

Engaging the Battle – Session I (Personal Notes)

Review of Foundations

- Four Foundations
 - Who Is God
 - Who Is Jesus
 - Who Is the Holy Spirit
 - Who are We in Jesus Christ

Luke 4:18 Jesus quotes Isaiah

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

The Enemy –

His Rebellion – Isa 14:3-15, The 5 ___ I wills ___

Ezek 28:12 -17 His heart became proud _____ Self - exaltation

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

The thief has come to

Steal your joy and peace

Kill your witness

Destroy your life

Means & Methods

- 1. John 8:44 lies
- 2. Gen 3:13 deception
- 3. Rev 12:10 accusation
- 4. I Peter 5:8 intimidation - (roaring lion)

Thoughts in our minds
Sidetracking
Lies about Ourselves

Distorting our Belief System
Lies about God
Lies about Personal Holiness

The Battle is for the Mind – Rom 12:2 – renew your mind

The issue is control!

Reasons for Defeat -

1. denial or ignorance of existence and working of the spiritual realm
2. bought into the lie of the enemy – I can't be more than I am right now (victim mentality)
 - race of Adam/ race of Jesus 1 Cor 15:45-48 – spiritual inheritance
3. willingness to compromise with the enemy (tolerate the dark place)

Possessing the Land

Deut 1:21

See, the LORD your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the LORD, the God of your fathers, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Victorious living - Possess body, soul, spirit

- 2 Peter 1:3 possess all that God has already given

God will not move until you challenge the enemy but when you do move in faith the battle is the Lord's.

Two Ways to Insure Defeat

1. **Unforgiveness** – parable – Matt 18: 21-35

2. **Unconfessed & Unrepentant Sin** (living in known sin) – Ps 66:18, Isa 59:1-2

¹⁸If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear;

¹Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: ²But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Reminder – Eph 5:18 - Be Filled with the Holy Spirit

Yield, submit, surrender

Constantly available and immediately obedient

Possession or Oppression

Possession - one or more evil spirits inhabit the body of a human being, taking complete control of it at will and expressing his (or their) personality through that body.

Can a Christian be possessed? – Possession implies ownership. I Cor 6:20

We have been bought with the Blood of Christ

Matt 12:43-45 Place swept clean, nothing filling it.

Oppression - the work of evil spiritual forces that urge us to sin, to deny God's word, to feel spiritually dead, and to be in bondage to things that move me away from the Lord

- Peter - Matt 16:13-23 Peter cooperated with both the Holy Spirit and satan.

-Ananias & Sapphira – Acts 5: 1-10

- letting your heart be filled requires a voluntary action of agreement.

- satan has no legal access except what we give him.

- 2 Tim 2:24-26

- a believer's will can be taken captive

- satan seeks to numb the conscience, confuse the senses, and paralyze the will.

What is our protection? (Handout does not have these)

Be filled with the Spirit Eph. 5:18

Put on and use the armor of God Eph 6: 10-18

Feed upon truth and be renewed Rom 12:1-2, Col 3:9-10

Ask for God's protection from the evil one Matt 6:12-14

Be an active part of the Body I Cor 12: 13-27

Submit to God and resist the devil James 4:7

Some of the Resources Used

Reclaiming Surrendered Ground – Logan

Win Every Battle – Galiga

Shadow Boxing – Malone

Our Oneness With Christ – Kuykendall

Gaining Ground – Scott

I Give You Authority – Kraft

Victory of the Darkness - Anderson

The Bondage Breaker - Anderson

Kingdom Authority - Rogers

The Great Deceiver – Copley

Possessing the Gates of the Enemy – Jacobs

Spiritual Warfare – Ing

**Engaging the Battle – Session I
Handout
Review of Foundations**

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Steal your _____ and _____

Kill your _____

Destroy your _____

Means & Methods

- 1. John 8:44 _____
- 2. Gen 3:13 _____
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- 4. I Peter 5:8 _____

_____ in our minds

_____ our Belief System

Sidetracking

Lies about _____

Lies about _____

Lies about Personal _____

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Yield, submit, _____
Constantly _____ and immediately _____

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We have been bought with the _____
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- Peter - Matt 16:13-23 Peter cooperated with both the _____ and _____.
- Ananias & Sapphira – Acts 5: 1-10
 - letting your heart be filled requires a voluntary action of _____
 - satan has _____ legal access except what we _____.
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Can Satan read our thoughts?

I personally don't think so. I've been finishing up the book of Daniel recently and one example immediately jumps out to me. When the king had his dream about the great image, none of the magicians/sorcerers (those associated with the works of Satan) could come up with the dream let alone an interpretation. This was also true regarding Joseph and the dream of the Pharaoh. The magicians/sorcerers would have been dependent on revelation supplied by Satan and his angels. If they had been able to read the kings' minds, wouldn't Satan have taken that opportunity to increase his influence in the world of men and not leave an open door for the Lord to show His *unique* ability.

