to bond with its mother, or it never forms secure relationships. So, bonding is the very first skill a child must learn. Bond with the mother; and of course later, it leads to learn to separate.

When they're up to about 15 months, they cling to mum; and they breast-feed, they're looked after. Then, about 2 years old, they become independent. "No, no. I want me." All these kinds of things; but this is normal development. If the child doesn't bond with the mother - and sometimes happens if the mother attempted an abortion, or didn't want the child - then the child has difficulties all through its life, and forms ungodly attachments to try to meet this insecurity. A soul tie then, is a bonding between two people; and the bonding can be very positive and helpful, or it can be ungodly.

Examples that are healthy include: the mother and the child; husband and a wife; members of a church; friends, close friends. So, the bonding is good; it's an attachment that enables you to have close connections. So, we can be bonded. We're made to be bonded and have relationships.

Now, the devil doesn't create anything new. He just perverts what God has set in place. So, a soul tie can be ungodly. An ungodly soul tie is a bonding that is destructive, or brings negative energy into the person's life. They are attached, but it's not healthy. They are attached, and it's an ungodly attachment. They're attached, and demonic spirits use it to defile them. This is far more common than you realise – a soul attachment that is ungodly, and creates a doorway for demonic spirits.

Let me give you some examples of some ungodly attachments. The first one, if people have sexual relationship or intimacy without being married, they bond together; and that is an ungodly soul tie. Sexual relationships before marriage lead to a number of soul ties to the different partners – it's like an invisible cord, attaching the person back to the other person; and their heart wants to return to that person, and it can't fully enter into marriage. They keep remembering the sexual images, and the things they've done together, and demonic spirits torment their soul. So you need to be aware, if you're dealing with sexual sin, it's not enough to cast out the demons; you need to deal with the soul tie. Break the soul

tie.

Proverbs says: a man shall be held by the cords of his sin. I used to think that, like sin wrap cords all around you. I now understand that they're like invisible cords, which take you back to where you sinned, and hold you back in time with that experience. People can be soul-tied to a controlling person. The person is so much under the control of another, it's like there's an attachment to that person; they can't break free and form their own life. A soul tie needs to be broken, because it's like a co-dependant relationship. A person can be soul-tied to an abusive person. Even though they've been hurt, it's like 'I can't seem to break free of the person.'

A person can be soul-tied to someone they have an infatuation with. This is where the danger comes in counselling. If a man counsels a woman, there can be an unhealthy soul-tie formed between them. Maybe one to the other; or it may be just the other way around. Sometimes people get soul-tied to a dead person. In other words, maybe a grandmother – they were very close to the grandmother, because there was a conflict in the family. Even though the person has died, it's like they haven't let go, they're still attached.

People can be soul-tied to pornographic images and websites. So, when men look at a woman, look at pornographic sites and the images, their soul can be attached to those things, and then a spirit comes through that soul tie. One of the worst aspects of pornography is, it actually physically alters the brain; and repeated exposure forms neuron paths in the brain like tracks. So, the slightest trigger, and the man or woman's thinking go down this track towards perverse things.

So there are soul ties that need to be broken. Attachments to images, attachments to websites; because a person becomes addicted to a website, and they may have paid money to go on the website, now they're trading with a spirit of perversion; trading with a spirit of prostitution. So there's a soul tie to the images and to the sites that they've gone to.

With women, it's often like a romantic fantasy. So, they may become soul-tied to some character in a soap opera; or they begin to fantasise about some pastor, some spiritual leader, and have all of these fantasies in their mind – they're soul-tied to them.

People who worship idols can become soul-tied to the idol. So, these are some of the areas where people can become bonded in an unnatural way. It can be that a certain kind of sexual fantasies, the person becomes bonded. So, whenever there's an ungodly attachment, demonic spirits use the attachment as a way accessing the person's life to torment them, and energise that problem.

So, how do you deal with a soul tie? Very simple, there're just two steps to it. First, the person needs to renounce the soul tie. That means to speak words that cancel it. So, they must recognise the attachment, and then renounce it. They must want to turn away from it, not just continue to entertain it. The person then would just say: "In Jesus' name, I renounce this soul tie, I renounce this attachment in my soul to the sexual relationship, to this image, to this idol, to this fantasy, to this website, I renounce the soul tie."

That's the first step. The second step – when you're ministering to the person, speak as though you're cutting something. "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I break that soul tie, I cut that attachment, I break it in Jesus' name". See yourself like you're taking the sword of the Spirit and cutting it. What'll happen is, sometimes demons manifest, even the moment you do that. So, if there're sexual soul-ties to various people, I just picture these long cords going back, and say: "Jesus, I break them, I break them, I break them." When you picture something, it tends to put faith or confidence that what you're doing has effect.

One area I forgot to mention, an important area related to soul ties, is that people can be soul-tied to a trauma. When you minister to trauma, one thing that's important to do is, to break the soul tie to the trauma. It's like the person is frozen in time, and in their memory, they're attached back to something that happened years ago.

The second heart bondage is the area of bitter root judgements. A bitter judgement is a judgement that's made out of feelings of bitterness and resentment. It causes a cycle of reaping to take place in the person's life. For example, "You can never trust a man; they'll always let you down." "You can never trust a woman, they'll always try and control you." "Don't trust authorities, they'll always abuse you." "Never trust anyone; people will always let you down." Now, those are judgements. Bitter judgements often have the word 'always' or 'never' in them. "Never trust a man. They'll always let you down." There are so many different kinds of judgements: "I'll never succeed. I

always fail. Nothing I do ever works out."

You notice there's a common thread of negative bitterness in there. When there is bitterness in our heart, and we make a judgement, it's like negative faith. We begin to attract into our life, the very judgement we've made. Notice what it says in Hebrews 12: 14 – 15, it says "Pursue peace with all people, in holiness without which no one will see the Lord, looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness spring up, cause trouble, and by this, many become defiled." A bitter root judgement is a reaction to being hurt. You may have been hurt by one or two men, and then you judge "all men are like this".

Jesus said in Matthews 7:1-2, "Don't judge, or you will be judged. For whatever judgement you judge with, you will be judged. In the measure you judge, it'll be measured back to you." So, when we face difficult or painful circumstances in life, we choose whether we release grace into it, or judgement. If you release judgement, you set in place a cycle of reaping the very thing you judged. For example, a woman who judges her father bitterly will usually attract a person into their life who's just like their father. It's like a belief that that's what will happen. It literally attracts and draws into the person the very thing that they've judged. You would be amazed how frequently the problem a person has, is a reflection of something they walked away from in their home life.

I prayed for one woman who was deeply bitter that her mother had adopted her. Her whole life had been negatively affected. Then I found to my amazement, she did the very same thing. It's like what she was reaping in her life was the very thing she had judged. So, when you judge something or someone, you set in process of reaping the same thing somewhere in your own life. So, a woman who judges her father will most likely end up attracting a man just like him. A woman who judges her mother will turn out exactly like her. All the time hating it; and not even seeing that she's just like her mother.

So, bitter root judgements are important to cancel. A bitter root judgement is a reaction, judging someone because of a painful experience. Here's the problem: people often forget they made the judgement. Once they make a judgement, it becomes demonically empowered, and then they begin to reap the same thing over and over in their life.

How does the person get out of the judgement? Firstly, they need to recognise there's judgement taking place. Acknowledge the pain, it's important to acknowledge the pain; forgive the person they're angry with; and then cancel the judgement. Renounce it. "In Jesus' name, I renounce each bitter judgement I made against my father. I renounce each bitter judgement I made against men. I cancel that judgement; and I bless and forgive." Then, once that has happened, you can "In Jesus' name, I break that judgement over your life. I break that cycle over your life. Spirits of bitterness - go." Because inevitably, there'll be spirits associated with it.

Another heart bondage is the area of Inner Vows. A vow is a promise you make. An inner is a vow you make into yourself. It's a promise you make as a reaction to being hurt. Usually, an inner vow consists of the words: "I will never", or: "I will". It's an inward vow that's made, and once you make the inner vow, it locks into place in your life, and becomes demonically empowered. Often the person forgets they've made the vow. Whenever there's an inner vow, there'll also be roots of bitterness that are just growing deeper and deeper in the person's soul.

I'll give you an example. I had a woman that came to a Bible school I was speaking at, and she brought her husband and her baby with her. She said: "I want to thank you for your teaching on inner vows." I said: "Tell me what's happened." She said: "Well, I have two children. The first child, the pregnancy was so difficult, that I vowed I would never have another child. I was so sick, and so distressed, I vowed I'll never have another child. After the child was born, I forgot all about that; and I wanted another child; and we tried and we had three miscarriages. I finally decided to come to Bible school. When I heard about inner vows, I renounced the inner vow, I cancelled the vow I had made, and by the end of the year, I was pregnant and we have had another child. We would not have had this child unless we had dealt with the inner vow."

She had vowed to herself: 'I will never carry another child'; and her body responded, and rejected all other children. So, when a woman has miscarried, and it happens several times, you have to consider the possibility that there may be inner vows; or in the case of miscarriages, maybe idolatry.

So, how do you deal with an inner vow? The person needs to acknowledge the pain of the situation; if necessary, release forgiveness; and then renounce the inner vow. Renounce and cancel the inner vow. Then, you can just say: "In

Jesus' name, I break that inner vow. I release you from it." It's just as simple as that. It may be there are spirits attached to it, there could be spirits of bitterness and fear; but the inner vow itself is very easy to break. The person renounces the vow, and you just say: "In Jesus' name, I break that inner vow now. I release you." Sometimes deliverance happens immediately.

I remember one man I prayed for, and he was extremely wealthy, but he was extremely driven. There was no rest inside him. When we talk with him and interacted with him, we found that he had grown up in a family that was very poor; and he had been embarrassed by the clothes they used to wear to school. So, he made an inner vow: "I will never be poor. I will work and have money." Now he had money, he couldn't stop working; and he couldn't enjoy what he had, because in his own heart he believed he was poor, and he was driven by this inner vow. No matter how much he had, it was never enough. He just had to keep working to get more. So, his family was deeply hurt by this drive in his life. He needed to renounce that inner vow, and release or acknowledge the grief and pain he'd experienced as a child.

Here's another one – word curses. A word curse is a negative pronouncement over a person. In Proverbs 18:21 – "Death and life are in the power of the tongue". So, there are two forms of word curses. Firstly, self-cursing; a person speaks words that literally curse themselves. They speak into their own heart words which are negative, destructive. For example, a death-wish: "I just wish I was dead." Often when people are in pain, they make a death wish. "I wish I was dead. I'd be better off dead." They come into an agreement with a spirit of death, and it affects their life, and numbs their heart. So, this is an important area to deal with.

You'll find often when people have been sexually abused, or abandoned in a relationship, or abused in a relationship, they just wish they were dead. So, in a prolonged period of stress and pain, the person may make a death wish. "I wish I was dead." They may forget they made it, but find that their heart is numbed, and they can't seem to experience God, or experience relationships.

The person may have just spoken words of failure into their own life. "I'm useless. I'm stupid. I'm never good enough." Those words become an ungodly belief system in their heart. They're like bitter judgments. "No one will ever want me. No one would ever accept me. I'm unwanted." Almost all of these

things are quite short, but they form a belief structure in the heart, that demons inhabit and use to torment them. When you believe a lie, spirits of death and hell are able to enter and torment.

Word curses can come from other people, for example, words spoken by your parents or authority figures; school teachers; spiritual leaders. Spiritual leaders have to be quite careful, because you can very easily curse people, by speaking words of failure or negative words over them. So, words of failure, name calling. These kinds of things can be like fiery darts, which go into the person.

Sometimes people grow up and they have humiliating experiences at school. Teacher says: “You’re stupid. You’ll never come to anything. You’ll never pass that. You’re a failure.” Those words, if the person agrees with them, they sit in the heart as a negative belief; and then that belief begins to control their life. So you find when you’re dealing with people, or working with people, you just need to be aware of these kinds of word-curses, or failure-statements, that the person believes.

I prayed for one church leader recently, and her father was part of a big family, and they could only afford to educate one son. He was very smart, but the family could not afford to send him to university. So, he became very bitter because of this. He felt, all his life, that he’d been cheated and robbed. He had one child – a daughter. So, he put a pressure on her to live out his expectations. He wanted her to fulfil his dreams, and so he pressured her all the time academically. No matter what she did, it’s never good enough. Constantly he pressured her. Every time she did anything, he would find fault, and he would scold her, and tell her she could do better. So she grew up lacking love and affirmation; and believed in her heart: “I’ll never be good enough”; and she formed bitter judgements against her father.

Then when I checked out her leadership, I asked about her leadership in the church. Guess what she was doing? She was putting huge pressure on her members, trying to get them to perform, just like her father had done to her; and she’s constantly finding fault in them. Nothing they do is good enough. In other words, there was an outflow of bitterness in her life, and it didn’t matter what she did, it was never good enough. So, demonic spirits were tormenting her through these belief systems she had in her heart. These are some of the heart bondages that form, that people need release from.

Another kind of curse that comes over a person is a curse of secrecy, where a person has been sexually abused by someone, and the person says: “you mustn’t tell anyone. If you tell someone, you’ll be responsible for our family breaking down. You’ll kill your father/ mother.” So, this vow of secrecy creates a huge problem over people’s lives. You’ll be surprised, when you’re praying for people who have been sexually abused, how frequently there is this vow of secrecy over them. The result is they live tormented by spirits of death and hell. They are angry, because they want to tell someone about what’s happened, but they’re fearful if they speak, their family will blow up. So, terrible despair and torment comes around people like that.

It’s very easy to deal with these things. Where there are word curses spoken by the person, spoken by someone else, or even vows of secrecy, you just need to: acknowledge this is what it is; the person needs to release forgiveness to those who hurt them; and renounce the words. “I renounce the vow of secrecy. I renounce the vow. I renounce those words I spoke. I renounce that curse I spoke over me. I refuse those words I listened to.” Once the person has renounced it, you just say: “In Jesus’ name, I break the cursing.” Command all spirits associated with the curse to go.

So these are some of the burdens that come on people. You can see then, that bondages that get in the heart affect the person’s life. We’ll in another session on the area of trauma, and how trauma affects people’s heart. So with these bondages of the heart, if you can just be aware of them – soul ties, bitter judgements, inner vows, cursing, self-cursing, and these kinds of things spoken over a person’s life. If we’re aware of those things, we can cancel them and break them, and set the person free. Amen.

It’s quite simple. All you need to do is uncover it, get the person to renounce it, and then cancel its power. Command any spirits associated with it to come out; but if you don’t know those things are there, you’ll try and do deliverance, and there’d be all these areas of bondage, that the demons use to resist. If we remove the structures in the person’s life, the demons must come out. You see, the process of deliverance is not just casting the demons out. It’s looking at the life and heart of the person, tearing down the demonic house, and then confronting the spirits.

In one of the sessions, I will just give you a list of things to look for as you are

working with people, so when someone comes to you with an issue, if you just mentally have this list of things, you can just know where to look. Often the problem is that we don't know where to look. So we try to deal with exterior things, rather than heart things. "Out of the heart flow the issues of life." If the person's soul-tied, break the soul tie. If there are bitter judgements and expectations, break those. If there are inner vows, break the inner vows. If there are word curses, break the word curses. If there are traumatic pictures, break the attachment to the trauma. Then we're able to get the person free quite easily. Amen.

# Legal Right of Entry (4 of 8)

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*Explains three main legal grounds, upon which demons can gain access to your life: generational curses; the occult; and sexual sin. The issues and bondages that come into our lives through these door ways can be broken and cast out by the power of the Holy Spirit, because we are redeemed and set free by the Cross of Jesus Christ. We need to acknowledge and identify these areas of sin; then renounce and release forgiveness as necessary; then call upon the name of Jesus, who will set your free!*

[Review]

Welcome back. We were looking last time, the last session, at the issues of the heart, dealing with root issues in the heart. We explained what some of them were, and how, when people go through difficult experiences, they react, and this forms bondages within their heart. If we don't deal with what lies in the heart, you won't in the end, get the person free.

So, what we've done is to show you some of the bondages that the heart can be gripped by: ungodly soul ties; bitter root judgements and expectations; negative expectations of the future; inward vows; traumatic experiences; word curses. All of these things bring bondages to the heart, and when we're thinking of setting people free, we need to be aware of those bondages, and how simple it is to break them. The challenging part is rebuilding the life forward.

[Main Content]

We want to just look at the area of legal rights. The most common doors of entry are: legal rights that are given up by the person through sin. Again, the key to dealing with each one is usually quite simple. Once you have these keys, and a strategy of working with people, you'll find a huge improvement in the results you get with people when you're ministering to them. So, we looked at some of the heart bondages.

Now let's have a look at some of the legal rights. A legal right is a ground or

area, that the evil spirit claims a right to have a hold on the person. It's always a sin base - either someone's broken the law intentionally, or accidently. So demons really have no power over people, but they try to deceive people, and draw them to break the law of God.

Let's just identify some of the common ones; and with each legal ground, we'll just show you simply how you deal with it.

1.) Generational Curses and Iniquity. A curse is a spiritual power that operates until it's stopped. An Iniquity is crookedness, or twist, or a bent towards a certain kind of problem or failure. So, a generational iniquity or curse is a problem that passes down from one generation to another. From a natural perspective, when you go to the doctor, he'll ask your family medical history; when you go to the insurance company, they'll also ask your family medical history; because they recognise that some weaknesses or illnesses come down genetically through the family line.

God considers us connected generationally, so spiritual influences can run from one generation to another. If you violate the laws of God, and open the door for an evil spirit, then generations after you can experience the effect of that.

For example, in Exodus 20, God speaks to His people about idolatry. In verses 3 – 6: "You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments."

So God is speaking here about the generational consequences of idolatry. To "visit the iniquity" means the crookedness, or tendency to sin, spreads from one generation to another. If you think 4 generations, you're thinking – you, your father, grandfather, great-grandfather- there's a lot of people in that family grouping. In one part I think Deuteronomy 23, it says – illegitimacy brings a curse from to 10 generations. In Deuteronomy 23 it also says that incest will bring a curse for 10 generations. So just to summarise: the sins of one generation can have consequences that go on for generations.

So what happens is, a demonic spirit that enters the family line; and because you are legally and genetically connected to that family line, the evil spirit has a right of access to your life. So many times when we're praying for people, we find that the source (or the root) where this problem began was beyond them, but was in their family line. So when families have been involved in idolatry, or with forms of spiritism, divination, sorcery, there's an open door created in the family line.

