

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

In about two weeks, my children will be returning to school. Where has the summer break gone? Although it has been very wet, we enjoyed a summer of many activities together as a family. I am very thankful to God for the way He has blessed us through many people adding to our rich summer.

Praises:

I praise God for His continuing to bring people to LFM for ministry. It does break my heart that so many are hurting, but I'm thankful that He is faithful and ministers healing to them.

I praise God for a wonderful meeting with the LFM Board in July. I'm humbled and extremely blessed by their support and encouragement and the admonition to press on in ministry.

Short Report:

"I just feel so helpless." Ms. T told me this about the thoughts in her mind. She would try to think of positive things, especially the truths of God's Word, but instead would be bombarded with very negative thoughts. She felt very powerless and helpless to change her thoughts and feelings. I asked if I could confront the spirit realm and see if the negative thoughts were not actually her own and were coming from evil spirits. Sure enough, an evil spirit was there condemning just about every move, or lack of moving, Ms. T made. The spirit's name was False Sin. The evil spirit told her that God was angry at her for not getting work done on time or good enough, among other nit-picking things. She felt guilty for not doing well, and then also felt powerless to change. Fortunately, she had not yet developed an anger toward God for such things, but only blamed herself. I was able to share truth with her that these accusations were not based on truth: she was not sinning. (Also, the name "False Sin" indicated it to be so!) She confessed to believing a number of lies about herself and God. False Sin was confronted again and found that he had no legal ground to stay and was cast out in Jesus' Name. I then confronted any spirits connected to the feelings of helplessness and powerlessness. Those spirits were also cast out, since Ms. T now understood that she was not powerless. In Christ Jesus, we do have the power to overcome strongholds!

Something to Consider:

1 Corinthians 4:20—²⁰ *For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.*

1 Corinthians 6:11—¹¹ *And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

2 Timothy 3:5—⁵ *...having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.*

2 Corinthians 10:4—⁴ *The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.*

This month's newsletter will try to gently touch on a topic that is currently a hot topic in the USA. Although the issue revolves around one particular sin, as I see it the problem is connected to

something deeper *within the Christian church*. So this isn't a commentary about the culture in general. Why should I expect non-Christians to act like Christians? No, this is about those who claim to be followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, and it is not about condemning certain acts. The Bible has made clear what actions are sinful. Instead, the newsletter is about what is done in regard to sin.

A major league lie that many Christians have come to believe in today's world is that Christians need to love and accept sinful lifestyles. The trouble is, if a person disagrees and points out what God says in the Bible, one is considered to be condemning and judgmental. Therefore, I'd like to share a thought on the subject, as it is very relevant for me in ministry. It seems that those who emphasize love and acceptance are failing to realize that there is *power* in Christ Jesus. We do not need to continue to live in sinful strongholds. Jesus came to set the captives free, and He still does! I realize that there are other lies that develop out of this lie, or also other lies that may even be behind not believing in a powerful Christianity. Nonetheless, I think it is important to note in this situation.

The passages above are just some samples in the Bible of God's power at work in His people. Do a quick check on an online Bible concordance for "power," and many, many references are listed. First Corinthians 6:11 and 2 Timothy 3:5 both follow a list of sins. In the first list I point out that it is followed by the fact that they *were* those things but Christ changed them. In the second listing, they had a powerless faith, which would end up accepting sin so that they feel good. They may talk a Christian life, but what is it that empowers them (1 Corinthians 4:20)? Essentially, it has become at best a life empowered by human strength, but worse than that it is likely hampered by evil spirits making the strongholds seem to be unbreakable.

Second Corinthians 10:4 shows clearly that Christians have God's power at hand to overcome strongholds, no matter what they are. So this issue isn't just about sexuality, but any plaguing sin. Ms. T felt like her stronghold was something that she could never overcome. She is not the only client who shared such a mindset with me. Men dealing with lust and pornography often share that they would try and try to stop but the stronghold was like steel to a magnet. It drew them right in to the sin. *The Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is that we can be set free from these strongholds!* Loving someone does not mean accepting their sinful lifestyle. Instead, we can love them by helping them to freedom from any stronghold, no matter the kind. If we don't have a Christianity empowered by the living God, what kind of religion do we have? It is no different from any other and is helpless and weak. We are not helpless and weak because we do have divine power to set us free!

Prayer Concerns:

Please continue to pray for me to have the discernment needed for ministry.

Please pray for certain clients who must choose between living in pleasure of the power that occult practice brings or salvation and freedom of submission to Christ Jesus.

Serving Christ Jesus,



Ben Snyder

Life of Freedom Ministries

22422 COUNTY ROAD 46 NEW PARIS, IN 46553

574-831-2669

lfmdirector@gmail.com

www.lifeoffreedom.org