

Important Points to Remember in Praying for Deliverance

From Christian Healing Ministry School of Healing Prayer by Francis and Judith MacNutt

1. Prayer ministers must have committed their lives to Jesus and be baptized by the Holy Spirit in order to have full and complete authority over the evil spirits. We must be empowered with the Holy Spirit in order to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit – vital tools necessary in battling Satan.
2. Recognize in Scripture that demons do exist.
3. Use the Binding Prayer. Plea the protection of the shed blood of Jesus Christ.
4. Take power and authority over evil spirits in the Name of Jesus and by the Blood of Jesus.
5. Ask for discernment.
6. Look for evidence of past wounding of the person and the need for inner healing.
7. Recognize that the person receiving deliverance prayer must want to be free from the lifestyle that caused him or her to be oppressed. He or she must want to give up whatever is allowing the oppression of the evil spirits.
8. Have a solid prayer covering. Never pray for deliverance alone.
9. Spirits may manifest themselves by shouting, screaming, or violently shaking of the individual. This can happen simply while praying for someone for physical healing or for inner healing. *(This was the case with Arthur in the Level II School of Healing Prayer.)*
10. Pray to cut yourself free from any demonic influence after ministry!

How to Pray for Deliverance

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1. Start Small. In the spiritual realm, there are varying degrees of power among evil spirits. Some, such as spirits of trauma, are not so dangerous and are more easily sent away from a person. Other spirits, such as those of the occult, are more powerful, making it very necessary for the prayer minister to have more knowledge and experience in order to have an effective deliverance for the oppressed person.

2. Pray for Protection:

- a. Pray that the blood of Jesus cover and protect us.
- b. Pray that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus surround us and protect us that we may not be affected by the evil spirit.
- c. Put on the full armor of God.
- d. Call on the holy angels and saints of heaven to intercede for us.
- e. Bind up the evil spirits so they may not operate while we are praying for the person.
- f. Break off the inter-communication of the evil spirits.

3. Pray with a team. It is safer and, also, since each person may have different spiritual gifts, the deliverance can be more effective. Simply having some of the team praising God during the prayer can make a difference.

4. Remember you are ministering to people (and not to demons). Minister quietly, not in a shouting way. Speak with decisive authority to the evil spirits, but lovingly towards the person.

5. Bind the spirits. Binding is not casting out. It is saying to the spirits, "Stop it!"

6. Pray for inner healing. Anyone who has been very influenced by evil spirits has been wounded, too. Whatever the reason was that gave the evil spirit the right to be present in the first place needs to be addressed. The empty places need to be filled with the goodness of God.

7. Enlist the help of the one for whom you are praying. Talk to the person first, if possible. But during the prayer, get the person to participate by repeating the prayers.

8. Send the spirits to Jesus. Jesus has the authority to decide where the spirits are supposed to go.

9. Cut yourself free. In ministry, you may pick up some of the spirits. If you send them directly to Jesus, they cannot influence anyone else. Cutting yourself free from the influence of evil spirits or oppression after ministry is like washing your hands after surgery. People who are spiritually sensitive tend to pick up the spirits more easily.

Prayer to Be Set Free
by Francis MacNutt
(to be prayed following ministry)

Lord Jesus, than You for sharing with me (us) Your wonderful ministry of healing and deliverance. Thank You for the healings I (we) have seen and experienced today.

I realize that the sickness and evil we encounter is more than our humanity can bear. So cleanse me (us) of any sadness, negativity, or despair that I (we) may have picked up.

If my ministry has tempted me to anger, impatience or lust, cleanse me of those temptations and replace them with love, joy and peace.

If any evil spirits have attached themselves to me or oppress me in any way, I command you, spirits of earth, air fire or water, of the netherworld or of nature, to depart – now – and go straight to Jesus Christ for Him to deal with as He will.

Come Holy Spirit, renew me, fill me anew with Your power, Your life and Your joy. Strengthen me where I have felt weak and clothe me with Your light. Fill me with life.

And Lord Jesus, please send Your holy angels to minister to me and my family – and guard us and protect us from all sickness, harm and accidents. (Give us a safe trip home.)

We praise You now and forever, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and we ask these things in Jesus' Holy Name that He may be glorified.

Amen.

Four Areas of OPPORTUNITY that Allow an Evil Spirit to Oppress a Person and Prayer Tools for Each

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1. Area of Opportunity: The Occult

Spirits are allowed into people's lives through direct involvement in the occult. Whether we become involved in the occult out of innocence or ignorance, Satan will take advantage of every opportunity. He is like a roaring lion seeking to devour. Through occult involvement, we relinquish areas to Satan's power and block the protection of God. Satan wants power to control others, as his desire to control the world. Lucifer's fall came because he said, "I will. . .ascend to heaven, . . .be like the most high God. . ." (Isaiah 14:12-15)

Primary Prayer Tools: Renouncement, Repentance, and Forgiveness

2. Area of Opportunity: Sin

Sin is the area of our humanness that makes us vulnerable to attack. Satan wants to bring perversion. Satan wants to pervert what God created to be holy. For example, sins of lust, whether they be lust of the eyes or lust of the flesh, are a perversion of the sexual act, which God created to be holy and beautiful.

