Making Disciples

Notes for Session Twenty-three

Deliverance from Evil Spirits

Session Goals

1. The disciple will identify one- or two-ways demons can gain access to Christians lives.
2. The disciple will give two examples of how Jesus cast out demons.
3. The disciple will recall the key verse to dealing with Satan and demons.

Begin the session praying together and reviewing the Action Steps from the previous week. The leader of the group should pray with individuals who had difficulty applying the information from last week. Thank God where there were successes in the application.

Definition of deliverance – Removing an evil spirit (a demon) from its attachment, influence, or residence within a person and releasing the light, truth, and love of God. Deliverance is an act of God's loving care and concern for us. God can deliver anyway or at any time He wants on our own, through other people, or in a group meeting, while praying or worshipping.

Objectives of demons towards individuals

- Same as Satan (they work for him) they want to blind unbelievers to the gospel.

2 Corinthians 4:4 "The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ who is the image of God."

- To deceive Christians and keep them from having the fulfillment of all God has for them.

John 10:10 "The thief comes only to steal and to kill and destroy I have come that you might have life and have it to the full."

Can a Christian be possessed by a demon?

The answer is no because the Holy Spirit lives in us.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

Christians can be influenced or oppressed by demonic spirits. As a Christian you can be under the influence of a demon in your physical body and the soul which includes your mind, will, and emotions.

- The Bible says we can give place to the devil.

Ephesians 4:26-27 "Be angry and do not sin, do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil."

- Or we can be misled by demonic false teaching.

2 Corinthians 11:4 "For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the Spirit you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted – you put up with it easily enough."

Examples of how evil spirits gain entrance into our lives.

- Through our sins including pride and anger.

Proverbs 16:18 "Pride comes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Ephesians 4:26-27 "Be angry and do not sin, do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil."

- Through the sins of our ancestors.

Psalm 51:5 "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me."

Deuteronomy 30:19 "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life that both you and your descendants may live;"

Exodus 20:5 "For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,"

- Through our bitterness and unforgiveness.

Ephesians 4:31-32 "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you with all malice: And be a kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you."

Hebrews 12:15 "See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God, and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many."

Luke 11:4 "Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us."

- Through unresolved past trauma.

Trauma can result in fear and even physical illness affecting our lives.

Proverbs 1:33 "But whoever listens to me, will dwell secure and will be at ease without dread of disaster."

Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Ecclesiastes 10:8 "… whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a serpent."

How do we deal with evil spirits?

- Pray as Jesus did:

Jesus taught us to pray: *Luke 11:4 "And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from the evil one."*

He prayed: *John 17:15 "I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one."*

- Resist the Devil.

James 4:7 "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

- Cast demons out.

Mark 16:17 "These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name, they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;"

Luke 9:1 "And He called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases."

Jesus said:

Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent me to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

Examples from Jesus and the Apostles Ministries.

Matthew 17:18 "And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured at once."

Luke 11:14 "And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute; when the demon had gone out the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed."

Mark 1:39 "And he went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out the demons."

Mark 6:13 "And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them."

Matthew 17:21 "(But this kind does not come out except by prayer and fasting.)"

Acts 10:38 "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him."

Mark 5:8-9 "For he said to him, 'Come out of the man, unclean spirit!' Then He asked him, 'What is your name?' And he answered saying, 'My name is Legion; for we are many.'"

Acts 19:11-12 "Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them."

Teachings from Jesus and the apostles.

Matthew 12:43-45 "When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through dry 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 last state of that person is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation."

Acts 19:13 "Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon possessed. They would say. "In the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out."

Acts 19:15-16 "And the evil spirit answered and said to them, "I recognize Jesus and I know about Paul, but who are you? The man in whom was the evil spirit, leaped on them and subdued all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of the house, naked and wounded."

What are the steps to receive deliverance?

Desire and seek to be delivered. God will not go against your will.

James 4:7 "Submit to God and resist the devil."

Ask God to deliver you.

Matthew 7:7 "Ask and it shall be given to you, seek and you shall find, knock and the door shall be opened unto you."

Ask for prayer and ministry if you want the help of others.

James 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another and pray for one another that you may be healed."

What are the steps to minister deliverance?

Jesus sent out His disciples and the seventy in pairs to cast out demons, so joining with at least another person is recommended.

1. Reveal: Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the root or the source of the issue. God may show the person being ministered to or those praying for him or her.

Psalm 139:23-24 "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked (or hurtful) way in me. And lead me in the way everlasting."

James 4:7-10 "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded…Humble yourselves before the Lord and He will exalt you."

2. Remove: Ask the Lord to remove what the Holy Spirit has revealed

   a. Through prayer and taking authority remove all that is not like Jesus, everything that would hold them back from being all God created them to be in their identity and their destiny in Christ.

   b. Often involves confession, repentance of sin, rejecting agreement with lies and evil spirits, renouncing words and curses and false beliefs, commanding the devil to flee.

   c. How do you know the demon has left?

      Through discerning of spirits.
      Through sensing or seeing it leave.
      Through confirmation from the Holy Spirit.

3. Replace: Ask God to fill their heart and lives with all God desires.

Romans 5:5 "God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Pray for members of the group who want ministry during the session all can participate and contribute with revelation.

Action Steps

- Each disciple should seek God as to areas he or she needs ministry from others to increase freedom in his/her life.

- Contact a respected friend or group leader during the week to ask for prayer if needed.

- Make a list of things that the Holy Spirit has changed in your life in recent months. Give thanks for those changes and write down two or three specific things you would like Him to do. Pray for those things, share with the group next week so they can join you in prayer.