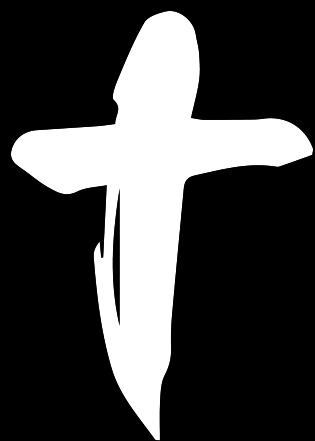


DELIVERANCE



Deliverance

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Lesson One

The deliverance ministry

The need for deliverance

The spirit world is real, in spite of the world's ideas. The Bible, which is of course our basis, teaches that there are angels and demons and that they are active in the lives of men and women.

Heb 1:14, Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation; Eph 6:10-12, Finally, be strong in the Lord and his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms; 1 Jn 5:19, We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

Did you know that? More to the point, have you been willing to recognise it? The Christian often has a credibility gap - it is one thing to know the theory of what the Word teaches about spiritual realities, and quite another to face up to the fact that our everyday lives and the lives of others we meet are so affected. We need to move out of theory into daily practice.

One of the ways the enemy will attack you as you begin to deal with the demonic, is that the thought will come to you, "It's too far-fetched". You see, the devil does not like people getting involved in this ministry. He'll do everything in his power to squeeze you out, frighten you, and cause you to doubt or fear. The more you determine to go on, the greater awareness and certainty you will have as to the spirit realm.

Our example is Jesus. He constantly moved in this ministry:

Luke 4:18-19, 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, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour; Luke 13:32, He replied, "Go tell that fox (Herod), I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal" (his calling); and Col 1:13, For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves (what salvation is).

Those who have themselves had spirits cast out will readily appreciate the need for this ministry.

The challenge for our day

We are at the end of the age of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit; at the same time there is an upsurge in demonic activity. The challenge is:

(a). To move with and into new areas of revelation. Truths are being restored. "Hear what the Spirit says to the churches." Demons have always been at work, but our

understanding has only recently increased - this is one of the many areas being restored, along with worship, faith and spiritual gifts.

(b). To meet the needs of many who are coming into the Kingdom, whose past lives have been torn apart by Satan. The breakdown of restraints and the social patterns of a Christian heritage have made the inroads of the demonic more noticeable.

Who should be involved

We are God's people for our generation; the task is given to us. It is one of the most rewarding works to be involved in. It is a part of the work of ministry;

Eph 4:11-12, It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors teachers, to prepare God's people for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Works of service are to be done by the members of the body.

This is not a specialised work for the few; ***Mark 16:17, And these signs will accompany those who believe; In my name they will drive out demons.*** Am I qualified? Are you a believer? If you are saved, you have received authority to use the name of Jesus - you are qualified. Having said that, you must also have zeal ***John 2:17, His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me"*** - presumably you have, or you wouldn't be reading this!; knowledge ***1 Cor 9:26, Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air*** - that's the purpose of this course; and wisdom ***James 1:5, If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him*** - comes from asking God and through experience.

In deliverance, what are we seeking to do?

(a) Recognise and expel demon spirits from the bodies of men, women and children. Keep this objective clearly in mind.

(b) To instruct those set free on how to keep free.

(c) To give support to those in spiritual conflict. Stay clear of arguments that say it is not possible for Christians to be demonised, and don't try to categorise - oppressed, possessed, compressed, impressed, depressed. In other words, don't waste your time. Avoid phrases that hedge and fudge.

Lesson Two

Know that Jesus is the victor

Fill your heart with what the Word says about the total victory of Jesus:

Gen 3:15, And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head and you will strike his heel; Matt 28:18, Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me"; Luke 10:18-20, He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to uncover all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you; Rom 8:37-39, No, in all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future nor any power neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord; Phil 2:9, Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.

Col 2:14-15, He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross; 1 John 4:4, You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them: because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world; and Rev 1:17-18, When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last. I am the living one: I was dead and behold I am alive for ever and ever. And I hold the keys of death and hell."

We cast out demons in the name (i.e. authority) of Jesus and that authority is exercised by faith. Spirits are aware of confidence and assurance - news travels fast on the demonic grapevine, ***Acts 19:15, The evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know and Paul I know about, but who are you?"*** The more you move in this area the more confidence you have, and the speedier the results.

Some spirits will boast that they are strong and powerful. Some may seem difficult to dislodge, and there will be various reasons for that. But Jesus is the victor - the victory has already been won, and we are simply putting that victory into effect.

