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Prayers That Heal the Heart

COU 501

Final Reflection Paper

 I have had previous training with Christian Healing Ministry as a Prayer Minister and have served as such for several years at various retreats and prayer groups. When I was near to completing the first class I took at CLU; Communion With God, I had begun to prayerfully seek the next class to enroll in. I felt the Lord leading me towards this class-Prayers That Heal the Heart. I didn’t think I wanted to take it because I’ve done a lot of this prayer work before. In my previous training we not only learned to minister but have also received much ministry. So I’ve prayed through a lot of heart issues. I thought this class would be too much of a repeat.

 Before I finish telling what the ministry of the class held for me, I’ll set the stage for where I was at and why the Lord moved me in this direction. Sometime in the late spring, early summer of 2017 I was visiting my daughter at her home several hours away. We were having a conversation about a young man we both knew. He has struggled with many issues since we have known him. The Lord has entered his life and he has changed a lot. This man comes from a Christian background and his family has a heritage of Christian faith. As my daughter was telling me about the changes she has witnessed, she said “Mom I don’t understand. I don’t know of anyone who loves the Lord and is more passionate about serving Him than you. This other family loves God but really they don’t set themselves apart or give it the energy you do. Yet, things always seem to work out for them and your family still struggles so much”. This comment really stung because I have been praying for my family for many years and we still have many struggles. We have struggles with chronic illness as well as other deeply rooted things. I have no extended family due to early death and alienation. I soon left her house and cried for the entire drive home. I cried out to God and said “Either you really do play favorites or I’m missing something”. I continued to pray and ask God to show me why some people seem to do so well while others continue to struggle through life.

 Holy Spirit continued to draw my heart towards Prayers That Heal the Heart so I enrolled and ordered the course materials. I was still working on finishing the first class but I was super excited to get the box with the syllabus and books. I always love beginning a new class! I started to read the main text-Prayers That Heal the Heart and did the first lessons in the syllabus. Soon I got to the book Blessing or Curse by Derek Prince. As soon as I picked it up and began to read the beginning of the book I knew why the Lord had let me to this class! This was the answer I’d been seeking! This text speaks directly to my own personal/family struggle as well as something that I’ve encountered many times working in ministry. “Let us look closer, for a moment, at the man under the shadows. He does all the right things: changes his job or place of residence; acquires further vocational skills, studies all the latest literature on positive thinking. Perhaps he even takes a course on how to release some mysterious potential within himself. Yet success eludes him. His children are rebellious, his marriage under strain, accidents and illnesses routine. His cherished goals slip through is fingers like water through the finders of a drowning man. He is “haunted” by a sense of inevitable failure, which he can perhaps postpone but never overcome. All his life he has a sense of struggling against something he cannot identify-something amorphous and elusive. He feels at times as if he is wrestling wit a shadow.” (BC pp 17&18) This was it! Reading this was like reading about my own life! I’d been saved at 7 but grew up in an unsaved family. I was largely unchurched but read the Bible and got to church whenever I could. Though I had grown to love God and serve Him, my whole life has been a struggle-one struggle after another. I’ve seen the lives of others who are “blessed” and often wondered why God chose not to bless me.

 The interesting thing about this is that I am blessed! I have a close and loving relationship with God. He talks to me and I have a beautiful ministry that I love. My call to ministry is totally unique in the area in which I live. I am the only woman to serve as a minister in the conservative circles where I work. Though this is often more of a struggle than I tell most people, God has greatly blessed me and the ministry. There is great fruit growing from this season. I have no reason to complain about my own personal life, but when you look beyond that at all…it is a struggle.

