living in

freedom

every day

BE FREE LIFE Conference Script

Conference

6:00- Doors open for dinner

6:45-Doors to sanctuary open

6:50-7:00 Live Worship

7:00 - Conference Begins. Lights go down, children's scriptures audio for 2:22 minutes, worship begins... lights come back up.

7:05- Bishop's Opening Video

7:11 - Welcome-

Welcome to the BE FREE LIFE conference retreat..... We're so glad you're here. As Bishop stated, our team is pumped...... (Read a scripture)

Announcements:

<u> Overview –</u>

Housekeeping

- Wear your name tag
- Silence your phones. There is no recording or pictures allowed in the sanctuary once we begin
- End tonight at about 10:00 pm

Simple plan for conference:

Throughout this conference we'll cover <u>8 different areas</u> of the soul, where our enemy, satan, attempts to oppress us and put us in bondage. There will be a brief teaching on each subject, and then our ministry team will pray individually over each one of you.

Teaching time:

Jesus said, <u>"the truth shall make you free"</u>, so during each teaching, let the truth of God land in your spirit and allow the word of God to <u>penetrate deep</u> into your heart.

This weekend *(Presenters)* will give a brief teaching on each subject. We'll mostly be reading scriptures - a lot of scripture. It may be hard to take notes - get it in your heart (We will provide all the conference scriptures used this weekend in a document).

The Holy Spirit is so gentle, allow Him to work in your hearts this weekend. HE WORKS.

Introduce prayer team (shirt color and explain job/ oil)

Those in red shirts are our trained prayer team. After each teaching each of you will come to someone on the prayer team who will pray with you. Men will pray with men and women will pray with women.

All come up:

After every teaching, we ask that <u>all of you</u> come forward for prayer. Even if you don't think you need it, there are three reasons that we do it this way:

1. We may be under the influence of generational sin or curses that we are unaware of.

2. <u>Our hearts are wicked</u>. In NLT Jeremiah 17:9 says, "The human heart is most deceitful and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?"

3. If you all come up, no one will be embarrassed.

Give prayer team format

<u>1. Interview – obtain a starting point.</u> The prayer team will ask you a few questions that will help him or her know how to pray for you.

<u>2. Renounce the enemy:</u> At this conference we're going to renounce the powers of darkness that come to harm us. (Remember the Bible is clear that we fight a spiritual battle; Eph 6). We'll be repenting a lot this weekend for doors that we may have opened to the enemy through our sin be closed. Work with the prayer team! Renounce - take the authority that you have been given through Jesus.

3. Breaking the yoke of bondage and receiving healing:

The prayer team will anoint you with oil to break any influence of the enemy off of your life. They will pray for you to be healed and cleansed. <u>Oil symbolizes 4 things:</u>

- 1. Symbolizes you are holy and set apart. (Leviticus 8:12)
- 2. The word of God is sealed. (1 Samuel 9:15-17)
- 3. Bondage is broken off your life. (Isaiah 10:27)
- 4. Healing and deliverance. Mark 6:13- disciples drove out demons and anointed sick people with oil and healed them

<u>4. Bless and fill with the Holy Spirit, the Word, and the Truth -</u> To end each prayer time, the prayer team will ask the Holy Spirit to fill you and bless you. This is designed to restore you in the area we have been praying for.

Explain confessions:

After every prayer time we will corporately declare God's word over ourselves in a series of confessions. This will be a powerful time of warfare where we use God's word, the sword of the Spirit, to defeat the enemy.

The team

Our team is excited about this weekend - we all sat in those seats just a season or so ago - this team serves at this conference and serves you because we have all been impacted by Be Free. Mentioned prayer team in red t-shirts

Also have Intercessors

All around the sanctuary you will notice intercessors dressed in white t-shirts. Our intercessors will spend this weekend praying for you and standing in the gap for you. They will pour out their hearts for you. Be assured that you are covered and protected! Fight spiritually.

Host team- light blue shirts

Host Team members wear light blue shirts. They are here to serve you. At the beginning of each ministry time, they will direct you when to come up for prayer. Please stay seated until the host team member in your section directs you to come up for prayer. They have a great system to make sure that everybody receives prayer and that we operate in an orderly manner.

Events Team- navy blue shirts

• Events Team members wear navy blue shirts. They are here to serve you outside of the sanctuary with directions, registration, food, etc

Captains: Wearing neon shirts

• Captains wear neon shirts. They are here to serve you inside and outside of the sanctuary with prayer or any questions you may have..

Agreement of the Participant

<u>You are vital to this process this weekend.</u> We're going to peel off <u>layers and layers</u> of the veil between us and the Lord through the teachings, repentance, and confessions of truth. We are praying for you that you will connect powerfully with God. I can't stress enough how important it is for each of you to <u>come into agreement</u> with the Word of God and with the prayer team. You can experience freedom for a couple of days when someone prays for you, but when you come into agreement and are trained for battle yourself, you have the opportunity to stay free for the rest of your life.

3 Areas of Attack

(Segway to Lordship by explaining 3 gods)

The <u>devil has strategies</u> to keep up from an intimate relationship with the Lord. Devil – liar, job is to steal, kill and destroy. Some have experienced attack this week (very common- not coincidental).

Our flesh <u>is not</u> the only obstacle to God's presence. We are <u>bombarded daily with the evil</u> in this world.

The Bible calls us the temple of the Holy Spirit. He lives in us if we are Christians. We live in this world and must battle outside influences to keep our heart pure.

* "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." (Proverbs 4:23)

Over the weekend we will be teaching on several areas where satan tries to kill, steal, and destroy our lives. Satan's strategies have been the same throughout history so we have grouped our teachings under the three basic areas of attack:

- 1. <u>Greed</u> Materialism; selfishness; being earthly-minded; fear; heaviness
- Lust being pleasure-oriented; being body-focused instead of spirit-focused; doing what feels good – regardless of consequences.
- 3. <u>Pride</u> power and control; independence; rejection satan's perverted coin: one side is pride, the other is rejection.

So the first area of the soul we want to deal with is Pride and giving control of our lives – AND control of the next 2 days - to the Lord. If we don't go ahead and take care of that, the rest of the conference won't be effective. (did everybody hear me? I said if we don't deal with pride the rest won't be effective)

Welcome ______ for Lordship Teaching

Lordship/Mammon -

Have an affinity for LIFE- it changed my life.....

What are your expectations for the conference? That's an important question. Said another waywhat is your goal for this weekend? Some know exactly what they are believing God for this weekend- others may not know exactly what it is just yet. Take a moment and think on it..... for me it was guilt and shame...

Reassuring thought- God knows exactly what you need - He has specific goals for each of you - our part is to line up with Him - to take a step towards Him in faith.

Ultimate goal of tonight: everybody say "Ultimate".

Go through this process to meet with God FACE TO FACE AS WITH A FRIEND. (Exodus 33:11)

View of God so important - God loves you

God desperately wants to be in relationship with each of us.

He longs to connect intimately with us - crazy thought if you think about it..... (#hairs on head) Ecclesiastes 3:11 - He set eternity in the hearts of man. God set in us the desire to connect with Him. However, before He is our friend, HE MUST BE OUR LORD. At the cross we bow our knees to the Lord. The key to a successful Christian Walk is to relinquish control.

"For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God." (Deuteronomy 4:24) God is jealous for us and will pursue us until we make Him Lord.

1st step: THE CROSS – There is no connection to God without the cross and the blood of Jesus.

"And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place <u>because</u> <u>of the blood of Jesus</u>. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place." (Hebrews 10:19-20)

Jesus is the ONLY WAY to God.

Jesus is the ultimate sacrificial lamb, the perfect picture of humility - He took on our sin; He took it

Real power, real authority, and real strength comes ONLY AS WE SUBMIT TO JESUS CHRIST AS OUR LORD!

Listen as I read several Scriptures about the Lord of Lords and how we are to respond to Him:

- "<u>I am the way and the truth and the life</u>. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)
- ◆ <u>I am the Door;</u> if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved...(John 10:9)
- Jesus said, "<u>I am the light of the world</u>. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)
- I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. (John 10:11)

- Jesus said to her, "<u>I am the resurrection and the life</u>. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies. (John 11:25)
- Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the <u>name that is above every</u> <u>name</u>. (Philippians 2:9)
- Then Jesus came to them and said, "<u>All authority</u> in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matthew 28:18)
- <u>Humble yourselves</u>, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. (1 Peter 5:6)
- "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me." (Galatians 2:20)

My testimony:

Lived 90% in for a period, Must be an all-in moment (Share your own testimony)

So, before we take any step towards freedom, we must first position ourselves properly with Jesus:

Salvation message

Before we go any further, I want to stop and pray. Maybe during worship or this message your hearts may have stirred and you may feel the conviction of the Lord right now. Everyone with eyes

closed and heads bowed....l'm not going to call anyone to the front, but if you have never made Jesus the Lord of your life, and you would like to do that now, raise your hand......The Bible says,

If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." (Rom.10:9-10)

I want to lead you in a prayer of salvation. In fact, let's all pray this together out loud and everyone recommit our lives to the Lord.

Lord Jesus,

I confess that You are Lord.

I believe that You died for Me

and that God raised You from the dead.

I want to know You

and live for You.

Forgive me for not believing in You

and not living for You.

Forgive me for all of my sin.

I receive your forgiveness now.

Come into my heart and change me right now

Be my Lord

Everything I have is yours

I commit to you 100% - In Jesus' name, AMEN!

