



Living a Life of Freedom in Christ



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MINISTERING AS JESUS DID...

He compassionately met the needs of people with power and purpose, drawing them to Him, and offering them LIFE.

Luke 4:18-19 “*The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.*”



NT Greek Lexicon. Strong's Number 222 (ZOE): LIFE, ALIVE, LIVING

1. of the absolute fullness of life which belongs to God.
2. life real and genuine, a life active and vigorous, devoted to God, blessed, in this world of those who put their trust in Christ, but after the resurrection, to be consummated to new accessions (among them a more perfect body), and to last forever.

VISION

To see people saved, healed, set free, and living in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

ABOUT ZOE HEALING CENTER

Zoe Healing Center (ZHC) is a Christ-centered, non-profit organization comprised of multiple ministries for healing, restoration, equipping, and services to meet the needs of whole families. We desire to see people saved, healed, set-free, equipped, and walking with purpose to be all that God redeemed us to be.

We know God is our Savior, Redeemer, and Healer. Our trained and anointed teams partner with the Holy Spirit to minister to those in need of healing and restoration. Whether you're sick, hurting, or suffering, our desire is to pray for your physical, mental, and emotional well-being. We minister to people of all ages and to all conditions.

It is also our desire to help others have a greater understanding of what God has already provided and be equipped to minister Gods' healing and freedom to others. If you would like to know more, please contact us at www.zoehealingcenter.com.



Living a Life of Freedom in Christ

Dear Participant,

We are so excited about your decision to take this journey to walk in freedom through Jesus Christ! *Live Transformed* is a Christ-centered discipleship process designed to help you become the person God created and redeemed you to be. Depression, struggles with life patterns such as addictions or emotional instability, soul wounds, core lies, hurts and an unhealthy self-esteem all stem from spiritual problems – requiring spiritual solutions – NOT behavior modification or symptom focused interventions.

Anything that stands in the way of the abundant life of peace, joy, and fruitfulness that Jesus made available to every believer, is an obstacle we desire to help you eliminate. Once root causes of those things hindering your growth in Christ and preventing healthy relationships are revealed, you can walk in total freedom, total victory, and total peace because you are empowered by His Spirit. Exchange depression for destiny and breakthrough from problems into God's promises. You choose!

Jesus loves you and desires to be the only Lord of your life. He wants you to trust Him totally and allow Him to be your Lord and Savior – absolutely no other gods before Him. If you have never repented of your sins and accepted Him as Lord over your whole life, this is the first step – do it now. Friend, we are delighted that you have accepted this challenge and we look forward to sharing this journey to freedom with you!

The Zoe Healing Center Team

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Discipleship Core Components

PART ONE: The Full Gospel

The Full Gospel – God’s complete plan and the foundation upon which all things are built. Without the full foundation, our lives will crumble.

PART TWO: The Foundation for Freedom and Healing

Jesus ministered to the broken and lost and He deeply addressed the personal needs of people. He provided everything to equip us and step out as Christ’s representatives of the Kingdom of God. You will begin to recognize the enemy’s strategy and attempts to steal your identity. Instead of succumbing to a cycle of defeat, you will learn to eliminate the oppression that prevents you from living a victorious life. Jesus gave His disciples a commission to go and proclaim Him in Word and power. He equipped us with foundational instructions and tools to represent Him well. Jesus came to rescue the lost (**Luke 9:10**), heal, set free, restore, and proclaim the Kingdom of God to others. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (**1 John 3:8**). That is good news! You will learn how to partner with the Holy Spirit and live fully connected and empowered by the Kingdom of Heaven that Jesus proclaimed during His ministry.

PART THREE: Staying Free

As you begin to walk out life, free in Christ, we will focus on the “what now”. Recognizing that you have His delegated authority, you can overcome anything as a child of God. So now, live your life for Him. Represent Him well. And go and grow! Be a disciple (follower of Christ) and go make disciples. God has given you all you need today to influence the world for His glory.

Introduction

This manual is in no way meant to replace the Bible. It is only a guide to help you learn to listen to the Holy Spirit, to know who you are in Christ, and use as a tool to help you live free in Christ Jesus.

We believe the Word of God is true and we take God at His Word. You will see many scripture references upon which we stand as we grow with God throughout this course. We encourage you to read them in the Bible for yourself as well as their context. It is important for you to read and understand the Word of God on your own.

The Bible is the authoritative living Word of God. It is essential to read it every day, study thoroughly, and apply it to your life. It will strengthen your spiritual walk with the Lord. It is relevant to everything you encounter today. It will transform, renew, and inspire you to become more like Christ Jesus as you walk through this journey in life, because it is the breath and voice of God.

Before studying the Word of God, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you into all truth. He will reveal the very heart of God and His desires for your life. Begin today by making the Bible and prayer a daily part of your life as you begin your new-found relationship with your Heavenly Father. May the Lord bless you and keep you always!

Quick Reference — Overview of the Freedom Process

FACE – Face the fact that there is a problem. It could be an addiction, an unhealthy emotion, unforgiveness, or any number of things. Whatever is going on, you are going to first face the problem and choose not to blame others for it. God is bigger than any issue, whatever or whomever the cause.

TRACE – You do not have to relive everything that has gone wrong in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the root of the issue. What is the “lie” that you are believing? This could include judgments/vows, world views, soul ties, or any other thing that you have believed as truth that doesn’t line up with God’s Word. The Holy Spirit will and should be the only one to reveal it to you.

REPLACE – God wants to reveal His truth to you – for He IS TRUTH. What does He say about it? Replace the “lie” with the “truth” that only comes from God.

EMBRACE – Receive the truth and live life free! When it is difficult, choose Jesus daily! Believe the truth He has revealed and don’t turn back to the lie. “He whom the Son has set free is free indeed!” (**John 8:36**) ***Freedom is not the absence of something but the Presence of Someone – Jesus.***

PART ONE

The Full Gospel — The Complete Work of Jesus Christ

FACE the fact that there is a problem. You may already know what it is, or you may know something is not right, but not be clear about what is going on. You must start at the very beginning...the foundation.

Live Transformed is a course that is founded on Christ, and Christ alone. If you are looking to medicate your problems, looking for an answer from psychology or therapy, or any other humanistic, post-modern, or alternative spiritual philosophy or tradition, you are in the wrong place. When you've come to the end of yourself and know that nothing you've tried, apart from the Lordship of Jesus Christ, will work, you can find freedom. If you are ready to submit your life to Him or are at least ready to hear what He's all about, then keep going. Those whom we see get healed and set free have an encounter with the Living God and no matter what the issue, the answer is always Jesus!

We don't know where you stand today, but if you are in a *freedom* session or are reading this manual, we know that there is something for which you are searching, seeking and needing in your life. We are about to **face** whatever is going on and believe that this is the day of the "turnaround". This is the day of your freedom. If you're ready....let's get started.

THE KEY TO FREEDOM: The Full Gospel Foundation

- **Repentance towards God**
- **Water Baptism into Jesus**
- **Baptism in the Holy Spirit**
- **Hearing God – What Does God Say?**
- **Your New Identity in Christ**
- **Be Watchful - Jesus Is Coming Back!**

We are not about making converts to a religion or denomination – but about making disciples of Jesus and Jesus alone!

Repentance — It All Starts Here

In the Beginning

The Bible's restoration theme is found at the beginning of all things—in the Book of Genesis. God created man in His own image—male and female. Mankind enjoyed the image of God, the intimacy of God, and unbroken fellowship with God. (Relationship)

Because God desired true fellowship with mankind, He created mankind with a free will - the right to choose to have a relationship with God or not. In the Garden of Eden man had many good choices of what to eat and only one disobedient choice. He was presented with a choice between the "Tree of Life" representing that right relationship with God, or a choice of the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil" that seemed "good" but was not of God. Man chose to eat of the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil". In so doing, he decided to take his life into his own hands. Instead of living from the wisdom, righteousness, and resources of God, he would live from his own limited resources—his knowledge and his own works, ultimately choosing death - separation from God. Through this choice, choosing his way over God's way, sin entered the world. Death entered when *life* was removed (John 10:10).

With that tragic decision, man lost his God-image (that is, godliness), as well as his intimacy and his fellowship with the Lord, His Creator, but God's restoration work began immediately. As the, now self-conscious, man tried the work of his own hands to make coverings for his nakedness with fig leaves (responding with guilt and shame), God clearly revealed His plan of redemption and restoration for fallen man. Man tried to clean up his behavior (behavior modification) and cover his sin, but God already had a plan that would allow us to be restored in a right relationship with Him. That first sacrifice (first death), where God provided clothing for man from animal skins, pointed toward the ultimate sacrificial Lamb of God—Jesus Himself.

Man's Plunge

After being dismissed from the Garden and barred from the Tree of Life that stood in its midst, Adam begot children who were born after his own kind – sin natured – who were self-centered, disobedient, and rebellious. Everyone born after Adam was born separated from God – spiritually dead - called a sinner.

What Restoration Means For Us

And Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly." (**John 10:10**). Restoration means the replacing of spiritual death with spiritual life.

In the Old Covenant, God made a way to temporarily atone for the sin of man through the shedding of the blood of certain animals in the tabernacle by priests. Without this, man was completely separated from God. The blood sacrifice covered the sin for a time, but failed to provide forgiveness of sin for eternity. In the New Covenant, through Jesus' blood sacrifice, man's access to redemption was made clear and permanent.

Hebrews 9:11-12 (NASB) “But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.”

Hebrews 9:22 “And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.”

In other words, the blood of Jesus was required for our redemption!

We Have a Choice to Make

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The cost of our sin is death. One day we will either spend eternity with God (in Heaven) through receiving Jesus as Savior and Lord, or we will spend eternal separation from God (in Hell). Even though we have to choose which road to take, God, in His infinite love for us, provided a way for mankind to be restored. In His plan, God sent His own son, Jesus, who was sinless, to be the sacrifice for all who would believe and receive, the gift of eternal life (salvation) through Christ Jesus. Through His death on the cross and resurrection, we now have access to be restored back to God.

Romans 2:4 “...the goodness of God leads you to repentance”

Many times people ask, “How can God send good people to hell?” The answer is, He doesn’t. Every person has a choice to make. In His goodness, He has given everyone a free gift. But not everyone will receive it and choose Him.

Just as one man (Adam) sinned and all of mankind was separated; one man (Jesus) died - shed His blood so that all mankind has an opportunity to be restored to God. His plan for redemption was God’s love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness of our sins.

How do we receive the gift of Salvation?

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

First, we have to recognize our need for forgiveness, that we are sinners in need of a Savior. We cannot look at others to decide if we are a “good” person or not. If others are our standard, we might be okay. But they are not. **God is our standard.** When we look at our life in light of a holy God, we fall short every time. In ourselves, we are not sinless enough, good enough, or clean enough to stand before God. Apart from Jesus, we miss it.

We also can't do enough "works" to be good next to God's standard. Many today think they are good because of their good deeds, good morals, attendance in church, because they are generous with their resources, or are kind to people. They aren't murderers, thieves, or abusers, so they must be good. However, the Word says there is no one good but God (**Mark 10:18**). We are born with a sin nature. We are born separated from God because of sin. So it's not about being good or bad; it is about being in right **relationship** with Jesus. It is accepting that Jesus paid the penalty for your sin that you could not pay. Salvation cannot be earned by good works, only believed and received by grace through faith.

Ephesians 2:8 "*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God..."*

Only Jesus' sacrifice can offer you salvation. Once you've recognized your need for Jesus, repent of your sins.

Acts 2:38 "*Then Peter said to them, 'Repent and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'*"

What does it mean to repent?

God gave you free will, just like Adam in the garden. You can choose Him and reap the benefits of that relationship, or reject Him and reap the fruit of eternity without Him. The first step in being in a right relationship with God is repentance.

Repentance is not an apology or admission of guilt or a promise to try harder.

Repentance means, (besides acknowledging, confessing, and believing Jesus is the Son of God,) you will ask Him to forgive you of your sins, make a commitment to follow His ways, and recognize Jesus as Lord over every aspect of your life. The result is a change of lifestyle that reflects your new nature (being like Jesus) that will be evident in your life.

Repentance is a change in the direction and course of our lives.

By acknowledging Jesus as Lord, we change direction because our values change. We are no longer preoccupied with the same interests but our eyes are now on knowing God and His plans. By keeping our focus on God, He will make the change in us. We will see Him transform the way we act, the way we treat people, and the decisions we make, as we diligently commit to walk in obedience to Him. It is a full turnaround – people around you will notice!

Repentance should be a defining moment in our lives.

It is not just about saying a prayer and hoping to stay out of hell. It should be a heartfelt, sincere prayer of surrendering our life to God. That will be a defining moment - one you will not forget.

Repentance is recognizing that we have sinned because we are born with a sin nature.

Repentance is not a religion. It is a relationship.

We don't clean ourselves up and then come to God. We come to God with a repentant heart, and as we walk out the relationship with Him, He will do the cleaning. **Romans 6:22** says "But now, since you have been set free from sin, and having become slaves to God, you have your fruit to holiness (*holy living*) and the end, everlasting life!" When we call on Jesus to be Lord and Savior, we are sanctified (*set apart*) to love and obey His commands, and have eternal life in Him.

Repentance is a decision to change your alignment with the Kingdom of Darkness to an alignment with the Kingdom of God in Christ Jesus.

We will always be citizens of a kingdom. We have a free will choice as to which kingdom we will belong. We choose whom we will serve and whom we allow to rule over us.

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV) "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve."

Our Part and Responsibility to Becoming a Disciple of Jesus

Romans 10:9-10 "That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Yes, there is belief and confession as we have talked about, but Jesus as (not only Savior) but Lord. The Greek word for "Lord" is "kurios" which means "master, owner, supreme in authority". It is Jesus as Lord that brings freedom in our lives. We die to ourselves and live to please Him.

Savior is what Jesus has “done”- His work. Lord declares the “position” He has in our life. We cannot fully partake in the benefit of His work unless we come under His position as Lord (master, owner, supreme in authority). Many people stop at the salvation prayer - confess they believe in Jesus as Savior, but never allow Him to be Lord over their life. When we are the ones in charge, we mess up. But when we allow Jesus to lead every aspect of our life, we will see Him work mightily on our behalf.

Salvation has been provided for every human being, but as individuals, we have to choose to accept it under God's terms - Jesus as Lord.

Mark 8:34-35 (AMP) “Jesus called the crowd together with His disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to follow Me [as My disciple], he must **deny himself** [set aside selfish interests], and take up his cross [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me]. For whoever wishes to save his life [in this world] will [eventually] lose it [through death], but whoever loses his life [in this world] for My sake and the gospel’s will save it [from the consequences of sin and separation from God].”

Many have never been told, but living for Jesus costs. It cost Jesus His life so that you might be free. Now, you lay down your life and serve Him. You pick up your cross and follow Him - wherever He leads. What is a cross? It is where the flesh dies. Part of walking out your salvation in Jesus is laying down all so He can be glorified through you. Life is no longer about you, but about Him.

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NLT) “The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.”

The cross empowers us to walk free from sin and the strong influences of the world. What was previously impossible to do in our own strength, we can now do because Jesus is our Lord.

Salvation and Repentance Wrap Up

- All have sinned and fallen short. We need a Savior.
- When we repent, we turn away from the old ways and allow Jesus to be Lord over our lives.
- With Jesus as Lord, we will live a life submitted to His ways instead of seeking our own way.
- True repentance will produce a hunger for God’s Word which will produce transformation and godly fruit in our lives.