Now, we are not responsible for what our parents did; we are only responsible for what we do. However, the consequences of what they do, we can experience. How is it that these problems keep repeating one generation to another? Some of it may be in the DNA. Scientists don't yet know enough about DNA to know how it could be corrupted by sin, so some can be genetic. Some are spirits, evil spirits that are in the family line. Some behaviour is just learnt – people copy their parents. We need to understand that Jesus has made room for this power of iniquity and cursing to be broken.

Let me give you an example of a generational curse. I was asked by a woman in New Zealand to pray for her. I said: "What is your problem?" She told me the problem, and what I always ask is: when did this problem begin; because it can give a clue if a situation is generational. This is the problem she had: she was tormented in her mind by sexual images. They were sexual images of a perverse nature; and she was single, and she was a Christian worker. I said: "Have you ever been involved in sexual sin?" "No." "Have you ever been sexually abused?" The answer was no. "How long have you had this problem?" "Pretty well most of my life."

So when a person says: "Most of my life", or "It began when I was young", this is a clue it could be generational. So I asked about her family background, and it was very interesting what she told me. Her grandparents had been missionaries in China, and they had a son and a daughter. They sent the children to school in another province, and when the Japanese invaded China in the 30s, they took over the province that these kids were at school; the children were taken prisoner by the Japanese, and the girl was sexually abused by Japanese soldiers. She was about 12 or 13. Eventually the children were rescued, and the parents left the mission field. This woman grew up, she got married, and she had one child - the girl who I was praying for - and the marriage broke up.

Now it's not surprising the marriage broke up, because she carried the trauma of sexual abuse by these Japanese soldiers; and in those days, you just didn't talk about anything, you just buried it. So when she was sexually abused, demonic spirits entered the family line; and these were the cause of this young girl, who's now grown up, being traumatised. The problems this woman was facing, did not originate with anything she had done. They originated in what had happened to her mother, and so the spirits had come down the family line, and were affecting her. We led her to pray and forgive the Japanese soldiers, to stand on behalf of the family and break the cursing that's over them, and then she was delivered, and her mind cleared.

I've prayed for many people that the cause of their problem has been generational. Young men, young women, tormented with demons, and it's not their fault. It came down the family line. This is particularly so if there's: idolatry; any form of spiritism; any form of sexual perversion; a door is opened for these cursings to come.

When you're working with people, and you're trying to solve a problem in their life, inquire to search for when this problem began. The person is responsible for their own life, just like this woman's problem was her problem. It was her battle. It was her demons. But the root where this thing had got established was generational. So when you're working with people, try to assess whether the problem has got a generational root that's energising the problem.

I remember coming across this first in a Christian school; and we observed an interesting thing. We had all these children, they all had to learn or memorise Bible verses; and there were 3 children in the school, they could remember anything except the Bible. There were 2 from one family, 3 from another family. None of them could remember scripture. They'd learn it; then it's gone! They could not hold scripture in their mind; but they could learn other things. I really prayed to find out why it is these children cannot learn scripture.

Then I came across it one day. The parents, the father in both families, had been involved with freemasonry. They'd been involved as a freemason. They'd made these curses, or these oaths of allegiance to freemasonry, and it had opened the door for evil spirits to come into the family. Even though the children had done nothing, there were demonic spirits that tormented and stopped them from retaining spiritual things. So when we broke the curses of freemasonry, they

were able to memorise scripture. It's like there was a confusion that left. There were no big manifestations; just they were able to learn scripture. That was one of my first experiences of how curses can come down family lines.

I've prayed for very many people where the origin of the problem was in their family background. If you check the family tree, the problems are quite easy to pick up. If you start to pray for them to be exposed, it's quite surprising how they just suddenly come out to the open. Now there are usually indications that a spirit is operating, or a curse is operating. I'll give you some examples of a curse operating; what sorts of things you'd be looking for. If you look into the family tree, these are the kinds of things you'd look for, and these are all located in Deuteronomy 28.

Here they are, just quickly and simply. So if there are curses operating in a family - there may be a pattern of mental or emotional breakdowns; there may a chronic sickness and disease that won't go away; there may be patterns of barrenness or miscarriages, bleeding problems; there may be marriage and family breakdowns; there can be financial setbacks and losses; you could have problems with being accident prone; there could be a history of suicides or violent deaths; there could be a pattern of mistreatment or abuse; there could be patterns of inability to settle – the person's constantly moving around; or the person may just find that there's constant spiritual problems.

So, when you're working with someone, try to track the problems to the root, because often they're in the family line. How do you deal then, with a demonic curse, or curse operating in the family line? It's actually really quite simple. I'll give you the steps.

First, it has to be recognised of course. So, we would identify – "Look, this began in your family line, and it's continued with you." So this is what you do... This is what the person needs to do: Firstly, the person needs to renounce the curse in the family line, as a representative of the family. They need to stand up, representing the family, and renounce the curse. If they have sinned themselves in the same way, they need to ask forgiveness for being a part of this. Thirdly, they need to release forgiveness to family members who opened the door for the curse. Release forgiveness. Finally, place the cross of Jesus between them and their family line, and ask Jesus to set them free.

So if you are praying for someone, and there's a generational curse, you lead them in a prayer, something like this. 1) Confession of faith: "Father I come to You in Jesus' name. I confess Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I'm redeemed by the blood of Jesus from every curse, every evil spirit, all iniquity. I belong to Jesus." That's called a profession of faith.

"I stand as a representative of this family. I renounce this curse. I cancel its power. I break all agreements made with evil spirits in my family line. I break all dedications of children to idols and temples - in Jesus' name." You see, we've dismantled the things that have been done, by speaking words. So first, the profession of faith, position yourself. Second, stand and speak to break the curses. Third, release forgiveness. Then get the person reach out to Jesus to get them free.

I'll go through it again now and pray a prayer. Firstly, the confession of faith: "Father I come to You in Jesus' name. I confess Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I'm redeemed by the blood of Jesus from every curse; every evil spirit; all iniquity. I stand now as a representative of my family. I renounce every curse, every generational curse, all agreements my family have made with evil spirits, every dedication of children to evil spirits. I cancel all of those agreements now. I hold the cross of Christ between me and my family line. Lord I ask You to forgive me for where I've participated in this sin; and I forgive my family members who opened the door to this spirit. Now Lord, I ask that You set me free. Satan, go from my life now."

Notice in making up that prayer, it consists of those things which I shared with you were foundations for freedom. Confession of faith; recognising and being responsible for the sin; repenting of it; releasing forgiveness; and then renouncing and resisting the devil. The exact order you pray these things, and the exact wording, is not important. Catch the process and the way of handling it. I'll just go through it again.

"Father, I come to You in Jesus' name. I confess Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I'm redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ from every curse, all iniquity, and every evil spirit. I belong to Jesus Christ. I stand as a representative of my family. I renounce every generational curse, all agreements my family have made with evil spirits, all dedications of children idols and temples. I renounce and cancel all of these agreements. I hold the blood of Jesus Christ, and the cross

of Christ, between me and my family line. Lord I ask You to forgive me, where I have participated in these sins; and I release forgiveness to my family members who opened the door to that sin. Lord, I reach out to You to set me free. Satan, go from my life now."

Ok. Now that's a simple prayer. Then, often as you lead them in that prayer, the demons start to manifest. So then all you have to do is very simply this: "In Jesus' name, I break the family curses... break them in Jesus' name." See it like something attached to the person - and speak to it. Speak with authority; not loud, but firm. "I break that curse. I break all agreements with evil spirits. I break dedications to idols and temples. I break this curse in Jesus' name. I break soul ties to idols. Now I command these spirits to come out. Out, in Jesus' name."

It's not hard, once you get the understanding of the flow of ministry. When a person sins, they enter into legal agreements with the demon; so by confession, they are reversing it all. Confessing their faith in Christ; bringing sin to the light; cancelling its consequences; and then reaching out to Jesus to set them free. It's quite easy to do it. How many reckon you can do that? That's not so hard, quite simple!

Now remember, depend on the Holy Spirit to guide you. Don't worry about trying to get the exact wording right, or you'll focus on methods rather than the flow of the Spirit. So that's one major doorway of entry, and it's a very common one.

2.) Another common one is occult involvement. In Deuteronomy 18: 9 – 13, ""When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations, the LORD your God drives them out from before you. You shall be blameless before the LORD your God."

People have a fascination, or a fear, of the spirit world. Today, the media are invading the generation of young people, with supernatural videos and movies

and all kinds of things like that. There is a generation arising hungry for the supernatural, and there's a generation existing, that's afraid of the supernatural.

In every culture you go, people are aware of a hidden spirit world; and people reach out into that spirit world, hoping for usually one of three things, or more. They reach out for protection, because they're afraid of the evil spirits; they make offerings to them, not realising that when they make the offering, they're now submitting and trading with the demon. So when a person makes any offering to an idol, or any kind of sacrifice to an evil spirit, it is now trading with a demon, and the demon has legal access to their life. They have done a trade. Trading is an agreement. The moment a person bows to an idol, or makes an offering, it has come into agreement with an evil spirit.

Usually it's for protection; or it can be for provision – blessing on life and finances; or it's to get power over their enemies. It doesn't matter what culture you go into, you will find people involved in the spirit world.

The major branches of the occult are twofold. 1) Divination. Divination is another word for fortune telling. Chinese love fortune telling, they love it! When they become Christians, they want to have a Christian fortune-teller: "Please come and prophesy for me."

So fortune-telling is reaching to the spirit world for guidance. How accurate is that guidance? The reality is that the spirit world is very highly connected - it's like there's a demonic internet. They can connect and communicate. So when you reach into the spirit world, you do not connect with a ghost of an uncle, or father, or mother. The Bible says it is appointed to man once to die; after that, judgement.

So people connect with a familiar spirit -a spirit which can give information about the family which is accurate. Because spirits observe people, they're aware of what they do; and if you consult someone who's connected to an evil spirit, you can receive information about your family which may be quite accurate; but in doing so, you come under the influence of the spirit. You've invited it now to speak into your life.

Evil spirits do not know your future - it is hidden from them. Some aspects of your life are open to them, but they see things God is bringing to you, and they

try to disrupt that. If a person goes to a fortune-teller, and listen to the words, literally what they're doing is agreeing with a demon, and it then becomes empowered to manipulate their circumstances. It becomes addictive, to the point where people can't make major decisions without consulting the fortune-teller. Today they call those people 'psychics', and they have these psychic hotlines, but it's actually a familiar spirit working with the person.

The other branch of the occult is sorcery. Another word for sorcery is magic; or spiritual power. So people get involved with sorcery, usually because they're rejected and bitter, and they want power. It becomes extremely addictive, because once the person connects with evil spirits, they feel they want more and more power. Every culture you go to, you'll find sorcerers; and the more primitive the culture, the more you'll find it holds, literally, whole villages under its power.

For example, in the days of Marco Polo, Marco Polo visited a man by the name of Kublai Khan; and he witnessed to him. Kublai Khan, Mongolian, father of Genghis Khan. Kublai Khan said this to him: "I observe your Christianity would be good for my nation. I am willing to embrace Christianity." Now that's a key point in history. But he said: "However, if you look around me, you see I'm surrounded by sorcerers; and they have real power. They can make a cup lift off the ground and travel across the room and come down in front of me. They can change the weather; and I fear they have power to kill me. So go back to where you've come from, and return with a hundred men, who know how to move in the power of God, and can overcome these sorcerers; and I and my nation will turn to Christ."

This is a strategic moment in history; but when Marco Polo went back, it was 25 years before anyone came; they sent 2 people, not a hundred, and one died on the way there. The nation did not turn to Christ; and subsequently, Genghis Khan literally invaded all of Asia. It would have been under the gospel centuries ago, except for the hold of sorcerers on this king's life.

Now this is quite a growing problem again. I was in a Bible school, and I had a word of knowledge on a young man addicted to playing an online game called World of Warcraft. It's one of many games very popular among young people; but in this game, they role-play. They act out, in their imagination, the part. This young man had taken on the role of a sorcerer; and so he would use powers to

defeat his enemies and increase in power; but he could become addicted to playing the game. Now he was in the hold of a demonic spirit.

I said to him: “This is what Jesus’ words are. ‘If you look on a woman to lust after her, in your heart, you’ve already committed adultery.’” In other words, Jesus is saying: what is birthed in the heart becomes real in the spirit world. So a person can have adultery already living in their heart, but they’ve not actually committed the physical act. They’ve opened their life to a spirit of adultery. I said: “Your imagination is a doorway to the spirit world; and by giving yourself to this game, you have given yourself to this demonic spirit; and a spirit of sorcery has come into your life.”

So I got him to renounce the game, renounce the identity he was playing. The moment he did, the demon manifested on his face, and he fell on the ground, began to yell; and we got him delivered. So even though he hadn’t actually been involved in sorcery at a practical level, he had engaged on it through the internet, and become demonised.

We had an alter call and over 200 students came up and they got delivered of the same kind of thing. These are people who come to study in Bible school, to learn how to be a leader; but in their personal life, they’re engaging in sorcery. So we need to understand, sorcery is a significant problem to this next generation. The media is full of it; the movies are full of it; and young people are drawn to these things.

What I shared about the addiction to the video games of sorcery, also applies to games of violence. In a recent interview on Discovery channel, with a man who murdered his parents, it turns out he was very bitter against them because he was adopted. Even though the parents tried to care for him, he was bitter against them; and in his teen years, he immersed himself in his room, watching TV and programs over and over again. In his imagination, he saw him living out one of the characters in ‘The Matrix’. One day, he just shot his parents in cold blood.

Now the murder shocked everyone; but it was already building in his heart before it got there. It was very clear, as I watched him on the television, he had a generational illegitimacy - bitter roots against his parents who adopted him; spirits of abandonment; bitter roots against the adoptive parents; hatred that had been nurtured over a period of time; and then through the fantasy realm, had just

activated a spirit of murder in his life.

He could've been helped if someone knew what to do; if someone knew to deal with the generational roots, and deal with the fantasy that had come into his mind. So how do we deal with occult roots? Very simply: the person needs to acknowledge they've been involved in these things; they need to confess and repent of them; and then renounce all agreements they made with the evil spirits. They must cancel all agreements made with evil spirits. If they cut themselves, or invited the spirits in; whatever thing they were involved in, they need to renounce it; and then reach out to Jesus to set them free.

If I was leading someone through a prayer like that, I would first start with a confession of faith. "Father in heaven, I come to You in Jesus' name. I confess Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I'm redeemed by the blood of Jesus from every curse, from every evil spirit, from the power of sin. Lord I confess to You now, that I have been involved in the occult in these ways; and I ask You to forgive me. I renounce now, I cancel all agreements I have made with evil spirits. I cancel them, I reject them, and I reject the spirits. Lord, I release forgiveness to those who've hurt me, and I ask You to set me free. Satan, go from my life now, in Jesus' name."

You see its similar process. It's made up with the same bricks that we shared on the foundations for freedom. Once you've got that process, it's quite easy to apply it in each place. You may vary it a little, in its order or its wording, depending on what the Holy Spirit says. So then, how do you minister? First, break the agreements. Second, command the spirits. Break the agreements, command the spirits. "In Jesus' name, I break every tie to this evil spirit. I break the agreements you made." Or maybe: "I break the soul-tie to that fantasy game. I break the attachments to that spirit." Now sometimes, even as you break those attachments, or break the agreements, sometimes even at that point, the demon starts manifesting. "Now, come out! Out!" Command the spirits to come out.

So it's quite straightforward. Using those foundational blocks for freedom, the person will: acknowledge their sin; confess it to the Lord; renounce the agreements; release forgiveness to others; ask the Lord to set them free, resist the demon. You break the curses, break any attachments, break any agreements, and command the demons to come out. Straightforward isn't it?

3.) There's another third area. The third area is sexual sin. Sexual sin opens the door for spirits to enter people's lives. The reason is this: God has set a law in place, that two become one flesh through sexual union. So when a person is involved sexually with another person, there is a joining or a bonding of their lives together. In 1 Corinthians 6, it tells us that: 'he that is joined to the Lord is one spirit; but if you're joined to a prostitute, you're one flesh'. In 1 Corinthians 6:18, it warns us that every sin is outside your body; but sexual sin, something is imparted into you. Luke 4:33-36, there's a man in the synagogue with an unclean spirit.

Sexual sin affects people in different ways. 1) There is a soul tie formed to that person. 2) There are memories, pictures of what they did, and what they experienced. 3) There are reactions in the heart when the relationship breaks up. So when a person has been involved with someone sexually, and the relationship breaks up, there's always grief. Often because of the pain, people make bitter judgements about men or women; they make inner vows; or even death wishes to try and shut down the pain. 4) Demonic spirits that can enter the person's life.

Sexual sin affects people deeply. God wants us to be clean, so we can love and worship. It's very common for people who've been involved in sexual sin, to find it hard to worship without unclean pictures coming into their mind. So one of the unfortunate consequences of sexual sin, is there are imprints into your mind as a result of these experiences. The journey of freedom can take a little bit of time.

When we are dealing with sexual sin, we are dealing: 1) with the spiritual issues – which is sin being confessed and repented of, and demonic spirits being cast out; 2) we're dealing with the soul ties, the attachments to other people. 3) We're dealing with the defilement in the soul – reactions to being hurt; and lasting impressions, or toxic memories, that are there. People can be forgiven in a moment, just by confessing the sin. They can be delivered in a short time; but the mind then, needs to be renewed, so they begin to pursue holiness and purity, and overcome the invading sexual temptations.

In the area of sexual sin, we need to understand that the Bible teaches very strongly and clearly about its dangers. The reason the Bible speaks so strongly about it, is not because it's worse than any other sin. Sexual sins are sins; it's because the impact on people's ability to be intimate with God, and with one

another, is deeply affected. God made us for relationships. He gave the power to be able to express love in an intimate way. So, when we're involved in sexual sin, it affects people's ability to be intimate, to be close and feel loved. It affects people's ability to form relationships. It's like a constant polluting of the mind.

The kinds of areas that you need to be able to identify are the following kind of sins. Now the church needs to be able to speak really clean, clearly into this area. It's a far bigger problem than you realise; and because there's a shame and secrecy over it, these problems go underground, and people live tormented with these unclean things going on in their life. They conceal it, and then become isolated because of it.

