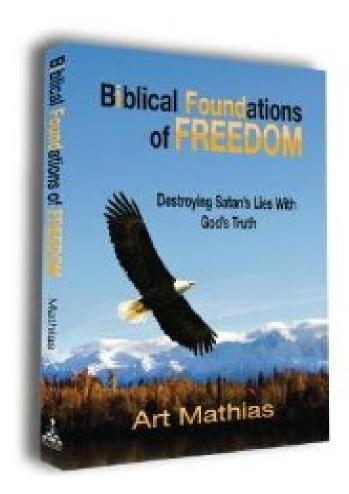
Book's Author: Dr. Art Mathias

# Biblical Foundations of Freedom Program & Study Guide

Destroying Satan's Lies With God's Truth



Dr. Dorothy E. Hooks, PsyD Senior Lecturer "Biblical Foundations of Freedom Destroying Satan's Lies With God's Truth" was written by Dr. Art Mathias:

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#### About the Authors:

Dr. Mathias has lived in Alaska for more than twenty five years. He is a businessman, bush pilot, outdoorsman, and has authored several books and booklets. He and his wife Patti, of 38 years have two grown sons. Patti is an accomplished teacher and along with her husband are founders of Wellspring Ministries. Dr. Mathias has earned his master and doctorate degrees in counseling. Both Patti and Dr. Mathias travel extensively teaching about and demonstrating a powerful God that has answers.

I had the opportunity to attend one of Dr. Mathias' "Biblical Foundations of Freedom" seminars about two weeks ago and it was a life changing event for me. I saw firsthand what God was doing at his seminars; I witnessed how powerful forgiveness is – people were getting set free because they decided to forgive – some had been holding onto unforgiveness for years - and that is why I decided to adapt his book into my Recovery program. Forgiveness is powerful because when we decide to forgive, we are obeying God's Word and when we obey God, we will be blessed.

I am using these materials from Dr. Mathias' book and other training aids by permission from him and his wife Patti.

Welcome to the journey that is going to change your life!

God bless, Dr. Dorothy E. Hooks, PsyD

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# Class Dates & Topics:

February 21st, 2010 – June 6th, 2010 - all classes will be held online:

- ➤ Preface & Introduction (2 hour) February 21st 27th.
- ➤ What Is Sin Chapter One (2½ hours) February 28th March 6th.
- ➤ Discernment Chapter Two (2½ hours) March 7th March 13th.
- Accusing Spirits Chapter Three (2½ hours) March 14th March 20th.
- ➤ The Major Strongholds, or Principalities, of Satan Chapter Four (1½ hours) March 21st 27th.
- ➤ Principality of Bitterness Chapter Five (2½ hours) March 28th April 3rd.
- > Principality of Self-Bitterness, Unloving Spirits Chapter Six (3½ hours) April 4th April 10th.
- Forgiveness Chapter Seven (2 hours) April 11th 17th.
- Principality of Jealousy & Envy Chapter Eight (2½ hours) April 18th April 24th.
- ➤ Principality of Rejection Chapter Nine (3½ hours) April 25th May 1st.
- ➤ Principality of Fear Chapter Ten (2½ hours) May 2<sup>nd</sup> May 8<sup>th</sup>.
- > Principality of Occultism, Pharmakia & Sorcery Chapter Eleven (2½ hours) May 9th May 15th.
- ➤ The Kinsman Redeemer Chapter Twelve (1½ hours) May 16th May 22nd.
- ➤ The Armor of God Chapter Thirteen (5½ hours) May 23<sup>rd</sup> May 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Our Power and Authority in Christ Chapter Fourteen (3 hours) May 30th June 5th.