2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us that we are a new creation in Christ. The old is dead. Now we put off the old patterns of doing things and learn to live like the new person we have become. When we choose Him, He is faithful to reveal what is in our lives that can hinder our relationship with Him. We don’t have to have it all figured out. He knows and in His love, He reveals it.

This is just the beginning of your salvation and sanctification process to become all that God created and redeemed you to be.

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. How would you define the difference between Jesus as Savior and Lord?

2. What stood out to you in this chapter that maybe you didn't know or hadn't heard?

3. Are you saved? _____ Made Jesus Lord? _____

*If not, are you ready to? _____

4. Ask the Lord if there is any area in your life that you have not surrendered fully to Him.

*Are you ready to surrender the area(s) the Lord shows you? _____

5. What is the Lord is speaking to you about? Write out your recommitment to Him.

Prayer for Salvation or Recommitment. (Feel free to use your own words)

Father, I recognize that I am a sinner in need of a Savior. Forgive me of my sins. God, I believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the only way to You. That He died on the cross, was buried, and God, You raised Him from the dead, and fully paid the price for my sins. Jesus, I choose to follow you always. Come into my life, not only as my Savior, but as my Lord. I lay down all of me and surrender all to You. I trust you with my life. Thank you for loving me. For setting me free. For making me new. Help me to hear your voice, and to walk in Your ways all the days of my life. I love you Lord! Amen.

TAKE ACTION:

Philemon 6—Activate Your Faith!

Philemon 1:6 “*that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.*”

What has God given you?

- **Himself** (Jesus - God's Son) - He paid my penalty. I have forgiveness and a new life.
- **His Presence** (Jesus / the Holy Spirit in us—working on our behalf—speaking through God's Word and enforcing God's Word) - our Counselor, Teacher, Wisdom and Understanding, Comforter
- **His Word** - to learn His nature, His character, His commands, and His ways.
- **His Promises / Provision** – He never leaves us. He is coming back to take us with Him forever to be with God. (**John 14:2-3**)

This alone should make a follower of Christ shout with praise and thanksgiving to God who first loved us and desires to dwell in us. Everything pales in comparison! There is no room for the cares of this world – only joy which He gives when we are thankful and acknowledge all that He has given us regardless of our circumstances. We choose!

Baptism in Water

Water baptism was important to Jesus. (Jesus Himself was baptized - see **Matthew 3**) After He rose from the dead, Jesus told His disciples to take the news of His kingdom and His great salvation to the ends of the earth, telling them, “*Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in (INTO) the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teaching them to obey everything I have taught you and I will be with you always to the end of the age.*”

Matthew 28:19-20

Baptism is so important that you cannot find a single place in the Bible where someone starts to believe and does not get baptized immediately. (Examples: Prison guard and family in the middle of the night – Acts 16; the 3000 who believed at the same time after Peter preached – Acts 2; the Ethiopian Eunuch – Acts 8). After the cross, everyone who believed was baptized immediately. ***When the gospel is preached correctly and fully, people want to be baptized.***

We are mandated to make disciples of those who choose a relationship with Jesus. That means instructing them in the FULL Gospel and the subsequent responses God requires in obedience to mature and walk in the fullness of Him. Once you have repented, received the free gift of salvation, and are now a follower (or disciple) of Christ, baptism is the next response.

What is Baptism in Water?

The Greek word for “baptize” is “baptizo” which means to immerse or submerge in water (fully wet). The act of being baptized then, would be to go fully under water.

Baptism is the first thing Jesus tells us to do in the Great Commission. (**Matt. 28:19-20** - above) It is not a work **for** salvation but a **result of obedience** after receiving the gift of salvation that allows for the working of God in your spiritual life.

Baptism shows you are changing allegiance from this world (Satan) to a commitment to Christ. You are dying to the sin nature, being buried with Christ, and raised to a new life where you now belong to Him.

Romans 6:11 (HCSB) “So you too consider yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.”

Romans 6:1-7 (NKJV) “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin.

When did you die with Christ? When did you bury the flesh? At salvation with a prayer and confession? Or at baptism, when you buried the old man in the water and were raised with Christ?

A large part of your life of freedom in Christ depends on serving Jesus as Lord and laying down the old man. What better expression is there that shows you are no longer the same person but a follower of Christ through baptism?

Water Baptism Wrap Up

- Water baptism is a very important part of becoming a disciple. You get baptized ‘to belong’ to Jesus - renouncing yourself as belonging to someone else.
- Water baptism indicates the seriousness of your commitment to Jesus Christ. It is an act of obedience to your new found Savior and Lord. It is a visible sign of your spiritual commitment to lay down your life (bury the flesh) and step into His life.
- In water baptism, you bury the old man and are raised new in Christ. It is critical to respond in obedience to Christ after repentance and committing to follow Jesus as your Savior and Lord.
- It is a foundational step to freedom, healing, and victory empowered by God’s grace!

When you really understand Water Baptism, you can walk in freedom knowing you have died to the sin nature and can be led by the Spirit rather than the flesh. When Jesus was baptized in water, the Father and the Holy Spirit were present. He was showing us a picture of the fullness of the Godhead (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit). You too can walk in the fullness of the Godhead when you are submissive to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Galatians 5:24 “Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

Interesting Report

We know the enemy does not create, but only counterfeits the things God has created. It is amazing how many other religions use “water baptism” as a way of identifying someone as a disciple.

A video was released in the past several years of a journalist who was researching various religions in an attempt to find the one he liked the best. He went to India and was researching the Hindu religion. He came upon a “priest” of an extreme tribe who called upon the spirits of the dead, drank out of human skulls, and things of that kind. The reporter told him he wanted to know all about his beliefs. The Priest then asked, “Do you want to be my disciple?” The reporter, wanting the information he was seeking, said, “Yes.” The priest then told him, “If you want to be my disciple, go dunk yourself in the river three times.”

Hmm...very interesting. One of the things the devil has chosen to counterfeit is baptism. He knows it's a marking to whose kingdom that person has allegiance – who they are living for. And yet, in our Western Churches, it has been boiled down to a symbol, not really of much importance, and optional. The enemy recognizes that there is power water baptism – the changing of allegiance, the surrendering of one’s life, and yet we have missed it and chalked it up to religion or tradition. That realization should make us really want to understand the fullness of what God has provided for us - not just a watered down gospel and a mirage of Jesus, but full provision and the fullness of ALL Jesus really is.

NOTES:

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What stood out to you in this chapter that maybe you didn't know or hadn't heard?

2. Have you been baptized in water? _____

*If not, are you ready to? _____ Is the Lord leading you to be baptized? _____

*Many times when the Lord is leading us to be baptized, there will be a struggle within. All kinds of excuses and the enemy trying to keep you from being obedient to the Lord. We encourage you to commit to what God is telling you and to let a leader know you are ready to be baptized. And don't back down!

3. What is the Lord speaking to you? Write out your thoughts or questions you may have. Write out your commitment to Him.

The Holy Spirit — His Work and Baptism

Acts 2:37-39 (NKJV) “Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let everyone of you be **baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the **gift of the Holy Spirit**. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.’”

The word remission in the verse means more than just forgiveness. It means “freedom, pardon, deliverance, and forgiveness”. Thayer's Dictionary states it as a “release from bondage or imprisonment, pardon of sin—as if never committed.”

Because of the work Jesus did on the cross, we can live out what we already have (Jesus in us) - total remission. We don't have to say, “I will be free when I stop doing this, or quit something”. In Jesus, we can live free today.

Who is the Holy Spirit?

He is a person. The Holy Spirit is part of the Godhead - Three persons in One - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. He is not a force or a power; He is a divine person. He is the living God.

Think of an apple. One apple but three parts—the skin, flesh, seed. Three parts but one apple. Same is true about the Godhead. Three persons in one.

1 John 5:7 (NKJV) “For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.”

Deuteronomy 6:4 (NKJV) “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!”

He has always been and He always will be - He is eternal. In Psalms 51:11 we see David say “Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your **Holy Spirit** from me”. The Holy Spirit is mentioned repeatedly in the Old Testament and New Testament.

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

Although the full power of the Holy Spirit was not revealed until Pentecost, the Word reveals Him at work throughout Scripture. In the Old Testament, the (Hebrew) word for the Spirit was “Ruah” which means “breath” or “wind”. Some of the most notable places we see the Spirit in the Old Testament are:

1. He was active in Creation. (**Genesis 1:2**)
2. He was the Author of Life. (**Genesis 2:7**)
3. He inspired prophetic songs and prophets spoke by the power of the Spirit. (**2 Samuel 22:3**)
4. He came on certain people in the Old Testament to empower them for leadership. (Moses, Gideon, David, and Zerubbabel are examples.)
5. He came on some to equip them for special service. (Joseph - **Genesis 41:38**, Bezaleel, and Oholiab – artistic ability needed to build the tabernacle - **Exodus 25-31**).
6. In the case of Samson, Balaam, and his donkey in **Numbers 22-24**, we see that when it suited God’s purpose the Spirit even came upon a wicked man and his donkey, illustrating that prophesying or doing a supernatural act isn’t necessarily proof of one’s godliness.
7. In the OT, the Spirit only came on a few select individuals, chosen for special service to God; but the OT also prophesies of a greater outpouring of the Spirit to come.

One of the main prophecies is in Joel

Joel 2:28-29 “And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.”

Also in Isaiah 32:15-17; 44:3-5; 59:20-21; Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:26-27; 37:14; 39:29.

God promised that when the Holy Spirit came upon His people they would prophesy, see visions, dream prophetic dreams, live lives of obedience, holiness and righteousness, and witness with great power.

8. We see these OT prophesies fulfilled at Pentecost in Acts 2.

The Holy Spirit in the New Testament)

The need, promise, and expectation of the Holy Spirit was foretold as a part of the work of Jesus (along with repentance and baptism in water).

1. John the Baptist prophesied that Jesus would baptize His followers in the Holy Spirit in **Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16** and **John 1:33**.

Luke 3:16 (NIV) “*John answered them all, ‘I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.’*”

Not just repentance, but when you receive the Holy Spirit and fire, He burns up all the works, sin, etc. so that we can be purified like in a refiners fire before the Lord. Where the old becomes like gold before Him as we are molded in His image by the work of the Holy Spirit.

2. Jesus confirmed it with His own words in **Acts 1:5** and **Luke 11:13**.

Acts 1:5 (NIV) “*For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”*

Luke 11:13 (NIV) “*If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”*

3. The filling of the Holy Spirit took place in **Acts 2** and He continues to fulfill His promise today. It was a normal, expected experience.

Acts 2:1-4 “*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”*

The Holy Spirit in the Life of Jesus

The Holy Spirit was an active part of the life and ministry of Jesus. Some of the ways He was at work in Jesus' life were:

1. Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. (**Matthew 1:18, 23; Luke 1:27**)
2. When Jesus was baptized in water the Holy Spirit came on Him in the form of a dove equipping Him with great power for ministry. (**Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 3:21-22**)
3. He was "full of the Spirit" in **Luke 4:1-2** which enabled Him to resist temptation in the wilderness.
4. The Spirit anointed Him for His mission. (**Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:16-19**)
5. He was both God and man, (**John 1:1; 1 Timothy 2:5**) and as man He had to rely on the Spirit's help to live, serve, and proclaim the gospel. He is our example of how to live a Spirit filled life.
6. It was the Spirit that raised Christ from the dead. **Romans 8:10-11** "*And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.*"

The Work of the Holy Spirit

1. **Initially, it is the work of the Holy Spirit that draws us to Jesus.** We are drawn to repentance and faith in Jesus by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:3 "*Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.*"

2. **We receive the person of the Holy Spirit at salvation** (Jesus as Savior and Lord) – the free gift of salvation and the free gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38 "*Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*"

John 14:15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

In the Old Testament scriptures you would see where the Holy Spirit fell “on” them. Because of the work of Jesus, now, the Holy Spirit is not only “on” you, but “in” you.

Ephesians 1:13-14 “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”

2 Timothy 1:14 “That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.”

1 Corinthians 6:19 “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”

3. The Holy Spirit is active in sanctification.

Romans 15:16 “...that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”

Sanctification is the process of being set apart – purified. We are saved, justified at salvation (made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus), but sanctification is a process. It is a continual process in our walk with the Lord as the Holy Spirit leads us to follow Jesus and become more like Him in every area of our life.

Be transformed by the renewing of your mind—by the Word.

Romans 12:2 “Do not be conformed to this world but transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what the will of God which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

4. The Holy Spirit plays an active role in our lives.

John 16:7 “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.”

He is our Helper. The word “helper” here is also comforter and advocate.

John 14:26 “But the **Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

- **He will identify** areas in your life that need to be addressed. You don't have to dig up anything in your life. No need for 12 steps! You don't need to confess to everyone you've wronged; don't need to analyze your past—Jesus already redeemed it. You don't just live life with a clean slate—you have a brand new life to live! (**1 Cor. 6:9-11**)

He knows where you derailed (got off track) and believed a lie.

Renounce the lie. Repent, embrace the truth, and move on!

- **He is our teacher and will teach us** all things and remind us what He said.

Have you ever had a scripture come to mind in the middle of a situation or prayer? That's the Holy Spirit helping you by reminding you of God's Word and teaching you to apply it to your life.

1 Corinthians 10:23 “All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify.”

- **The Holy Spirit will help you discern** areas that are not beneficial for you.

1 Corinthians 2:13 “These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

- **The Holy Spirit reveals the Word.** You are able to understand the Word when it made no sense before because of the work of the Holy Spirit. It comes alive to you. Piece by piece He is teaching you the truth of God's Word.

Galatians 5:16 “So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh craves what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh.

- **It's the Holy Spirit that convicts us** to not walk after the flesh. We don't have to give in to sin because we have Jesus. The Holy Spirit gives us power over temptations.
- According to **Romans 8:2**, we no longer live under the law of sin and death but the law of LIFE in Christ.

5. The Holy Spirit is power in our lives to live in the authority we have been given in Jesus.

Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Romans 15:13 “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Because of the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, we are able to testify of Jesus to others and live a supernatural life.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

God has given each one of us gifts of the Spirit to help His Body. Because you are a follower of Christ, you have the Holy Spirit and His gifts residing in you. The gifts are not to make us look more talented, anointed, etc. but are for the purpose of ministering to the person God has set before you. The gifts are not an indication of a persons maturity in the Lord. God will and can use any method to reach people for His glory. We don't have to worry about what to do or say. The Holy Spirit will release through you what you need when you need it. Our job is to keep our eyes on the Lord and keep our heart in right relationship with Him.

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NIV) “Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”

1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NIV) “To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.”

Romans 12:6-8 (NIV) “We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.”

Note:

Ephesians 4:11-17 speaks to different functional gifts given to “some” from Jesus to equip the Body of Christ for the work of the ministry. These are different then the gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned that are available for all believers.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

True born-again believers have the Holy Spirit residing in them at salvation – but not all go further to embrace the baptism of the Holy Spirit (with the evidence of speaking in tongues—another language). When the Bible talks about being baptized in the Holy Spirit, it is the same word as being baptized with water. It is immersion, complete (immersed is to surround or cover). When we read the book of Acts and see the early believers response after repentance and baptism in water, it is clear that there was evidence of their filling and baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:4 “*And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*”

Acts 19:6 “*And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*”

In **Acts 2:38** when it talks about receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, it includes tongues (language). Remember, all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are inherent in the one Holy Spirit. He is not trying to keep anything from you. So if the Holy Spirit resides in you (and He does if you are a follower of Christ), then His gifts are also already in you. You already have access to the overflow of the Holy Spirit - speaking in tongues - within you.

