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Weekly Encourager - 16 June 2013

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia from James Stacey now in his 24th year of freedom and 25 years off all medication - thanks to Jesus

TRUSTING IN JESUS CHRIST WITH ALL YOUR HEART WILL KEEP YOUR SANITY AND WIN FREEDOM

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS MATTHEW CHAPTER 9

Verses 18-33 *A Dead Girl and a Sick Woman* While he was saying this, a ruler came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed."

Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment.

When Jesus entered the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd, he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. News of this spread through all that region.

Jesus Heals the Blind and Mute As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"

When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?"

"Yes, Lord," they replied.

Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you", and their sight was restored. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no-one knows about this". But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region.

There are many precious lessons taught by the Holy Spirit I seek to pass on to Christian schizophrenics – among the most important of which is learning how to trust in Jesus Christ.

It would help and assist you in your battle against the evil invading the mind, if you ask God to deposit faith into your heart that will make you strong to both survive and triumph.

I am so grateful that God instructed me in the importance of having faith in Jesus Christ. Learning that FAITH COMES BY HEARING THE WORD OF GOD, FAITH RESTS IN THE POWER OF GOD & FAITH TRIUMPHS IN THE VICTORY OF GOD provided a strong resistance against the demonic spirit of schizophrenia.

Graduate in Christ's school of faith by learning these vital truths and you will survive the onslaughts of schizophrenia, as well as triumph over the bondage in the power of God!



Jesus Himself set such great store on having faith. In Matthew 21:21 it says: **Jesus replied: "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig-tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."**

Jesus expects to see us living our lives with a vital, conscious faith in Him. He is often restricted and prevented from moving in the area of deliverance and healing through lack of faith. Can you see the importance of having active faith in Jesus? He commended those having faith who came to be healed when He was on earth. He still looks for the presence of precious faith in OUR lives.

Remember that your life as a Christian is meant to be a life of faith, even though you suffer with schizophrenia. You are saved or born-again through having faith in Christ when through the operation of the grace of God you know your sins forgiven. More grace is received through faith. Be keen for the Holy Spirit to teach you that your life will greatly benefit in your quest to be free of schizophrenia as it is marked out by living, active, conscious faith in a Wonderful God who responds to precious faith!!

1. FAITH COMES BY HEARING THE WORD OF GOD: **"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ."** Romans 10:17. I was taught this truth in the early years of battling schizophrenia. Without it, I don't know how I would have survived 26 years of spiritual onslaught. I can remember the day when God spoke to me around 06.30 in the kitchen as I was seeking His face and reading the Scriptures. It was an earnest prayer. I said: "Lord, I want to know how to abide in you, how to live in you." I was directed to John 15 where Jesus says: **"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."** There it was in a nutshell. God was guiding me to abide in Christ through knowing His words inside me. Then when I turned back a few pages and found in John 6, Jesus saying that His words "are spirit and life" it re-emphasised what I had just read. Since that Spring morning in 1968 I have endeavoured, though not always in the fullest way I should, to hold on to the important truth of hearing the Word of God.

Why is it so important to hold on to God's Word when hounded by a spirit of schizophrenia? Simply for this reason. The Word of God is truth and it is truth you need to both survive attacks and become strong to defeat schizophrenia. A spirit of schizophrenia comes from the camp of Satan. Satan is a liar and no truth dwells in him. When he speaks, as Jesus said, everything coming from him is a lie because he does not live in the truth. His purpose is to feed lies into our lives and his goal is "to steal, kill and destroy" as Jesus said. Knowing Jesus as your Saviour you have eternal Truth within your life. It is important to be filled with the abiding truth of the Holy Spirit through having living faith in the heart inspired by the active and abiding word of God. Read, memorise and use the truth of the Word of God to hold your ground when Satan comes to attack. The Word of God can so grow in you that it invades your thought life renewing each and every thought.

2. FAITH RESTING IN THE POWER OF GOD. The Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 2:5 **"My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power."** So here is the experience of your life. As you have faith in Jesus Christ, the power of His grace is obtained and it flows into your heart. Every Christian needs to find this resting place in Jesus. It is all part of the abundant life that Jesus came to bring us. You may say that your life is anything but restful because of the mad-activity of schizophrenia present. Your heart is disturbed and affected because the whole area of your mind is like a battle-field. So true! I've been there for more years than I care to remember. Today you may long to know all the benefits of the life that Jesus came to bring but at the moment FREEDOM has got to come to your mind. A very real bondage caused by demonic spirits has to be driven out. You may be doing all you know to become free in getting others to pray for you, standing fast in the liberty you have in Christ and yet this stronghold fixed in your mind is not shifting.

