Life of Freedom MINISTRIES

Newsletter—Vol. XVI, No. 5 May 2022

Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

When we get to May on the calendar, Mother's Day and the end of school are two of the main events for me and my family, along with a wedding anniversary and Memorial Day. My daughter will be graduating from high school, which is exciting. Where have the last 18 years gone? Going to open houses, and this year hosting an open house, to congratulate the graduates is a fun time. It's also an appropriate time for me to give thanks for my mother and how she has cared for me for my whole lifetime. Also, I'm grateful to my wife. She is a good mother to my children. Certainly, I see these things as blessings for me. I hope this May is a month filled with moments of joy and remembrance for you.

Praises:

I praise God for strength given during an intense couple of weeks. The burdens seemed really strong over Holy Week, and He sustained me.

I praise God for His working in one particular client who has been struggling for some time. The walls of the stronghold seem to be crumbling, and the hope of freedom in Christ is growing.

I praise God for the LFM Board. The group met again in April, and their support and encouragement was a much needed time for me.

Short Report:

Stress, emotional turmoil, and broken relationships troubled Ms. RR. Could it be these issues she was having be due to the presence of evil spirits? We worked through an inventory to discern if there were experiences in her life, or her ancestry, that might allow spirits to afflict her. Ms. RR had been involved in occult practices, such things as séances, levitation, mirror mantics, and superstitions. A common form of levitation is an activity called "light as a feather, stiff as a board," where a group can gather around a person lying down and lift the person with just their fingertips. Mirror mantics include activities called "Bloody Mary at Midnight" and "Mirror, Mirror on the wall..." Essentially, mirror mantics is an act of conjuring up a spirit in a mirror. The term mantic itself, according Merriam-Webster is "relating to the faculty of divination." The superstitious activities included wishing on objects (things like: candles on a birthday cake, wishbones, and/or shooting stars), not stepping on sidewalk cracks, knocking on wood, finger crossing, and more. On top of the occultism, she had experienced abuse throughout her life. After we finished the inventory, Ms. RR prayed a prayer confessing all that was found on the inventory. She cancelled in Jesus' name any right any evil spirits would hold on her and her family for her and her ancestors' participation in these activities. We then confronted the evil spirits, and they did admit they had to go, with one exception. Ms. RR was hosting spirits named Oppression, Resistance, Deception, Confusion, Fear, Anger, Anxiety, Hatred, Slavery, and Death. When we engaged Death, who said he could stay, she remembered that a man prayed that she would die. We cancelled that curse immediately in Jesus' name. Death was then also was evicted. I invited the Holy Spirit to consume

Ms. RR and bless her in the opposite of what the powers of darkness were doing. After a few sessions, she reported that was doing well and was free from the oppression.

Something to Consider:

Deuteronomy 18:10-12—¹⁰ No one shall be found among you who makes a son or daughter pass through fire, or who practices divination, or is a soothsayer, or an augur, or a sorcerer, ¹¹ or one who casts spells, or who consults ghosts or spirits, or who seeks oracles from the dead. ¹² For whoever does these things is abhorrent to the LORD; it is because of such abhorrent practices that the LORD your God is driving them out before you.

Mark 10:16—¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Are all problems in life due to the working of evil spirits? No, they are not. Can we always clearly define what is done by them or due to them? Unfortunately, no, not always. Ms. RR had a great deal of trouble, and she found a great deal of relief when she addressed the matter from a spirit realm perspective. Her personal involvement in the occult practices, which are activities that are connected to or empowered by evil spirits, allowed a number of evil spirits to reside with her and at the very least enhance problems in her life. None of the spirits that were identified had a function name associated with the occultism. Instead, the names reflected their work in her life because of their presence, which came because of the occult activities. It is for good reason that God gave the command to have nothing to do with these practices to the Israelites when they prepared to enter the Promised Land. The Apostle Paul also notes that witchcraft is an act of the sinful nature and not of God in Galatians 5. The consequences of these practices ultimately is death.

Along with the occultism, the curse of death was significant. We are called to bless and not curse (Romans 12:14), and praying for someone to die like this is not a blessing. Since Death was the last spirit to be encountered, it suggests that he had the strongest grip on her. If you have experiences of being cursed, or had personal and/or ancestral participation in occult practices, I recommend you get some help to address these matters. It could be that some burdens in your life could end when evil spirits are evicted. Again, not all problems go away, but why not minimize the troubles that we can? Jesus came to rescue us from the dominion of darkness (Colossians 1:13), and encourage you to take advantage of what He has done for us!

Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for a man who has been burdened with severe physical issues. In this case, I believe the problems are spiritually rooted.

Please pray for some clients who are dealing with a great deal of confusion about God and themselves.

Please pray for some clients who are trying to determine what the best option is for living situations and continuing to work toward freedom and healing.

Happy Mother's Day!

Continually Rescued by Christ Jesus,

Ben- Smyder

Ben Snyder

Life of Freedom Ministries 14303 COUNTY ROAD 38 GOSHEN, IN 46528 574-831-2669 Ifmdirector@gmail.com www.lifeoffreedom.org