

WELCOME TO WORD OF FAITH LIFE GROUPS **WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER**

LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

Is The Deliverance Ministry Scriptural, Part 2

Thursday, August 4, 2022 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching

OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)

If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)

FACILITATION OF LESSON

Sermon Title: “Is The Deliverance Ministry Scriptural,” Part 1(a)

POINT 1

This week we are continuing our study of the topic, “*Is the Deliverance Ministry Scriptural?*” To begin our study tonight let’s reiterate a point we covered last week. True deliverance isn’t just a matter of saying that a particular problem or illness, either mental or physical, is always caused by a demon.

Be careful of trying to label certain patterns of behavior as demons, such as demons of jealousy, gluttony, greed, and so forth, when it may just be works of the flesh. It’s true that if people indulge in the works of the flesh, they can open the door to the enemy, but the bible doesn’t mention demons by those particular names. However, it does teach that those characteristics are works or evil tendencies of the flesh. In the **Book of Galatians 5:19-21** it says, “*Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*”

Notice it says **the works of the flesh** not **the works of the Devil**. It’s too easy to blame problems of the flesh on a Devil and remove the responsibility from ourselves to do something about our fleshly tendencies.

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Even when an evil spirit is involved, the kind of evil spirit influencing or affecting a person must be discerned or revealed by the Holy Spirit. Apart from the Holy Spirit, we wouldn't know what kind of evil spirit is involved.

QUESTIONS

1. Have you seen any of these characteristics in a person, and you thought it was a demon? Explain!
2. Why is it easy to blame everything on the Devil? Explain

Another excess in the so-called deliverance ministry is the idea that believers need to undergo repeated deliverances in order to be set free. Once again there is no example in the New Testament where Jesus or the early church ever ministered repeatedly to a person with a Devil. But to hear some people talk who are in the so-called deliverance ministry today, they are continually needing to minister deliverance to the same people over and over again. They also seek deliverance for themselves time and time again. If that's the case, something is wrong! That's not scriptural.

Let's look at **Matthew 8:16** to discuss this further. **Matthew 8:16** says, "*When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with Devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick.*" Jesus just cast them out one time. Because it was by the Holy Ghost.

QUESTION

1. Why is it unscriptural for someone to need repeated deliverance?

POINT 2

Let's examine Matthew 8:30, in this passage Jesus casts the demons into a herd of swine. **Matthew 8:30-32** says, "*And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. 31 So the Devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. 32 And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.*" It didn't take hours, days, or weeks trying to get the Devil to come out of a person. When Jesus or one of the apostles dealt with a person who had demons, they spoke to the evil spirit and it left.

When people spend hours upon hours trying to get rid of a demon in someone, it means they are trying to minister deliverance in the flesh. If deliverance is ministered by the Holy Spirit, under His power, His unction, and His direction, you will see results and the person doesn't need to have repeated deliverances. Think about this as we continue, "If all of today's so-called deliverance is right and of God, why doesn't it work? Why do the same people keep having the same problems over and over again and need repeated deliverance?"

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One reason most deliverances are not working is that people are trying to deal with demons when the problem isn't a demon problem at all. It is a flesh problem or a soulish problem, and those kinds of problems can't be cast out. How convenient if those problems could just be cast out. That would provide a trouble-free solution for all of us. The very reason deliverance has become so popular is that it is an easy way out. Everyone wants an easy way out. Everybody wants an easy way out and instant cure and an instant answer. Crucifying the flesh may take a little longer and be more difficult to do, but most often that's the real answer not casting out demons.

QUESTIONS

1. When it takes hours to get someone delivered; what's the problem? What's the solution?
2. Why isn't deliverance working when people are dealing with demons and evils spirits?
3. Why do people want the easy way out?

POINT 3

The flesh must be presented to God as a "living sacrifice." **Romans 12:1 states, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."** If you keep doing the same thing over and over again that means you have not presented your body as a living sacrifice. A living sacrifice no longer does what it wants to do. A living sacrifice denies and crucifies self and the flesh in order to be able to do the Will of God. **Learning to control the flesh will never be accomplished through deliverance.** That is an ongoing process of sanctification, and it is the Christian's responsibility for the rest of his or her life on this earth.

Most people's problem stems, not from demons, but from having unrenewed minds. That's why verse 2 says, "2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye **transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Many Christians do not renew their minds to think in line with God's Word.

They believe, think, and say the wrong things, and, therefore, they have emotional problems, mental problems, and bondages and are constantly inviting the attacks of the enemy because they have left the door wide open to him. When you can get across to people the importance of filling themselves with the Word of God, and when they have done just that, those same people have seen problems they've struggled to conquer for years just begin to fall away.

People with traumatic past have begun to see themselves as God sees them, and they've learned how to live in the God-kind of life, which includes victory over the Devil.

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QUESTIONS

1. How do we deal with the flesh?
2. What happens when you have an unrenewed mind? What's the solution to an unrenewed mind?

God's Word is powerful! **Romans 1:16**, says, *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."*

The word "salvation" in the Greek includes, *healing, deliverance, protection, preservation, and wholeness or soundness*. All that power is in God and in his Word, if the Christians will only believe it, appropriate or receive it by faith, and act upon it.