Some examples of sexual sin: Fornication – that's sexual sin, you're not married; Homosexuality, Lesbianism; Pornography. I believe habitual masturbation is a major problem; Sodomy, or anal sex; Prostitution; Rape, or sexually molesting someone; Incest (sexual relationships between people in the same family); Adultery; and Bestiality (sexual connection with animals); then just the whole realm of fantasy and perversion.

We need to understand that the Bible has got a lot to say about these things. We need to learn how to minister to people to set them free. This can be a whole area of addiction in a person's life, and they may need to go through a course, to help reprogram their lives to be free. But at a very simple level of ministering to people, this is what they would need to do.

1.) Acknowledge the sin. Acknowledge specifically what it is; and confess it to the Lord. Repent of it. Remember that's our first step, so lead the person to confess their sin. "Father I come to You in Jesus' name. I confess these sins of fornication, of pornography. I bring them to the cross, and ask You to forgive me." Assure people of the promise: if we confess, then we are forgiven. So, number 1, people need to confess the sin.

2.) They need to renounce ungodly sexual soul-ties: "In Jesus' name, I cancel ungodly sexual soul ties to each person I've been involved sexually with; each image I've been attached to; each fantasy I've allowed to live in my mind. I renounce the soul ties to it now." Little by little, you just dismantle this thing.

3.) Now we deal with reactions. "Lord, I renounce now, bitter judgements I made

against the opposite sex. I renounce any inner vow I made to protect my heart. I renounce any death wish I made. Now Lord, I release forgiveness. I forgive those people who used me and hurt me. I forgive them and bless them." You notice it's like, just one step at a time, you're: dismantling the structures the demons live in; pulling down the house the demons live in - the sin, the soul ties, the reactions, the bitter reactions, and releasing forgiveness.

I'll go through it again. "Father, I come to You in Jesus' name. I confess my sin to You now. I ask for Your forgiveness. I renounce now, every ungodly soul tie, every joining in sexual intimacy, every attachment to an image, whatever it is you've uncovered in counsel. I renounce it and cancel it now."

Now the reactions: "I renounce death wishes – wanting to die because I was hurt. I renounce it and choose life. I renounce every inner vow I made, that I would never let anyone near me again. I renounce it now. I renounce every bitter judgement. I renounce it and cancel it now. Lord, I release forgiveness to those who've hurt me. Now Lord, I ask You to set me free."

You see how we've just systematically pulled down the demonic house. Then you can start to minister to them. How would you minister? Start with breaking things: "In Jesus' name, I break the ungodly soul tie. I break it. I break it." You speak what you're breaking. "I break the attachment to images. I break the attachment to websites. I break those things now. In Jesus' name I break them, and break the other bondages. I break that inner vow. I break that death wish." Once you've assessed what it is, you just break it.

Now you command the spirits. You command unclean spirits; and usually there'll be spirits of bitterness; spirits of death; spirits of rejection; spirits of grief. Let the Holy Spirit guide you what to pray for. If you could just imagine for a moment what that person went through, you'll begin to be able to name quite clearly the things they've gone through: Spirits of rejection; Spirits of bitterness; Hatred of men; Self-hate; and Shame.

You begin to start to lock-in to a flow. Often people carry over their life a deep shame. "Father, in Jesus' name, I break the shame. I command the spirit of shame to come out." Wherever there's shame, there would be self-hate, and maybe death wishes. So let the spirit of God guide you how to make that flow a prayer.

There are a couple of other areas I also pray for people. So I pray like this – “Father, I ask that you remove out of this person, every defiling influence that was imparted. Lord, remove it out of their body and soul.” Sometimes people feel like there’s something, the person’s leaving them. “Lord, we pray healing into their spirit and soul. Lord I just pray for Your cleansing to flow right through this person.”

Now you get the idea how to minister. It’s not very hard. When we have an alter call, and we call up people and their sexual sin; break the soul ties, speak into and command shame, and bitterness, and unclean spirits, and death to go. What you’ll find as you are looking into the person, are: reactions against the person who hurt them - bitterness, hatred; and then reactions against themselves – Shame; Self-hate. Self-rejection. Bitterness. Grief.

So it doesn’t take much to think about this: that when people have got into this kind of turmoil, they have issues with God, issues with another person, issues with themselves. So you just speak into each of these areas.

So there we are. Those are some of the major areas that we need to learn to minister into; and there’ll be also the area of trauma. We’ll talk about that tomorrow briefly. Now, the last one on that list that I didn’t mention, I’ll just mention it briefly now, are just patterns or habits of sin. You just need to identify these. I’ll just give them to you quickly: Unforgiveness; Bitterness; Hatred; and Rebellion. Those are common sins in people’s lives; reactions to others, jealousy. So those are common heart sins; Rebellion. Every one of these, the Bible makes it clear, opens the doorway to evil spirits. Unforgiveness; Bitterness; Hatred; and Rebellion - all of those things open the door to evil spirits. When a person is rejected, they usually rebel.

So it just helps you to understand that those issues of the heart need to be dealt with too. Unforgiveness, Bitterness, Hatred. The person needs to just repent and release forgiveness. Then we command the spirits to come out.

So, we see then, we’ve got many many keys now of how to minister to people. We’ve started to see now that evil spirits use doorways into lives. Dismantle the doorways, and then you command the spirits out. Dismantle the doorways, dismantle the demonic houses, and it’s quite easy to get the person set free.

So tomorrow we'll look briefly at the issue of trauma, and various kinds of how trauma affects people. Then we'll look at how to work with people to build freedom in their life, because it's not enough just to cast the demons out; we need to get the person to walk in new life. That will involve growing in their spirit, and renewing their mind, and handling the pressure of temptations and the old things coming back. It's quite simple – humble yourself under the hand of God; submit to God, resist the devil, he will flee from you.

There are some practical things I'll share with you that'll help a person rebuild their life. Mostly people just want you to fix them; but we need to encourage people to journey with God, and take responsibility for building a Godly life. It's easier to cast out demons than to build a Godly life, because building a Godly life requires discipline, and developing good habits in your life.

Tomorrow we'll have a chance to minister to people as well. So we'll use the first session tomorrow to just finish the teaching, and the second session to be able to have a flow of ministry. Amen. God bless you.

# The Two Kingdoms (5 of 8)

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*Humans are very unique - not only living in the natural world, but can also connect to the spiritual world. Jesus came to tell us about the Kingdom of God, which is full of light, peace and joy; but there is another Kingdom which we are all born into - the Kingdom of Darkness - which rules by tormenting people, and using sin to control them. Jesus came to set us free, by shedding his blood on the Cross. When we accept what Christ has done for us, we need to continue and allow the Holy Spirit to change our thinking, by the renewing of our mind - that we would be kind, tender hearted and loving to one another, and set free in our hearts.*

Tonight we're going to pray for people to be set free of tormenting spirits. I'm sure many of you have come, and that's what you're wanting - a breakthrough in your life. Breakthroughs can be dramatic and sudden, or we breakthrough progressively.

So at the end of the meeting, we're going to have an opportunity to pray for people. At the end of the meeting, any person who wishes prayer can make their way up and we will pray for you. We want to bless you. We want to help you. That's the heart of God. He loves you and desires you help you. We'll also extend an invitation tonight. If you've come here and you're not a Christian, at the end of the meeting we'll extend an invitation; an invitation for you to receive Jesus Christ, to become a follower of Jesus. So we're going to share tonight about God's goodness. We're going to pray and minister to people; and then give you an opportunity to make a decision if you would like to receive Jesus Christ.

When we're born into this life, we're born separate from God. Every person that's born into this world is separated from God by sin. The problem is not God's; the problem is ours. God loves people; His heart is to help us all the time. The nature of God is loving; His heart is always towards us. His heart is towards you; but sin blinds us to what is real. We become self-centred, and we want to live our life without God. We violate God's laws, and troubles and problems come into our life. God always desires to come in and to help you.

So we're going to share a story from the Bible tonight; and I'll mix it with some real life stories. We want to show you how you can be set free tonight. God always desires to help us, we just have to open our heart and be willing to let Him. The first step towards God is to become aware of our need. So when we're born into this world, we lack a sense of purpose; we wonder why we're here, we long to find some meaning in our life, and we find ourselves with problems we can't solve. This is called sin - living a life without God. Jesus Christ came into this world to address the area of sin, and to make it possible for us to receive new life.

At the end of the meeting, when we pray for people, we'll be praying for the power of God to touch people. We'll be praying a deliverance prayer. A deliverance prayer is a prayer to release you from evil spirits. It's a prayer to break areas of your life that have been in bondage, to set you free. Jesus said: "I have come that you may have life, and have it more abundantly"; but He said: "The devil has come to steal, kill and destroy." So there are very real evil spirits. They seek to enter people's lives, and to bring destruction.

Tonight, we want to challenge those spirits. Tonight, we want to confront them. We want them to know Jesus Christ is stronger than every evil spirit. So evil spirits seek to enter people's lives, and they always do it by deception. The majority of times, people don't know they have an evil spirit; and it continues to work in their life, creating problems for them. Jesus came to: confront evil spirits; to deal with the issues of sin which allow the demons in; and to reconnect us with God, so that the Spirit of God could come in us. No person is made to live with evil spirits. We're made for the presence of God. We're designed to bring heaven to earth.

So at the end of the meeting, we'll have an opportunity for people who are struggling and tormented by evil spirits to be set free. I will tonight, preach on one area; but I encourage you to be open if you have a problem to come forward. When the anointing or power of the Spirit of God begins to flow, there comes a sudden change in the atmosphere. We can't see God, because He's a spirit; but that doesn't mean He doesn't exist. His presence can be seen touching lives.

When the presence of God comes into a meeting, sometimes demonic spirits begin to manifest. When Jesus spoke in some meetings, demons began to cry out. So it's possible that during the course of the meeting, before we get to the

end, that demonic spirits may begin to manifest their presence. If they do, people may shake, cry, yell, or fall on the floor. Don't be distracted by that. We will keep our focus on what God is doing.

So tonight, during the meeting, if you start to become agitated, it's possibly an evil spirit. If you start to feel deep fear inside - it's not you, it's the spirit. It's afraid, because it knows what's happening. If you start to feel very angry inside - it's not you, it's the spirit, very angry, because it sees what's happening. If you suddenly feel: "I don't like that man, I want to kill him"- that's definitely a spirit. We don't worry about that. We believe that Jesus will set people free. So if you become agitated during the meeting, then you come up to the front; and we will minister and pray for you. Amen? Amen.

So Lord we welcome You to come tonight. We welcome You to come in power tonight. Holy Spirit we invite You to come into this meeting. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I speak to every evil spirit present here tonight: you are subject to my authority, in Jesus' name. When I command you, you will manifest your presence, and come out of people. Lord we thank You tonight for Your presence to touch people. Amen.

Let's just pray for a few people, and I want us to just enjoy the presence of God. Don't put your hand up for me to pray for you. Just let me point you out and pray for you. I just want to listen to the Holy Spirit, and as I listen to the Holy Spirit, He will show me who or what to pray for. Ok?

Let's have a look around and pray for someone. Can I just pray for this girl just here? Just come. Thank you Lord. God knows all about our lives, and His presence is here tonight. Praise the Lord. Thank you Lord. Lord touch her tonight. Just close your eyes. Now, God's presence is very near, and when we open our heart to Him, even though we can't see Him, His presence can just come on us. Just touch us like that. Presence of God is here.

So people just suddenly feel God's presence come - it's a good feeling. Sometimes people laugh, sometimes they weep. God touches people in different ways. "Come and touch her Lord. Release Your joy into her life. Don't block it. Laughter is good for you. It's good for all of us. What did you suddenly feel?" "She's really happy." "Did you really feel happy? You want more?" "Yeah." "Spirit touch you." "Come. Touch you even more."

“You want what she had? Close your eyes, and it’s like you just open your heart. Presence of God just comes.” The spirit world is very easy for us to reach into. It’s very easy for us to connect with God. God is not a long way off. God is very close; and when we open our heart, His presence comes to touch us.

So, we can’t see God, but His presence is here. This is a great church. This is a church that worships, a church that prays, and the presence of God is here. The Bible says that the kingdom of heaven, that’s the realm where Jesus Christ is King, is a kingdom with peace and joy. A kingdom where there’s joy, where people are free. “

So, it’s wonderful to know that we have an open heaven where God can help us. Some of you tonight have very deep problems. You have some things that are really troubling you. God wants to help you tonight. He’s willing to help you. All we have to do is extend faith towards Him. Jesus said: according to what you believe, it will be done to you. So when you come for prayer, always come expecting God to touch you. Come expecting something to happen. Expect God to minister to you. Amen.

So when we pray for people, you’ll feel the power of God come on you, and if there’re spirits inside, they may manifest. They may stir. So, at the end of the evening when we pray for people, I’ll lead you in a corporate prayer to reach out to the Lord. Extend your faith for Jesus to touch you. It’s not about me, it’s about Jesus. When you extend your faith towards Him, He will reach out to touch you.

Now, there’s someone, a woman down here; and the Lord shows me that you have been having nightmares almost all of your life. You have these recurring nightmares that wake you up, and you feel fear when you wake up. In fact, many times you have a light on, because you don’t like it in the dark. Who’s that woman that has that problem? That’s a spirit causing that problem. There’s a woman somewhere in front of me here, and you have this problem. God bless. Just please come.

So you say – how could you know this? Well I don’t, but Jesus knows, and He wants to help her. So isn’t it wonderful? Jesus knows. He knows about you. It’s alright. He loves you. He wants to help you. You’ve been having these problems most of your life. It’s not your fault. It’s not your fault. It’s a family spirit, and God wants to set you free tonight. You don’t have to live with that fear. Jesus

wants to help you. So, in just a moment, I will command the spirit to go. In just a moment, it will leave you, and you won't be tormented anymore.

"In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I break generational curses of idolatry. I break them. I break them. I break them in Jesus' name. I break the agreements with idols, I break sacrifices to idols, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I command this tormenting spirit: Come out of her now. Loose her now in Jesus' name. I break words of dedication, where you were dedicated to the idol. I break that dedication now. I loose you from the words of dedication. I cut the soul ties to the idol and temple.

In Jesus' name, loose her now! Loose! Loose! Come out of her now. Come on. Out. Out. In Jesus' name, release her now. Release! Loose! The blood of Jesus has broken your power. You will loose her and come out of her now. Spirits of fear. Spirits of terror. Spirits of idolatry. Spirits of death. Spirit of witchcraft. Loose her now! Come out. Out. Let her go. Thank You Lord for Your anointing coming on her now. Thank You Jesus. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, come out of her. Come out. Come out. Just cough it out. Out! You will release her. You will release her now. Release! Let her go. Let her go. Out. Thank You Lord. Thank You Jesus.

"Lord just come upon her now. Thank You Lord. Peace. Peace. Father, we just thank You for Your presence. Look at me. Look at my eyes. Tell me what's happening in you now. Tell me what you're feeling. Just talk. Just tell me what you're feeling. Some things left you." "It's hurting her." "Where's it hurting? In your stomach? Ok. Just put your hand on your stomach now. Church, I'd like you to reach your hands out to her now. Just pray in tongues now. Thank You Lord. Just touch her.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I command you now to come out of her. Come out. That's right. Cough. Out. Out. Out. Spirits of bitterness. Spirits of hate. Spirits of fear. Go. Go. Go. Go in Jesus' name. I break generational witchcraft. I break generational agreements with evil spirits. I break it, I break it, I break it. In Jesus' name, I command you now, spirits of divination, go. Spirits of witchcraft, go. In Jesus' name, release her, release her. I break the generational curses over your life. I break them. I break them. Thank you Lord. Touch her. Touch. Touch. Holy Spirit come. Thank you Lord.

Alright then, just to help you explain what's happened. The Lord gave me what's called a "word of knowledge". It's a little bit of knowledge, about one person at one time. He showed me a problem she had all her life; and she showed courage. She came forward. It's not always easy to do that. What happened is, as I began to speak and command the spirits, they began to manifest and come up out of her. First, there were screams. Then there were tears. Then she began to cough; and the spirits started to come out of her.

So, God has touched her very deeply. It's quite traumatic to be tormented by spirits all your life. She was troubled with the nightmares from when she was very young. So we know the spirits came in through her family. Night after night she would be tormented by the spirits. It's very hard to explain that to people. Usually people feel quite ashamed, and they don't want to tell people they have such a problem. But these were tormenting spirits. Jesus said: the thief comes just to steal, kill and destroy; but He came to give us life.

So tonight, God has started the work of delivering. There's been a huge degree of freedom, so there is of course grief with this; but she'll be free from those nightmares. She won't have to go to sleep with the light on. She won't have to go to sleep afraid of the dark, because Jesus has conquered the darkness, and brought peace to her. Now, there are other areas that God wants to touch her. So we just allow God's spirit to continue to work in her life.

There'll be other people here tonight, also troubled with the same issue; and God wants to set you free as well. Some of you will be troubled with nightmares. Some of you troubled with, like you wake up, and someone's grabbing you. This is a spirit. This is a demonic spirit. Some of you at night-time will feel like someone's touching you or molesting you, but there's no one there. That's an evil spirit.

God wants to set you free of these things. That's why Jesus came – to deal with the issue of sin, and then to set us free of tormenting spirits. He wants you to be filled with His spirit. Where His spirit is present, there is peace and joy. You notice when I was praying for some of the other people, that there was a joy came on them. There was a peace came on them, kind of happy. God's spirit brings great things to our life.

The fruit of God's spirit in us is: love and joy and peace. Demonic spirits bring

turmoil and agitation. God wants us to be free of that. That's what tonight's about. It's about people being set free of spirits. So later on tonight we'll extend the invitation: that God will set you free also. Amen. Come on let's give Lord a clap shall we?

[Teaching]

We're going to have a look at a passage in the Old Testament. We're going to go to the book of Exodus. We're going to just look in a couple of places. We'll first of all look in Exodus 1:13 – 14. Then we'll look in the book of Exodus 15.

The Bible is a revelation of the unseen spirit world. The Bible helps us to understand there's an invisible spirit world. That there was a real physical world; and human beings are quite unique. We can live in the physical world; and we can connect with the spiritual world. Jesus came to talk about the kingdom of God. Jesus came to bring the kingdom of heaven to earth.

