

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom and Deliverance



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

I have always looked forward to autumn, but this year, it seems to have snuck up on me! Perhaps it is just because I'm getting older. ☺ October's weather can be so beautiful, and I enjoy seeing God's handiwork in all of the colors in creation. May this autumn/harvest time be a joyful time remembering how God provides for us.

Praises:

Two speaking engagements at local churches went well. I'm thankful for the opportunities to share about this ministry and the reality of spiritual warfare.

God has continued to show Himself to be faithful, as He has led people to increasing freedom. Sometimes it seems that progress is slow, but He leads the way to freedom.

I must praise God as He has sustained me with strength and energy during a very busy stretch.

I praise God for His provisions. In spite of the drought, God blessed my family with a productive garden. It's almost time to pick the popcorn!

Something to Consider:

1 Peter 5:8—*Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

Ephesians 6:10-12—¹⁰ *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.* ¹¹ *Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.* ¹² *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

Beginning in January of this year, the focus at the Life of Freedom Ministries Bible studies has been on spiritual warfare. The title was "Free to Live for Jesus Christ." The emphasis of this ministry is not demons and what they can do. Instead, it is about being fully free to live for Jesus. Of course, evil spirits do not want us to be free or even feel at all free, and the Bible studies addressed the works of evil spirits to get us to not walk in our freedom. This month, we'll look more closely at our defenses against the works of evil spirits.

In the first passage listed above, Peter makes clear that Satan is ready to take advantage of believers. His instructions are to "be self-controlled and alert." In order to be protected against the enemy of our souls, we must be paying attention. Being ignorant of him doesn't keep him from attacking Christians. He is not a gentleman! Also, being self-controlled and not giving into sin is important. The more a person gives into temptation, the more ground the evil spirits gain in

his or her life. At times, ministries like this one are accused of being rigid and old fashioned because of speaking out against activities and practices that are occult. After enough times of lending a hand in a person's deliverance and seeing how "harmless" activities led to demonization, it gets easy to say, "Stay away from doing such and such." To me, it is just being alert to what the devil does to attack people.

The second passage listed above shows clearly that we need to be ready for a spiritual battle. It is on this passage and the verses following this section in Ephesians that will be the focus at the next Bible study. Most definitely, the enemy is defeated, but it is the believer's job to enforce that defeat. In Christ, we have all have the equipment needed to deal with Satan's works. We have to "stand" against the devil's schemes, showing that there will be conflict. In fact, it can be a "struggle." Since it can be difficult, it is important to wear spiritual armor.

NFL football players or Major League baseball catchers do not play without necessary equipment for their protection. In some ways, the equipment limits their mobility and may feel uncomfortable. God's armor is not that way! His armor brings safety and security as we can rest in knowing that He has provided for all that we need. In fact, His spiritual armor enables us to live for Him instead of hindering us. The devil may bring us trouble, but we can have Christ's peace knowing that He has overcome (John 16:33).

Prayer Concerns:

Events: *Life of Freedom Bible Studies*—The next monthly Bible study will be on Monday, October 8th at 6:30pm. All are invited to attend. The topic for this Bible study will be "Spiritual Warfare Personally." This session will focus on our spiritual armor and protection in Christ. It is the eighth and final part of the series on spiritual warfare, Life of Freedom Seminar: Free to Live for Jesus Christ. The monthly Bible studies are scheduled for the 2nd Monday of each month. Come and join us!

Please continue to pray for God's protection for believers so we can serve Him.

Please pray for God's Holy Spirit to be at work in moving people to Him this autumn. The enemy likes to think this is "his time," but instead let's make it a harvest for God!

Final Thoughts:

It seems to be quite appropriate that spiritual armor and defense is the focus of the Bible study in October. As I noted in the September newsletter, with celebration of Halloween this season is a time increased spiritual activity. Believers should not take this situation lightly. We don't need to be in fear. It is an opportunity for the church to show Christ's victory through prayer and living in confidence that He has already won. I encourage you to be alert and be ready, wearing your spiritual armor so we can share of the great victory of Jesus Christ!

In Christ,



Ben Snyder

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