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Weekly Encourager – 17 & 24 April 2011

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

HE'S ALIVE, HE'S ALIVE, HE IS RISEN!!

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS JOHN'S GOSPEL CHAPTER 21: Key Verses: 4-14 – Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it and some bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.



The good news of Easter is the best news of all – for the whole human race!! Just think of it!! The One and Only Living, True God revealed Himself on the stage of human history in the person of Jesus Christ, died to take away your sin and mine and rose again offering us the gift of eternal life. News indeed that is more reportable than any you'll hear on worldwide television this holiday period - and so eternally important for everyone that it ought to be flashed from shore to shore into every nation of the world for indeed there is none greater.

This is the season of hope, not hopelessness. Whenever you bring the Lord Jesus Christ into a situation hope is present. Let it be declared so strongly today to you who are suffering with schizophrenia that you CAN BE set free by the Great Physician for nothing is impossible with God. Your son or daughter, or relative, may have shown no changed in their life for years and you wonder if things will ever change for them. The resurrected Lord would encourage you today!! The One whom death could not hold, also holds the key to the deepest and darkest mental bondage of all.

What precious commodity is God looking for in your life so He can display His power and shatter the bars of iron and gates of brass that shackle your mind today? In a word, a believing faith that hopes to see happen what God says He can do. God doesn't have to prove to Himself that He can perform His Word. He is waiting to show Himself faithful and powerful to those who venture out on the promise of His Word. Living conscious and active faith always win the day. Possess the audacity to say to God that you have the faith to prove His word, and you will see it rewarded.

If you believe in God's word declared by Jesus, His Son, you will live to see the glory of God. Do you remember the incident in John 11 which records Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead? When Jesus gave the command to take away the stone, Martha the sister of Lazarus, said: "By this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days." The next recorded words of Jesus are most revealing: "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

Once you receive the faith-building words of Jesus into your spirit, things begin to happen. Because the words of Jesus are spirit and life they impart into your spirit a power-surge of life. Nothing less than the resurrection life of Jesus takes up residence in your life the moment you first receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour, and then “continue to believe in His word.”

You see the words of Jesus are not the words of just a man but of the God-man. He is very God of very God made in fashion as a man. He said that He only spoke the words His Father gave Him to say and He only said the words that His Father wanted Him to speak. These are words that can be depended and relied upon one hundred per cent. Jesus, you remember, spoke about the time He would die, but He also spoke about conquering death and coming back to life. Because His Word is the eternal truth of God, it always remains and comes to pass. God cannot deny His Word.

It takes unshakeable faith to stand on the promise of God's word. To lean on that word day in and day out claiming and claiming it until you see it performed. Suffering with schizophrenia is a wearisome existence. An uphill struggle even when you are able to have faith. Throwing out the lifeline of hope in God's word to you today may not grip you, but it does have the power to do so. I believe you can reach freedom much, much sooner than I did than having to wait 26 years - there is power in the promises of God's word and in the Name of Jesus to set you free of this entrenched maze of a psychotic bondage.

Catch hold of the resurrection power of Easter. “Death could not keep its prey - Jesus my Saviour, He tore the bars away – Jesus my Lord. Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er his foes. He arose a victor of the dark domain, and He lives forever with his saints to reign. He arose, He arose. Hallelujah, Christ arose”. What a mighty proclamation in the Easter hymn of triumph!!

The same power that raised up Jesus from the dead lives in you if Jesus is real to you. That same power, I am pleased to be able to testify, can blast wide open every demonic stronghold including schizophrenia and set you free to enjoy His risen life. This wonderful hymn by Charles Wesley will inspire you to have faith in God and His word: -

*All things are possible to him
That can in Jesu's name believe:
Lord, I no more thy truth blaspheme,
Thy truth I lovingly receive;
I can, I do believe in thee,
All things are possible to me.*

*Though earth and hell the word gainsay,
The word of God can never fail;
The Lamb shall take my sins away,
'Tis certain, though impossible;
The thing impossible shall be,
All things are possible to me.*

*The most impossible of all
Is, that I e'er from sin should cease;
Yet shall it be, I know it shall;
Jesus, look to thy faithfulness!
If nothing is too hard for thee,
All things are possible to me.*

*All things are possible to God,
To Christ, the power of God in man,
To me, when I am all renewed,
When I in Christ am formed again,
And witness, from all sin set free,
All things are possible to me.*

While I believe that schizophrenics are the most neediest people in society requiring help in compassion, prayer and support than any other, let me say that for a single person to struggle through with just the promises of God to hold on to displays a perseverance so commendable and inspiring. Keep on believing God's Word and you will experience breakthrough into freedom.

Deliverance minister, Ida Mae Hammond speaks well of those determined to come out of schizophrenia. “I greatly admire schizophrenics who fight through to victory. I admire these victories above all other deliverances. The Schizophrenia deliverance is the deepest, most involved and most determined deliverance that we have encountered.”

A PRAYER OF HOPE: “Dear Loving Heavenly Father, as I remember the celebration of the death and resurrection of your dear Son, my Saviour, Jesus Christ will you come to me and make His sacrifice so 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. Thank you, Jesus, for taking my sins and my sorrows and for making them your very own. By the power of your shed blood, I am set free and I am now opened up to all the resources of your grace and power which enables me to live for you. I am looking forward to the day – why not today, O Lord? – when the bondage of schizophrenia surrounding my mind is totally defeated. Yes, all the darkness driven away by the light of your Resurrection Presence. In the Mighty Name of Jesus, I pray, Amen.

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, 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): "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." Matthew 7: 7-8

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 1 Peter 5 8-9

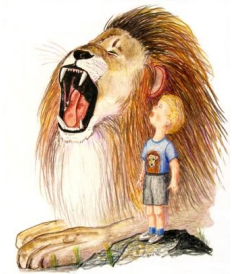
(Jesus said): "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." Matthew 7: 13-14

The Weekly Encourager

1 May: The Defeat of Schizophrenia Was Achieved When Jesus Died at Calvary

8 May: The Discipline of Meditation Is Powerful In Defeating 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-versed 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