Daniel even declares (through the inspiration of the Spirit) the existence of secrets and associates them with the *thoughts* that occupied Neb's mind as he slept.

Dan. 2:27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise *men*, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king;

Dan. 2:28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

Dan. 2:29 As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came *into thy mind* upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

1 Kings 8:39 is another verse that supports the concept of a secret place of communication with God.

1 Kings 8:39 Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, *even* thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;)

The word hearts is a reference to "feelings, will, and intellect" according to the Hebrew. This verse states as a fact that only God knows what is in a man's heart, his place of thought and feeling.

I think the following verse in Matthew brings up another point.

Matt. 6:6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

I know the context of this verse is a reference to guard against doing spiritual things with the wrong motives. Still the Lord is referencing a place where we can meet with him in secret. I cannot believe that He would allow Satan to be privy to our private outpourings of our heart to Him. If we choose to pray out loud, then we are not talking to God in secret (although I'm not sure we are always attuned to that fact). We are allowing the spirits/angels to witness/hear our conversation. I think Satan operates on the point of law stating, "Anything you say can and will be used against you."

The ability of Satan to impact our thought processes is a whole different thing from him being able to know our thoughts. I believe he and his angel/demon forces have astute observation skills regarding our actions and can certainly hear the words we say, and based on that information have plenty of ammo to know our weaknesses and the areas in which deceptions/temptations are most likely to succeed. Also, they have had the opportunity to study people for thousands of years. They know the common weaknesses of men and the areas in which they have proven to be most susceptible to deceit/temptation.

When Jesus was ministering as a man on planet earth, I believe He was filled with the Spirit. He laid aside His Divine attributes, but He was still attuned to the Spirit. He knew as God chose for Him to know. He did not know of the day or hour of His second coming because the Father did not choose to give Him that information at that time. When He knew what the people were thinking, He knew because the Father did choose to reveal those thoughts through His Spirit at that time. He was not born with the sin nature. He had the Spirit indwelling Him just as we as believers are privileged to have in the new covenant. He lived His life according to the leadership/direction of the Spirit just as we are

supposed to do now. The fact that Jesus could perceive man's thoughts does not support Satan, as a spirit being, having the ability to read our thoughts.

The Bible does support the idea of angels observing our actions and hearing our speech:

1Cor. 4:9 For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.

1Cor. 11:10 For this cause ought the woman to have power on *her* head because of the angels.

1Tim. 5:21 I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.

They were created to minister on behalf of men of faith according to God's directive:

Heb. 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

They can take the form of man and interact with man:

Heb. 13:2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

The word angel means messenger—not from us to God but from God to us. The only One that intercedes on our behalf through knowledge of our thoughts is the Son and the Holy Spirit. Satan made his statements about Job based on his observations of Job specifically and men in general. Satan's answer to God's question as to whether he had considered Job referenced things that he knew from observation, not from being able to read his mind

Engaging the Battle - Session II

Two Ways of Access - Intrusion & Legal Ground

Intrusion

Definition: the act of pushing or thrusting in; the act of putting or coming in without being asked or wanted.

The intrusion is intended to

- _____ your focus on God
- cause you to focus on a difficult or distressing _____
- comes from the _____, never from the _____.

Attempts to distract us, turn our thoughts in another direction, entice us to accept another philosophy, or look at something from a perspective other than God's

- We have _____ to stop this attack from _____ .
But you do have control with how you _____ to it.

The 5 Strategies

1. Lies and deception – _____ truth
2. accusations and condemnation – usually focused on our _____
 - Don't _____ or _____! (Matt 5:25)
 - Remember the _____ – Who You _____ In Jesus Christ!!
3. Doubt, unbelief, and fear
(Spirit of _____)(Spirit of _____)
4. The Battle is for the _____ – (2 Cor. 10:3-4)
 - what about thoughts passing through your mind – when is it sin?
 - sin occurs when you _____ , _____ , _____ those thoughts
5. Attacking the Word of God - satan can _____ the Word – look for it to be _____ context
(Spirit of Antichrist) - avoid arrogance, name calling, dialogue, etc

Battling Intrusion

1. Keep your eyes on God and _____ the circumstances.
 2. Ask the Lord if you have _____ in your life which has given satan access. Then _____.
 3. Remember that _____ are not your enemies.
 4. Tell God about the problem but do not _____ on the problem.
 5. Draw _____ to God and _____ satan. (James 4:7-8)
- Put on the armor – Eph 6:12-18
 - Helmet of salvation – claim the protection and power contained in the blood of Jesus
 - Belt of Truth – develop intimacy with the truth – the truth will set you free
 - Breastplate of Righteousness – righteousness is a gift
 - Preparation of the Gospel of Peace – be at peace with all men.
 - Shield of Faith – believe God and His promises
 - Sword of the Spirit – speak the truth of the Word
 - Having done everything to stand- Stand Therefore!!
 - resist impatience and anxiousness
 - you will only lose when you quit.
 - you fight from a position of victory
 - The outcome has already been determined.

