Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom



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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

In Nehemiah 8:10, the people are told that the "joy of the LORD is your strength." Recently, I've experienced this truth, as I've been able to enjoy many gifts from the Lord. These gifts have encouraged me to continue on during the days when there has been struggle and disappointment. A major part of finding joy in the Lord is knowing you belong to Him. I encourage you, if you are indeed a believer in Christ Jesus, to be determined to believe the truth of your worth and value in Him. Life can be an extreme roller coaster without the rock solid base of being "in Him." As you continue reading, more will be explained about this.

Praises:

I praise God for the good experience of sharing at a church last month. The group was receptive to what I shared, even though it was a difficult topic to embrace.

I praise God for His work in ministry sessions in helping with communication and understanding. It can be hard to help when I'm not on the same page with the client!

I praise God for how He brings me encouragement through people...even when they have no idea that is what they are doing. I'm thankful for support, as some days are daunting.

Short Report:

"I just feel so helpless." Ms. T told me this in relation to 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. In this case, she had not yet developed an anger toward God for such things as other clients have. Instead, she 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:

Romans 8:1-2—Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

2 Corinthians 10:5—⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

"What is truth?" Pilate asked Jesus in John 18:38. The powers of darkness take advantage as much as they can on this question. When we don't know truth, they can cause a great deal of distress. For example, Ms. T believed it was true that she was sinning, essentially not doing enough for the Lord in every task she was doing for herself, her family, her church...everything. She was believing a lie that her worth and value came by what she did instead of the truth that she already belonged to the Lord Jesus.

In ministering to many people, no lie is more often used than this one. Satan and his host torment many Christians with condemning, accusing, belittling, and tormenting thoughts. We all have a running thought life, and the spirits interject their condemning comments into our minds. They read us very well and know when we are entertaining these thoughts they've put into our minds. The spirits then continue to bombard us with their demanding accusations. Often people believe it is the Holy Spirit who is upset with them because of their "sin," when in reality it is just an evil spirit. The accusations are most often vague and are confusing as to what exactly the sin was. Ultimately, the accusations attack who we are as Christians to cause us to believe we don't belong to God anymore.

Therefore, the challenge is to appropriate the truth found in Romans 8:1, Ephesians 1-2:10, and other places of Scripture. We do this by taking the thoughts captive that are lies that come from the enemy. We can reject them in the Name of Jesus Christ and declare the truth of our place in Him. John 1:12 says that all who believe are children of God. So we must stand on the truth of God's Word that we belong!

At the end of Ephesians 2:10, it says we were created to do good works. Indeed, James says in chapter 2 that faith without works is dead. The difference is that when we know we belong, that our sins are forgiven, and that our guilt and shame is removed by Jesus' blood, we can confidently serve the Living God and do good works. We can trust in Him that He is at work in us making the burden of the service light instead of demanding. In this way, we can know the joy of Lord, being in Him, and can serve Him wholeheartedly.

Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for God's continued work in helping me to communicate in a way that helps clients understand Scripture. It is amazing how different wording can make all the difference sometimes.

Please pray for those clients, whose situations make it difficult to meet for ministry, will be able to keep appointments.

Please pray for God's protection and greater discernment for the coming autumn season. As we get into this season, there tends to be a greater amount of spiritual activity. Being aware and proactive can be very helpful for ministry sessions.

Continually Rescued by Christ Jesus,

Ben Snyder

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