Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

When thinking of the month of May, some of the things I think of include colorful flowers, full grown leaves on the trees, the smell of freshly worked soil by the farmers, and Mother's Day. The colder, rainy weather we've had in northern Indiana the first week of May has hindered the first few items that come to mind. Thankfully, the weather doesn't impact that Mother's Day will come. I'm very grateful for my mother, as she is always caring and concerned about my well being. I'm also grateful for my wife, as the mother of our children. She, too, cares abundantly for her children. Both are really good moms! I bless them and all of the mothers with a wonderful Mother's Day.

Praises:

I praise God for the transformation I see in clients. It is wonderful to see them grow in their faith and learn to resist the works of the devil on their own.

I praise God for people who come along side those who are coming to LFM for ministry. It makes a huge difference in the process when people have a good support group. The prayers, time, and encouragement go a long way in bringing people to freedom.

I praise God for His working in protecting my family from serious harm. I cannot go into the details, but I know that there have been miracles of God's intervention on our behalf.

Short Report:

"You're not crazy," I said to Ms. OO. I sensed that she was thinking this, and indeed she was. Her mind was tormented and confused to the point that she didn't know what thoughts were really her own. Therefore, she felt that she was crazy. The reality was that evil spirits were bombarding her mind with accusing, condemning thoughts. They filled her with thoughts like, "You are a fool." In confronting the demons, they claimed that they had an assignment to be with her. We took our authority in the mighty name of Jesus and broke that assignment. I then confronted the demons that were there, and the chief spirit, named Deception, acknowledged his presence to her mind. Ms. OO admitted that she often felt deceived. Deception admitted that his ground was cancelled and he departed. She began to think more clearly at that point. I gave her instructions on how to take thoughts captive, based on 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, and deal with the attacks of the enemy. She left with renewed hope, and new peace in her heart.

In the following ministry session, it was found that these spirits that were given the assignment to be with her came from a relative who was angry with her. He was involved in witchcraft and sent the spirits against her to retaliate for a wrong he had perceived she had done. She had entertained the thoughts the demons planted in her mind, allowing them to take up residence. We were able to cancel all of the lies that she was believing and break all of the ground that they claimed. The evil spirits were cast out, and we invited the Holy Spirit to fill all of Ms. OO's being and bring her healing. Even her physical body was feeling better. By the power and authority of Jesus' finished work on the cross, the occult works of witchcraft were rendered ineffective and a person was set free!

Something to Consider:

Deuteronomy 18:9-11—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.

Revelation 18:23—²³ The light of a lamp will never shine in you again. The voice of bridegroom and bride will never be heard in you again. Your merchants were the world's important people. By your magic spell all the nations were led astray.

Although the idea of witchcraft, magic, or sorcery working on people, even Christians, in the West is largely rejected or ignored, the reality is that it does indeed happen. When people come to LFM for help, I explain that troubles caused by evil spirits come from five main areas: 1) Personal sin, 2) Ancestral sin (for both personal and ancestral, involvement in the occult, sexual sin, and resentment/unforgiveness/bitterness are major factors), 3) Traumatic experiences, 4) Curses from others, and 5) Points of contact (demonized objects in one's possession). In the twelve years of full time ministry, option #4 has noticeably increased.

Originally, the "curses from others" came more from spoken curses during abuse. However, it seems more clients have to address spiritual attacks due to evil spirits being sent against them. In some cases, the clients are involved in ministry settings and are getting direct opposition from people who have sided with Satan. In other cases, as it was with Ms. OO, people are attacked by spirits because other people they know are involved in witchcraft. Sometimes, these actions are intended to be a blessing instead of a curse. The problem is, a "blessing" empowered by evil spirits is really a curse. A person may have good intentions, but they are not really blessing you. They are empowering demons to get to you!

I was convinced many years ago, and even more so now, that we can't take lightly the explosion of the interest in witchcraft. It is not something to take lightly; Ms. OO certainly had some significant problems because of the works done against her. Yes, we can address these matters victoriously in Jesus Christ. I'm not endorsing a fear of witchcraft. Instead, we need to be aware of the possibility and address matters with that in mind. If we are not willing to consider it as an option, we can't be free from their attack! Therefore, I encourage you to be open to the possibility that your troubles are due to witchcraft. If you're a threat to the enemy, he's going to attack. Yet, have no fear because we are more than conquerors in Christ Jesus.

Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for me for strength and good rest through the longer days of late spring and summer.

Please pray for some clients who are in need of continual affirming of the truth. They are tormented with lies in their minds, and need to reject those lies of the enemy.

Please pray for those who are wanting to come but are struggling to make it work in their schedules.

Continually Rescued by Christ Jesus,

Ben Smyder

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