Legal Ground

- satan has a right to be in your life because you or someone in authority over you has _____ him that authority. (Eph 4:27 – do not give place to the devil)(place – _____)
aka – legal jurisdiction
- satanic stronghold - a _____ impregnated with hopelessness that causes me to _____ as
unchangeable something that is contrary to the will of God.
 - a place of fortification – a _____ of thinking contrary to the Word of God

The Process for Satan Obtaining Legal Ground:

Satan gradually feeds lies into your mind. He exalts arguments and vain imaginations (impossible fantasies) as _____ against the knowledge of God.

Sometimes easier to believe the lie than the truth because our _____ propagates and supports the lie.

Peter Lord – “We practice daily all that we believe and all else is _____.”

1. I willingly or ignorantly _____ w/satan - experience pleasure (emotion)
2. An _____ occurs (thoughts are created)
3. I commit the action again – form a _____ and a stronghold begins to be established
4. I will now build a system of lies to _____ my actions and _____ my guilt. Satan has captured your _____. He will begin to build supporting strongholds – lying to cover my sin.

Molestation, victimized

It's not the experience itself that causes a stronghold to develop, but what you _____ about the experience, about _____, and about _____ as a result of the experience.

Satan uses facts, circumstances, events, and credible people to deceive and delude us.

Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

We are instructed to pull down every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, to renew our minds and to bring every thought into captivity. (high thing – implies a _____)

Until legal ground is recovered satan _____ be ordered out.

The Process of Reclaiming Ground:

1. _____ that you are a Christian
2. _____ of sin and ask for forgiveness (1 John 1:9)– call sin what it is and turn away from it to obeying God
3. _____ your involvement in the things of darkness (Be Specific)
4. _____ yourself completely to God and depend totally on Him and His power to set you free.
5. _____ any open doors
6. Pray for a fresh _____ of the Holy Spirit.
7. Realize you are _____ to sin. (Rom 6:1-14)
8. Give praise and glory to God for your deliverance from the bondage of the enemy. (be careful of _____)

Daily Discipline for the Renewal of Your Mind

1. Test your thoughts (1 John 4:1)
2. Refuse wrong thoughts (2 Cor 10:5; James 1:14-15)
3. Submit to God and resist the devil (James 4:7)
4. _____ your thoughts immediately with Jesus
5. Memorize God's Word
6. Set your mind on _____. (Philippians 4:8)

Session III – Open Doors
Disobedience, Unforgiveness, Emotional Trauma
Handout

Disobedience ? Why do we disobey? Why do I disobey?

Are disobedience and rebellion the same?

Disobedience - the trait of being _____ to obey

Rebellion - _____ to one in authority

If I am - seeking to do God's will with the wrong _____ – begrudging,
- seeking to do God's will in my own _____
- seeking to do God's will in my own _____
- seeking to do God's will my own _____
_____ obedience is still disobedience.

Satan's strategy – see "Means & Methods – Sess I & "The 5 Strategies" Sess II

Obedience – doing _____ God wants, _____ He wants, how He wants, under the direction and
_____ of the Holy Spirit
- _____ in the Vine.

Obedience opens the way for _____ and _____

Unforgiveness ? Why do we not forgive? Why do I not forgive?

- refusing to let go or _____ a debt owed by another person

What about _____?"

Paul says, "Forgive anyone who does you wrong, just as Christ has forgiven you" (Colossians 3:13).

Our forgiveness of others is to be of a similar _____ to Christ's forgiveness of us.

- What did it cost Jesus to purchase our forgiveness? It cost him –

On the basis of that sacrifice he can offer us forgiveness and reconciliation.

Forgiveness is a _____ and can only be _____ – it can never be earned

It is interesting that the Hebrew word for "forgive" means two things, to _____ a debt and to _____ it. It is the same word for both

Forgiveness says – " _____ will pay the debt owed, _____ will bear the burden of the wrong."

What forgiveness is not – just forgetting,
- saying what was done was _____ or it doesn't matter,
- putting _____ upon the person,
- is not _____ what was done

- Forgiveness starts with the _____ but is a product of our _____ (Matt 18:35) (forgive your brother from your heart) (heart – _____ man)

"I forget what is behind, and I struggle for what is ahead...so that I can win the prize of being called to heaven" (Philippians 3:13,14)

forget – in context means to " _____ ". (does not mean to " _____ of one's mind")

At times the phrase "I forgive you" seems empty. Try instead, "I _____ you. I let you go. I let go of this offence. I _____ your debt. You owe me nothing. I _____ my desire to get even with you."

