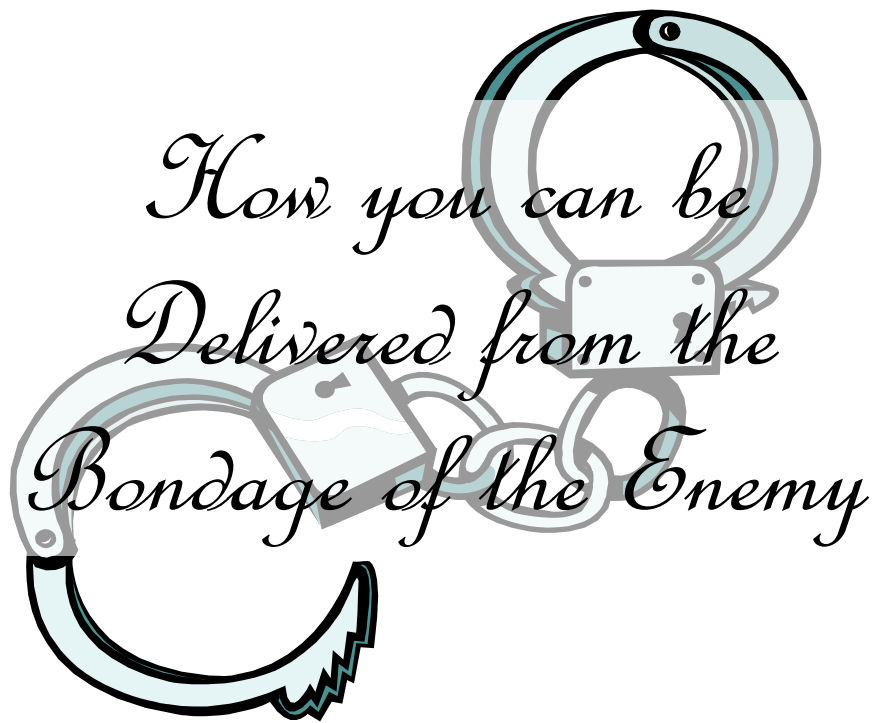


Free at Last



*How you can be
Delivered from the
Bondage of the Enemy*

By: Jon Byler

Participant's notes

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Introduction

The Bible says, “The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.” (I John 3:8). The work of Jesus Christ was sufficient to set us free from every bondage of the enemy.

Yet, many believers are still suffering unnecessarily and in many cases unaware of the bondage in which they live. The truths set forth in this booklet are designed to set you free. The power is not in my words or in the format, but in the Word of God.

These teachings were developed to be taught in deliverance seminars and I pray that you may also benefit from them. You will benefit more if you look up the scripture passages and study them for yourself. Feel free to read, study and take notes. However, please do not photocopy these notes.

I acknowledge the blessing that many people have been to my life through books and through their teaching. I wish to give credit to the following people particularly for their blessing to my life in the area of deliverance and as sources for many of the ideas presented here:

Derek Prince: *Blessing or Curse: You Can Choose.*

Neil Anderson: *The Bondage Breaker*

Thomas B White: *The Believer’s Guide to Spiritual Warfare*

Bill Gothard material (especially *How to tear down the strongholds of Bitterness – Weapons of truth series and Life Purpose Vol. 3 and 4*)

Pastor John Otaala *Polygamy and it’s Curses*

Material shared by Dr. Stephen Mathai of Nairobi

May God bless you and set you free!

Pastor Jon Byler, Second printing, 2009

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Session One: The Battle for Deliverance

TEXT: Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

INTRODUCTION

We are in a battle. A fierce battle is raging all over the world for the souls of men and women. Our enemy, the Devil is like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. He is not happy when someone enters the Kingdom of the Heavenly Father and he will continue to try his wicked tactics against a believer. We need to know about this battle, the enemy and how we can fight if we are going to have the victory that God provides.

Man was created in the image of God as a three-part being; body, soul and spirit.

The **body** is the physical part that includes the five senses. It has appetites and desires and provides **world consciousness**.

The **soul** is the place where our will, emotions and mind reside. It provides **self-consciousness**.

The **spirit** is the place of worship and includes our conscience and intuition. It provides **God-consciousness**.

God expects us to grow in our Christian walk and experience deliverance from all that would keep Him from controlling our souls and to free physical healing in our bodies. In theological terms this is what we call deliverance and sanctification. And this is why we are looking at this subject!

