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Weekly Encourager – 27 February 2011

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

NEVER MINIMISE THE PRAYERS OF OTHERS HELPING YOU DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS LUKE CHAPTER 18: Selected verses 1-8 - Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!' " And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

The most wonderful thing about believing in the power of prayer is to know that God is on your side.

What wonderful expectation is raised when someone says to you they will commit themselves to pray over an issue in your life which needs an answer.

The Bible speaks about "those who know their God doing exploits for Him", and great exploits can be achieved through the breakthroughs of persistent, believing prayer!!

There is always a costly price to pay in the discipline of prevailing prayer. Too few of us recognise the sacrifice necessary to achieve precious breakthrough in prayer.

The most worthwhile answers in prayer require a level of prayer that takes hold of God with an active faith prepared to pay the price until the answer is secured.

It is this kind of persistent prayer that many born-again Christians like yourself need in order to be set free of schizophrenia.

While some Christians are not too sure if schizophrenia can be defeated by the power of the Lord Jesus through His death and resurrection, others firmly believe that the mental stronghold is no match for our victorious Saviour.

Christians must not abandon helping someone like yourself because the entrenched stronghold of schizophrenia demands such a continuous commitment. Holding out the hope of Jesus for you is of paramount importance - and so to continue fighting for your freedom IS ALWAYS the way forward.

There are various ways of driving out the demon of schizophrenia – including someone (or a committed group) praying you out of the bondage through direct confrontation with the powers of evil behind it (as Jesus Himself did in the recorded incident with Legion, the Gadarene demoniac, see Mark Chapter 5); or you yourself can reach a breakthrough in prayer with the help of Jesus and drive out the demon of schizophrenia yourself supported by the prayers of others; or the power of Jesus can descend in Christian gatherings charged with the power of the Holy Spirit and set the captives free of the evil spirit of schizophrenia in a moment.

We need to witness more and more the power of God at work in deliverance and healing. The schizophrenia demon will generally refuse to leave its home in the life of a Christian until confronted by the greater power of God. A proper understanding of the powers of darkness that need driving out is required.

More ministers, pastors and Christians need to arise and become strong enough and equipped in the power of the Lord Jesus to fight for your freedom and join others getting involved in running a "rescue shop" within a yard of hell to see schizophrenia defeated.

It requires a holy boldness, strong compassion, and faith in a man or woman of God to see the finished work of Jesus triumph over schizophrenia in your life. Being prepared to plead your cause until freedom sweeps into your life for good is worth all the effort.

If you are able to engage the prayers of other Christians, ask them to be in prayer for you to know more of God's spirit in your life. You will need continually to receive fresh revelation from the LORD through his Word in order to stand fast and keep fighting – so ask that prayer is offered for you to become strong and vitally opposed to the spiritual darkness disturbing your life. Never minimise how much you need the prayers of others and what those prayers achieve.

It is well worth repeating - the power of the Word of God dwelling in you “in wisdom and knowledge” must spearhead your fight for freedom. The spiritual bondage of schizophrenia cannot remain in your life as your spiritual mind and heart are being filled with powerful words which are spirit and life.

Taking real ownership of your life through declaring to the powers of darkness that you now belong to the Lord Jesus, who was willing to leave heaven and come to earth to die to redeem you, is a real mark of progress in leading to freedom. It's difficult at times to overcome passivity and indifference, but learn to fight on abiding in the Word of God and you will witness progress being made in being strong enough to evict the evil intruders.

The stronghold of schizophrenia is a large territory demanding a lot of prayer from yourself and those who are helping you to freedom. We know that some strongholds only yield when there has been a sufficient amount of prayer made to God in heaven to bring about the answer. Be determined no matter how much prayer has to be made, that you will hang on in there until the breakthrough of freedom is truly yours.

While the driving out of the demon of schizophrenia marks a day of glorious freedom, that much-sought after event is not the end. There then begins the restoration and healing process. That is because the days of imprisonment changed and disturbed you whole mind-set and its activity. A complete cutting off is required of all thought processes influenced by the personality of evil spirits.

Your mind must go through the process of restoration as healing grows and is established. It may seem a long journey to freedom that you have before now – but take heart that the Lord Jesus Christ is standing with you both to free you completely and then to restore you fully into the life He first meant you to have. Fight manfully onward to possess victory in Jesus!! It will come.

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.

The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he (Jesus) found the place where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." Luke 4: 17-20

For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding. He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones. Proverbs 2: 6-8

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now are the people of God, once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 1 Peter 2: 9-11

The Weekly Encourager

6 March: Pleading the Blood of Jesus Christ Hastens the Defeat of Schizophrenia
13 March: How Taking Palliative Drugs Can Inflict Passivity On Your Mind

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