POWER ENCOUNTERS IN EVANGELISM

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Theological Foundation

Jesus knew that the disciples would encounter the powers of darkness as they engaged in evangelism. That is why before he sent them out he gave them the ability and authority to cast out demons. (Mark 3:14 – 15; Matt 10:1,17,19; Mark 6:7,12,13; Luke 9:1,2)

Note that all the disciples were given the ability and authority to cast out demons. You do not need the gift of exorcism in order to pray for demon possessed cases. It is the Holy Spirit who casts out demons, we are just intercessors.

1. All Disciples of Christ have the authority to cast out demons through the power of the Holy Spirit.
2. Casting out demons should be seen as part of ministry, not as taking away from ministry.
3. JESUS’ POWER ENCOUNTERS IN EVANGELISM (Mark 5:1 – 20; Luke 8:38 – 43; Mark 9: 17-29; Luke 7: 25-30 ; Matthew 4:23-25; 8: 16, 31 -33; 4:23,24; Mark 8:16, 31-33; 1: 21-27,39; Luke 4;33-

44; 6:17-19; 8:1-2, 27, 29, 30 – 33; Mark 1:23 – 27; 32 – 35, 39; 3:11, 12).

1. It was part of Jesus’ mission statement (Luke 4:18)
2. It was what Jesus commissioned the disciples to do (Mark 3:14, 15; Matt 10:1; Mark 6:7; Luke 9:1)
3. The disciples’ power encounters in evangelism (Acts19: 1-20; 16: 5- 40; 5:16; Mark 6: 7, 12, 13; Luke: 9:1, 2; 10:1.17,19).
4. Some church leaders and members do not want to pray for demon possessed cases because of fear, but God has not given us a spirit of fear , but of love and of power and of a sound mind.
   1. Fear of failure.
   2. Fear of getting possessed because their lives are not straight.
   3. Fear of the devil attacking their families.
   4. Lack of faith in God’s promises. He has promised adequate protection. E.g. (Ps 91:10,11 – “No evil shall befall thee ….For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.”

Ps 121:7 “The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil.”

HOW TO BE PREPARED

1. Personal relationship with God.
2. Daily Devotion before starting the day.
3. Ask for a daily baptism of the spirit.
4. Unbroken communion with God.
5. Stay within the will of God.
6. Have no unconfessed sins, or people who you need to forgive.
7. No known violation of God’s commandments.

(Without the above you will never have spiritual authority)

HOW TO IDENTIFY

Know the signs and symptoms.

Some Examples – moving pain all around the body, inability to read the Bible, headache, inability to sleep.

1. Unwanted behaviours – lesbianism, homosexuality, fornication, adultery, lying, stealing.
2. Physical illnesses – headaches, fainting, epilepsy, moving pains.
3. Negative emotions - fear of being alone, anger, hate, a desire to kill.
4. Sometimes no visible signs or symptoms

HOW IT IS DONE

1. Ensure that the person meets the conditions for deliverance as long as they are conscious.
   1. Confess sins.
   2. Forgive others
   3. Decide to stop doing everything contrary to God’s will.
2. Pray a General prayer
   1. Forgiveness of sins.
   2. Presence of God’s Holy Spirit and presence of angles that excel in strength.
   3. Pray for the protection of everyone present and family members.
3. Specific Prayer
   1. Forgiveness of person’s sins.
   2. That God’s Holy Spirit will destroy any spell, occult hold, and loose that bands of wickedness, break every yoke, cancel the assignment of every demon. Drive out all demons from crown of person’s head to sole of their feet and let them return no more in Jesus’ name.
4. Then ask the person what they experienced when you were praying – they may see, hear or feel something. If the person is seeing, hearing, or feeling any thing the person is still possessed.
5. When all demons have left, ask the person to say a prayer of thanksgiving.
6. Pray that the Holy Spirit will visit the home and destroy all evil in the home or yard and cast out all demons in Jesus’ name.