Keep trusting in the Lord with all your heart and you will prevent your mind from being "taken over". I realised that as long as I kept the word of God rising from my heart it prevented gaps in my thought-life which would have given Satan an opportunity to sow his lies into my mind. FROM THE HEART I KEPT THE HELMET OF SALVATION FULLY COVERING MY HEAD. This was a procedure I followed whether at work or leisure. What an emotional outlay it involved!! But let me encourage you by saying

that all the time I kept up this spiritual discipline, the presence and power of the truth of Jesus Christ was increasing in my life. Mixed in with all the trusting in Jesus was a huge resolve of will that was determined to get free of schizophrenia. All the time I was praying in the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord Jesus Himself was making intercession for me at the Father's right hand (Romans 8:34). He also makes intercession for you and will continue pleading because YOU belong to Him.

3. FAITH TRIUMPHS IN THE VICTORY OF GOD: “The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work....This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.” 1 John 3:8 and 1 John 5:5 Isn't it just wonderful when you find Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour and have a clear knowledge of what He has brought you through. He forgives you of your sin, wipes the slate clean, and restores you into a loving relationship of fellowship with God the Father. You understand that Jesus paid the price for you on the Cross of Calvary and how needful it was for the Holy Son of God to shed his blood in order to be forgiven. There comes the understanding that because Jesus died and was resurrected, you are now empowered to live possessing His glorious, victorious life. You begin to live in the power of His resurrection life and seek to glorify God in your body, soul and spirit. Such knowledge becomes so personal to you. Just think of it, Jesus Christ God's Son came from heaven to earth to die for you and me. That makes us special – though His sacrifice we know was for the whole world.

No matter what you go through, you know that your life is in the hands of Christ. He has not deserted you. He did promise “to be with you always”, so you hold onto that promise. In the battle to defeat schizophrenia that is ensuing in your life you are thrown with all your resources of spirit and soul to resist the enemy who is against you. Despite how you feel, your faith remains in Jesus Christ whom you know. Sometimes it is only by a thread of faith that you keep hold of Jesus Christ – but remember He is watching over you and will never let you go. He gives the resources to survive by standing fast and strengthens the fight to obtain His freedom by defeating every evil spirit.

FINAL THOUGHT: Give some thought to knowing the ministry of Jesus through the Holy Spirit more and more in your life. Ask God to stir your heart as you seek to grow in living faith through hearing the word of God, and become more confident in prayer. Expect great things from God to happen as you assert the ownership of Jesus in your life and take authority in His Name over a spirit of schizophrenia by driving it out for good!!

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2012: 3 June – Exercising Faith In God Writes His Laws Into Both Mind and Heart

2011: 28 August – The Bible Inspires Faith To Keep Hope Alive To Defeat Schizophrenia

2010: 14 February – Becoming Desperate In Prayer To Defeat Schizophrenia

A PRAYER OF HOPE FOR THOSE SUFFERING WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: “Lord God Almighty, will you hear my prayer and make the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ real to me. Wipe away my sins that were atoned for on the Cross of Calvary by Jesus in order that I might not have to die eternally. I believe that Jesus took all my sins and my sorrows and made them His very own and after three days He rose again from the dead and now makes intercession for me. By the power of His shed blood, I believe I am now set free and opened up to all the resources of His grace and power. I am looking forward to the day – why not today – when the evil bondage of schizophrenia surrounding my mind is totally defeated. I ask You, Heavenly Father, to help me drive out the dark, spiritual presence by the light and power of your conquering Holy Spirit's presence. I want to know the reality of the promise Jesus made that whoever follows him will not walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life. Make it happen for me, as I pray in the Mighty Name of Jesus, Amen.

See below in the pictures BEFORE AND AFTER deliverance and healing, the visible difference made by the power of the Holy Spirit on my great day of freedom in May 1990.



BEFORE DELIVERANCE AND HEALING

showing the "gates of brass and bars of iron" around my mind requiring the power of Jesus to shatter once and for all.



THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL

by Rebekah Laue of Pagosa Springs, Colorado, U.S.A.