The promise of being baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues is a supernatural, God-given promise given to every believer. It is the ability to speak in a God-given spiritual language that you do not understand. It is a gift and cannot be earned, but must be received. You have already been given the gift, so it is a matter of speaking it out in faith.

Acts 8:14-17 “*Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*”

Mark 16:16-18 “*He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.*”

Why should I speak in tongues?

1. **To edify yourself**, build yourself up. The spirit man is being empowered when you pray in the Spirit (speak in tongues). It is like recharging your spiritual batteries.

Jude 1:20-21 “But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”

2. **When you pray** in the Spirit, **you are praying perfect – praying the will of God**. Many times we don't know what to pray. The Holy Spirit helps us out through tongues. It is one of our tools—one of our weapons of spiritual warfare.

Ephesians 6:10-20 “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication **in the Spirit**, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.”

Praying in the Spirit allows us to be on the same page with God. We are not praying what we want, what we think, or what we feel. We are praying the will of God.

Romans 8:26 “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”

3. **It is a sign for unbelievers**. God can move how He wants to move in the lives of people. This is one of the ways.

1 Corinthians 14:22 “Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.”

How do I receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues?

1. **Receive** Jesus as Lord and Savior. Not looking for the gift, but the Gift Giver.
2. **Invite the Lord** to fill you with His Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. The Holy Spirit may take up residence in your spirit but you have to allow Him to fill every part. He will if you invite Him to. Tongues can be received by the laying on of hands or just on your own in private.
3. **Believe** that you are saved, the Holy Spirit has filled you, and that all His gifts including tongues are within you. Ask the Lord to help you release it.
4. **Act.** You have to do the speaking. Your voice and your mouth form the words. The Spirit gives the inspiration. It is an act of faith. Don't speak in a language of your own understanding but speak sounds and syllables you do not understand. You may not feel any sense of empowerment at all – but remember that it is not about feeling and sensations. Just respond in faith. It is simply a matter of getting what is in you out. Let the sounds out.
5. **Be confident.** If you have submitted yourself to Jesus in this process, you can be confident that the words and sounds are coming from Him.
6. **Practice.** Pray in the Holy Spirit daily and more words will come.

The Holy Spirit and His works are so much more than just language. However, the language is a part of your communion with God. A part of His gifts that have already been given to you for your benefit. (**Isaiah 11:1-2, 1 Corinthians 12, Hebrews 2, Galatians 5**).

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What stood out to you in this chapter that maybe you didn't know or hadn't heard?

2. Have you been baptized in the Holy Spirit with speaking in tongues? _____

*If not, are you ready to? _____

*You can ask one of the leaders to lay hands on you or just go before the Lord on your own. Let Him know you are ready to receive and believe you already have it. It is available for every believer not just a select few.

3. What is the Lord is speaking to you? Write out your desire to speak in tongues or thank Him for what He's already done. Ask Him your questions—talk to Him as you would have a personal conversation.

Hearing God

One of the most important weapons for living in freedom, besides prayer and reading the Bible, is the ability to hear from God. We must learn to recognize His voice and discern the voice of God from the voice of our flesh, the enemy or another human voice. When we get rid of all the junk and walk out our relationship with God, listening to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and obeying what He says, there is so much freedom! It's not that life doesn't look messy sometimes, but there is a strength and peace that only comes from a relationship with God. Relationships are a two-way street. Not only do we talk to God, but we need to hear what He has to say to us.

Lie: You can't hear God.

Truth: God wants you to hear His voice.

If you are a follower of Christ, you can hear from God.

John 8:47 (NASB) "He who is of God hears the words of God...."

John 9:31 (NASB) "We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him."

The Ability to Hear God

1. **It is Innate** - we are His children and have the ability to hear. Even before a baby is born, they recognize their parents voice. Just as a child recognizes the voice of his parents (the accent, tone, language and speech patterns), as we spend time with God, we will also recognize His voice.
2. **It is Learned** – John 15:15 -16 tells us, “all things He has made known to us.” In the Word of God, we learn about who God is, and we learn to hear His voice. His voice will line up with His Word.
3. **It is Matured** – as we walk in His Word and pursue it, we find it easier to discern and hear. Just as with a child, sometimes you have to speak louder to get their attention (they might be distracted with other things). But when they are sitting right next to you, you can speak softer. It is that way with God. When we are close to Him, as we grow in Him, we will be able to hear the still small voice instead of the louder voice to get our attention.

As we begin to learn to hear from God, we need to posture ourselves to do so. In other words, He can speak to us anytime, but we need to set aside time to intentionally receive from His Word. As we do, we will hear, and it will help us as we go through busy times or trials to recognize whose voice we are hearing. It comes from time spent with Him.

- **Be still and listen.** “Be still and know that I am God”. (**Psalm 46:10**) - Get quiet.
- **Schedule a set time** daily to spend with God – to worship, read the Word, get still and listen. (We are busy, distracted, and anxious so we sometimes cannot hear).
- **Deliberately eliminate hurriedness and distractions.** Any moments you can grab during the day to get quiet, do so. Example – driving from one place to another. Instead of turning on music, pray and ask God if there is anything He wants to tell you.
- **Sometimes we don't hear because we are doing all the talking.** We need to pray. But we also need to be still. It takes practice. When you set aside a set time daily and learn to take moments throughout the day to specifically listen and not ask for things, your ability to hear and discern who is speaking will increase.

How Does God Speak and How Do We Know It Is Him?

1. **Scripture** – God revealed Himself – His character, His nature, His instructions.

Psalm 138:2 “...for you have magnified Your word above all Your name.”

The greatest foundation for hearing the voice of God is knowing the Word of God.

God's voice will never contradict what He has said in His Word.

2. **People – preachers, teachers, and godly friends**

Word of Caution: Not everyone who claims they have a word from God or follow Christ really does or really hears His heart. The best way to discern who truly is a follower of Christ and is hearing from Him accurately, is to mature in your own ability to hear God. God does speak through other people at times (prophecy, word of knowledge, word of wisdom—**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**). When you have matured in your hearing, you will be able to discern if it is a right word or not. If it is not, let it go. If it is, pray about it and be led by the Lord as what to do with it. You will know if the word resonates in your spirit or does not, or confirms what God has been already been speaking to you in His Word.

3. Dreams & Visions

Some people hear from God in dreams or visions. This isn't true for everyone, but it does happen. It is important to discern the meaning of the dream or vision and ask the Lord what you are to do with it. He is your source for the interpretation—if He is the One giving you the dream. Write it down, pray over it, and do whatever God is telling you to do. Most dreams are direction for you, but sometimes they might be a corporate dream. You have to steward dreams well—knowing from the Lord when to sit on it, pray over it, or share it.

Sometimes the dream might be a warning or something that needs prayerful intercession. Other times it is a word of direction for your life. (Example – Joseph had a dream his brothers would bow down to him. God was letting Joseph know He would put him in a place to save his people.) Does the dream line up with the Word? Discern who the dream is from. God? Flesh? Devil? Something you ate?

(Some examples: Joseph in Genesis, Daniel, Jeremiah, Joseph in Matthew 2:19)

Joel 2:28 “*And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, and Your young men shall see visions.*”

4. Peace

Philippians 4:7 “*And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*”

He will give you peace when you are seeking Him. There is a hard to define, internal peace that God gives His people when they are tuned in to what He is saying. For example, others can look at your circumstances and wonder what you are going to do, but if you have heard from the Lord, you have peace about the situation - even if things don't look different yet. That is from God. You are able to weather the storm because you remember the peace you had or the peace you still have about a situation. You have peace and rest in your spirit. True peace comes from confidence of trusting God.

There is a counterfeit peace, that is not of God, that many have been seduced by, leading them away from God. For example, they might say they have a peace in their spirit about leaving their husband to move in with their boyfriend. But they are for sure they are hearing from God. How do we know this “peace” isn't from God? God's peace will line up with His Word, character, nature, and attitude towards holiness. When we are making decisions off of peace, always examine who the peace points to? God or your own desires?

Another counterfeit peace many are fooled by is the “experience of tranquility” in holistic health, transpersonal (or spiritual) psychology, stress management activities dealing with meditation or breathing/heart rhythms, etc. which sound “spiritual” but the Holy Spirit is not the spirit behind them. They might provide temporary peace but the end outcome is far from it.

Faith in Christ produces peace without having to “feel” something. Through revelation knowledge of Who He is and Whose you are, you can walk in true peace that has already been given to you through Jesus Christ, who is our true Prince of Peace. (**Isaiah 9:6**)

5. Other Ways God Speaks (He is the Creator!)

Numbers 22—Donkey; **Daniel 5**—Handwriting on the wall; **Exodus 3**—Moses and the burning bush; **Acts 8**—Saul/Paul’s Damascus experience.

He also speaks through **nature** (**Romans 1:19-25**). Creation testifies to the nature of God and the glory of God. NO person has an excuse to not believe God. Because He loves us so much, He speaks in many ways and will do whatever it takes to break through our defenses so we can hear His voice. He created us to have the capacity to hear Him and speaks in a variety of ways.

6. Conviction

As followers of Christ, you have to learn the difference between the **conviction** of the Holy Spirit and the **condemnation** of the enemy.

Conviction, as it relates to sin, will always point to something specific you have done wrong, and lead you to God to repent and be forgiven. **Conviction will draw you to God. Conviction will reorient you back to Truth and Life in Jesus Christ. Conviction brings restoration.**

Condemnation is usually vague and will always be focused on who you are or are not (your identity.) It makes you want to cover up and hide from God (**Genesis 3**). **Condemnation** will produce shame and guilt. If what you are receiving makes you want to run from God or hide from Him – it is not the Holy Spirit. **Condemnation** leads to hopelessness about your condition. Its purpose is to separate you from God.

John 3:17-18 “*God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned, but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”*

Romans 8:1 “*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”*

When God speaks to you, how do you respond?

1. Believe

There are two meanings in the New Testament for believe:

- Intellectual agreement: "Yes, I believe that is true."
- Action: "I will put my trust in the Lord." **You will behave the way you believe!**

For example: Imagine standing at the edge of a cliff – huge dangerous drop-off. It is one thing to say, 'yes, I believe that bridge will hold me' and another thing to walk across on the bridge trusting it will hold you. **Belief is putting what God said into action.**

There are competing voices but the good news is no one gets to tell you who you are without your permission. You get to choose what you are going to believe or in what or who you are going to put your trust.

One of the most crucial decisions you must make as a believer is to determine that you are going to choose to believe what God says above everything and everyone else!

"I determine to believe what you say is true – and I don't just believe it in my head but I believe You and put my trust in You. I live my life based on what You say to me and about me."

2. Confess

We usually use this term as it relates to sin – "Ok, I did it – I confess".

- Confess literally means: to say the same thing, to agree (declare, praise). Confession is what I do when I agree with God.
- If God calls what I do, sin – I say 'yes God'. But when He says you are saved and forgiven and sealed for eternity, I say 'That's right, yes God, I am saved, forgiven, and sealed for eternity.' For some reason it easier for us to do the first one!

Confession is anytime you agree with what God says and put your speech to it. Confess His word and believe His truth.

Romans 10:9-10 "...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Believe in your heart everything God says about you and confess it to add your voice to His.

3. Obey what God tells you to do!

- Surrender your will and trust that He is right, He is good, and He is faithful to all His promises.
- Go back to the last word you received from God – check to see if you obeyed what He said. If you didn't do what He told you to do, repent and then do it.

Wrap Up

There are many voices vying for our attention and many words being spoken over us.

- We hear our own voice or fleshly desires.
- We hear the voices of parents, coaches, teachers, preachers and friends.
- Our enemy, Satan, is always speaking to us. He is very crafty and tempts us to doubt our relationship with God or that we really can hear Him. **Genesis 3 – “Did God really say?”** We need to sort through the voices!
- We need to go to the Word of God (Bible) and hear the only words and voice that matters—God's. We can trust that what He says is true. **His Word is the final authority.**

Hebrews 4:12 “*For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is the discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*”

One word from the Lord for yourself changes everything!

PRAYER

Father, speak to me. I invite You to speak in ways that impart life, identity, relationship, and purpose. Give me ears to hear what You say and eyes to see what You want to show me. Quicken my heart to sense what You want me to know. Father, I choose today to believe that You are who You say You are. I choose to believe that You will do everything that You said you would do. I trust You – I put my trust in You. My hope is in You and You alone. I thank You for Your love and Your faithfulness and Your mercy toward me. Remind me every day that what You say about me is the truest and most important thing I can ever believe about myself. Help me to receive it and rest in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What stood out to you in this chapter that maybe you didn't know or hadn't heard?

2. Did you know you could hear from God? _____

3. What did you hear in small group from the Lord or what is the Lord speaking to you today? What is your response to Him?

Your True Identity In Christ

The Effects of the Fall

In **Genesis 1:26-27**, we read that God created us in His own image. Adam and Eve had multiple good choices to make and only one wrong choice to make. Everything they wanted to do was okay except eating from the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. You know the story; they made that one bad choice. As a result, now we face a whole multitude of choices, both good and bad.

When they disobeyed God, they were still physically alive but became spiritually dead.

Spiritual Death = Separation from God's Presence

Man's strengths before the fall now became weakness or need.

- Acceptance was replaced by rejection; therefore you have a need to belong.
- Innocence was replaced by guilt and shame; therefore, your sense of worth needs to be restored.
- Dominion was replaced by weakness and helplessness; therefore, you have a need for strength and control.

As a follower of Christ, you receive a brand new identity.

How you used to identify yourself no longer applies. You are no longer a product of your past. You are a product of Christ's finished work on the Cross. You belong to God because of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:17 "*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.*"

Romans 12:2 "*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.*"

The most important belief that we possess is a true knowledge of WHO God is.

The second most important belief is who WE are as children of God.

**Satan does not want you to know:
Your ACCEPTANCE; Your ASSURANCE; Your SIGNIFICANCE**

As you begin to focus on what God says about you, allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you. If there are any verses that you don't believe about yourself, read and ponder (meditate on) them (**Joshua 1:8, Psalm 119:15**), declare them as many times as needed to get them from your head (knowing it is what God says but not believing it) to your heart (knowing what God says about you and believing it). The Word tells us that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. (**Romans 10:17**) Hearing it helps your ability to believe it.

John 6:63 “*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*”

God's words are spirit and life! As you read—by faith—know that His Word is alive and working in you supernaturally. God is watching over His Word to perform it and it will accomplish what He purposed it to do. (**Isaiah 55:11**)

Hebrews 13:8 “*Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever.*”

If God has said it in His Word, it does not change. You can believe and trust Him!

Numbers 23:19 “*God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?*”

In Search of Identity

What is identity? Identity is defined as “the collective aspect of the set of characteristics by which a thing is definitively recognizable or known” or “the quality or condition of being the same as something else.”

So, when **2 Corinthians 5:17** tells us that in Christ, we are a new creation, how we used to be recognized or known as, has changed. When we are born-again, in Christ, our life is no longer defined or conditioned by our past, but now identified as in and with Christ. Brand new, not just wiped clean. To be a “Christian” literally means to be a follower of Christ. Our identity is in Him, as a member of God’s family in the Kingdom of God. Our names are written in heaven.