Class Location: <u>www.abusedwoman.ning.com</u> – Main Web Site

Winter Semester 2010

**BFOF Class Syllabus** 

March 14<sup>th</sup> – March 20<sup>th</sup>

Instructor: Dr. Dorothy E. Hooks, PsyD Campus: www.abusedwoman.ning.com

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# **Topic & Goal:**

- ➤ Accusing Spirits Goal: to explain where and how negative thoughts come into our mind and explain how to use discernment to stop them. To accomplish this goal, we will:
  - 1. Describe Accusing Spirits
  - 2. Examine How Accusing Spirits Make Us:
    - ✓ Accuse Others
    - ✓ Judge Others
    - ✓ Accuse God
    - ✓ Accuse Ourselves
  - 3. Give You A Partial List of Accusing Spirits
  - 4. Include a "Prayer of Release" From Accusing Spirits

## **Chapter Three: Accusing Spirits**

#### **Description of Accusing Spirits**

In the first chapter of this study, we defined sin. We learned that sin entered the world through one man, Adam. The serpent (Satan) spoke words accusing God of withholding something good from Eve: the fruit on the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Satan lied to Eve.

Ephesians 6 showed us that we are engaged in spiritual warfare and verse 12 taught us that we battle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, and spiritual wickedness in high places. These verses confirm what happened to Eve in Genesis 3.

The "body of sin" (Romans 6:6) refers to Satan and his demons, the old nature, the flesh, or the Adamic nature. A study of the nature of Satan, the old nature, the flesh, or the Adamic nature, reveals that they all share the same characteristics; in reality they are synonyms. When we sin, we open the door for a demon to act out its nature through us. WOW! That is scary; I do not want any demon acting out his nature through me – I want the nature of God acting out through me.

Satan's attack began right after God created the first humans, Adam and Eve. Satan really is not very creative; he is predictable. What he did in the past, he will do in the future. Revelations 13 tells us that Satan will continue to lie and deceive mankind as time winds down.

In the previous chapter, we learned that discernment is the primary weapon of the mature Christian in spiritual warfare. Mature Christians discern between good and evil, and choose to do good. II Corinthians 10:5 teaches us to take captive all of our thoughts to see if they line up with Jesus Christ and the teachings of His Word.

This week, I want to get into what constitutes our thoughts, their origins and effects. We discussed previously that the thoughts and voices we hear in our minds are not always our own. There are three sources for these thoughts and voices: they are either ours, from God, or from Satan. But the nature of our thoughts will always reveal whom they line up with: God or Satan.

The Bible implies about the second heaven as the place or sphere where Satan resides with his evil spirits, principalities and powers. These evil entities have access to our though life. However, evil spirits cannot read our minds because only God is omniscient (all knowing). But evil spirits size us up, then set us up, watch our reactions, and keep attempting to influence us to walk the wrong road until we have walked so far away from God that we think there is no way back. We are under no obligation to accept or obey every thought that enters our mind. The mature Christian knows that every thought is not necessarily for our Godly edification.

Some of our thoughts are good and wholesome, while others are dark and evil. Have you ever noticed that? We drive down the street and think, "What a beautiful spouse God gave me. Praise God" or "He didn't have to treat me that way. Sometimes I wish he'd die." We can have thoughts like these about the same person within moments of each other. We need to be able to think about our thoughts and not allow them to randomly follow their own lead. We need to stop every thought and examine it to know whether it is from the devil or from God, determine whether it is a truth or a lie.

# **Accusing Spirits (continued):**

Examining each thought doesn't mean that we have become paranoid, nor should it indicate confusion. Actually just the opposite is true. This process of examining our thoughts is powerful, preventing mental illness, and banishing sin and disease from our lives. It can keep us from being "double minded." James 1:8 says "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways." Stability is one of the observable and measurable fruits of the Christian life.

Some people lose the thought war before they begin to fight by believing that evil thought is their own. They have not learned to discern all the voices or thoughts, accepting truth and discarding lies. Often, doctors tell them they are schizophrenic or manic-depressive, thus labeling them with a horrible and usually false diagnosis that haunts them. The diagnosis itself brings additional condemnation, or provides an excuse so they never face the demons that actually cause their disorder. The only solution doctors offer is to prescribe mind-altering drugs that mask the real problems. The truth is that all humans hear or perceive voices in our minds. For some they are m stronger than others.

Grab hold of this powerful idea. Learn to stop and think about what you thinking. This is the Scriptural principle taught in II Corinthians 10:5: "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

Thoughts that enter our minds create energy resulting in saying, doing or thinking something about others, God or ourselves. Discernment puts a governor on our brain, slowing us down to stop and examine the thoughts and actions to determine what is appropriate. Discernment gives us an "on and off" switch. It allows us to be quiet when otherwise we might strike out at someone. It stops us from doing something that later we would regret. Sometimes discernment works to stifle a thought altogether, disregarding our feelings. Discernment will keep us from committing many destructive actions, as well as prod us toward healthy ones.

