



REVIVAL BOOTCAMP – WEEK 4

Freedom

Scripture

Exodus 20:2: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Isaiah 58:6: Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?

John 8:32-36: Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”³³ They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”³⁴ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.”³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

1 Corinthians 7:22: For the one who was a slave when called to faith in the Lord is the Lord’s freed person; similarly, the one who was free when called is Christ’s slave.

2 Corinthians 3:17: Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Galatians 5:1: It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

1 Peter 2:16: Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves

Steps to Freedom in Christ

1. STEP ONE: COUNTERFEIT VS. REAL

This Step enables the inquirer to clean house spiritually by renouncing any and all participation in cults, the occult, false religions, New Age practices, etc. The Holy Spirit is granted permission to reveal what He deems necessary in order for the inquirer to experience freedom from any hold the enemy may have over his or her life through past or present involvement with these things. There is a partial listing of some of the more common counterfeit spiritual practices, but it is by no means exhaustive. That is one reason why inviting the Lord to take charge of the freedom appointment is so important. He very often reveals things that are not contained in the booklet.

2. STEP TWO: DECEPTION VS. TRUTH

There are cultural values and beliefs that are contrary to truth that many of us absorb into our personal belief system. These deceptions from the world can bind us into damaging or even destructive behavior patterns. In addition, there are ways we can deceive ourselves and wrongly (i.e. according to the flesh) defend ourselves. This Step enables the inquirer to come face to face with these issues and begin to resolve them through confession and repentance before God.

3. STEP THREE: BITTERNESS VS. FORGIVENESS

This is typically the most emotionally rugged and painful of the Steps, as most people have been hurt...many times very deeply...and yet have not come to the place of resolving their pain. Followers of Christ know they are supposed to forgive; this Step gently guides them through the process of actually doing it. The encourager exercises great patience as the inquirer wrestles through this process which can take as much as half or even more of the entire freedom appointment time.

4. STEP FOUR: REBELLION VS. SUBMISSION

Since the biblical formula for freedom is to “Submit, therefore, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7), living a life of submission toward God and the human authorities He places in our lives is crucial. This Step gives the inquirer the opportunity to face the ways that he or she has had and lived out of a rebellious heart.

5. STEP FIVE: PRIDE VS. HUMILITY

Jesus described Himself as “gentle and humble of heart” (Matthew 11:29). Therefore, living in pride is directly opposed to the character of Christ. In this sobering Step, inquirers invite the Lord to show them specific ways that pride has shown up in their lives, making the choice to confess areas of pride and choose to serve Christ and others in humility rather than living in selfishness and self-centeredness.

6. STEP SIX: BONDAGE VS. FREEDOM

If Step Three (Bitterness vs. Forgiveness) typically is the one that involves the most pain, this Step typically involves the most shame. This is where all the variety of sins of the flesh...including sexual ones...are addressed before the Lord. The beauty of this place in the freedom appointment is that we get to watch shame turn to joy as the inquirer experiences God’s loving forgiveness and cleansing. This Step also deals with the issue of unhealthy, controlling fears.

7. STEP SEVEN: CURSES VS. BLESSINGS

Because of our old identity “in Adam”, we are subject to a predisposition toward walking in the sins of our fathers. During this Step, the inquirer makes an official recognition and authoritative renunciation of those things and affirms his or her new identity and new family of righteousness in Christ. There is often a great sense of relief knowing that in Christ one is not doomed to follow the same paths of damage and destruction as have those in one’s biological family.

(source: <https://www.ficm.org/steps-to-freedom-in-christ/>)

Read More

The Steps to Freedom in Christ: A Biblical Guide to Help You Resolve Personal and Spiritual Conflicts and Become a Fruitful Disciple of Jesus, Neil T. Anderson

The Bondage Breaker: Overcoming Negative Thoughts, Irrational Feelings, Habitual Sins, Neil T. Anderson

Victory Over the Darkness: Realize the Power of Your Identity in Christ, Neil T. Anderson

Defeating Dark Angels: Breaking Demonic Oppression in the Believer's Life, Charles H. Kraft

Spiritual Warfare: Christians, Demonization and Deliverance, Karl Payne

Transforming The Inner Man: God's Powerful Principles for Inner Healing and Lasting Life Change, John & Paula Sandford