

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom and Deliverance



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

I write this newsletter on a beautiful early autumn day! Weather wise, this is my favorite time of year, and I look forward to the cool weather and colors of fall. The beauty is inspiring for me to press on in service of Him.

Praises:

God has ministered to many new clients. It has been wonderful to see Him set captives free. When a person humbles himself or herself, it is amazing how God can enter in and bring healing and restoration. I'm very thankful for His grace!

God has blessed me with opportunities to share at different churches in the last month, and presented more opportunities in the near future. I'm thankful to be able to share about what I've learned about this ministry from my experience, Bible study, and years of training under Dean Hochstetler and colleague Natalie Abigail.

Short Report:

When confronting the evil spirits residing in this client, the first one identified was "Witchcraft." Certainly, this person was not a witch, and was not involved in activities that involved very dark practices with brews, potions, broomsticks, and black cats and the like. The reality is that witchcraft can be very subtle and even appear to be harmless. That was the case with this client. Learning the practice from the person's mother, the client was often involved in using a pendulum. This activity is a form of divination, which is gaining information or knowledge from evil spirits. This client experienced a great deal of oppression, and had a number of physical symptoms from that oppression, and the spirit of "Witchcraft" claimed a right to be there because of using the pendulum. The client worked through confessing the involvement in the practice of using the pendulum. Since the sin was confessed, personal and ancestral, the spirit no longer had ground to stay and departed. The oppression lifted, as well as the physical symptoms. The pendulum use seemed harmless, and even fun, but it was actually involvement with evil spirits, opening the client up to allow these spirits to invade. Praise God! The Lord Jesus set the person free from these evil spirits.

Something to Consider:

Deuteronomy 18:9-13—⁹ When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. ¹⁰ Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, ¹¹ or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. ¹² Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD; because of these same detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. ¹³ You must be blameless before the LORD your God.

Galatians 5:19-21—¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

In many ministry sessions with troubled people, the phrase “I (or we) thought it was harmless” is often stated. Not realizing the spiritual component to certain activities, many are deceived because the activity seems harmless. As we enter the “Halloween season,” I thought that it would be good to address the matter of occult practices. The case report above is one example of how a family, in ignorance, had opened themselves up to demonic affliction because of involvement in an occult activity. Like many Halloween games, using the pendulum seemed harmless, and even fun. The trouble is that these “games” are rooted in spiritual activities for appeasing demons or seeking protection from demons. Such practices are simply witchcraft.

The Bible gives a general outline of occult practices in Deuteronomy 18:9-13. Certainly, people who are intentionally involved in such practices would be more precise about what kind of activity would be witchcraft, superstitions, sorcery or divination and so on. The point is that *all* of these practices, no matter what they are called, are being involved with evil spirits in some fashion. All the practices listed are used for gaining knowledge, information, or power from demons—or all three. Sometimes, like the pendulum use, it appeared to be for good, and is assumed then that it is of God.

The New Testament also makes clear that we should not be involved in witchcraft. The Apostle Paul says that it is an act of the sinful nature. Most would agree that sexual immorality is a sin, as well as the others that are listed in Galatians 5:19-21. Witchcraft is right there too. Therefore, I discourage any kind of involvement in anything to do with Halloween. As it was for the client above, being involved in “harmless” activities is not really so harmless when demons are involved.

Prayer Concerns:

Events: *Life of Freedom Bible Studies*—The next monthly Bible study will be on Monday, October 14th at 6:30pm. I’d love for you to join us!

Although finances have been very tight, God has been faithful to meet our needs. I’m am grateful beyond words at how people have responded to the need. Please continue to pray for connections to new contributors who would like to support LFM to finish out 2013 and establish a good base for 2014.

As noted in “Praises,” more speaking engagements are coming. Please pray for those sessions.

Final Thoughts:

At the October Bible study, we will take a closer look at Halloween and its dangers. We’ll discuss the origins of different practices and the dangers of these practices. The purpose is not for bringing about fear, but rather awareness so that believers are not opened to any demonic affliction.

Serving the Lord Jesus Christ,



Ben Snyder

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