In the kingdom of heaven, there are no evil spirits. The kingdom of heaven takes on the nature of the king. Jesus is King over the kingdom of heaven, and His kingdom is: full of light; full of life; full of creativity; full of peace; full of joy. It's an amazing kingdom, and He wants to bring that kingdom to you.

The problem is, there is another kingdom - the kingdom of darkness. When Adam and Eve sinned and rebelled against God, demonic spirits began to manipulate, and govern, and rule over people's lives; tormenting them with burdens, and problems, and pressures; bringing sickness and affliction to people.

Jesus came to set people free. He said: the Spirit of the Lord anointed Him, and He went about doing good, healing all who were oppressed of the devil. So Jesus ministered to people, and set them free of tormenting spirits, and introduced them to the kingdom of God. In the kingdom of God, there is no sickness, there's no disease, no torments. Where Jesus rules, His life prevails.

Now we're going to have a look at a story in the Old Testament. These stories in the Old Testament are pictures of the invisible spiritual world. We can learn from these stories, we can learn about Jesus Christ. We can learn about the hidden spirit world. So we're going to look at a story of Israel, and we're going to first of all, look in Egypt, where they were in bondage.

The people of Israel were held as slaves in the land of Egypt. They wanted freedom. They yearned for freedom, but they were dominated by a foreign military power. They were slaves that served taskmasters. They wanted to be free, but they could not be free. They needed someone to deliver them.

This is just like us. Before we come to Christ, we may think we're free; but we are living in sin, manipulated by evil spirits, and our life is very hard. Our life is served with bondage. Look what it says in verse 13. "So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service, in which they made them serve, was with rigor."

So we see a group of people who long to be free; but they are ruled over by cruel taskmasters; and they made every part of their life hard and difficult. It says: they made their lives bitter. In other words, the people were hurt. They were abused, they suffered; and they had no way to escape. They were literally slaves in a foreign country; and their heart became very bitter.

When people are in pain, when people suffer in life, and get hurt by others, often they hold resentment and anger and their heart becomes bitter. When our heart becomes bitter, it opens the door for evil spirits to enter, and to cause sickness and diseases.

I prayed for one young man, and he was deeply bitter against his father. He was angry. He was resentful; and he let it go down into his heart. So his life was bitter. He could not appreciate or enjoy the good things, because he had such bitterness in his heart. The result was, a spirit of infirmity came into him; and it began to steal his health. He developed pain in all his joints, his back began to stiffen, and his life gradually came under threat that he would be paralysed. The bitterness in his heart had opened a doorway for evil spirits.

Whenever people are involved in idolatry, or there's bitterness in the heart, demonic spirits will enter. I have also found wherever there's idolatry, people serve under those idols, serve under the demons, their lives become bitter. Idols do not offer us any solution. Rather, they make our life harsher. So these people were made very, very, bitter.

God heard their cries, and He sent Moses to them. Moses is a picture of Jesus

Christ. A prophetic picture of a deliverer. Moses delivered the people of God out of Egypt. God sent plagues on the Egyptians. Each plague was an attack against the gods they worshipped. The last plague of all, the people of God shed the blood of a lamb; they put the blood on the doors of their house, and a destroyer went through the nation, and everywhere the blood had been applied, the people were spared.

This is a great prophetic picture, that one day Jesus Christ would shed His blood on the cross, would die and give up His life on a cross, that every person who would believe that Jesus shedding His blood was enough to break the power of sin. Every person who by faith receive Christ, the blood Jesus shed would break the power of the devil, break the power of sin, and set them free. So, there came a great day, when the people of Israel left Egypt. They were saved! The Egyptians had been destroyed; and the people of God journeyed full of hope. But God didn't want to just save them. He wanted to bring them into a place of great blessing; but in order to go into that place of blessing, God needed to change them.

I want you to look with me in Exodus 15; and we'll read from verse 22. "So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur, and they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah. And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet." Verse 27 – "Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there by the waters."

So when we give our life to Jesus Christ, and we begin to follow Christ, not everything is easy. There are often challenges on the way. God is leading us in a journey to blessing; but He wants to change you. He wants to free you of bitterness in your heart. So God saw all of these people come out of Egypt; and they were rejoicing and celebrating; but God knew they still had a slave mentality. They still thought like slaves. They still fought like a victim. So God wanted to change them. He wanted to free them from slave thinking. He wanted them to become sons and children, and enter in an inheritance; but in order to enter their inheritance, they needed to change.

God has many things planned for you; but you need to grow. You need to let God work in your life. Sometimes there are hindrances in our hearts, hindrances in our life. Sometimes there are bondages in our life. We had them before we were saved; and after we got saved, God says: I want to change you. I want to free you. I want you to experience the kingdom of heaven now. So how am I going to do that?

Notice what happened here. The people just had a great experience, a victory. They've had 3 days with no water. It's hard to walk in the desert with no water. They were thirsty. They suffered temporary lack. You see, God could see something they couldn't see. God saw them come free, and God had planned the journey for them. God knew there were some sweet water, wells, and palm trees. God had already provided for them. It's just they couldn't see it. So when they experienced 3 days with no water, they became very distressed; and what was in their heart came up. The waters they drank were quite bitter, and so what did they do?

Difficulties are opportunities to grow. Notice what happened. It says: the people complained. They were bitter after years of slavery. So as soon as difficulty came, what was in their heart came up. God wanted to change their heart; but before you can change, you must see the need for change. Sometimes we experience some difficulties in life, and then an opportunity to see what is in our heart, an opportunity to grow and change. The people were bitter; they saw themselves as a victim. God wanted them to be healed; He wanted to release the bitterness they held.

When people come to know Jesus Christ, often they've had years of painful experiences, that have caused their heart to become bitter: Family experiences; broken marriages; broken relationships; disappointments. Now, if you ask a person: are you bitter? "Not me. Oh no. I go to church. I read the Bible. No, no, no. I wouldn't be bitter. Why do you ask that?" So people can be bitter, and not be aware of it; but pressure and difficulties cause what's in our heart to come up.

There are several ways you can recognise bitterness. The first one is seen here – complaining. If you hear someone complaining, they're bitter. Do you know anyone that complains? "Oh, it's that person next to you isn't it? It's not me! I would never complain."

You notice the second thing they did is: they blamed. Bitter people want to blame someone. Bitter people are always looking for someone to blame. If I blame you, you are the reason that I'm so angry. You make me so angry! It's all your fault, you know. It's not my fault. Hello - it's my anger! If you're angry - it's your anger. No one makes you angry - you get angry all by yourself!

You can tell when people are bitter - there are a number of evidences of bitterness. Let me just share with you what they are. You notice here, they complained against Moses. Let me share with you some of the evidence of bitterness. 1.) Complaining. 2.) Blaming others. 3.) Lack of joy.

Bitter people can't laugh, you know. They're very bitter and sour. It shows on their face. You look at the face, lots of frowns. Their lips, it looks like they're sucking a lemon. As they get older, it gets worse. It shows on the face more. All that frowning, all that bitterness, lack of ability to laugh, to have joy.

Here's another sign: a lack of gratitude. People who are bitter aren't thankful. They focus on what they don't have; rather than what they do have. A person who is free of bitterness, is thankful: "I'm so blessed. I have so many wonderful blessings."

But these people couldn't be joyful, and couldn't be thankful. Instead of saying: "Oh, thank you for getting us out of Egypt. Thank You Jesus"; it was: "Hey, why no water? It's all your fault. You led us here. How come you lead us here? I think you want to kill us. We should go back." See - lack of gratitude. Here's what happens: lack of gratitude; and often there's judgements.

People who're bitter make a lot of judgements. They're very critical, finding fault. These are evidences of bitterness. Bitter people can't enter and experience God's blessing unless they deal with the bitterness.

Israel was bitter. Their bitterness caused them continued cycles of failure and defeat. When you're bitter, you usually can't see it, but the fruit shows up: blame; no joy, can't celebrate; lack of gratitude; judging. Always wanting more; never satisfied.

There are sharp, cutting words. Oh yeah - when someone is bitter, there's a sharpness in their words. You can feel the sword go through you. There's an

example in the Bible of a woman and a man, the man's name was David. His wife's name was Michal. Michal was Saul's daughter. David was Saul's son-in-law.

Both of them were deeply hurt by King Saul. So what King Saul did was this – King Saul was envious of David, so he chased him away. He put a reward on him – kill on sight; dangerous fugitive - shoot to kill; chased him through the land. If David made any friends, he'd kill the friends. He chased him right out of the country.

Then, he did something else: he took David's wife, and gave her to another man. She's still got a husband, she loves her husband, but he drags her away, gives her to another man. It breaks her heart - she's forced to sleep with a man she doesn't love. Forced to go through a marriage she should never have gone through.

So David went on that way, and she went on this way; but God had a destiny for them, that together they would rule Israel. Eventually, God brought them back together. Eventually, God made way for David to be restored and become king.

Now David has been badly treated. He's been hurt very deeply. He's been rejected. He's been falsely accused. His friends have been killed. He's been hunted down. But his heart was free of bitterness. How was his heart free of bitterness? He forgave. He reached out for the goodness of God. He said: God is good to me; I will show grace and forgive.

So when the opportunity came to kill Saul, he would not. He says: God can deal with Saul. I put my life in the Lord's hand. Mostly when people are hurt, they want to get revenge. Someone was telling me, for the Chinese, ten years not too long to wait for revenge. So he had his ten years, but there's no revenge in his heart. When the time comes for him to be king, he brings the ark of God, and he is full of joy. He's celebrating, he's rejoicing, his heart is free; and he wants to bless King Saul's family. He's grateful to God for blessing. There's no bitterness in him - his spirit is free.

But his wife was very bitter. She did not reach out to God and bring grace into her situation. So the Bible says in 2 Samuel 6: She looked out the window. What's this? She was unable to experience the blessing of God. The greatest revival in Israel's history, and she is looking through the window, not being part

of it. Bitterness will keep you out of the presence of God. Bitterness will leave you tormented.

Second thing, she looked, and she sees her husband; and she despised him in her heart. She looked down on him, because bitterness is in her heart. When David came home, he's full of joy, full of gratitude, full of thankfulness to the Lord. He came home to bless his household; but his wife says: "Oh, you're the king, and you carry on like this! Why you do this? You make a fool of yourself." Bitter! "Geh geh geh" like that. You know what I'm talking about? You heard someone do that? Sometimes I'll hear people do that. "Geh geh geh!" It's like a sword. Stab. Stab. Stab. Words have power of life and death.

So one is sweet; one is bitter. One is enjoying God's blessing; one is outside God's blessing. Each had a choice as to how they would respond to difficulties. One forgave, and came into blessing. The other, it says of Michal, because she was so bitter, she remained barren all her life. She was never able to produce any fruit in her life. Bitterness will leave you unfruitful, and it will defile your relationship. Her marriage became empty. Her life became empty, and she died in bitterness, with her dreams unfulfilled, because she never dealt with bitterness in her heart.

Unfortunately, this is true of many Christians. We let the hurts of our past remain in our heart. We stay bitter against parents – father, mother, people who've hurt us – rather than choosing to release and forgive. The Bible says in Ephesians 4 – don't grieve the Spirit of God; don't let any bitterness, or anger, or wrath, or malice get into your heart; but rather, be kind, be tender-hearted, forgiving one another.

One of the greatest problems I have seen among Christians is bitterness - roots of bitterness. It shows up with: complaining and blaming; inability to celebrate, lack of joy; unable to celebrate someone else's victory. When someone else gets promoted, if your heart is free – you say: "Hey, wonderful. I'm so glad you're promoted. Oh, you buy that new Mercedes? Wonderful, I'm so glad." But when bitterness is in the heart: "Oh, how come he is promoted? How come he has a Mercedes, and I have no Mercedes."

Bitterness stops you celebrating with others. Bitterness focuses your heart on injustice, rather than on the goodness of God. Over and over and over again,

God wanted them to deal with bitterness, with the deep resentment that comes out of years of living in bondage. You can't afford to be bitter. You can't afford to let anger stay in your heart. You can't afford to harbour resentments. You can't afford to harbour unforgiveness. Jesus taught this in Matthew 18:35, He said that when people are unforgiving, demonic spirits have a right to enter and torment them.

So, what did God do in this situation? Look at this. Just watch this now. God already planned the waterfall. God was not holding out on them. He already had a water plan. But before they got to God's water plan, there was just a little dry period; and up came the bitterness. Look what happens. It says: Moses cried to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree, and when he cast the tree in the water, the bitter waters become sweet.

God knew that they would face the hardship. He knew they would face difficulty; but He's already made a provision. It's just they couldn't see it. God had to open their eyes, that He had a tree. That tree is a picture of the cross. When Jesus died on the cross, He took injustice, He took sin, and He said – "Father, forgive them." When you and I suffer injustices, suffer hurts and disappointments, we need to come to the cross and say: "Jesus, as You forgave me, I forgive them. I bring Your cross into this situation to make my bitterness sweet.

Joseph had every reason to be bitter; but he found Christ in the middle of it. He was betrayed, thrown in prison, he was falsely accused, he was jailed, he was ignored; and when he came out and saw his brothers, he said: "Don't be hard on yourselves - it wasn't you who sent me here - it's God who had a plan for my life. It was God who sent me here - I needed these experiences to prepare me for my destiny." His heart was free of bitterness. His heart was free of unforgiveness. He saw that God had a purpose in the difficulty - to prepare him for greatness.

Now, listen to me. God wants to change you; but to change, you have to recognise what the issue is, that God wants to deal with. Some of you are harbouring unforgiveness and bitterness – against a husband, against a wife, against a father, against a mother, against an older brother or sister, against an uncle, against some teacher, some spiritual leader.

As you go to pray, you keep being troubled by this person, tormented by spirits; and you notice when pressure comes on you, instead of turning to God - you complain. You blame. You can't laugh and enjoy life. You don't seem to be able to celebrate others' success, because there's bitterness in your heart. When it comes to the presence of God, it seems somehow you're not able to access. It seems in your spiritual life you're not very productive. Your relationships are full of conflict.

Maybe the problem is not the other people. Maybe the problem is in your own heart, and God wants to hear you. In order to be set free, it's very very simple. I need to come to Jesus Christ. I need to repent of holding these deep attitudes in my heart, and release forgiveness to those who've hurt me; and as I release forgiveness, God's power is released to deliver me. I have found one of the most common reasons people are sick and why they're depressed, and why they don't get delivered – it's bitterness.

God wants you to be freed. You just have to make a decision tonight, if you will come to the cross of Christ and release forgiveness. "But well it's so not fair". It isn't fair. Forgiveness means: I release the debt, because God has forgiven me much, I will forgive others and bless them. Jesus said: "Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who despitefully use you."

If you have someone who's been cursing you, forgive them and bless you. "I don't want to." No. That's bitterness that's saying that. If someone has used you, and hurt you, and manipulated you, and damaged you, then pray for them. "I don't want to do that." That's because of bitterness, so you're the one who's tormented.

Tonight you can be free of that. God wants to set many, many people free tonight of bitterness; resentment; unforgiveness. You've just got to make a decision: "It's time for change. I will come tonight to the cross. I will let go of my hurt, and my heartache. I will let go of my sorrows. I will release forgiveness. I will start of bless instead of curse." Will that change the other person? Not at all; but it will change you, and you can be free.

As we pray for people, many people will be set free of all kinds of tormenting spirits. Listen, I have found that whenever people are involved in idolatry, there is bitterness. Whenever people are involved with evil spirits, there is bitterness.

Whenever people have been involved in sexual relationships, there is bitterness. Whenever people have suffered at the hands of others, there is bitterness. But Jesus can make the bitter waters sweet. He can turn your life around, and you can be a blessing for others.

Here's the most interesting scripture: Now, the God of all comfort, comforts you in your distress, so you can comfort others, in the same way God comforted you.

Let's just close our eyes right now. Firstly, I want to extend an invitation to any person here tonight who's not yet a Christian – you have not yet received Jesus. I'm inviting you tonight to come to Jesus Christ. Jesus said: Everyone who received Him, everyone who believed on Him, He gave the right to become a child of God.

So tonight if you're here, and you're not a Christian, there's a spiritual vacuum in your life. It can only be filled by relationship with God. Jesus invites you into relationship with Him, and to become a partner with Him, in changing the lives of others. He said: "Come, follow Me. I'll make you to become a fisher of men. Come, follow Me. I'll change you, and your life will be sweet to people. Come follow Me, you won't walk in darkness. I will have the light of God's life. Come follow Me."

That's Jesus' invitation tonight. The Bible says: "God so loved the world (loved you), that He sent Jesus Christ to die on the cross for your sins, that whoever would believe in Him, would not perish but have eternal life.

This is what I want you to do – you've been here in the meeting tonight, you've felt the presence of God, you've seen the Spirit of God touch people, you've see joy come into people's lives like an invisible river from heaven. You've also seen a young woman set free of tormenting spirits. God is real. It's not my power. It's the Spirit of God; and that same Spirit that brought joy to people, that set that young woman free, is here for you.

Here's what I want you to do now – every person wishing to receive Jesus Christ, please raise your hand tonight. Raise your hand and let me know. "I want to receive Jesus." Just put your hand up. Put your hand up wherever you are. This is an important decision, to receive Jesus, to become a Christian.

This is what we're going to do now: in a moment everyone will stand; and we will begin to clap and celebrate; and every person who put their hand up, and even those who didn't put their hand up, if you're wanting to receive Jesus tonight, to open your life for God to forgive you, this is what I want you to do. Make your way up to the front, make a row facing me, and I will lead you in a simple prayer. If you brought someone, and they don't know Jesus, ask them if they'd like you to come up with them.

Praise the Lord. I'm so glad you came tonight. Jesus knows each one of you. He knows you by name. Each one of you is a person he knows. He knows your struggles. He knows the difficulties you've faced. He knows what challenges are in your life. He knows where you've failed, and He loves you. He loves you. He gave His life on the cross for you. The Bible says: in heaven, there's great rejoicing when the sinner comes and responds to Christ. So right now in heaven, there is rejoicing.

I'm going to lead you now in a prayer, and when we pray this prayer, the prayer's just talking to God. God will hear and respond. I want you to just close your eyes. Close your eyes. When you close your eyes, you can just be aware God is near us. When you speak, He will hear you. He will forgive you. His peace will come in your heart. He will take away the shame of failures, of things you've done, of things that were done to you. He loves you. Church, would you help us with this prayer? Let's pray together. I want you to listen and speak these words out.

