



SPG SERIES - Study 9 ...Again = Freedom

Isn't it great that we can be healed of our sin patterns & wounds, set free to have fellowship & intimacy with God? We have the power of God within us, freeing us from being entangled with the wrong things of life. Why do we not seize this opportunity to be free? We must remember that our Lord wants us to remain free to have fellowship with Him. Let's remind ourselves:

But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. Romans 6:22

We have been set free from sin. This will lead us to holiness. Paul states:

For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do — this I keep on doing.

Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. Rom 7:19-20

It is sin living in us that causes us to do what we do not want to do and we control what sin lives in us. Are we going to permit unconfessed and unrepented sin to live in us? If we do, it will draw us away and sin will keep us from the very presence of God. Being in the very presence of God, there is nothing greater in all the world - being in His holiness, righteousness, wisdom, grace, power, compassion, mercy, and love; He is the creator and we get to have fellowship with Him.

He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. 1 Cor. 1:8,9

But, this fellowship isn't something casual where He is one of your "buddies". If that is our attitude, then we don't desire to have the fellowship He desires, to be like Jesus in every way. The Father gave up everything to have fellowship with us. Are you prepared to give up everything to have fellowship with God Himself? Is being in the very presence of God your treasure in life? Reflect on this:

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. Rev 3:20

He is always waiting for us to invite Him in, He longs for us to continually be in His presence. He wants us to see His magnificence. As a result, unquenchable passion is built. He wants to break bread together and talk with you about your relationship and wants to share with you what needs to be done in building His Kingdom. Don't allow anything to stand in the way of this kind of intimacy. Seize the moment now and identify what God has done in you and through you. You should be experiencing victory over your strongholds, therefore, let's do what the choir director did in Psalm 66. Stop and record the victory that the Lord has won in you!

Psalm 66

1 Shout with joy to God, all the earth! 2 Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious!

3 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you.

4 All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing praise to your name."Selah

Stop now and shout, sing, proclaim His awesome deeds as seen in your 3-3-1.

5 Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf! 6 He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot — come, let us rejoice in him. 7 He rules forever by his power, his eyes watch the nations — let not the rebellious rise up against him. Selah
Stop now and tell someone about His awesome deeds. Who did you tell? _____
8 Praise our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; 9 he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping. 10 For you, O God, tested us; you refined us like silver. 11 You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs. 12 You let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us to a place of abundance.
He is our Father and God. He desires the very best for us and allows us to be tested and refined so that He can bring us to a place of abundance.
13 I will come to your temple with burnt offerings and fulfill my vows to you — 14 vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke when I was in trouble. 15 I will sacrifice fat animals to you and an offering of rams; I will offer bulls and goats. Selah
16 Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. 17 I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. 18 If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; 19 but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. 20 Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!
As a result of God blessing you with His abundance and healing in your heart, tell someone else how awesome your God is! Who did you tell? _____

Let's look a little deeper as to what can happen as strongholds in the heart are removed.

20 But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you. 21 "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. 22 But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils. 23 "He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me, scatters. 24 "When an 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.' 25 When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. 26 Then it goes and takes 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." Luke 11:20-26

The principle we want to look at is when God has removed evil from your heart, it doesn't mean that evil won't try to return. You have asked Jesus to take this place in your heart and rule there. You are not to fall prey to temptation and allow evil to take that place again. You will need to continue to remain in Him and His strength. That space in your heart is filled by the Spirit of God and you should daily praise, honor and worship more intensely and more completely. As you hate that sin that once was there and loving the increased presence of God, victory is had! We are to live a victorious life. How will you life differently? _____

1 John 5:3-5

3 This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, 4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

Because you daily believe Jesus is the Son of God, you are overcoming the world.

The victory is yours!

Praise God!!

Continue your journey of increasing the presence of God in your life by choosing the next stronghold project (Conquering Strongholds Sheet). Continue 3-3-1!

Conquering Strongholds

2 Corinthians 10: 4-6 proclaims that we are to use divine weapons to demolish strongholds. The divine weapons are numerous, but here are some. Please follow the process for any patterned sin in your life that needs to be defeated. As you go through the process, you are to enter the very presence of God, speaking to Him as you complete this worksheet.

1. State a **theme(s)** that led you to the central point of a wound or sin i.e. what bitterness , lusting or coveting is keeping you from more of His presence? Reflect on what the consequences of this sin/wound have been in your life and that of your loved ones.

Note: As you go through this worksheet, you are to confess and repent of each of these sins. As you declare that this place in your heart belongs only to God, the sin is covered by the blood of Jesus! Since the Lord resides there, declare you want Him alone to take this space in your heart!

2. State & confess the **lie** Satan wants you to believe: i.e. that your wound or sin will never be resolved. Record the lie and confess it.

3. **Self- Protective Strategies:** we use these regularly to protect our fleshly heart. i.e. : minimize emotional attachment & relationship therefore relationships with God and others are kept at a platonic or business like basis. What strategies have you employed that separates you from God? Record and confess them.

4. All of the above may have lead to “Making a **vow** by which I will live my life” i.e. “I will always avoid emotional attachment and I will never again allow anyone to attack me without my defending myself”. What vow may you have made? Record, confess, and reject them.

5. Have you **confessed** these transgressions in desperation to your Lord and declared by the power of Jesus, who is Lord of your life, that these patterns are no longer acceptable in your life/heart and you want the Lord to take this space in your heart and remove the related pain(s)?

6. **Continue** to invite Jesus into the wound or sin until you are free! What do you sense about what God has done?

7. Now declare that you **hate this sin** because it separate’s you from His full presence. What is it that you hate about this sinfulness & the impact it has on your life? Live in His presence daily. Remain in the Holy Spirit in this area of your heart and guard it, protect it from the enemy!

8. **Celebrate** the goodness and power of God, share with someone what the Lord has done- Praise His holy name!!

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