Transition:

Jesus is light, He is love, He has the power to not only save us but to set us free while we are here on earth. However, you need to know:

2 primary Spirits are involved that are set against us - trying

to keep Jesus from being Lord in our lives:

- <u>Baal spirit of pride</u> worship of oneself, humanism
- <u>Mammon</u> spirit of greed and selfishness

Spirit of Pride

Jesus = Humility

CS Lewis said "Through Pride the devil became the devil. Pride leads to every vice, it's the complete anti-God state of mind"

Ways that pride manifests

- > Lust for Power- Selfishness self-centered approach to life. Life is all about me.
- > Worldly focus marked with Competition and Comparisons
- > Striving for advancement with impure/selfish motives
- > Jealousy, Anger are often present

With pride we are in control. Pride invites the spirit of

Control - listen as I read this list - does it apply to you?

Am I easily offended?	 self-exalting
Am I "Independent"	 unwilling to admit wrongdoing
Little or no dependence on the Holy	don't take criticism or correction well
Spirit	turns criticism back on the other person
 Lives marked by strife/ division 	makes inner vows such as, "I'll never
trouble with authority?	be like…"
 struggles with repentance 	
 fueled by impatience 	
 uses deception, manipulation 	

- roots of PRIDE are rejection and bitterness
- To the spirit of control we must say, "not my will, but God's will be done." (Luke 22:42)

Tonight – If any of this is in us- let's pull up the roots of pride and control.

Consequences of pride

Pride robs us of experiencing all that God has for us!

What God says about our pride: (He is very clear)

"<u>Pride goes before destruction</u>, a haughty spirit before a fall." (Proverbs 16:18)

"God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6)The deception of the spirit of pride has been the same since satan said in his heart,

"I will ascend into heaven, <u>I will exalt my throne</u> above the stars of God." (Isaiah 14:13)

He rebelled against God and then <u>fell like lightening</u>! (Luke 10:18) Pride will cause our destruction.

Spirit of Mammon (twin sister of pride)

Remember- PRIDE and Mammon are spirit operating in people.

Key Verse - (Matthew 6:24)

 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. <u>YOU CANNOT SERVE GOD</u> <u>AND MAMMON.</u>"

Mammon is the god of greed and selfishness. The root meaning of the word means to "trust in riches" Let me be clear- money is not evil- it's the <u>love</u> of money that is evil.

THE WAY OF BONDAGE AND DEATH

- 1. Greed kills.
 - Proverbs 1:19 Such is the fate of all who are greedy for money; it <u>ROBS THEM</u>
 <u>OF LIFE</u>.
 - Luke 12:15-21 Jesus said, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; <u>A</u> <u>MAN'S LIFE DOES NOT CONSIST OF</u> <u>THE ABUNDANCE OF HIS POSSESSIONS.</u>"

2. Greed causes us to waste our lives

- Psalm 39:6 We are merely <u>MOVING SHADOWS</u>, and all our busy rushing ends in nothing. We heap up wealth, not knowing who will spend it
- 3. Greed causes misery.
 - □ Proverbs 15:27 Greed brings <u>GRIEF TO THE WHOLE FAMILY</u>.
 - 1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
- 4. Greed makes the Word unfruitful.
 - Matthew 13:22 worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

The world tells us to put our hope in money and things of the world

Satan wants all of us to hang our hope on riches and look to leaders who will "save us."

Only Jesus is our protector and provider.

GOD'S WAY - THE WAY OF FREEDOM

- 1. God owns everything and He takes care of His people:
 - Philippians 4:19 My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- 2. God promises He'll bless us if we put His agenda first.
 - Matthew 6:33 But <u>seek first His kingdom</u> and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

3. Be content!

- □ Hebrews 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."
- Philippians 4:11-13 I have <u>LEARNED TO BE CONTENT</u> whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

4. LIVE BETWEEN THE ZERO'S

We start at zero and we end at zero

Ecclesiastes 5:15 - Naked a man comes from his mother's womb, and as he comes, so he departs.

What is your vision for your life? To gather stuff between the zero's and live in jealousy, competition, and a lack of contentment?

OR will we have an eternal perspective and use our lives between the zero's to invest in God's kingdom and His treasure?

* We can make our lives about us, our reputation, our position, our stuff, our bodies..... OR we can make our lives about eternal things and turn to the Lord.

* To turn to the Lord we need Humility.

Humility

Pride will say to you, "You don't need to go down there for prayer" – or – "what will people think if I show some sort of emotion?" "What will my family or my friends think?"

"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6)

Lordship and humility are the opposite of pride and rebellion. God will enter your life <u>THROUGH</u> <u>YOUR HUMBLE HEART- through a fully surrendered heart</u>. Let's make the decision tonight to <u>fully yield to the Lord and all that He has for us</u>. As we conclude this session,

Ministry team please come forward-quietly

- take out white cards-Ask the Lord to show you any area of your life that you need to submit to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- Write on the card any area He shows you. Going to give you a full minute or so to write out.

After you have been prayed for, drop the card at the foot of the cross as you pass by.

As we declare this first set of confessions, speak forth the truth about yourself with conviction and confidence.

Prayer of repentance

Lord, we come to you in the name of Jesus,

Please forgive us for the sin of pride and Mammon.

we turn today from serving other gods,

for letting our desires

and the spirit of this world

choke out Your word in our lives.

We turn from greed and selfishness,

we surrender ourselves to You.

We have rebelled against you

Spare us from destruction. We submit ourselves to you. Forgive us for being the lord over our own lives. Jesus, you are my Lord and my Savior. It's only by your blood that I am saved. I commit myself to you today. I give you control over my life. I give you my family and possessions my goals and ambitions, and my position among people. All my accomplishments and all my righteousness are like filthy rags. I repent today and choose to turn away from my sinful pride. Give us an eternal perspective and a genuine love for those in need

and we ask for your mercy.

We commit tonight to put Your agenda first.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Give Praise! Take seats

Coming forward to the prayer team

Please follow the direction of the Host team, they will have you exit your row from the right and return to your seats by circling back to the left side of your row. Please stay seated until the Host Team releases your row to go and receive prayer. Continue to work on your card- DROP CARD AT CROSS

Prayer Time

CONFESSION: Please stand and repeat after me:

I declare and proclaim

this is MY DAY

to lay down my life.

I am of God

and the devil has nothing in me.

I will not serve two masters.

It's no longer I that live,

but Christ lives in me.

If my Heavenly Father feeds the birds,

He'll take care of me.

If He clothes the lilies,

He'll provide for me.

If I seek His kingdom

and His righteousness,

all these things will be added to me.

I have done nothing –

absolutely nothing -

to earn my salvation.

Jesus, you paid the price

for me to live and be free.

23

God, burn away my pride

consume my sin.

God resists the proud,

so I resist pride.

I renounce all greed,

selfishness and selfish ambition,

all boasting and envy.

Lord, purify my motives and my heart.

By God's command

I am blessed.

I am blessed in the city.

I am blessed in the country.

My children are blessed.

My relationships are blessed.

I am blessed when I come in.

I am blessed when I go out.

I am the head and not the tail

Everything I put my hand to is blessed.

I embrace humility

and put it on like a garment.

God's power is made perfect

in my weakness.

I humble myself

under God's mighty hand.

I empty myself now.

I am a slave to God

and a servant to people.

Father, in the name of Jesus,

take my life! AMEN!!!

Give God Praise!

Remember - the same spirit (the Holy Spirit) that God used to raise Christ from the dead lives inside of you! In our last session tomorrow afternoon, we are going to teach you how to fully activate the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

<u>Rejection –</u>

Rejection intro

On the other side of pride is REJECTION. If satan can't get us with a haughty, arrogant spirit, he will try to pull us down with rejection.

Rejection blocks true humility. Without humility we cannot serve God or people. Rejection keeps us from investing our lives in others.

Rejection builds a stronghold of independence and self-sufficiency. Brick by brick this stronghold is built around our pain to protect us from ever being vulnerable again to anyone – sadly, this includes being vulnerable to the Holy Spirit, as well as

people.

The worst thing about rejection is that it hinders our relationship with the Lord. If we don't <u>believe</u> what God says about us, we don't trust him. If we don't <u>know</u> what God says about us and to us, we have no connection with Him.

Rejection is a demonic force that will hinder every aspect of life. It affects every human being; all struggle with it.

BUT the problem is: <u>People were never meant to be rejected</u>. And God never meant for you to be rejected.

• (Romans 1:7) "God loves you dearly, and He has called you to be his very own people."

Listen to what God says about you and to you:

- (Isaiah 41:9) "I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said, 'You are my servant'; I have chosen you and have not rejected you."
- God made us to need love and acceptance.

Satan's strategy against mankind is full of hatred and rejection with no love and no acceptance...only condemnation.

Two ways the spirit of rejection snares us:

- <u>Generational influences:</u> things passed down from generation to generation. The sins of bigotry, racism, abuse, and divorce sow seeds of rejection in subsequent generations.
- 2. Life events: Rejected by parents (not bonding with fathers, through

abortion or the threat of abortion, neglect or abuse), kids at school (kids playing ball-picked last), later by friends, teachers, coaches, bosses (being fired or demoted), girlfriends or boyfriends, husbands/wives, or even pastors or other leaders in church.

Rejection can also come through shame. Most of us have been programmed for shame from early childhood. How many times did we hear, or perhaps we have said to our own children: "Shame on you..." "You should be ashamed of yourself." We may have been shamed because we didn't measure up to expectations.

We may have heard words of rejection and shame such as:

- I wish you'd never been born.
- You're illegitimate.
- I hate you.
- You're a waste.
- You were a mistake.
- You'll never amount to anything.

Curses were being placed on us by such words!

Hear God's word:

- (Psalm 27:10) "Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me."
- (Psalm 139:14) "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

No matter what people have said to you, believe what God has said about you.

(Isaiah 54:17) "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD.

We have no control over all the mess from our past, but we do have full control over what we believe in our future.

We have a choice!

- We can choose to overcome this spirit of rejection, or
- We can choose to wallow in our past and be overcome by rejection

It's our choice! We can choose to be overcome – or we can choose to be defeated!

- (Ephesians 2:6) "God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus."
- (Romans 8:31) "If God is for us, who can be against us?"
- We are overcome by rejection by agreeing with the enemy and believing his lies.

