

## II. Ministry Series--The Authority of the Believer

Directions for the student of The Ministry Series: Focus on one question at a time. Read the question and answers. Look up scripture whenever possible, because reading the bible passages will help you understand the concepts and remember them more clearly. Learn the underlined parts of the answers. Be able to say the underlined parts, either in your own words, or by quoting word-for-word. When learning scripture, be able to say the scripture reference and the underlined parts, using either the NKJV (quoted here), or another translation (show your tester). Repetition aids memorization. Therefore ask three different people to test you, so that you are tested **three separate** times on **every** item. You may study the questions in any order you want. You may answer a question a little at a time, with study intervals between test sessions. If you answer a question a little at a time, ask your tester to check the parts of the answer you know with small check marks (and put small initials on their check marks). Ask your tester to sign the left margin when you know all the parts of a question. You have completed a question when it has three different signatures in the margin beside it. Have fun!

**1. Know and be able to quote at least two places in Scripture where Jesus gives spiritual authority to believers.** (Be able to give the scripture reference and quote the underlined portion of the scripture fairly accurately. You may use any bible translation, but have that version with you when you are tested).

- a. **Luke 10:19** [Jesus speaking] “Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”
- b. **Mark 16:17-18** “And these signs will follow those who believe: In my name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues, they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” (Examples: Jesus, Matt. 17:18; the 70 disciples in Luke 10:1, 17; apostles in Matthew 10:5-8; Acts 2:43; 3:6, 16; 5:12; Stephen, Acts 6:8; Paul and Barnabas, Acts 14:3).

**2. Dealing with the enemy.**

- a. **Do Christians have enemies?** Every Christian has enemies:
  - 1) Satan
  - 2) his demon hosts
  - 3) those who are being used by Satan. (Any person who is in sin can be used by Satan--see Matt. 16:23). Enemies—see 1 Peter 5:8-9; 2 Cor. 10:3-6.
- b. **Whose responsibility is it to take authority over the enemy?**  
It is every Christian’s responsibility to take authority over the enemy once they are past the age of accountability (about age twelve).  
>>>God is not responsible, we are! Ignorance or a non-warring lifestyle does not stop demon attacks. To lead our lives to the fullest, we must war in the Spirit, 1 Peter 5:8-9; Luke 10:19; Ephesians 6:10-18.
- c. **Are there exceptions to the rule that fighting is our responsibility?**  
There are two circumstances in which God will rebuke the enemy for us:
  - 1) When we are faithful in tithes and offerings, Malachi 3:8-11.
  - 2) When we praise and worship, 2 Chronicles 20:22-24; Psalms 18:1-3; 22:3-5; 50:23; 149:5-9; Is. 30:31-32; Acts 16:25-26; 1 Peter 2:9).

### **3. Why is it so important to have a clean heart anytime you pray or take authority over the enemy?**

a. Without a clean heart God will not hear your prayers.

**Psalm 66:18** “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.”

(see also Proverbs 15:29; 28:9; Is. 1:15; John 9:31; James 4:1-4)

b. Sin gives Satan a legal right to attack:

**Psalm 94:20** says “Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises evil by law, have fellowship with You?” >>If there is sin in your heart, your authority over the enemy is diminished. Instead the enemy will have authority over you, especially in that area of your life. (see Psalm 12:8; Proverbs 5:22; Balaam who could not curse Israel until they sinned, Numbers chapters 22-25, especially 25:1-9; 31:16; Rev. 2:14; Amos 6:3; Eph. 4:27; Gal. 6:7-8; compare Jesus, John 14:30)

### **4. What is the most important requirement for prayer or spiritual warfare?**

a. The most important requirement for prayer or spiritual warfare is to have a clean heart.

b. **What does this mean?** This means being willing:

1) to allow God to show you any sin in your life,

2) to ask Him to forgive you and cleanse you, and

3) to turn away from that sin

**1 John 1:9** “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

### **5. Know the five steps for overcoming spiritual attack, James chapter 4.**

1) Ask God to search your heart and make you aware of any sin in your life, James 4:6

2) Submit to God. Confess that sin and turn away from it, James 4:7.

3) Resist the devil, James 4:7. Do this out loud in Jesus Christ’s name. Say something like, “In the name of Jesus Christ, I resist you, you spirit of \_\_\_\_\_, and I command you to flee!”

4) Draw near to God, James 4:8. The fastest way to do this is by praise and worship. You can also read scripture out loud, or thank God for all the good things He has done and is doing in you.

5) When applicable, do the opposite of whatever sin God made you aware of, James 4:10. For example, if the sin was pride, v. 6, then practice humility, v. 10.

### **6. Know the “Three C’s and two D’s” for daily prayer:**

a. Be clean--Ask God to show you any sin. Confess that sin and ask Him to cleanse you. It is possible to also ask God to forgive your family, Daniel 9:20.

b. Be covered by the blood of Jesus Christ. Ask God to cover you and your family with the blood of Jesus Christ. (See Job 1:5, 10; Exodus 12:7; 1 Peter 1:2)

c. Break curses against you and your family. Do this out loud in Jesus’ name. (Curses are negative words spoken against you. In scripture, they are associated with a spirit of oppression and demonic activity. See Proverbs 11:9; 12:6; 14:3; Isaiah 58:9(b), NIV, James 3:9)

d. Declare victory over the enemy. For example, Luke 10:19; James 4:7.

e. Declare blessings on your family, for example, Psalm 18:1-3. (Collect these. Ask the Lord to give you scripture to declare over your family from day to day.)

## 7. How can you break curses against you?

Curses are broken by breaking them out loud, in Jesus Christ's name, (see Proverbs 11:9; 12:6; 14:3) Say something like, "In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare that every curse against me and my family is broken. They are null and void, dust and chaff, with the glory of God sweeping them away. In Jesus' name, I declare that no weapon formed against us shall prosper, and nothing by any means shall harm us." (Isaiah 54:17; Luke 10:19)

## 8. Declaration.

### a. What is the most effective way to use declaration?

Follow the Lord: Say what He tells you to say.

John 12:26: [Jesus speaking] "If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me..."

### b. How? Declare something out loud, in the name of Jesus Christ. (Rev. 12:11)

### c. Why?

#### 1) Because we war in the Spirit by declaring the word of God:

Rev. 12:11 "And they overcame [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony..."

#### 2) And also, because we call things into being by Spirit-led declaration, as we follow the Holy Spirit, and speak those things He tells us to speak. For example:

God declared His word, and the universe was created, Ps. 33:6, 9;

God declares those things which are not as though they were, Rom. 4:17.

Peter declared healing before it happened, Acts 3:6.

## 9. Give at least two examples of declarations to use against the enemy:

#### 1) In the name of Jesus Christ, I resist the enemy, and I command every demonic spirit to flee, James 4:7-8

#### 2) In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare that snakes, scorpions, and all the power of the enemy against me and my family are null and void, dust and chaff with the glory of God sweeping them away! (Luke 10:19)

#### 3) In the name of Jesus Christ, I declare that no weapon formed against us shall prosper, and nothing by any means will harm us! (Isaiah 54:17; Luke 10:19)

#### 4) \* 1 John 3:8 "...For this purpose [Jesus Christ] was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." Therefore, I declare that every work of the devil against me, my family or my ministry is destroyed.

#### 5) \* Mark 11:23 "...whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says." I speak to these mountains of \_\_\_\_, be removed and cast into the sea. I do not doubt in my heart, but I believe that what I say shall be done, in Jesus' name!

#### 6) Revelation 12:11 "And they overcame [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony..." \_\_

## 10. Positive declaration.

### a. **Learn at least two declarations you can use to bless, to encourage, and to fight the fight of faith. Or, see part b.**

*Psalm 18:1-3 I will love You, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, so shall I be saved from my enemies.*

Hebrews 13:5 *He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.'*

2 Timothy 1:7 *God has not given [me] a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.* >>I resist fear, and I declare that I have power, love and a sound mind!

Philippians 4:19 *My God shall supply all [my] need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.* >>Thank You, Father, that You are supplying all I need!

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

Romans 8:37 *in all these things [I am] more than a conqueror through Him who loved [me].* >>I am more than a conqueror, and I will conquer this as well!

1 Peter 2:24 *[Jesus Christ] Himself bore [my] sins in His own body on the tree, that I, having died to sin, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes [I was] healed.*

>>I declare I am cleansed, healed, set free and delivered by Jesus' stripes!

Psalms 116:7 *Return to your rest, oh my soul, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.*

Psalms 118:17 *I shall not die but live, and declare the works of the Lord.*

**b. OR, learn your five rights** to declare daily: (many thanks to Joyce Still)

1) I am the temple of the Holy Spirit, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

2) My God shall supply all my need, Philippians 4:19

3) *All the promises of God in Him are 'Yes,' and in Him 'Amen!* 2 Cor. 1:20 Therefore I claim every promise He has for me!

4) As a son or daughter of God, I have a family right to all I need, John 1:12; 1 John 3:1

5) Because Jesus shed His blood I can "come boldly to the Throne of Grace, that [I] may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need," Heb. 4:16.

**10. Know how to spiritually clean your home:** (Explain how. May I suggest? Do it.)

a. **Be clean:** Ask God to search your heart. Confess any sin, 1 John 1:9.

b. **Cleanse your home.** Ask God to show you anything that is an abomination to Him. Get rid of it as He directs. Here is a list of possible items: Idols, statues, books, pictures from other religions. Anything to do with astrology, horoscopes, fortunetelling, witchcraft, familiar spirits, calling up the dead. Anything to do with sexual sin such as pornography. Talismans, 'good luck' charms, etc. (Where is this good luck power supposed to come from? Obviously not God.) This list is not inclusive. Read Deuteronomy 18:10-13; Acts 19:19. Seek God for wisdom.

c. **Use oil--**anointing oil, olive oil, cooking oil. Pray over it and ask God to anoint it by His Holy Spirit. Dip your fingers in a very small amount of the oil, and anoint walls, windows, and doors as you pray through your home.

d. **What to pray:** Ask for the blood of Jesus Christ to cover and cleanse each part of your home.

f. **Suggested pattern** to pray through your home: Start at the front door but don't anoint it, do that last. Go consistently right or left, and begin praying through your home. Continue through every door, room, closet, etc. Touch and pray for Jesus' blood to cover and cleanse every part. Anoint every wall and window. Anoint electronics (phones, computers, TVs). When you finish a room anoint the door lintel above and posts on each side. You may have to break away from the pattern to get the center area of your home. Eventually you will pray through every part. Come back to the front door. Prop the door open. Say out loud, "In the name of Jesus Christ, I command every demon spirit to leave my home." (Often you will feel demons leave!) Then anoint the top and sides of the front door. Exodus 12:7; Job 1:5, 10; Hebrews 9:22; Rev. 12:11.

f. **Pray outside,** Sprinkle the oil on your property, and pray over your car and mailbox. Ask for a hedge of protection around you and your family.