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Weekly Encourager – 16 January 2011

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

LET THE WORD OF GOD DWELL IN YOU IN ALL WISDOM AND YOU WILL DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS JOHN CHAPTER 7: Selected verses 25-34: At that point some of the people of Jerusalem began to ask, "Isn't this the man they are trying to kill? Here he is, speaking publicly, and they are not saying a word to him. Have the authorities really concluded that he is the Christ? But we know where this man is from; when the Christ comes, no one will know where he is from." Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, "Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, but I know him because I am from him and he sent me." At this they tried to seize him, but no-one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come. Still, many in the crowd put their faith in him. They said, "When the Christ comes, will he do more miraculous signs than this man?" The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering such things about him. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to arrest him. Jesus said: "I am with you for only a short time, and then I go to the one who sent me. You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come. Verses 37-39: On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him". By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Possessing hope to defeat schizophrenia should be a constant feature of living faith in Jesus that is anchored in the sure hope of truth found in God's word.

The whole human race needs hope to face and surmount a multitude of situations and circumstances every day. As a Christian suffering with schizophrenia, make sure that your daily hope is alive and founded in Jesus to lead you out into freedom.

The Scripture verse found in Romans 15:13 has much to teach about the kind of hope you are to have. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you will overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Notice, it declares first of all that God is a God of hope. Your trust and hope if found in the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is steadfast and certain. Hope that Jesus can defeat schizophrenia is not a half-hearted hope or a "can he do it" hope!! It is a sure thing because he has defeated the evil power of darkness behind the condition.

Think of yourself "living in real hope" that anytime now, Jesus is going to set you free by one method or another that drives out the demon of schizophrenia. Believe that he is going to do it. Because nothing is impossible to God, you possess living faith with a never-dying hope that your day of freedom, deliverance and healing could be TODAY.

Visiting a friend's home this week, I saw on a missionary calendar the inspirational phrase, HOPE THROUGH TRUTH. Just three easy words to remember as you are seeking more of God and his power to use in order to be rid of the evil spirit of schizophrenia.

The minds of many Christians are confused and held in bondage by the lies coming from Satanic voices which throw all reasoning into chaos. Sometimes, it is hard to hold on to hope in the midst of such a domination at work in your mind, and even harder to call up some resistance through believing faith in Jesus.

But notwithstanding how hard it is, you have got to resist the attacks in the faith of Jesus Christ, and hope in the truth of Jesus which you need to declare and speak out against in opposition.

The hope of the Christian, whether a sufferer with schizophrenia or otherwise, is unique because it is founded in truth. When you are struggling with the darkness of schizophrenia and you call to mind such a scripture from the words of Jesus as: "I am the light of the world, he that follows me shall not walk in darkness", you have faith to believe the truth behind what Jesus said.

Sometimes the bondage of schizophrenia holds you in an unpleasant vice and every form of spiritual warfare you adopt may, at first, not seem to be winning. I can remember, as if it were yesterday, an incident which happened nearly 43 years ago at the start of early days of suffering with schizophrenia.

I was being tempted with suggestions of suicide from the demon attacking my mind. I paced up and down my bedroom quoting every scripture I could find from my heart and also from the Bible. For such a long time it seemed as though I was getting nowhere. The oppression continued and I was getting tired of fighting – when suddenly the persistence of declaring truth broke through with a beam of light which suggested I speak in tongues and use that strategy to confuse the demonic assault. The inspirational truth of that suggestion guided me into freedom and victory.

Because the battle to become free of schizophrenia is a battle of light versus darkness, the more memorised truths you have rising from your heart, the stronger is your resistance against any demon. Knowing Jesus as a boy of 14 when I first became converted was followed by a steady increase of God's word in my heart. That brought a confidence of my value to Jesus and set me up to resist any and every attack from the spiritual realm which was to follow.

You should muster all your strength and might to defeat the voices which seek to rob, steal and destroy your life!! Once you have seen the light and truth of Jesus and become militant against the powers of darkness present in our world, you are in a no-nonsense mood to expel them out of your life. You are the child of a King!! What right have they to interfere with the Lordship of Jesus in your life and lessen that. Take authority over every evil power in the Name of Jesus by binding them (or inactivating them) and then strongly demand they leave and do not return!! Make sure God's power is constantly on you to make it happen.

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.

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you. Ephesians 1:18a

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the LORD. "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

The Weekly Encourager

23 January: Praying the Word of God into Your Schizophrenia Condition will Dynamite the Demon Out of Your Life

30 January: Let The Power Of The Cross Where Jesus Died Grip You As You Read The Bible

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