TRAPS

Rejection is the devil's playground where he manipulates us. To ease the pain of rejection we'll fall into his three main traps: pride, lust, and materialism.

- pride and control We puff ourselves up and think we are better than others, so we won't care if they reject us – and we won't be hurt again! We try to control our lives and the lives of others – and we often hurt others before they can hurt us. We try to control the way others think, feel, and act, so they can't or won't hurt us.
- <u>sexual lust</u> "If I could only have her, or I know if I had him, I'd feel better."
 We think the next affair will heal us but it only opens doors, and opens us up

to more hurt in our lives, and sets us up for the next rejection.

<u>material lust</u> – People think, "If I just have more stuff, I'll be happy. If I just had a bigger house, or some new clothes, or jewelry, or car, or boat, etc... I'll feel better."

The number one reaction to rejection is rebellion! People are made for love and when they don't get it, they get mad and they REBEL!

So how do we overcome rejection?

- By agreeing with God.
- By believing the truth.
- By rejecting the lie.

Rejection of others produces unforgiveness:

Rejection of others divides relationships, divides homes and churches. It causes hatred between husbands and wives, between blacks and whites, between churches and denominations.

"hurting people, hurt people!"

We have unforgiveness due to past hurts or offenses. Divorce, abandonment, abuse, and other offenses will cause us to reject others if we do not forgive. When we plant or water the seeds of unforgiveness, bitterness will spring up. Bitterness is unfulfilled revenge. The Bible warns us against bitterness:

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

The key to forgiving others is having a revelation of the incredible love God has shown us through His Son. God has forgiven us a debt we could never pay.

Because God had forgiven us a debt we could never pay, Matt. 18:34-35 tells us that we will be "handed over to the torturers" if we do not forgive others from our hearts. These torturers are demon spirits who have been given legal right by our unforgiveness to torment us. One way you can tell you haven't forgiven someone is if you feel sick, anxious, angry, or sad when their name is mentioned.

When you hold someone in unforgiveness, there is an invisible chain connecting you to them. Every time the video of the offense replays in your mind, they hurt you all over again. When you forgive them, the chain is cut and you are released.

(Matthew 18:21-22) "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'"

Forgiveness tied to receiving what we are asking for:

(Mark 11:24-26) "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

Forgiveness is not:

- saying that what the person did is O.K. It's not O.K. and it never will be.
- It's not a feeling. It's a choice
- It's not healing. It paves the way for healing.

Forgiveness is:

- A command from God.
- Continual. It's a lifestyle.

• Releasing them to God. Turning them over to Him.

So let's deal with rejection in all its forms by turning away from it and declaring the truth about ourselves!

Prayer of repentance: Please bow your heads

Heavenly Father, it is our will that the walls of rejection come down tonight. In the name of Jesus. we turn from every lie, known and unknown that we have believed. that has given the spirit of Rejection any power in our lives. Every curse of rejection is broken off our families. In obedience to Your word, we choose to forgive everyone who has hurt us in the past, willingly or in ignorance. We choose beginning today to be forgiving people.

(Leader only) Lord, please bring to our minds any unforgiven people that we need to forgive so that we might forgive them now.

(Lead, people respond)

And now in the mighty name of Jesus, we declare to you rejection,

your time is done in our lives! HALLELUJAH! Prayer Team and Host team please take your places.

When you come forward to a member of the prayer team– let them know of any <u>rejection or un-forgiveness</u> you are overcoming and they will join in agreement with you.

(Ministry time)

Confession

I am blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places. If God is for me, who can be against me? I am chosen by God. He has not rejected me! God loves me so much, that He gave His only Son for me. He chose me and appointed me to bear good fruit. God contends with those who contend with me. Spirits of rejection come at me in one direction, but flee in seven! I have the spirit of wisdom and revelation. I AM holy and blameless.

<u>I AM</u> redeemed through the blood of Jesus.

I AM an heir of heaven.

<u>I AM</u> seated in heavenly places.

IAM God's workmanship.

I AM fearfully and wonderfully made.

IAM a new creation.

IAM a citizen of heaven.

<u>I AM</u> rooted and grounded in love.

<u>I AM</u> more than a conqueror.

I AM an overcomer.

<u>I AM</u>healed.

I AM FREE!

Lord, EVERYTHING You

say about me is true!

Amen!!! (Next is Communion)

<u> Communion –</u>

(Isaiah 53:4-5) "Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed."

Verse 5 outlines <u>4 things</u> that happened to Jesus in the process of the crucifixion

- 1. <u>He was pierced for our transgressions</u>.
 - Hands represent the things that we do.
 - All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Jesus paid a high price so that your conscience could be cleared and you'd be free from the guilt that is associated with sin. <u>He wanted to not only purify you from sin, but</u> <u>according to Hebrews 9:14, He wanted to purify and cleanse your conscience</u>. Jesus came to not only cover sin, but to WASH it away! If you have condemnation or shame, Jesus has come to set you free! He was pierced for our transgressions.

2. <u>He was crushed for our iniquities.</u>

- The crushing of Jesus is what happened in His heart.
- His heart was crushed for our iniquities.
- One of the guards wanted to make sure that Jesus was dead so he took a spear and ran it into Jesus' ribcage.
- Something happened that they weren't expecting both blood and water spilled out of His side.

God knew that you would need more than just your conscience cleansed. He knew also that you would need something that would take care of your pains and wounds and the hurts in your heart. Jesus' heart was crushed so that your heart wouldn't have to be. What that means for you tonight is that if there has been injustice

against you, Jesus paid a high price in His body so you could be free. Receive it tonight!

- 3. The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him.
 - This is referring to the crown of thorns they put on his head to mock Him.
 - They crushed it into His head.
 - The place where you lose peace is in your mind.
 - He didn't just die to save you from your sins He also experienced pain in His head so that your mind could be free.
 - Fear, anxiety, stresses, and worry didn't have to dominate your life.
 - He took the punishment in His head so that you could be filled with joy and peace.

Tonight if you're stressed, worried, or fearful, think about the crown of thorns – <u>the punishment that brought you peace.</u>

- 4. <u>By His wounds we are healed.</u>
 - This is referring to the stripes on His back.
 - The back represents that place of strength. Disease robs you of your strength.
 - Jesus had the strongest place of His body torn to pieces so that your body could be free from disease.
 - The cat-of-nine-tails were embedded in His body and ripped out 39 times.
 Over and over again.

What must He have been thinking? <u>He was thinking - cancer, heart disease,....</u> He bore pain in His body that we might be free.

This was a HUGE price. You've received Jesus as your savior who died on the cross to save you from your sins – but please don't forget the other three. Those meant just as much to Him.

As we take Communion tonight, remember what He did for you. Communion elements will be passed out by the Host team. Take these elements and pass them to your right.

(Explain communion)

As you take the elements tonight, receive what He paid for:

- He was pierced so we could be free from guilt.
- He was crushed so that pain and hurt wouldn't have to dominate your life and you could be free.
- He took punishment so that you could experience in your mind what no pill can give you – joy, peace.
- He took stripes so that you could be healed.

(Take elements) "The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." (1 Cor. 1:23-25)

(Trash bucket located at end of each row – please take the bucket and pass it – place

empty communion elements in the bucket. Place trash bucket underneath chair and the Host Team will take care of them)

Host team pick empty cups

Closing Announcements Next Page

Friday night conclusion instructions:

Bishop's Video....

MC – come up to close out session:

- As Bishop stated, continue to worship the Lord
- When you go home tonight, stay in a worshipful mode don't turn on TV, computer, etc. ...
- Reminder breakfast at 8:00am, morning session 9:00.
- Please remember to wear your nametag tomorrow.
- In the morning as you enter the sanctuary, women will sit in the center and men on the right (which is my left).
- Announce water baptism at end of the retreat

Saturday morning:

- 7:00-7:30 team worship,prayer/ announcements (Host team put paper in seats)
- 8:00-8:25 Production meeting
- 8:00 Doors open for breakfast
- 8:45 Doors Open to sanctuary
- Worship Music (List upbeat)
- 8:50- Live Worship (2 songs)
- 9:00- Bishop's Sat opening video
- 9:02- Welcome Back
- Host team men on right (my left) and women in the center

Welcome back-

- You have paper in your seat, don't write on it yet.
- We have 6 topics today. Stay focused on the particular topic.
- Remember no photos or recordings
- When it is time to receive prayer, the Host Team will direct you.
- Remember to stay in a place of worship. Keep from disturbing others.

<mark>Purity -</mark>

What comes to your mind when I say the word- Purity?

<u>Purpose of this teaching:</u> getting free from all ungodly ties, ...all the things that we have done, things that may have happened to us or that have come down to us through the generations of our family.

Let me say clearly - This is not a message of condemnation... it is one of cleansing, freedom, wholeness, and release from the shame of your past. I speak from personal experience-

Listen to what God says about your sin:

"Though your sins be like scarlet, they shall be white as snow." (Isaiah 1:18)

No matter how stained and dirty we may feel, (or satan tells us we are) God says we can be clean and free.

Everybody say "clean", "free"

Definition of Soul Tie:

As you know from the Freedom teaching on spiritual order, the <u>soul</u> is comprised of the mind, will and emotions.

A <u>Tie</u> is something that binds, fastens, attaches, or restrains.

A <u>Soul Tie</u> is therefore an attachment in our mind and/or emotions to a person that can influence the choices of our will.

Picture the umbilical cord between mother and child; a Soul Tie is a spiritual cord between two persons.

Soul Ties are formed through emotional bonds or sexual relations between two persons. There can be good Soul Ties or bad Soul Ties.

The Bible does not use the modern word – Soul Tie. It uses words like Unite and Join.

 "Unite" means to be bring together as to form a whole, to join, to adhere, to be bound together.

