

Facing the Enemy

Recognizing and Healing the Attacks of the Enemy

Foundational Truths

1. The Cross –At the heart of Christianity is the cross of Jesus Christ. The cross is the source of God’s greatest provision for us. Because of the substitutionary atonement in which Jesus became sin for us and on our behalf, we now have a pathway back to righteousness. Through the cross, Jesus Christ gives us the provisions for a victorious life: forgiveness of sin, victory over the power of sin, victory over Satan and his demons, power over sickness and disease and triumph over death itself. The cross provides the basis for reconciliation with Jesus and our Heavenly Father. Because of the cross, we can live an abundant joyful life on earth, as well as experience the glorious knowledge of eternal life. Related Scriptures—2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13

2. God’s Law – We need to know that there are consequences when we violate or are disobedient to God’s law. It is precisely because God’s judgment is release when His law is violated that He sent Jesus Christ to provide a way out of the judgment. Even Jesus respected the law of God (Matt 5:19). There are results to violating the law of God (Deuteronomy 28)
 - a. When we sin, a chain reaction is put into motion that has negative consequences for everyone it touches.
 - b. Pain is almost always created (turmoil, confusion, torment, guilt, shame, anger, etc.)
 - c. Spiritual separation from God (Isaiah 59:2)
 - d. We give legal opportunity for demonic oppression (Ephesians 4:26-27)

God gives us a remedy when we violate God’s law through the cross of Christ. Here the consequences of *all* of the violations of God’s law were poured out on one man, Jesus Christ. We appropriate by faith the provision of God made for us at the cross. Remember God’s promise in 1 John 1:9.

3. Hearing God’s voice (Jeremiah 33:3)—As we are going through prayer processes to sense what may be taking place within us spiritually, it is necessary that we be sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit as He brings things to our remembrance. It is often in these moments that He guides us to a place of healing through reminding us of scriptures, life situations or other things that may be providing divine guidance for that moment.

4. God’s weapons (Ephesians 6:13)—We have been given a weapon arsenal by God to ensure our victory in moments of satanic attack. We have been given defensive weapons to deflect and stop Satan’s fiery darts (helmet of salvation, shield of faith, breastplate of righteousness, girdle of truth, shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace). We have also been given offensive weapons (prayer, the Word of God, the name of Jesus, the blood of Jesus, praise, laying on of hands).

Forgiveness: The Key to Freedom
“Forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.”

Definition of Forgiveness—The setting of one’s will, the making of a decision (at a spiritual level) that a release is granted to the offending person(s) or situation. When we forgive, we choose to set them free.

Forgiving Others

- a. God requires that we forgive each other (Luke 17:3-10). God covers all the angles (Mark 11:25-26).
- b. Forgiveness must be from the heart (Matthew 18:35).
- c. If you have offended someone, offer reconciliation (Matthew 5:23-24)
- d. God’s consequences of unforgiveness are sure (Matthew 6:14-15)
- e. God’s heart is to forgive you (Jeremiah 31:33-34)

Asking God’s Forgiveness: Repentance

Definition-*Repentance means to turn around and go in a different direction, purposed intentionally to change.* It translates into, “God, I am sorry and I am willing to take action.”

- 1. God’s response to our repentance—1 John 1:9—if we confess our sins, God promises forgiveness and cleansing. His response to our confession is restoration: restoration of our lives and our relationship with Him as we are freed from guilt, shame and defilement.
- 2. Hindrances to repentance—Besetting sin (things that we repeat), sin too great (our sin a “big one”), no realization of sin (lack of awareness that something is a sin), and disappointment with God.
- 3. Receiving God’s forgiveness—(Isaiah 43:25)

Forgiving Self

Though there is no Bible verse that directly instructs us to forgive ourselves, in some cases, we have things that we have done that cause us to hold on to self-hate, guilt or self-condemnation. In these moments, we must free ourselves from the bondage of our own offense from our behavior.

Scriptures relating forgiveness to healing:

Mark 2:9-11

John 5:5-9; 14 (implied with concern to sin and sickness being related)

James 5:14-16

Sins of the Fathers and Resulting Curses (Exodus 20:1-17)

Sins of the fathers represents the accumulation of all sins committed by our ancestors. It is the heart tendency (iniquity) that we inherit from our forefathers to rebel against (i.e., be disobedient to) God's laws and commandments. It is the propensity to sin, particularly in way that represent perversion and twisted character. The accumulation of sin continues until God's conditions for repentance are met.

Foundational Scriptures: Exodus 20:5-6 (God expresses His hatred for idols and idolatry. He gets angry with jealousy and releases a curse that causes the iniquities of the father to come onto the children to the third and fourth generation)

Several key words used:

Idolatry – Idolatry occurs whenever we put our trust in the “thing” or “situation” more than we put our trust in God. To the degree that we are “other-focused” more than God's focused, we are in idolatry.

Iniquity-Iniquity is lawlessness, wickedness, depravity, unrighteousness, transgression and perversion in our hearts that leads us to a rebellion that results in sin.