If we are truly followers of Christ, our new identity in Christ should be recognizable both to ourselves and evident to others. Our new identity in Christ means we have the same relationship with God, the Father, that Christ has – we are now able to be called “children of God”. (**1 John 1:3; John 1:12-13; 2 Corinthians 6:1-18**).

We are to grow in our maturity in the Lord. Jesus gave us the enablement of the Holy Spirit (His power) in order to grow into spiritual maturity, that truly reflects our new identity in Him. (**Philippians 1:6**) We are no longer slaves (**Romans 6:6**) but are reconciled to God. (**Romans 5:10**).

Often, however, what we show on the outside is a false front designed to disguise who we think we really are. Our belief in who we are that does not line up with who God says we are. We attempt to cover up the negative feelings we have about ourselves. The world would have us believe that if we appear attractive or perform well or enjoy a certain amount of status, then we will have it all together inside as well. That is not always true. External appearance, accomplishments, and recognition do not necessarily reflect – or produce – internal peace and maturity. God has a destiny for you as His child. The enemy's goal is to derail and thwart God's plan for your life, and one of the biggest ways he attempts to do that is to attack your identity. Why? Because according to **Genesis 1:26-27**, we were created in the image of God (also **Genesis 5:1; 9:6; James 3:9**). We are a reflection of Him and the enemy hates that.

Your identity goes beyond gender, sexuality, and other cultural markers that the world uses to define us. In Christ, we have significance, assurance, worth/value, and have the God-given ability to participate in God-honoring relationships. Self-image is always dependent upon our perspective: How we see ourselves. Our true image or identity in light of what God says, is always dependent upon His Word. It never changes. So when we aren't sure of who we are, we don't have to look to anyone but God for that definition.

What if I struggle with gender confusion or sexual sin??????? God will always see you and relate to you as the biological gender He created you to be in the womb. When one becomes 'born-again', God will supernaturally help you deal with the changes that need to be made in your lifestyle, habits, and physical appearance to become who God created and redeemed you to be. Do not be deceived. You will not enter the Kingdom of God nor are you genuinely born again if you remain in sexual perversion, sin. (**1 Corinthians 6:9-11**—lists other sins also).

Healing can be received, sin can be overcome, and lives can be changed through salvation (saved, healed, set-free) that Jesus provides – even if there are perceived biological or physiological factors. Even when the world defines something as a biological/physiological issue (genetics/born that way; think that way; drawn to) it does not mean embracing the effects of that is the right thing to do in light of what God says.

Examples:

- The world says some people are "wired" with a sexuality on hyperdrive. That does not make it right for them to engage in sexual immorality. That is not how God "wired" His creation; God calls it sin.
- Psychopaths/sociopaths have brains with severely weakened impulse control mechanisms. That does not make it right for them to engage in every deviant behavior that crosses their mind. Again, that is a world definition for the excuse to sin.

Many times, it boils down to temptation and ignorance or rejection of God's Word. We are tempted to participate in certain things and the world is telling us its okay or it is a disease. It's normal. Just give in. Meanwhile, people are dying inside because there is something inside them that is not okay with it. Remember, we were created in the image of God. So, anything that is separating us from God, we know it in our spirit. And no matter how much we try to placate ourselves into believing all is well, it is not. And we know it. It begins a crazy cycle of depression, rebellion, addiction, and anything else we can do to try and push down what is going on inside, ending in defeat and destruction. You will live life in constant demonic torment. God said there is no peace for the wicked. (**Jeremiah 23:17**).

Temptation is "enticement, allurement, attraction, seduction". Remember that the enemy is here to steal, kill, and destroy you. And this can be strong in the area of temptation. **1 Corinthians 10:13** says that "No temptation has overtaken you except such is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not let you be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape that you may be able to bear it."

When you are tempted to do anything that is against God and His perfect plan for your lives, turn to Him. He has already provided a way out. He has already given you:

- His Word
- His Spirit (His Presence)
- The fruit of the Spirit including self-control (**Galatians 5:22-23**)
- Authority to break the bonds of the devil (**Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 10:19**)
- Salvation (save, healed, delivered – to be whole!)
- Clarity (Revelation), understanding His Word in terms of your gender (how He created you), your identity (who He says you are), power to overcome sin (including sexual sin).

James 1:12 "*Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.*"

2 Peter 2:9 "*Then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment.*"

No matter what you are going through, what you have identified yourself as in the past, what temptations you are struggling with, Jesus is your answer. He has already given you the power to overcome.

1 John 5:4 "*For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith.*"

1 John 1:9 "*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*"

The more we study His Word, the more we discover who we are in Christ. We are transformed into the person God says we are when we make Jesus Christ Lord, the pursuit of our lives.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NLT) “So all of us who have had the veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord – who is the Spirit – makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.”

Romans 8:29 (ESV) “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.”

Philippians 1:6 “Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 4:9 “The things you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these things do, and the God of peace will be with you.”

Romans 12:2 “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Let see what the Word says about your true identity in Christ.

Who I Am in Christ - My New Identity

Psalm 24:1 (NLT) “The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it. The world and all its' people belong to him.”

1 Corinthians 6:20 (NLT) “God bought you with a high price...”

Romans 8:16 “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”

Often Christians feel trapped. We fail, so we see ourselves as failures, which leads to more failure. We see ourselves as sinners, which leads to more sin. **We have been deceived into believing that what we do determines who we are.**

Being a child of God who is alive and free in Christ should determine what we do - not our behavior determining who we are. Then we are able to work out our salvation, (**Philippians 2:12**) not for our salvation. When we understand who we are in Christ, we do works out of our deep love for Him, not out of our attempt to earn His love. You already have it. You “do” because you “are”.

In Christ, You are Accepted

1. You are God's Child.

John 1:12-13 “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

Romans 8:15-16 “For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”

- You are a child of God and being His child is a right given to you by God Himself.
- You are saved by grace, through faith, not by works.
- You are not saved by how you behave; you are saved by how you believe.

2. You are Christ's Friend.

Think of it like this. How would it be to have an influential person that is your friend? He tells you, “go ahead, we are friends. Use my name. It will open doors for you.” You have access to them and their prominence. It is the same with God and His influence. He’s not just saying we are buddies—but you have access to all that He is and all that He has.

James 2:23 “And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed **God**, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the **friend of God**.

John 15:15 “I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn’t **confide** in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me.”

A friend is someone you are familiar with. Maybe even someone you are close to. You can confide in each other and be yourself with the person. That is one of the attributes God is to us. We can trust Him and just be ourselves around Him.

3. You Have Been Justified.

Romans 5:1 “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

What can get rid of your sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. You are justified in, through, and by Christ alone! You have been justified (just as if you'd never sinned); therefore, you have, right now, the joy of peace with God.

4. You are united with the Lord and One with Him in Spirit.

1 Corinthians 6:17 “But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.”

You have a responsibility to safeguard your mortal bodies from sin and keep it from being an instrument of unrighteousness. Failing to do so would be to violate the unity you have with the Lord. Whatever you are doing to the body, you are doing to the Lord. Remember, it is no longer you, but Christ in you.

5. You Have Been Bought with a Price, You Belong to God.

1 Corinthians 6:20 “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.”

6. You Have Been Adopted (to be God's Child).

Ephesians 1:3-6 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.”

2 Peter 1:9-10 “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.”

Ephesians 1:4-6 “Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.”

Your Heavenly Father didn't need you, but He wanted you!

**There are no illegitimate children of God;
none of you were unwanted or unexpected accidents.**

We are to stop acting like orphans under Satan's control and instead believe and act like what we are: *Children of God*.

7. You Have Been Redeemed and Forgiven of Your Sins.

Colossians 1:14 "For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

1 Peter 1:18-19 "Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."

8. You are Loved.

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

Jeremiah 31:3 "The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: 'Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.'

Romans 8:31 "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

9. You are Complete.

Colossians 2:10 "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power."

God's plan is to present you complete in Christ, for without Him you are incomplete. You were never designed to function independently from God.

Your identity comes from what God thinks about you.

**He created and redeemed you to be His, fully alive in Christ,
and walking in power and love, enabled by the Holy Spirit.**

Colossians 3:10-11 (NASB) "...and have put on the new self, who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him - a renewal where there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all."

Our identity is no longer determined by our physical heritage, social standing or racial distinctions. Our identity lives in the fact that we who have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior are all children of God.

LIFE in light of our identity in Christ is filled with a heavenly Father, a large loving family (Body of Christ), and the understanding that we are citizens of another kingdom – not of this earth.

PRAYER

Father God, You are wonderful and amazing. You alone are the source of my being. Draw me into the solid revelation of who You are and Your Truth. Come, Holy Spirit and set into my heart a sense of who You say I am. Awaken in me the capacity to connect and bond fully with You and others. I choose to be Yours and belong to You. Thank You, Father! I am alive in You in Jesus's Name. Amen.

Identity—What Does God Say?

I AM GOD'S'...

- possession (Genesis 17:8, 1 Corinthians 6:20)
- child (John 1:12)
- workmanship (Ephesians 2:10)
- friend (James 2:23)
- temple (1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:16)
- vessel (2 Timothy 2:2)
- co-laborer (1 Timothy 5:18)
- witness (Acts 1:8)
- soldier (2 Timothy 2:3)
- ambassador (2 Corinthians 5:20)
- building (1 Corinthians 3:9)
- husbandry (1 Corinthians 3:9)
- minister/instrument (Acts 26:16, 1 Timothy 4:6)

- chosen (Ephesians 1:4)
- beloved (Romans 1:7, 2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- precious jewel (Malachi 3:17)
- heritage (1 Peter 5:3)

I HAVE BEEN...

- redeemed by the blood (Revelation 5:9)
- set free from sin /condemnation (Romans 8:1-2)
- set free from Satan's control (Colossians 1:13)
- set free from Satan's kingdom (Ephesians 2)
- chosen before the foundation of world (Ephesians 1:4)
- predestined to be like Jesus (Ephesians 1:11)
- forgiven of all my trespasses (Colossians 2:13)
- washed in the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 1:5)
- given a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7)
- given the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 1:22)
- adopted into God's family (Romans 8:15)
- justified freely by His grace (Romans 3:24)
- given all things pertaining to life (2 Peter 1:3)
- given great and precious promises (2 Peter 1:4)
- given the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 1:22)
- authority over the power of enemy (Luke 10:19)
- access to God (Ephesians 3:12)
- been given wisdom (Ephesians 1:8)

I AM...

- complete in Him (Colossians 2:10)
- free forever from sin's power (Romans 6:14)
- sanctified (1 Corinthians 6:11)
- vessel of honor for the Master's use (2 Timothy 2:21)
- loved eternally (1 Peter 1:5)
- eternally kept in the palm of His hand (John 10:29)

- kept from falling (Jude 1:24)
- kept by the power of God (1 Peter 1:5)
- not condemned (Romans 8:1-2)
- one with the Lord (1 Corinthians 6:17)
- on my way to Heaven (John 14:6)
- quickened by His mighty power (Ephesians 2:1)
- seated in heavenly places (Ephesians 1:3)
- the head and not the tail (Deuteronomy 28:13)
- light in the darkness (Matthew 5:14)
- candle in a dark place (Matthew 5:15)
- city set on a hill (Matthew 5:14)
- salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13)
- His sheep (Psalms 23, Psalms 100:3, John 10:14)
- a citizen of Heaven (1 Peter 2:11)
- hidden with Christ in God (Psalms 32:7)
- protected from the evil one (1 John 5:18)
- kept by the power of God (1 Peter 1:5)
- secure in Christ (John 10:28-29)
- set on a Rock (Psalms 40:2)
- more-than-a-conqueror (Romans 8:37)
- born again (1 Peter 1:23)
- a victor (1 John 5:4)
- healed by His stripes (Isaiah 53:6)
- covered by the blood of Jesus (Revelation 12:11, 1 Peter 1:19)
- sheltered under His wing (Psalms 91:4)
- hidden in the secret place of the Almighty (Psalms 91:1)

I HAVE...

- access to the Father (Romans 5:2)
- a home in Heaven waiting for me (John 14:1-2)
- all things in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- a living hope (1 Peter 1:3)

- an anchor to my soul (Hebrews 6:19)
- a hope that is sure and steadfast (Hebrews 6:19)
- authority to tread on serpents (Luke 10:19)
- power to witness (Acts 1:8)
- the tongue of the learned (Isaiah 50:4)
- the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16)
- boldness and access (Hebrews 10:19)
- peace with God (Romans 5:1)
- faith as a grain of mustard seed (Luke 17:6)

I CAN...

- do all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13)
- find mercy and grace to help (Hebrews 4:16)
- come boldly to the throne of grace (Hebrews 4:16)
- quench all the fiery darts (Ephesians 6:16)
- tread on the serpent (Luke 10:19)
- declare liberty to captives (Isaiah 61:1)
- pray always and everywhere (Luke 21:36)
- defeat (overcome) the enemy (Revelation 12:11)
- tread Satan under foot (Romans 16:20)

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What did you hear in this chapter that you didn't know or hadn't heard?

2. Ask the Lord if there are any names or labels you have received and believed about yourself that do not represent God's best for you. What lies have been attached to that name?

3. What is the truth God says about you?

Let go of what the world says about you and embrace what God says. Begin to study and speak scripture over yourself of what God sees and says. Do it until you believe what God says about you is true. For example: place sticky notes with scriptures on your mirror, on the refrigerator, and in your car to remind you and keep God's Words in front of you and on your mind.

4. What is God speaking to me? How will I respond to what He says?

PART TWO

Foundation for Freedom and Healing

Jesus ministered to the broken and lost. He had an ability to deeply address the real needs of people. He provided everything we needed to be equipped to step out as Christ's representatives of the Kingdom of God. Jesus gave His disciples a commission to go and proclaim Him in Word and power. He equipped us with foundational instructions and tools to represent Him well. Jesus came to rescue the lost, (**Luke 9:10**) heal, set free, restore, and proclaim the Kingdom of God to others. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. (**1 John 3:8**) That is good news!

When we partner with the Holy Spirit under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, we can live fully connected and empowered by the Kingdom of Heaven.

1 John 3:8 (NASB) “*...the Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.*”

“**Sozo**”, which is used 110 times in the New Testament, is a Greek word meaning, “to save or make well or whole.” According to Strong’s Greek Dictionary of the New Testament, “**Sozo**” also means, “**to save, deliver, heal, and preserve.**” The writers of the New Testament demonstrated the completeness of the word “Sozo” by using it in different contexts to refer to each aspect of salvation through Jesus Christ.

SALVATION

Romans 10:9 “*That if you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead you shall be saved.*”(Sozo)

Luke 19:10 “*For the Son of Man came to seek and to save (Sozo) what was lost.*”

HEALING

Matthew 9:22 “*But Jesus turning and seeing her said, “Daughter, take courage, your faith has made you well”*(Sozo), and at once the woman was made well.“(Sozo)

DELIVERANCE

Luke 8:36 “*And those who had seen it reported to them how the man who was demon-possessed had been made well.*”(Sozo)

Overview of Freedom and Deliverance

Freedom is not the absence of SOMETHING but the presence of SOMEONE (Jesus!)

2 Corinthians 3:17 – “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.”

- Freedom and deliverance are for the believer. It is Jesus that sets us free.
- Freedom is defined as, “the state of being free or at liberty rather than under restraint.” Deliverance is very similar in that it is the act or instance of deliverance, salvation, liberation, or a formal or authoritative pronouncement. We may use the terms freedom and deliverance interchangeably because it just means being free!
- Freedom is when we can respond to God fully as the person He created and redeemed us to be.