One of Satan's tactics is to show us something that looks good, when in fact it is evil and counterfeit. To recognize the counterfeit object or thought, we must know what the real thing looks like. Accusing spirits can operate in our life when we don't know what the real Spirit looks like. Accusing spirits build on our ignorance of who we are in Christ. They tempt to misunderstand who other people really are and confuse our thinking about God's true nature.

Accusing spirits' goals are to bring us down, bring other people down, and to bring God down. They seek to separate us from God, others and ourselves. Satan uses an old military tactic of divide and conquer; he even uses this in the churches.

Evil does not always express itself as the total opposite of good. If we only look for opposites, Satan will use subtleties to deceive us. We will find ourselves accepting ideas that are ninety percent truth and ten percent lies, eventually being drawn into accepting a deeper lever of lies. Accusing spirits routinely use this tactic of a ninety percent truth and ten percent lie as they seek to seduce and deceive us. Accusing spirits hand us a generous portion of truth with one hand, and use the other hand to slip us a lie that begins to break down our value system.

#### **Accusing Spirits (continued):**

An accusing spirit will say, "Yea, I know I'm born again, I know the Word of God, I love Jesus and it's a wonderful thing that I'm a Christian, and hasn't God done wonderful things with me." The accusing spirit will build you up like this and then instantly, in a flash of thought, "but I don't measure up to others. I'm still inferior to my brothers and sisters. It's wonderful where I've come from; it's wonderful who I am in Jesus, but...." Accusing spirits love to "but" in, to plant doubt that will destroy our vibrant faith.

Satan's nature is to destroy; it is the only aspect of his character that you can count on. He has no integrity. He will use every possible device to lead us down the wrong path away from God. The Greek words translated "Satan" or "devil" mean "accuser." Satan's name describes his nature – he accuses. His battleground is in human minds and his greatest power comes from lying accusations. It's no wonder that we are buffeted by negative thoughts about ourselves, others and God. Satan deceives using both false and true accusations; Revelations 12:7, 9-10 reveals Satan's whole nature – a powerful deceiver and an effective deceiver but by appropriating Christ's power, we can still cast him down; by allowing Christ to live through us we win the victory.

Accusing spirits possess definite characteristics that result in certain manifestations. One is suspicion; others include bitterness, mistrust or always believing the worst about someone. Presence of these in our thought life should sound a warning shot that an accusing spirit is at work. The same is true of suspicion, being easily offended, or easily offending others. These all give evidence that an accusing spirit is at work. Exaggerating offenses and failures is evidence of accusing spirits. If we observe someone falling short of the glory of God and our thoughts become filled with bitterness, that's the work of an accusing spirit. We are to restore our brothers and sisters if they are overtaken in a fault, not drive them away through accusations (Galatians 6:1). To do this requires understanding and care, so that we don't become the judge and jury; God is the judge and jury. We must cut others and ourselves a little slack. Now let's take a look at how accusing spirits do their evil work.

#### **Accusing Others**

I John 1:7 says, "But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." Accusing spirits say, "I can't have fellowship with you and you can't have fellowship with me because we don't agree on the use of worship choruses." Accusing spirits attempt to separate us from God and our friends and family. But the truth is that we will have fellowship if we "walk in the light, as He is in the light." What does verse 7b say? "And the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanses us from all sin." We need to make sure that we understand I John 1:7. Here we are walking together in the light, as He is in the light, and it brings us together in fellowship. Along come the accusing spirits to try and separate us.

#### **Accusing Spirits (continued):**

# **Accusing Others (continued)**

There are two ways that they try to do this. One is to bring a false accusation. A second is when there has been sin and the accusation is true. In either case, accusing spirits will tell the sinner he or she is not worthy to fellowship with us, or that the righteous person cannot associate with a sinner, even after they have received forgiveness. Fellowship is severed because we don't walk in the light as He is in the light, but instead allow the demons of darkness to distort our paths. I John 1:7b says that if we choose to walk in the light, Jesus' blood will cleanse us from all sin. This means that if there is a breech in our human relationships, then by repenting and claiming the power of Christ's blood, we receive forgiveness. Our fellowship should be renewed and restored.

Accusing spirits will keep us from walking in the light with our brother even after repentance and forgiveness. We continue to be reminded of his sin against us and against others. Accusing spirits will seek to keep us from forgiving. Accusing spirits encourage us to keep a record of wrongs. They seek to nullify the work of the cross to keep us from fellowship with each other, and bind us with self-condemnation. "I can forgive Pastor Dean, but I can never forget what he did. I can't wait until he leaves our church." This is a very destructive thought that brings joy to Satan and sorrow to our Savior.

God's will is that believers should be united, not separated. We should walk together as one body. When the flesh dominates one of us as a result of yielding to accusing spirits, a breech develops in Christian fellowship; God heals the breach when we repent and forgive each other. Accusing spirits seek to prevent God's healing from occurring. Satan wants to hold us responsible for our sin forever, thus creating permanent breaches in our fellowship with other believers.

#### **Judging Others**

Romans 2:1 says, "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things." Accusing spirits love to get us judging each other. Romans 2:2-3 says, "We are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinketh thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that you shall escape the judgment of God?" This is pretty straight forward. We need to exercise extreme caution as it concerns accusations toward others. Our purpose must be to restore fellowship not to tear each other down through accusations. We are to carry one another's burdens, not place burdens on one another.

#### **Accusing Spirits (continued):**

#### **Judging Others (continued)**

Satan constantly points out our weaknesses and flaws to others. Let me emphasize this: we must always guard our hearts against seeing wrong in others. This is a constant necessity. It must be our nature to look beyond other people's flaws and failures. We need to practice mature discernment. We need to learn to separate people from their sin. We must love others and ourselves and hate sin and we must take responsibility for our own actions.

Satan constantly reminds us why we should not have fellowship with others. Have you ever entertained a thought like, "Well I'd like to be a friend with Sally, but I just can't. She gets under my skin?" These types of thoughts often find their root in mistrust. Mistrust comes from accusing spirits who give us no legitimate reason, just a vague sense of uneasiness. Accusing spirits speak lies to us, giving us reasons why we should not have fellowship with one another or why we cannot believe one another. Their goal is to separate us from each other, from our spiritual leaders, and from the church. There are many people who refuse to go to church simply because they listen to accusing spirits who give them plenty of reasons to stay away.

#### **Accusing God**

Accusing spirits will tell us how wonderful God is, and praise His provision for others and then add a twist saying, "But not for you. He provides for others but not for you." They'll ask, "Why did God 'allow' your daughter to get sick? If God is so powerful, why didn't He stop…" insinuating that we cannot trust Him and causing us to have an unholy fear.

Satan accused God early in the book of Genesis. He told Eve that God didn't really mean what He said in Genesis 2:16-17. He accused God of being a liar when he told her, "You won't die, Eve." Who did Eve believe? Satan, the father of all accusing spirits.

Satan constantly tells us that God doesn't care about our suffering. This is one of the most common issues we deal with in our ministry. We hear, "If God cared for me, then He would take away my suffering. If He cared for me, my child wouldn't be suffering." Are these statements true? No, they are not! The accusing spirit is trying to separate us from God.

Satan always blames God for his own actions. Satan creates a dilemma that leads to suffering and then blames God for not stopping it, or worse yet, accuses God of creating it.

Here is a list of some of Satan's other common lies that we hear quite often:

- "God won't help me out of my problem. All is lost, I can't win anyway."
- "Why even believe God for it? God's not interested in me. He's got more things to do in this world besides notice me."
- "Hey, I've got a 'small' problem compared to others it's no big deal. What's the use in asking Him?"

Do you recognize any of these lies?

# **Accusing Spirits (continued):**

#### **Accusing Ourselves**

Satan uses self-condemnation to accuse us to ourselves. Let's face it; it is relatively easy for us to make peace with God when we have been wrongly accusing Him. And it is relatively easy to forgive others and accept others if we have been wrongly accusing them.