Sample Prayer

Father, In the Name of Jesus, I forgive (call person's name) from my heart for what they did to me. (Tell God what they did.) I chose to let them go free. I lay nothing to their charge. I require nothing of them. I release them into Your hands, Father. I chose to forgive (call name) from my heart for what was done to me because you have forgiven me.

(Ask the Holy Spirit what you are to bless them with.) In the Name of Jesus, I pray for Your blessings to be upon them. I pray that You would ... In Jesus Name, Amen

Now, worship the Lord and give Him praise for the freedom He has given you.

Emotional Trauma – Read Isa 53:4-6

If the emotional trauma involves something done by others then forgiveness will need to be given first then this step.

Begin with praise and worship. In prayer ask the Holy Spirit to come reveal and heal the wounds and bruises in your emotions and spirit related to an event (name the event). You must allow the Holy Spirit to bring the trauma up. In the name of Jesus release the pain to Him and let Him heal the emotions.

Sample Prayer

Father, I ask that you come now and take the pain, hurts, and trauma from my spirit and heal me. I give you my pain and hurt. Take my pain, Lord Jesus. Take the pain of (name the specific hurt). Heal my heart and set me free.

(Continue repeating the prayer noting specific hurts and pains until you go through all that the Holy Spirit reveals to you asking Jesus to remove and heal the pain.

Ask for a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Now, worship the Lord and give Him praise for the freedom He has given you.

This Session taken heavily from "Shadowboxing" - Malone

Engaging the Battle - Session IV – Handout
Open Doors – Inner Vows and Judgments

Vows - a solemn promise or assertion; *specifically* : one by which a person is _____ to an act.
- a solemn or earnest pledge or promise _____ the person making it to perform a specified act or behave in a certain way

O.T. Scriptures on Vows

Numbers 30:1-14 - The Law of Vows

V2 - a vow or oath _____ (God, if You will just do ..., I will...)
- binding obligation – I _____
- Vows _____ us and God requires we keep our vows

V3-5 - Dads have the spiritual authority to _____ or to nullify a daughter's vow

V6-14 - Husbands have the spiritual authority to _____ or to nullify a wife's vow.

V9 - The vow of a widow or a divorced woman _____ be nullified.

Warning - husbands and dads - this is a position of a _____ not of a _____ !!

Deut 23:21-23

V 21 - Don't be _____ in paying your vows otherwise you have committed a sin and the Lord will require the vow of you.

Prov 20:25

- Even _____ promises are taken seriously by God

Eccl 5:4-6

- Adds a new dimension. God will be _____ and _____ the work of your hands.

Mal 1:14

- Another new dimension – the man who cheats the Lord of a vow is _____ by God.

Inner Vows and Judgments (aka – _____ judgment)

- inner vows are about _____
- a vow often made with deep _____ and is in response to a person, experience or desire.
- it is a vow made to ourselves and is normally made as a _____
- it is based on _____ made against parents, teachers, or others in authority.
- it binds us to a mind-set or course of action which is _____ and prevents spiritual or emotional development
- it prevents the _____ from penetrating that area because the power of the vow has not been broken.

N.T. Scriptures on Vows

Matt 5:34-37

- any statement of commitment beyond yes or no is from the _____

Matt 7:1-2

- when we judge others we will be judged in the same way.

James 5:12

- making oaths can bring us into _____

Inner vows

I will never..... be poor, marry a man like my dad, trust a _____, be a missionary, have children, depend on others, give in, be taken advantage of, be like that, talk like that, yell/scream at my kids, be angry, treat my kids/wife/husband/family that way

I will always.... Be strong, be in charge, be on my guard, be wealthy, be nice, be submissive, be safe, be an expert on everything....

I've got to _____ **or else** _____ get 100% /I am a total failure..

If I ever _____ **then I'll** _____ make a mistake in public - die..., get that - go crazy,

How the vow works

– a situation occurs that creates a wound in you (strong _____). You _____ the person/people involved (aka – bitter root judgment). You make an inner vow. Matt 5 & 7 go into effect and you are _____. God requires that you keep all vows.

The bitter root judgment binds us to the _____ and the vow inadvertently puts all the burden of transformation upon self instead of upon the Lord and therefore _____ the one who vowed from being able to receive the grace (God's help) needed to overcome the behavior. All vows are binding.

Why are vows so serious?