Key Concepts for Freedom

- It is Christ-focused not problem-focused.
- It is hearing God for yourself.
- It is being a disciple (obedient followers of Christ) not just “believers” who hear, learn, and know, but never “do” what the Word says.

Disciple (New Oxford Dictionary) means a follower or student of a teacher. A learner, pupil, follower, adherent, believer, admirer, devotee, protégé, upholder, supporter, and advocate.

Being a disciple is more than just praying a prayer of salvation. It is a life lived out for the glory of God. Following the lead of Jesus, and taking Him at His word.

- It is a process of diligence and intentional development as God gives a clear path to maturity.
- It is vital to the life of Christ-followers because “**Found people find people**” and “**Free people, free people.**”

The Enemy's Goal is to Destroy

1. To prevent the salvation of the lost.
2. To prevent the praise and worship of the One True God.
3. To weaken and divide the Church.
4. To torment and oppress the entire human race (especially followers of Christ).

(Scripture references: **Isaiah 14:12-15, Ephesians 6:12, Ephesians 1:20-21, I John 5:18-21, Revelation 12:9**)

Your Response to the Enemy

1 Peter 5:8 “Be sober and alert, your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.”

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (ESV) “For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God and take every thought captive to obey Christ.”

(Study **Ephesians 6:10-20**. The Armor of God)

Your response is to be sober and alert and not be ignorant of Satan’s schemes and to take every thought captive. That means when a thought enters your mind that doesn’t agree with the Word of God, you recognize it as a lie and kick it out. Don’t meditate on it or receive it as truth. Know it is a lie and counteract it with the truth of God’s Word. Ask God to reveal the lie you are believing that is attracting those thoughts in the first place.

FOUR Areas to Recognize as Schemes of the Enemy

1. Strongholds

What is a stronghold of the enemy? A stronghold is any obstacle – person, thought, argument, or opinion or anything that exalts itself above God, and hinders you from becoming what God called you to be. It is an area in your life dominated by thoughts or actions in opposition to God and His Word. It is returning to the old way of thinking—a wrong pattern of thought. That thought was introduced by the enemy to attack you at the core of who you are.

It is important to catch the lie at the thought stage before taking it in as “truth”, becoming a stronghold. You are to “cast it down”, not meditate on the lie. The enemy likes to keep you trapped, but you no longer have to stay under the enemy's influence!

Review again:

2 Corinthian 10: 4-5 (NKJV) “*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.*”

Once a stronghold is in place, one of three things will happen when the Holy Spirit tries to convict you of sin:

- You may no longer recognize sin as sin. It will no longer seem wrong.
- You may recognize it as sin but have very little motivation to deal with it.
- You may desire to be rid of the sin but lack the power to deal with it effectively.

If this is you, repent. Ask the Lord to show you the truth, and do what He says.

Psalm 18:2 “*The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my **stronghold**.*”

2. Wounds (Hurts and Traumas)

Time doesn't always heal everything. Jesus is the only One who can truly heal.

- Have you ever been deeply wounded? (Betrayed, rejected, ridiculed, felt inferior, etc.)
- We tend to be programmed to disguise our pain and just say “I'm fine!” or “no problem”.
- Pain is very real! Soul wounds penetrate deep into your heart and can shape who you become and what decisions you make.

(Example: Something someone said or continually said (verbal abuse), physical abuse, or any perceived traumatic experience).

TWO Types of Wounds Explained

- A **soul wound** is an unhealthy attachment to something that happened that you can't seem to let go.
- A **soul tie** is an attachment to a person through an event, emotion, or physical senses. It is unhealthy when the attachment is causing us to be influenced to act contrary to God's Word.

The enemy takes advantage of your deep wounds and hurts at your weakest moments. He is right there to tell you what they mean. If something traumatic happens to you, he may say, "You deserved it!" or "No one will want you now!" Other people, such as counselors, may also interpret the wounds for you derived from humanistic theories that miss the truth. The real truth is what God says. He has already provided for you to be healed.

Psalm 147:3 "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds".

3. Core Lies

Wounds directly partner up with lies. The real issue becomes—are you willing to accept or tolerate Satan's influence? John 8:44 tells us who the devil really is.

John 8:44 "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father, you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him."

The enemy is a liar and the father of lies. His primary weapon against you is a lie; he is incapable of telling the truth!

The enemy lies to you in 3 different areas:

- He will get you to believe lies about God.
- He will get you to believe lies about other people.
- He will get you to believe lies about yourself.

The enemy works overtime to bring soul wounds and core lies in partnership. When they begin to partner up you have a stronghold.

Example: A young boy who loves his mom gets news from his mom that she is leaving his dad. The boy begins to believe lies about women; they will always leave you. Because of his hurt he creates a wall. As he becomes a young man, he falls for a beautiful young woman but keeps pushing her away because of the wall he has built to protect himself from being hurt by another woman. Finally, she gives up on him and leaves which confirms the lie that women always leave.

That's how the lies of the enemy sneak in! You don't intend to believe a lie and you typically don't realize you are doing it.

Begin to ask God to show you lies you have believed. The way to break lies is to hear the truth. To know the truth, you have to go to God's Word. Know what is true so that you recognize the lie when it comes.

Example: Counterfeit money - you learn to spot the counterfeit money, not by studying the counterfeit, but by studying the genuine. You come to know the genuine so well the counterfeit sticks out.

John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

4. Life Patterns

Life patterns are areas that are repetitive in your life (a cycle you can't seem to break). These patterns can also be seen in your generations (your family line) and be influenced by how and where you were raised. These patterns can create a stronghold in your life.

One way to know if you have a stronghold is by recognizing certain patterns or unbelief you may have in a particular area. If there is a repetitive “problem” in an area, you will want to find out the root, or the lie that was believed.

Some influences that shape your perceptions and might show up in patterns:

- Drugs
- Divorce
- Alcoholism
- Child Abuse
- Others - verbal abuse, poverty/financial issues, depression, sexual sin, etc.

These areas can be repeated patterns of behavior in families. This doesn't necessarily mean it will repeat in your generation, but it can reveal where the enemy has influenced your family in generations past.

When you partner with God, recognize the lies of the enemy, and receive God's truth, you can break free of **ANY** stronghold in your life. It doesn't matter if it is something you've done or something handed down from generation to generation. You can choose to stop the enemy's power over you.

You cannot control the actions of other people, but you can choose how you respond to those actions. As a child of God, you have been given victory and the Holy Spirit to guide you into all truth.

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Psalm 100:5 "The Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures all generations."

Two Other Entry Points for Enemy Influence

1. Unforgiveness

Luke 11:4 "Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us..."

Mark 11:25 (NASB) "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you."

Jesus regularly taught the importance of forgiveness, because forgiveness is God's provision for **releasing you** from the power and pain of sins committed against you. Forgiveness is a two part process. Jesus Himself showed the two aspects of forgiveness when He purchased forgiveness on the cross. (**Luke 23:34**) The **first part** is choosing to forgive, and the **second part** is entrusting the Father with the consequences and impact of a person's sin against you.

Forgiving doesn't mean you have to be best friends with the person who hurt you or have them be a part of your life unless led by the Lord to do so. You have to use wisdom. But it does mean that you no longer cringe at the sound of their name. You have completely released them. You are able to sincerely pray for them and release them to the Lord and let Him do His work. Every time the enemy brings up the past offense, release them again. Forgive as many times as it takes so that the enemy no longer has a hold on you in this area and you can walk in freedom.

2. Idols

God must have strong feelings on the subject of idolatry, because the first commandment given to Moses on Mount Sinai was, “You shall have no other gods before Me.” (**Exodus 20:3**). We often allow our affections to easily get entangled by people or things other than God, but the truth still remains; we were created to worship the one and only true living God.

What is an idol? An idol is anything you give a higher priority to than God Himself. Idols are the things or people that consume your time and attention. It is a false god. Idolatry involves any object of worship, strong affection, or devotion. Anything you turn to for comfort, security, or a sense of well-being can be an idol. Ask the Lord to identify any idols in your life.

1 John 5:21 (NASB) “*Little children, guard yourselves from idols.*”

Matthew 6:21 (KJV) “*For where your treasure is, there will be your heart be also.*”

- We look to everyone and everything but God to fulfill or fill what only God can do.
- We recognize something is missing—we want more. We say, “There has to be more than this!” or “I need to know more about myself/others”, or “I need to fill the void.” The “thing” we are searching for, the only one that can truly satisfy us and fill the void in our lives is Jesus.

Psalm 107:9 “*For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.*”

Psalm 145:16 “*You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.*”

Prayerfully consider the following areas where people or things may have become more important to you than God. There is nothing wrong with most things in moderation; the problem comes when they begin to take the place of God in your heart. In other words, you give value to them more than you do God. You give more room and time to them more than God.

Examples:

- Ambition
- Career/Work
- Power/Control
- Busyness
- Financial Security
- Food or Any Substance
- Spouse
- Children
- Parents
- Friends
- Relationships - Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- Progressive Christianity - 'you are enough' (apart from Christ)
- Approval of Others
- Appearance
- Hobbies
- Entertainment/Television/Movies
- Computers/Cell Phone/Electronics/ Social Media/ Gaming
- Activities
- Sports
- Ministry
- Physical Fitness
- Celebrities - Athletes/Singers/ Musicians/Actors
- World "expert" opinions

The Bible tells you to confess your sin, renounce and turn away from any areas of idolatry or areas where your priorities are skewed. Ask the Holy Spirit to identify areas.

TAKE ACTION:

Sanctification: an impartation—not imitation.

Impartation means to give, convey, or grant; to communicate the knowledge of. So "sanctification as an impartation" means impartation of the holy qualities of Jesus to me.

- The gifts such as patience, love, holiness, faith, purity, godliness, self-control that is exhibited through every sanctified soul (soul is your mind, will, and emotions).
- Sanctification is not drawing from Jesus the power to be holy, it is drawing from Jesus the very holiness that is exhibited in HIM - and He now lives in me!

Therefore, NOW, I can begin to live a life of inexpressible order, soundness, & holiness.
No excuses!

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What is the definition of freedom?

2. Are you struggling with any area mentioned in this chapter? _____

Strongholds, unforgiveness, soul wounds, core lies, life patterns, wrong beliefs, etc.

3. Ask the Lord "if I could just _____, I would have peace or joy".

4. What is the Lord showing you? What lie am I believing in this area?

5. What is the truth of God's Word over this area?

- Release it to the Lord.
- Renounce the lie; ask Him for forgiveness.
- Embrace the truth and walk as a new creation in Him. Healed, set free, delivered.

6. What God is speaking to me.

The Healing Ministry of Jesus

Introduction to Healing: Love is the Foundation

Galatians 5:6 (NIV) “The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. ”

1 Corinthians 13:1-8 (NASB) “If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

2 Timothy 1:7 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

We love people and we know that love connects people to God. God so loved the whole world that He sent Jesus to be our Savior and Lord. Jesus ministered with love, compassion, and power. He instructed His disciples to go and do the same.

1 Peter 3:8 “Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous.”

Perspective on Healing

In **Exodus 15:26** God said, “I am the Lord who heals you.” (Jehovah Rapha)

- **Healing is the nature of God.**

Jeremiah 30:17 “I will give you back your health and heal your wounds,’ says the Lord.”

Psalm 103:3 “Bless the Lord...forget none of His benefits...who heals all your diseases.”

- **Healing is the promise of God.**

2 Corinthians 1:20 “All of the promises of God are “yes” and “amen” in Jesus Christ.”

DECLARE: I am a receiver of everything that Jesus died and paid for in my life.

The Ministry of Healing Began with Jesus. It's Jesus being Jesus!

Acts 10:38 "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with him."

Luke 4:40 (NKJV) "When the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them."

People need to see and hear of signs of God's love and power in order to believe
- A witness to Jesus being alive, the same today and forever!

John 20:30-31 "And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name."

John 2:11 "What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory and his disciples believed in him."

- **Jesus commissioned others to heal the sick.**

Matthew 10:1 (NIV) "Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' **Heal the sick**, raise the dead, and cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give."

Luke 10:1 (NIV) "After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. **Heal the sick** who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

- **Jesus was crucified, buried, risen and ascended into heaven and left His ministry to His disciples.**

Healing ministry continued after Jesus' earthly ministry. He poured out His very Spirit on 120 people in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord (already ascended) worked with them and confirmed His Word by the signs that accompanied it. (**Mark 16:20**)

- **Healing is being restored as a ministry of Jesus today.**

Mark 16:17–18 tells us those who believe will lay their hands on the sick and they will recover. There are still believers today, so those who believe in Jesus have the same power and authority the disciples of Jesus' day had.

Hebrews 13:8 “Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever.”

Your Authority in Healing

Jesus healed by commissioning others and giving them authority.

- **Power** is the ability to affect something or make it happen. (God's part)
- **Authority** is the right or authorization, and responsibility to do it. (Our part)

We have the fullness of God in us. After Jesus secured victory over sin and death through His sinless life, His death on the Cross, and resurrection, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name (**Philippians 2:9**). Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Father (**Mark 16:19**) and was given absolute authority with direct access to the Father at all times. His absolute authority has been granted to us, as believers, within the context of His closeness to the Father.

We can now access the throne room too, because of Jesus. We can come boldly before the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need (**Hebrews 4:16**).

Our authority is not something to take lightly, nor is it something delegated to just anyone. It is something bestowed by a Father upon His children. True authority is directly related to one's relationship with God as our "Father" because only from this relationship do we go forth as 'sons'.

Jesus sent out His disciples before leaving this earth. He said “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go...” (**Matthew 28:18-20**). His followers went out with the assurance of Jesus's absolute authority, granted from the Father. They went out in response to Jesus' command to them and using His Name to trample on the power of the enemy.

We are instructed to go do the same thing in the same authority and assurance of Jesus' power flowing through us. He trusts us – the question becomes, do we trust Him?

When we speak words that are authorized by the Father—our Father—they have supreme weight in the spiritual realm. When you are submitted to God (under His authority as a son), the devil has to flee from you (**James 4:7**). Sickness and disease are no match for a son who knows his (or her) authority in Christ! If we speak a word of authority to a sickness or condition (like Jesus rebuked the fever from Peter's mother-in-law in **Luke 4:39**), then our expectation would be that it will leave. We must be submitted to God our Father, through His Son, Jesus.

Ephesians 2:6-10 *"And raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."*

Matthew 28:18-20 *"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

Luke 10:19 *"I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."*

What Jesus modeled was the ministry of preaching, teaching, and healing. Healing ministry should be part of every ministry, because it is God's desire to heal. Jesus is perfect theology. He modeled and demonstrated the heart of the Father in every situation. In the New Testament, Jesus never turned anyone away. He healed everyone who came to Him.

Mark 16:17-18 *"And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

These signs WILL follow you if you will simply believe Jesus. He wants to heal the sick and set people free through you!

***Our job is to lay hands on the sick and agree with God's Words in Jesus' Name.
God's job is to heal them.***

“Divine healing is the act of God’s grace, by the direct power of the Holy Spirit, by which the physical body is delivered from sickness and disease and restored to soundness and health.”