I. THE BATTLE IS _____

A. The battle is in the _____ (Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:2; Philippians 4:8; 1 Peter 1:13; Philippians 2:5; 1 Corinthians 2:16; 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5)

Our mind controls us and affects all that we do. Scripture teaches much about our minds and the importance of controlling it. If we are going to change our actions; our minds must also be changed.

For true change to occur our mind needs to be transformed. Our minds must be changed. This is the battleground for the Christian life and if a Christian is victorious it will be because his mind has been controlled. A defeated Christian is one who has not learned to control his mind.

B. Our minds contain _____

In our minds there are very strong places that are difficult to change. There are many strongholds in our minds; patterns of thinking that have become a part of us. A stronghold is defined in the All Nations Dictionary is, "a strongly fortified place." Specifically in scripture it is referring to a place where Satan has established a presence. Realize that our mind is powerful and it is a tough place to do battle.

C. Wrong thoughts must be _____

Demolish is a strong word meaning *to tear down, to break to pieces, smash* (Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary).

Many of the thought patterns of our minds have a pretension of being right or spiritual. Perhaps you think about yourself as not worth anything to God and your mind convinces you that you are being humble to have such a thought. Perhaps you think you will keep quiet in the church and by doing so you will not make any mistakes. These are wrong ways of thinking and need to be demolished.

D. We must take thoughts _____

We must learn how to control our thoughts. You control your mind. You can take every thought captive. Your mind should not control you; you should control your mind. This language is actually slightly deceptive since it is really not me that should control my thoughts, it is God. But it is by an act of my will that I allow him to take control.

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To take our thoughts captive means that we bring them into a new stronghold, God's! To try to demolish the old and do it on our own is not enough, our thoughts which used to be under the control of Satan must now come under the control of God. This is so important in our understanding of how we can control our mind. Essentially our mind must come under the control of God. Our thoughts should come from His fortress in our minds instead of Satan's.

E. We must _____ God to know His thoughts (Psalm 139:14)

We know God through His **Word!** We can't know the thoughts of God if we don't know the Word of God. We can't know the will of God if we don't know the Word of God. Many times our minds are not changed because we are not feeding on the Word of God.

F. We must be _____ to do battle in our minds (Romans 12:1; Ephesians 4:22-24; John 8:32; Galatians 3:13; Philippians 4:13, 19; Ephesians 2:6; Isaiah 53:5)

We don't control our minds through prayer! It is the Word of God that will take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

The Word of God is the only thing that has power to control our minds. I am convinced that many Christians are defeated because they aren't using the Word of God. You can't know the will of God if you don't know the Word of God. On this issue it doesn't help to pray. You can pray all day but God says, "I have given you instructions in My Word, why don't you use it?"

You will find victory as your mind is transformed by the Word of God. The rate of your Christian growth depends on your willingness to follow with obedience!

II. THE BATTLE IS AGAINST AN _____ ENEMY (Ephesians 6)

A. The _____ of his kingdom, the _____

Satan is a spirit being. He and his demons have a will and emotions. They possess knowledge. But there are several things that are very important that we know about him.
He is not omnipresent. (James 2:19; Revelations 12:12)
He is not omniscient

B. The _____ of his kingdom, _____

Demons are like persons but without bodies. They have a will and knowledge and are always looking for a body to occupy and carry out their evil desires. Their purpose is to serve and worship Satan and to promote the plans of his kingdom.

C. The _____ of his kingdom

The devil's kingdom is very organized. There are territorial leaders. There are also likely special agents to promote certain activities of the kingdom.

D. The _____ of his kingdom (John 8:44)

Demons are good historians. They like to remind us of our past.
They try to compel people to do bad things; drugs, sexual sins, stealing, killing, etc. They delight in causing someone to sin and then make the person feel guilty about what they have done and then lie to cover up!
His tactics are to make you feel dirty, unclean, tired, weak, defeated, discouraged, etc.
His demons produce restlessness, inner turmoil and a loss of peace. Ultimately, they try to bring death.
Demons like to operate in areas of sexual sin.
They attack in areas of emotions and produce hatred, resentment, bitterness, and depression which is a spirit of heaviness.
They promote sicknesses, many of which are unable to be diagnosed or treated.
Demons are behind false religions, cults and secret societies.

But above all the major weapon that the enemy uses against believers and unbelievers is LIES. The devil is a master liar. He has perfected the language of lying. We must learn the truth that will set us free and stop listening to the lies of the devil.