1. A vow puts into place the spiritual principle of binding and loosing.
2. Vows are about actions in the future, and the future is something over which we have little or no _____.
3. Breaking a vow can result in _____ (James 5) and the destruction of the work of our _____ (Eccles 5).

When we try to act in a way that opposes our inner vow we find ourselves having a huge inner _____ that we do not understand

How do I know if I made an inner vow?

Ask the question, "That situation really hurt. How did I make it stop hurting?" The answer may be an inner vow. Ask the Lord to reveal any inner vows you have made.

How to Break Inner (Bitter Root Judgment) Vows

Sometimes the very first inner vow we make is to "Never Feel The Pain Again or to Never Go There Again." So when you begin your search go to the Lord with this statement "Lord, I break the inner vow I took to Never Feel The Pain Again.

If the thought of doing this scares you, then you probably have that vow in place. Remember to pay attention to what you _____ (Why? Feelings tell us when something is wrong.)

(Continued on next page)

Breaking Inner Vows Cont....

You must

- know what the vow is before you can break it.
- be specific not general in your statements.

Since vows made as a child are normally based on judgments which you have made against another person, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any vow you have ever spoken against anyone.

Write them down. Do not rationalize or justify any vow. If there are multiple vows go through each one. If there are multiple people you have judged each one needs to be included.

Remember – Forgiveness needs to precede this!

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I confess that my judgment of (name the person) was sin. I now repent from the judgment and from the making of this vow. I renounce this vow. In Jesus' name I break the vow of (specifically repeat the vow that was spoken). I speak to my spirit and withdraw the words spoken. I call back the assignment in the heavenlies and cancel the words. I cast the words at my feet and break their power over my spirit, my thoughts, my emotions, my decisions, and my body. Any demons assigned to carry out this vow are now reassigned to dry places. I declare that this vow has no effect upon me – body, soul or spirit.

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for breaking this vow and restoring my relationship and fellowship with You and with (name the person judged). Praise You, Lord, that as I pray right now I am free from this vow.

What about vows made after childhood?

The process is the same but the forgiveness of another may not be required.

Warning - This does not relieve you of the duty to watch your speech and refrain from making vows.

Engaging the Battle
Session V - Handout
How is the Law Incorporated in Grace

1. What did Jesus teach about the Law?

A. Matt 5:17-19

B. Matt 7: 7-12

C. Matt 23:23-24

D. Luke 16:16-17

2. Did Paul keep the Law?

Acts 21:24

3. What about Acts 15 and the Jerusalem Council – Didn't the Council just give the Gentiles 4 commands to be concerned about?

Acts 15: 5-11,19-21

4. Rom 4 – Does faith nullify the Law

Rom 3:28-31

5. Doesn't Rom 6:14 say that we are under grace and not under the law?

Rom 6:11-18

6. Doesn't Rom 10 teach that Christ is the end of the Law?

(Rom 10:3-6a)

7. Doesn't Gal 2 say that I died to the Law?

Gal 2: 15-21

8. Did Paul teach that the Law is a "curse" Gal 3:10-14

Rom 7:12 – Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just and good.

Rom 7:22 – For I delight in the law of God after the inward man

Gal 3:10-14

Other Applicable verses for this study - I John 3: 4-6; Revelation 12:17; Rev 14:12

- After anyone comes to trust in Jesus, the Law's curse and role of guardian, each _____. However, the Law's role as God's revelation of how we are to live for Him continues.

As believers, the Thou shall not's," (the negative commandments) - no longer _____ us. We now trust God for salvation and follow these commandments out of _____ for and _____ to the God we love.

Attempting to gain salvation by following the Law on your own without faith, and inevitably _____ is the "curse of the Law."

If anyone attempts to follow the Law apart from the Spirit (in faith), indeed it brings death to him (the curse of the Law). This was what many did in the wilderness (Hebrews 3:8-19) and were continuing to do in Paul's day.

Faith does not abolish any part of the Law as a whole (Matthew 5:17-21, James 2:10)

You will abide in Jesus's love, if you keep the Law (John 14:15-23) as He abided in the Father's love by keeping Law (John 15:10;)

Faith in Jesus does not cancel out what the Law says, it establishes it (Romans 3:31)

Law is itself "liberty" and the standard we are to judge ourselves by (James 1:22-25)

It is those of the flesh who are not subject to the Law (Romans 8:5-8)

If you say you know Him, and ignore His Law, you are a liar (1 John 2:3-7)

It does not matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, what matters is keeping God's Law (1 Cor. 7:19)

To demonstrate our love for God we keep his Law - which is by no means a "burden" (1 John 5:3; 2 John 1:6; Matt. 11:29,30)

Engaging the Battle - Session VI – *Handout*
Open Doors - Curses – Self-inflicted, From Others, Ancestral

Please Note: Through this study we must remember that there is no assumption that every difficult circumstance that we go through is a curse. Sometimes God leads us through circumstances to stretch our faith. This is for our own good, as it is helping us to grow stronger and identify ourselves with Him. However, He is not bringing anything upon us, but rather leading us through a circumstance so that we might experience His overcoming power. As with other things, curses are discerned through the Holy Spirit.

