



Life of Freedom MINISTRIES

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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

The month of May, of course, brings to mind Mother's Day. So first off, happy Mother's Day to everyone, especially the mothers. It also is a month of remembrance with Memorial Day. For Angela, my wife, and me, May is the month of our wedding anniversary. All three events bring to mind things for which I'm grateful, and it is appropriate to acknowledge them. First, my own mother who cared for me as a child, and still does even now, by being involved in my life. Second, a country in which I have freedom to worship and live for Lord. Finally, a loving wife, who is my best friend. Thinking of all three reminds me that there was sacrifice for me in some fashion, and I wouldn't be who I am without that sacrifice. So thank you, Mom, those who helped to bring freedom to this country, and to my wife for what you've given me.

Praises:

I praise God for a report from a client for the spiritual freedom given to a family who had many curses inherited from a father, along with curses from a witchdoctor while they were in missions overseas. The spirits were not happy their ground was cancelled.

I praise God for the report of a client's family being restored after a season of parents and children being separated. The road will be difficult, but the healing has begun.

Short Report:

When Ms. C initially called my office, she was reluctant to initiate being involved with LFM. She was filled with guilt for her sinfulness. She dreaded coming for visits, as they were painful reminders of sin in her life. Nonetheless, she was strongly encouraged by family to continue meeting. She indeed was a believer in Jesus Christ, but felt just as strong that God didn't really love her and that good things could not happen in her life. She believed she was just too wicked for Him to love her. There were numerous other lies that she was entertaining in her mind. One significant lie that stood out the most was this: it is not right for a Christian to get angry. She had been trained to believe that it was a sin to get angry, period. Because of that, she stuffed everything that happened to her that hurt her. She had many hurtful experiences that would naturally cause a person to be angry, but she feared revealing her anger. The stuffed hurt and anger became so deep that she was easily hurt by things others did that wouldn't normally be hurtful.

We examined the Scriptures to see what it had to say about being angry, and she learned that it is not a sin to be angry. Instead, we are not to sin in our anger. Once she accepted that truth, we worked through a lengthy process of forgiving others, and even forgiving God for all that had happened in her life. She received God's forgiveness for her own sins. God began to heal the wounds in her heart, and joy began to replace bitterness. By the end of a number of sessions of meeting with her, she didn't dread coming to my office for a meeting. Instead, it was a place where God was real and present in ministering to her, showing her His love and forgiveness.

Something to Consider:

Ephesians 4:26-27—²⁶ *“In your anger do not sin”*: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold.

Mark 10:14—¹⁴ *When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.*

Is it true that Jesus was angry? Yes, indeed He was. The two passages above were ones that Ms. C and I read in discussing being angry. The translation above said that Jesus was “indignant.” According to the dictionary, indignant is the feeling of or showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment. So Jesus was angry that the disciples were treating the children unfairly. We notice though, that He did not sin while He was angry. I’m sure the disciples knew He was not happy, but He was not abusive toward them.

The hurts Ms. C experienced came from emotional, mental, spiritual, and verbal abuse by multiple people. The spiritual component, telling her it was a sin to get angry, held her in great bondage. Unfortunately, the spiritual aspect of the abuse also caused her to see God in a way that was in error. She blamed Him for the problems and was angry at Him that she couldn’t be angry. For this reason, she needed to “forgive God.” He certainly wasn’t to blame for the sins done against her, but she had to reject the lies she was believing about Him and forgive Him. In this way, she humbly softened her heart toward Him, and He began to bring healing.

For some clients, the issue isn’t stuffing the anger as it was for Ms. C, but instead it is not controlling the anger. Similarly, others are hot tempered and become easily angered. In a sense for these clients, they are mastered by the anger. For all of them, the key was to acknowledge the offenses against them that led to anger. It was necessary to admit that something really did hurt! Then, they had to choose to forgive the offender. When the hurt is not admitted, they can’t choose to forgive, and there is a great possibility of resentment and bitterness growing. Notice though that this admission of hurt is to God, not necessarily to the other person. By praying to God to address the wrongs done and choosing to forgive, He then can work in us to heal us and help to relate to the offender. Being hot tempered, angry, volatile, or stuffing the anger will only hold a person in bondage. Therefore, I encourage you to take these kinds of burdens to the Lord and choose to forgive so you can receive healing and freedom.

Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for a client who has difficult situation where the person has little options to escape an abusive situation.

Please pray for a client who struggles to believe that she can be free from the many problems of her life.

Happy Mother’s Day!

Continually Rescued by Christ Jesus,



Ben Snyder

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