Spirits seem to induce and feed on sin and weaknesses. It is as if the person's sinning has, over a period of time, built a kind of home into which the spirit can enter and feel welcome. Sin allows Satan a foothold. Since spirits enter a habitation built by sin, so the human host has to turn away from sin and repent.

Primary Prayer Tools: Renouncement, Repentance, and Forgiveness

3. Area of Opportunity: Spirits of Trauma

Traumatic events are the most common area of opportunity. In such instances, evil spirits are not present as a result of one's own personal sin but as a result of the sin of another person. Through the unhealed weakness left after a wounded past, evil spirits can attack. Victims of trauma need to be freed from the results of what happened to them when they were weak and unprotected.

Some common spirits of trauma are grief, rejection or fear. These are not sins but represent our most common emotions. Emotions are one of God's gifts. Fear in itself is not bad. But fear as a spirit can immobilize a person. It can block a victim's free will so that he behaves irrationally.

An example would be wounding "in utero." In the womb, a baby can sense if he or she is wanted. If the baby feels unwanted, a spirit of rejection can be present. The spirit can make their rejection worse and tries to block anything that might heal the wound, like affirmation or love, later in life. Victims of in utero wounding live, often for a large part of their lives, with the lie that they are not lovable or capable of receiving love. Therefore, they experience self-rejection and feel extremely insecure. A failure-to-thrive, or even a death wish in the form of suicidal thoughts, or other forms of destructive behavior may set in a take hold of a person's life.

Primary Prayer Tool: Inner Healing. Extend forgiveness. Ask Jesus to fill that person with Jesus' life and fill whatever is missing. Whether it was a lack of love, lack of basic trust, or lack of nurture or protection. He fills us with His love, His forgiveness, His joy, His peace and His affirmation in order to replace with His life and health everything in our lives that has been torn and broken. **Remember: Never pray for deliverance without first praying for inner healing!**

4. Generational Spirits

There are two different beliefs about generational spirits. The first belief is held mostly by Protestants. They believe that a familiar spirit is an evil spirit which has held control over the lives of one's ancestors and continues to exert that control over living members of the family. Such spirits may even masquerade as souls of the dead so as to excite people's curiosity about the departed relative and hence, entice them into unholy communication with the dead through seances and other forbidden activities.

The second belief, more common to Catholics, is that the spirits are truly those of the dead ancestors who are not at rest. There is a theological discrepancy here that does not need to be addressed when praying for deliverance. The discrepancy is not what is important. What kind of spirit it is that is exerting influence over a person is irrelevant. Simply say to the spirit, "In the Name of Jesus Christ, I command you to go to Jesus Christ, for Him to deal with you as He sees fit."

Primary Prayer Tools: Binding Prayer, Praying to send the spirit to Jesus, the Generational Eucharist. Bind the enemy, his power and the assignments of evil spirits.

A Binding Prayer for Protection

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The following prayer specifically addresses the categories of spirits used by satan worshipers themselves when they call upon evil spirits or demons. The Bible refers to these spirits as "elemental spirits" (Galatians 4:3-9, Col. 2:8-20 NRSV). CHM learned this prayer method from someone who was very heavily involved in witchcraft and the occult before finding healing through Christ. In using these same terms, we directly counteract the evil that is sent against us. In no way do we want to take a legalistic view that implies one must pay with these particular categories in order for the prayer to work. Rather, this Prayer is an example of how one can pray, and it seems to produce the desired effect: to bind evil spirits and to protect one from them. However, if you come up with another similar prayer which you believe is better for you, feel free to pray in the way that is most comfortable for you. The purpose is more important than the words themselves.

In the Name of Jesus Christ, by the power of His Cross and Blood, we bind the spirits, powers and forces of the earth, the underground, the air, the water, the fire, the netherworld and the satanic forces of nature.

We rebuke any curses, hexes, or spells sent against us and send them directly to Jesus for Him to deal with as He will. Lord, we ask You to bless our enemies by sending Your Holy Spirit to lead them to repentance.

We bind all interplay, interaction and communication of evil spirits. We claim the protection of the shed blood of Jesus Christ over _____ . Thank You for Your protection, Lord. Amen.

Colossians 2:6-10 *As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in Him, who is the head of every ruler and authority.*

Colossians 2:18-20 *Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God. If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the universe, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world.?*

Galatians 4:1-9 *My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owner of all the property; but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the Father. So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God. Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings that by nature are not gods. Now, however, that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits? How can you want to be enslaved to them again?*