Marie Woodworth-Etter

Healing is God’s Redemptive Plan

Ephesians 2:8 (KJV) “*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God.*”

It took faith to become a child of God. By grace we were saved through faith. As children of God, we own all that Jesus has done for us – He gave His life for our salvation – our wholeness – body, soul (will, mind & emotions) and spirit. Now we can understand why Peter said, “... by whose stripes you were healed”. **The manifestation of our salvation becomes reality when we believe and act on the Word of God – we simply believe and act on what the Word says.** Healing becomes a reality in our lives when we act on the words, “By HIS stripes, we were healed.” **1 Peter 2:24 – It is acting on the Word that brings results.**

Psalm 107:20 (NKJV) “*He sent His Word and healed them and delivered them from their destructions.*”

The Bible teaches us that we have an enemy – the devil- fighting against us, and he is going to do his best to rob and cheat us out of our healing. **John 10:10** states that ‘The thief comes not, but to steal and to kill, and to destroy ...’ But when we are equipped with the Word of God, we can resist the devil.

If we will give the Word of God the same opportunity that we give natural medicine, a doctor, or what another practitioner prescribes, we will be healed! We urge Christians to believe because God’s Word has lost its reality to them. We are blessed with all spiritual blessings in Christ if we only believe and take Him at His Word.

Proverbs 4:20-22 (KJV) “*My son, attend to my word; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and **health** to all their flesh.*”

NOTE:

According to The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance, the Hebrew word in verse 22, “health” actually means medicine. This scripture actually says, “... they (God’s words) are life unto those that find them and medicine unto all their flesh.”

There are three things we are told to do with the Word of God: 1) *Attend to it or put it first;* 2) *listen to it;* and 3) *keep it in the midst of our heart.* (**Proverbs 4:20-22**)

Then we find that ‘they’, God’s words, are life unto those that find them, and health (medicine) to all their flesh. God’s words are medicine! God’s medicine is His Word!

John 6:63 (NKJV) "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak are Spirit and they are life."

Ephesians 1:3 (KJV) "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

1 Peter 2:24 (KJV) "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

Matthew 8:17 (KJV) "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself (Jesus) took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

Psalm 91:16 (KJV) "With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV) "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

Psalm 103:2-5 (NKJV) "Bless the Lord, O my soul. And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."

Mark 9:23 (KJV) "Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

Romans 10:17 (KJV) "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God."

Psalm 119:89 (KJV) "Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven."

Hebrews 10:23 (KJV) "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised."

Receive Healing

1. Start with a right heart before God and pray.

James 5:14-18 (NIV) “Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And **the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well**; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. **The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.**”

2. Know and believe that Jesus has already provided healing.

Isaiah 53:4-5 (NKJV) “Surely He has borne our grief's and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

3. Settle the issue that healing, like salvation and deliverance, is in the atonement.

- Jesus, by giving His life on the cross, paid the price for our salvation and healing. There is power in the blood of Jesus!

John 3:16-17 (NKJV) “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ”

- Saved is “Sozo” meaning not only saved from sin, but salvation of soul, body, and spirit - saved, healed, & delivered.

Through Christ’s atonement, God provided many blessings for the world He loves. Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection became a complete triumph over Satan and the kingdom of darkness.

The Atonement Affords Freedom From Every Bondage:

- Freedom from bondage to sin, guilt and shame, demonic oppression, to any or all satanic activity, to sickness, disease, and mental illness.

NOTE: PULL off any labels that have been spoken over you or that you have spoken yourself. NO excuses! Labels—psychology, trauma, informed care, AA steps—"I Am" this, etc. You can now say “I WAS.” **1 Cor. 6:9-11:** You were *these things!* Labels keep you trapped. Life is managed around the label. Let the Kingdom of God manage your life as you ‘**seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**’ (*Matthew 6:33*)

We receive healing like we receive salvation or deliverance. **We receive His free gift by grace, not works.** **We believe in Jesus and believe Jesus** - not only believe in the man but take Him at His Word.

Proverbs 4:20-23 “*My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.*”

4. Focus on God's Grace - His Goodness.

Let Jesus be Himself and do what He does – saves, baptizes, heals, and delivers because He is good.

Acts 10:38 (NLT) “*And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.*”

2 Corinthians 12:9 “*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is perfected in your weakness*”

Colossians 2:13 “*God made us alive with Christ.*”

John 10:10 “*I have come that you may have life, and they may have it more abundantly.*”

5. Rest

Philippians 4:6 “*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*”

If God said He'll do it, He will. You can count on His Word. We walk by faith, not by sight. Don't look at what you are seeing, but rest in knowing that God is at work and He who began a good work in you will complete it.

6. Leave no room for doubt.

The enemy's strategy is to lie to us. **Doubt is the result of believing or entertaining a lie.**

Many people want to see the results before they believe they are healed. **Faith demands we believe we are healed before we see results.** For example, if the symptoms come back, the enemy would say you are not really healed. That is a lie! Give the enemy no place. Choose to take God at His Word and stand on it until you see the manifestations of His promise to you.

All lies leads to hopelessness, and hopelessness is not of God. He is our Hope!

1 Corinthians 6:9-11: You were those things, but now I can declare ...

Declare the Truth

Just as I accepted Jesus as my Savior for life, I accept Him as my Healer for life. I no longer live with sickness and disease. I can enjoy a long life of health. Jesus, Himself, took my infirmities and bore my sicknesses. What He bore, I need not bear! Because He bore my infirmities, because He bore my sicknesses, I am healed! I am free! I choose to live long on the earth, to go home when I am full of years and satisfied.

I am a believer, not a doubter. God's Word works! All things are possible to those who believe. And I believe God's Word. I believe God is my Savior, Healer, Deliverer, and Provider in Jesus' Name! I accept His Word and I acknowledge that God's Word is truth. I will not forget His benefits. He is my Healer, and according to the Word of God, I am healed and I receive it. I keep the Word of God before my eyes. I am well and whole and doing what God has called me to do.

In the face of symptoms, pain, or anything else that the devil tries to use to cause destruction, I will speak the truth of God's Word and receive my healing because by Jesus' stripes I am healed. I want everything that belongs to me in Christ. I don't want to settle for second best or third or fourth best. If the Bible says its mine, I am going to believe it and receive it through faith in Christ's finished work on the Cross.

Healing was not just for the first disciples. The power of God is still present today to heal, deliver and set people free. I receive the healing power of God through faith and prayer. I can minister that healing power to others because Jesus is the Healer flowing through me. I pay attention to the Word of God. I take heed to the Word that I hear. And I line myself up with the Word. For as I am in agreement and obedient to God's Word, I will see results. Thank you, Jesus for saving me, healing me and filling me with your Spirit so that I can become all that God has created and redeemed me to be – a witness to your goodness and grace!

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What does God's Word say about healing?

2. Are you struggling with receiving any area mentioned in this chapter? _____

3. Ask the Lord if there is any area from which you need healing.

4. What is God is speaking to me.

5. Write out your prayer to the Lord.

Recognize Oppression and Eliminate It

Oppression is real and is from the enemy. We don't want to give the devil a place or platform; however, the devil is real and he is your enemy. His plan is to steal, kill, and destroy. (**John 10:10**) Part of being aware of the attacks of the enemy's schemes is to understand his role and his place. While he may seek to destroy you, his place is under your feet!

Romans 16:20 (NASB) "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet..."

Psalm 8:6 (NASB) "You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet."

Where do Satan and Demons Come From?

They are created beings – **Satan is not the opposite of God. He is not equal to God in any way. God has no rival (no equal)!** Satan is a being originally created by God to be good.

1. He was an Angel of the highest rank (a Guardian Cherub) named Lucifer. (**Ezekiel 28:12-18**) He knew the Glory of God as few other creatures knew it.
2. He became jealous of God's Glory and desired to be like God, if not become God himself. (**Isaiah 14:12-14**)
3. Because of this pride, he was cast out of God's presence and lost his position. He became the epitome of that which is ungodly. (**Luke 10:18**)
4. When he rebelled, he took one-third of the angels with him. (**Hebrews 12:22; Matthew 25:14; Revelation 12:3-9**).
5. He desires to be worshiped (**Matthew 4:8-9**). He is murderer and liar (**John 8:44**). He is waging war against you (**Ephesians 6:11-12**).
6. He does not have the power to create – only to imitate or counterfeit, manipulate, confuse, and deceive. He has power, but it is limited. He doesn't want you to know that. (Read limitations in the book of **Job**) (**1 John 5:18; Hebrews 2:14; Matthew 4:1**)

Man was given dominion (authority, control, and rule) over the earth at Creation but gave it over to Satan when he sinned. Satan now has limited rulership over the earth until Christ's return. Satan knows he is defeated but he tries to hurt God by turning His creation whom He loves away from Him. Satan desires that man worship him, not God. It is a battle for our souls. Whom will we serve and worship? We get to choose! **There is no neutral ground.** If we belong to Christ, and know our identity in Him, Satan's legal right to have dominion over us is broken. This doesn't mean he will automatically leave us alone. However, Jesus won a decisive victory over Satan on the cross. The battle is won, but we participate in occupying our territory until Jesus comes. Satan's power is broken when we stand in our authority in Jesus Christ. It is when we don't understand and exercise this authority or don't come under the Lordship of Jesus Christ that he easily influences and destroys.

Can Demons Affect Christians?

Because we live in a world under the rulership of Satan, he can oppress the body and soul of a Christian particularly in areas not under the Lordship of Christ. He can oppress (persecute, abuse, torment, depress, and keep someone in hardship through the unjust use of authority).

Oppression means "unjust or cruel exercise of authority or power, weighed down in body or mind, depression". Unfortunately, we see this often in the lives of believers.

Possession means "the act of having or taking control, occupancy, domination".

For a true believer of Jesus, the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in their spirit (They are owned by the Lord). So the devil cannot "possess" or take up ownership in their spirit where the Holy Spirit already resides. But he can oppress other areas of a believer (the body and soul) when he has been granted legal access.

Like with a house—you may own the house (have legal possession). But if you leave the door open, someone can come in, occupy the home, destroy, and cause havoc. This is why we go back to the foundation. Many believers have allowed the demonic realm to take up "occupancy" in their lives because they are not surrendered to the Lord so He can own the house.

Healing, Deliverance, and Freedom really can be used interchangeably. **Remember that where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. It's about the presence of Jesus - us being full of Him - not just the absence of the enemy.** Anything that stands in the way of our relationship with Him needs to be removed, whether anger, unforgiveness, strongholds, bondage, addiction, or even demonic oppression. No matter how we define it, the key for the believer is to receive freedom that is only found in Jesus.

Divine healing is the act of God's grace, by the direct power of the Holy Spirit, by which the physical body is delivered from sickness & disease and restored to soundness and health.

Marie Woodworth-Etter

No Fear in Deliverance

Deliverance is probably not what you've heard that it is. It is not like in the movies or Hollywood. It is in the Holy Word! It is for believers! It is nothing to be afraid of and is totally non-threatening to the individual. It is simply inner healing by removal of the cause of the problem. Deliverance is often without any significant manifestation (outward sign) and is completely non-threatening to the one receiving the ministry. It is simply praying for the individual, inquiring of the Holy Spirit, and letting Him do the work. We are just facilitators for people to encounter God's Presence. We do nothing apart from Jesus!

If all permission to be there, and to stay there, is canceled, then the demons must be obedient to the command, in the name of Jesus Christ, to leave. Deliverance cannot take place against someone's will and can even involve more than just his or her *willingness* to be free. Often it requires a *desire* to be free.

Deliverance is a truth encounter, not just a power encounter. It is not a ritual or formula. God will speak to the person personally. Demons are all liars, but they will submit to the truth of the Word of God and the powerful name of Jesus Christ. The bottom line - you choose if you want to live free. You choose to follow Jesus. No demon can stop you from calling on the name of Jesus!

Command the demons to go and never to return in the NAME of JESUS. They will do as they are commanded, period. Every demon power will bow at the name of Jesus Christ. Now that you know the foundation of the gospel, are aware of the enemy's schemes, and how you as a believer are set free, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any access points, lies, sins, or beliefs that give the enemy an entrance to your life. Ask Him to reveal them so that you can walk in the freedom Christ paid for you to have.

Spiritual Warfare Should Not Be Complicated

The world of magic, sorcery, and witchcraft has captured the minds, imaginations, and hearts of this generation like nothing else before it. Yes we are at war – but how do we enforce the victory that is already ours through the cross?

It is easy for Christians to be led off course. The enemy has used spiritual warfare as a decoy within the Church to absorb time, effort, and valuable resources to focus on past wrongs, when everything we have is already given us in Jesus. People are searching everywhere for healing and deliverance, when the true key is **obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit**, not simply taking someone else's method and expecting the same result.

One of the greatest needs in the Church is that we return to the simplicity of God's Word. We have complicated things to the point that the average believer stands confused and in needless bondage. **Our view of God should be so much greater than the view of evil.**

Psalm 81:13-14 “Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways! I would quickly subdue their enemies and turn My hand against their adversaries.”

There is only one reason why we suffer defeat at the hands of the enemy and that is because we take our eyes off Jesus and are enticed by sin. It is just like the Old Testament – Israel’s sin was disobedience in failing to keep God’s Word. Loving obedience to God and His Word places God on our side and victory is assured.

The Finished Work of Jesus

We have lost track of this one simple, yet imperative truth and replaced it with a vast spectrum of complex ‘solutions’ and interventions. Unfortunately, the average believer, in his biblical insecurity and knowing of God’s word, has become caught up in various false doctrines, thinking ‘experts’ have discovered some lost revelation that holds the key to spiritual victory. The finished work of the Cross is all we need to receive answers to our prayers, healing, and staying free. May God open our eyes afresh to the value of getting alone with Him in prayer and in His Word – a right heart before God is all that is necessary for answered prayer and to become the person God created and redeemed us to be.

The Good News

Jesus came to set the captives free.

Luke 4:18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Acts 10:38 (NIV) “...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.”

Jesus Gave You the Same Authority

Luke 9:1-2 “Then He called His 12 disciples together (Divine call) and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.” (Spiritual Authority is never exercised over people, but only over the spirit world of darkness.) “He sent them to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.”

"Jesus" is the Name of absolute authority. His name is above all other names. The authority of Jesus' name is given to everyone who believes in Him for salvation through the forgiveness of sins. Every believer has the right to tell demons, "GO" in the name of Jesus, and the demons must obey.

Know who you are in Christ. Know who you are fighting and know how to fight.

Jesus says in **Mark 16:17-18**, "*and these signs shall* (not maybe) *follow them that believe; in my name they shall cast out devils, they shall speak with new tongues.*" Verse 18 says, "*they shall take up serpents...*" (this refers to putting away demonic spirits not actual snakes).

In **Luke 10:19** Jesus says, "*I have given you the authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.*" (This is the domain of spiritual authority. It is only over spirit beings, and not over humans).

We are told in **2 Timothy 1:7** that "*God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love and of a sound mind.*" Such power comes from the Holy Spirit.

Legal Permission of the Enemy

Since Jesus came to set the captive free and you as a follower of Him have authority, how does the enemy gain access to a believers life? Demons (or evil spirits) must have your consent. Permission can be granted in many ways. The Holy Spirit honors your will; demons must also. They cannot intrude without some kind of permission. Once permission is granted, the demon takes up residence in the soul or flesh and begins to build a kingdom bent on destruction. Jesus says that Satan works to kill, steal, and destroy. (**John 10:10**) There isn't a demon power with any other function. Once the door is opened then **oppression** begins because the demon has been granted permission to be there.