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24)

"Join" means to link or fasten together, to bring together, to form a unit
 "So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." (Matthew 19:6)

Satan's strategy

Society is full of sexual sin and temptation. Hollywood, Media - we are inundated with sex and perversion. Satan has a very strategic reason for bombarding us with temptation in the area of sexual sin. He uses sexual sin to <u>destroy our capacity for</u>

intimacy with God and others. The enemy distorts and perverts intimacy to keep you from becoming intimate with God and your spouse. The guilt and shame that comes with sexual impurity can be overwhelming and even debilitating.

Paul says in 1 Cor. 6:16-20 (Message) – There's more to sex than mere skin on skin. Sex is as much spiritual mystery as physical fact. As written in Scripture, "The two become one." Since we want to become spiritually one with the Master, we must not pursue the kind of sex that avoids commitment and intimacy, leaving us more lonely than ever—the kind of sex that can never "become one." There is a sense in which sexual sins are different from all others. In sexual sin we violate the sacredness of our own bodies, these bodies that were made for God-given and God-modeled love, for "becoming one" with another. Or didn't you realize that your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don't you see that you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for? The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you. God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body." 1 Cor. 6:16-20 (Message)

Why would satan have this strategy to destroy our capacity for intimacy? Because he knows that God created intimacy for <u>enjoyment and reproduction - in the safety and</u> <u>confines of marriage.</u>

1st - the devil is evil and wants to steal <u>your joy</u>. He wants to destroy healthy intimacy he wants to lead you into unhealthy situations. Bible says: "You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand." (Psalm 16:11)

Satan wants to destroy your capacity for intimacy with God and therefore keep you from your potential.

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Please know that our number one goal is that you connect in intimacy with God at this conference as you never have before! We want every barrier and every hindrance to intimacy destroyed so that you can truly ENJOY the Lord and reach your potential in HIM!

"But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with Him in spirit." (1 Corinthians 6:17) This refers to the soul tie <u>we have with God.</u>

Biblical examples of ungodly or destructive Soul Ties:

"Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. ² And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her and lay with her, and violated her. ³ His soul was strongly attracted to Dinah the daughter of Jacob.."Genesis 34:1-3

But his soul longed for and clung to Dinah...

This is a description of a forcible rape, a <u>sexual violation</u>.

"Do you not know that he who <u>unites</u> himself with a prostitute is <u>one</u> with her in body? For it is said, 'The two will become one flesh'." (1 Corinthians 6:16)

This is a clear indication that a "soul tie" is formed whenever there is <u>immoral sexual</u> <u>activity</u>.

The important truth: There is a soul tie between you and every person you have been with sexually. (what happens in Vegas does not stay in Vegas)

Victims of rape or incest – please don't despair. The Lord is here to free you from all unholy soul ties...

Illustration for Purity -

When a soul tie is formed, it joins the two together like an invisible umbilical cord...<u>it can</u> <u>transfer either life or death</u>.

Sin and evil spirits are passed through all the parties involved and then are brought into the current relationship!

(Call on a man and a woman on the team to come forward.)

(Use their real names...) M_ ___F_go to The Worship Center. They met through some mutual friends at church. M _____ became a Christian last year during the movie series and has never been the same. F___was raised in church, but has renewed her relationship with the Lord when she started attending TWC a few years ago.

M___F___ are engaged and are so excited about starting their lives together with God as the center. They truly feel like God brought them together and they want to live for Him.

Sounds great. There's a little problem, however.

Before M ____F___ met, M_____had other relationships. In high school, college, and over the years, he had no concept of God's plan for sexual purity. He had sexual relationships with many women. (Call 3 women – one to represent college, and another career...traveling, etc. instruct them to place hand on M_'s_ shoulder)

_____, ____,and _____

(have a man come up and place hand on the shoulder of woman from college) Before M_____ and F2_ slept together, she had slept with M2__.

(Go back to F_) Even though F _ was raised in the church and was taught the principles of purity, like most of her friends she fell to the pressure of her boyfriend before M . She and M3_____were both in church and had a secret intimate relationship. (Call a man

forward to place hand on her shoulder.) She thought they would get married one day, so she rationalized the relationship. Something she didn't know about M3__ was that he was in bondage to pornography. (Call 2 women forward to place hand on M3 <u>'s_</u> shoulder.) _____ and _____ come up

What I am painting here is a picture of the reality of the world we live in. As I said before, there is a soul tie between you and every person you have been with sexually.

Sin and curses are passed down from relationship to relationship.

M__ and __F____ are coming together with all of this baggage. We want to break those curses today.

(Go over to M and "axe" his connection with women. Then go to F and "axe" her Connection with others.)

We are breaking all the ties from the past and severing every soul tie with every immoral relationship.

(Now put M_____F_'s hands together) Now and can go into this marriage free of all the baggage of the past!

Emotional Soul Ties

Another type of soul tie prevalent is an emotional soul tie. This is an unholy or unhealthy tie emotionally with another person. Emotional soul ties can be between people of the same gender or between men and women who are in danger of developing an unholy sexual soul tie, between family members, and between friends who are too dependent on each other.

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Characteristics of an emotional soul-tie:

- An unhealthy dependence on relationships. Doing anything to hold on to a relationship to avoid the feeling of abandonment
- An extreme need for approval and recognition
- A compelling need to control others
- Problems with intimacy/boundaries
- Lying/dishonesty

When a soul tie forms, a piece of a person's soul is left in the other person's soul holes, wounds. Imagine what it looks like after multiple relationships - our souls can become fragmented, damaged, and scattered among many people.

Purity and holiness

God calls us to <u>purity and holiness</u>. Holiness means - to be set apart for Him. We're in the world, but not of the world. We have our citizenship in heaven with an eternal perspective. Our bodies (and I would add OUR EMOTIONS) are not our own, but have been bought with a price. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. (Phil. 3:20, 1 Cor. 6:19-20)

The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (1 John 4:4)

<u>Purity</u>

<u>Definition of Purity means</u> unmixed, unmingled, clear, undiluted, bright, and transparent. God is refining us to make us pure. There should be no hesitation in us in our relationships with people or with the Lord.

Let's move towards Him today. There is nothing that can separate us from His love. It's a promise.

4 Steps to Freedom

- 1. <u>Honesty with God and with yourself</u> Examine all relationships that have produced ungodly soul ties through sexual immorality and or sexual abuse. Get honest.
- Be willing to Repent To repent means to turn around and go the other way, to change your thinking. <u>I Cor. 6:18</u> says, "Flee sexual immorality." Turn and run as fast as you can. Tell God you are sorry for your sin: "I was wrong...I bought into the lies of the enemy and of society. God, I rebelled against you and did what I wanted to do. What I did was wrong. I willingly acknowledge it."
- 3. <u>Then Renounce the sin and all spirits</u>, including those of sexual impurity. For example, "Father, I renounce this soul tie with (name the person) and break this alliance; I renounce the spirit of lust and cancel the legal right of satan to operate this way in my life."
- 4. <u>Break all ungodly soul ties</u> with sexual soul ties to past sexual partners. This would include any form of sexual contact outside of marriage including homosexuality, intimate relations between spouses prior to marriage, and sexual abuse. We also want to break all impure emotional soul ties.

Team please come forward

Steps to break soul ties:

- Write names on the piece of paper that you were given (be thorough!). No one will see this list!
- Come forward for the prayer team when the Host Team directs you

- Pray through your soul tie list: Renounce and Break soul ties. The member of the prayer team does not need to look at your list. Take your pen with you and cross out each name as you renounce. As you cross them out, you may want to say the names.
- Tear up your soul tie list and put it under your feet. Stomp on it!
- Be anointed to freedom!

Prayer of Repentance

Father, in the mighty name of Jesus, We repent this morning for listening to the lies of the god of lust. We repent of gratifying the desires of our sinful nature. We choose today to break and sever all ungodly soul ties any tie to anyone at any time in our lives that has caused us to wander from You. We now break the power of any generational sin of lust. We renounce lust in all its forms. Forgive us and cleanse us, in the name of Jesus. AMEN

Be seated- take a couple minutes to work on your card then the host team will direct you to the prayer team.

Come forward to prayer team. Bring your paper, cross off the names, tear the paper up, put them under your feet, and be set free!

(Anointing time)

Confession

I have been crucified with Christ. And I no longer gratify the cravings of my old sinful nature. My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit My body may be weak, but my spirit is willing. I am NEVER tempted beyond what I can bear. God ALWAYS provides the way out. I flee youthful lusts. I resist the devil, and he MUST flee from me. I have the mind of Christ. I will set before my eyes NO vile thing. I take captive every thought. My thoughts are true, noble, right, and pure. I am sober and alert ready for any attack. My God arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. He who is in me is greater than He who is in the world. When evil comes,

I will stand my ground. I am a new creation, No more condemnation. Christ has set me free! And by His blood my hands are clean, my conscience is clear, my heart is pure. And the pure in heart, WILL SEE His face. Lord, I want to see your face! I have only one desire -Your presence in my life. Show me Your glory! In Jesus' name-Amen!!

Healing from Abuse –

I have the privilege to talk to you today about abuse. There are 5 types of abuse I'll define for you.

<u>Physical abuse</u> - is abuse involving contact intended to cause feelings of intimidation, injury, or other physical suffering or bodily harm. It can mean being grabbed, slapped, or pinched; It can be harsh or abusive discipline, beatings, being hit or struck violently and physical torture.

- <u>Verbal abuse</u> is an ongoing emotional environment organized by the abuser for the purposes of control. It can be put downs, name calling, harsh words, hateful words like "I wish you were never born" and constant criticism.
- Emotional abuse Is an unhealthy relationship where a person purposely undermines your confidence, your worth, and your emotional stability.
 - Their tone of voice, the disgusted looks, the "cold shoulder" lets you know you've done something stupid, yet again.
 - Abandonment when someone leaves who really should be there for us. Parents, friends, results of a divorce or parents who were unable to bond with children emotionally.