The primary goal of accusing spirits is to steal our faith and confidence in God, and like secondrate citizens in God's Kingdom. If Satan makes us feel like we are a "nothing," we will be a nothing. We really need to understand who we are and who we are not in Christ. This is a profound truth: We are everything that God said we could be, provided we are living it. Some people "live it" correctly and yet still feel unworthy, guilty, unclean, and unacceptable to God or man. If you feel that way, you have accusing evil spirits operating against you; it is not you.

We learn to separate ourselves from the demons that accuse us. If we fall to their accusations and begin to believe them, then we will act out their lies. We will say, "Well, since I feel that way, what's the use?" We begin acting sinful even though at the start, we weren't sinning.

Don't trust your feelings; trust what God has said about your relationship with Him. Satan accuses us to God and to ourselves all the time. Satan and his accusing spirits focus on our weaknesses, sins, faults and failures. They focus on sins for which we have forgiveness, but they accuse us as if those forgiven sins were still part of the most successful tools of accusing spirits is to accuse us of which we have already turned away. They harass us as if we were still sinning, to discourage us so that we will sin again. They want us to think, "That's the way I am. I must be that way because I feel that way."

Romans 8:1 say, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus who walked not after the flesh but after the Spirit." If you have confessed your sin and have turned away from it, and you are now walking after the Spirit, there is no more condemnation or guilt. If you still feel condemnation and guilt after you have sin, and you have quit practicing that sin, then the condemnation and guilt bears evidence of the work of accusing spirits who want to drag you back down. Nail them! Stick Romans 8:1 under their noses!

Feeling like we don't fit in is another of the lies of an accusing spirit. We self-talk saying, Well, I don't want to go to this church anymore; I just don't fit in. Everybody a good time praising God and so on, but I just don't seem to fit in. Nobody really likes me here; they just ignore me." Or, "They don't like me for myself, just for my (talent, money, service, etc.)." These are examples of the attacks of accusing spirits who try to separate us from fellowship with other believers.

When self-accusation is present, understand that this is an evil spirit attacking you; it is not you! If you are accusing yourself in any way, or putting yourself down, go before the Lord and deal with it. If you still sense self-accusation, know that it is not you, but an evil spirit accusing you.



#### **Accusing Spirits continued:**

#### **Accusing Ourselves (continued)**

Total victory happens when we understand totally and kick the accusing spirit(s) out of our lives.

#### A Partial List of Accusing Spirits

- 1. Refusing fellowship with a person who has changed
- 2. Holding people to their past behaviors
- 3. Keeping a record of wrongs
- 4. Bigotry
- 5. Competition, not feeling whole unless we win
- 6. Mistrust
- 7. Establishing non-Biblical standards for others to attain
- 8. Heaviness
- 9. Gossip and innuendo
- 10. Being easily offended. Easily offending others
- 11. Self-exaltation
- 12. Envy
- 13. Jealousy
- 14. Resentment
- 15. Misunderstandings can be the work of an evil spirit
- 16. Suicide
- 17. Judging another for the same behavior of which we are guilty, while excusing ourselves
- 18. Not walking in or accepting forgiveness
- 19. A scapegoat mentality
- 20. Blaming others for problems
- 21. Self-condemnation
- 22. Self-accusation
- 23. Trying to become The Holy Spirit in another's life
- 24. Judging others
- 25. Becoming one with accusation
- 26. Focusing on another's weakness
- 27. Anger
- 28. Bitterness
- 29. Depression
- 30. Fear
- 31. Hate
- 32. Low self-esteem
- 33. Perfectionism
- 34. Rejection
- 35. Vanity
- 36. Worry
- 37. Suspicion

Wow! And this is just a partial list; the devil wants to totally destroy us and he is pulling out everything he can against us – these spirits are causing people to destroy themselves every day.

#### **Accusing Spirits continued:**

#### **Accusing Ourselves (continued)**

That is why this course is so important, so you can recognize how the devil operates in our lives; we need to get rid of all toxic relationships which causes toxic emotions which leads to destruction; if you do not get rid of offenses which cause unforgiveness and all its spirit co-horts (bitterness, resentment, anger, rage, fear, anxiety, etc.). We need to repent to God and get connected to Him, put on the whole armor of God, walk in the Spirit daily, and keep ourselves and family covered in the Blood of Jesus; holiness is a lifestyle not something we do some times – we must live the life daily.