There are three kinds of curses

1. Self-inflicted by one's own words or actions.
2. Inflicted by the words or actions of others.
3. Generational curses.

Prov 26:2

Like a fluttering sparrow or a darting swallow, an undeserved curse does not come to rest.

Some Causes of Curses

1. Disobedience and disrespect for parents. (Eph 6:1-3)
2. Acknowledging or worshipping false gods (Ex 20: 1-3)
3. Involvement with the occult (Lev 20:6)
4. Inequity and oppression, especially aimed toward the feeble and the defenseless. (Deut. 27: 17-19)
5. All forbidden, aberrant, or unlawful sexual relationships. (Deut 27: 20-23)
6. Anti-Semitism (Gen 12:3)
7. Dependence upon human strength, wisdom, and goodness. (Jeremiah 17:5-6)
8. Stealing and Lying (Zechariah 5:3-4)
9. Withholding of tithes and offerings (Malachi 3:8-9)
10. Words spoken by those in authority (Gen 9:24-27[Noah & Ham])(Gen 31: 32; Gen 35:18-19[Jacob & Rebecca])
11. Negative idle words pronounced by anyone against themselves or those under their authority. (Matt 12:36-37)
12. Oaths or covenants taken for admission into secret societies and ungodly organizations (review the last session on vows) (Ex 23:32)

13. Carnal talk directed against others. (James 3:14-15)

14. Curses that are pronounced by witches, warlocks, witchdoctors, or other occultists.

Generational Curses

- Are related to ancestral bloodlines
- Can be defined as a "strong constant propensity within us"

You will be drawn toward the sins of your forefathers, until you act out what they practiced. It will often seem like a natural response.

Story's of Max Jukes and Jonathan Edwards and Darrel Hill and Jeffrey Landrigan

John 9:2 - the blind man and the disciples question

Example of the impact of ancestors words and actions

- Josh 9:3, 15-20: II Sam 21:1-14(Gibeonites)
- Gen 9:24-25 (Noah cursed Ham)

O.T. Statements of Curses

"The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation." (Numbers 14:18 - also - Exodus 20:5; 34:7; and 1 Samuel 2:30-33)

"Therefore I bring charges against you again, declares the Lord and I will bring charges against your children's children. (Jeremiah 2:9)

"May his blood fall upon the head of Joab and upon all his father's house! May Joab's house never be without someone who has a running sore or leprosy or who leans on a crutch or who falls by the sword or who lacks food." (2 Samuel 3:29) [Joab murdered Abner – this curse was spoken by King David]

"If you do not listen, and if you do not set your heart to honor my name, says the Lord Almighty, I will send a curse upon you and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not set your heart to honor me. Because of you I will rebuke your descendants. (Malachi 2:2-3)

Suspect an ancestral curse when you see: [Note that you are looking for trends w/in a family/bloodline]

1. Common manifestation of curses are as follows:
2. Continual financial problems.
3. Continual lack of prosperity
4. Chronic physical or mental illnesses.
5. Premature death.
6. Multiple or repetitive accidents or injuries, particularly of the same type.
7. Chronic strife or arguments or problems with interpersonal relationships.
8. Hereditary physical or emotional problems.
9. Multiple manifestations of the same kind of physical, circumstantial, or emotional problems in the family line, such as multiple cases of suicide, etc.

10. Chronic torment.
11. Poor eating or sleeping habits in infants or children.
12. Failure to thrive in young infants or sickliness
13. Repeated business failures
14. Inability to conceive children or multiple miscarriages

A curse of my own -

Breaking Curses

Breaking Self-inflicted Curses or Curses spoke by Others

"Father, I take authority over all negative words and the curse spoken by (me, or [name]). I bind Satan in the Name of Jesus.. I repent of what I said (or for the other party) and asking your forgiveness and I now bind and break that curse,. I decree the curse now broken in Christ Jesus' Name. I speak blessing upon (name of person cursed) in the Name of Christ Jesus." (The blessing spoken upon the person should be the opposite of whatever the curse was). I do this for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.
In the blessed Name of Jesus, Amen

Breaking Ancestral Curses (A good example of this operating in the O.T. is Neh 9)

Father, I confess to you the sin of my father (grandfather, etc) and my sin and acknowledge that this sin was committed against You and I repent. My father (grandfather, etc) did (name the specific sin) and so have I. I ask for and receive Your forgiveness for my sin and my participation in the iniquity of my fathers. In the Name of Jesus I now apply the power of the cross and bind and break any ancestral curse attached with or in effect because of this sin. I cancel it and proclaim it null and void. I break this curse from off of my children and my grandchildren unto the third and fourth generation. I proclaim the Lord's blessings upon me and my family as we operate in the power of the Holy Spirit and walk in the truth and the light.
In Jesus holy Name, Amen

Engaging the Battle - Session VII – Handout Fourteen Root Spirits

The kingdom of darkness works from a _____-and-_____ fruit system just as the Kingdom of Light does.

