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The Weekly Encourager: 2 November 2014

Scriptural advice, help and insight on how to trust Jesus Christ to defeat schizophrenia, from James Stacey NOW IN HIS 25TH YEAR OF FREEDOM AND 26 YEARS OFF ALL MEDICATION - thanks to Jesus.

JESUS IMPARTS HIS DIVINE LIGHT AND TRUTH TO CONQUER SCHIZOPHRENIA

**THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS JOHN
CHAPTER 14: Key Verses 12-26:**

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit: "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world? Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you."



Why place so much emphasis on having faith in Jesus Christ in order to defeat schizophrenia, you may ask.

Quite simply, because it is only through having a living relationship with Jesus that you can both know the real truth about the bondage and possess through Him the power to overcome its spiritual darkness.

While appreciating the psychiatrist who comes to your aid in various ways, the greater need is the divine help of Jesus to reach total freedom out of such a mental stronghold.

Jesus has given to every born-again Christian the presence of His Holy Spirit, who, as He Himself said in John 16:13: "... will lead you into all truth," – even about the mysteries surrounding schizophrenia. He can also equip you to "drive out" the evil darkness behind the condition.

I praise God that I can testify to you of the living presence of Jesus pouring His abiding truth into me over 26 years thus maintaining my sanity. The Holy Spirit who lives within you as a genuine believer will also fulfil that same ministry if you allow Him.

Can I tell you a few details about how God ministered into my life His truth and light? In brief, during the times my head was under attack and was bombarded by the voices of evil spirits, I had to have something going on in my heart to raise an opposition.

I knew the place where the Holy Spirit really lived was in my heart, and it was also there that the truth of God's word lived as well, as the Psalmist says in Psalm 119: 11.

When you have assaults on your mind by evil voices, it is no use being passive and allowing your mind to be taken over. There will be enticements and suggestions aimed at getting you to obey such voices. You need to resist in an effective way – quote the word of truth found in the Bible in prayer. Also declare that you have been bought by Jesus Christ and your life now belongs to Him and no demon has a legal right to be in your life.

I often repeated Scriptures from my heart “ten to the dozen” as they became a mighty sword thus enabling the defeat of each attack by the enemy. It was faith in the living Word of God that did eventually help me drive out the intruders in the Name of Jesus!!

You can see, I am sure, the need to exercise faith in Jesus Christ and make sure, however difficult, that His truth is living and active in your life. What a faithful ministry of love and power was wrought in my life by God for more than a third of a lifetime!! My ability to endure and fight redounds to the glory of God. But Jesus has promised that if you keep His word and continue to live it out you will know His freedom – even though facing life's greatest mental bondage. Christ's promise is: “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8:36

Isn't becoming free all that matters to you? You may give a half-hearted “Yes” to that question. The desire to want to be free can often be subdued under a load of bad feelings you endure. Life may have made you so passive that you may not be able to say you are wanting to become free, never mind about being desperate to see it happen.

I am confident in declaring to you as one who has been set free by Jesus that He alone has the power and authority to swing wide the prison-door and lead you out to freedom and restoration of life.

I am often aware that some Christians seem to frown over the way Jesus set me free. Instead of rejoicing that I have been set free, the issue of how He did it preoccupies their thought. The way I came out of a long-standing prison-house almost seems to meet with their disapproval and obscures the fact that “once I was bound but now I am free” – a fact worth causing people to rejoice over with me!

But let us concentrate on the power of the Holy Spirit imparting His truth and light into your life and bringing you freedom!! Even though you struggle to have a vibrant relationship with Jesus because of the bondage in your mind, the presence of Jesus can still invade your life through the prayers of others, bringing a change in the depth of your fellowship with Jesus.

I shall never forget how the course of my whole life turned during the days loved ones began to pray for me. I appeal to anyone reading this Encourager who knows Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour to ask God to increase their faith to such a degree that their prayers CAN MOVE the darkness of schizophrenia entrenched in a loved one, friend or someone known to you personally.