People, it is time to get close to God and stay there, the devil is on a rampage like never before because he knows his time is short and he is trying to destroy as many people as he can. To give you an example: I am under such an attack because God has me sharing this information with you but I know no weapon formed against me is going to prosper; I am covered by the Blood of Jesus. God does not call us to do anything that He has not already equipped us to handle so I know I am already equipped to press through whatever I have to in order to complete my assignment; I am not alone – you are not alone either. I know God is with us and has given His angels charge over us. So I am asking for your prayers and I will pray for you too; we all need prayer – there is no one exempt from the devil's attacks – now to continue with the lecture.

How do we receive victory? God has the answer, but there are standards we must attain. Remember that in Christ, we have everything we need to gain victory. But we must allow His power and authority to work through us. One powerful tool to use when we are under attack is to quote the Bible. We need to master James 4:7-10 because it holds the key to success and receiving God's blessing in all areas of our lives. It produces answers to our prayer. The conditions for receiving answers to our prayer are stated very plainly in James 4:7-10: "Submit yourselves, therefore, to God." The first condition is submitting to God. My submission to God is what motivates me to teach you this information no matter how the enemy tries to attack me; I have said yes to God and given Him total control of my life.

We cannot submit to God if we don't know Him. All the ministry and deliverance this world, or even the church, offers do little good if we don't know and accept the truth. It starts with knowing God personally because He is the one that brings healing. Submission requires obedience to God. We submit when we forgive others and ourselves.

Scripture says to resist the devil. Do you believe the devil is real? If you don't, you have bought into the ultimate deception. The Bible says the devil is real, and that settles it for me. Don't doubt the reality of Satan and his demons. The Bible teaches it, and teaches it. Satan is real and so are evil spirits.

The Bible says, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." It means we must test every thought to know if it is of God, Satan or us. The devil manifests his nature through people; he uses people's bodies to manifest his sin nature (Luke 11:24-26) – but this if we allow him to. It's our right and responsibility to obey God and resist! Resist! Resist! Resist!

#### **Accusing Spirits continued:**

#### **Accusing Ourselves (continued)**

Do you know what "resist" means? It means "to put up a fight." Just say no! "When you resist, he shall flee from you;" that is the Word of God so he has no other choice but to flee when you resist him. But if you don't resist him when he comes, he won't leave you alone. Don't wait, resist him immediately; the moment you recognize it is him, resist him. When we resist, then God steps in and the devil flees. James 4:8 says, "Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you." This verse requires us to do something: draw close to God. He will respond. God has told us to seek His face (I Chronicles 16:11; Psalms 27:8; Psalms 105:4).

Many people have the attitude, "I have given this up to God, it is now up to Him." Then they continue to live in their sin, waiting on God to do something. They wallow in the accusation of self-pity and pride and wonder why they never receive deliverance. God promises to meet with us; He is moved by our faith. Hebrews 11:6 says, "Without faith it is impossible to please Him" John 20:29 adds, "... blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

James 4:8 tells **US** to "Cleanse your hands, you sinners, purify your hearts, double-minded;" James did not say God would do that, he said we are to do it – we must take responsibility for our spiritual walk with God not leave everything up to God. A double-minded person doubts God and mistrusts himself.

James 4:9-10 says, "Be afflicted, mourn and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He shall lift you up." If we want to receive God's promise of deliverance, now is the time to give up ourselves and lay down our lives.

Matthew 16:25 says, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it." Lay it down. No matter your status or self-image, lay down your life on His altar.

This is a time to fast and pray, to seek the meat in the Scriptures; beginning with the meat God is giving you in these lectures. When we fast and pray we go before the Lord in tears. When we have humbled ourselves, God will lift us up. That's what happened with King David. David fell prostrate before God wearing sackcloth and ashes, weeping and crying. He confessed his sins to be released from them and have his joy restored. We, too, need to humble ourselves before God, and seek His mercy and His grace to be released sin's power over us.

James 4:6-9 speaks of defeating the devil, and receiving God's grace. It says to cleanse our hands and purify our hearts. This process requires us to come to a place of tears and mourning for sin, and repentance. Remorse and repentance are necessary because all of us have fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3.23).