Gal 5:19-26 contrasts the fruit of the two kingdoms.

¹⁹The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. ²⁵Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

Example of root-and-fruit system in operation - fruit tree

Pick fruit – fruit _____ next season

Pick fruit and remove limbs – principle of _____ (John 15:2) – fruit _____ – more _____

(²Any branch in Me that does not bear fruit [that stops bearing] He cuts away (trims off, takes away); and He cleanses and repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, to make it bear more and richer and more excellent fruit.)

And the cycle is repeated each season

Unless the _____ are pulled down and the roots cut (foundations dug up) the _____ will continue to return.

The following root spirits are spirits listed in the scripture. Each root spirit produces its own fruit.

If you see any of these symptoms (fruit) in your life then a legitimate question to ask the Lord is, “Is this spirit operating in my life? Is this a _____ rather than a _____ issue?”

1. Spirit of Infirmary (Luke 13:11)

¹¹ And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - lingering disorder of the body | - sinus problems |
| - weakness or feebleness | - high blood pressure |
| - cancer | - attacks on femininity/masculinity |
| - female problems | - arthritis |
| - fungus | - heart disease |
| - fevers | - diabetes |
| - allergies | |

2. Spirit of Fear (2 Tim 1:7)

⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

- fright
- torment
- nightmares
- fear of death
- faithlessness
- timidity
- shyness
- inferiority
- inadequacy
- rejection
- worry
- anxiety
- critical spirit
- tensions
- stress
- fear of failure
- performance
- fear of man(what others think of you)
- migraine headaches
- schizophrenia
- paranoia
- insanity
- lack of trust
- phobias
- fear/sense of abandonment

3. Spirit of Divination (Acts 16:16-18)

¹⁶ Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." ¹⁸ And this she did for many days.

But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour.

- rebellion
- stubbornness
- mediums
- horoscopes
- Satanism
- mutterer
- diviners
- astrology
- Ouija boards
- séances
- white/black witchcraft
- channeling
- Tarot cards
- palm readers
- role playing games
- crystal balls
- mysticism
- TM
- fortune-tellers
- Freemasonry or other secret organizations
- Eastern religions

4. Spirit of Whoredoms(harlotry, prostitution) (Hosea 4:12)

¹²My people [habitually] ask counsel of their [senseless] wood [idols], and their staff [of wood] gives them oracles and instructs them. For the spirit of harlotry has led them astray and they have played the harlot, withdrawing themselves from subjection to their God.

- adultery
- molestation
- rape
- incest
- lust
- pornography
- masturbation
- harlotry
- seduction
- exhibition of the body
- peeping toms
- all sexual sins
- idolatry
- love of money
- love of the world
- love of social standing
- anything worshipped or trusted in for security
- lust for position
- placing anyone or anything before God

5. Spirit of Bondage (slavery) (Rom 8:15)

¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

- drugs
- alcohol
- cigarettes
- bulimia
- anorexia
- soul ties
- superiority(addicted to self)
- addicted to a specific sin
- addicted to another person(co-dependency)
- workaholism
- pornography
- sex
- computers
- video games
- food
- television

6. Spirit of Haughtiness (Prov 16:18-19)

18 Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall. 19 Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

- pride
- scorn
- mockery
- judgment
- rudeness
- lofty looks
- bragging
- stubbornness
- egotism
- prejudice
- self-righteousness or holier-than-thou attitude
- vanity(exalted feeling about self)
- arrogance
- dictatorial
- controlling
- overbearing
- domineering
- superiority
- gossip
- contention
- constant criticism
- independence

7. Spirit of Perverseness (Isa 19:14)

¹⁴ The LORD has mingled a perverse spirit in her midst; and they have caused Egypt to err in all her work, as a drunken man staggers in his vomit.

- homosexuality
- sadomasochism
- unreasonableness
- error (esp. in religious areas)
- abnormal crankiness
- all sexual deviations
- false teachers
- self-lovers
- twisting the Word of God to Satan's advantage
- stubbornness
- polygamy
- involvement with false doctrine and/or occult

Do not be surprised if you find _____ of these things in your life.

