

# DELIVERANCE MINISTRY

## INTRODUCTION

Drawn from “Free in Christ” by Pablo Bottari, Darin Slack, “Practicing the Power”, by Sam Storms, “Angels, Demons, and Spiritual Warfare” by David Platt, Darin Slack and other sources.

“When we begin to cultivate an openness to the supernatural power of God’s Holy Spirit in our lives and in our churches, we should expect that God’s work will be opposed. There will be some pushback...As JI Packer once said, “whenever God moves, Satan keeps pace.”

We are not in a horizontal tug of war with the devil or demons. We are in a vertical chain of command, and Jesus is King!

Deliverance and deliverance ministry are terms that can frighten, entice, and frankly for some people, it’s a topic they want to avoid altogether. We do not have that option. So long as Jesus tarries, Satan will war against His church. Born-again Christians can be oppressed, tormented, and in a variety of ways spiritually and mentally assaulted by the powers of darkness.

On one hand, we do not go looking for demon presence around every corner, and we do not need to announce “deliverance meetings” in a way that creates an unhealthy focus, but neither do we want to minimize the reality that we do have a thief (Satan) who has come to steal, kill and destroy. We need wisdom.

The foundation of biblical deliverance ministry is our Christian identity and the authority given to us in Jesus Christ.

Scripture does not give us a handy “10 Steps” list for deliverance ministry, but we do see several guiding principles to help us bring as clear and faithful to what we see in Scripture (always our goal!) approach to deliverance ministry.

The point is not that each step must happen in sequential order, or that every step is always necessary. These steps attempt to address the array of manifestations and needs of deliverance that may occur.

Finally, deliverance is never a replacement for repentance. Scripture does not instruct us that we need “delivered” from our moral failures; we need repentance. Part of spiritual warfare can be helping people to discern the difference.

## A METHOD FOR DELIVERANCE MINISTRY<sup>1</sup>

- **Verify that the person is manifesting.**
  - 1 Cor. 12:7-10 – Distinguishing between spirits
  - Heb. 5:14 – By constant use we have senses trained to discern between good and evil.
    - Best if ministry is done in teams, do not show fear or become overly emotional.
    - Eph. 5:13 – All becomes visible when exposed.
    - Phil. 1:9 – As we love them, our insight and discernment increases.
    - Be careful of Acts 19:14-16 – Seven sons of Sceva
- **Take authority in the Name of Jesus.**
  - We need to keep them from being hurt... "I make you subject to me (Bind you) in the Name of Jesus. I will not permit you to hurt this person in the Name of Jesus."
  - Always keep your eyes open during deliverance ministry to observe and protect yourself and others
  - Specificity of the demon isn't necessary, only the name of Jesus. Our name doesn't matter.
  - We need only calm the situation down to get back to talking with the person
  - Luke 4:36 – With authority and power he gives orders to evil spirits and they come out
  - Acts 10:38 – God anointed Jesus to set the captive free
  - Matt. 28:18 – “All authority in heaven and on earth have been given to me”

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<sup>1</sup> We use the word “method” intentionally. Scripture provides us with several narratives on how Jesus or the Apostles dealt with demonic presence, but these passages do not necessarily imply a didactic approach to deliverance ministry. These “methods” are our attempt to systemize the collective wisdom and experiences of others with what we see in Scripture. See Scripture passages listed for further study.

- Luke 10:19, Matt. 10:5 – Authority given to us by Jesus.
- Mark 9:38 – His name is so powerful, even non-disciples can cast out demons
  - One person should lead the ministry. Everyone else pray.
  - The leader can confer with others, but the leader continues to lead.
  - Leader should have sufficient experience and humility to defer to Holy Spirit at all times.
  - Leader should demonstrate anointing for this ministry.
- **If necessary, help the person come into their conscious mind.**
  - The enemy will seek to keep the person from looking at you. Eyes rolling, slain in the wrong spirit, manifesting attitudes, contortion of the face, wild gesturing with arms, and even appearing to worship.
  - Speak directly to the one manifesting, “Look at me in the name of Jesus.”
  - Eyes are like a window into the soul.
- **Ask the person if they desire to be set free.**
  - Explain what is happening to them when they come to their senses...use terms like spiritual problems. Steer away from heavy demon talk.
  - If they say “Yes,” we need to help them resolve this internal conflict.
  - This is simply a compassionate way to involve the person in what is happening.
- **If they are not a Christian, invite them to accept Christ and present the plan of salvation.**
  - We must resolve the issue of salvation first and lead them to Christ.
  - If they won’t accept Christ with repentance, deliverance will not prove sufficient.
  - We don’t want to leave them defenseless—Matt. 12:43-45...7 worse came in.
- **Find out what areas of their life are being tormented as a consequence of sin.**
  - We need to ask them to share when/where it started, address needed confession and renounce sin.

- Demons run in packs, once a portal is open through unforgiveness, anger, etc. more come.
- We aren't doing deliverance at this point. They need to be walked through how their situation is opening them up to influence. We aren't talking to the Demon, we are talking to the person.
- **Have them renounce the bondage and the sin causing the oppression, where applicable.**
  - We need to make sure we are careful to have them confess and renounce all connections, sins, ties, and vows that the Lord reveals to them.
  - We must not focus on casting out a demonic influence if the need is actually submission and repentance in Jesus Christ. This is a process of self-deliverance.
  - There are times when you can just cast out the demon, but many hang on because of unconfessed sin. If the demonic oppression won't leave, we need to dig deeper.
- **Break the bondages and sin specifically and *then* command the demon to leave the person, all in Jesus' Name.**
  - Once we are confident we have addressed all the areas where the enemy came in, then we must declare the specific area of bondage BROKEN!
  - We must address each confessed area, which is another good reason for a team. The enemy is tricky and will hold on to anything. If you can write down the areas confessed, that can help.
  - This is the easiest part; hard part is discerning/walking the person through where the enemy is hiding.
  - There may be a manifestation of the demon leaving, headaches, choking, throwing up, spitting, or coughing. Sharp pain, physical sensations, and movement are all possible.
- **Have the person thank God for setting them free and declare with their mouth that all the glory, honor and power belong to Jesus.**
  - If the person manifests again, go back to find out what issue, sin or area of their life they have not given Jesus authority over and follow the steps to get rid of it.

- **Pray with the person to be filled with the Holy Spirit, expecting evidence that they have been filled.**

**Sam Storms Model for Deliverance at Bridgeway Church**

**Pray for Discernment**

**Instruct the Person**

**Communicate the Authority of Jesus Christ**

**Be Open to Other Possible Causes**

**Ask Questions**

**Confront the Enemy**

**Assess/What is Happening**

**Pray for a Fresh Filling of the Holy Spirit**

**Discuss and Follow Up**

## **CONCLUSION**

- **Be open regarding the spiritual world.**
- **Be discerning according to the written Word.**
  - We do not need to go looking for, nor should we expect highly charged manifestations of something demonic.
  - They will manifest from time to time, but it is not our normative experience.
  - Beware of minimizing personal responsibility for sin.
  - One of Satan's primary tactics is to divert us away from Christ.
  - Be confident in the power of Christ. Remember, we are not in a horizontal tug of war. Jesus is King!

## 12 SCRIPTURES TO MEMORIZE

1. 1JN 3:8b The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.
2. ISA 61:1 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, [see also LK 4:18].
3. MT 8:16 When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick.
4. JN 14:12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.
5. MK 16:17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues;
6. MT 10:1 He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.
7. LK 10:17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."
8. \*LK 10:19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.
9. 2CO 10:4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
10. JAS 4:7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
11. 1JN 4:4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.
12. REV 12:11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.