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Weekly Encourager – 13 February 2011

(from James Stacey: scriptural advice and insight on how to be set free from schizophrenia)

PRAISING GOD AND DECLARING HIS VICTORY WILL CONQUER THE DEMON OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS PSALM 116: Selected verses 1-14: I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me; I was overcome by trouble and sorrow. Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, save me!" The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. The LORD protects the simple-hearted; when I was in great need, he saved me. Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you. For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living. I believed; therefore I said, "I am greatly afflicted." And in my dismay I said, "All men are liars." How can I repay the LORD for all his goodness to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. I will fulfil my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant; you have freed me from my chains. I will sacrifice a thank-offering to you and call on the name of the LORD. I will fulfil my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the LORD – in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD.

There are times of desperation when you have accelerated prayer and the breakthrough is still delayed – then is the moment to wield the power of praise to hasten the answer coming through.

If you came to really know Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord before the bondage of schizophrenia dawned, you have tasted the breadth and depth of God's freedom in your spirit.

It is possible, however, even while understanding that Jesus died for your sins and defeated Satan and death, to be without a healthy regard and hate for everything to do with the kingdom of darkness.

Every new Christian has to grow in the grace of the Lord Jesus and in spiritual warfare and so keep their freedom intact. When all hell breaks loose in your mind at the onset of schizophrenia, the floodgates of darkness perform an almost unprecedented sweep of control over your life.

When it happened to me way back in 1965, I was immediately transported into a state of inactive confusion in which I lost the faculties and command of my mind. Admitted into a Sanatorium, hefty medication and electric shock treatment were deemed necessary to bring about a rescue.

What that palliative action did was to rob me of my joy in knowing Jesus. I now possessed a dull, heavy mind more mood conscious and less faith conscious. I thank God for His protection then and during the 25 years that followed.

In the early years of turmoil of having schizophrenia, I endeavoured to remain in the love of Jesus. I could not forget my Best Friend though now living in a mental prisonhouse. I still knew I was very precious to Him. He knew the maze of life I now struggled with and that to me was most comforting. My mood swings, I confess, dampened the joy and praise normally found in my heart before schizophrenia blitzed my life!! But in it all, the voice of praise to Jesus refused to be silenced.

No matter what you are going through at the moment, do set your will as someone who loves Jesus to raise that song or hymn of praise. There is power in praise. I suppose a Christian schizophrenic has more difficulty than most believers in raising a song of praise. Praise does something in your spirit!! It is a barricade against depression. It shouts out to the rulers of darkness in our world who are behind the bondage of schizophrenia that YOU consider Jesus owns your life and not them. He is still in control.

When you declare praise to God inside a schizophrenic prison you are raising a mighty testimony to Jesus. The Holy Spirit responds by giving you more of His power to carry on. The oppression of

Satanic forces know they have a problem inside your life as a believer in Jesus who is determined to sing of the victory of Jesus on the Cross of Calvary. The gratitude you display when singing that song does something to advance your fighting, warrior spirit.

During prayer for a Christian schizophrenic to come to freedom in Jesus, I ask the LORD to touch their spirit with His Word and Power. "May your Word be ignited in their spirit and mind in such a way to advance the ability to pray powerfully," is a good prayer. Continuing prayer is required to set you on the road to pray for yourself. To be strengthened by the Spirit of God and come to a place of aggressive resistance sufficient enough to evict the demon of schizophrenia, requires lots of praying by the prayer force surrounding your life.

I was helped to reach a place of power in prayer and praise through the results of prayers for me by loved ones and friends. Such a breakthrough can occur in your life too. Shortly before my deliverance and healing, Tina, now my wife, suggested I moved from excessive time spent in prayer to seasons of PRAISING GOD!! It worked wonderfully, enabling me to be filled with confidence towards God and His ability to set me free.

The Apostle Paul in the Book of Ephesians 6:18 encourages us to "pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests,"... something we can always best do when our hearts are praising God and filled with His confident assurance.

IF YOU WISH TO INVITE JESUS CHRIST INTO YOUR LIFE, DO PRAY THE FOLLOWING PRAYER:
"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, too, can also be completely set free and my whole life enjoy the total freedom of Jesus. Amen.

PROCLAMATION FOR GOD'S PROTECTION

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 learn and commit to memory 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 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." John 14: 12-14

Remember your word to your servant, for you have given me hope. My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life. Psalm 118: 49-50

O Lord, I call to you; come quickly to me. Hear my voice when I call to you. May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice. Psalm 141: 1-2

The Weekly Encourager

20 February: God Can Set You Free of Schizophrenia and Restore All the Years Spent in a Mental Prison

27 February: Never Minimise The Prayers Of Others Helping You Defeat Schizophrenia

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