AFTER DELIVERANCE AND HEALING

picture taken at 6.15 a.m. at Derby Railway Station five days after Jesus set me free, on my way to show Tina "her new man"

IF YOU HAVE NEVER INVITED JESUS CHRIST INTO YOUR LIFE, AND WISH TO, DO PRAY THE FOLLOWING PRAYER WITH ALL YOUR HEART: "Lord God Almighty, I approach you in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. I know I have sinned in my thoughts, words and actions. There are so many good things I have not done. There are so many sinful things I have done. I am truly sorry for the sinfulness in my life, but most of all I acknowledge the sin that separates me from you. I accept the death of Jesus on the Cross to redeem me and extend the gift of eternal life. Gratefully, I give my life back to you as I now ask you to come into my life. Come in as my Saviour and Lord and cleanse me. Come in as my Lord to control me. Come with the strength of your grace and the power of your Spirit to defeat the evil spirit of schizophrenia that troubles me. Now you have set my spirit free, pour your delivering and healing power into my life as I take authority in the name of Jesus through the power of his blood over the intruding force. I assert your ownership of my life and resist any legal right that the devil seeks to hold over my life and bind up and expel any evil presence. I believe that my mind can be completely set free and my whole life enjoy the total freedom of Jesus. Amen.

PROCLAMATION FOR GOD'S PROTECTION by Derek Prince

NO WEAPON that is formed against me shall prosper and every tongue which rises against me in judgement I do condemn. This is my heritage as a servant of the Lord and my righteousness is from You, O Lord of Hosts. If there are those who have been speaking or praying against me, or seeking harm or evil to me, or who have rejected me, I forgive them. Having forgiven them, I bless them in the name of the Lord." *

NOW I DECLARE, O Lord, that You and You alone are my God, and besides You there is no other – a just God and a Saviour, the Father, the Son and the Spirit – and I worship You!

I SUBMIT myself afresh to You in unreserved obedience. Having submitted to You, Lord, I do as Your Word directs. I resist the devil: all his pressures, his attacks, his deceptions, every instrument or agent he would seek to use against me. I do not submit! I resist him, drive him from me and exclude him from me in the Name of Jesus. Specifically I reject and repel: infirmity, pain, infection, inflammation, malignancies, allergies, viruses, and every form of witchcraft.

FINALLY, LORD, I thank You that through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, I have passed out from under the curse and entered into the blessing of Abraham whom You blessed in all things:** exaltation, health, reproductiveness, prosperity, victory and God's favour. AMEN

*see Matthew 5: 43-45; Romans 12:14

**see Galatians 3:13-14; Genesis 24:1

We are continuing to insert in the Weekly Encourager some powerful Scriptures to read, memorise and meditate on for USE in your prayer battle to drive out the demon of schizophrenia. By so doing your confidence in the Lord will grow because the words will impart "spirit and life" into your spirit, and so equip you in your fight for freedom to know the deliverance and healing of Jesus.

He (Jesus) came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. John 1:11-13

(Jesus said): "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear. Consider carefully what you hear," he continued. "With the measure you use, it will be measured to you – and even more. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him." Mark 4:23-25

(Paul said): I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:10-11

Weekly Encourager

23 JUNE: Anchor Your Faith In Jesus Christ And You Will Never Lose Hope

30 JUNE: Never Lose The Assurance Of Christ's Living Presence With You

You may be reading the Weekly Encourager for the first time and have stumbled across our website in a desperate search to break free of schizophrenia. Or every week you visit W.E. for encouragement and help to overcome this "monster" of mental illnesses and have been given REAL HOPE that the Lord Jesus is the only One to open the prison door to freedom in your life once and for all time. We encourage you to keep logging into the site as often as you can for scriptural advice as we continue to point to Jesus who is well-trying and tested in the area of setting captives free from a bondage that no-one else can conquer. Our website www.schizophreniadefeated.com seeks to magnify the dear Son of God who left the courts of heaven to come to our world and die for you and me on the Cross at a place called Calvary just outside Jerusalem over 2,000 years ago. In that sacrifice, he paid the punishment and penalty of your sin and mine and on the third day rose again as "The Resurrection and the Life". He releases TODAY into your life and to anyone accepting his sacrifice, the same victorious life that brought him back from the dead, in the person of the Holy Spirit. Why not invite him into your life right now? It's a life-transforming experience that you CAN REALLY KNOW – which is well able to defeat and conquer the hell of schizophrenia you struggle with, for good!!



"I will proclaim your mighty acts, O sovereign Lord"

Psalm 71: 16

James Stacey, Pray Until Schizophrenia Heals