

# *Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom and Deliverance*



Newsletter—Vol. V, No. 8  
August 2011

Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

## **Greetings!**

The summer is flying by and in a couple of weeks the children will be heading back to school. For some, that is good news, while others may be disappointed. I'm not sure where I stand! I try to enjoy aspects of all seasons, including back to school.

## **Praises:**

I praise God for bringing many new clients to *Life of Freedom Ministries*. It has been a blessing to see Him at work in their lives.

I praise God for the Bible studies, as He has blessed me with these as well. The study and preparation time is worthwhile and valuable for myself, and I believe those who attend or listen to the recording have valued the study as well.

I praise God for ministers and believers who support and encourage me in this ministry. Sometimes they, and you, do it without even knowing it! Thank you!

## **Something to Consider:**

**Exodus 8:15**—*But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said.*

**Exodus 9:14**—*When Pharaoh saw that the rain and hail and thunder had stopped, he sinned again: He and his officials hardened their hearts.*

Many times at speaking engagements or teaching sessions, a common theme that develops is the issue of a friend or family member being in need of deliverance. The hurt and pain is often very evident on the faces of concerned people. In fact, the ups and downs of praying and supporting a loved one in need of deliverance can be tormenting.

Here is an example. A mother and father of a young adult approached me because of their concern. Their son just graduated from college and seemed to have no direction. He did manage to graduate, but the college years were filled with partying and many relationships with the women there. Although he grew up in the church and even had come to saving faith, his life became far from a Christian life. The parents were distraught, as they had been praying for him all his life.

At certain times, usually after a crisis, it appeared that their son was going to make a change and recommit his life to the Lord Jesus. It seemed that the crisis shook him up just enough for him to realize that something was not right. However, just when it seemed that things were getting better and he had relief from the turmoil, he turned back to sinful living.

The story of the plagues in the Book of Exodus tells the same kind of story. Just as the young man regretted the trouble he was in, Pharaoh regretted disobeying God when he saw the turmoil of his

land. However, when Pharaoh saw that God answered Moses' prayers and ended the current plague, he decided that he really didn't want to obey God and chose to continue in sin. The young man had the same kind of attitude. He regretted the trouble, but didn't fully regret the lifestyle. He simply had not hit rock bottom and was not willing to surrender to God.

Pharaoh never fully hit rock bottom. He came very close to doing so after the Passover and all of the first-born males were killed in Egypt. Still, he didn't totally surrender to God. He chased after the Israelites until he literally hit rock bottom and died in the Red Sea. He continued to harden his heart after each plague, and it led to his death.

The hardest part of supporting a person in need of help is to tolerate the difficult times and allow God to draw him or her to God. Usually, seeing a loved one hurting is difficult to endure and we pray for God to spare them. It is difficult, but I encourage them to pray for God to use the rough times to draw the person back to Him. Notice I wrote "use" and not "cause." I believe God allows us to reap what we sow. Therefore, I pray for God to use these experiences to *soften* their hearts toward Him. I pray for His intervention so don't *harden* their hearts. Instead of taking away the trouble, ask for God to use it in a powerful way.

I encourage you if you are in a situation like I have described in this newsletter to hang in there. Ask God to work powerfully in those difficult times to lead a person to get help. Many times the conviction needed to change doesn't come without these difficult times.

### **Prayer Concerns:**

Events:

*Life of Freedom Bible Studies*—The next Bible study will be on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. All are invited to attend.

The financial contributions have dipped a bit in the last month. I ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this ministry financially. If you already do, thank you so much for your support!

### **Final Thoughts:**

I must give a word of caution in regard to this topic. The enemy may try to use our prayers against us! Prayers asking God to "do whatever it takes" to help someone may be used to cause great turmoil. For this reason, I encourage to pray for God's will to be done so that no *harm* will come upon the person. God's will may allow pain, and pain indeed hurts! However, allowing some pain does not mean that there needs to be harm done by the enemy, making the pain worse than necessary. The enemy loves to cause harm to everybody and bring destruction. Let's not allow the demonic to gain a foothold on a person. So I pray for God's intervention for His will to be done and prohibit the enemy from making matters worse. No matter what does happen, God is certainly big enough to make good out of it! (See Romans 8).

In Christ,



Ben Snyder

### ***Life of Freedom Ministries***

22422 COUNTY ROAD 46 NEW PARIS, IN 46553

574-831-2669

[lfmdirector@gmail.com](mailto:lfmdirector@gmail.com)

[www.lifeoffreedom.org](http://www.lifeoffreedom.org)