•Betrayal – broken trust, broken or un-kept promises.

□ <u>Sexual abuse</u> - forcing of undesired sexual behavior by one person upon another.

•Child - incest, molestation, ritual abuse, child pornography

•Youth – rape, date rape or being lured into sex by an older person

•Adult – through rape, spousal abuse or sexual violence

□ <u>Spiritual abuse</u> - occurs when a person in religious authority misleads and

mistreats another person in the name of God or the Church

•Manipulation or control by pastors or leaders

•Judgments passed unfairly

•Involves a violation of trust by a person of authority in a religious setting

Abuse in any form causes us to question our value and worth and oftentimes leads us to seek approval and validation from others because our perception of ourselves is so distorted. We have an inability to see ourselves the way God sees us and this opens a door for the enemy to bombard us with lies such as:

•We are not good enough

- •We will never measure up or
- If I had been a different person this would not have happened to me

Many times the pain of abuse is so great that it causes a person to look for ways to mask the pain. This can be in the form of:

- •Drugs and alcohol
- •Relationships
- •Sex
- •Shopping and spending money
- •Overeating
- •Overachieving

These behaviors only lead the person deeper into depression and further away from their healing.

Satan's goal in our lives is to make us ineffective for the Kingdom of God. For the person who has experienced abuse, this often comes in the form of victimization.

- •Victims see themselves as powerless over their circumstances
- •They withdraw emotionally and have an inability to give and receive love
- •Victims blame others for their choices and displace responsibility
- •They begin to believe their feelings don't matter

•Worst of all, victims develop of hardness in their heart

If you have been a victim of any type of abuse, <u>God wants to heal you today</u>. He never intended for you to be hurt by anyone. Don't buy the lie today that the abuse you

experienced was God's will for your life. It was the enemy's plan for your life, not God's. But His will is to redeem that situation today! He has brought you here today for a divine appointment. He has you here to bring healing to your hurt. Listen to His promise to you:

I am the Lord who heals you. Exodus 15:26

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He saved them from their distress. He sent forth His word and healed them. He rescued them from the grave. Psalm 107:19-20

We need to know today that the number one thing that keeps us from receiving the healing that the Lord wants to give us is un-forgiveness.

The truth is, a state of un-forgiveness holds us hostage to the person and events of the abuse. Un-forgiveness affects every relationship in our lives. "Un-forgiveness is like lighting yourself on fire and hoping the other person will die of smoke inhalation"

Harboring un-forgiveness not only keeps us from our healing, but often leads us to hurt the people in our lives whom we love the most. All the counseling in the world will not give us the ability to forgive a person who has hurt us so deeply. The only One who can do that is the Lord.

Jesus talked often about forgiving others. In Matthew 18 Jesus tells the story of the unmerciful servant who was forgiven a debt much larger than a debt he owed, yet he demanded justice instead of offering forgiveness. We have been forgiven a debt that we could never pay, and therefore, we must not withhold forgiveness from others or it can keep us from the healing that we desire. (study it)

Jesus said in Matthew 6:12 (Message)

"You can't get forgiveness from God without also forgiving others. If you refuse to do your part, you cut yourself off from God's part." Matthew6:12 (MSG)

I want everyone to look up here at me and listen to me:

Offering forgiveness does not mean:

•What happened to us was right or that

•We deserved it

Forgiveness is not:

- saying that what the person did is O.K. It's not O.K. and it never will be.
- Forgiveness is not a feeling. It's a choice.
- Forgiveness paves the way for healing.

Forgiveness is:

- ✤ A command from God.
- Continual. It's a lifestyle.
- Releasing them to God. Turning them over to Him.

It simply means we are allowing God to be Lord over every area of our lives and we choose to live with a pure heart.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Matthew 5:8

I want to see God, and I know you do, too. So we must forgive.

When we choose to hold our abuser in un-forgiveness we choose to look at, focus on, the abuser instead of the one who died to heal us from our abuse. Don't make that choice through un-forgiveness today. Choose to look to Jesus.

Martin Luther: "Forgiveness is opening your hands and releasing a prisoner and realizing the prisoner was you."

If there is someone in your life you need to forgive, let the prayer team know when you come forward for prayer and they will lead you in a prayer of forgiveness so that your healing can begin today.

What I want you to know is that the Lord can take every wound, every hurt, every dark and dead place in your heart, and He - and ONLY HE - can heal you, restore you, and make you a totally new person. You will no longer identify yourself with what happened TO you; your identity will be in the One who lives IN YOU, in Christ - in His redemptive, pure, and unconditional love.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Psalm 147:3

"Identificational repentance" Prayers

(Man walks up. Woman speaker ready. During this part, leaders should speak directly to the participants from their hearts with genuine compassion.)

Man Leader - (repents on behalf men who have abused/_abandoned others.)

"I have the privilege today of being able to stand here in the place of any man who has been abusive to you and repent on their behalf. My prayer is that you would not see and hear <u>me</u> but you would, in fact, see and hear <u>them</u> speak these words to you – words that they need to say and words that you need to hear in order for your healing to begin:

(Physical Abuse)

• For those who have been physically abused: I repent for having been harsh and abusive when I disciplined you as a child. You were just a child and I expected too

much from you. I was wrong to do that. It was my fault, not yours.

- For the beatings I gave you that you didn't deserve, I am sorry.
- For hitting you when you needed to be held, I was wrong.
- For all the times that I struck out at you because of my anger, instead of loving you, I am sorry.

(Verbal Abuse)

- I am so sorry for all the times that I put you down and criticized you when you were doing the best that you could do.
- For telling you that you were worthless, that you should never have been born, and that you would never amount to anything, I was so wrong and I am so sorry.
 I was your dad and was so consumed by my own problems, I could not see who you really are – I am sorry.
- For using my mouth to curse you when I should have used it to bless you I am so sorry.

(Emotional Abuse)

- When you were a child and I abandoned you and was not the father that you needed, I was so wrong. When your mother and I divorced and I was not there for you because I went my own way, I tell you now that I am sorry for what I did!
 When you needed me as your friend and you thought that you could count on me to be there and I was not ... For all of these things, please forgive me.
- For neglecting you as you were growing up because I was too busy with "more important" things, I am sorry. For leaving you to fend for yourself instead of being there to show you the way, I am sorry. I am sorry that I was not able to bond with

you emotionally when you were a child and tell you and show you that I love you.

- When you were a child and I made promises to you that I broke and then broke your tender heart, I am so sorry for what that did to you.
- When you, as my wife, should have been able to trust me as your husband and I proved to be untrustworthy, I am sorry.
- When I, as your husband, did not keep my promise to be there for you, I am sorry.
- I am sorry for threatening you and controlling you by fear and by my anger. For all these things, I repent and ask you to forgive me.

(Sexual Abuse)

- For molesting you when you were a child and destroying your innocence and having no concern for what that did to you, I am sorry.
- I am sorry for exposing you to pornography and destroying your innocence and purity.
- For violating you as a young man or a young woman through rape, date rape, or luring you into sex and taking advantage of you, I am sorry for what I did to you.
- For violating you as an adult through rape, spousal abuse and sexual violence, I was wrong and I am so sorry for what I did to you and the effect it had on you. For all of these things, I repent.

(Spiritual Abuse)

 For being your spiritual leader and violating the trust that you put in me, I was so wrong and I am so sorry. For taking advantage of you being open and vulnerable to me, I am sorry.

- I am sorry for being critical and judgmental of you when I should have accepted you.
- As a husband and father, I am sorry for not being the spiritual leader of our home and protecting you and our family as I should have.

For all of these abuses of you, I repent and tell you that I am truly sorry for what I did and for what it did to you. Please forgive me!"

(Quietly walks off. Woman walks on with handheld mic)

<u>Woman Leader –</u> (from her heart with compassion repents on behalf of women who have abused/abandoned):

Because the women who have hurt you cannot stand here today, I am here to represent them. My prayer is that you don't see me, but the person who has hurt you. On behalf of all of them, I ask for your forgiveness.

As your mother ...

When I may have intentionally or unintentionally abused you physically or verbally, even those times when I raised my hand to hit you, but I didn't, you knew that deep down I wanted to -

When I knew you were being abused and did nothing to stop it, and those harsh words I spoke to you that made you feel worthless and condemned, and it wounded your spirit and you cannot forget -

Then there were those times when you felt abandoned, either completely abandoned or just felt left alone - not knowing if you had been forgotten, how afraid you must have been -

Those times of neglect when your needs were not met, or you felt like no one cared that you had needs -

When you had a broken heart and there was no one who would take time to listen to you -

When a promise was made to you and then broken without any thought of how you felt -

The times that I was set on controlling you so that my plans were accomplished and not allowing you to voice your desires

Those times that you wanted to be held, and show me love, and yet I didn't take the time to return your love -

And those times when you needed praise, I was either too busy or just refused to give it. Please forgive me.

As your wife ...

I was unfaithful to you, causing you to feel worthless and abandoned - less than a man -

When your deepest desire was to be honored and respected, and I knowingly or unknowingly withheld that from you -

I was so wrong and I ask you today to forgive me. You did not deserve that.

As your sister...

I was verbally and physically abusive to you, calling you names and making you feel like you were nothing. The things I said and did were so hurtful, please forgive me.

As your close friend...

I was your friend and you trusted me. You shared your thoughts and dreams with me and I betrayed you.

When I *as your teacher*, entrusted with your care, belittled you, embarrassed you in front of your classmates, or spoke critical or negative words that were not true, that impacted your belief about yourself, I repent.

On behalf of all women, I repent. The same great and wonderful God that extends to us forgiveness is here to help you receive your healing, so that once and for all, you can forgive and be set free. God is here and I ask you to please forgive me and let your heart be made whole, in Jesus' Name.