 I have also seen, through the years of ministry, how others have struggled to serve God and live in Freedom. One of the things we do at the Encounter retreats where I regularly minister is lead people through repentance and into freedom. We cover most of the steps used in the Prayers That Heal material. Typically by the end of the weekend the ladies are feeling free, cleansed and filled with Holy Spirit. It is such a joy to minister to them and send them on their way, healed and renewed. But I have seen year after year some women come to retreat after retreat and leave cleansed and renewed but within a year or so totally bogged down and defeated again. We’ve discussed it as a prayer team for the Encounters. Is it them? Do they simply not want it enough? The tendency is to place “blame” on the very people who are struggling. Except, I personally know some of these women and I know it to not be true. They love God and long for the fullness of healing that so many others receive. So then, what is the problem? “In previous years I spend much time counseling people like those described in the previous chapter. But it was often a frustrating task. Certainly people would progress spiritually up to a point, then they’d seem to encounter an invisible barrier. It was not that they lacked sincerity or dedication. In fact, they often seemed more sincere and dedicated than others who made better progress.They would accept the counsel I gave them no try to put it into practice, but the results were-to say the least-disappointing, both for them and for me. After dealing with such a case, I would find myself praying, “Lord, why is it that I cannot better help this person?”” (BC p25). There it was! Derek Prince knew exactly what I had been struggling with. I cried as I read this book! It was as if God had written this just for me!

 I quickly dug into this material. The first five chapters detail what curses are, where they come from and give indications of being under a curse. Yes! For sure I had many indications of being under a curse. Praise Jesus! Now I could know what to do about it! Always at Encounters we had dealt with sin and generational sin. Curses had been mentioned as part of that, but never had we looked specifically at the curse. We would repent for the sin and generation sins. We would then do deliverance and replace with Holy Spirit vision but we never canceled the curses; so the enemy still had full access to our lives and the lives of our families! This made such perfect sense to my heart! I was excited! My friends do think I’m a bit strange-How many people really get excited for weeks while dealing with horrible family curses and demonic manifestations? I do! If I can know what the problem is, then by the Blood of Jesus and Power of Holy Spirit I can be set free!

 I made up a list of the curses and the prayers listed in the book. Then, with Holy Spirit prompting I made a prayer pattern with steps to lead a person out of the curse. When I was praying about this and reading the book Holy Spirit spoke to me and showed me that a curse is much like a blood clot in the leg. The blood clot blocks correct flow to that part of the leg. Though the rest of the leg may still be receiving adequate blood flow, that area of the leg cannot. When an area of someone’s life is blocked by a curse, that area cannot receive the blessing of God. They may be saved and they may be functioning alright in other areas but that area cannot-will not-receive the favor and blessings of God. Wow! This makes total sense. And, even if a person comes to God and moves themselves into His favor and kindness-as I had done with my life-the curses will still block favor and blessing to the generations beyond. I can see this all through my blood line!

 As I worked my way through the curses; doing one chapter/one curse at a time, it soon became evident that I had every single generational curse listed-with the exception of Anti-Semitism. I am including the list below and the 5’rs that I’ve developed to pray through a curse.

Generational Curses to Pray About from Blessing or Curse by Derek Prince

* **False gods**
	+ Occult
	+ Idols
	+ Witchcraft-Rebellion and disobedience
	+ Cults and false religions

*Lord, I declare that You are the only true God. There is no other god besides You. You are my source for wisdom and strength*

* **Various moral and ethical sin**
	+ All disobedience to the 10 commandments
	+ All forms of sexual sin
	+ Disrespect for parents
	+ Taking advantage of the weak or helpless
	+ Lying
	+ Stealing
	+ Divorce and adultery

*Lord, I will not compromise what Your Word says is Truth nor will I justify my wrongdoing. I desire to walk in righteousness.*

* **Anti-Semitism**
	+ Any form of disrespect for Jewish people

*Lord, I bless Israel in Your Name and I speak a word of peace to Jerusalem.*

* **Legalism, Carnality, Apostasy**
	+ Legalism is believing that obey the rules of men in religion will make you righteous
		- The attempt to achieve righteousness by obeying a set of rules
		- The attempt to impose any extra conditions to achieve righteousness other than what God has laid down.
	+ Carnality is operating in your own strength and energy rather than seeking God for wisdom and strength
	+ Apostasy is turning from what was believed as Truth to false beliefs

*Jesus, My desire is to walk in the Spirit and not in the flesh. I will keep my eyes on You and Your grace.*

* **Theft, Perjury, Robbing God**
	+ Theft is taking something/anything that isn’t yours
	+ Perjury is making untrue statements
	+ Robbing God is not giving to God your tithes and offerings

*Lord, all that I have is Yours. I commit myself to “walk in the way of goodness, and keep to the path of righteousness. (Proverbs 2:20)*

* **Authority Figures**
	+ Disregarding or disrespecting all any or all authority
	+ Being irresponsible with authority given to you

*Heavenly Father, I will endeavor always to speak with grace, to speak words of life and not death, blessings and not curses.*

* **Self-Imposed curses**
	+ Negative talk
	+ Negative expectations
	+ Life and death are in the tongue
	+ The mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart
1. Mental and/or emotional breakdown
	1. Driving me crazy…
	2. I just can’t take any more
	3. It makes me mad…
2. Repeated or chronic sicknesses (especially of hereditary)
	1. Whenever there is a bug I catch it
	2. I’m sick and tired of….
	3. It runs in the amity, so I guess I’m next
3. Barrenness, a tendency to miscarriage or related female problems
	1. I don’t think I’ll ever get pregnant
	2. I’ve got the curse again
	3. I just know I’m going to lose this one…I always do
4. Breakdown of marriage and family alienation
	1. The palm reader said my husband would leave me
	2. Somehow I always knew my husband would find another woman
	3. In our family we have always fought like cats and dogs
5. Continuing financial insufficiency
	1. I never can make ends meet-my father was the same
	2. I can’t afford to….
	3. I hate those fat cats who get all they ever want-it never happens to me
6. Being accident prone
	1. It always happens to me
	2. I knew there was trouble ahead
	3. I’m just a clumsy kind of person
7. A history of suicides and unnatural or untimely deaths
	1. What’s the use of living?
	2. Over my dead body
	3. I’d rather die than go on the way I am
	* Repent, Revoke, Replace
		+ It is essential to repent for self curses and to break them by revoking what you said and replacing it with Truth.

Thank You, Lord, that Your thoughts toward me are precious and that the sum of them is great! I am your workmanship and I proclaim Your goodness over my life!

* **Servants of Satan**
	+ Live in obedience to God
	+ Live in unity with other believers

*Lord Jesus, I desire to be obedient to Your Word and walk in unity and love with the family of God.*

* **Soulish Talk**
	+ Idle words
	+ Judging
	+ Gossip
	+ Negative, critical and unworthy speech

*Lord, Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer*

* **Soulish Prayers**
	+ Accusing and condemning
	+ Dominating, manipulating

*Father, I rely on the Holy Spirit to guide me in my prayers. Help me when I stray from praying by the Spirit.*

**Steps to Break Generational and Personal Curses**

1. **Recognize**
	1. The curse
	2. The source (ancestors/self)
	3. Your participation
2. **Repent**
	1. Repent for all the people who went before you
	2. Repent for your own participation in the sins
3. **Revoke**
	1. Bring the cross of Jesus into the womb between you and the previous generations
4. **Remove**
	1. Any demonic attachments to the curse
5. **Replace**
	1. Blessings instead of curses

I had a couple very specific deliverance/manifestations when I went through these curses. The first one was False gods. As I read this chapter it spoke of the occult as being hidden or covered over. That was a specific answer to something the Lord had been talking to me about for months. I have always felt hidden, covered over-not seen. I can exist in a place for years and have most people never see me or notice that I am there. Needles to say this makes working in a ministry a challenge. I knew immediately that this was an occult curse and even though I’ve never dabbled in anything occult-because it scares me-I knew without knowing that my ancestors had. When I prayed through the prayer steps I felt something physically being pulled from the very core of my body. It felt as if a long plant with deep roots was being pulled out. I could feel the roots holding on and being pulled free. Finally! Yes I was free! I could breathe like I’ve never been able to breathe before! I was filled with Joy! When I went to church the next Sunday evening many, many people waved to me and said hi. This is very uncommon! Over the subsequent months the women’s ministry has grown.Women who have not spoken to me in 18 years have come to some of my events. I now walk uncovered and in the favor of the Lord!

