

INVISIBLE BARRIERS TO SPIRITUAL BREAKTHROUGHS

Abri Brancken, 13 Aug 2017

The spiritual realm is very real and it affects the natural realm in which we live.

Ephesians 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

There are many people who do not receive breakthrough in their lives, for example healing, deliverance, etc. because there are spiritual powers and forces hindering the breakthrough. There can be spiritual principles and or forces keeping you from experiencing growth and victory the way God wants you to experience it. Our battle is spiritual. It is important that we get rid of these invisible barriers in our lives.

Today, I want to help you to remove some of the barriers. We will do this by engaging in confessional prayers together. Barriers in your relationship with God is not from God, but from the enemy and we need to get rid of them.

1. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

Many Christian do not know the Word of God. The Kingdom of God operates according to certain principles and when we live our lives contrary to God's principles, it affects us. We often don't give ourselves towards the study of the Bible and therefore we are often left ignorant in life and in how we should deal with situations.

The Gospel of the Kingdom is an invitation for man to return to the realm of life God originally intended. Residency in the Kingdom of God requires a new lifestyle governed by the laws and principles of the Kingdom. Life in the spiritual Kingdom affects the quality of life in the visible world. The lifestyle of the Kingdom is exactly opposite of the lifestyle of the kingdoms of the world. It is different in both structure and principles. When you enter the Kingdom of God it is almost like immigrating to a new country. You must learn a different culture or else you will struggle to function properly.

In Luke 12:22-31 Jesus taught that the Kingdom should be the primary concern of life. He concluded with this statement:

Luke 12:31

But rather seek ye the Kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

(See also Matt 6:33)

If you seek the Kingdom first...its principles, its lifestyle, its Gospel...then all other necessary things in life will be provided.

Two very important principles of God's Kingdom are:

1. Loving God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.
2. Loving and doing to others what you want others to do to you.

Isaiah 5:13

Therefore My people go into exile for their lack of knowledge;

Hosea 4:6

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Let's repent of our ignorance and let's commit ourselves to the study of God's Word.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come to You in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that we often lack Biblical knowledge. We confess we are often ignorant of Your Word and Your will. We confess it as a sin and repent of it. Please forgive us and help us to seek the truth with all our hearts. Please help us to grow in our understanding and love for Your Kingdom. In Jesus Name. Amen

2. A LACK OF FAITH AND UNBELIEF

We must remember that unbelief is a sin. We often see it as a weakness, but it is much more than that. It is not a harmless weakness, but a sin that can destroy us.

Hebrews 3:12-13

Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Romans 4:20

yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,

Jesus often rebuked His disciples because of their unbelief (Matt 8:26, Matt 14:31). Jesus could not perform miracles in certain areas because of their unbelief (Matt 13:58). As believing saves the soul and enables the power of God to be released, so unbelief halts the full release of the power of God. Jesus often said, "according to your faith be it unto you" said Jesus (Matthew 9:29). The opposite is also true. Your

unbelief can hinder breakthroughs in your life. Unbelief is not believing that God is who He says He is.

Let's repent of our unbelief and proclaim our faith in God and His ability. We all struggle with unbelief at times. Let's replace the negative with a positive.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we acknowledge our unbelief today. We are sorry for not believing that You are who You say you are and that You can do what You say You can do. We confess that You are Almighty. We confess that You are the King of the Universe. We believe in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We believe that the Bible is Your Word to humanity. We choose to believe Your Word and to reject all the lies. Please forgive us for our unbelief. Help us to live a life by faith in the Son of God. In the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

3. UNCONFESSED SIN & UNREPENTANCE

Unconfessed sin produces guilt in our lives. Don't cover your sins and hide it, confess it to God. God knows about everything you do anyway. We don't confess so that God knows what we have done, but to set us free from the hold and effects of that sin in our lives. Don't be embarrassed to tell God your sins. He wants to forgive you.

Proverbs 28:13

He who conceals his transgressions (sins) will not prosper, But he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.

Psalms 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

Acts 17:30

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Confession of sin alone is not all that God requires. He asks that we repent, that we turn away from our sinful activities and turn instead to follow Him. Repentance can be defined as: "A turning away from sin, disobedience, or rebellion and a turning back to God.

Let's now confess any sin that you know that you have been hiding away. God will forgive you and blot your sin out. Spend some time with God right now and confess your sin to God.

Prayer

(Everyone can bring their own sin before the Lord privately)

Heavenly Father, I thank You for forgiving me for the sin I just confessed. I now turn away from my sin, especially deliberate sin in my life. I receive Your forgiveness and choose to live for You. Help me to live a holy and God-fearing life, for the rest of my life. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Remember, you also should forgive yourself and not keep on feeling bad about your sins once you have repented. Once you have confessed and repented, you no longer have to feel guilty and condemned.

4. UNFORGIVENESS

If you want God to forgive you your sins, you must be willing to forgive others. Forgiveness is not an emotion, but a decision that you make. At times, you might not feel like forgiving someone, but you must make the decision and take the step to forgive, because God expect it of us.

Mark 11:25

Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions. (But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions.)"

Unforgiveness leads to bitterness and we cannot afford to have any bitterness in our hearts. It can also lead to various physical sicknesses. Sometimes it feels like we have the right to hold something against someone, but that is a lie from the enemy. If you want to be free, forgive. Search you heart now and let's ask God to show us if there are any unforgiveness. Let's pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show us.

Search your heart...

Prayer

Heavenly Father, in the Name of Your Son Jesus Christ, I choose to forgive every person I have something against. I confess unforgiveness as sin and I choose to extend forgiveness to those who have hurt me, wronged me, disappointed me, rejected me, cheated me and have spoken evil against me. In the name of Jesus, I forgive XXXXXXXXXXXX (just mention the name/s of the person/s to God. It's between you and God). I now bless those whom I have forgiven and I thank you Father that unforgiveness and bitterness will no longer be part of my life. In the Name of Jesus, Amen.

PUBLIC CONFESSION