Prayer of Repentance-stand

Lord Jesus, thank You for being here today to cleanse and heal the broken places in our hearts. We come to you now to bring you all the painful memories and all the tormenting images of past abuse. Jesus, we <u>give</u> you all those memories and images and ask You to cover them with your precious blood. We ask you to keep them and guard them so they can never be used to torment us again. AMEN!

Be seated -Team come forward

(Leader ONLY – not repeated)

Lord, I ask for your healing for all victims of abuse. Heal their bruised and broken hearts. Restore them completely. Remind us that we have received your forgiveness when the enemy comes to shame and accuse. In Jesus' name I pray...Amen

Come forward to the prayer team and allow the Holy Spirit to heal your broken heart. He is the God of all comfort. Remember, God is our Healer.

(Anointing Time)

Confession

God knows me and loves me.

His Spirit is near to me.

He hems me in and protects me,

and heals my broken heart.

Today I receive my healing.

What the devil meant for evil,

God will turn for good.

I have authority to overcome

all the power of satan.

People may have hurt me,

But I am not a victim.

I release all who have hurt me

In any way.

I command a blessing on all my enemies.

I entrust them now to the righteous Judge.

I choose to forget the past

and leave it behind.

I pull up all bitter roots

and throw them in the fire!

Christ has redeemed me from the curse of abuse.

I renounce all anger, resentment and hatred.

Lord, cleanse my hands of all abuse.

Make my hands reach out in blessing to

lift others up.

Lord, cleanse my mouth

of all hurtful words.

Let these lips speak words

of healing encouragement and blessing.

Lord, cleanse my eyes

of all looks of hatefulness and intimidation.

Let my eyes show forth

love, kindness, and tenderness.

God has a plan for me,

a hope and a future

to prosper me and bless me.

He will restore to me

all of the years

the devil has stolen.

I cast my burden Him.

The old is gone,

the new has come! AMEN!

<mark>Shame –</mark>

All impurity has been removed – now we want to remove the cloud of shame.

Shame - what is it?

It is a bad or wrong opinion of myself, because I have a bad or wrong opinion of God and how He sees me and loves me.

<u>Shame</u> is how we see ourselves or how we feel about ourselves because of the things we have done or because of things that have happened to us.

<u>Guilt</u> is about what we have done; shame is about who we are. Shame is a label that we have allowed to stick or what we see when we look in the mirror.

I have some questions for you. This is not for you to have more shame if you can relate to these. I am bringing these up for your <u>awareness</u>.

(2 Cor 2:11) "For we are not unaware of his schemes. These are the things that the accuser, the father of lies would like to put on us."

Questions:

- 1. Do you often think you don't measure up?
- 2. Do you feel like you are constantly doing stupid things or making embarrassing mistakes?
- 3. Is it common for you to feel like you need to apologize or explain or call someone back after a conversation and "fix" what you said?
- 4. Do you struggle with insecurities?
- 5. Do you have a physical disability that you are ashamed of?
- 6. Has God given you a ministry vision that you feel you aren't equipped for?

Once again examine these with more of a question of "is this coming at me? or is it stuck in me?"

- 7. Do you feel like you are never good enough and never will be?
- 8. Do you struggle with the same sin over and over after repenting over and over even though you sincerely want to change?
- 9. Do you think you have committed a sin that no one could forgive?
- 10. Do you say" I alwaysfollowed by something negative."

You may have shame on you. If we have allowed shame in we likely will try to fix it with works. We are told in (Isaiah 64:6) All our righteous acts are like filthy rags. I actually think the devil loves this attempt to work our way out of shame. We can never do enough, pray enough, serve enough etc. This will lead us to feeling hypocritical and deeper in the shame. Remember Christianity is what has been DONE for us, not what we DO.

- In Shame we cover up with religion and becoming works focused
- In Shame we make promises we can't keep
- In Shame we get our self-worth from the what we do
- In Shame we have an inability to be honest with God because we aren't good enough
- Shame traps us in hidden sin, keeps us in a cycle of sin, and keeps us from the overcoming life.
- Shame wants us to forever find our identity in our sin: lost virginity, addicted to pornography, adultery, sexually abused – never really being able to wipe the slate clean.
- Shame plays videos of past experiences in our minds.

• Shame is a relentless shadow that wants to stalk you for the rest of your life!

Why is shame so deadly? <u>Because it strips us of the power to change</u>. It keeps us from receiving the provision God made for our sin through the <u>blood of Jesus</u>. If we are in shame, WE WILL CONTINUE IN SIN! The blood - and only the blood - has the power to CLEANSE OUR CONSCIENCES!

Shame keeps us from our potential.

Shame keeps us from a satisfying prayer life.

Shame keeps up from seeing God face to face.

- (2 Cor. 3:16-18) "whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in
- a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Satan's strategy with shame:

This we can be sure of...the enemy wants to weigh us down with shame!

- 1. He wants us to <u>feel and believe that we are evil</u>... that we are bad. If we have been abused or violated, he wants to make us feel soiled, dirty, and damaged.
- 2. He wants to make sure that <u>hook of sin to stay securely lodged</u> in our souls so he can come back at an "<u>opportune time</u>."
- 3. Satan wants to make us feel we need to <u>hide in our shame</u> (like Adam and Eve hid from God among the trees because of their shame). He wants to make us feel that we need to hide from both God and people ("if they really knew what kind of person I am…" or "if they knew what happened to me…") The enemy

wants to rob us of the blessing of real fellowship with others.

(1 John 1:7) "If we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin."

 Satan wants us to be humiliated. He wants to put the "scarlet letter" on us so we're like the prostitute whose sin was found out and exposed for all to see.

(John 8:7) "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."

When shame takes hold of us, everything we hear and everything that happens to us gets filtered through that "grid of shame." It affects how we respond to life.

God does not want us living under a cloud of shame. He has given us His grace and His salvation to free us and to cleanse us from all of the shame of our past.

Let's open up our hearts to the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus. Receive His forgiveness!!

Cleansing by the WORD

Freedom from shame comes by grace (undeserved unmerited favor) and right belief in God and what God says about us. When we believe what God says about us and see ourselves as God sees us then we can receive forgiveness and walk and talk with confidence that comes from the righteousness of the Lord.

• (Hebrews 8:12) "For I will forgive their wickedness and will <u>remember their</u> <u>sins no more</u>."

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- (Ephesians 5:25-26) "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, <u>cleansing her</u> by the washing with water through the word."
- (Hebrews 10:22) "Let us draw near to God with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having <u>our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience</u> and our bodies washed with pure water. "
- (1 John 1:9) "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and <u>purify us</u> from all unrighteousness."
- (1 John 2:1) "If anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One." He is our counselor our attorney.
- (Isaiah 54:4) "Do not be afraid, you will not suffer shame. Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated, you will forget the shame of your youth."

(Isaiah 43:25) *"I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."*

- (Ps. 103:12) <u>"As far as the east is from the west</u>, so far has he removed_our transgressions from us."
- (Psalms 40:1-2) "I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry. <u>He lifted me out of the slimy pit</u>, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand."

 (Psalms 51:12) <u>"Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a</u> willing spirit, to sustain me."

The Bible in <u>Daniel 9:8</u> speaks of having "shame of face"...that shame veils or covers our face. Shame is something that dulls our countenance. Shame becomes the filter which we view everything. However...

- "They looked to Him and were radiant; their faces were not ashamed."
- (2 Cor. 5:17) "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

Prayer of repentance -stand

Father God,

we turn from agreeing with the voice of shame

and believing the lies

that we are evil,

different than others,

dirty and unworthy.

We come to you face to face

and repent of trying to hide ourselves

from You and from others.

We believe that the blood of Jesus

cleanses us from all sin

and all of the shame of our past. We believe what Your word says about us. Thank you for setting us free from shame today! In Jesus' name, AMEN!

Prayer Team come forward.

When you come forward to a member of the prayer team, this is your chance to bring to light what the enemy has convinced you to keep hidden. In James 5 it says, "Confess your sins to one another <u>that you might be healed</u>." Be courageous and confess sin or ANYTHING that has caused you shame. You will be set free and healed!

(Anointing time)

Confession

God chose me before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. Jesus Christ, the Righteous One, has redeemed me. The <u>blood of Jesus</u> washes away my sin. The <u>blood of Jesus</u> purifies my heart. The <u>blood of Jesus</u> cleanses my conscience. The <u>blood of Jesus</u> gives me a fresh start. God lifted me

out of a slimy pit,

out of the mud and mire,

and placed me on a ROCK!

I am forgiven -

He remembers my sin no more.

I am forgiven –

He blots out my transgression.

As far as the east is from the west

Are my sins from me.

As high as the heavens

are above the earth

so GREAT is His love for me.

I no longer condemn myself, neither does God

condemn me.

I silence the accuser now!

Satan is the father of lies.

By the power of the blood –

I tear down the veil of shame.

Lord, take these worthless fig leaves

And clothe me

In Your righteousness.

I run from darkness to light.

My face is radiant and unashamed.

Instead of shame,

I will receive DOUBLE HONOR!

I will NEVER

Be put to shame again!

Whom the Son sets free -

is free indeed! Amen!!

MC – Lunch Instructions Next Page

End of Saturday morning:

MC –

Lunch Plan:

- Our team has a great lunch prepared for you in the auditorium. We want everyone to get their lunch in a timely manner, so that we can get back to the retreat.
- We have an organized process for this that will require everyone's participation. Please participate and follow the lead of your host team member, even if you are not planning to eat the lunch we provide.
- Please remain seated until your host team member instructs you to move. They will guide you to pick up your meal which includes a beverage. You may sit in the auditorium.
- I know many of you want to have lunch with your friends, group, or spouse, but please stay in your seat all the way through the process. As soon as everyone is served, you may sit wherever you would like.
 Begin Lunch Service:
- At this time you are free to go to the restroom, or find other group members. There are also cold coke products available to you near the water tables.
- Thank you so much for participating. If you would like to celebrate with water baptism today after the retreat, pre-registration is open in the lobby during the lunch break.
- The break will last until 1:05.

