

Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom



Newsletter—Vol. XI, No. 10
October 2017

Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

I am once again have the privilege of sending a newsletter out to you who faithfully support LFM through prayer, financial donations, and words of encouragement. Taking the time to write these newsletters challenge me to think and reflect on the ministering work God is bringing to hurting people. Sometimes I can be overwhelmed by all of the need I see around me, but by reflecting on His work of healing I become very grateful for His presence and redeeming work. I encourage you to not allow the darkness that is celebrated in October to keep you from seeing God's goodness and beauty.

Praises:

I praise God for His ongoing work of showing patience and tender kindness. A number of clients recently had a hard time trusting Him to bring healing to old wounds. He was so gentle in showing them truth and encouraging them to continue on in the battle.

I praise God for words of encouragement that I've received recently. Many times, the people are not even aware they are encouraging me!

I praise God for the beauty of the season. The enemy wants to steal the joy of fall with the celebration of evil, but God's beauty of autumn shines through.

Note of Reminder:

As we head toward the holiday season and you begin to shop for gifts, if you shop through Amazon.com, please enter Amazon through the LFM website. Any purchase through this link brings a donation by Amazon to LFM at no cost to you!

Short Report:

The fear of going to hell can be a powerful motivator. For Mr. CC, the fear of hell drove him in all he did. Growing up in a very legalistic church, he worked very hard to follow all of the rules. It was very clear to him from the teaching of the church that if he did not follow the rules of dress and behavior, Jesus would not accept his faith. Of course, if he was not accepted by Jesus, he'd go to hell. Therefore, obedience was critical for him. Mr. CC came to the realization, however, that he could not follow the rules as well as he needed to follow them. He was also mocked by others because of his lack of success. Depression soon followed, as he was tormented by the thought that he'd go to hell. The depression and the torment never left him over a number of years. The only time that he could relax was when he gave into thoughts to curse God and blame him for the torment he was experiencing. These thoughts only led to even darker thoughts and even prayers to other gods. Somehow through all this, Mr. CC still came to genuine saving faith in the Lord Jesus and the truth it was by God's grace for him that he was saved and by the power of the Holy Spirit he could live a righteous life. The battle in his mind continued, though, and he still struggled with a fear of hell. I led him through a prayer renouncing the lie he was believing. The Holy Spirit then led him through a wounded memory that was

a part of the lie causing him to fear going to hell. Mr. CC said, "I actually have hope!" More wounded memories and lies need to be addressed for him, and he needs to continually affirm the truth that he belongs to Jesus. He is battling to take captive the evil thoughts and the lie of going to hell, but Mr. CC is on the track to freedom.

Something to Consider:

Luke 1:67-75—⁶⁷ His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: ⁶⁸ "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. ⁶⁹ He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David ⁷⁰ (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), ⁷¹ salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us—⁷² to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath he swore to our father Abraham: ⁷⁴ to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

If one is not a believer in the Savior, Jesus Christ, it is quite appropriate to have a fear of death and hell. Having a proper fear is helpful for one to turn to Him in saving faith. However, for a Christian, the fear of hell should be diminished. Trusting in Jesus Christ for one's salvation would remove the powerful fear that can paralyze a person. Unfortunately, some believers are overcome with fear because they fear their works are not good enough. They may even recognize that works do not earn salvation, but point to passages like Ephesians 2:10 to show that their works for God are important. Indeed, we were called to do good works, and God has gifted us for what we need to do the good works. The verses in Ephesians 1-2:9 show all that He has given us so that we can do good works. Second Peter 1:3-4 is another example that tells us He's given us what we need to do good work by the power of the Holy Spirit. We can have confidence to do the good works.

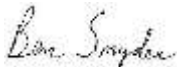
Zechariah's song makes an important point on this topic, and I underlined that part above. When one is free of from the enemy that person can serve God without fear. Mr. CC could not serve God without fear because he was terribly bound up by the enemy. The Accuser told him he was not good enough, and that God was not pleased with him. The fear drove him to believe he was evil and essentially gave in to the lie and began to curse God. It was the only way the enemy allowed him to have any relief! The freedom came when he believed the truth, rejecting the lie of Satan's host. He began to trust in the love of God and as he did so, the fear lost its control of him. If you are a Christian and the fear of hell powerfully afflicts you, I encourage you to reject that lie and order the spirits to leave you alone! Allow God's love to cast out that fear (1 John 4:18).

Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for a couple particular cases where ancestral burdens are very strong. In these cases, the battle can be more tense and ongoing.

Please pray for those hurting people who are uncertain about coming for help that they will have the courage to make the call.

Rescued by Christ Jesus,



Ben Snyder

Life of Freedom Ministries

14303 COUNTY ROAD 38 GOSHEN, IN 46528

574-831-2669

lfmdirector@gmail.com

www.lifeoffreedom.org