Part of the freedom and deliverance process is to determine what entryways are granted to evil spirits or what permission the demons have to be there. The fact that they are there indicates they have permission. **The question now is, do they have permission to stay?**

Example: There was a shed whose door was left open overnight. The owner realized things were being chewed on and destruction was happening in the shed. The opened door let a rat in! Once the owner realized a rat was in there, he kicked it out and shut the door. It no longer had permission to be there (door was now closed) or to stay.

Things to know and remember:

1. “Manifestation” of something does not equal the Holy Spirit.

Many times in churches or other places, if we see a manifestation of something or feel something, we assume it is always the Holy Spirit. We need to not take things at face value—being moved by what we see or feel, but discern. Just because it may seem crazy to us does not mean that it is not the Holy Spirit. But just because we see it in a religious setting (in a church, ministry meeting, etc.) does not mean that it always is the Holy Spirit.

1 John 4:1 “*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

2. Signs and wonders (or manifestations) do not equal right relationship with God.

Many places in the Bible, we see God moving mightily through signs and wonders. He will do what He desires to get His peoples attention or to move on their behalf. However, many today who call themselves believers, operate in gifts (seen to some as signs, wonders, or manifestations of the Holy Spirit). We begin to see these gifts and assume that the person using these gifts as someone who is right with God and everything they do and say must be of God. However, the Bible warns of false signs and lying wonders that are not of God. There are times when God uses someone not right with Him to prophesy, to accomplish His will. (Ex: Balaam, **Numbers 22-24**) We need to believe God and His Word and not put more value on what is seen than what He has already said. God can use signs, but He has already given His Word. We need to believe without having to see.

John 4:48 “*Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.”*

Matthew 24:24 “*For false christians and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.*” (Also, **Mark 13:22**)

2 Thessalonians 2:9 “*The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders.*”

Example: A true story of a Pastor in Africa — Jesus said “If I came today I would not take you.” Shock of all shocks! He was seeing marvelous healings and miracles; hundreds of people getting saved at his services. He had hidden sin that was separating him from God. God was telling him to deal with it. Go and sin no more! Eternity is at stake.

3. Check your own heart and life to make sure you are right with God.

Use God-given discernment when “seeing” or “experiencing” manifestations as to whether it is of God or not. If not of God, have nothing to do with it.

1 Corinthians 10:21 “*You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord’s table and of the table of demons.*”

Matthew 6:22-24 “*The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.*”

Romans 1:18 “*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.*”

2 John 1:7-11 “*For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward. Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.*”

1 John 5:21 “*Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.*”

Possible doors to enemy oppression.

1. **Unconfessed Sin** - Sin in your life leaves areas still under the control of the enemy of your soul. **Romans 13:13-14** says, “*Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lust.*” Paul was writing to Christians like you and me, not pagans.
2. **Unforgiveness, Bitterness, and Anger** - Will give permission for demons to torment believers. (**Matthew 18:21-35**)
3. **Trauma** - Feelings of rejection and abandonment, negative spoken words spoken by other people such as a mother, father, doctor or a teacher.
4. **Ridicule and Humiliation** - Can be as simple as being embarrassed by a teacher. This can be a source of poor self-image, spirits of rejection and condemnation.
5. **Immorality** - Sex outside of marriage or any perversion or expression outside of genetic and biological male and female. This not only opens doors to demonic oppression but can also create a soul-tie that gives demons permission to stay until the influence is broken - the sin is dealt with through repentance.
6. **Pain-both physical and emotional** - Pain will many times invite an addiction, demonic influence, to numb the pain resulting in more bondage. Pain causes people to become vulnerable and react by being impulsive, irrational, and violent to stop the pain.
7. **Pornography** - A very powerful addiction, a perverse spirit bent on your destruction.
8. **Negative Words Spoken** - As children of God our tongues have a lot of power. “Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits ...” **Proverbs 18:21**. “Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life ...” **Proverbs 13:3**. God greatly desires for us to use this power to bring glory to His name and His kingdom. He wants us to speak with love and boldly declare truth, declaring or speaking in agreement with God’s words. Satan tries to keep people in the dark about the power of our words and entices us to use them for harm instead of hope. That is why we must surrender our whole selves to Jesus Christ. When we call Him Lord, that makes Him our Master and makes us His slaves so that the Lord can enable us to speak in agreement with His Word. When Jesus is Lord, negative words you have spoken or that have been spoken over you lose their power. Going forward, the Holy Spirit will convict you putting voice to the negative thoughts about yourself or others.
9. **Lust** - This includes lust for money and material things or for bodily appetites such as food and sex. Envy, covetousness, and jealousy are certain doorways for demonic influences.

10. The Mind - The mind is clearly the battlefield. Whatever you allow in through your eyes and ears can be entryways for demon powers. Entry points can be books you have read; something as simple as a fascination with Greek, Roman, or Egyptian mythology; or movies that involve fear, depict sin, as well as TV programs and cartoons. Fantasized creatures become children's friends - these imaginary friends are familiar spirits. Children can become tormented by nightmares and act out. Parents bear a heavy responsibility and yet many simply turn their heads.

If you are looking into the Word to condone or get permission to do something, that is a red flag! There are no gray or neutral areas!

Closing Spiritual Doors to the Enemy

Don't dabble in, or play games with the occult - even out of curiosity!

Today, many people dabble in the mystical, occult arts. Is there anything wrong with being involved in these practices? Yes, the Bible takes a clear position on this subject, strongly denouncing these practices. God created us and therefore owns us. He has a right to set the rules for our lives. God's Word indicates that these practices are part of Satan's strategy of evil tricks and deception, designed to lead us astray. Satan and his demons are real beings set on our destruction. Christians are warned in **Ephesians 6:11** to...

"put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places"

The word "occult" is generally associated with secret knowledge and practices dealing with the supernatural or "psychic" phenomena, often for the purpose of obtaining personal power. Occult practices rely on demons or spirits to achieve their goals. Occultism is rapidly increasing throughout the world. There are now thousands of publishers of occult books and magazines (not to mention websites). Interest in the occult has been promoted by the New Age movement, the rise of Neo-paganism, movies and even some music artists/genres. Always check the source - where did this originate? Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what to stay away from and close the door. The enemy comes in like an angel of light, trying to make things look innocent and fun. But they are not. They are access points - permission for him to oppress.

There are many doorways. Here are just some that may surprise you:

- Freemasonry, Elk Lodge, Secret Societies, Illuminati, Kabbalah, Knights of the Templar, Illuminated organizations
- Ouija boards
- Harry Potter or any demonic, horror book, movie, or game.
- Pokémon cards and characters

- **Mythology** (i.e. Greek and Roman mythology were real religions and worshipped real demons – they are still real demons on the earth. They are just repackaged today because we believe these demons or gods are fictional as mythology). What deception to the believer today!!
- Mormonism
- Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism
- Eastern or Mystics religions, Spiritism
- **Native American curiosity**
- New age – New Thought
- Christian Science
- Spiritism
- **Enneagram**—sometimes called the *Sacred Enneagram*. An ancient occult tool repackaged today by New Thought/New Age spiritual leaders such as Richard Rohr. Used as a self-enhancement, personality assessment, leadership building, & prayer tool to find your ‘True Self’. This is in our churches and Bible schools as harmless and spiritually neutral. Don’t be deceived! This is a false Jesus!
- Witchcraft, Occult, (witches, sorcery, etc.)
- Satanism, Demon worship
- Fortune tellers, Mediums, Spirit Guides (used in Mindfulness), Contemplative prayer
- Black magic, Voodoo, Vodun, Chaos magic, (any magic)
- Spells, Enchantments, Omens, Oracles
- Levitation, Séances, Hypnotism, Clairvoyance, Astral travel
- Color therapy, Handwriting analysis
- Crystals, Horoscope, Tarot cards, Palmistry, Lucky Charms, Magic 8 ball, Tea leaves
- Astrology, Vedic Astrology
- Water Witching/Dowsing (looking for underground water with a stick)
- **Channeling—Rieke, Therapeutic Touch, Raindrop Therapy** aka Holistic Health Energy Healing
- **Energy Healing** - usually called a ‘Life force’ or consistency of a ‘Life force’ or psychic/mystic energy flow or ‘attunements’ or ‘chakra’. Many alternative medicines are *packaged* with occult teachings and procedures and treatments behind the product – such as essential oils. Energy therapies such as Therapeutic Touch and Reiki are dangerous occult practices taught and practiced by health care professionals. Beware!! Believers are being deceived. They are consenting to invoke demonic spirits simply by participating.
- **Yoga** – Yes, YOGA!!! Believers again are being deceived and wonder why they are chronically sick, in bondage, not happy – stressed, obese, hopeless. These practices are packaged as ‘wellness’ or ‘exercise’ programs. It began as and still is a religious practice/form of worship to other gods in other religions, but sold as exercise in America. Because we view Christianity as intellectual religion, we are deceived. Other religions embrace movement and sound as vital parts of their spirituality.

- Gnostic wisdom
- Hermetic Traditions
- Fetishism
- Cabalistic knowledge
- Eckankar—‘co-worker with god’, worldwide religion—demonic path promising spiritual freedom.
- I Ching—Classic of Changes (book), ancient animal divination—numbers, hexagram.
- La Regla Lucumi—African Caribbean inspired religion paired with Catholic saints and rituals. Lucumi means “my friend”.
- Lycanthropy—transformation into animals (Ex: a wolf).
- Macumba—Brazilian spiritism paired with Roman Catholic religion—uses sorcery and rituals.
- Neo-paganism
- Ordo Templi Orientis
- Psychometry—Greek (meaning “the soul”) - paranormal activity and history through touch of an object.
- Radiesthesia
- Rosicrucianism
- Santeria—‘way of the saints’ - same as Regle Lucumi.
- Runes—reading like tarot cards, etc. Norse mythology—language before Latin.
- Shamanism
- Scrying—looking into a crystal ball or anything to give visions. (Ex: fire, smoke, water, mirror).
- Thelemite—English term from the Greek word meaning ‘to will, want, wish, or purpose’. “Exploring and expressing myself is my right and my purpose”. Social/Spiritual philosophy—1900’s, Alexander Crowley—English mystic and ceremonial magician. He believed he was a prophet of New Age.

***This is not an exhaustive list, but a few of the more common ways the enemy could gain a foothold in our lives. It is important to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas that are under the control of the enemy. Our intellect, reason and natural minds are capable of being deceived, however, when we invite the Spirit of Truth to expose the hidden (occult) things in our heart, He is faithful to do it. Spiritual beings need to be invited through spiritual doors. We have authority to prevent spiritual doors to darkness from opening through the Blood of Jesus Christ.*

DISCERN the Source. From what ‘womb’ was the origin or conception?

John 10:10 RULE: God / Life? Or Satan / Death? You choose.

Eliminating the Enemy's Influence and Oppression: Prepare Your Heart

- Make sure that you are sincere. Don't clean the house without the intention to make Jesus the Lord of it or you invite a worse condition than before deliverance. (**Matthew 12:43-45**)
- Desire to be free so that you can serve the Lord.
- Repent of all known sin. Submit to His Lordship in every area.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of demonic bondage or torment.
- Quickly acknowledge any obvious and known influences.
- Determine or resolve to be free no matter what the problem or how long the problem has been in place. (Such as addictions.)
- Don't be intimidated by what others may think. (Pride)
- Associate deliverance with Jesus and freedom rather than demons and bondage.
- Exercise your faith.

Philemon 1:6 “*that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.*”

- Believe that freedom and healing, just like salvation, are God's gift to you through grace in Jesus Christ. The same faith you believed in Jesus to save you (the greatest miracle of God) is the same faith to receive healing and deliverance.

Example Prayer of Deliverance

In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I come against you demonic spirits and I bind your activity in my life. I declare that I have confessed and repented of every known sin, and that Jesus Christ has forgiven me. I declare that Jesus is my Lord. My life belongs to Him! I confess that I am redeemed by the blood of the Lamb (Jesus) out of the hands of the enemy!

Spirit of _____ (if you know it, if not just identify the evil), I speak directly to you. The Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ has redeemed me and set me free from your oppression. You have no legal right to touch me. I drive you from my life now and I command you to leave in the Name of Jesus!

Thank You, Lord Jesus, that Your blood and Your authority have set me free!

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What did you hear in this chapter that you didn't know or hadn't heard?

2. Ask the Lord if there is any area that you have given entrance to the enemy in your life.

Renounce (repent of) the areas you have participated in that are not of God and have opened doors to the enemy.

3. Ask the Lord if there are there any items that you need to get rid of. Are there lies I have embraced?

4. What is God speaking to me? What is the Truth over me?

Receive His forgiveness and be restored back to God. Begin to praise Him and thank Jesus for what He has done.

PART THREE

Staying Free —You Grow and Go!

Grow - Be a Disciple of Jesus.

The world is desperate for hope. You carry Life & Hope!

We want to encourage you to continue growing in the Lord and be a true follower (disciple) of Jesus Christ.

A disciple is someone who:

- Obeys/follows His commands.
- Own life is laid down, fully surrendered to Jesus.
- Accepts the teaching (the Word of God) as truth; learns from the Word, acts and speaks like his Maker; teaches others and assists in the spreading of His message.

Galatians 5:1 "It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery."

The last part of that verse in the New Living Translation (NLT) says “... don’t get tied up again to slavery of the law.”

- Once you have been set free, walk as free. Don’t turn back to the old ways of doing things, the bondage, wrong thinking, etc. Catch the plot of the enemy at the thought stage. Follow God with your whole heart and expect to see Him move mightily in your life.
- Don’t put the chains back on! Things happen but we walk free. The armor of God is real—we are ready to contend for what we have been given—victory!
- ***Proverbs 23:7 "As a man thinks so is he", NOT what.*** God’s perspective, His instructions, His outcomes are good!

Matthew 16:24 (NLT) "Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If any of you wants to be my followers, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me."

- Jesus calls you to take up your cross and follow Him. In other words, be His disciple. To be His disciple, you must put your own life aside in order to follow Him, learn from Him, to listen to Him, and obey what He says. You can trust that He will take care of the rest.

Philippians 4:9 (NKJV) "The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you."

John 8:31-32 (NKJV) “Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, ‘If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.’”

- You have to abide first! (**John 15:5**)
- The evidence that you are His disciple is that you know and obey His Word.
- As a disciple, you are to read and study the Bible and obey what it says. *It is not possible to be a disciple of Jesus without obeying His Word.* (**John 13:31-38; John 14:15**)

John 14:6 (NLT) “Jesus told them, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me.’”

- The Bible, the Word of God, is the source from which you get Life.

Through the Word, you get to know Jesus as:

The Way - the way you should go. You can build your life on the foundation of Gods' Word and see the world through His eyes (biblical worldview).

The Truth (Jesus) which will set you free.

The Life that is found only in Him.

- There is a difference between a biblical worldview and a Christian worldview. Biblical worldview sees the world through the “lens” of the Word of God. A Christian worldview sees the world through the “lens” of a religion, denomination, or self interpretation. We have to take God at His Word and use the Word to interpret the world, our lives, etc.
- Not everyone who calls himself a “Christian” is a follower of Christ. To grow and go, you will want to make sure to know who you are following.

Go! Make Disciples

Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT) “Jesus came and told His disciples, ‘I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’”

Mark 16:15-18 (NLT) “And then He told them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won’t hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.’”

In Christ you have been given the command and authority to “Go”. You don’t have to wait for a special word to be commissioned. Jesus has already given every believer the “go ahead” of what to do in His name. You will get a more specific assignment from the Lord as you walk out life with Him, but for all of us - the main commission is the same. Go! Make disciples, heal the sick, set the captives free. You can do that today. Below are some things to remember as you step out in faith and pray for people as the Lord leads you.