Know your enemy

Never fall into the trap of feeling sorry for demons - at times they whimper and plead. ***Psalm 139:21-22, Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord and abhor those who rise up against you? I have nothing but hatred for them. I count them my enemies*** - their aim is to torment and destroy. In some ways Satan is very short on ideas, ***2 Cor 2:11, In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes*** (schemes, settled war plan). In a war a good general studies his opponents; not that we seek to obtain a Ph.D in witchcraft (you'd then need deliverance yourself), but

we need to be aware of how demons operate; how the mind is attacked, what spirits to expect to be working together, how they got in and how to recognise them.

Know your weapons

The Christian's weapons are the name of Jesus, the blood of Jesus, and the Word of God. We also need the Holy Spirit's discernment, and sometimes he even supplies the words to say. You must be clear about this that we cast out spirits by our words - we don't fight witchcraft with witchcraft! Avoid superstitious ideas for confronting demons such as 'holy water' etc;

Matt 8:16, When evening came, many who were demonised were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick; 2 Thess 2:8, And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendour of his coming; Rev 1:16, In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a double-edged sword; Rev 12:11, They overcome him by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony.

At first great difficulty may be experienced in speaking out loud to demons, especially when they do not respond - this is pressure from the enemy. It is very effective to quote scripture - Jesus did when tempted by the devil, ***Matt 4:1-11, Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting for forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread". Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God'"***.

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone:" Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test'".

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. "All this I will give you", he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only'". Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

It is also good to magnify and praise Jesus and even to sing (be open to the Holy Spirit's lead).

Tell the spirits what Jesus has done and what their end is. Quote scriptures that are against the particular activity of the spirit you are dealing with. For example, if you are up against a spirit of hatred, you might say, "This person loves Jesus, for the love of God has been shed abroad in his heart" (Rom 5:5).

We are part of a body

Work with someone else; Jesus sent his disciples out two by two. Know your weaknesses and limitations. Don't let Satan get you on the run around, and over tired. Call in help and pass on those you can't cope with, and learn from others.

Keep yourself right

Being in the deliverance ministry means that you will be a target for the enemy, but because you are involved, you will get greater protection, ***Luke 22:31, Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you.*** In addition, the more you pray for others and learn how spirits get a hold on people, the more aware you will become of his schemes and traps.

How do I start?

The Biblical principle is that disciples learn direct from a master e.g. Elisha and Elijah, Samuel and Eli and of course the disciples and the Lord. Ask the Lord for opportunities and openings to accompany someone more experienced than you.

Lesson Three

Understanding what demons are

What are demons

Demons are spirits without bodies who seek bodies to operate in and through in their desire to fight against God and those whom God loves. They are not fallen angels, who have bodies. Their origin is a matter of speculation. Possibly therefore a pre-Adamic race, or a product of the sons of God and daughters of men; ***Gen 6:1-2, When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose.*** They certainly prefer to dwell in a human body, ***Matt 12:43-45, When the evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says I will return to the house I left. When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation;*** ***Mark 5: 11-13, A large herd of pigs were feeding on the nearby hillside. The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs, allow us to go into them. He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about 2000 in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned,*** but will at times enter bodies of animals.

They have all the normal marks of personality:

Will

Matt 12:44, Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left'; Mark 5:12, The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs, allow us to go into them" (choice and preference).

Emotion

James 2:19, You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that and shudder (shudder, apprehension, fear).

Knowledge

Mark 1:23-24, Just then a man in the synagogue who had an evil spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? I know who you are - the Holy One of God"; Acts 19:15, One day the evil spirits answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?"

Self-awareness

Mark 5:9, Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion", he replied, "For we are many". (my name is Legion).

A conscience

(though too seared to respond) - *1 Tim 4:1-2, Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.*

Ability to speak

Mark 1:23-24, Just then a man in the synagogue who had an evil spirit, cried out; "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are - the Holy one of God"; Mark 5:7-12, He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!" Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion", he replied, "For we are many". And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area. A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them"; Acts 19:15, One day the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know -about, - but who are you?"

Satan's forces are like an army

Satan's forces are structured like an army with various ranks and powers, *Eph 6:12, For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.* When Satan fell he drew down with him a number of the spiritual intelligences which God had appointed to assist him in his government. Part of Satan's hierarchy consists of these fallen angels - possibly a third of the original angelic host, *Rev 12:3-4, Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth; Rev 12: 7-9, And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.*

Angels have bodies and do not seek human bodies to live in. Indeed they are of a higher order than us. In deliverance, we are dealing with demons, not angels.