I became aware of my whole mind sensing a change at the time I came off all my medication only after God guided me to do so. My natural strength began to return even though I worked a long day which started at 7 a.m. and lasted 10 hours before arriving back home. Tina, my future wife, her father Maurice and step-mother Esther were the faithful prayer warriors lifting me up to God regularly – along with a growing prayer group - and those prayers made a difference.

The impact of their prayers was that the light and truth of the Holy Spirit was beginning bit by bit to affect my life. It wasn't like a sudden deluge into my mind and life but it came as a gradual strengthening through revelation, resulting in creating a desire for me to want to pray more.

God can deliver and heal from schizophrenia dramatically with or without intervention from another human being through His power being released; He can do it through a person full of the Holy Spirit “driving out” the evil presence in the life of a person suffering schizophrenia who is ready or

not ready for that to happen – though it can take intensive prayer to reach freedom. God has infinite ways of releasing the captives – there's not just one method – but let it be said that the power of prayer coming from Spirit-filled prayer warriors is a recognised and wonderful way in which God works to bring freedom.

The great need of Christians like yourself suffering with schizophrenia is to be able to endure and finally reach freedom – the way to do both things is to know more of the power of the truth of the Holy Spirit and for faith to grow in the power of the blood of Jesus!!

YOU NEED TO BELIEVE THE PROMISE OF JESUS THAT YOU WILL NOT CONTINUE TO WALK IN DARKNESS BUT HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE. Jesus, you must continue to remember is the LIGHT OF THE WORLD because He is the express image of the Father's glory. His words, as God, are true "and God watches over His word to perform it." The most difficult time a schizophrenic has is when he leaves his mind "open" to receive suggestions possibly from demon spirits. To have a living promise of Jesus at work in your heart is never easy but the Holy Spirit will help you to achieve it. That word has the power to keep your head from being overpowered and to prevent obedience to any form of enticement – even of a destructive nature – placed there. I once was under such spiritual attack at the close of work one day that I knew I just had to find a side room to pray before I began the journey home. The oppression was heavy on my mind and there had to be the response of faith or else my next steps would have been uncertain. For 45 minutes, I wrestled against this foe resting solely on the truth of God. It proved sufficient after that long length of time and it was only then I felt able to walk the mile from the Colliery where I worked to my home.

SECONDLY, CALL ON GOD THROUGH DECLARING SCRIPTURE FOR IT WILL HAVE A GREAT IMPACT. Repeating words which are spirit and life from the Bible are often the only lifeline you have. Scriptures which you have hidden in your heart contain power to keep your life from being overpowered. Never under-estimate the power of the Holy Spirit working in your heart every time you quote in faith the precious Word of God. We may not know how God does it, but we do know every time the word of God comes head on against a demonic spirit trying to take over your life, there is sufficient power and authority in the words you quote to give you the victory. I sometimes felt that I was in a situation where the pressure was so intense that the only way of putting up resistance was to quote, and quote the word of God, contrary to feelings. Faith had to win the day – feelings said I ought to give up, but God the Holy Spirit taught me that the way to endure and win was not by how I felt but how I wielded the word of God against the enemy. You may be starting to prove the power of the Word of God in your life. Keep faithful to the scriptures and keep them alive in your heart and life.

FINAL THOUGHT: In the first Chapter of the Book of Joshua, God spoke to Joshua, the new leader of the Israelites, and told him to be strong and courageous. He said: "Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Determine that you will possess each day truth imparted into your life by the Holy Spirit and so become strong in the knowledge of God. Through knowing Jesus you will go on to taste the joy of His freedom over schizophrenia – and thank Him for His victory.

FOR FURTHER READING - See Archive File:

2011 26 June – *Following Jesus Imparts Light and Truth Powerful In Defeating Schizophrenia*
2010 19 September – *The Light Of The Lord Jesus Is The Strong Deliverer of 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.

(Jesus said): "I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me..." John 14:30-31

(Jesus said): "If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor, to be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live." John 14:15-19

This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. 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 5: 3-5

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