Life of Freedom MINISTRIES

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Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

"I don't get angry. I just get even." I've heard this phrase a time or two in my life, and usually it was done in humor about someone playing a joke on a person. The reality is that when people are wounded in some fashion, the common reaction is to want the person to pay. What was done wasn't right, and they owe me! Certainly, what was done wasn't right, but Jesus calls Christians to make a different choice from wanting the offender to pay. He calls us to forgive. For this month, I'll address the need to forgive and how it led the way for a young lady to be healed of the hurt and pain.

Praises:

I praise God for His working of healing and freedom for a client who has been burdened for years. There is still more work to do, but there has been significant progress.

I praise God for the insight He gave in a recent ministry session. One sentence that I said to a client was very helpful for him to overcome a long believed lie. It was a simple sentence, but the Lord used it powerfully.

I praise God for His faithfulness. Every ministry session in the opening prayer, I acknowledge His presence with each believer, and trust in His guidance. He never fails us and guides us through for freedom and healing.

Short Report:

The contrast between Ms. S and her boyfriend was drastic. In spite of his many romances with other women during their time together, she remained faithful. Nonetheless, she felt incredibly hurt by his behavior. Most of what he did he tried to keep secret, but some actions were blatantly done in front of her. The pain, anger, and resentment was clearly present for Ms. S. In the ministry session, she prayed about each and every event where she was hurt by her boyfriend. She expressed the emotion she felt in each event, and she chose to forgive him and each of the other ladies. It took some time for her to work through each one, and it was evident that it brought up a great deal of pain. Once she was done choosing to forgive for each painful event, I invited the Holy Spirit to minister to her and show where the Lord Jesus was in the memories. Once she saw Jesus, I immediately put the Jesus she saw to the test: "Are you the Jesus Christ who has come in the flesh?" He acknowledged He was, and we could trust that it was not an evil spirit pretending to be Jesus. When she saw Him, her demeanor changed almost instantly. He then took her hurt and pain and shared with her truth.

Next, I asked the Holy Spirit to reveal to Ms. S any lies she was believing. "I am not good enough!" was the answer. She confessed to believing the lie and renounced the lie. Again, the Holy Spirit ministered to her and brought healing. Finally, we confronted any evil spirits who were residing with her. It seemed they were almost wanting to leave because they identified themselves quickly: Jealousy, Anger, and Insecurity. They admitted their ground was cancelled and they had to go, and they did depart. I challenged also a spirit named Lust, and he admitted his presence. He was trying to hide, as he was connected to her lustful boyfriend. His

ground was cancelled and he too was evicted. I commanded in Jesus' name that any other evil spirits present had to identify themselves, but no more spirits were found. She was beaming, and it was wonderful to see the joy on her face!

Something to Consider:

Matthew 6:15—¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

1 John 3:15—¹⁵ Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

Holding anger against someone, including oneself, has very negative consequences. First, if we don't forgive, we will not be forgiven by God for our sins. He in His tremendous grace has brought us forgiveness through Christ on the cross. Though we didn't deserve forgiveness, He extended it to us. Even on the cross, Jesus said, "Father, forgive them..." (Luke 23:34). He was and is generous with His forgiveness, and therefore we should be as well. To be like Christ, we must choose to forgive for offenses, both big and small. Choosing to forgive can also bring healing to others, just as Christ's forgiveness brings us healing.

Second, if we don't forgive and hold on to the anger, it turns to hatred, resentment, and bitterness. It is essentially an attitude of murder, where are wanting the offender to die. Clients have said, "Oh, I don't want them to die, just be in pain!" Still, it is of the same vengeful attitude as that of murder. By not forgiving, a person only becomes more and more deeply held to the pain from the offense. By choosing to forgive, Ms. S was able to release her boyfriend and thereby open herself to the healing of the Lord. Had she held on to the anger, He would not have been able to minister to her as He did. She would have continued in her torment.

Is there someone you need to forgive? Ask the Lord to show you a person's name or face of someone you need to forgive. As I noted in the praise section, He is faithful. When I ask this question in a ministry session, if there is a person, it comes to mind quickly. If a person comes to mind, pray a prayer choosing to forgive for the specific wound. If this seems to be too much for you to handle alone, then I encourage you to talk to someone you trust, or even schedule an appointment with me. It is valuable to take the time to forgive and be healed by the Living God so you can grow and become more like Him.

Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for the coming two months of ministry. September and October can be difficult months due to the extra spiritual activity.

Please continue to pray for a few clients who have been greatly burdened by severe spirit worship activities in their ancestries. Progress has been made, but it has been a tedious and wearying process.

Please pray for me to grow in sharing the truth gently while not compromising the truth. Increasingly, people want freedom without the truth of God's Word!

Continually Rescued by Christ Jesus,

Ben Smyder

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