<u>Dismiss</u>

1:05 - After Lunch

Worship – 2 songs

Fear-

We are going to deal with an area that every Christian deals with. That area is <u>FEAR.</u>

Webster's defines fear as dread, terror, horror, fright, timidity, alarm, trepidation, apprehension, and worry.

<u>Some fear is OK</u>. Fear is a legitimate emotion, in fact, some fear is even healthy! We are to Fear the Lord, we are to have an awe of Him, a reverence of Him. (*Proverbs 14:26-27*) "Those who fear the LORD are secure; He will be a place of refuge for their children. Fear of the LORD is a life-giving fountain; it offers escape from the snares of death."

We should also have a healthy fear of <u>things that can harm us</u>. We should have a fear of stepping out in front of a moving automobile.

But there is another kind of fear <u>that is demonic</u>, it's a fear that paralyzes people. It's a fear that steals their joy and their peace. It's a fear that keeps people from doing what God has called them to do! And that fear is a tool of satan!

- (2 Timothy 1:7) "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."
- (John 14:27 NLT) "I am leaving you with a gift--peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid."
- (Isaiah 8:12-14) "Do not be afraid that some plan conceived behind closed doors will be the end of you. Do not fear anything except the LORD Almighty. He alone is the Holy One. If you fear Him, you need fear nothing else. He will keep you safe."

God will keep us safe – not the stock market or anything else in this world system. One day this world is all going to fade away – but God has promised to take care of His own. So do not fear.

Fear manifested as control

Fear causes us to take control and demand our own way by manipulating people and circumstances.Control works through 5 kinds of fear:1. fear of losing rule, position, influence, or title

- 2. fear of losing resources or materials
- 3. fear of losing reputation
- 4. fear of losing relationships
- 5. fear of losing control

Fear of LOSING these things opens the door to the spirit of control. The goal of this spirit is absolute control. Control starts small, but grows if not dealt with. Ethics, relationships, and morality, will be sacrificed.

- Control may look strong, but it is actually cowardly and fearful.
- A controlling person was probably controlled at some previous time in their life.
- Control causes us to fear acceptance of any correction and criticism.
- A person with a spirit of control often has a fear of close relationships because they do not want to be controlled.

- Fear of losing control causes people to demand that their spouses meet their deepest needs instead of trusting in the Lord.
- Loss of control causes people to badger and manipulate, not leaving room for the Holy Spirit to do His job.
- This fear causes us to go ahead of God and not wait on Him.

Breaking the hold of fear and control means letting go of your will to have it your way. In Luke 22:42 Jesus said, "Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will, not mine."

All that we are hanging on to keeps us from gaining abundant life through Jesus – and the devil doesn't want us to know that. He wants us to believe that if we let go, our lives will get worse, not better. He is a liar and the father of lies. Don't believe him!

Say what Jesus said:

(Matthew 6:10) "May Your will be done here on earth, just as it is in heaven."

Release control to the Holy Spirit – give Him full ownership of your relationships, money, reputation, position, and lives!

Our Father in heaven loves us and does not want us to live in fear:

(Romans 8:15) "For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." Receive the awesome love of the Father and take your place as a child of the creator of the universe and fear will have to go! (Psalm 36:5) "Your loving-kindness, O LORD, extends to the heavens, Your faithfulness reaches to the skies." Do you have a fear of flying? His loving-kindness extends to this – His faithfulness is to the skies!

(*Psalm 118:6*) "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" No one can steal your destiny – NO ONE. Don't let fear convince you that any other person holds the keys to your life – The LORD IS ON YOUR SIDE.

(Deuteronomy 31:8) "Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD is the one who goes before you. He will be with you; He will neither fail you nor forsake you." We need not fear the dark or flying or man or being alone or disease or even death.

(Psalm 91:5-11) "Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night, nor fear the dangers of the day, nor dread the plague that stalks in darkness, nor the disaster that strikes at midday. Though a thousand fall at your side, though ten thousand are dying around you, these evils will not touch you. But you will see it with your eyes; you will see how the wicked are punished. If you make the LORD your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your dwelling. For He orders His angels to protect you wherever you go." Psalm 27:1) "The LORD is my light and my salvation-- so why should I be afraid? The LORD protects me from danger-- so why should I tremble?"

(1 John 4:18) "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love."

Experience the perfect love of God. We always say that faith is the opposite of fear – but actually LOVE is. We have to KNOW the love of God and His goodness to trust Him and not fear.

Everyone Stand.

Prayer of Repentance

Heavenly Father I turn

from not trusting You

and from allowing

the spirit of fear

to operate in my life.

I tear down

the stronghold of fear

and all its manifestations

and fruit.

I reject the spirit of fear.

I turn from stress and anxiety.

I receive Your peace today.

FEAR, you are not my friend!

You are not my comforter

or my protector.

I renounce you

and I break your hold on my life.

In the mighty name of Jesus!.... Amen!

Team come forward.

When you come forward. Tell the prayer team member any fear you struggle with! Now, come forward and be anointed to be set free from the spirit of fear!

(Anointing time)

Confession

I am a member

of the body of Christ and satan has no power over me, for I have overcome evil with good. I am of God and have overcome satan, for greater is He who's in me than he who's in the world. I will fear no evil for God is with me. His word and His Spirit they comfort me. I am far from oppression, and fear does not come near me. No weapon formed against me will prosper. I will not be afraid of the terrors of the night nor fear the dangers

of the day. The LORD is on my side. I will not fear! What can man do to me? My righteousness is of the Lord and whatever I do will prosper. For I am like a tree planted by the rivers of water. I am delivered from the evil of this present world. For this is God's will for me No evil will befall me! Neither will any plague come near me for the Lord has given His angels charge over me. They keep me in all my ways I take the shield of faith and quench every fiery dart that the wicked one brings against me. Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the law. In the name of Jesus, I am an overcomer! And I overcome by the blood of the Lamb

and the word of my testimony.

I am submitted to God and the devil flees from me. The Word of God is forever settled in heaven therefore, I will establish His word on earth. Fear, you must go now! I am made perfect in love. I am a person of faith!!

<u> Anger & Heaviness –</u>

<mark>ANGER</mark>

Now....we have to deal with the core of what stops us from having life and life more abundant.

Proverbs 29:22 An angry person stirs up conflict, and a hot-tempered person commits many sins.

This is something we have all dealt with and have seen the impact it makes. It seems to run in families – a generational curse - that we are going to break today in Jesus' name!

The Bible says.....

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of

evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just

as God through Christ has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:26, 27, 30-32 NLT)

We often think of this scripture as an instruction to make our peace with someone before we go to sleep for the night, and that is correct. Unfortunately, a confrontation and discussion may not always be possible to resolve the problem (e.g., an abuse, a broken heart or broken dream, may be a loss you've suffered) which can produce our anger. The only sure solution to our anger is in obtaining our peace from God. After having done what we can do and as we give judgment over to God, it is only then that we will find our rest.

(James 1:19, 20-21 NLT) Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

Let us remember that there are two types of anger:

(1) The anger of man

(2) The anger of God.

There is the "anger of man" which "does not achieve the righteousness God desires" (James 1:20), and "Godly anger" which is an expression of God's righteousness. We are commanded to be angry in a way that is righteous, that is a reflection of God.

When we see sin as God does, it will make us angry.

Some of these situations could be: Seeing a loved one abused Being abused Injustice in the world

> Being taken advantage of Having a friend or family member die prematurely Being unjustly accused Being cheated

We are instructed to not let the sun go down while we are still angry; WHY?

BECAUSE anger gives a foothold to the devil.

Anger is not always evil but it can easily turn one to evil. <u>Even anger that begins as</u> righteous indignation can turn sour, becoming ungodly wrath, wear us out and eventually result in heaviness and depression. Unresolved anger will eventually open the door for a stronghold to set up in your heart. When the devil has a foothold in our hearts he has the opportunity to fulfill his job description which is to "kill, steal and destroy". You see people all around you who have just given up.

But there's GOOD NEWS!

Jesus came to give abundant life to us. Now we're going to deal with satan's ultimate goal – to steal your life, joy, and strength with heaviness, depression, and ultimately death to make you useless in the kingdom of God.

After prolonged anger, or bitterness, or a deep wound, we can fall into:

<u>Heaviness</u> - a great weight, very thick, or dense, forceful, powerful, painful, and oppressive.

AND OR,

<u>Depressed</u> – sad, low in spirits, deep dejection, characterized by lack of response to stimulation and withdrawal.

Heaviness can cause you to feel like you're in a fog.

You claw your way to the top just for a breath of fresh air only to be pulled back under. Weeping and or heaviness is constant, the pull on your heart seems almost physical and feels so strong that you begin to lose hope in everything; future and present become lifeless.

You call out to God as David did, but there seems to be no answer. When people speak positively into your life, you can barely hear, let alone accept the words. As the heaviness overtakes you soul - your spirit begins to feel burdened. Even if you are clinging to the Word, life seems dark and there appears to be no answer from the heavenlies.

The past circumstances of failure and pain of sin take root and grow. As you allow the darkness to settle in, you lose all hope and you begin to believe the lies of the devil that this life is not worth living - what could possibly come of living with despair, pain...you even entertain thought of death or perhaps act upon them....

If you have felt this way, we pray that your hope is restored this afternoon.

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(Isaiah 59:1-2) "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor is His ear so dull that it cannot hear."

Remember that satan can make his thoughts seem like they're yours. You begin to agree with the condemning statements that bounce around inside your head. But remember that he is the <u>Accuser of the Brethren.</u>

(Galatians 5:1) "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made you free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."

The Yoke spoken of here is not the farm implement we're so familiar with – this yoke was an apparatus that was laid upon the necks of conquered people as a symbol of their enslavement. It was both humiliating and destructive.

