

I. BE CERTAIN OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST

- A. Be sure that you have received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and are walking in the fullness of the Spirit (2 Cor. 3:17).
- B. Understand the authority that Jesus has made available to you in His Name. It means that you have a relationship with Him. In Jesus' name" is a legal/authority and a friendship/relationship word.
- C. We are called to continue the ministry of Jesus (John 14:12; Matt. 10:8; Luke 10:17-20).

John 14:12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Casting out demons is a sign that will follow all who believe. It's part of the Great Commission. We are on a mission and this is the mission statement.

Mark 16:15-17 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues...

II. CLOSE OPEN DOORS AND APPLY THE BLOOD OF JESUS

Eph 4:27 (NIV) And do not give the devil a foothold.

Repent of Personal Sin. This gets rid of "open doors" or footholds in your life. Forgive others for sins committed against you. When you don't forgive someone, you're holding onto their darkness, and you reap the fruit of that darkness over and over again. There is power in the blood of Jesus to overcome all things (Rev. 12:11).

III. ACT IN THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS' NAME

Luke 11:20; Mark 9:17-29

Deliverance is one facet of the ministry of Jesus Christ in the church today. Most of the time, our focus should be on walking in the Spirit and developing our relationship with God. On those occasions when we need to directly confront darkness, we do it in the mighty authority of Jesus' name. Afterwards, we return to walking in the Spirit. We do not dwell in darkness, but walk continually in the light of God's love.