Why should you pray for the sick, lead people to freedom, or preach the gospel?

1. There are sick, oppressed, hurting, and unsaved people needing Jesus.
2. Jesus did it. He healed, cast out demons, raised the dead, all while preaching the Gospel!
3. He instructed us to go represent Him, making more disciples.
4. Step out—even if you don’t feel like you are ready. Don’t let the enemy stop you. Trust the Lord that you have all you need to represent Him well.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. God’s Word tells us it is through the Blood of Jesus and His finished work on the Cross, people can come to repentance, be healed, and set free.
2. Know in your spirit that God extends grace to us through faith in His Son, Jesus. It is His will to save, heal, set free, and equip people to live fully in Him.
3. Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. Everything He has said is true and He will do what He says.

4. His righteousness is greater than our sin. There is nothing too big or too bad for Him to restore.
5. Everything must bow to the name of Jesus. There is nothing that can come against the name of Jesus. We have authority in His name to tell the enemy to go.
6. The Word of God is Spirit and Life (**John 6:63**); Health to our body (**Proverbs 4:20-23**).
7. There is an element of mystery in praying for people, but it is wonderful and amazing to see lives changed by the power of God and see them falling in love with Jesus.

Wrap Up—Now What?

1. Live your life with Jesus as Lord and Savior

Remember when we only emphasize the work Jesus did for us as Savior rather than submission to His position of authority as Lord, it creates a significant flaw/fault in our foundation.

Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT) “And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. Let your roots grow down into Him and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”

We submit to Him as our supreme and only King and then we benefit from His salvation. This plays out:

- Whether we see the reason or not – we firmly adhere to His words, wisdom, counsel, correction, and instruction.
- We no longer evaluate what is good or evil by our perspective. We evaluate by God’s perspective as revealed in His Word – even if it is good. (The tree of good and evil – both lead to destruction). God is LIFE.
- We live in Him; His life becomes ours.
- He will not come into our lives as second to anything or anyone else.
- Disregard for His Lordship is a reason why some prayers aren’t answered. (Disobedience, unforgiveness, not treating spouses well, etc.)
- It is impossible to follow Jesus without denying ourselves (forsaking our ways) and embracing His supreme authority. Take up our cross (incorporating empowerment to walk away from sin and the world’s systems).

- We can't use human reasoning to determine our actions or beliefs. We must truly follow His leadership. I am no longer independent. Now we can take up the cross and be empowered to live like Christ. We draw from Him.
- The life we have now is by faith in His ability working in and through us.

Jesus warns us – that after His departure another gospel would be proclaimed and widely accepted which would offer salvation apart from lordship.

Matthew 7:21 “*Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”*

2 Corinthians 11:4 “*For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!”*

- Man would reduce Lord to merely a title rather than a position that Jesus holds in their life.
- People will call Him Lord, but not deny themselves, take up their cross and follow Him.

The foundation is vital! A house must be founded on the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

2. Stand firm in the Lord

Isaiah 61:1 “*The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.”*

The following steps will help you prevent the enemy's oppression in your life:

1. Crowd darkness out. Begin to fill your life with the things of Jesus. Let Jesus dominate your life and any demons will become more and more uncomfortable.
2. Starve darkness out. Demons feed on the works of the flesh. They feast on hatred, bitterness, and unforgiveness. Remove from your life the things on which demons feed.
3. Command darkness out. As you fill your life with the things of Jesus and cut off the works of the flesh, the position of any demonic influences will become weaker and weaker. You can now take up your authority and command them to leave.

4. Stand your ground. If demons resist you, take up the sword of the Spirit (the Word of God). Submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ - Confront the enemy with the truth of God's Word and stand against him until he flees – He has to!

God assures us that when **we submit to the Lordship of Jesus, we can then** “resist the devil... he will flee” (**James 4:7**). When you have confessed and repented of every known sin, take your stand against the enemy by praying a simple prayer like the one below. You don’t generally need to know the name of a demon. Simply address the demon in terms of what he does. (For example, spirit of fear, spirit of lust, spirit of infirmity, etc.).

Pray in faith and boldness, based on the promises of God’s Word. As you pray the following prayer, take your stand against every demonic spirit that is oppressing you! Take your stand, resist the devil, and He WILL flee! Thank God, by faith, He has set you free!

Sample Prayer of Deliverance

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I come against you demonic spirits and I bind your activity in my life. I declare that I have confessed and repented of every known sin, and that Jesus Christ has forgiven me. I declare that Jesus is my Lord. My life belongs to Him! I confess that I am redeemed by the blood of the Lamb out of the hands of the enemy!

We pray that you have been blessed through this study and that you continue seeking God and walk out His plans and purposes for your life!

Go back through this manual as often as needed and review the additional material at the back as you walk out your life in freedom in Christ. Remember to always seek the Lord. He knows where you got off track or were derailed by something. And He is the answer to fix it. He is all you need!

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26 *May “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.”*

Activation Questions and Prayer

1. What truths from the Lord do you need to remember as you continue your walk with Him?

2. What has He told you to do and will you obey His leading?

3. What God is speaking to me. My response and next steps.

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Scripture References for Salvation

Romans 5:12 "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned. "

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 3:10-12 "As it is written, 'There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.'

Romans 1:16-17 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written. The just shall live by faith."

Romans 5:6-8 "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 10:9-11 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, 'Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.'

1 John 3:4-10 "Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that He appeared to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother."

1 John 2:15-17 "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions – is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever."

*Scriptures are King James Version unless otherwise noted.

1 John 2:4 "Whoever says I know Him but does not keep His commandments is a liar and the truth of God is not in him. "

John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. "

John 8:12 "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

John 10:10 (NKJV) "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. "

Colossians 2:13 (NKJV) "And you being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven your trespasses."

1 Timothy 3:16 "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

Revelation 3:20 "Behold I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

Hebrews 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. "

1 Peter 2:22-25 "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth: Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed Himself to Him that judgeth righteously: Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls."

Isaiah 53:4-6 "Jesus answered and said unto him, 'Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'

John 11:25-26 "Jesus said unto her, 'I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?'

2 Corinthians 5:17-21 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To with, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then are we ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."

Scripture References for Water Baptism

John 3:5-8 Jesus said – unless we are born of water and the Spirit, we cannot enter the Kingdom of God.

Mark 16:15-20 Jesus said “He that believes and is baptized shall be saved” ...

Acts 2:36-47 People asked what we shall do to be saved. ... “Repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” ...

Acts 2:41 ... Then those who gladly received His word were baptized.

Galatians 3:27 (Paul) The children of God by faith ... you have been baptized into Christ – have put on Christ.

Acts 16:14-15 (Lydia) God opened her heart to heed things spoken by Paul and her whole household was baptized.

Acts 16:30-33 (Keeper of the prison) “What must I do to be saved?” Believe... 33) Took them that same hour and baptized them – then came into the house and ate.

Acts 11:48 Holy Spirit fell on the Gentile and Peter commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.

Acts 18:20 Many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed, and were baptized.

Acts 8:12-13 Phillip preached - both women believed and were baptized.

Acts 9:18 Paul received his sight, filled with the Holy Spirit, and immediately was baptized.

Scripture References for Healing

Old Testament

God said...

I am the Lord that heals you. (**Exodus 15:26**)

You shall be buried in a good old age. (**Genesis 15:15**)

You shall come to your grave in a full age like as a shock of corn cometh in his season. (**Job 5:26**)

When I see the blood, I will pass over you and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you. (**Exodus 12:13**)

I will take sickness away from the midst of you and the number of your days I will fulfill. (**Exodus 23: 25-26**)

I will not put any of the diseases you are afraid of on you, but I will take all sickness away from you. (**Deuteronomy 7:15**)

It will be well with you and your days shall be multiplied and prolonged as the days of heaven upon the earth. (**Deuteronomy 11:9, 21**)

I turned the curse into a blessing unto you, because I loved you. (**Deuteronomy 23:5; Nehemiah 13:2**)

I have redeemed you from every sickness and every plague. (**Deuteronomy 28:61; Galatians 3:13**)

I have found a ransom for you, your flesh shall be fresher than a child's and you shall return to the days of your youth. (**Job 33:24-25**)

I have healed you and brought up your soul from the grave; I have kept you alive from going down into the pit. (**Psalms 30:1-2**)

I will give you strength and bless you with peace. (**Psalms 29:11**)

I will preserve you and keep you alive. (**Psalms 41:2**)

I will strengthen you upon the bed of languishing; I will heal you on the bed where you lie. (**Psalms 41:3**)

I am the health of your countenance and your God. (**Psalms 43:5**)

No plague shall come near your dwelling. (**Psalms 91:10**)

I will satisfy you with long life. (**Psalms 91:16**)

I heal all your diseases. (**Psalms 103:3**)

I sent My word and healed you and delivered you from your destructions. (**Psalms 107:20**)

You shall not die, but live, and declare My works. (**Psalms 118:17**)

I heal your broken heart and bind up your wounds. (**Psalms 147:3**)

The years of your life shall be many. (**Proverbs 4:10**)

Trusting Me brings health to your body and nourishment to your bones. (**Proverbs 3:8**)

My words are life to you, and health/medicine to all your flesh. (**Proverbs 4:22**)

(My) good report makes your bones fat. (**Proverbs 15:30**)

(My) pleasant words are sweet to your soul and health to your bones. (**Proverbs 16:24**)

My joy is your strength. A merry heart does good like a medicine. (**Nehemiah 8:10; Proverbs 17:22**)

God's Will to Heal

The eyes of the blind shall be opened. The eyes of them that see shall not be dim. (**Isaiah 32:3; 35:5**)

The ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. The ears of them that hear shall hearken. (**Isaiah 32:3; 35:5**)

The tongue of the dumb shall sing. The tongue of the stammerer's shall be ready to speak plainly. (**Isaiah 35:6; 32:4**)

The lame man shall leap as a deer. (**Isaiah 35:6**)

I will recover you and make you to live. I am ready to save you. (**Isaiah 38:16, 20**)

I give power to the faint. I increase strength to them that have no might. (**Isaiah 40:29**)

I will renew your strength. I will strengthen and help you. (**Isaiah 40:31; 41:10**)

To your old age and gray hairs I will carry you and I will deliver you. (**Isaiah 46:4**)

I bore your sickness. (**Isaiah 53:4**)

I carried your pains. (**Isaiah 53:4**)

With My stripes you are healed. (**Isaiah 53:5**)

I will heal you. (**Isaiah 57:19**)

Your light shall break forth as the morning and your health shall spring forth speedily. (**Isaiah 58:8**)

I will restore health unto you, and I will heal you of your wounds says the Lord. (**Jeremiah 30:17**)

Behold I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure you, and will reveal unto you the abundance of peace and truth. (**Jeremiah 33:6**)

I will bind up that which was broken and will strengthen that which was sick. (**Ezekiel 34:16**)

Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you and you shall live. And I shall put My Spirit in you and you shall live. (**Ezekiel 37:5, 14**)

Whithersoever the rivers shall come shall live. They shall be healed and every thing shall live where the river comes. (**Ezekiel 47:9**)

Seek Me and you shall live. (**Amos 5:4, 6**)

I have arisen with healing in My wings. (**Malachi 4:2**)

New Testament

I will, be thou clean. (**Matthew 8:3**)

I took your infirmities. (**Matthew 8:17**)

I bore your sicknesses. (**Matthew 8:17**)

If you're sick you need a physician. (I am the Lord your physician). (**Matthew 9:12; Exodus 15:26**)

I am moved with compassion toward the sick and I heal them. (**Matthew 14:14**)

I heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. (**Matthew 4:23**)

According to your faith, be it unto you. (**Matthew 9:29**)

I give you power and authority over all unclean spirits to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. (**Matthew 10:1; Luke 9:1**)

I heal them all. (**Matthew 12:15; Hebrews 13:8**)

God's Will to Heal

As many as touch Me are made perfectly whole. (**Matthew 14:36**)

Healing is the children's bread. (**Matthew 15:26**)

I do all things well. I make the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. (**Mark 7:37**)

If you can believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. (**Mark 9:23; 11:23-24**)

When hands are laid on you, you shall recover. (**Mark 16:18**)

My anointing heals the brokenhearted, and delivers the captives, recovers sight to the blind, and sets at liberty those that are bruised. (**Luke 4:18; Isaiah 10:27; 61:1**)

I heal all those who have need of healing. (**Luke 9:11**)

I am not come to destroy men's lives but to save them. (**Luke 9:56**)

Behold, I give you authority over all the enemy's power and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (**Luke 10:19**)

Sickness is satanic bondage and you ought to be loosed today. (**Luke 13:16; 2 Corinthians 6:2**)

In Me is life. (**John 1:4**)

I am the bread of life. I give you life. (**John 6:33, 35**)

The words I speak unto you are spirit and life. (**John 6:63**)

I am come that you might have life, and that you might have it more abundantly. (**John 10:10**)

I am the resurrection and the life. (**John 11:25**)

If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. (**John 14:14**)

Faith in My name makes you strong and gives you perfect soundness. (**Acts 3:16**)

I stretch forth My hand to heal. (**Acts 4:30**)

I, Jesus Christ, make you whole. (**Acts 9:34**)

I do good and heal all that are oppressed of the devil. (**Acts 10:38**)

My power causes diseases to depart from you. (**Acts 19:12**)

The law of the Spirit of life in Me has made you free from the law of sin and death. (**Romans 8:2**)

The same Spirit that raised Me from the dead now lives in you and that Spirit will quicken your mortal body. (**Romans 8:11**)

Your body is a member of Me. (**I Corinthians 6:15**)

Your body is the temple of My Spirit and you're to glorify Me in your body. (**I Corinthians 6:19 - 20**)

If you'll rightly discern My body which was broken for you, and judge yourself, you'll not be judged and you'll not be weak, sickly or die prematurely. (**I Corinthians 11:29-31**)

I have set gifts of healing in My body. (**I Corinthians 12:9**)

My life may be made manifest in your mortal flesh. (**2 Corinthians 4:10-11**)

I have delivered you from death, I do deliver you, and if you trust Me I will yet deliver you. (**2 Corinthians 1:10**)

I have given you My name and have put all things under your feet. (**Ephesians 1:21-22**)

I want it to be well with you and I want you to live long on the earth. (**Ephesians 6:3**)

I have delivered you from the authority of darkness. (**Colossians 1:13**)

I will deliver you from every evil work. (**2 Timothy 4:18**)

I tasted death for you. I destroyed the devil who had the power of death. I've delivered you from the fear of death and bondage. (**Hebrews 2:9, 14 -15**)

I wash your body with pure water. (**Hebrews 10:22; Ephesians 5:26**)

Lift up the weak hands and the feeble knees. Don't let that which is lame be turned aside but rather let Me heal it. (**Hebrews 12:12-13**)

Let the elders anoint you and pray for you in My name and I will raise you up. (**James 5:14-15**)

Pray for one another and I will heal you. (**James 5:16**)

By My stripes you were healed. (**I Peter 2:24**)

My Divine power has given unto you all things that pertain unto life and godliness through the knowledge of Me. (**2 Peter 1:3**)

Whosoever will let him come and take of the water of life freely. (**Revelations 22:17**)

* Revised from **101 THINGS GOD SAID** (*Keith Moore Ministries*)

NOTES



www.zoehealingcenter.com