"Father in Heaven, I come to You in Jesus' name. Thank You for loving me. Thank You for accepting me. Thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for my sins, and to rise again from the dead. I turn away from sin. I turn away from false gods. Jesus I receive You as my Saviour. Please forgive all of my sins. I receive forgiveness now. I receive Your Spirit into my heart, and I give You my life today. Before heaven and earth I declare Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord, and my friend forever. Amen."

Thank You Lord. Just keep your eyes closed. Shortly after this, we're going to pray for people to be set free, pray for people to be healed, but this is a special moment. God loves you. Touch her Lord. Pour Your love upon her life.

[Ministry]

I break the hold of this spirit. I command it in Jesus' name. Lord touch this dear lady. In the name of the Lord Jesus, I break the power of cancer in your body. I curse every trace of cancer. I command healing to flow, in Jesus' name. Touch her Lord. Touch. Touch her Lord right now. Release.

Praise the Lord. Let's just worship the Lord. Worship the Lord together. It's a great joy to see people get saved, to give their life to Jesus Christ. We want to pray for people to be delivered of spirits. We want to pray a deliverance prayer. Some of you here tonight have come for healing. Some of you have come for deliverance. I want you to listen how the ministry will happen...

We will get you to line, in a row facing the front. Then what we will do is this: if you have sickness in your body, please put your hand on the part where there's sickness, so we recognise you're sick. After we've prayed for you, check whether there's any change in your body. So if you need prayer for sickness, put your hand on your body. Otherwise just come into the row. If we see you with your hand on your body, we'll know the prayer is for sickness, for healing. If you don't have your hand on your body, we will know it's deliverance you need. Let's just worship the Lord while people start to get their place.

While you are waiting, worship the Lord. Don't be passive. Look to Jesus for your healing or deliverance. Look to Him for your miracle. Keep your eyes closed. Focus your attention on Jesus. Before I lead you in a prayer, this is a deliverance prayer. If there's any bitterness in your heart; if there's sin; or there's things you know you've done wrong - ask Jesus to forgive you right now. Just confess it to Him. Is there someone you need to forgive? Release forgiveness right now. Maybe there's sickness because you're unforgiving?

So just while we're just worshipping quietly, "Jesus please forgive me". Talk to Him, tell Him what's happened. Bitterness, anger; hate; jealousy; unforgiveness; rebellion; addiction; idolatry; spiritism. Whatever it is, "Jesus forgive me". It's very important you do this. Is there anyone who has hurt you, and you're holding something in your heart against them? Forgive them. Release them. Just release them right now. "Father I forgive. I forgive."

This is what we will do. I will lead you in the miracle prayer. At the end of that prayer, you begin to worship the Lord. When we come and lay hands on you, stop praying. Stop praying. Just receive the miracle. Receive healing in your

body. Then, check your body. See what change has happened. If it's deliverance you're needing, then just breathe out heavily. God will set you free. Are we ready now? Just follow me in this prayer.

"Father in heaven I come to you in Jesus' name. I confess Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I'm redeemed by the blood of Jesus from every curse, every evil spirit, every sickness, all the power of sin. I belong to Jesus Christ. I renounce all curses over my life. I cancel them now in Jesus' name. I ask You Lord to forgive me. I ask You Lord to make me clean. I ask You Lord to heal me, to deliver me. From my heart I forgive those who've hurt me. I forgive them and release them. Lord set me free now. Satan go from my life in Jesus' name."

Let us begin to worship the Lord. "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I speak to every demonic spirit – spirits of witchcraft, spirits of idolatry, spirits of death, spirits of bitterness and hate, spirits of infirmity. I command you to go. I command you to loose people today. Lord we release Your power. Lord touch people tonight. Delivering, healing, releasing people. In Jesus' mighty name."

# Traumatic Experiences (6 of 8)

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*Many problems we have in life come from traumatic experiences, which have often happened in early childhood: in the womb; early childhood; or during school years. These experiences tend to shut us down, and control the memory of the trauma. We do not realise that these experiences are actually controlling you: relationships; reactions; and approach to life. The effect of these traumatic experiences can only be overcome and healed through prayer; by exchanging old memory pictures with scripture memorisation; and by inviting the Holy Spirit and the truth into the situation - for total restoration in Jesus name!*

[Intro/Review]

Great to see what God is doing. I want to try to conclude with a teaching part in this first session, so we have room to work with the Holy Spirit in the second session. So, if we just go back again and just quickly outline what we did – we looked at Jesus' teaching on deliverance; how deliverance is a manifestation of the kingdom; and that in order to minister deliverance, a person has to work with the Holy Spirit, and it requires faith to do that - you must believe that when you come to pray for someone, something will happen. Then we looked at Jesus teaching on what happens after a person is delivered, and we saw that demons, once they're cast out, will try to re-establish a hold again.

So, we concluded from that, that it's important a person make changes in their life, so that there's no structure for the demon to come back to. That meant we need to think beyond just casting out demons, to demolishing demonic structures in the person's life. We identified 3 major roots that demons use – legal rights, traumatic experiences, and then reactions to traumatic experiences. We saw that there are certain foundations; the bases upon which someone gets free.

The first is the work Jesus did for us - Jesus at the cross, redeemed us. So, you'll find sometimes the demon will argue – the person belongs to them; so we have to be able to contend, and hold the word of God – this person belongs to Jesus. We saw that there are also personal foundations - we must prepare the person for

deliverance; and failure to get a person delivered usually is because we haven't prepared them very well.

We saw that the person must first recognise what the problem is, and take responsibility for their part in it. If a person won't recognise what the problem is, and take ownership, you can't move them any further. All personal change starts when we recognise the need for the change, and take responsibility for our part in it; and we saw so many times that people will come and want you to fix them, but they don't want to take ownership of why they're in this mess in the first place. As a minister of deliverance, we need to help them see how they got where they are, and what their part is in getting free.

We saw that: one, the person needs to repent of sin, and confess it. They must turn from sin, and bring it to the cross. Two, they must release forgiveness, and also receive forgiveness. Sometimes people have difficulty forgiving themselves. So forgiveness – firstly receiving forgiveness for themselves; and then release it to others who have hurt them. If a person won't release forgiveness, they tend to remain in bondage, and you can't easily set them free.

We saw also, the importance of people renouncing bondages in their life. To renounce means to speak words to cancel something that's been constructed. So for example, if a person has worshipped an idol, and served an idol, and come into an agreement with a demon, they need to speak words that cancel this agreement. If a person has been dedicated to an idol or a demon, they need to speak words to cancel it. Jesus said: "The words I speak are spirit and life". So, words are very important.

We saw also, the need for people to actively resist. They can't be passive (oh, just do something to me). There's a spiritual warfare that goes on around deliverance; and people must be willing to resist – to make a stand against the devil, and on the side of reaching out to Jesus for freedom.

So, we looked then at some of the structures in the heart; some of the bondages that get established in people's lives; just so we could identify them, so we would know what needs to be dealt with.

We talked about soul ties – attachments in the soul to people, images, and things. We talked about bitter root judgements, or beliefs in the heart. We talked about

inner vows, word curses, where people curse themselves, or they receive cursings from others.

We also shared that when people have trauma, this affects them as well, and traumas have to be dealt with. So, we saw some of the bondages in the heart – soul ties, bitter judgements and expectations, inner vows, traumatic pictures, and word curses. Sometimes people put burdens or expectations on people.

Then we started to look at how you address the doors of entry; and we looked at several specific doors. Generational curses – it's established over a family when someone does something; it's dismantled when someone deals with it. We saw that the curse is dismantled when someone, as a representative of the family, owns up to the sin, brings it to the cross, and holds the cross of Christ between them and this problem. We suggested that if you're going to diagnose problems, always identify where it began, because that'll be a clue to generational curses.

We shared that occultic practises and idolatry open the way for demons. We saw that sexual sin opens the way for evil spirits. We saw patterns (or habits) of sin: anger, bitterness, hatred, unforgiveness, rebellion, bitter judgements. All of these create doorways for spirits to enter a person's life.

[Main Content]

So, now what I want to do is I want to look just briefly at the area of traumatic experiences. Then I want to show you some steps to how to find if a person's got the root of the problem; and then how we focus on freedom or helping the person walk out of it.

So, we need to look at the area of trauma. It's a big area, and I'm learning my way into that right now, because I have found that many of the problems people have began when they were very young; and often it began with a traumatic or painful experience.

So, a trauma is an overwhelming emotional experience. It's an experience that overwhelms the emotions and soul; and it leaves an indelible imprint in the person's memory.

Now, there can be many traumatic experiences ranging from mild to quite

severe; and different people react in different ways. You need to understand this – people don't forget what happened to them - the more painful the experience, the more deeply it's imbedded in their memory. So if an experience is of a major one, and extremely painful, or it's a prolonged one, then it imbeds in the memory.

For example, the person has a motor accident. The shock sometimes is so great, that the whole of the mind shuts down, and it's like it doesn't remember what happened. So you talk to someone who's had maybe a motor accident, and they remember before and after, but they don't remember the accident. Actually, they do have memory of the accident, it's just they're not conscious of it. It was such a trauma, that the memory gets dispersed through their body.

When a person has a traumatic experience, they have a memory imprinted in them; and the memory consists of these things: it's chemically imprinted into the body; and demonic spirits use it as a doorway of entry. When a person has a traumatic experience, there is first of all, a memory or a picture. The memory of the trauma is made up of these things.

1.) There's a picture. There is an image. There is something they remember vividly. If you were to think back into your life, can you remember a very embarrassing situation at school or a very embarrassing or painful situation in your life? Most can remember something. What happens is, a picture comes up. So your memory retains the trauma first as a picture.

2.) Firstly there's the memory of the experience; and secondly: how the person interpreted the experience. What did this mean to them? For example, for a person who was sexually abused, there's the picture of the experience, the memory of all the smells and sights and sounds and feelings of it; and there's how they interpret it - what did this mean? I'm powerless. I'm worthless. Men will hurt me. There's the reaction that the person makes; like an inner vow. I'll never trust anyone.

So, within the memory of the trauma, there's: a picture, a belief they formed about it; and a reaction to it. The picture, feelings, what they believed; and how they responded. All of it is contained in the trauma.

So, for example, when you have a person who is sexually abused, they have a

picture of the abuser and what happened; there's the feelings and sounds and smells and sights - all of that is remembered. Then what they believed about this thing: "I'm powerless. I'm useless. I'm worthless. It's my fault." Then, how they reacted – "I must never tell anyone. I'll never let men get near me. You can never trust men." So, those heart reactions we talked about. So when a person has a trauma, all of those are in the trauma. Particularly powerful is the picture, and what they interpreted that picture to mean.

Now, later on a person can control it all, and bury it all. Later on they may see something, or hear something, or smell something, and it triggers the memory; and all the emotions come back up to the surface, flooding up. I'll give you just a simple example. Late last year, one of my daughters who lives in Indonesia, miscarried after 5 months. I left and went immediately to be with them, to comfort them, and also to take a service, and to walk them through the process. So after a long trip on the plane – I get off, a little bit of time, then we have a service and a few days, very busy days. I had to keep all my own feelings managed, because I'm there to serve people. Then I came home, it's Christmas, I've got lots of things to do.

About 4 weeks later, I was sitting watching a television, and a song came up – Amazing Grace; and I just began to weep and weep and weep, because the last time I heard that, was in the service we held in my daughter's home. So I had pushed down all the grief of the experience, but hearing the song again triggered off the memory, and up came all the grief that I had buried; and I could vividly picture being in the room, seeing her singing, and my grandchild dead in the box. It was time for me to grieve and to let go. So, it'll be just as simple as something like that.

Now, my daughter who went through a huge grief over this situation, and particularly the way they do the cremations, there was quite a traumatic experience for her. So, she was left almost in shock; and I said: "It is important for you, that you see this from God's point of view. It's important you have a different picture, because the last picture you had was deeply distressing for you." I said: "You need God to put a different picture inside you. You can't remove the memories people have. What you can do is open the way for God to show them a different picture."

So when we go through a painful experience, we have a limited perspective –

what we see is very around our own pain. So, one of the ways you approach a trauma, is to invite the Holy Spirit to take the person back into the experience, and to show them Jesus in the middle of it. This takes some willingness on the part of the person, to be willing to let the Holy Spirit go there. Most people just try to bury the memory and the pain. It's like locking it up in a room, and then just not letting anyone in. They just try to control the pain.

So I encourage them, if you'll just let Jesus into that room of that memory, if you'll let Him come into that room, and be willing to go there again and feel the pain, He will speak to you and comfort you, and He'll change that situation for you. So, with my daughter, I asked her to close her eyes and to look into that picture of what she saw, and to invite Jesus to come into it. She saw immediately. She saw Jesus standing there, and she saw Him grieving, and she saw Him pick up her child, and hold her child in His arms. He smiled at her and spoke to her; and immediately the grief all subsided, because instead of the memory of a casket going into flames, she had a memory of Jesus taking her child. It brought a deep release for her.

So, when a person has a traumatic experience, they need the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus in that experience. If you think of in the Old Testament, I think its 2 Kings 6 - Elijah's servant looked out, and they were surrounded by the Syrian army, and he was terrified. So when he looked at his experience, it was overwhelming, and he was filled with fear; and he cried out in fear to his master. He didn't know what to do; and Elijah prayed this way: "Lord open his eyes, so he can see what he hasn't seen. Open his eyes, so he can just see there's more for us, than against us." The Holy Spirit opened his eyes, and he saw in the spiritual realm from God's perspective, he saw the presence of all the angels. He still could see the army, but now he could see something else. He could see the overwhelming power of God on his side, and he came to peace.

This is how, one of the major ways, that God heals traumatic pictures. I usually explain to the person that they've just put this memory in a room and locked it up. I explain they've tried to save themselves. I ask them to be willing to go back to remember what they didn't want to remember; and invite Jesus to come in. So, often the person will start to weep as they remember; and then I ask them: "Look and see where Jesus is. What is He doing? What is His face like? What is He saying?" I get the person just to talk to me, what they're seeing. What happens is, a different picture comes in; and it overwhelms and changes the

memory. It shifts it, and puts something in that wasn't there, and that's the last thing they remember.

For example, I had one girl, and she had been adopted when she was 5. She shared her testimony to the church that she'd been adopted, and how when she heard our testimony and she came to Christ. When I heard her testimony, I said: "Look, I feel the Lord put on my heart to pray for you. He wants to heal you. Can you remember the day your mother gave you up?" This is what she said: "I remember it vividly." In other words, it's a picture in her mind; and in that picture is a lot of grief. In that memory is a picture of her mother handing her over to a stranger. A huge amount of grief; and she questions: why she do this? What's wrong with me? I must be bad, because I'm being given away. All kinds of things were in her mind.

So I said: "I'd like you to do this. Just to close your eyes, and to allow yourself to remember that experience" and she began to cry. She remembered the experience, and she began to just weep in front of us all. Then I said: "Look and see if you can see Jesus." She said: "I can see Him." I said: "What does He look like?" She said: "He's weeping. He's very sad about what's happening." I said: "Why don't you just reach out to Him?" Now, I didn't expect her to literally reach out. It's like she reached out like that, and then she froze; and she remained there like that for an hour and a half, standing in a meeting just like this. Just down on the ground like that, frozen for an hour and a half.

You just can't do that. It's impossible to do that, and hold your hand out like that. She was literally caught up in a vision, and then I just preached; held an alter-call for salvation; we got people to stand around her, so she didn't get bumped. Then suddenly she just came out of it like that; and I said: "What happened?" She had been in an encounter with Jesus. I said: "What did He say to you?" "He said to me: it's not my fault." All these years she had believed the lie: 'it's my fault', and she was tormented by spirits. When Jesus spoke to her the truth –"it's not your fault. You're not a bad person. I love you. I'll never leave you." Jesus spoke with her. I saw her the next day, and I actually didn't recognise her, she looked so different. There was a joy and a life in her.

I remember praying for another girl who'd been sexually abused and I asked: "Are you willing to go and remember what happened?" She began to weep, described the scene, and described her father coming into the room. I said: "Now

look for Jesus"; and she saw Him, she began to weep. She said: "He's full of compassion. He's weeping, because He sees what's happening, and He's very sad." I said: "Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus, looking for what He does and says." She just interacted. She said: "He's coming towards me. He's standing between me and my father, and I can't see my father now. Jesus says He'll protect me."

So, she was totally transformed. Within a space of about 3 weeks, she was greatly reconciled with her father. So, she got healed from the trauma. The picture of the trauma was replaced with a picture of something different. Now, sometimes there are demons inside the trauma, there are soul ties to the trauma. So when you feel the Holy Spirit lead, break the soul tie to the trauma, and command spirits to come out; but let the Holy Spirit do the work of revealing Jesus.

Often people are incredibly angry, very bitter, and they need to be lead through prayers of forgiveness. So, the core of the trauma is a picture, feelings that go with the picture, the way the person interprets it, and what they believed, and then their reaction. So the reaction – people repent of that. The lie is replaced by them seeing the truth and hearing the truth; and sometimes they just need to re-live it, and the soul tie broken.

I encourage you to try this sometime. I encourage you, if someone has gone through a painful experience, to ask them to invite Jesus to come into the experience and heal them. You might be surprised how easy it is, and how very quickly people can be set free. I prayed for one woman who was grieving over an abortion; and she saw Jesus standing, holding her baby. Tears began to come down, and Jesus spoke these words to her: "You need to forgive yourself." He's already forgiven her, but she wouldn't forgive herself.

So, these areas you'll find many people have got all kinds of experiences; and it's always got a picture, feelings that go with the picture, beliefs that go with the picture, and a reaction. The belief is changed by seeing and hearing the truth; the reaction is changed by repentance; and demons are just cast out.

Let me give you just some situations of trauma, just so you've got some ideas what you may be looking for. If I give you a list of some typical trauma experiences that people have, when you are working with people, you'll know

something to look for. So, remember, a trauma is a negative picture that's imprinted into the person's memory because of some painful experience. What is a trauma for one person may mean nothing to another.

So, I'll just give you some of the typical ones, or ones that we have experienced in ministry. Firstly, pre-natal experiences... Prenatal means the child's in the womb. So a child in the womb that's rejected can become quite traumatised, and have memories that last all of their life. For the last hundred years or so, people have believed that all of the experience, or memory and identity of the child, is in the brain; so if the brain hasn't been formed, then they have no awareness. The last 4 or 5 years, experiences or research with ultrasonic scanning of the child realises that's not true. When a child is in the womb, it is deeply aware of the mother and the environment.