III. THE BATTLE REQUIRES _____ WEAPONS

A. The weapons are _____ (Ephesians 6:13; 2 Corinthians 10:4)

Put on the full armor of God. Don't imagine that you can win with your own intellect or your own strength.

1. The belt of _____ (John 8:32)

When Satan comes with his lies, strike back with the truth!

2. The breastplate of _____

Sin in the life of a believer leaves us open to all sorts of attacks of the enemy.

3. The shield of _____ (Romans 10:17)

We must fight the battle by faith.

4. The helmet of _____

Deliverance is a covenant right of every child of God.

5. The sword of the _____

We need the Word of God to fight against the lies of the devil. We must know it, read it, study it, memorize it and apply it to our lives.

6. Spirit-empowered _____

We are commanded to pray always. One thing demons hate is praying Christians. Prayer confuses and destroys the plans of the enemy. He doesn't know what to do. When we pray we experience the protection of God.

B. We are to use it _____ (Ephesians 6:11, 13)

Believe and know with all your heart that no matter how the devil has defeated you, how he has cursed you, how he has captured you, God has given you a weapon and he wants you to use it fully.

IV. THE BATTLE IS ALREADY _____!

JESUS HAS WON THE BATTLE! THE ENEMY IS A DEFEATED FOE. Our work is just to stand and keep the ground that he has already won.

Are you ready for the battle? Are you ready for victory? Are you ready to be a good soldier and fight for every inch that Christ has gained?! You can be set free in Christ!

Session Two: The Actions of Deliverance

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 4:26, 27; James 4:7

I. _____ DESCRIBED

A. Our _____ contain strongholds (Ephesians 4:26, 27)

“Strongholds” are “a strongly fortified place.” Specifically in scripture it is referring to a place where Satan has established a presence and built strong thoughts and ideas, wrong ways of perceiving reality, etc.

B. Strongholds come from _____

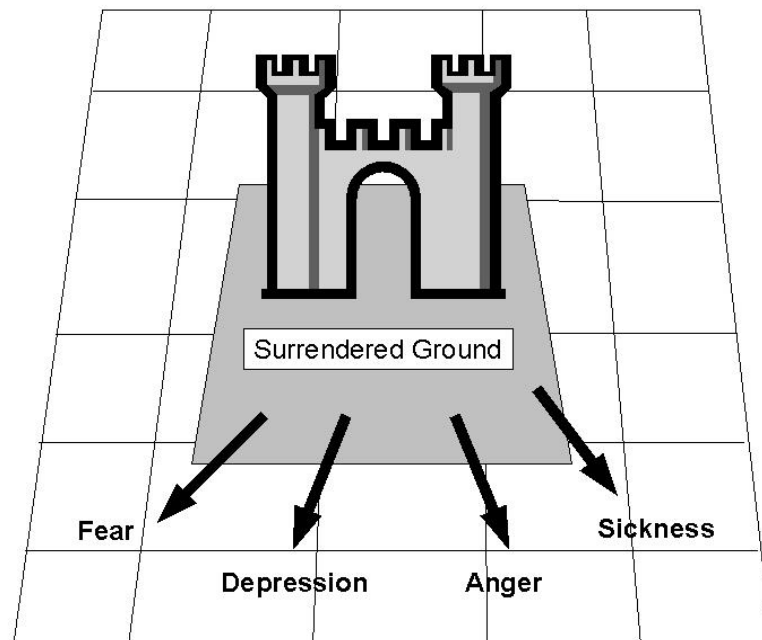
The word used in this verse is a legal term used to show jurisdiction over an area. This foothold in our lives is a place where we have allowed Satan to come and establish a presence in our souls. This passage uses a very common foothold of the devil, anger.

C. Strongholds produce _____ (Matthew 18:34)

When we allow unconfessed sin in our lives such as anger, we give the devil a foothold, we give him a legal right to establish a presence in our lives or we give him a ground from which to work. Satan can't enter our souls unless we give him a place. He is a defeated foe.

And what does he do? He sets up camp. He builds a base of operations to do his dirty work in our lives.

He builds strongholds on the ground that we have surrendered to him. He begins to tell us things that are not true. He begins to influence our will, decisions and emotions in ways that are contrary to God's Word. When we have given Satan a place and he has established a stronghold there he has the legal power over our lives to torment us. We need deliverance to remove the place that we have given to the devil.