Different kinds of demons

There are different kinds of demons; they are not all the same. *In Matt 12:45, Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself,* Jesus refers to spirits that are 'more evil' than others, and in *Mark 9:29, This kind can come out only by prayer and fasting,* he speaks of 'this kind', thus distinguishing the spirit he is dealing with from other kinds that may be encountered.

But whatever spirits you do come up against, be sure that they are demons, you won't encounter Satan himself! Sometimes they say "I am Satan" or "I am Lucifer" but that is

only to frighten you. In **John 13:27** it says that Satan entered into Judas, but this was probably only a manner of speaking - he entered through the agency of demons.

This is parallel to the case of a Christian; it is said that both the Father and Jesus will dwell in him (**John 14:23**), and they do so, but only in the sense that the Holy Spirit, whom they are one with, dwells in us.

Satan is the prince of the power of the air with his power base in the heavens.

Activity of demons

Outside the body - influence. In this instance, they need only to be resisted, **James 4:7, Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you;**

1 Peter 5:8-9, Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of suffering. Within the body - control. In this case they need to be expelled, driven out.

Lesson Four

What do demons seek to do?

- 1). Entice - they tempt people to sin with suggestions to the mind; "take it, no-one will know." Children are often subject to this. The Lord was tempted by suggestions, Matt 4:1-11.
- 2). Deceive - by demons, Satan deceives and blinds people to the truth.
2 Cor 4:4, The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, and even snatches the word away once it has been sown. Mark 4:15, Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.
- 3). Enslave - there is a spirit of slavery, ***Rom 8:15, For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the spirit of sonship,*** by which Satan holds people in chains, forcing men and women to do his will. Many are not aware that they are slaves until they seek to do what the Lord wants, and then they realise that they are enslaved to habits, cravings and unclean desires, or to drink and drugs, or to depression and fear.
- 4). Torment - they delight in causing anguish and pain, physical, mental and emotional - fear has torment.
- 5). Compel - Compulsion is a classic sign of demonisation, ***Luke 8:29, Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him and though he were chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and been driven by demons into solitary places.*** Perfectionism (often the case with sports enthusiasts), restlessness and suicide are manifestations of this. It takes away peace and breaks down harmony, physically, in relationships and with regard to circumstances.
- 6). Defile - They seek to debase what God intended as a temple of the Holy Spirit - demons are at the root of all perversion, ***Rom 1:21-32 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and. birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator - who is forever praised Amen. Because of this God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even the women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.***

Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind; to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, and ruthless. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

All forms of sexual immorality open doors to evil spirits, who then promote the uncleanness that let them in, 1 Cor 6:18-20, Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body. They seek to ruin men and women morally, spiritually, physically and mentally, since whatever God loves, Satan hates.

How to tell if someone needs deliverance

If you are going to minister deliverance, this is obviously an important question. There are two ways of knowing:

1) **By Revelation.** One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is the discerning of spirits, whereby the indwelling Holy Spirit discloses to you the spirit in a person. Some people see spirits, others hear them in the spirit, but more common is a word of knowledge given by the Holy Spirit.

2). **By Detection.** When someone comes with problems and difficulties, as they talk you become aware of the spirits by way of the symptoms - just as a doctor will diagnose a physical problem:

Problems that suggest the presence of a demon

a). Emotional - resentment, rejection, self-pity, hatred, anger, jealousy, depression, worry, inferiority, insecurity, fear.

b). Mental - torment, indecision, compromise, doubt, confusion, rationalization, loss of memory.

c). Speech - lying, cursing, blasphemy, criticism, mockery, railing, gossip.

d). Sexual - unclean acts and thoughts, fantasy, sex experience, masturbation, perversions, adultery, homosexuality, lust, incest, fornication, harlotry, provocativeness.

e). Addiction - nicotine, alcohol, drugs, medicines, caffeine, food.

f). Physical - allergies, migraine, skin disorders, cancers. Often prayer for healing is needed afterwards.

g). Religious error - false religions, Christian cults, occult, false doctrines.

Find out the areas they have already had deliverance in; it is good to talk and ask a few questions since demons tend to show off and give themselves away.

A good counsellor listens sympathetically, yet at the same time beware of self-pity and being emotionally pressurised.

Demons operate in groups

This is because the entrance of one spirit will open the door to others, ***Matt 12:45, Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself.*** In groups there is often a dominant or ruling spirit.

Example of a group: resentment, hatred, bitterness, anger, violence, murder. (The names of demons relate to their nature).