A child unwanted in the womb, experiences deep rejection. A girl in the womb who comes to realise both parents want a boy, experiences deep rejection in the womb, and can be demonised from that point. A child in the womb is deeply aware of the mother's emotional state, and so it can be traumatised if the mother has deep anxiety or fear, or there are conflicts in the home. So a child in the womb is aware when the mother's speaking to it; when the mother's speaking to the husband; when the father's speaking to it; and when the father's speaking to the mother. The child is aware of these things.

So, if the pregnancy has complications, for example the mother gets toxaemia, the baby is traumatised by the fear of death. If there's an attempted abortion, the child is aware of it, and remembers it. If there's been a previous abortion, the child is aware of it, and is affected even while it's in the womb. So only the Holy Spirit can reveal if the issues go right to the prenatal experience.

Sometimes birth traumas can leave an imprint on the child. Premature birth, the cord wrapped around the child's neck, sometimes the force of delivery can be very difficult, and traumatises the child. If there's no bonding with the mother, the child can be quite traumatised.

People tend to think because the baby can't speak, it doesn't know. The reality is, children are very vulnerable, and demonic spirits can enter them, and they can be traumatised. There can be childhood traumas e.g. a child is adopted, or abandoned, or rejected. If there's turmoil in the family; physical or verbal abuse;

frightening experiences. A divorce can traumatise a child. Serious sickness, or long sickness; surgery; accidents. The death of someone in the family or a close friend. School experiences. When we talk with people we find most remember very painful experiences from school. Broken relationships. Accidents. A miscarriage can be a trauma. An abortion is always a trauma.

So, there is all kinds of ways that people can experience a shock to their system. Demons use that to come in and then torment the person. So, when you are working with people, look for the possibility there may be a trauma of some kind in their life, a powerful negative picture. So, we have to ask the Holy Spirit to bring these things to the surface as we talk with people. I'll just show you some steps to follow in this. So, traumatic experiences create these problems. 1.) The picture, the memories, the feelings, the reactions, the beliefs. 2.) Sometimes the person is soul tied to the trauma and you just need to break the soul tie. 3.) Sometimes there are demons attached into the trauma, and once you minister into the person, then you can cast the demon out.

So we've now looked at a range of doorways for demons to come in. So, if you are trying now, or sitting with a person, and trying to work out what is the person's problem, so let me give you some steps for diagnosis. Usually when someone comes to you they've got a problem. "Please help me." So, you have to ask questions and listen. If someone comes with a problem, you begin to inquire, like you're searching for contributing roots to the problem. So, whatever problem the person has, we begin to ask a number of questions.

We are looking for several things, and so we're looking for root systems that support the problem, and allow the evils to be in there. Our approach in ministry is: tear down the demonic house - remove the demonic house; then cast out the demons. So remember what the demonic house is made up of: it could be generational curses; it could be patterns of sin; it could be reactions, like soul-ties and bitter inner judgements; or it could be made up of traumatic experiences.

So, this is how we would approach it. "Tell me what the problem is. How is it affecting you? How long have you had this problem?" When you ask the question 'how long', you can begin to find whether this was a generational problem. Here's what we would look for in diagnosing the problem.

1.) Is this a generational issue? In other words, is there a generational curse

operating? Do members of the family have the same problem? So when you're talking to the person about their problem, did other members of the family have the same problem? How long have you had this? Often the clue to where to look is found in when the problem started. So it's like we're searching. We're trying to gather information, and we're listening to the Holy Spirit. He may prompt you to ask random questions. So, number 1: is this a generational problem?

2.) Are you soul-tied to some person or event? Is there someone who contributed to this problem, and you are attached to them? So the problem may be a soul-tie to someone sexually; a soul tie to someone who abused them; or a soul tie to someone who abandoned them. So are there any soul ties? Are there any bitter roots – unforgiveness? Are there any bitter roots present; or bitter judgements against someone? "I can never trust men. Men will always let you down." Are there any bitter expectations? So you've got to ask the questions, and try and find these problems. Has the person made any inner vows? "I'll never do this, I'll never do that." Did you make any inner vows?

Maybe it comes up with nothing, but you just mentally have some things you're looking for. Are there any word curses in the person's life? They cursed themselves; or a death wish of some kind? Are there things they've been saying to themselves? Are there words others spoke over them? You're looking for that, it may contribute to the problem. Are there any habits of sin - patterns of destructive sin? Are there any of those? Are there any traumas? Are there any pictures in their mind that are creating negative memories, negative pain. Then, what kind of demons are in there? So, if you begin to think about the person's life that way, then you systematically can deconstruct the demonic house.

Use the tools of: repentance and confession; release forgiveness; receive forgiveness; renounce the bondages. If we don't look to the heart issues, we'll just try and change their behaviour, and it won't last. You have to deal with what's in the heart. So when a person comes to you with a problem, don't be in a hurry to pray for them. Search it out. Ask questions. Listen. Notice if you see emotions come as you talk to the person. So, if I'm talking with a person, and I see tears come in their eyes, I just stop. "What's happening now? What are you feeling? What triggered that feeling?" It tells me something is going on in their heart.

So, you notice that this is not just a 1, 2, 3, 4 step to fix everyone. It requires we

be sensitive to the Holy Spirit; and He will show you where to go. So I start, I relax the person, ask questions, begin to find my way to the root of the problem, and then I look for all the contributing issues: Generational issues; Soul-ties; Inner vows; Bitter judgements; Death wishes; Word curses; Sin. Everything has got a way you deconstruct it; and then when you deconstruct it, deliverance is very quick. So always think: deconstruct the demonic houses; remove the armour. Take away the armour the demons trust in, then deliverance is straightforward.

Now, is this always easy? No it isn't; but often you'll find if you've got a process, it's much easier. You may like to share, without identifying it, just the situation we had last night. You share about that. Well you were there...

I'll backtrack. I'll start with your visions. Is it ok if I start with your visions? I won't do the vision. I just shared that last picture.

So, in this situation that we had, we had to establish very clearly, responsibility; so the person understood what they had done. She was grieving and in tremendous pain. She was tormented by what she had done. So I had to put it very clearly, but also in love, and gently. "You chose between yourself and your child, and you chose yourself; and you have taken the life of your child." I shared a vision God had given me of children in heaven, and how God cares for them. So I said: "When you chose the abortion, you chose what seemed like a simple path; but you didn't realise you would have other problems after it.

So initially, you feel relief, because you've solved a problem. Now you have different new problems which are even worse. So we took her through the journey step-by-step, to help her out of her situation. First come to the Lord and confess the sin. If you confess, God will forgive you. So we dealt with the issue firstly of confession of sin. Then we dealt with the issue of grieving over the child, and prayed that God will give her a vision; and she opened up her heart, God began to reveal himself to her, and Jesus spoke to her. She saw Jesus with her child, and Jesus said: "You need to forgive yourself."

Then I got her to listen and find out what this child is. Is it a boy? Is it a girl? Immediately there was a witness straightaway - we knew exactly what it was. I said: "Now give your child a name, and release your child to the Lord." She did that; and that's when she saw Jesus holding her child, and smiling at her, and

speaking to her words of comfort.

So step-by-step, this is a process. We dealt with the sin, I commanded the demons, we led her into an encounter with the Lord, and got her to take full ownership of the name of the child, and it brought great closure. You could see her countenance visibly changed afterwards. We had systematically deconstructed what the devil had built over her life. It started with a lie: “this is nothing. You can get rid of it without any problem.” It ended with her acknowledging the truth: “it was her son. This is his name, and she took his life.” But Jesus has forgiven her, and He’s now caring for the child. So it’s a journey through the process; and it was just step-by-step-by-step.

With the young man, I had to take him through similar steps to own his sin and failure; to come to and open his heart to the Lord and to be healed. It’s amazing what God will do. You’ve just got to deconstruct the demonic houses. Our tools: taking responsibility; repentance and confession; renouncing bondages; releasing forgiveness; and receiving God’s healing. So, use these tools to help deconstruct the houses. Once you’ve got in your mind what you’re looking for, you’ll find it’ll come up over and over again, the same things: Generational problems; Soul-ties; Bitter judgements; Inner vows; Death wishes; Word curses; Sin patterns; Trauma pictures; Demonic spirits. Each part has got a way of solving it.

Now, the only way you can get competent at this is: you have to just experiment. You’ve got to just be willing to work with people. Don’t become the person – “I’ve got to fix you.” Instead - “this is your problem. Jesus has the answer for you. I’m here to help you find Jesus, and His answer. I’m here to help you face the truth, even if the truth is unpleasant.”

So when we’re ministering to people, the responsibility for their problem is always theirs. Jesus is the one who has the answer, and we need the Holy Spirit to help us show what the real problem is, and to make the answer real. So we come to the person in an attitude of humility and love, and help them see the truth; and when they acknowledge the truth, we can lead them out of the problem. That makes deliverance a lot easier.

So in ministering to a person, if you’re struggling to get them free, then there’s something you’ve missed that God sees, and can help you with. It may be sin, it may be unforgiveness, it may be some bondage to be renounced; but if you

deconstruct these houses, then the demons go out quite quickly.

[Ministering to People]

Now I've got a few more minutes, and I want to just share just what you do with a person afterwards. I want to just open up some scriptures for you. I want to share with you just some scriptures, just so you see the principle, and then I want to show you just some specific things you can do with people.

The first scripture we look at is James 4:7. Now, notice these scriptures – they have to do with freedom. "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." So you can see there very clearly that God requires that we resist. To resist something is to actively stand against it. It also requires that we align ourselves with the Lord. Submit. Resist.

Now look at another scripture which is quite similar to it. It's found in Ephesians 4:22-24. Notice it says in verses 22 – 24: "that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man, who was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness." So you notice then a process of resisting – putting off the old, and renewing. Renewal in the mind, and in the way you respond.

So, change needs to be intentional. In other words, people often are happy for you to pray for them, but they don't see their need to intentionally grow in this area. There is no neutral position in the kingdom of God. Jesus said: the devil, the spirits will come back; they will be outside trying to gain entrance again. So, the person needs to be active in pursuing their freedom. There's always a price for freedom; but when you are free, and enjoying freedom, you never want to go back into bondage again. You never want to go back where you used to be; but you have to hold the freedom you've been given.

You're very well aware that a nation can break free of oppressors, but then they have to maintain their freedom. So, how do you do that? It needs to be quite intentional. For example, a person has a problem with pornography. "Oh pastor, pray for me. Fix me up." It's not going to work, because already by that language, they've put the responsibility to solve the problem in someone else's hands.

So I begin to talk to them. Firstly there's the sin. You are sinning, and you're sinning as a habit in your life. Habits take time to change. I said: "You have two problems: 1) a deep rejection in your life; and 2) when you're in pain, you're finding comfort by looking and comforting yourself by these perverse things." So first, there's a deep spiritual problem; secondly, there's an emotional problem; and thirdly, because you've been doing this a while, there are now tracts in your brain, that the moment you get a trigger, you'll think down that line. You can't expect one prayer to fix up months, if not years, of damage.

Becoming free requires some steps. There is a process you need to follow. There is a journey out of this sin. It starts by bringing it to the light, and dealing with the sin issue; but in order to stay free, there's some things you have to do. So, what kinds of things? Now, this is fairly general, but it will apply in most situations. So, I will give you 5 steps of a process. This is not the only way of approaching this, but I've found this is quite helpful.

1.) Build or strengthen your spiritual life. We need to energise our inner man, our spiritual man; because we overcome sin by a greater power, not by just trying harder. So, energise or build up your spiritual life. The Bible tells us in Jude 1:20 – "But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit." I encourage people to pray strongly in tongues every day, and build the amount of time they're praying in tongues, because when you're praying in tongues, you are building and strengthening your spirit man. So I think it really helps if a person energises their spiritual life.

2.) The person needs to renew their imagination, or their mind. This is the biggest one of all. It's one that people don't really do very frequently. The word 'renew your mind' means to literally 'renovate'. You renovate your mind by meditation. Notice what it said in Ephesians 4: "Be renewed in the spirit of your mind." Romans 12:2 says the same thing: "Be transformed by the renewing or renovation of your mind."

So how do I do that? Meditation is how you do that. Meditation is picturing or imagining God's truth. You need to see the truth of God. So your imagination is a very powerful way of accessing the realm of God. In 1 Timothy 4:15, Paul writes to Timothy and he says: "Meditate in these things, and give yourself to them, and you will profit." Now, your mind cannot take hold of anything abstract. If I say to you for example, God loves you. That is abstract. Yeah, I get

it with my head, but I don't feel anything in my heart about that.

So if I ask Christians – Do you believe God loves you? They'll all say: yes, God is love. God so loved the world. Quote all the verses. But if I ask a different question – Do you feel loved by God? Do you experience Him loving you? Then people go quiet, because they don't experience it, except when they come to a meeting. It's not really what happens in their life. In their life, they pray, but don't feel God at all. Coming to a meeting, they'll start to feel God, starts to get touched, weep. It's a long time between Sunday and Sunday. So meditation is using your imagination to picture the truth of God. Constantly repeating every day, it gets into your heart that this is what the truth is.

So, let's take this, suppose the person's struggling with rejection. So they believe – "No one loves me. I'm not accepted." Now, that is a lie that gives room for a demon to torment them; and while the lie stays in the heart, it will keep affecting the way the person sees everything. Lies can only be displaced if you reject the lie and embrace the truth; but if you've believed all your life that you are not accepted, that you are rejected, then when I tell you that God loves you, you won't believe it. Meditation is the biblical way of bringing truth into our heart. So I need to not just say the scripture "God loves me", I need to picture it. What would that look like? What would that feel like?

If I will imagine the truth, repeatedly imagine the truth, and embrace the truth, it will start to form in my heart as a belief. Because this takes time and discipline, most people don't bother to do it, they just have repeated problems. So if you want to get a truth in your heart, you need to take the scripture, memorise the scripture, and then imagine the scripture being true. Every day, use your imagination to see it, to reach out and embrace – this is the truth. Hold it in your heart as long as you can. Then go back there again, and again, and again, until that truth rests in you, and it comes alive in you. Pictures are how your inner person works.

If I asked you this question, tell me what is the most comfortable place in your house, where you love to go and rest? Then, if you were to close your eyes – "Oh, yes I'm there right now. I can see it." It's a picture that comes to mind. So you have a picture, and that picture is always associated with the same thing – with rest. So, if I'm going to change my inner belief system, I have to change the pictures.

Now, I'll just show you. I just need someone to help me. "Would you like to help? You don't have to do anything. Just come on over here where people can see. Can I just take your hand? What I want you to do is just this: I want you just to close your eyes for a moment. Just make everyone vanish. I just want you to be open to what you may feel and experience in the next few minutes. Now, I'm not going to pray for you and minister to you; what I'm going to do is I'm going to meditate, and I'm going to talk to people as I meditate. As I mediate, what I'm meditating on will become real for me, and there'll be a flow of God's love in my life that will touch you. So you just remain standing there..."

So in order to put the truth of God's love into my heart, I began to meditate on Psalm 23 – the Lord is my shepherd. The word shepherd is a friend. So, I just begin to picture Jesus, and He's standing in front of me. I use my imagination to see Him, as He's described in the Bible in many places.

His eyes blazing fire, compassion and love, looking straight into every part of me, reaching out of me, no condemnation. I can see His eyes looking at me, loving me. I look on His countenance and I see Him smiling. Someone who loves you, smiles at you. I see Him smiling. I see the brilliance of who He is. His hands – kind of like they're reaching out for me. He's my friend; He's welcoming me into His world. I look at that, and see this is the Jesus, who loves me. So I open my heart and allow that love to just flow into my life, allow my heart to become filled with that, filled with the Spirit. See, it's very real. I feel His presence right now. It's flowing. "Oh, Jesus."

Now, while I was meditating, it started with me creating a picture, but I've done it so often that immediately I could connect with Him straight away. It's like, I've done it so often, that each time I do it now, I can go straight to where He is. Meditation creates tracks in your mind; a pathway for you to come into the presence of God. So, the moment I stop and go into Psalm 23, oh my friend, there He is – my friend; and I can step into His presence.

Now, I've done that so often, it just now is a habit of coming into His presence, to be aware that Jesus is with me. Now, was it like that at the beginning? No it wasn't. I just thought I was imagining things. I didn't feel God at all. I didn't feel anything. I felt silly. I just felt like I'm making it up, because what was in my mind, my heart was fighting against it. So meditation is imagining the truth over and over and over, and embracing it until your heart receives it. Amen.

“Come. Come.” “What did you feel? Oh, you’re crying. Why are you crying? What did you feel?” “I felt like Jesus holding me, embracing me.” Now, I don’t recall saying that, but meditation opened the way to experience the reality, and then the Holy Spirit moves, and it’s now got a life of its own. So in meditation, you take Biblical truth, you begin to picture it, you hold it in your heart and embrace – ‘this is true. This is true’; and then the Holy Spirit begins to make it real in your life.

I just did that for several weeks. I thought: if I can experience God’s love, each day, like this, my life will change. So instead of doing lots of things, I built one thing into my life. Sometimes we’re so busy, and we have so much information, we don’t build anything into our life. It’s not enough to know all the knowledge; it has to be worked into your life. So, for the person who’s struggling with sexual sin, they need to picture every day, yielding their body; and just speak into their mind, reject all the thought trees. Begin to picture Jesus accepting them. Picture Jesus’ holiness flowing into them. You need to change the pictures. Beholding Him, we are changed.

“So, can I just practise with you? Close your eyes. I’ll just hold your hand. Just imagine now, Psalm 23. The Lord is my friend, and I look at Him, and I see His countenance – eyes loving me, countenance smiling, hands reaching out; like I feel I want to just take a step towards Him and be in His presence. You notice as soon as I took a step towards Him, there was a flow of His presence start to touch.

Meditation is one of the most powerful keys to changing people’s lives, and yet so few people do it, because it takes effort. It takes time to reprogram your inner being; but imagine this – imagine if you were to work on this area in your life, and you found it easy to experience God. Wouldn’t that be great? So it’s worth it. So I just took time until one day, I just suddenly felt God there. Every day for 3 weeks I didn’t feel God - every day for 3 weeks! It felt like I was making it up; and then when the truth got in my heart, I suddenly felt Him, and began to just cry and cry and cry.

So meditation - you use your imagination to picture truth. Try to imagine what it looks like, what it feels like. So, when we come to the area of holiness, people don’t know what it means. So we try hard to be holy. It doesn’t really easily work, because you’re always making mistakes; but what if I was to meditate on

holiness, to look at Jesus and see how pure He is; and to stand there imagining what it would feel like, if there's absolutely nothing in my life, how clean I would feel, how clean in His presence. See, meditating on His holiness, we're changed into the same thing. Then you get to like it. You don't like the other things. You've changed. It's a daily spending time with God to build that in our life.

So, just to close this up now... If a person's going to journey forward in their life, they need to invest in building their spirit, so the life of God is flowing. 1) Praying in tongues is one way of doing that. 2.) Renew the mind by meditation, confessing God's word.

3.) We need to capture old thoughts quickly. If you find you're starting to think negatively, stop it quickly. Capture the thought and reject it. We need to change how we respond. So, very simply, in Romans 12:21, we overcome good with evil. So you just respond differently. If someone hurts you, you start to feel angry, "oh Lord I just let go that anger to you. Lord I forgive them and I bless them and I show then kindness."

4.) It's quite intentional changing of your life way. One of the things I think is of huge help is to be open with others. We need others to help us in our journey. 1 John 1:7 – if we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Christ cleanses us.

So, in sharing these things, we're really looking at the process of discipleship, walking with Jesus. Don't think of deliverance in isolation, think of deliverance as a part of the discipling process, pulling down demonic strongholds, casting demons out, and helping the person journey to become what God wanted them to be. There's no neutral position, there's no passive position. It's the pursuit of God. Amen. God bless you.

# Called to be a Minister of the Holy Spirit (7 of 8)

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*We are called to pray for people, and to be a minister of the Spirit of God. Come spiritually prepared, and believe that God is with you - guide people's attention to the Lord, not the prayer! There will be conflict before, during, and after ministry, and the battles will be within you. Believe God is with you, take risks, and reach out in prayer. Keeping your eyes on Jesus, and listening to the Holy Spirit, you will be able to minister healing and freedom, in Jesus name, to people.*

I just want to just talk about ministering to people. Now, I notice I'm doing a lot of praying for people at night time. Partly that's because people have this huge expectation some man of God will pray for them; and I understand that, you know; but the problem is if we continue to give in to that, then it minimises what you can do. So, I want to talk about a couple of things in ministry that can be of help for you.

There is always a spiritual warfare around ministry. It's just recognising what it is, and then learning how to deal with it as it comes up. The first conflict is before you pray for the person. The second conflict is while you're praying for them. The third conflict is after you've prayed for them. Get the picture? You're ministering the Holy Spirit, there's going to be some conflicts; and the battles are all inside you.

I want to just show you quickly how you can deal with them. If you want to become good at ministering the Spirit, you just have to practise. No practice, never become good. You've got to practise. You want to play the piano? Practise! If you look at the piano, 'Ah I might get it wrong!' You never play. You have to practise. So, it's a humbling thing that we have people to practise with. We have to be willing to stretch out and take risks.

I'll just show what I mean. I just need one person to volunteer. Here's the first part. What if nothing happens? What to do? "Just stand there. Face me." So, the first conflict is the willingness to position yourself to minister to people. So I've

put myself in a place of being vulnerable now. I'm taking a risk. So, many people, the battle is just to get to that place. So, you have to make a decision. I'm called to be a minister of the Spirit, God is with me and I will step up and take risks. To take risk means: I'll step out, looking for God to do something. So, every time I step out, I feel a little bit nervous. It never stops, because you're becoming vulnerable each time you do it.

So, what can you do about that? You just make a decision, "I'm called to be a minister of the Spirit, and the way God teaches me, is by engaging with real people, with real problems. I will make myself available. Yes, I'll do it." You've just got to make that decision. If you don't make the decision to put yourself where ministry is happening, you can read all the books but you never really learn. If you want to ride a bike, first, get on the bike. "Oh, I read so many books about how to ride a bike. I have so much information. I know all about the bike." "Hey, did you ever get on one?" "No." "Then you can't ride a bike." See, knowledge is different from experience. There are some things you can only learn it with experience.

So the first battle is to say: 'yeah I'll come and pray.' Now, here's the thing some of you are missing. When I take a meeting, there is an anointing released, and anyone who prays gets to tap in on that anointing. One of the best times to learn is when we have a big meeting, there's a flow of power. That's the easiest time to get to learn, because there's an anointing present; and the only way, see I can lay hands on you, and I can release an impartation to you. This is what happens - 95% of the time, within 3 weeks it's gone. You have to hold things on your life. You have to make it your own; and you make it your own by practice, you make it your own by meditation. You have to give yourself to ministering. So the first battle is this.

The second battle is, when I come to pray, I start to think "Oh", all the pressure now to try and solve her problem. So what I'll do is, I'll just direct. "I want you to close your eyes, and just open your heart to Jesus. I want you to look to Him." What I've done is I've got her attention on the Lord, not on me; and that just stops so much pressure. Now, if I focus on "Oh, what to do?" I become afraid, and I start to close up my spirit. So you have to set your attention towards the Lord. I just, as I close my eyes, I just begin to think about Jesus being very near to me. Of course, I've done that every day. I did it this morning. So when I close my eyes, I become very aware of Jesus near me and His presence is here. I can

feel His presence straight away.

So, you have to do your homework in your personal life with God. Ministry is about bringing the life of God to people; and before I come to pray, there's apprehension – what if nothing happens; what if I have feelings of inadequacy. Make a decision – I'm going to step up and trust God. When you come to pray, you may feel somewhat concerned, 'maybe nothing will happen'. Push it aside and focus on the Lord. "Thank you Lord for Your presence is here; and I see You touching her right now." What I did was I began to picture Jesus standing there, and life is flowing through me to touch her; and that's exactly what happened.

Of course, after you've ministered, then sometimes doubts can come. You wonder about 'was it good enough'. Just stop. Stop it. Don't go analysing. You just did what you could; you just ask the person: 'was this helpful?' What can we learn, and learn next time, new things. It's a journey of learning.

"Just come. She's asleep. Here we go. Just come. Alright then. So, just close your eyes." You must centre people's attention on Jesus. Otherwise they put a demand on you, and you'll start to feel manipulated to try and make something happen, rather than leaning on the Holy Spirit. Now, when you're praying for people (you've done your counsel), when it comes to praying, depend on the Holy Spirit. Always depend on Him. So, I just set my mind listening for Him, what He wants to do; and I become conscious on whether the anointing is settling on her. If I feel a wall and a block, you'll feel like no flow, there's something happening I don't know about. So, I just need to ask the Lord – "What is it Lord?" Then, power of God.

Sometimes there are blocks in ministering to people. If there's a block, sometimes I can just overcome it with just a power surge, but most times, you need to stop and ask the Lord what the problem is. It could be a control spirit over the person. It could be unbelief. "In Jesus' name, I bind that control spirit, I bind the unbelief. Loose her now." Often then, power will start to flow. Or, there may be an issue in the heart that you have not yet addressed. You just need to say "Hey, I don't feel the flow of the Spirit, let's talk about that. Is there something that we've missed? Let's ask the Lord to show us what's missing" You close your eyes, and you get them to close their eyes – "Let's ask the Lord: Lord, show us what it is we need to deal with." Interact with the person.

[Practise Exercises]

We need to just have a chance to pray with people now, and I've run out of time so much, I've got so many things I want to do. I would love to get you praying for one another. Then we'll have an alter call at the end, and we'll just have to believe for God to touch you, wherever you need to be touched. This is what we'll do. I'll get you into groups of 3, and I want you just to get the feel of ministering power to one another. We just need say, 3 people – 1, 2, 3, just come. Stand there. Ok.

So, it's very simple – just step-by-step. This is the purpose of this. I want you to get used to releasing power. Now, we release power usually with a word of command. It's from within. The steps we'll take are very simple. "You're the catcher. Eyes open. Be ready to catch." Sometimes people fall over "Ahh". Sometimes they go "Oh!" So, be alert. So, you have your eyes closed. Just ask now – 'Can I practise on you?' 'Yes please'. Be encouraging! Just stop here.

Jesus cultivated an environment for ministry. When the people were not responsive, little power flowed. If that happened with Jesus, then it will happen with you. In some places, He took the person out of the town to pray for them, because the atmosphere of unbelief was so strong. Sometimes He put people out of the room, because the atmosphere of faith was not there. It is important to set up the ministry; to create expectation for God to do something.

Alright, so again now, you are going to minister the power of the Spirit to this lady. We ask again. 'Can I practise on you?' 'Yes.' I like a big smile. Ok then." So, the lady receiving, just close your eyes and focus on the Lord. In a moment, the power of God will touch your life. I want you to close your eyes, and I want you just to begin to picture Jesus standing, and He's just where I'm standing, just with you now. God is with you. Begin to pray in tongues. Activate the flow of the Spirit. Become aware that God is with you. God is with you. Then on the count of 3, we're just going to release the power of God. So when we come to 3, rise up inside, and release the power of God. Just speak the word "Power!" 1, 2, 3, "Power".

Alright then, I just want to change around. You catch; and you be here. That's right. What I want you to do, ask her again, same question: 'Can I practise on you?' "Yeah you can'. Close your eyes, and just begin to pray. Pray in tongues.

When you’re praying in tongues, God’s spirit is flowing in you; as you begin to feel his presence in you now. That’s right. Don’t focus on praying, just focus on… There it is.

Now, same person praying - two different experiences. Don’t worry about that. It’s ok. Now, there was somewhat of a difference in the ability of the people being prayed for to receive. That’s what makes the difference - it’s the person receiving. So always, there has to be faith. Ministry has nothing passive in it. You’ve got to be 'believing God actively for something to happen. Amen.

“Come up again. Just come. I need a catcher. ‘Can I take your hand? Can I practise on you?’ Ok. That’s good.” Remember – creating a positive environment is crucial. You’re the leaders. You need to be expecting God to do something. So, when you’re ministering, build expectation. In a few moments, God is going to touch your life. The power of God will come on you. I can see already the anointing’s coming on her. Holy Spirit come, touch, now. I rose up inside, and released the power of God.

“Come. You come too. Give me your hand. Stand behind her. Thank You Lord. There we go. Close your eyes. I want you to look up. God wants to touch you. God wants to pour His Spirit out on you. There. Now, you notice: I was speaking something. I was declaring something.

“Come. Just come. There we go. Isn’t that nice? Amen. Praise the Lord. Give me your hand. Close your eyes and look up to the Lord. God wants to touch you, wants to touch you like He touched the others, wants to touch you with His power. I want you, just for a moment now, just see your heart like two big doors just opening up. “Now!” Touch her right now.

Now, I was preparing her to receive. How did I prepare her to receive? I wonder if any of you noticed what I did. I’ll show you what I did. First, I got two experiences, where she saw God moving. Testimonies will do the same thing – share stories of God moving. Secondly, I got her to open her heart. I used a picture to help her open her heart. Then, I just prayed more strongly. Then something happened. So always, we have to learn how to build faith for things happen!

“Just come along here. 1, 2, 3. You’re the minister, you’re receiving, you’re

catching. Ready? ‘Can I practise on you?’ That’s good. You can almost tell this is going to work. I want you to just imagine God is just as near as I am. The Spirit of God is filling you, just release the power of God right now. There it is. 1, 2, 3. Ok. Very good. You feel the power flow?” Don’t be timid. Don’t be shy. Come on, get bold! “Thank you Lord. Close your eyes, look up to the Lord; thank You Lord for Your presence. Touch her right now in Jesus’ mighty name.”

Ok it’s your turn. I want to get you into groups of 3. I want you all of have an opportunity to pray for someone. Ok? So, find an area or space you can practise. Get into groups of 3. If you haven’t got 3, put your hand up. Ok. We’re ready. One person catching – eyes open, one person receiving the prayer. Ok, person ministering – we want to do it just step-by-step.

Step 1 – “Can I practise on you?” “Yes yes yes”

Step 2 – Person receiving – close your eyes, open up your heart. God is going to touch you. Person ministering – begin to pray in tongues, quietly praying, begin to picture God’s power flowing. On the count of 3, release the power of God. Just blow on the person, or speak the word ‘power’.

Ready? 1, 2, 3. “Power!” Oh. That’s good. Very good. Try again. This time, take their hand – “Can I practise on you?” “Oh, yes. Do your best.” Are you ready? Person receiving – close their eyes. Person praying – listen to me. I want you to see this. As you begin to pray in tongues, begin to imagine Jesus. He’s full of joy; smiling; very happy; and we’re going to release that joy. The joy you can see, you’re going to release it into people.

Ready? 1, 2, 3. “Joy!” Woah. Very good. Change around; or try again. Ok. “Can I practise on you?” “Yes, yes, yes. Do your best.” Ok. Close your eyes if you’re receiving. Person praying, begin to meditate on Jesus. Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus. Begin to see Him. He’s full of joy. That joy is inside you. You’re going to release it. 1, 2, 3. “Joy!” Wow. Very good. Alright.

Now, listen again. Jesus said: “Out of your inner-most being, from within you, will flow rivers of living water.” Now, here’s the question: where does the flow come from? From in you. You must let go your heart to the person. You must let go of what God’s given you. You can’t sort of just stand like this: “Blah blah blah”. What’s happening is this –you’re saying ‘keep away from me. I’m going

to pray from a distance.' You can't minister from a distance. You have to release what you have.

Just hold her. Ready. So you arise in your spirit, "hoo", release the power of God. It's like what God has given you, you give to them. The word 'spirit' is the word 'breath'. That's why I was getting you to breathe, or to speak. Hold her. That's right. Come stand here. Lift your hands up. "Ooh power of God touch her". Now, you notice I let something go from inside. There's a power flow from within. There's nothing passive about ministry. Got her? Ready? Just lift your hands up.

So, you rise in your spirit, and it's going to release the power. "Power. Touch her Lord right now." Oh. It's alright. God's touching her. It's just sometimes it's more visible than others. So if I was just to come a little closer. "Thank you Lord. The power of touching Lord, right now". Now, the problem is one of receiving. It's not one of giving, because if I just go like this: "Power - touch her right now." You see the whole group goes down. So this is an issue of receiving. I just need to help her receive.

"I want you to just close your eyes and relax. God loves you. He does love you so very much. I want you to just see it's like you've got two big doors on your heart, and I want you to just open them up so you can receive. So you're used to giving to everyone else, but not used to receiving. Jesus wants you to receive as well. Just in a moment now, I want you to open up your heart, like you're opening a door". "Whooh - touch her".

Now, what was the difference? The difference was the heart positioning to receive; and as I started to pray I was asking: "Lord what is the problem". I felt the Lord drop into my heart: "She gives out to everyone else, but doesn't find it easy to receive for herself". So then what I encouraged her to do, was to picture her heart like it had two big doors on it, and opening them up. As she began to do that, the Spirit of God began to move into her. It's all to do with preparation; and some people just never fall over anyway, so don't worry about it - it's not about falling over. I'm just trying to teach you the dynamics of flowing with the Spirit.

"Did you feel the difference that time? Yeah. You felt God start to touch you? And it's true - you work and serve a lot, and give out to everyone else. When

you give out to everyone else, it's often that after a while, you don't think there's anything for you. God does love you. Close your eyes again. He loves you. See Him just standing before you; and He loves you. Father, in Jesus' name, I break the spirit of rejection. I break every ungodly belief: that I'm of no value, and my life doesn't count. I break it now in Jesus' name. Lord, release Your presence. Touch her Lord."

So the root problem was rejection. Even when nothing happened, I was still asking God: what's happening? Get the idea? Learning? Alright then, so let's do it again. Let's pray one more time. Are we ready? Find someone to practise on. "Power! Power!" Ok we're ready. "Can I practise on you?" "Ok. Yes. Do your best." Just listen to me very carefully. Listen to me.

Now, I'm speaking to the people receiving. If you believe in your heart that there's nothing for you, nothing will happen. If you look at the person praying for you, and think they're not very anointed, nothing will happen for you. You have to realise this – that even if the person is not highly anointed, it doesn't matter - your faith can release the gifting in their life. Jesus said: "If they receive you, they'll receive Me." So if you're standing there right now, and someone has got hold of your hands, just as you close your eyes, imagine that's Jesus there; and open your heart to receive. That's right. See Him, smiling, loving you.

Now, if you're ministering. Just release the power of God right now. 1, 2, 3. Power. It's all about the heart begin aware. Try again. She's unconscious - try someone else. Change around. Person receiving, close your eyes. What's happening over there? That's a spirit. One person pray in tongues, the other person command it out. Speak straight into the spirit. Ok. We're ready. Person receiving, close your eyes. Jesus is about to minister to you. Person ministering, begin to see Jesus reaching out to this person. On the count of 3, rise up and release joy. 1, 2, 3. Joy!

See? It worked. Try once more. Just change around. Power! "Can I practise? Can I practise on you?" Person receiving, close your eyes. Woah. Catch her. Careful. We're ready. Person ministering, begin to pray in tongues. See God's Spirit working through you, then release the power of God. 1, 2, 3. Power! Alright then.

"Now, just stop. You're trying to do it from your head, not your heart. Try one

more time. I want you to close your eyes and open your heart; and see Jesus is with you. His power is flowing through you. Just see it. Focus on Him, not on the girl. Focus on Him. Now we're going to release the power that's inside you. 1, 2, 3. Power! See what happened that time? See? Quite different - from inside; before, it was up here. You were looking at her, and you were outside, not inside."

Ok. Turn around then. Change over. Ready? Ok here we go. Look at that. Come. So now, I showed you a method – 1, 2, 3; but the anointing of the Spirit is like a river. So, don't be strained or artificial. Try to be very natural.

Now, you notice this – I encourage you to pray without putting your hand on them, so you would resist the tendency or temptation to push them. If you put your hand like that, you'll start to think "I need to help God. I push."

I'm trying to teach you to arise from your spirit and to flow from your spirit. When you are flowing from your spirit, you won't need to push; you just touch, and the presence of God just comes. So, it's not the method, it's the flow.

Someone else come. When you're speaking to demons, you don't flick them off like you're swatting a fly. That's not how you get rid of a demon. You have to use words. The words we speak are spirit. You need to speak to the demon.

