

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

KINGDOM COME — SPIRITUAL IDENTITY THEFT

1 John 4:1-6

Pastor George Clerie - March 30, 2014

MEMORY VERSE

“Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” (1 John 4:4, ESV)

DISCUSSION STARTERS

As we continue to identify and break the agreements we have with Satan, discuss as a group some of the lies that the Holy Spirit has revealed to you this past week.

If you have prayed to break any agreements with Satan describe the changes you have experienced as a result.

STUDY QUESTIONS

This week we will discuss 5 keys (R's) to finding deliverance from demonic oppression. First, we recognize that a Christian cannot be demon possessed, as we are indwelt with the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:9-11). The Holy Spirit will not allow a demon to reside within the same person that he dwells within. Christians are not, however, immune to demonic attacks or oppression. The following steps are to help us remove the demonic influences in our lives and the lives of those around us.

1. **Recognize the oppression**
 - a. Pray for the gift of discernment
 - b. Test the spirits

Read 1 John 4:1-6 – How do we practically test the spirits?

2. **Repent of Sin**
 - a. If you are not under the authority of Jesus you have no authority over the devil. Authority is given in the context of a submitted and surrendered relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Don't agree with the devil's lies or participate in his rebellion. Eph. 4:27



- b. Strongholds are places where we give the devil permission to harass us by agreeing with his lies or embracing his rebellion.

As a group, identify as many strongholds as you can:

- Worldly Ambition
- Materialism
- Anger
- Fear
- Pride
- Unforgiveness
- Bitterness
- Habitual sin
- Eating disorders (bulimia, bingeing and purging, anorexia, etc.)
- Sexual perversion/
pornography/prostitution
- Participation in a cult
- Involvement in the occult, witchcraft, spells, Ouija Boards, fortune telling, astrology/horoscopes, etc.;
- Eastern Mysticism/yoga
- Alcohol & Drugs abuse (recreational & prescription)
- Abusive relationships
- Generational sins (physical/sexual abuse, alcoholism, etc.)
- Traumas (Rape, assault, betrayals, adultery)

We need to repent of sin that we are holding on to – if there is no repentance, then there will be no deliverance from demonic oppression – it leaves the foothold

Prayer: Lord, I confess that I have participated in _____. I know that it was evil and offensive in Your sight. Thank You for Your forgiveness. I repent of any and all involvement with _____ and I cancel out any and all ground that the enemy gained in my life through this activity. In Jesus' name, amen.

3. **Renounce the Lies**

2 Cor. 3:18 - But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

- a. Satan has been completely disarmed
- i. Col. 2:14-15 – He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.
- b. The only authority the devil has over us is what we agree to give him
- i. We need to fill the cracks that allow the devil's attacks

Prayer: Review the list of lies you identified last week and pray the following: "I renounce Satan and his lie that . . ."

4. **Rebuke the demonic in the authority we have in Jesus' name**

The key to commanding demons is to understand and stand in the authority of Jesus

- a. Mark 1:27 – with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him



- i. Remember that Jesus is dwelling in you by the power of the Holy Spirit
- b. Jesus says, “Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; if you ask anything in my name, I will do it” (John 14:13–14).

To come in the name of someone means that another person has authorized us to come on his authority, not on our own.

- a. When Peter commands the lame man, “in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk” (Acts 3:6), he is speaking on the authority of Jesus, not on his own authority.
- b. When the Sanhedrin asks the disciples, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” (Acts 4:7), they are asking, “By whose authority did you do this?”

Praying in Jesus’ name is therefore prayer made on his authorization.

So, what are we authorized to do in Jesus’ name?

- a. Call people to salvation and disciple them in their relationship with Jesus
 - i. Matt. 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*” Amen.
- b. Pray for people to be healed and for demons to be cast out of their lives
 - i. Mark 3:14-15 - Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons
 - ii. Luke 9:1-2 - Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick
- c. Pray for the power of the enemy to be broken in people’s lives
 - i. Luke 10:18-20 - And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

Give a simple command in faith

- a. Examples:
 - i. “Be gone in Jesus’ name” Acts 16:18
 - ii. We command the spirit of . . . and all its associates, works and effect to leave the person completely and go to the pit directly.



