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Weekly Encourager – 7 November 2010

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

EVERY SCHIZOPHRENIC NEEDS TO KNOW THE TRANSFORMING LOVE OF JESUS

THIS WEEK'S SELECTED BIBLE READING IS JOHN CHAPTER 17: Key Verses 6-15: Jesus Prays for His Disciples - I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name – the name you gave me – so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.

The intrusion of schizophrenia is a disturbance which shatters the existence of every part of your life. As a believer in Jesus, you cannot afford to tolerate the threat you feel on your spiritual life and freedom.

If the advent of the bondage in your life was anything like the experience I went through, it was so unsettling and life-shattering as to represent a complete take-over bid by evil forces wanting to control and ultimately destroy me.

I have often thought of the impact of that day which brought lasting upheaval and transported me into a real-life spiritual battle for freedom over 26 years. How thankful I am for the love and faithfulness of Jesus fighting with me for so long.

I want to encourage you by saying that in the difficulties of living with schizophrenia and praying to become free, the love of Jesus will never ever let you go. Is there a way to freedom? Most certainly there is – through the power of the strong love of Jesus.

Our ministry is bold to declare the spiritual darkness of schizophrenia. You will not hear this from the psychiatric world. You have got to be rightly related to Jesus knowing him as Saviour and Lord to defeat this the worst of mental bondages, but his love is powerful enough to break the stronghold.

It's well-known when you are a follower of the Lord Jesus just what you have to do when disaster strikes. Because the most important thing is the relationship with your Saviour, you "fly" to him for immediate help.

The moment I was swept off my feet by such a huge cloud of spiritual darkness, I had immediate recourse to the Lord for assistance. But such was the scale of the evil which hit my life that I was left reeling in a fixed state of passivity and total numbness.

The depth of that passivity went deeper when, in a gallant attempt to stabilize me, I was put under electric-shock treatment followed by a regime of heavy largactyll medication. It was hard to perform a life of faith while in such a stupor.

Your mood swings, like mine, often change because of the influence of taking medication. The power to defeat schizophrenia through trusting in the name of the Lord Jesus may seem a million miles away. But you must continue to trust the word of God and the love of God for you – and not your feelings.

Remember that the love of Christ for you is, and always will be, forever the same. He is far more committed to you and the cause of your freedom than you will ever know. Jesus will not only protect you with his love, he will fight for you.

Satan will not let up in trying to destroy your life. That's why you have to fight the good fight of faith and resist him with all your might. You may have been through many battles already. These will have developed you as a strong soldier of Jesus. But the conflict will continue until in the power of Jesus you drive the demons from your life for good.

Never let down your guard. Satan will be scheming to get an advantage of you. Begin the day standing fast in the liberty of Jesus Christ and finish it standing fast. The issue of the day is just doing that – standing fast in the liberty Jesus has given you already. Holding your ground is progress. Allow the Holy Spirit to pray within you. Take the Word of God and imbibe words of spirit and life into your mind.

Meditate on this word: **“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. AND HE WHO SEARCHES OUR HEARTS KNOWS THE MIND OF THE SPIRIT, BECAUSE THE SPIRIT INTERCEDES FOR THE SAINTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOD'S WILL.” Romans 8: 26-28.**

At present, demonic forces are troubling your natural mind and holding it in bondage. But they are unable to reach your spiritual mind no matter how hot and protracted the battle may be. Jesus is protecting it as you trust in him, so lean hard and refuse every evil thought and bring them into captivity. Put on the whole armour of God as detailed in Ephesians Chapter 6 and you will know you are fully protected.

You have the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life and, therefore, you can resist demons and powers of darkness yourself. By exercising your own will, you can with the help of the Holy Spirit defeat the demon powers that trouble you.

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.

Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge. I said to the LORD, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing." As for the saints who are in the land, they are glorious ones in whom is all my delight." Psalm 16: 1-3

Jesus stopped and called them. "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. "Lord," they answered, "we want our sight." Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him. Matthew 20: 32-34

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3: 15-17

The Weekly Encourager

14 November: Discover the Preciousness of Faith in Jesus in Your Pursuit of Freedom

21 November: Use the Power of the Supernatural Weapon of Prayer with the Authority of a Faith that Commands as well as Asks

You maybe 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