#### **Accusing Spirits continued:**

#### **Accusing Ourselves (continued)**

While coming before God, we need to resist the devil. Yet in humility, we seek His face. "Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh unto you." Resist the devil; draw nigh to God. It's a formula that works because it is an eternal Scriptural principle.

There is a price for us to pay called "circumcision of the heart." Few people fast and pray these days, much less mourn and cry before God. Not many people take out from their busy lives to seek God's face. It's time to change. This is the key to receiving God blessings and healing: We must die to everything we are. We've got to lay ourselves down at the foot of the cross, prayerfully confess our sin, and let it go.

Let me suggest that you pray the following prayers of deliverance from the accusing spirits:

#### **Prayer of Release (These are three different prayers)**

Dear Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus I repent for all of the ways that I have accused others in my life and in my generations. I forgive myself and release myself from this bitterness. In the name of Jesus I cancel all of Satan's authority over me in this bitterness because God has forgiven me and I have forgiven myself. In the name of Jesus I command the accusing spirit that accuses others to me to go. Holy Spirit please come and heal my heart and tell me Your truth.

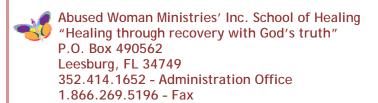
#### (Listen to the Holy Spirit and write down what happens.)

Dear Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus I repent for all of the ways that I have accused myself in my life and in my generations. I forgive myself and release myself from this self-bitterness. In the name of Jesus I cancel all of Satan's authority over me in this self-bitterness because God has forgiven me and I have forgiven myself. In the name of Jesus I command the accusing spirit that accuses me to go. Holy Spirit please come and heal my heart and tell me Your truth.

#### (Listen to the Holy Spirit and write down what happens.)

Dear Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus I repent for all of the ways that I have accused You for what Satan has done in my life and in my generations. I forgive myself and release myself from this bitterness toward You. In the name of Jesus I cancel all of Satan's authority over me in this bitterness because God has forgiven me and I have forgiven myself. In the name of Jesus I command the accusing spirit that accuses God to me to go. Holy Spirit please come and heal my heart and tell me Your truth.

### (Listen to the Holy Spirit and write down what happens.)



# **BFOF Study Guide**

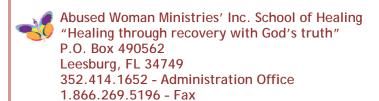
**Topic: Accusing Spirits** 

March 14<sup>th</sup> – March 20<sup>th</sup>

# **Study Guide Goals:**

- > To recognize that we are in a spiritual war.
- To discern which kingdom is being manifest.

To identify ways we accuse God, others, and ourselves.
To Think About:
What is a mature Christian able to do?
What is an accusing spirit? Eph. 6:12; Rev. 12:10
Who is the master counterfeiter?
Is every thought our own?
Could Paul's thorn in the flesh be an accusing spirit? In II Cor. 12, Paul's thorn is described as an evil spirit that buffeted (tempted) him. Do you think we all have the same thorn?
Can accusing spirits operate in our lives if we do not know? —
What is the primary goal of accusing spirits?
Can something be 90 or 95% true and still be a lie?
What do the words "Satan" or "devil" mean?



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#### **To Think About continued:**

What are the characteristics of accusing spirits? List several.

What should be our attitude toward others according to Galatians 6:1-2?

List 3 ways that accusing spirits do their evil work	
1	
3	
Is believing a lie a sin?	
Personal Responsibility:	
How have you accused others?	
How have you accused God?	
How have you accused yourself?	

### **Application:**

Review your answers to the above three questions and then pray this prayer of repentance and deliverance for each way that you have accused others, God, or yourself:

Dear Lord Jesus, I ask You to forgive me in how I accused (another, God, or self) of (be specific). Forgive me for my bitterness and my judgment in this situation. I purpose and choose to forgive myself and release myself from this curse. In the name of Jesus I cancel all of Satan's authority and power over me in this judgment because God has forgiven me and I have forgiven myself. Holy Spirit please come and heal my heart and tell me Your truth about this situation.

(Listen to the Holy Spirit and write down what He says).