Very few Christians need deliverance in the sense of needing demons cast out of their bodies or souls. On the other hand, **every Christian needs to accept the responsibility of renewing his or her own mind and presenting their body to God as a living sacrifice** so we can stand strong against the enemy.

QUESTION:

1. What kind of power is in God's word?
2. What do Christians need to do with the Word of God? What else do they need to do?

POINT 4

Another major problem with the so-called deliverance ministry is that the people involved in it become so wrapped up in delivering one another and holding deliverance meetings that they lose sight of Jesus primary command to evangelize the nations.

What was Jesus primary command? Let's read, **Matthew 28:19** which states, *"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teach all nations the Word of God."*

And He commanded us in **Mark 16:15**, *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."*

He commanded us to teach and preach the gospel. In our day, you can see entire churches and ministries taken up with so-called deliverance. The result is that those churches and ministries haven't won souls as they used to since they began delivering into the deliverance ministry. That's proof that they are off track. What fruit do they produce to the Glory of God?

Where is the fruit Jesus talked about in: **John 15:8** where he says, *"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."* Also, much of the so-called deliverance of today gets people focusing more on the Devil and what he is doing. By this teaching, Christians see themselves as

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victims of any and every Devil that desires to jump on them instead of appropriating the all-powerful Blood of Jesus Christ, Jesus finished work on the cross, and the power of the Word of God to keep them from the evil one.

QUESTIONS

1. Why do some deliverance ministries stop winning souls like they used to?
2. What is the Great commission and what should come out of it?

If the Devil can jump on Christians at any time so that we all continually need deliverance, then the Blood of Jesus is powerless and our redemption is not complete. That's not to say that Christians can't open the door to the Devil themselves, of course, they can. But Christians who are walking in the light of God's Word don't need to fear that evil spirits are going to jump on them all the time.

If Christians are walking in the light and Satan does try to attack them, they have the authority to successfully withstand him. The majority of Christians just need to spend quality time studying and feeding on God's word in order to get their thoughts and flesh lined up with God's Word. The Word of God is anointed, and it can meet any need in their life. They need to stop trying to get quick fixes through so-called deliverance sessions.

QUESTION

1. What prevents us from walking in fear that evil spirits are going to jump on us? What would be the remedy?

Once a believer really sees who he is in Christ and the power that Christ has made available to those who are in him. It won't be possible for any Devil to get ahold of him, as long as he's obedient to the Word. It is not God's plan that good Christian people get bogged down in practices that drain them of their spiritual effectiveness.

They could be out getting people saved and healed, but instead they are constantly looking for Devils that aren't there; in themselves and in everyone else.

QUESTION

1. What happens when a believer sees who he is in Christ?

Listen, current deliverance teaching is not a new doctrine or a special revelation for the last days, as some of these deliverance teachers would have you believe. So-called deliverance ministries have come and go

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even way back in the 1930's and 1940's. They seem to rise up about every fifteen to twenty years and it draws a certain segment of Christians into it.

When some Christians are sufficiently off track and caught up in excess, others begin to see the error in doctrine, and it begins to wane. Then the Devil causes some other wind of doctrine to surface and draws others off into excess in another area.

The bible tells us in **2 Corinthians 2:11**, "*Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*" And **Ephesians 6:11**, "*Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil,*" or his methods to deceive.

QUESTION

1. What does the bible tell us not to be ignorant of? Why?

CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)

PRAISE REPORTS - *2-MINUTES PER PERSON

PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)

Prayer focus:

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members
- 3) Word of Faith Leadership:
 - a. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian and the ministerial staff.
 - b. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

Have you reached out to your circle today?

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. Generation 6:20 Youth Service – **Friday, August 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** The cost for Friday Night Live is \$1.00. For more information See Minister Francis.

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2. Would you like to become a Word of Faith member? Join us for membership class. **The date has been changed to Saturday, August 6, 2022, 9:00 am until 1:00 p.m.** To register contact the church office at (340) 774-8617 or email wordoffaithvi@gmail.com
3. Join us for **Holy Communion, Sunday, August 7, 2022 at 10:00am.** If you are joining us online prepare your communion elements in advance so that we can partake together.
4. Single with Purpose is having a “*Mini Retreat*” at “*The View*” Single Ladies and Single Men! You are invited to come out, **Friday, August 12, 2022 at 7:00 pm** for an extraordinary evening of Conversation, Games, Food etc. There will be a \$20.00 charge (in advance) per person. For more information, see Minister Bachelor in person or email her at singlewithpurpose2019@gmail.com. Sign up in the back. See you then!
5. Join the SWAT Team, **Saturday, August 13 and August 27, 2022.** Join them at 11:00 am for prayer. For more information contact Minister Julie Francis
6. Baby Dedication Service, **Sunday, August 14, 2022 at 10:00 am.** To register call the church office at (340) 774-8617 or email wordoffaithvi@gmail.com
7. Join us for *Water Baptism at Brewer’s Beach*, **Sunday, August 14, 2022**, immediately following service. To receive an information packet contact Minister Abbott.
8. Join Covenant Partners for a Barbecue and Game Night, **Friday, August 26, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.** For more information contact Minister Oysterman by email at wofcovenantpartners@gmail.com.

OFFERING

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CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL
