

Hope Study Center presents

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# **FREEDOM MINISTRIES**



"May God Himself, the God of peace,  
sanctify you through and through.  
May your whole spirit, soul and body be  
kept blameless at the coming of our  
Lord Jesus Christ."

--1 Thessalonians 5:23

# Welcome to Freedom Ministry!

The Evangelical Church has done well, for the most part, dealing with the spiritual side of man's dilemma. We expend our best efforts talking about sin and salvation, and we should. We fill large stadiums down to home churches, telling people about the way to salvation through the blood of Jesus, and we give opportunities for people to place their faith in His saving grace.

And this is wonderful!

The Great Commission remains the Church's top priority: *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you..."*

**HOWEVER**, it appears that the Church at large stops short of the other part of Jesus' command. Jesus outlines a two-part role for discipleship:

1. Make disciples...baptize them
2. Make disciples...teach them

**Freedom Ministry** was birthed out of our hearts to help followers of Jesus understand that salvation is "the initial treatment in a life time of cures." In other words, our spirit-man is sealed unto the "day of redemption." Our spirit-man is born again. He is saved and heaven-bound!

But that leaves another component, which the Church seldom addresses, and which wreaks havoc in the lives of those who profess to be Christians. What are we talking about? The soul-man – mind, will and emotions – has to be healed as well.

Many Christians continue to struggle with past issues: lust, anger, fleshly issues of all makes and models; in short, hurts, habits and hang-ups! Many times Christians continue to identify themselves by past sins instead of identifying with Christ's imputed righteousness, which was "put upon" them at salvation. Many are on their way to heaven, but they're not enjoying the trip!

Some who place their faith in Jesus fail to realize the beauty of an on-going, changed life. Their past continues to pull them back into their former life. Many ask, "What difference does it make?"

The soul of a man is a fierce contender. He fights the Lord and those around him (family and friends) at every turn for continued recognition. He struggles with surrender, because he knows that when individuals repent (or change their mind) about the way they are thinking and living, past burdens are lifted and the beauties of the surrendered life bring freedom from sin's on-going effects. –Pastors Roger and Lori

# WHY FREEDOM MINISTRIES

"To help people find freedom from past hurts,  
present habits and overall hang-ups."

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## HURTS

are an emotional reaction to another person's behavior or to disturbing situations such as abuse, abandonment, co-dependency, divorce or relationship issues.

## HABITS

are addictions to someone, or something, i.e., alcohol, drugs, food, gambling, sex, shopping, smoking, etc.

## HANG-UPS

are negative mental attitudes that are used to cope with people or adversity, including anger, depression, fear, unforgiveness, etc.

You can experience the new birth...

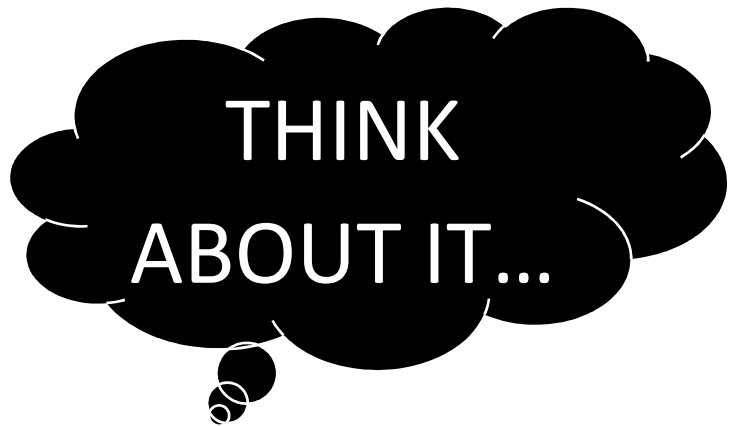
You can receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit...

And you can operate in the gifts of the Holy Spirit...

You can even experience mysteries in the Spirit...

...but “soul” issues can continue to rob you from “fullness of joy and freedom”

that the gospel promises you! **Freedom Ministries** wants to give you the tools to walk in real victory and real freedom. Too many have put “Jesus Band-Aids” on their deeper issues and refused to allow the Holy Spirit to pull out root issues that keep them from enjoying a balanced, fulfilled Christian journey. They often bring harm to themselves, loved ones and friends and even those in the church. Over the next six weeks our prayer is that you will get honest with the Lord and yourself, asking the Holy Spirit to expose any issues in your soul that may be holding you back from real freedom. This will be a very introspective time, and each session will be followed by taking what we learn to the altar and surrendering (confessing) everything the Lord reveals. This will not be a time for group prayer or one-on-one prayer; you will be invited to go to the Lord as an audience of “one.”



Consider Chip and Joanna Gaines from “Fixer Upper”

At the beginning of each episode, Chip and Joanna find a suitable home for each excited couple. Then after the new and approved look is agreed upon, Chip does what he refers to as “Demo Day.” He and his crew demolish everything that needs renovation and/or replacement. Walls get knocked down, kitchen counters are torn out, bathrooms are gutted, flooring is removed, etc. Next, the Gaines refurbish according to plan. Finally, Joanna places her final decorative touches inside each home; and at show’s end, they unveil the finished project to a waiting and ecstatic couple.

This is what God wants to do in our lives. He first takes an original project that has been negatively impacted by time and life in general. He then shows us where we are not walking in freedom and gives us a game plan to walk out of our pain. He then begins demolition – exposing those hidden away “rooms” in our heart that need to be refurbished or even removed. Then as we surrender to His truth versus our formerly held lies, He begins a process that brings beauty and a new look into our lives. Only when we see Jesus face to face will our “fixer upper” be totally renovated!

# Introduction

Five key concepts we build on in Freedom Ministry:

## 1. Kingdom focused – not problem focused

The Kingdom is everywhere, whether we are aware of it or not. What we focus on determines what we think on. If we think about problems, we focus on problems. If we are Kingdom focused, we focus on what God says about the problem. What we seek first orders every other aspect of our life (Matthew 6:33).

## 2. Hearing God

*Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.* When we hear from God afresh, the rest follows.

## 3. Make disciples, not dependents

Teaching people to hear from God themselves so they are not dependent on man but on God. Disciples grow as a byproduct of hearing from God.

## 4. Process and Moments (Events)

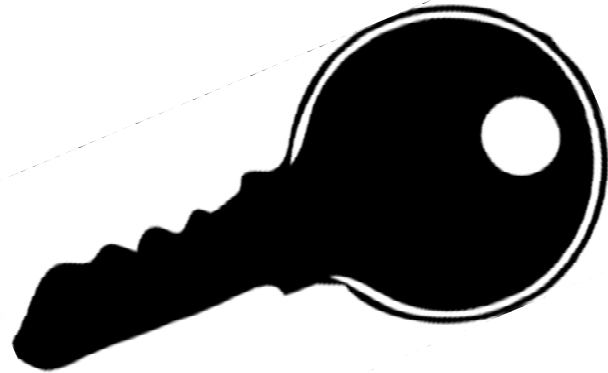
The Holy Spirit can provide a moment (event) such as an immediate healing. However, there are processes that follow the moments. Salvation is a moment (event) that is worked out in process! Wesley said, “We are saved, we’re being saved, and we shall be saved!”

## 5. Free people, free people

Get free! We teach what we know, but we impart who we are.

## Keys to freedom:

- a. Identify the root
- b. Look to God
- c. Stop hiding
- d. Be vulnerable
- e. Give God permission
- f. Submit to God's will
- g. Understand you get to choose freedom



## Let's keep going:

### **What freedom is not:**

Freedom is not defined by what is absent, but rather by Who is present! (John 8:32, 2 Corinthians 3:17)

Freedom isn't the absence of anything. It is the presence of Someone. Freedom comes when we can respond to God fully as the person He created and redeemed us to be.

Freedom is not about us doing good; it's about leading us to life and truth.

### **What Freedom is:**

If we're free, we impart freedom – TRANSFORMATION – Give life out of life.

Freedom isn't when we stop the bad things in our lives; it is when we become what we are designed to be.

Revelation brings transformation, not information.

Revelation means "to lift the veil." It is to remove the cover over something so we can see it more clearly. It doesn't create something: It simply reveals what is already there.

All the promises God reveals to us will be realized in time, but the acceleration of events is largely determined by the desperation of God's people.

"Our passion for Him and His promises speeds up the process of growth and development, making us qualified for the stewardship of those events sooner than had been planned" – Bill Johnson