Fathers—This word for fathers refers to a family line

Sins of the fathers in my family

CURSES

A curse is the penalty to be paid for the breaking of a law. Thus the biblical meaning regarding God's law is “the consequence that will occur because of disobedience and rebellion against God's law.”

Where do curses come from?

a. **From God** – The main source of curses is God (Genesis 3, Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 11:26-28; 28; Proverbs 3:33). Judgment is brought forth as His laws are broken or violated.

b. **From others: word curses**—This is when others speak something negative over our lives that have spiritual implications and effect. They may bespoken in anger, put downs, negative comparisons, and other malicious statements. These words rest in the spirit of the individuals and cause scars and wounds of the soul, along with spiritual pressures and demonic oppression. (James 3:9-10)

c. **From self: self-curses**—This is when we make statements about ourselves that result in negative spiritual activity.

Statements that you may have made about yourself that have negative spiritual effect:

SELF-SINS – We are responsible for our own sins

Definition of sin – Sin is the transgression of the law (1 John 3:14) those things that are not of God (1 John 2:16).

Pride – The tendency to do “our own thing”; Lust of Eyes / Flesh—world principles that tell us what we should want and need to be “happy.”

How do we become free from curses? Confession of sins of fathers, others, self (Leviticus 26:40-42) Appropriating the cross to our sins for forgiveness, removal of the curse and healing (Colossians 2:13-14)

Ungodly Beliefs

All beliefs, attitudes, agreements, judgments, expectation, vows and oaths that do not agree with God (His Word, His nature, and His character)

God's plan and purpose for our beliefs

1. Renewing the mind—Romans 12:2—We must shift our thinking from being based in the world to being centered around the word of God so that we operate in God's will for our lives.
2. Knowing God's perfect will—1 Peter 4:1—As we renew our minds, we become aware of how He looks at things, and we begin to look at things as God does instead of out of our own selfish, self-centered ways.
3. Renewing the spirit of your mind—Ephesians 4:23—The very spirit that controls our mind is transformed and renewed to be conformed after the heart of God.
4. Taking thoughts captive—2 Corinthians 10:3-5 instructs us to pull down those things that work against the knowledge of God and replace them with thoughts that are obedient to the Lordship of Christ.

How Ungodly Beliefs are Formed

Ungodly beliefs are the product of experiences from hurt, repetition of hurt, natural situations (family heritage, unintentional teaching of parents).

Belief- Expectation Cycle

1. Our ungodly beliefs formed out of hurtful experiences, leading to...
2. Expectation arising from these beliefs. These expectations affect our...
3. Behavior, causing us also to influence the behavior of others, leading to...
4. Experiences in line with these behaviors that confirm the ungodly beliefs...

What we believe shapes our life situations —Proverbs 23:7

How do we gain freedom from ungodly beliefs? **Replace ungodly beliefs with Godly beliefs**

1. *Identify* the ungodly belief
2. Write out the ungodly belief
3. Write out the godly belief
4. Use Scripture to support and verify that the new belief is godly.
5. Remove and break the power of the ungodly beliefs. (Forgiveness, repentance, and renouncing. THEN declare and receive the new godly beliefs)

Soul / Spirit Hurts

Soul/spirit hurts are on the inside of a person. They are wounds to the soul or the spirit of man that are carried and experience within the person himself. They are not physical, and they cannot be seen. Their presence is revealed by their symptoms, by the manifested evidence of unhealed emotions, behaviors and thoughts.

Scriptural Basis: Exodus 15:26—God is our Healer. *Jehovah Rapha*, the name used for God has the basic meaning “to mend,” as in stitching up or mending a torn cloth. *Rapha* also means “to cure or cause to be cured, to heal, to position, to repair, to make whole.” When we say, “*Jehovah Rapha*,” we are saying, “God, the Mender, the One who makes us whole.”

1. God heals the inner person—Psalm 147:3; Jeremiah 31:25
2. Jesus heals the brokenhearted—Luke 4:18-19

Situations that cause hurt

Consequences of Hurt Related Scripture: Proverbs 12:25

1. Cause us to wear a “mask” to hide and protect ourselves
2. Often underlie illnesses
3. Cause shame, anger, hopelessness or depression
4. Cause blocked emotions, cause us to be out of touch with our own feelings
5. can result in anger and disappointment with God
6. Can provide an open door for demonic oppression
7. Can cause fragmented personality (very deep hurts)
8. Can cause restricted growth and lack of fulfillment in life

Memories that need healing often include: Hurtful situations, negative painful feelings, ungodly beliefs, and demons.

How do I receive freedom from soul/spirit hurts?

1. Re-experience the memory of the hurtful situation in such a way that Jesus, God the Father or Holy Spirit is allowed to intervene and bring healing to all of the negative painful feelings.
2. “Pour out” the hurtful emotions connected to the situation to the LORD
3. List the ungodly beliefs that have been connected to the memory and held within your heart.
4. Cast out any demons that may have used the hurt as an open door to enter your life.
5. Ask the LORD to reveal any remaining hurt or pain associated with the memory and release it.
6. Invite Jesus to heal the memory and replace the pain with godly wholeness.