

# *Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom*



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

## **Greetings!**

Didn't I just write the January newsletter? Basketball season seems to go by so quickly for me. With a flurry of games in January, the month moves by quickly. I'm blessed to be able to spend time with friends and family at the ball games. It is a nice change of pace from ministry work.

## **Praises:**

I praise God for His work of healing in some clients who had serious wounds from broken relationships. The Short Report below, though not from the last month, is a good example.

I praise God for His timing in ministering to me. Looking back at the last month, a number of times a person "just happened" to be at the right place to talk with me and bring encouragement. I'm so thankful for His provision.

## **Short Report:**

Depression troubled Ms. E. She had been through counseling, which helped some, but the depression lingered. She set up a session with me, and we discussed her depression. The root of her depression was found in blaming herself for the events in her life. She took responsibility for the sins of others against her, blaming herself, and then hating herself for those sins. She believed it was her fault that a boyfriend abused her, for example. Demons caused her to misconstrue many events in her life as well. They were able to twist about anything in her life to be negative and her fault.

I invited the Holy Spirit to minister to her and share the truth about what happened in a number of events, and share the truth about who she is in Christ. Although uncertain at first as to whether what she was experiencing was real, she soon realized that the peace in her heart was genuine. We confronted some demons and they were expelled after the healing of the Holy Spirit. They caused her to feel funny in her head as we confronted them, and she felt free when they left. As she continued to learn about her value and place in Christ, Ms. E grew in confidence and faith. The depression seemed to dissipate as she grew in understanding of her place in Jesus Christ. It was a continued need for Ms. E to remember who she was in Christ to overcome the negative view of herself.

## **Something to Consider:**

**John 8:32**—<sup>32</sup> *Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

**John 18:37**—<sup>37</sup> *"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.*

*Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."*

**1 Peter 2:24**—<sup>24</sup> *"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."*

The Accuser/Deceiver and his host work hard to find a way to torment Christians. A primary way is to lead believers to believe lies. The lies then can generate negative emotional responses, such as depression. I must make it clear that depression does not automatically mean there is demonization. Depression can come in a variety of ways, such as lack of sunshine in the winter. However, it is a good idea to check if the depression is rooted in believing a lie. Whether it is depression, anxiety, or anything else, learning the truth about our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit brings healing.

The wonderful thing about how the Holy Spirit ministers to hurting people is that He gives the truth in a gentle way. The truth can hurt, and the enemy tries to focus our attention on that pain instead of the healing that comes from God when we look at the truth. Over and over again I've seen Him share the truth with a person that if I shared it with him or her, it would be insulting, but He's able to do it so that the person seeks Him for healing. Ms. E was a good example. Her view of herself was not based on truth but on lies the enemy led her to believe. When He showed her the truth, it was done so kindly, she began to believe what He said was true!

The enemy usually does not quit attacking and trying to cause the person to go back to believing the lies, which is why the healing of the wound by the Holy Spirit is so important. Even if the truth is revealed to a person by Him, if the wound isn't healed, the enemy uses that as a platform to attack. When an event in life happens that feels similar to the event that caused the first wound, the evil spirits attack and say, "See you really are to blame!" or whatever the lie may be. The depression didn't leave immediately for Ms. E. She had to continue to grow and believe the truth about herself as a believer in Christ. Some days were harder than others as the enemy attacked to get her to believe the lie. However, as her trust in Christ grew, she was able to overcome the depression.

God brings the complete package of healing. He brings the truth and then He heals the wound that was used to generate the lie. He is more than able, and I believe, willing, to minister to us when we seek Him and are willing to hear the truth. The truth may in some cases seem scary to face, but He is so kind as He shares the truth. So don't be afraid! Allow Him to minister to you and learn the truth so you can be set free.

A final thought on this: for me, ministry sessions like these prove to me the truth of the Bible. In Luke 4, Jesus said He came to set the captives free. The Gospels show He had the power to do so, and He still does today! If you doubt the validity of the Bible, seek Him and He will show Himself to you.

**Prayer Concerns:**

Please pray against the enemy's interference for clients being able to meet. A higher amount than normal have needed to reschedule or not even show for meetings.

Please pray for those who are in need of ministry but are afraid to continue. A number of people have talked to me to learn more about it but are fearful to continue.

Please pray for me to have the right words for those who are questioning or are fearful about ministry.

Rescued by Christ Jesus,



Ben Snyder

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