If there is any of this fruit in your life then the strongholds need to be pulled down and the root system (foundation) dug up. This is all about shining the light of truth into the _____ places within your spirit.

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work – I John 3:8b

Satan's desire is to keep you _____ and in _____.

_____ will bind you but the _____ will set you free.

Engaging the Battle - Session VIII – Handout
Fourteen Root Spirits Cont. - # 8 - 14

Reminder – The purpose of this study is to bring darkness to the Light so that the darkness can be dispelled, territory regained, and God's Kingdom expanded.

8. Spirit of Antichrist (1 John 4:3)

³ and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

- attempts to take the place of Christ
- opposes the Bible
- opposed Christ's deity, doctrine, victory, and humanity
- harasses the saints
- persecutes the saints
- martyrs the saints
- suppresses ministries and causes church splits
- blasphemes the gifts of the Holy Spirit, attributing them to Satan
- rationalizes the Word of God
- explains away all the power of God in the life of the saint (no miracles)
- gives up on Christianity
- atheism
- works mentality

9. Spirit of Deaf and Dumbness (Mark 9:25-27)

²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the evil^[a] spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

²⁶The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, "He's dead." ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

- convulsions
- seizures
- stupor
- grinding of the teeth
- epilepsy
- suicide attempts and tendencies
- madness
- insanity
- schizophrenia
- diseases of the eyes and ears
- accidents with water(drowning) and burning
- inappropriate excessive crying
- deafness
- autism (in certain instances)

10. Spirit of Heaviness (Isa 61:3)

³To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

- depression
- abnormal mourning
- continual sorrow
- abnormal grief
- continual sadness
- despair
- hopelessness
- loneliness
- shame
- defilement (Old French - to trample underfoot, abuse)
- discouragement
- refection
- self-pity
- whining
- gloominess
- wounded spirit
- unjustified guilt
- brokenheartedness
- humiliation

11. Spirit of Lying (2 Chron. 18:22)

²² Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these prophets of yours, and the LORD has declared disaster against you.”

- lies
- strong delusions
- deception
- flattery
- exaggeration
- excessive talking
- profanity
- hypocrisy
- emotionalism
- religious spirit (legalism)
- condemnation
- lies about God
- vain imaginations
- daydreaming
- performance
- financial problems (if you are tithing)
- poor self image
- “You are ugly, worthless, stupid!”
- “No one wants you!”
- “You’re trash!”
- “You will never change!”

12. Spirit of Jealousy (Num 5:14)

¹⁴ if the spirit of jealousy comes upon him and he becomes jealous of his wife, who has defiled herself; or if the spirit of jealousy comes upon him and he becomes jealous of his wife, although she has not defiled herself—

- jealousy
- anger, wrath, rage
- murder
- revenge
- hate
- cruelty
- suspicion
- covetousness
- unnatural competition
- division
- abortion
- self-centeredness
- insecurity
- distrustfulness
- hard-heartedness
- feeling of being less loved by God than others
- builds walls in a person’s life through hurt & anger, etc (won’t be vulnerable)
- divorce

13. Spirit of Stupor (or Slumber) (Romans 11:8)

⁸ Just as it is written:

“God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see and ears that they should not hear, to this very day.

- constant fatigue
- passivity
- “wallflower)
- procrastination
- self-pity
- blocks success
- draws back from life
- causes a person not to want to be born
- human spirit is asleep

14. Spirit of Error (1 John 4:6)

We are of God; he that knows God hears us: he that is not of God hears us not. Hereby do we know the Spirit of Truth, and the spirit of error.

- irresponsibility
- immaturity
- inappropriate thinking
- inappropriate behavior
- confusion
- bulimia
- anorexia
- continuously making wrong decisions
- doubt
- unbelief
- deception
- compromise your convictions
- anti-Semitism
- intellectualism
- cults(false doctrines)
- false teachers, prophets and preachers
- false tongues
- racism

Death

Death is not called a spirit in Scripture, but it acts like a root spirit and it can be a curse.

¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. (Heb 2:14-15)

People who have had near-fatal accidents, near-drowning experiences, or death curses placed upon them, those who have been nearly aborted, or have had repeated abortions may have a death curse.

Steps for Deliverance

1. _____ your relationship with Jesus
2. _____ yourself completely to God, and _____ totally upon Him and His power to free you. _____ that you can do nothing but _____ and appropriate what is already yours by the _____ of the Cross.
3. Take away Satan's legal ground by _____ any open doors. Refer back to the prayers in Session III & IV for related prayers.
4. Pray for a fresh _____ of the Holy Spirit. (Eph 5:18)
5. By faith, _____ yourself dead to sin. (Rom 6:11)
6. Praise God for His _____ (Ps 34 is a good scripture to use.)