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A Team Deliverance Experience

by Dan Trygg

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh, ⁴ for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but are made powerful by God for tearing down strongholds. We tear down arguments ⁵ and everything raised up against the experiential-knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to make it obey Christ.”

II Corinthians 10:3-5

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are varieties of services, and the same Lord. ⁶ And there are varieties of inworkings, but the same God who works all things in all persons. ⁷ But to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”

I Corinthians 12:4-7

After a couple of days, it became apparent that the spirits we had commanded to leave Mike had not, in fact, left. Although Mike had felt a greater clarity, the battle for his mind was intense, ...and his roommates reported that the demons seemed to “take over” on at least a couple of evenings. **We felt that we should put together a team to secure a more complete deliverance.** The Bible says that there are a number of different spiritual gifts, given by God to address various needs. One of these is the “discernings of spirits”, a God-energized ability to recognize whether there is a demonic spirit present. My friend, Stan, is able to *smell* when demonic things are present. He can also often *see* if demons are *in* someone. He can also *feel* the movements and locations of the demons, if they attempt to move around inside of the person. **Having someone available who is gifted like Stan is a great advantage.**

I called Stan, and we began to pray for a place to meet, and for the Lord to put together the right team of people to do this kind of work. One of Mike’s friends said that we could use the building where he went for church. Another brother, Todd, met us there, at 6:50 p.m. on that Thursday evening. John came, and told us the people in the church were expecting us, and we could go right into the sanctuary. We moved inside, and began to get prepared.

The important thing for us is to get centered in the Lord, and to become open and sensitive. We spent about a half an hour in prayer and worship. I felt led to walk up and down the sanctuary, praying in the Spirit and interceding as I felt the Lord directing me. Stan was playing guitar, leading in worship and, at times, leading us in prayer. **It is important to get to the place where we have no set agenda of our own. We have to allow God to lead us.** We cannot assume He is going to do *anything*, or that He will proceed in a certain fashion. We put aside the worries and distractions of the day, and we deal with any unconfessed sin or other unfinished business the Holy Spirit might bring to mind. **We consecrate the space to the Lord, dedicating it for His holy presence and purposes.**

About 7:20, Mike arrived, along with two friends who had driven him there. We had him move to the first pew in the front of the sanctuary. Stan was sitting opposite him, with Todd on Stan’s left. I sat on Mike’s right. John was behind him, and the other two were to John’s left, also behind Mike. I mentioned that **God had brought each of us there. It was no coincidence that we were in that place together.** I explained that **we believed that it was God’s desire to use us to accomplish His purposes there.** I talked about spiritual gifts. The Holy Spirit may reveal things to *any one of us* in the room, whether we have had such experiences before, or not. If any of us suddenly became aware of some random thought, or received an image or picture in our mind that seemed unusual, we were to mention it. If we became aware of some sensation in our body that seemed unusual, we were to mention that, too, because it may be the Holy Spirit’s way of guiding us in our ministering. **We prayed for the Spirit to come, distribute His gifts and to lead us.** Then we laid hands on Mike and began to pray.

Stan attempted to anoint Mike with anointing oil. He spoke about it first, explaining that *the oil was nothing magical.* It symbolized or represented the Holy Spirit. Stan asked Mike if he could anoint him, and Mike said, “Yes.” When he tried to, however, the demon batted at Stan’s hand to keep the oil away. It was clear that it did not *want* the anointing oil to be applied. Stan verbally rebuked and bound the spirit, and then applied oil to Mike’s forehead. As he did this, Stan looked into Mike’s eyes and said, “I *see you* in there.” At this, the demon immediately *lunged* at Stan. It did not *want* to be seen. **The first line of defense for demonic parasites is hiding.** If Stan could see them, they were more exposed and vulnerable. Stan rebuked the demon and bound it. Stan began to talk to Mike, *asking him questions to determine the identity, nature or assignments of the demonic entities inside of him.* As he questioned him, another demon manifested with a mocking, arrogant tone, saying that we would not be able to get it out. As Stan questioned him, *he made some slip-ups in his answers that indicated that there were others there.* Stan commanded that he go aside, while he probed for the others. He could see three other spirits there. They seemed to be lesser demons, and did not speak or identify themselves. Stan said they were like guards by the door. They appeared to look like “barbs”, like you might see on a fishhook. They had to be removed before we could cast out the main demons.

As Stan had begun to talk with Mike, I felt impressed that **we were going to need a waste basket or bucket.** One of the guys found a small office wastebasket. About this time, Todd saw a mental picture of Mike in a prison cell, with the door locked, lying on the floor. Stan began to engage the first demon for removal.

As Stan began to take authority over the demons, the rest of us earnestly prayed. Stan was able to tell us what was happening with each demon, as they were dislodged, swirled around inside of Mike's belly, moved toward the esophagus, up the throat and out of the mouth. When they came out, Mike bent over and threw up into the basket. As Stan described what was taking place, we were thanking and praising God, calling for more power from the Holy Spirit. The Bible says Jesus *watched* to see what the Father was doing, and *joined* Him (Jn. 5:19,20). We have learned to do the same. **We are to do what we can to support and partner-with what God seems to be revealing, or where He is actively working.** Paul also tells us that we are to "be watchful with thanksgiving" (Col. 4:2), so we have found that **as we acknowledge and praise God for what we can recognize is His working, and ask for more of His power, He grants us our requests** and we see things happen. We are told in another place, "being workers-together-with Him, we urge you not to accept the grace of God in vain" (II Cor. 6:1). So, as the Lord pours out His power, we are to "take it" and "apply it" as collaborating partners, active team members working together. **It seems that whatever God may lead us to do, as we obey, more happens.** Todd put some anointing oil on his hands and held Mike's arm. That got a noticeable reaction from the spirits, as Mike jumped when Todd touched him. John was intensely praying with his hand on Mike's back, and was experiencing a tangible heat emanating from his hands as he prayed. I was speaking in tongues under my breath, and calling out for "More! More, Lord!" I was asking for more power from God. All of these things worked together along with Stan's gifting to dislodge these demons and move them out.

After getting these three minor demons out, poor Mike was exhausted. We took a short break. As we prepared to go at it again, Stan said, "I believe the Lord is telling me that Mike's friends need to leave the room for a few minutes. I need to talk privately with Mike." After they left, **Stan shared a revelation with Mike that he believed the Lord had given him.** At first, Mike did not think it applied to him. Stan went through it again, and again Mike could not see any application to himself. We prayed for a few minutes. Todd received a word picture that Mike was in the prison cell, but now he was awake, sitting up and facing the door. Suddenly, Mike said, "Wait a minute, **there was something that happened when I was a little boy.**" It was a painful memory, and he had not thought of it for years. **As he related the story, we could see how that, indeed, fit with the word of knowledge Stan had shared.** After receiving this information, we asked Mike to **forgive those who had hurt him, and to ask for God's healing for that wound. We also had him renounce the things he had done in reaction to that wound in his life, and to commit himself to living life God's way.** I explained that **it is not uncommon for demons to enter into our lives at points where others have hurt us, and to exploit, feed on and enlarge the impact of the wound.**

Armed with this new information, and having dealt with it with Mike, we called the others back for the next push. There were two demons left, and they were the main ones. **Stan had been able to get their names,** neither of which sounded like anything that made sense to us. (Later on, I was able to research the names and found that they had to do with *the very areas* they had influenced and dominated Mike in! You can't even make this stuff up!! Wow!) Stan addressed the first demon by name, and we began to pray and intercede once again. It was *very* resistant, and **several minutes went by where we seemed to be somewhat stuck. Nothing was happening, but things were very intense.** We were praying and commanding that it leave, and it was strongly refusing to go. Suddenly, the couple who had driven Mike to the church got up from their seats, walked to the front. The man picked up Stan's guitar and started softly playing. Then the woman started to sing, and BAM! The Spirit came in POWER! **With the worship came the outpouring of power!** The resistant demon was being overwhelmed and pushed up Mike's throat and out his mouth. Mike suddenly bent forward and wretched into the waste basket. Not only was there the sound of throwing up, but also of unnatural expelling of air in a gagging/croaking sound. Immediately, we went after the last spirit. John had been experiencing a new manifestation of the Spirit in his life. Throughout the evening, **his hands would heat up as he prayed over Mike. Now his entire body felt hot to him!** He said, "I feel like I am burning up." Later, Mike reported that he could feel intense heat coming from John's hand. This manifestation seems to be related either to a gift of healing, or of imparting the Spirit through the laying on of hands. In either case, it seemed that the intensity of the heat increased with the intensity of the Spirit's activity in the deliverance. **I also was able to feel waves of the Holy Spirit come upon us at times, as we reached an intense time in the expulsion process.** To me, it felt like a dropping of goose bumps or tingling that came upon me, like a sheet falling over my body. I would almost wince at the intensity of this experience, and often cried out, "There it is!" or "Thank You, Lord!" when it came upon me. **These manifestations helped us to remain engaged in the working of God's Spirit, and to intensify our prayers as He intensified the pressure on these demons.** Suddenly, the last one finally left, as Mike leaned over and wretched again several times.

Afterward, Mike was like a wet rag, but at peace inside. **We prayed for the Spirit to seal up the work, and fill him completely.** Aside from some brief attacks, he has remained at peace and feels the Lord is at work in his life.