There is a progression of control

A good example is Saul in the Old Testament, 1 Sam chapters 18-30. From being initially depressed (music was called for to uplift him), he went steadily downhill into jealousy, anger, rage, hatred, murder, fear, paranoia, occult involvement and suicide. During all this, notice the swings in his attitude to David, 1 Sam 19:10-11, 24:16-17, 26:21.

The attitude of a person

The person who needs deliverance can hinder or help in deliverance by his attitude - his co-operation is vital, he must be willing to submit to your ministry (this will be dealt with more fully later). So far we have considered the case of someone who has come to you for deliverance, knowing that they need it; but what about the person who is unaware of his need of ministry? Do you tell them that they need it? No hard-and-fast rule can be made, since it depends on the person, your relationship with them, and the way it is done. Be open to the Holy Spirit's leading. A personal testimony as to how the Lord delivered you is a good way of introducing the subject and encouraging others.

Lesson Five

How demons enter

How demons enter

How do these evil personalities get inside? Jesus gave us the analogy of our bodies being a house; they get in if a door is opened to them, ***Matt 12:44-45, Then it says "I will return to the house I left, when it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there.*** Man was made in the image of God and so structured physically, emotionally and psychologically as to be a dwelling place for God's Spirit, ***1 Cor 3:16, Don't you know that yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you ?; 2 Cor 6:16, For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said I will live with them;*** but this means he can also be a dwelling place for evil spirits, for his "house" is difficult to keep empty.

There is a lesson for us in the Temple of Jerusalem, ***Matt 21:12-13, Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. "It is written", he said to them, "My house will be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a den of robbers";*** designed as a house for God's presence it had become a den of thieves that needed cleansing by Jesus.

Demons cannot walk in and out as they please for God made us with a natural defence. Even the unsaved have a natural resistance to demons gaining entrance. What, then, opens the door? Primarily, sin lets demons in. Contrast ***Gen 4:6-7, Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it, with Rev 3:20, Here I am, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.*** The demon will spring in through the open door - Jesus waits for an invitation. Thus we are warned in ***Prov 4:23: "Guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life".***

1). SIN - sin opens the door to demons. The story of Ananias and Sapphira (***Acts 5:1-11***) is very instructive. ***They agreed to lie and deceive; "Satan has filled your heart" (vs. 3).*** As they gave way to lying, covetousness and deceit, demons were able to control them.

In ***Galatians 5:19-21*** the acts of the sinful nature are listed; ***sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies and the like.*** There are demons who correspond to all such acts and if a person persistently yields to the sins of the flesh he opens a door for demons to come in. We are to crucify the flesh, i.e. say no to sin and refuse to gratify evil desires, and thus give no ground to the enemy.

Part of the work of ministering deliverance is to teach the need of crucifying the flesh, and through discipline to keep the door shut, **Rom 6:16-19, Don't you know that when you offer yourself to somebody to obey him as slave, you are slaves to the one you obey - whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness. But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body to slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness; Job 31:1, I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl.** We must teach people about the dangers of loving money, **1Tim 6:9-10, People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many grief's; 1 Jn 2:16, For everything in the world - the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does - comes not from the Father but from the world. Judas fell through lying and theft. If we do not guard ourselves we will be in trouble.**

2). CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIFE - adverse circumstances can reduce our natural resistance to demons by our being weakened physically, emotionally or mentally. Times of crisis can always be dangerous, but particularly so in childhood; upset in the home, anger, and violence between parents, separation, broken homes, being attacked or abused, or simply not feeling loved or accepted, can all open the door. Earlier still, the trauma of a difficult birth can have its effect. Times of physical weakness can be dangerous, too. Sickness, lack of food and sleep deprivation can all leave their mark. Women after giving birth can be in danger, perhaps not so much in allowing a spirit to enter as giving more ground to one already there. Accidents can let in the spirit of death and fear of accidents; indeed any shock or sudden fear can allow the enemy in - nightmares, films that cause fear, asthma attacks etc. (shell-shock suffered during the First World War is a good example of emotional trauma letting demons in). Children should be particularly protected from emotional trauma that would make them vulnerable - it's good to pray with a child immediately when there's been a sudden shock or fear.

3). WRONG THINKING - **In Philippians 4:8, Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things,** Paul counsels us to think on good things, precisely because the opposite, wrong thinking, can be so dangerous.

Negative thoughts, rebellion, resentment, fantasy, day-dreaming, unclean thoughts and anger **Eph 4:26, In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry.** -are all to be guarded against, and if necessary dealt with, **2 Cor 10.5, We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.** Wrong thinking will inevitably lead to wrong speaking, and such things as

hopelessness, unbelief and doubt can be detected by listening to people's words - they will say "it's no use" or "nothing can be done" or similar.

4). FALSE RELIGIONS - Idol worship is demon worship, and involvement with false religions lets demons in. Roman Catholics' worship of Mary and the saints, the burning of incense and the use of rosary beads, can open the door, too. Often the very possession of religious articles can hinder deliverance.

5). OCCULT - False religions and the occult often overlap. The basic meaning of the word 'occult' is hidden or obscured. It covers all fortune telling, magic practices, spiritism, all attempts to gain knowledge, power and abilities outside of what God has decreed permissible. There is a flood of occult practice today in Britain, Europe and the USA. God's Word makes it very clear that all occult practices are forbidden; ***Deut 18:9-14, When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. Let no-one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practises divination (fortune telling) or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord, and because of these detestable practices the Lord your God will drive out those nations before you. You must be blameless before the Lord your God. The nations you will dispossess listen to these who practise sorcery or divination. But as for you, the Lord your God has not permitted you to do so; Lev 19:26-31, Do not eat meat with blood in it. Do not practice divination or sorcery. Do not cut the hair at the sides of your head or clip off the edge of your beard. Do not cut your bodies for the dead. Do not put tattoo marks on yourselves. Do not make your daughter a prostitute. Do not turn to mediums or seek out spiritists. FOR YOU WILL BE DEFILED BY THEM; Lev 20:6, 27, I will set my face against the person who turns to mediums and spiritists to prostitute himself by following them, and I will cut him off from his people. A man or woman who is a medium or spiritist among you must be put to death. You are to stone them; Ex 22:18, Do not allow a sorceress to live; Rev 21:8, But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murder, the sexually immoral, those who practise magic arts, the idolaters and all liars - their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulphur. Often you will have to point out that it is wrong, so have these scriptures already marked in your Bible to turn to, and then you will have to be able to spell out what these practices are in today's terms.***

Occult practices often found today: ouija board, horoscope, meditation, automatic writing, water divining, ESP, telepathy, charming away illness, faith healing, yoga, hypnosis, tarot cards, acupuncture and superstition. This list is not exhaustive. There's no such thing as white and black magic - it's all black.

There is a tendency in the fallen nature of man to seek the supernatural through occult practices, which exert a real fascination for the mind. But the occult always brings depression and confusion, as well as obvious moral evil. ***Ecclesiastes 10:8, whoever digs a pit may fall into it; whoever breaks through a wall may be bitten by a snake,*** tells us that God has set the limits, with his Word as a wall or hedge which we may not break through without opening ourselves up to demonisation.

6). DRUGS AND ALCOHOL - By taking away a person's self-control, drugs and alcohol are a direct opening for demons, ***Prov 25:28, Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control.*** Even prescribed drugs can have this effect. Praying for

someone on drugs can be especially difficult as it often neutralises the person's will so that the demons have a tighter hold. Often drugs prescribed for psychiatric disorders seem to cut a person off from being aware of the manifestation of the demon and from the feeling of release as it leaves.

7). INHERITANCE - Spirits can be passed down from one generation to another, with a curse upon disobedience, *Ex 20:4-5, You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me; Deut 28:15, However, if you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come upon you and overtake you; Jer 31:29, In those days people will no longer say, 'The father have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set as edge'* Occult involvement, sickness, sexual sin, alcoholism, Freemasonry and illegitimacy are all things that are likely to hand down evil effects, in many cases with the same pattern of life being repeated: the curse gives the demon the right to enter. However, Christ has redeemed us from the curse and can break this chain of evil effects by casting the demons out, *Gal 3: 13-14, Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree". He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.*

Does it matter how they get in?

It matters inasmuch as it can help those delivered to shut the door in the future. Revelation often comes to those praying or to the person receiving deliverance, as to how and when that demon came in; the latter may remember an incident or feel certain emotions or sensations that they recognise from the past.

Lesson Six

How to expel demons

How to get demons out

There is only one way to deal with demons and that is the Bible's way - the only hope we have is the victory Jesus won for us.

1. The person needing deliverance

a). Must have confidence in the power of Jesus. Faith comes by God's Word. We're to encourage all to believe what the Lord can do - no demon is too strong for Jesus - so show them from the Bible examples of God's mighty deliverance. Don't tell people how difficult it is to be free, the demons will have already told them that; don't be like others who feel it's their task in life to persuade people that they're not saved!

b). Must have confidence in you. The demons know if you're operating in faith. If the person being ministered to won't accept your ministry, it's a waste of time to continue. Co-operation is important.

c). Must be honest. They must be honest with themselves, with God and with those ministering. Demons thrive in darkness. Pride or fear often keeps people from being open, but the Lord knows all about us. Many fear disgrace and being thought of as terrible, and also fear that their problem will become widely known. You must give assurance that their problems are by no means unique, and anyway that what they have shared will be kept in strictest confidence.

The Lord can and does indeed give revelation through a word of knowledge, but a person who says "If the Lord wants you to know, he'll tell you himself" is avoiding the issue. Why should the Lord disclose it when the person could? Very often it is sexual sins that people are fearful of sharing, but that is to fall into Satan's trap - he knows that confession is part of the answer, and he tries to deter us from it, ***Ps 32:5, Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord" - and you forgave the guilt of my sin; Ps 139:23-24, Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting; Pro v 28:13, He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.*** Sometimes a person will need encouragement to confess, and reassurance afterwards.

d). Humility. A recognition of our dependence upon the Lord and his grace is vital, James 4:6-7, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourself, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you, and this will show itself in the response of the person needing help to those who seek to minister.

e). Repentance. Since it's nearly always sin that has opened the door to demons, repentance - being determined to turn away from sin - is necessary to close it again. This is vital for certain demons - of violence, hatred, sexual sins and occult practices.

The person seeking freedom must come out of agreement with those activities and thoughts.

At times it will be necessary to show why something is wrong, and also to explain the nature of repentance, that it is an act of the will, a determination to walk God's way. You must make it clear that we are not ruled by emotions or pressures, that God have given us the ability to choose.

f). Renunciation. Renunciation is what is said and done as an evidence of repentance. To speak out and say 'I renounce' this or that activity can be a trigger in deliverance. Some have great difficulty in saying it - they have a physical struggle to do so. A person can be hesitant and even confused as to whether they really do want to stop doing a certain thing, and it is renouncing it that breaks the bondage.

Actions evidencing repentance are the destroying of books, emblems, charms or drugs, ***Matt 3:7-8, But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptising, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance; Acts 19:18-19, Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. A number who had practised sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas.***

g). Forgiveness. It is always good to emphasise the need to forgive; ask if there are any who have caused hurt and ask about the willingness to forgive, explaining that it's an act of the will, like repentance. Get them to lead the person in prayer. ***Matt 6: 14-15 For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive you yours.***

h). Prayer. Encourage the person to ask God to set them free, before you actually get down to the deliverance itself, ***Joel 2:32, And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, among the survivors whom the Lord calls; Ps 145:19. He fulfils the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.***

2). Those ministering

a). Recognise the authority we have in the name of Jesus. All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Jesus, and he ministers it through us, ***Matt 28:18, Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me; Mark 16:17, And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons.*** It's a serious' business, but don't get too intense. It's good to operate in teams or as couples. It is good for the person receiving deliverance to know what you intend to do, and also what to expect.

b). Prayer is directed towards God, warfare towards the enemy. Identify the spirits and command them to leave in the name of Jesus, speaking directly to them. Our weapons are the blood of Jesus and the word of God, ***Eph 6:17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; James 4:7, Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you; Rev 12:11, They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.***

Demons generally leave by the mouth

The Greek word 'pneuma' means spirit, breath and wind (it is translated wind in John 3:8), as does the Hebrew word 'ruach', so it is not surprising that demons should leave by the mouth. At one point the demon will be inside, and then it will leave - that's what we're aiming at, the expulsion of the spirits.

Sometimes those seeking deliverance can help in the process of expulsion, and should be encouraged to do so; on many occasions no such encouragement will be needed - the person may be gasping, choking, yawning, belching, sighing, screaming, whining, whimpering, retching or sobbing.

At times when such manifestations are not forthcoming, a positive action of expelling will help, such as breathing out or coughing. You have to balance the encouragement you give people to do this with the criticism that will come that this is just auto-suggestion. Of course we are concerned not to let the ministry of deliverance fall into disrepute by unwise actions, but whatever you do Satan will seek to ridicule and cause criticism. Since the important thing is to get the person in need free, it's sometimes necessary to risk criticism to help the afflicted.

Keep your eyes open

As you minister, watch what takes place. At times you will see the reaction of demons in the expression on the person's face, or in the movements of the body.

The person may be aware of the reaction - it may be violent - but not always. Demons will try to remain undetected, but the power and authority of the Holy Spirit will force them out into the open.

It is good to ask people if they can feel anything while being ministered to, because physical reaction becomes something tangible, showing that they are getting to grips with the enemy. So it can be an encouragement to their faith and confidence. Make the point that the reason the demon reacts is because it is having to yield.

When you first start to minister, Satan will try to put you off, frighten you, bring you into criticism or ridicule, or simply try to make nothing happen. If you pray for people while others who are sceptical are present, it may be that nothing happens. Their unbelief doesn't help, and the enemy doesn't want them enlightened. Jesus sometimes asked people to leave when he was about to minister, because he did not want to operate in an atmosphere of unbelief,

Mark 5:39-43, He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum!" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!") Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Lesson Seven

Individual techniques

As in many other ministries, people develop their own way of operating. As long as it is in line with scripture that's fine, but don't let people tell you that their way is the proper way with a whole list of rules and techniques. Some people have strange ideas about deliverance; e.g. the person must kneel, make the sign of the cross, take bread and wine before, or apply oil afterwards.

We must beware of superstitions.

Normal procedure

1. Encourage the person seeking deliverance to relax.
2. Ask about the problems or the need.
3. Say something about what deliverance is, and the victory being ours only through Jesus. Be wise and don't frighten the person.
4. Satisfy yourself that the person is saved, if not lead them in a prayer for salvation. If not sure, do it anyway.
5. Encourage the person to talk about himself/herself (demons often give themselves away by boasting), putting in a question from time-to-time if you need to (ask about trauma, childhood fears etc).
6. Write down what you will probably have to deal with.
7. Mention the requirements for getting free.
8. Explain what you are going to do in a positive fashion, making it not too lengthy or complicated.
9. Encourage the person to pray.
10. Bind demons outside if necessary (the demons in the person may be drawing strength from objects in the room).
11. Begin to speak directly to the demons, commanding them to go in the name of Jesus. Be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Laying on hands at times can help. You don't need to shout. At times there is a boldness that is more impassioned that comes from an anointing. From time-to-time give encouragement. Even if a spirit manifests strongly and begins to talk, the person generally can still hear you and co-operate with you. Since the aim is to get the demons out as quickly as possible, don't get taken up with their antics. And don't be intimidated by them, should they threaten you; "I'll get you, I know your secret" or "I'll get your family".

Do's and don't's for deliverance ministers

1. Don't use pat answers: "I know just how you feel", "Just trust in the Lord" or "Just give it all to Jesus".
2. Don't think you must have an instant answer for everything. If you don't have an answer, don't make one up. It's all right to say you don't know, but try to find out.
3. Don't feel responsible to cast out every demon you can in one session. The person can only keep out so many demons. They must battle to keep whatever ground they have gained.

4. Don't wear yourself out, or the person being ministered to. Limit personal sessions to about two hours.
5. Don't become a permanent crutch. Teach the person to stand in their own faith, practice self-deliverance and to discipline their life.
6. Don't give advice contrary to scripture.
7. Don't advise a person to presume on God e.g. to throwaway his medications. Let him proceed at the level of his own faith.
8. Don't discuss the person's case with others without their permission.
9. Don't minister alone in private with someone of the opposite sex. In every situation do your best to have another person with you. Jesus sent out his disciples two by two.
10. Do be very careful about physical contact.
11. Don't be sloppy; in the way you counsel, personal appearance, body odour, bad breath.
12. Don't minister when tired: be rested.
13. Don't think you can't fail, ***1 Cor 10:12, So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! Don't be filled up with pride, 1 Tim 3:6, He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgement as the devil.***
14. Don't interrogate demons. Develop the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially discerning of spirits and the word of knowledge.
15. Don't resort to fleshly methods.

Various manifestations

The same sorts of demons tend to manifest in the same way; but this is a guide not a rule, for they are deceivers. Often the manifestations will give you an idea of what demons you are dealing with. In the USA, Germany and Spain we have seen the same manifestations in people who know nothing of deliverance.

Some of the manifestations that are often seen affect the eyes, tongue, hands, feet and legs. The following list may prove helpful but should be taken as a guide only.

Mocking laugh - witchcraft
 Cramped hands and fingers - lust
 Pins and needles in hands - masturbation
 Sensations in upper legs - adultery
 Deathly look - death
 Buzzing in head - occult etc.

Often the expression on the person's face will remind you of something, and give a clue as to the spirit there. Generally you can take it that when the manifestation is finished, the demon is out. At times it needs perseverance. If there seems to be a blockage, take a break - talk to the person, and look for something that is stopping the person getting free.

Blocks to deliverance

Unforgiveness, involvement in the occult, involvement in cults, abortion, unconfessed adultery, various idols, non co-operation, resentment, fear, rebellion.
 Know when to stop. We give the lead, not the demons, so don't be pressurised into going on when you feel you should stop. Counsel and advise afterwards.

Lesson Eight

How to keep free

Keeping free

Having ministered deliverance, bring your time to a close. Don't be pressurised - the person ministering (while remaining sensitive to the Holy Spirit) is the one in charge.

Reassurance

The person who has received ministry may feel shocked at what has gone before, but that reaction will soon pass. Don't let them think that they are a weird or dreadful case - let them know that they are quite normal, and seek to prevent embarrassment. After ministry a time of worship and thanksgiving is good, the one delivered being encouraged to pray. If the person has not received the infilling of the Holy Spirit and is open, this is often a good time to pray for them as the demons that were a block to receiving have gone. Have a cup of coffee together if there is time.

Mopping up

As the encouragement of a chat develops, something may be said that prompts the thought that there may be more to deal with; demons are boasters and even at this stage may give themselves away with a remark such as "I don't think I can cope with this" . So deliverance may continue later.

A process

Deliverance is a process that often continues over a period of months - seek to make that clear. Point out that self-deliverance is possible, and at the same time tell them not to be afraid to ask for further help. Encourage a positive attitude.

Common questions are "I want to know they're all gone" and "Am I totally free?". The only way you can answer is "So do I", and "I don't know"; to tell someone that they are totally free is to go beyond what you know unless you have special discernment and leading.

That someone should be able to say "So-and-so told me I've got no demons in me", would only cause problems. If you asked a doctor about your health, he could only reply with honesty, "As far as I know, you have nothing wrong".

Emphasise the need to stay free

Demons will try to return, Matt 12:43-45, When the evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says I will return to the house I left. When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation. Some know this scripture and it panics them - that's the extreme reaction you need to guard against, and strike a balance between fear of demons and careless living.

Along with recognition of the reality of the demonic there needs to be knowledge of how to keep free - how to 'live above the snake line' as Frank Hammond puts it.

So new is the realisation of the demonic to some that there is a natural overreaction - the parallel with children learning about germs at school who then wash their hands dozens of times a day until they settle down with this truth.

Follow-up important

Follow-up is always important, and for some it's vital - their pattern of thinking and personal habits and life-style need to undergo a dramatic change. Give counsel, bearing in mind the demons that have been cast out. For example, if the spirits of anger and hatred have been dealt with, your counsel should be to guard against the thought-life, so as to give "no opportunity to the devil" **Eph 4:26-27, "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.** Also, encourage the person to cultivate the fruit of the Spirit that is opposite in nature, in this case love. They also need to be on guard against counter attack - things go well for a while and then a rebuff comes along, and they must be careful not to let the spirit back in again e.g. rejection, temptation with alcohol.

Follow-up of those within your own fellowship is obviously easier than those from outside. You must realise that your ministry may not always be welcomed by those in other churches - they don't like the idea that they haven't got all the answers and necessary ministry.

Some will look to deliverance as a cure-all, which it is not; its part of a Christ-centred process of healing, restoration and growth. On the other hand, some will be looking for any excuse to knock deliverance. You seek to help their most hopeless case that they've given up on, and because there is not an instant transformation, that's deliverance, proved useless as far as they are concerned. Some people will need ministry again and again, for often the same spirits get back in. Don't let frustration or impatience guide you, let the Lord show you how to persevere.

Sharing

Encourage the person who has been delivered to be open in sharing what the Lord has done, it's not a guilty secret, **Mark 5:18-20, As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.** However, this must be done with wisdom; don't cast your pearls before swine (Christians who are against deliverance, the unsaved who would mock and ridicule), and when it is right to share, be careful about disclosing what you were set free from, **Eph 5:3, 12, But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret,** if it would shock or scandalise.

Keeping free

1. Live by the Scriptures. This is done by an act of choice.
2. Learn to praise God continually, even when it's difficult - it's not hypocritical to praise when you don't feel like it, God is worthy of it always, regardless of your feelings.
3. Protect and guard your thought life, learn to change thoughts and repent quickly.
4. Cultivate right relationships.
5. Submit to discipline, both in the church and at home.

Don't be afraid to spell out what these guidelines mean - some people will need to be told of a specific application of these principles to their situation. Tell them that they should stop going here or there or seeing such-and-such a person.

Guard your own life and family

People involved in this ministry need to guard themselves, as well as those who've been ministered to. Watch for these signs: losing your joy; getting over-tired; getting too involved with a particular need; pride. Beware of thinking that you are the only one who has the necessary gift or insight to deal with a person or problem.

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