

Spiritual Warfare - What Am I Saying?

"Sticks and stone will break my bones but names will never hurt." Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, physical injuries most often heal much more quickly and completely than emotional wounds. We carry the effects of words with us for months and years and our lives are often dramatically shaped by them

God's word tells us that our words have the power to ensnare us or to bring us to life and health. *The words of the wicked are like a murderous ambush, but the words of the godly save lives.* (Proverbs 12:6 NLT)

There are many ways we are influenced by the words of others. In our past, many of us have heard words like, "You'll never amount to anything", "Stupid", "You'll never be as smart as ?", "You're an alcoholic just like your dad..", "You're just a whore anyway", "Loser" "You can't make it without me". These words can become a curse on our life that blocks us from God's blessing and from flowing in the ministry God created us to accomplish. We often end up being exactly what these words suggested and then we assume they must have been right all along. The truth is, these words became a curse that stole life from us. *And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is full of wickedness that can ruin your whole life. It can turn the entire course of your life into a blazing flame of destruction, for it is set on fire by hell itself.* (James 3:6 NLT)

God wants to free us from every curse spoken over us by others and any we have thought or said against ourselves. God's word is powerful and can re-create in us the conditions for blessing and fruitfulness that God originally intended for us. *And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you lock on earth will be locked in heaven, and whatever you open on earth will be opened in heaven.*" (Matthew 16:19 NLT)

A Process For Breaking Curses

1. Identifying Curses in Your Life

Make a list of the following:

- Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of any negative words, labels, or hurtful remarks that have affected you
- Include any negative comments or thoughts you've had about yourself (Reasons you have a poor self-image). Look at the "I can't ..." "That will never ..." "I'm only ..." "I'm not ..." "I'm just a ..." Add these to your list.

2. Declare These Curses As Lies

What will we choose to believe about these curses? Will we continue to accept them as truth in our lives or are we willing to call them the lies that they are and to reject them. God wants to replace these lies with wonderful truths about who we actually are and who He is forming us

to be as we walk in the light of His love. Truth and lies cannot exist in the same place. We either have one or the other. Which will we choose today?

- A simple prayer such as the following: In Jesus name I renounce these words spoken over me. The word of God says, _____. I take that truth and cut myself free from the lie that _____. (deal with each word specifically). In Jesus name I announce that these words are now null and void over my life. I am set free to live in God's truth.
- Ask God to forgive you for believing lies and letting them steal life from you. Receive God's cleansing and forgiveness.

Renounce the Spirits Behind the Curse

It is the work of Satan and evil spirits to entrap us in these curses. As Christians whose identity and life is found in Jesus Christ we have the authority and power to tell these spirits to leave us alone and to actually break their power off our lives. Pray a simple prayer in Jesus' name where you command all the spirits associated with these curses to leave. Tell them you are reclaiming the ground they have stolen and consecrating all of your life to Jesus Christ..

Fill Up The Empty Place With Blessing

It is God's will that we live in blessing. From early times God spoke blessing into people's lives and He still wants to do it today in our lives. Now is the time to declare God's word over you which is even more powerful to make you creative and fruitful than the devil's curses were to make you miserable and ineffective.

For example, if you previously believed you were stupid now bless yourself and speak over yourself that you have the wisdom of Almighty God flowing through your mind because the Holy Spirit of truth lives in you. If you previously believed that you were "good for nothing" you now can confess the wonderful truth over yourself that you are living in the good works that God prepared for you to do (Ephesians 2:10) and that now that you are a clean vessel God is using you for noble, holy purposes. (2 Timothy 2:20-21). Find truth for every lie that has bound you. Read the Bible. Ask a friend. Use the many resources available. Write the truths down. Affirm them regularly. Renew your mind in the truth.

Forgive and Pray Blessing for the One Who Cursed You

Pray for the happiness of those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you (Luke 6:28 NLT)

And remember, It's important to also ask ourselves where we have cursed others and to ask for and receive forgiveness for that. Think before you speak.