Every topic and every spirit we have dealt with over the past two days can lead to heaviness and depression if not overcome. The devil would love to drag us away as conquered people enslaved by

our own pride	un-forgiveness
□ rejection	wounds that aren't healed
□ lust	□ materialism
□ shame	□ fear
	□ anger

When we think of heaviness, we think of a weight pushing down on us. But heaviness might also be cords pulling us down – cords or attachments in our souls that we are

ignorant of or refuse to cut. Heaviness and depression often come from hanging on to something or being anchored to something other than God.

To loose those chains

- we have to let go of our right to have it our way
- we must trust Him and say "have Your way, Lord"
- we make the leap of faith and cut the chains

(Psalm 43:3) "O send out Your light and Your truth."

Light dispels darkness, truth reveals the lies of the enemy. His word is truth! David wrote, *"your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."*

Let God's word wash over you and restore your hope:

(Isaiah 61:1-3) "The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—

to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor." (Psalm 107:13-15) "Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and broke their chains in pieces. Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!"

I speak Freedom (Life) over you – Jesus came to bring you life and life abundantly.

 (John 11:40, 43-44) "Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" ...[Jesus] cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!"

And let this be you today:

(John 11:44) "And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Loose him, and let him go.""

Please Stand

Prayer of repentance

Heavenly Father, we repent for every place we've given in to the spirit of anger, heaviness and depression. We repent for closing ourselves off from others and from wise counsel. We repent for giving in to hopelessness, discouragement, and despair and for not trusting in your Word. We repent for believing the lies of the enemy. Immerse us now in Your love and acceptance. Give us hope for the future and a new outlook on life. We thank You in advance for miracles, signs, and wonders. You are an awesome God! AMEN

Team come forward

Come forward to a prayer team member and let's remove the cords of heaviness, depression, and death with a declaration of God's word over us! (Anointing time) Let the anointer know what your issue is..

Confession

I have the mind of Christ. My mind is renewed to the ways of Christ. I take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ. I put away all bitterness, wrath, and anger. I have the peace of God. I am quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry. I rid myself of all anger, rage, malice, and obscene language I am wise and under control. I use words of restraint I am even-tempered I am filled with the fruits of the spirit. I am a peacemaker because I am a son of God. I prophecy to myself dry bones, hear the word of the Lord: I will live and not die! I will declare His mighty works!

God is my refuge.

He is my deliverer.

His mercies are new every day.

His joy is my strength.

His wings are my shelter.

He heals my broken heart.

He restores my soul.

What I have sown in tears,

I'll reap in joy.

What the devil meant for evil,

God turns for good.

Jesus, I run to You.

I trade this heavy yoke

for joy unspeakable.

I trade every burden

for peace like a river.

I have the mind of Christ.

I am complete,

and lacking nothing.

I am rooted and established

in God's love.

How wide,

how long,

how high,

how deep

is His love for me!

I wear a crown of beauty,

instead of ashes;

the oil of gladness,

instead of mourning;

the garment of praise,

instead of despair. I'm alive! I take off the grave clothes And come forth! Amen!!

Now we have one final time of ministry. We've cleaned house over the weekend and now we want to ask for the power of the Holy Spirit to keep us clean and walk out whatever He is calling us to do.

3:00 - The Baptism in the Holy Spirit –

This is the last session of the Be Free retreat.

You need POWER

This weekend you have had an encounter with the truth and this brings about deliverance. Jesus said, "<u>You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.</u>" But today before we end, I want you to experience another kind of encounter – a <u>POWER</u> encounter with the living God.

After Jesus was tempted in the desert and overcame the devil with the truth of the word of God, the Bible tells us in Luke 4:14, that

* "Jesus returned to Galilee, <u>filled with the Holy Spirit's power</u>."(Luke 4:14)

We want you to leave here filled with the Holy Spirit's power!

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is when God fills us with POWER so we can overcome the enemy and accomplish all the things He has called us to do. It's supernatural outpouring of God's Spirit. God never intended for us to just suffer through this life – He wanted for you to have power. He needs us on planet earth to be His ambassadors.

You can love God and be a Christian and not have an overcoming life. <u>You can</u> <u>continue to struggle over and over with the same stuff</u>. You can go to a conference and <u>get on a high and then go back to the same old struggle if you don't have power</u>. We <u>need God's power to live this life</u>.

Let me explain-

Baptism in the Holy Spirt is a second encounter with Jesus - separate and apart from salvation. It's not salvation, it has nothing to do with eternity, it has to do with *POWER*! It has been packaged wrong way

Salvation is gift to sinners, Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a gift to believers.

We need MORE POWER

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

We are not alone... God doesn't throw us out and say go without helping.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." John 20:19-23

Same account in Luke 24

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures..... ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Luke 24: 45, 49

What is Bible saying -they saved but must be clothed with power by the Holy Spirit Also look at Acts.... Written by Luke- continuation

Acts 1:1-5 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be <u>baptized with the Holy Spirit</u>."

He had already previously breathed on them and they were saved. <u>Now</u> He tells them to wait for the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

They needed more than eternal security – they needed earthly POWER!

When we have power, we will be able to be His ambassadors, to conquer sin, be set apart, and to have victory over the devil where we haven't had victory. <u>Power</u> – Greek word dunamis – it is translated as "dynamite." This is not the power to be able to say the blessing at the dinner table; this is <u>dynamite</u> power from the living God that He wants to place in our lives.

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When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting." (Acts 2:1-2)

"They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were <u>filled</u> (everybody say FILLED) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." (Acts 2:3-5)

Look at Peter. In Matthew 26:69-75, we see Peter's denials of Jesus. He was a wimp – afraid to tell a servant girl that he was a Christian.

A few days later, we see the same Peter and only one thing had happened – he had been baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Those who accepted his (Peter's) message were baptized, and about 3000 were

added to their number that day." (Acts 2:41)

He preached the very first message in church history and 3000 people got saved! This is the same wimp who had denied Jesus – but now he had the power of the Holy Spirit and his life was completely changed.

Acts 8:14-17 Samaritans

¹⁴ When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. ¹⁵ When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. Acts 8:14-17

Acts 19:1-6 Disciples in Ephesus (another example) ¹ While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at

Ephesus. There he found some disciples ² and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when^[a] you believed?"

They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

³ So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?"

"John's baptism," they replied.

⁴ Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues^[b] and prophesied. Acts 19:1-6

Paul acknowledges in I Thess. 1:4-5 that we need more than words, we need POWER!

"For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you <u>not simply with words</u>, but also with <u>power</u>, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction." (I Thess. 1:4-5)

There's a difference between drinking a cup of water and jumping in a swimming pool. "Baptizo" in the Greek means to fully submerge. He wants to cover us up with His grace and power and everything that He is.

You might speak in tongues when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Just worship and give Him control of your tongue. 1 Corinthians 14:4 says tongues will edify you. It's a prayer language straight to God that the devil can't understand. Paul said he prayed in tongues more than everybody else. Don't be afraid of it. God wouldn't give us anything unless it was good.

What about Tongues? Glossolalia GK- outward sign or evidence of inward change. Some call it heavenly language or prayer language. By-passing of the brain- Spirit praying directly to God.

We want to be a group of normal everyday people who have had a supernatural encounter with the creator of the universe through His Holy Spirit that has given us power over sin, temptation, and the attacks of the devil in our lives. When do I use it?

Romans 8:26-27 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

Use it All the time: Eph. 6- Pray in the spirit on all occasion

Use it when you don't know what to pray,

Use it when you're too upset to pray- anger, fear, frustration, when unclear what to pray.

1 Corin 14:4- praying in the Spirit edifies (builds us up) us.

Jude tells us to build ourselves up in the faith by praying in the Spirit.

Evidence of Baptism in the Holy Spirit

There's nothing like the POWER of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. Baptism in the Holy Spirit causes us to love, magnify and glorify God and Jesus.
- 2. Greater love and appreciation for God's Word
- 3. Deepen our love for People both believers and non- believers
- 4. An aversion to sin a sensitivity to sin
- 5. Greater desire to witness to the lost
- 6. Receptive to the Spirit's operation in our lives

My testimony - For me - it was a game changer-

Acts 17:11 search/examine the scriptures.

Misconceptions/hindrances

Team come forward

So what happens? How do you get this power? It's very simple - <u>TRUST God, ASK for</u> it, and RECEIVE it.

(Close by inviting all who want the Baptism in the Holy Spirit to come forward.)

Closing Video

MC Enters –

Closing Announcements:

- As Bishop stated it is important to have your Be Free LIFE after LIFE meeting don't forget the importance of the concluding 2 chapters
- Connection Card (Link on the screen)
- befree@theworshipcentercc.org
- Water Baptism
- Bracelets, T-shirts
- Freedom to make a difference; co-lead a group

Connect card link is on the screen

Release with a blessing: In the name of Jesus Christ, I bless you with the promises of God, which are yes and amen. I pray the Holy Spirit makes you healthy and strong in body, mind and spirit to move in faith and expectancy. May God's angels be with you to protect and keep you.

- God bless you with ability, with abundance and with an assurance of His love and grace.
- God bless you with clear direction, with a controlled and disciplined life.
- God bless you with courage and creativity
- God bless you with spiritual perception of His truth
- God bless you with great faith, and with His favor and with man's
- God bless you with good health and a good spouse.
- God bless your hands to bless others.
- God bless you with happiness, fulfillment, contentment, hope and a

good outlook on life.

- God bless you with a listening ear and with a long life and obedient heart to the Spirit of God.
- God bless you with His peace, with pleasant speech, a pleasant personality, with promotion, protection, provision, safety and strength.
- God bless you with success, trust and wisdom AND
- God bless you with goodness and mercy following you all the days of your life that you might dwell in the house of the Lord forever. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine down on you and give you peace, the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. I bless you in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen!