

Supporting Pastors by Ministering to Christians in Need of Guidance and Deliverance



Newsletter—Vol. 3, No. 4
April 10, 2009

Dear APF Supporter:

Greetings!

I pray that life is going well for all of you, and that you have a good holiday celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Although it is cold and seems to be time for Christmas, I hope the joy of the Lord warms you in knowing that we have salvation and deliverance in Him.

Praises:

Although the ministry is more than a building, the finish work of the office is coming right along. I praise God that more than \$2000 was given by supporters. With the matching \$2000 given by an anonymous donor, more than \$4000 is available for purchases to finish the work. God has richly blessed us for the building.

I praise God for the various ways that people have supported the ministry. Prayers, words of encouragement, donations, help with the building and more has been given, and has humbled me very much. Thank you for the support.

Ministering to people has resulted in miracles. Numerous times a person has come into a ministry session with great burdens and walked away with joy. I don't take the credit, but praise God that I can see Him heal a person.

Something to Consider:

There are some who try to minimize what happened at Calvary. What happened to Jesus does not seem to be so important. In fact, I heard one person say that Jesus' death was an extreme case of child abuse!

Orthodox Christianity, though, believes Jesus had to endure Calvary's cross for all people, especially for those who believe. In John 3:14, Jesus tells Nicodemus that He had to be lifted up just as Moses raised up a snake on a pole while the Israelites were in the wilderness (see Numbers 21:8-9). The people who were bitten by snakes were healed when they looked up at the snake on the pole. Jesus said those who look to Him when He is "lifted up" may have eternal life. His shed blood has washed us clean of our sins, giving us our salvation.

Jesus' work on the cross is also very important in ministering to people and setting them free from the powers of darkness. Two aspects in particular are very important. The first is found in Galatians 3:13, which says, *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."*

All curses that come on a person that evil spirits claim as a right for taking up residence or causing havoc in a person's life can be broken because Jesus' has become a curse for us. In ministry, it is a process of identifying what curses have come upon a person. Curses that come from people who use sorcery, witchcraft, or any other form of occultism can also be broken by putting them on the cross. Once the curses are identified, I help the person in prayer break the curses.

The second aspect flows right out of the first. Once the curses are broken, the powers of darkness can be addressed. Colossians says, *When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

With the curses broken, the demons can be addressed and evicted from the person. They are powerless because of what Jesus did on the cross. Each of us must appropriate what Jesus did by putting on the cross the curses, but once that is done, the demons' power has been shredded.

John records in his gospel in chapter 19, verse 30, that Jesus said, "It is finished," just before He died. What a powerful statement! I see this as crucial in dealing with the powers of darkness. His shed blood on Calvary's cross brought us victory over the powers of darkness, and their claim on us is finished. Praise God for our eternal salvation, but even for our lives today, the Lord Jesus Christ is victor! We can have freedom in Him because of it is indeed finished. There is no question: Jesus Christ is Lord and Victor!

Prayer Concerns:

Please continue to pray for me as I teach a class at Jefferson Brethren on Wednesday evenings, through May 6.

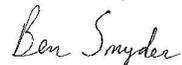
Starting April 20, I will have office hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, which means that I will no longer hold evening ministry sessions. My family has sacrificed enough! Therefore, I ask for prayer that schedules will open up for people to meet during the office hours.

Please pray for those who are considering calling for help, but are afraid to do so.

Final Thoughts:

Some days when I see all of the trouble in the world, I can feel very defeated. The enemy indeed still has power and can cause us pain today. It is important for me to remember that ultimately, God is in control, and that He has defeated the enemy. As the Apostle Paul makes clear in Romans 8, we are more than conquerors and won't be separated from God. The enemy is making many last-ditch efforts, but the end of the powers of darkness is for sure, as Jesus has triumphed over them on the cross!

In Christ,



Ben Snyder