This diagram represents our soul, divided into different areas for the purpose of illustration. In the shaded area we have surrendered ground to the enemy and there he has built his stronghold. From this position he sends out tormentors of fear, anger, depression, sickness, poverty, etc. It is useless to pray against the sickness because the devil has a place in our souls; we must remove the stronghold and then the tormentors will leave.

II. STRONGHOLDS _____

A. _____ (Ephesians 4:25, 27)

When we allow unresolved anger to be in our lives even overnight, it gives the devil ground. It gives him a place on which he sets up strongholds. We need to confess our anger and receive deliverance.

B. _____ (Hebrews 12:15; Ephesians 4:31; 2 Corinthians 2:10, 11)

Bitterness is something that starts as a root, but grows up to cause defilement. It will never remain stagnant; it will always continue growing and producing its deadly poison in our bodies.

The solution to bitterness is forgiveness. Forgiveness is one of the most important steps to be set free from the control of the enemy of our souls. Forgiveness is a *choice* that we make; it is an act of our will; not our feelings.

C. _____ (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Samuel 12:23; Numbers 16; Deuteronomy 21:18-21)

Another area in which we can give ground to Satan is rebellion. This is the root problem of many other sins; deciding to live life my own way apart from God, rebelling against His authority. We may also rebel against human authority which God has established for our good. Authority has been established by God and is for our good. It provides an “umbrella” of protection over our lives and God expects us to submit to all authority over us.

Rebellion takes us out from under the protection of God’s appointed authority in our lives and exposes us to the attacks of the devil. We surrender ground to the devil when we rebel and from that foothold he will send tormentors.

D. _____ sins (1 Corinthians 6:18)

Sexual sins are another area in which many of us have given room for Satan to work in our lives. It may be through immorality or through events even from our childhood, but if allowed to remain it will give Satan a foothold.

Demons are able to enter our lives through sexual sins. Even cases of incest and rape can provide entrances for demons and need to be cleansed. If you have been involved in fornication, adultery, homosexuality or any other sexual perversion you have given ground to the devil in your life. Specific and thorough repentance is needed for each case of sexual sin.

E. Involvement in the _____

Often times our lives are oppressed because of some involvement in the occult world. Involvement in the occult world is a direct doorway for the devil to take control of our lives. The word *occult* actually means, “hidden” or “covered over.”

There are three branches in the occult:

1. _____

Witchcraft deals with power, desire to control people and circumstances, to intimidate, manipulate and dominate. Martial arts, acupuncture, etc. fall under this category. They have a power but it is not of God.

2. _____

Divination deals with knowledge and a desire to know the future. Fortune-telling is one example of this; palm reading, ESP, horoscopes, also false religions or cults that claim special revelation that doesn’t come from the Bible.

3. _____ (Leviticus 19:26)

This branch deals with physical objects: charms, beads Ouija boards, books. It impacts the senses with things such as rock music and drugs. Things which are the expression of superstition like figures of saints or lucky coins are included here. Many people have objects in their homes that are connected to the occult world and have power to influence even the atmosphere in your home. They need to be destroyed.

Any occultic involvement is actually idolatry, a violation of the first commandment. Idolatry is acknowledging any other God; seeking any other source of revelation than from the Almighty God.

F. _____ sins, sins of our forefathers (Deuteronomy 5:9; Exodus 20:5; 34:6, 7; Numbers 14:18; Nehemiah 1:6)

There is a direct connection between many of the sins we struggle with and the sins of our forefathers. We receive or inherit from our parents both good and bad things, blessings and curses. The sin of your parents can provide a place in your own life for the devil to afflict you.

Abraham's half-truths led to outright lies in his children. (Genesis 20:2; 26:7; 27:32; 37:32) Jacob was favored by his mother and when he had children he favored Joseph. Jacob was a schemer and deceiver; his sons did likewise and even deceived him about Joseph's death. The different tribes took on the characteristics of their originators and were either blessed or cursed because of their forefathers (see Genesis 49).

We need to confess our sin (for we have allowed the devil to continue working in our lives) and also to confess that our parents were involved in the sin. We should ask God to break the connection between our family sins and the sins of our own lives.

G. _____ sins (Daniel 10:20)

We are told in scripture that different nations have different "princes" over them in the spiritual world.

H. _____

Blessings are powerful and curses are likewise powerful.

1. _____ of a curse

I will only list these 7 indications of a curse. This does not mean that in every case presented here a curse is involved. But it should serve as a warning sign to us when we see these things. (Read Derek Prince's excellent book, *Blessing or Curse: You Can Choose*, for more information.)

- a. Mental/emotional breakdowns**
- b. Repeated/chronic sickness**
- c. Barrenness/miscarriages/related female problems**
- d. Marriage breakdown/family alienation**
- e. Continual financial problems**
- f. Being "accident prone"**
- g. History of suicides/unnatural or untimely deaths**

2. _____ of curses (Proverbs 26:2; Deuteronomy 27:15-26)

Every curse must have a cause. If we are to be released from the curse we should identify the cause and repent of it. Now look at 13 sources of curses.

- a. Involvement in idolatry**
- b. Disrespect for parents (Ephesians 6:1-3)**
- c. Oppression and injustice against the poor and the weak**
- d. Abuse or perversion of the sexual relationship (Leviticus 18:22; Malachi 2:16)**
- e. Anti-Semitism (Genesis 12:3)**
- f. Trusting in self, man, and departing from the Lord (Jeremiah 17:5; Galatians 3:10)**
- g. Robbing God (Malachi 3:8, 9)**
- h. Rebellion against authority (Romans 13)**
- i. Self-imposed curses**
- j. Curses from servants of Satan**
- k. Soulless (fleshly) talk (James 3:10; Proverbs 18:21; Titus 3:2; James 4:11, 12; Matthew 12:36; Proverbs 13:3)**

l. Soulful (fleshly) prayers (Proverbs 28:9)
m. Unfruitfulness in our Christian life (Hebrews 6:8)

III. STRONGHOLDS _____

Strongholds can be destroyed. Hallelujah! Our text in 2 Corinthians says that we have weapons that are able to *demolish strongholds*. No matter in what areas you have given the devil a foothold, you can be delivered! You can be set free in Jesus Christ!

Steps to overcome strongholds and regain the ground you have given to the devil.

A. _____ (1 John 1:9; Revelation 12:11)

Confession is simply to agree with. It is to acknowledge that what God says about us is wrong. That His Word is true. That rebellion is as witchcraft, that sexual immorality is a sin against our body which is a temple of the Holy Spirit, etc...

There is power in our words as we confess our sin. It is the beginning of victory.

B. _____ God to take back the ground

When we have allowed the devil to gain ground in our lives we need to ask God to restore or take back that ground. We are told to tear down the strongholds but God is the One that sends Satan fleeing.

C. Destroy strongholds with _____ (John 8:32; John 17:17)

When God had taken back the ground that we have given to the devil it is our role to destroy the stronghold which he has established there.

The most powerful weapon which we have against all the wicked lies of Satan is the *truth*. We need to learn how to fight lies with truth. In the first session we used the illustration of how we think about ourselves and beginning to speak the truth of God that we are wonderful creations of God instead of allowing Satan to tell us otherwise. By reading, memorizing, meditating on and confessing the Word of God we begin to build strongholds of truth in our lives. This is the part of taking thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ. We build a new stronghold, a stronghold of truth in which every thought is in conformity to the Word of God. This is when we begin to really have victory over many areas of our lives.

Session Three: Practicals in Deliverance

(Prayers taken from *The Bondage Breaker*, by Neil Anderson pages 187-203.)

We will now go through prayers of deliverance, asking you to repeat everything that we are saying. Remember that confession with our mouths is very important. Be as specific as you can when you are given opportunity to insert your own words. At the end of each prayer we will take a moment to allow God to minister to us concerning that specific area. After we have finished all the prayers we will pray for release from the powers of darkness.

Step One: Counterfeit versus Real

“Dear Heavenly Father, I ask You to reveal to me all the occultic practices, false religions and false teachers with which I have knowingly or unknowingly been involved.

“Lord, I confess that I have participated in _____. I ask Your forgiveness, and I renounce _____ as counterfeit to true Christianity.”

Step Two: Deception versus Truth

“Dear Heavenly Father, I know that You desire truth in the inner self and that facing this truth is the way of liberation (**John 8:32**). I acknowledge that I have been deceived by the father of lies (**John 8:44**) and that I have deceived myself (**1 John 1:8**). I pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ that You, heavenly Father, will rebuke all deceiving spirits by virtue of the shed blood and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. And since by faith I have received you into my life and am now seated with Christ in the heavenlies (**Ephesians 2:6**), I command all deceiving spirits to depart from me. I now ask the Holy Spirit to guide me into all truth (**John 16:13**). I ask you to “**search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts, and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way**” (**Psalms 139:23, 24**). In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.”

Doctrinal Affirmation

“I recognize that there is only one true and living God (**Exodus 20:2, 3**), who exists as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that He is worthy of all honor, praise and worship as the Creator, Sustainer and Beginning and End of all things (**Revelation 4:11; 5:9; Isaiah 43:1, 7, 21**).

“I recognize Jesus Christ as the Messiah, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us (**John 1:1, 41**). I believe that He came to destroy the work of Satan (**1 John 3:8**), that He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public display of them, having triumphed over them on the cross (**Colossians 2:15**).

“I believe that God has proven His love for me, because when I was still a sinner Christ died for me (**Romans 5:8**). I believe that He delivered me from the domain of darkness and transferred me to His kingdom, and in Him I have redemption, the forgiveness of sins (**Colossians 1:13, 14**).

“I believe that I am now a child of God (**1 John 3:1-3**), and that I am seated with Christ in the heavenlies (**Ephesians 2:6**). I believe that I was saved by the grace of God through faith, that it was a gift and not the result of any works on my part (**Ephesians 2:8**).

“I choose to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might (**Ephesians 6:10**). I put no confidence in the flesh (**Philippians 3:3**), for the weapons of my warfare are not of the flesh (**2 Corinthians 10:4**). I put on the whole armor of God (**Ephesians 6:10-17**), and I resolve to stand firm in my faith and resist the evil one.

“I believe that Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth (**Matthew 28:18**), and that He is the head over all rule and authority (**Colossians 2:10**). I believe that Satan and his demons are subject to me in Christ because I am a member of Christ’s body (**Ephesians 1:19-23**). I therefore obey the command to resist the devil (**James 4:7**), and I command him in the name of Christ to leave my presence.

“I believe that apart from Christ I can do nothing (**John 15:5**), so I declare my dependence on Him. I choose to abide in Christ in order to bear much fruit and glorify the Lord (**John**

15:8). I announce to Satan that Jesus is my Lord (**1 Corinthians 12:3**), and I reject any counterfeit gifts or works of Satan in my life.

“I believe that the truth will set me free (**John 8:32**), and that walking in the light is the only path of fellowship (**1 John 1:7**). Therefore, I stand against Satan’s deception by taking every thought captive in obedience to Christ (**2 Corinthians 10:5**). I declare that the Bible is the only authoritative standard (**2 Timothy 3:15-17**). I choose to speak the truth in love (**Ephesians 4:15**).

“I choose to present my body as an instrument of righteousness, a living and holy sacrifice, and I renew my mind by the Living Word of God in order that I may prove that the will of God is good, acceptable and perfect (**Romans 6:13; 12:1,2**).

“I ask my heavenly Father to fill me with His Holy Spirit (**Ephesians 5:18**), to lead me into all truth (**John 16:13**) and to empower my life so that I may live above sin and not carry out the desires of the flesh (**Galatians 5:16**). I crucify the flesh (**Galatians 5:24**) and choose to obey the greatest commandment to love the Lord my God with all my heart, soul and mind, and to love my neighbor as myself (**Matthew 22:37-39**).”

Step Three: Bitterness versus Forgiveness

“Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You for the riches of Your kindness, forbearance and patience, knowing that Your kindness has led me to repentance (**Romans 2:4**). I confess that I have not extended that same patience and kindness toward others who have offended me, but instead I have harbored bitterness and resentment. I pray that during this time of self-examination You would bring to mind only those people that I have not forgiven in order that I may do so (**Matthew 18:35**). I also pray that if I have offended others You would bring to mind only those people from whom I need to seek forgiveness and the extent to which I need to seek it (**Matthew 5:23, 24**). I ask this in the precious name of Jesus. Amen.”

(Allow the Lord to remind you of those you need to forgive.)

“Lord, I forgive _____ for (offenses – be specific).

“Lord, I release all these people to You and my right to seek revenge. I choose not to hold on to my bitterness and anger, and I ask You to heal my damaged emotions. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.”

Step Four: Rebellion versus Submission

“Dear Heavenly Father, You have said that rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry (**2 Samuel 15:23**). I know that in action and attitude I have sinned against You with a rebellious heart. I ask Your forgiveness for my rebellion and pray that by the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ all ground gained by evil spirits because of rebelliousness would be canceled. I pray that You will shed light on all my ways that I may know the full extent of my rebelliousness and choose to adopt a submissive spirit and a servant’s heart. In the name of Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen”

(Allow the Lord a moment to reveal any area in which you have not been submissive.)

“Lord, I agree I have been rebellious toward _____. I choose to be submissive and obedient to Your Word. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Step Five: Pride versus Humility

“Dear Heavenly Father, You have said that pride goes before destruction and an arrogant spirit before stumbling (**Proverb 16:18**). I confess that I have not denied myself, picked up my cross daily and followed You (**Mathew 16:24**). In so doing I have given ground to the enemy in my life. I have believed that I could be successful and live victoriously by my own strength and resources. I now confess that I have sinned against You by placing my will before Yours and by centering my life around self instead of You. I now renounce the self life and by so doing cancel all the ground that has been gained in my members by the enemies of the Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that You will guide me so that I will do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but that with humility of mind I will regard others as more important than myself

(**Philippians 2:3**). Enable me through love to serve others and in honor prefer others (**Romans 12:10**). I ask this in the name of Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.”

(Allow the Lord a moment to reveal any area in which you have been proud.)

“Lord, I agree I have been prideful by _____. I choose to humble myself and place all my confidence in You. Amen.”

Step Six: Bondage versus Freedom (Habitual sin)

“Dear Heavenly Father, You have told us to put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts (**Romans 13:14**). I acknowledge that I have given in to fleshly lusts which wage war against my soul (**1 Peter 2:11**). I thank You that in Christ my sins are forgiven, but I have transgressed Your holy law and given the enemy an opportunity to wage war in my members (**Ephesians 4:27; James 4:1; 1 Peter 5:8**).

“I come before Your presence to acknowledge these sins and to seek Your cleansing (**1 John 1:9**) that I may be freed from the bondage of sin (**Galatians 5:1**). I now ask You to reveal to my mind the ways that I have transgressed Your moral law and grieved the Holy Spirit. I ask You to reveal to my mind every sexual use of my body as an instrument of unrighteousness. In Jesus’ precious name I pray, Amen.”

“I now confess these sins to You and claim through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ my forgiveness and cleansing. I cancel all ground that evil spirits have gained through my willful involvement in sin. I ask this in the wonderful name of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.”

Step Seven: Acquiescence versus Renunciation (Sins of ancestors/curses)

“Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You that I am a new creation in Christ. I desire to obey Your command to honor my mother and my father, but I also acknowledge that my heritage has not been perfect. I ask you to reveal to my mind the sins and iniquities of my ancestors in order to confess, renounce and forsake them. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.”

“Dear Heavenly Father, I come to You as Your child, purchased by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. I here and now reject and disown all the sins of my ancestors. As one who has been delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God’s dear Son, I cancel out all demonic working that has been passed on to me from my ancestors. As one who has been crucified and raised with Christ and who sits with Him in heavenly places, I reject any and every way in which Satan may claim ownership of me. I declare myself to be eternally and completely signed over and committed to the Lord Jesus Christ. I now command every familiar spirit and every enemy of the Lord Jesus Christ that is in or around me to flee my presence and never to return. I now ask You, heavenly Father, to fill me with Your Holy Spirit. I submit my body as an instrument of righteousness, a living sacrifice, that I may glorify You in my body. All this I do in the name and authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.”

End of Prayers

Now that we have prayed, we will ask the Holy Spirit to take control and to expel from this place any and every evil spirit that has kept us in bondage. Take time to worship the Lord and allow His cleansing in your life. You may experience different sensations in your body as you are cleansed. You should release any demons inside of you by opening your mouth and breathing out. We will be moving around to lay hands on you and pray during this time.

“Holy Spirit, we invite you to come and take complete control. We have confessed our sins before Your holy presence and now invited Your cleansing to come. Remove any unclean spirit from our bodies. Heal any sicknesses caused by sin and fill us anew at this moment completely and totally with Your spirit. Amen.”

Session Four: Walking in Deliverance

TEXT: Hebrews 5:11-6:12

I. RECOGNIZE DELIVERANCE AS _____ (5:11-6:3)

When we have experienced deliverance in our lives we feel good. It seems like we have reached a high level of maturity. But scripture teaches otherwise.

A. Deliverance is a _____ doctrine (6:1, 2)

B. Deliverance must be _____

If you have been delivered from any bondage in your life let me tell you that the devil is not happy. He will be back! He will try to come again in that area of your life. You are responsible to keep him out! You need to stand and maintain the deliverance that Christ has provided for you. We will look at several things that you can do from this passage. I also would encourage you to do several things:

- 1. Continue asking God to search your life**
- 2. You may need to share with your pastor or a spiritual leader to gain victory in certain areas**
- 3. Work actively at building God's strongholds in your life**

II. RECOGNIZE GOD'S PLAN FOR _____

A. We need to grow to be _____

Needing to be taught is a sign of infancy. This does not mean that we ever reach a level of not needing teaching, but we should learn what we are taught and then be able to teach it to others. If you are really going to grasp the things of God it will happen when you begin to nurture another believer. When you start to share what you have learned you learn it even better. You have been delivered so that you can grow up and teach others.

B. Continual feeding on milk produces _____ (verse 13)

C. The goal of growth is _____ (verse 14)

We do not want to remain infants in the Christian life. We want to grow on to maturity. The scripture says that "*solid food is for the mature.*" The word *mature* implies growth, stability and wisdom. It is also translated "*perfect*" in some versions. This is not sinless perfection but it means that the person has grown up. He is an adult spiritually. This is someone who can be trusted; someone who will not drift from day to day, someone who has learned to control his thoughts and his speech, who is consistent in his study of the Word and is passing on his wisdom to others.

D. Three _____ of maturity (verse 14)

1. Constant use of the _____

- a. Read it**
- b. Memorize it**
- c. Meditate on it**
- d. Confess it (Revelation 12:11; John 8:32; Galatians 3:13; Philippians 4:13, 19; Ephesians 2:6; Isaiah 53:5; Psalm 139:14; 1 Corinthians 12:22)**

2. Self _____

If you are going to grow and become mature you need to train yourself to be godly. The rate of your Christian growth depends on your willingness to follow hard after God!

3. _____

Discernment is to show insight and understanding. It is to be able to know right from wrong in a given situation. Many of the issues that we face in life are not clearly written in the scripture. An infant in Christ doesn't know what to do, but a mature person has trained themselves to "**distinguish good from evil.**"

With constant use of the Word, we can learn to know right from wrong.

III. RECOGNIZE THE _____ OF GOING BACK (6:4-12)

A. Danger of no more _____ (verse 6)

There are many dangers of not maintaining our deliverance. One is that there can come a time that there is no repentance available for you. It says in our text that it is impossible for a person who has fully tasted of God and who falls away to be brought back to repentance.

Any time that we joke with God we are playing a dangerous game. We don't know how far His grace and mercy will reach. When we walk in disobedience we risk losing everything.

B. Danger of a _____ (verse 7, 8)

There is a curse mentioned here and it is for those who continually drink in without producing any fruit! It is not a small issue to be a Christian who takes in without producing fruit, it results in the curse of God. We want to be set free from curses! Don't just be a drinking Christian, produce fruit in your life. Be productive for Jesus. Use the gift that He has given you in the church. Become involved. Start discipling a new believer.

C. Danger of losing _____ (verse 9-12)

We must be diligent to the end. We cannot rest in our Christian lives. We are either growing or regressing. The only way that our hope can be "sure" is to continue showing diligence in our walk with God. Then we will receive our inheritance, the crown of life.

These dangers should make us serious in our walk with Christ. You have learned much and you are now responsible for much.

Conclusion

Will you walk in deliverance, or slide back into the old way of life? The choice is yours. God will help you grow to maturity but you will have to make the effort required. You will have to take the steps required for growth. This is a somber message, more of a warning to you. But it is a challenge given because of love. I believe that God will do good things in your life and that you will follow hard after him. I leave you with the words from our text, *Hebrews 6:9*, "*Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are confident of better things in your case – things that accompany salvation.*"

May God bless you as you keep growing in Him.

Further Steps

If you are reading this material and want to make it more effective in your life here are some suggestions:

1. Read carefully through the material asking God to reveal to you any area of bondage.
2. Look up the scriptures mentioned in the notes.
3. After each area is discussed, take time to think and pray about that particular area. In some areas God may need to deal with you more than others. Be as specific and thorough as possible with your life. The more time you spend with each area the more God can give you insight into your own life.
4. You may want to take a day of fasting and prayer for each area covered, asking God to deal thoroughly with that area.
5. If you feel you need more counsel in an area, go to your pastor for advice and prayer.
6. Take seriously the steps for Christian growth outlined in the final section. God wants you to grow.
7. Share what God has done in your life with others. Ask your pastor for a time that you can share how God has set you free. He will be encouraged by your testimony and can also give you more advice.
8. Learn to resist the devil. He will try to come back but you have the victory and authority over him. Command him to keep out in Jesus' name.