The next manifestation came when I prayed over sexual bondage and sin. I’ve repented for my own sexual sin and know that God has worked in that area. However, sexual identity and sexual sin are rampant in my family. I believe this curse over the fruit of my womb and subsequent generations has been broken. The Lord gave me a very long list of generational bondage to sexual sin. Some of the sins He showed me I never would have dreamed existed in my family! I prayed through the steps for breaking the curse and during that prayer something literally broke off from my mind. I felt it snap and let go. I’ve always struggled with focus and ADD type symptoms. I felt it leave. Several weeks after the prayer the Lord gave me to opportunity to see a deep work that he has begun in my family. Things are not completely set right yet but I can see that the curse has been broken and that over time God’s blessings will flow over the “fruit of my womb” and my generations will be Blessed!

 One of the curses that has plagued by family for generations is mother hatred. When I read the section on Honoring Your Parents I was greatly grieved. I had very challenging parents, both of whom died young to addictions. I knew the Lord and knew I needed to honor them but it was a challenge to say the least. My mother was abusive to me and I’d struggled with mother hatred for years. I believe that I had been healed from this years ago but still the curse was attached. Mother hatred is common in my family line. One of the indicators of a curse is early death, chronic illness and infertility. These things were directly related to mother hatred in my line. I repented and broke the curse and waited to see what God would do. No woman has lived to be over 70 in my entire family line. That used to be funny but now I’m 55, it’s not quite so funny! Also the girls in the family struggle with chronic and debilitating illnesses. My daughter has been chronically ill since she was 2 and critically ill several times throughout her life. I have believed that it is only prayer and faith that has spared her time and again. After I broke the curse of mother hatred I saw the “blood clot” removed. I then prayerfully restored blessing and favor to my line and into the “fruit of my womb” and the “fruit of my daughter’s womb”. Two weeks after praying this I went to visit my daughter who was preparing for the 3rd birthday party of her twins. I went to help her get ready. We were in the grocery store and she said to me “Mom! Guess what? My husband got a cold two weeks ago and I didn’t catch it!” Amazing! That doesn’t ever happen! My daughter has had a weakened immune system and she catches everything and gets very sick. Wow! The curse was broken! That was 4 months ago and she’s not had a cold since! Praise Jesus!

 After I had finished praying through all these I took it to my prayer team. They are a team of women who love Jesus but have struggled through life-they were cursed! We prayed through the book together. The first several weeks were absolutely wild! There were demonic manifestations everywhere. There are 12 ladies on the team and every one of them had stuff flying! God is so super cool! We have finished the book and are curse free! We are going on a weekend retreat where we will finish working on some of our Contributing Strands and learn how to release blessings into our blood lines! We will be a blessed people!

 In closing. After completing the work on curses, I did go and work on Contributing Strands. This work was enjoyable and effective after being released from so many curses. When I tell others about this experience I say that it is like I’ve always lived in this run-down house and have been working on remodeling room by room. The rooms look better but the structure is still sagging and unsound, so the rooms are never fully restored. Well now I can say that breaking the curses has been like moving completely out of that old house and moving into the brand new home at the top of the hill. You know-the one with all the lights on that everyone can see!!! Such an amazing journey I’m on with Jesus! I am BLESSED! And the fruit of my womb will be BLESSED! We will be BLESSED for 1000 generations because Jesus is LORD! Amen

 I will be using this material for my ministry. I’ve taken it to the Encounter Team and will be teaching them about it so we can incorporate it in that ministry. My prayer team is training and prays with others and we are using it. We recently had one woman totally set free from mental illness and schizophrenia! I am thankful for CLU and believe God will continue to do great things through this ministry.