Where is the demon located? In here, or around there? Ask the Lord to show you where. He may want you to put your hand on them. You must speak with force from inside. You must believe what you say will come to pass. Jesus said "Have the faith of God, speak to the mountain: be removed." You must believe what you say will happen. So, we need to speak words we mean. So, it'll be: "Loose!", and you can see power flow. If we were doing deliverance, the demon would feel that. "Loose!"

Speaking those commands, the demon is forced up to the surface. They can tell whether you believe in what you're saying. It's not just saying empty words; its saying words filled with faith. "I believe that as I speak, something will happen; and if I take care I believe that when I speak 'Power!' that power will flow." So, you need to believe when you speak, something will happen. Now, we just want to have a chance just to pray for people; and we covered so many areas, we just have to believe that God will do something.

So, if you had areas of generational curse, idolatry, spiritism, or sexual sin, some traumas, say: “God I need You to touch me. I know I need to be set free.” Please make your way to the front. Just make rows. First row receive, second row catch.

Let just worship the Lord. So, I look and I see lots of people. I can think one or two ways: “Oh, so many people - sigh”; or I can think like this: “every time I pray, I get stronger, because I’m exercising my authority.” So, you could get stronger too, if some of you helped in the praying. So if you’re not receiving prayer, maybe you’d like to come up, and be involved in just in doing some of the praying.

Now, remember what we said. Just prepare the environment. Now, what you didn’t realise, when I was getting you praying for one another, I was also preparing the environment; getting you to open up, getting you to relax, getting you to open to the Holy Spirit.

There’s no way that we can pray in detail for any person. I just have to believe that when I lay hands on you, the power of God will come on you; and you need to believe that too. Even though I don’t know everything that’s happening in your life, that God’s power will come on you. So, prepare your heart. Talk to Jesus now, about the issue you want the breakthrough. Be specific. Don’t come up saying: ‘well, whatever God wants to do, He can do.’ It’s just religious - it doesn’t work. Jesus asked the blind man: “what do you want?”

You need to tell Jesus what you want; where you want your breakthrough. Is it a generational thing? Is it something to do with spiritism? Is it some torment in your mind? Is it some traumatic experience? Is it some sexual sin? Is it some heart attitude? What is it that’s the problem? Just bring it before the Lord right now. Is it a fear? Is it some area that holds you back? Is it shame? Is it rejection? Have you been under the control of people so long, you feel deeply angry and rejected? Is there some picture that comes to mind? Talk to the Lord right now.

If there’s sin, ask Him to forgive you. If there’s someone you need to forgive, speak words of forgiveness. Come on. Let’s do that right now. Just speak with the Lord. Speak with Him. “Jesus, I’m so sorry. There’s been this sin in my life. I just come to You. I ask You to forgive me.” Talk to Him about what it is. Some addiction; some bondage. Talk to Him. He loves you. He forgives you. So you release forgiveness. Just release forgiveness to people who have hurt you,

betrayed you. Release forgiveness.

Now what I'm going to do is this. I'll lead you in a prayer. It's a fairly general prayer, but you'll know the part that works for you. After we've finished praying the prayer, just reach out and worship Jesus. The moment someone lays hands on you, stop praying. Just, if there're spirits inside, cough them out. Just let go of what's inside. Let go of what's bottled up inside. Are we ready now?

"Father I come to You in Jesus' name. I confess Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. I'm redeemed by the blood of Jesus from every curse, every evil spirit, all the power of sin. I belong to Jesus. I renounce generational curses. I renounce agreements with evil spirits. I renounce ungodly soul ties. Lord I ask You to set me free. I forgive those who've hurt me; and I reach out to You Jesus, to set me free now. Satan go from my life. Now! In Jesus' name." Ok. Let's begin to worship the Lord. Thank you Lord.

"In the name of Lord Jesus Christ, I take authority now. I break generational curses. I command spirits of idolatry, witchcraft, spirits of divination, bitterness, hatred, sexual spirits, unclean spirits, I command you to go. I come against spirits of shock and trauma. Go! Go! Go!"

# Ministry of Jesus (8 of 8)

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*We learn that Jesus came to touch people's hearts, by bringing revelation of the Power of God, for: salvation; healing; deliverance. Jesus made it clear we would have difficulties and problems, but He has overcome all evil with good - on the Cross, and through His ministry to us. As we face the reality that we are hurting and suffering, and allow the Lord to help us repent and forgive, He will always respond. God is committed to our character and growth, not our comfort.*

I want to share with you two verses now; and we're going to go into Psalm 84.

The Bible tells us that the ministry of Jesus was to touch people. Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit, the power of God was upon Him; and He set people free who were oppressed by evil spirits.

When Jesus described His ministry, He said: the Holy Spirit was upon Him to preach the gospel, to explain to people how they could be reconciled to God. Jesus said: Repent, change your mind, for the kingdom of God is near you. But Jesus also came to heal the broken-hearted, and to set people free who were imprisoned by evil spirits.

Psalm 84:5 – "Blessed is the man whose strength is in you, whose heart is set on pilgrimage or a journey. As they pass through the valley of Baca, they make it a spring; the rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion."

Now, Jesus made it very clear that in the world we live, we will suffer difficulties, problems; and he said: but have courage, because I've overcome everything that could come your way. Jesus understood family pressures. He understood betrayal. He understood what it was like to be rejected. He understood what it was like to experience people criticising Him. He understood what it was like to face injustice; but He always manifested the life of God. He always overcame evil with good.

These few verses here describe how we can become free. He talks about the

valley of Baca. The name Baca means ‘sorrows’ or ‘weeping’. So the Bible uses a picture to describe a painful experience in our life. A valley is a low place. The mountains are the high places. So when a person is in a valley, they’re in a place of challenge and difficulty. There are many valleys mentioned in the Bible. There’s the valley of the shadow of death. There’s the valley of trouble. There’s a valley of sorrows or weeping.

So in this passage, God describes a valley – a difficult place in life. Valleys happen to every person. Difficult experiences, experiences that produce sorrow. It can be a marriage; a family; finances; ministry; in the workplace; or with our friends. Sorrows come in life. So when a person is in the valley of sorrow, there’s grief and pain in their heart.

The Bible tells us in this verse, it says: “Blessed is the man whose strength is in the Lord, who passes through the valley of sorrow.”

So valleys are inevitable. They happen to everyone. Valleys are painful, but valleys can be profitable –we can grow in them. Whatever experience you are facing, God intends you to grow through it. He wants to come to you in your valley; He wants to show you how much He loves you; and He wants to help you walk out of your valley. God does not intend us to stay in the valley. He intends us to pass out of the valley.

So blessed is the man whose strength is in the Lord, who passes through the valley; and makes his valley-experience a well that refreshes other people. Whatever painful experience you’ve gone through in life, you can remain stuck in it – being angry and resentful and sad all of your life; or you can choose to reach out to the Lord and change, and make your valley a well. A well, for the people who were reading this, was a place of refreshing and life.

The Bible uses pictures to describe spiritual experiences: a valley of sorrow, for a time of weeping and difficulty; becoming a well of blessing, with God’s spirit moving in that situation. Valley of sorrow; well of blessing. It says: they make the valley of sorrow into a well.

So you can’t stop difficult things happening to you. You can’t stop life happening to you. But when painful experiences happen, you can choose what you do with it. You can become bitter; or you can become better. You can

become sour and hurt and resentful; or you can grow in the grace of God. You can be angry and blaming others; or you can reach out to God to help you. You can become twisted and distorted by this experience; or you become sweeter, and more gracious.

You choose - it's your choice. We have no choice, sometimes, over what other people do to us; but we can choose how we respond. So, the Bible says: "blessed is the man whose strength is in the Lord, who passes through the valley, makes it into a well, and God begins to pour rains of blessing on him, and that person goes from strength to strength".

That's from one level of strength to another level of strength. You want to be strong? Handle adversity well. You want to become a bigger person? Handle your difficult situations well. So we see, God's plan is never to leave us in a valley of sorrow. In fact, the Bible tells us in Isaiah 53 – Jesus carried our grief and sorrows, so we don't have to carry them.

I want to ask two questions. First one: why did people get stuck in a valley? Why do they get stuck? The second question: how do you get out? How do you make your valley into a well? So you come out stronger, not weaker and bitter.

So firstly, why do people get stuck in the valley? Over the years I've met many Christians, and many non-Christians, and their lives are full of grief; they're in pain. There is a part of their heart where there's a valley of sorrow. So I've tried to find out why people stay there, when they don't really want to be there. Every now and then, someone will say something or do something, and it triggers off their anger, and triggers off their reaction.

So here are some of the reasons I've discovered why people remain in a valley; why they carry sorrows in their heart; why they have a place in their heart where they're stuck. There are several reasons - let me just give you a few of the reasons.

The first one is when a person denies or minimises that they've been hurt. If you get hurt by someone, or some situation; and you deny that you've been hurt, or you sweep it away and say – "It's nothing really"; then you are embracing a lie. The pain is buried, and you've covered it with a lie.

I have found many, many women suffer - women who've had abortions for example. Deep in their heart of hearts, they know what happened; but they've covered it and minimised it, and denied what it really was. So there's a part of their heart where they're sad. Until we face the truth about our situation, we can't get free. I'll show you the steps out in a moment. So when people deny or minimise there's a problem... I've found often in Asia, people won't talk about the things that hurt them. They'll bury them in the heart, and hold them down in the heart; trying to get on with life, and not face the thing and deal with it.

Another way that people stay in the valley is through unforgiveness. Unforgiveness means: you've hurt me, and you owe me, and I refuse to release the debt. When we hold unforgiveness in our heart, the Bible says we open the door to tormenting evil spirits; and they torment you. They keep reminding you: it's not fair. They keep stirring up hurt, stirring up injustice. They keep stirring the fire inside you; and each new experience adds to the previous one. I find some people are angry, and they're just about angry at everything. But really what's happened is: they were hurt, and got angry, and they never forgave.

Anger is like a debt, similar to unforgiveness. When a person is angry, they believe something was taken from them, something they were entitled to was stolen. "You owe me. You need to apologise. You need to put it right." So anger and unforgiveness are like a demand – you pay me back. But you may never pay me back, and what you did may be so serious, and so bad, you can't pay me back.

So, if I remain angry and harbour unforgiveness in my heart, I am trapped in the valley. I'm stuck in the place of sorrow. Trapped in there by my own unforgiveness; and God is saying – "Hey, I want to help you. I want the valley to become a well, but you are holding onto your unforgiveness and anger. You won't let go, so you're staying in this difficult place. I want to get you out of there."

There's another reason that people may stay in the valley – is they make Inner Vows. They harden their hearts; they speak "I'll never let any man near me again." "I'll never trust a woman." "I'll never be in that position again." So when we make an inward vow, it's rooted in anger and bitterness – we stay in the valley. "I'll never be like my father." "I'll never be like my mother." These kinds of statements are rooted in anger and bitterness; and they'll keep you in the

valley.

So there are many reasons that people stay in a valley: Denial; Minimising; Unforgiveness; Anger; Inner vows; Judgements. People just get their lives all messed up. Now, we can choose how we handle difficult situations. So notice what the Bible says – “Blessed is the man whose strength is in the Lord.” Blessed! That means God’s favour rests on them. Notice why the person was stuck in the valley – was because they were trying to control all the pain, and control their own life. They were trying to manage their own world. When we control our own life, we don’t make room for God.

So here are the steps out of this – “Blessed is the man.” In other words, God’s blessing flows on this person. Here’s number 1 – “whose strength is in the Lord”. That word strength means: ability to get victory is found in the Lord. So blessed is the man who comes to the Lord for victory over the situation. Instead of just trying to control it, instead of trying to bury it, they come to the Lord and bring it to the light. It says –that person, makes the valley of sorrows into a well.

How do they make it into a well? They make choices. They make choices that give God room to move; choices that allow the Holy Spirit to come into their life; choices that let God change their heart; choices to open this pain to the Lord to heal.

God doesn’t want you to walk through life suffering alone. This is what it says in 2 Corinthians 1 – “Now today, the God of comfort; God who comforts people, comfort you in all your tribulation.” So God is a God who comforts people. Every difficult, precious situation, God wants to come and comfort you. Now the God of all comfort, comfort you in all your tribulation.

Now listen to this: “...so that you may be able to comfort others, with the comfort you have received.” So if you’ve been through a painful situation, God wants to come and comfort you, and heal you; and if you are a living testimony of the power of God to change people’s lives, you can help others, because you understand them, you’ve experienced the same pain.

So what are some of the steps out of the valley? They’re usually far easier than you think. The difficulty is just doing it, but the steps are easy.

Number 1 – I need to face the reality of my plan. I need to be honest - I'm hurting. What happened to me, really hurt me, and I'm suffering. The first step to any freedom is just honesty. Instead of pretending, and covering, and saying: it's not much; say what it is – I'm hurt.

Number 2 - I need to be honest. I need to face the situation – what happened to me, how did it affect me, how did I react. When you ask those questions, you start to really face the problem. Now I need to reach out to the Lord –"Lord I need Your grace to help me now."

So number 1, I need to face the problems with honesty. Number 2, I need to ask the questions – what happened, how did it affect me, how have I tried to react and solve this problem.

Number 3, I need to ask the Lord to help me now and make a decision – I will forgive. I will grieve over what happened, and I'll forgive. Sometimes we just need to grieve before we can forgive properly. Tears are the language of the heart. Issues of the heart, you have to process from the heart. Jesus said – When you forgive, forgive from the heart. Usually what happens – tears come, and that's a sign or language that we're sad.

When I work with people and we're counselling them or talking with them, I always watch their face. I found the moment you touch the heart, the place where the person is in pain, the windows to the soul – the eyes start to flood with water. You can just tell the person's really hurting; and I usually focus on that, because that is the place God wants to heal them.

So, face the situation. Ask the questions – what happened, how did it affect me, how have I tried to protect myself. Then come to the Lord with these things, grieve over the problem, release forgiveness. Start to bless the people who hurt you. If there's any inner vows or judgements, renounce them; and expect God to help you, to give you grace to come through it. Expect God to speak to you because His words bring comfort.

I remember I was facing an incredible situation – one of my daughters had been sexually assaulted, and I was broken-hearted by this; and I was in a valley of sorrow. I could not be fixed by anyone. People didn't even understand how sad I was. Deep at the core of my inner-most being, I was struggling with whether I

could trust God again. So I had it all bottled up in my heart. I just tried to carry on life, tried to be a good Christian, tried to overcome.

Someone said to me –they were trying to help me – they said: if you could say anything to God, what would you say? So I was alone one day with God, and I began to weep. I began to face the sorrow. Then I spoke out my heart, and I said: "God, I feel You've let me down. I expected You to care for me, and look after me, and now I don't trust you. I've prayed, and I pray for my family. My family is hurting, and You have allowed this thing to happen, so I'm struggling to pray anymore."

I was just honest with God, and began to weep as I shared my heart, and shared the real struggle. There was a silence for a moment, and I could feel God coming on me to help me. When you are honest, God always responds. It's just sometimes we try and pretend it's better than it is. I felt the Lord begin to speak to me, tell me how much He loved me. He said – "I'm not committed to your comfort, I'm committed to your character." He said – "I want you to grow. I know this is a sad experience for you, but in the midst of it, you will grow, and your family will grow, and I will come and help. Then you will be able to help many others."

I began to weep. He said – "When you pray, you're just praying for everything to go right in your life; and I'm not committed to your comfort, I'm committed to your character. Then He said to me this: "You know how you feel about your daughter. I feel that about My people too, when sin defiles their lives." I just began to weep and weep as I felt the heart of God, and I let go. I said: "God, I thank you that You're going to help us." Within a space of 3 months, my daughter had an amazing encounter with angels, and her life changed. God supernaturally came to help, and the situation turned around.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in the Lord. He turns to the Lord in the midst of sorrows and troubles, instead of trying to control it all and bury it in the heart. Blessed is the man who turns to the Lord, and makes choices that turn the valley into a well. You can choose to trust God. You can choose to follow His way. It says in that scripture, we'll read it again now: "Blessed is the man whose strength is in the Lord, whose heart is set on pilgrimage." In other words, whose heart is willing to go through a process. We just want someone to pray and fix us, but God wants you to journey with Him and trust Him. So I went from

strength to strength to strength.

When I think about that situation now, there's no pain in my heart. I'm sad that it happened, but God has given great victory; and we have prayed for hundreds of people to be set free, who were grieving over a similar trauma. "Blessed is the man whose strength is in the Lord, whose heart embraces God's process. They go through the valley of sorrow and make it a well, and the rain fills them, and they go from strength to strength, and they experience God." That's what the Psalm is saying.

Blessed is the man or woman whose strength is in God, who turns to the Lord in the midst of their trouble and says: 'God, I'll go through the journey and the process with You.' They pass through the valley, they don't stay in the place of being bitter and angry and sad and resentful - they turn it into something sweet. Instead of being angry, they forgive; instead of cursing, they bless; instead of being bitter, they do good, show kindness. That person goes from strength to strength, blessed by God, enjoying the presence of God.

You can't enjoy the presence of God when you let bitterness in your heart. When Paul wrote, he said: don't grieve the Holy Spirit. Don't let there be bitterness and anger and fury in your hearts. Don't let there be malice, payback. Rather, be kind, tender-hearted. Forgive. Enjoy the presence of God. I love the Holy Spirit. I love the presence of God. I want my life to be free. So whenever sorrows come, you must make a choice whether to stay in the valley, or turn it into a well.

Please just close your eyes right now. Tonight there'd be people here who don't know Jesus. You were born into this world separate from God; but God loves you, He has a destiny for your life. Jesus came and died on the cross for your sins, and rose from the dead after 3 days. This is what He said: to everyone who received, to everyone to believed on Him, He gave power to be a child of God.

If you're here tonight and don't know Jesus, I want you to make that decision tonight. "I will receive Jesus Christ. I will turn to Him – the God who loves me. I'll trust my life to Him and receive Him into my heart."

[Sinner's Prayer]

“Father in heaven, I come to You in Jesus’ name. Thank You for loving me. Thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for my sins, and to rise again from the dead. Tonight I turn away from sin. Tonight I turn to You. Jesus, I receive You as my Saviour. I ask You to forgive all my sins. By faith now, I receive forgiveness. I receive Your Spirit into my heart, and I give You my life tonight. Before heaven and earth I declare, Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord, and my friend forever. Amen.”

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