

SOUL TIES AND EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

By Jack Frost

Soul ties are formed when 2 or more persons become bonded together in the realm of the soul-- the mind, the will (ability to make choices) and the emotions. It is the knitting together of two souls. When this occurs in a godly relationship, blessings result. When this occurs between persons with wrong motives or with wrong people, confusion and destruction result.

Godly Soul Ties

Each Christian needs to be in positive one-on-one soul ties in life for love, security, health and growth, but if the motives of even one person is impure, emotional dependency can occur. Then two people end up with ungodly motives. Bondage is created resulting in confusion, control and manipulation. These unhealthy relationships hinder not only the person's relationship with God but with all others who come into their sphere of influence. The root sin is IDOLATRY, dependence on another person rather than God. Many times people are unaware that they are being drawn into an unhealthy, emotional dependency. They are made vulnerable because of their wounds.

1 Samuel 18: An example of a godly soul tie between friends. Jonathan and David were knit together in a godly soul tie. They encouraged one another in the Lord.

Jacob and Joseph: another example of a godly soul tie between parent and child

Deut 13:6: When someone "as your own soul" entices you to serve another God or draws you away from godly principles.

1 Tim 1:2: Spiritual Father: Paul as a father to Timothy

Ephesians 4:16: All believers are to have a soul tie as part of the Body of Christ that causes growth. *When church relationships are "out of joint" as in a broken body, members are unable to flow freely in the gifts God has given.*

Acts 4:32: Congregation of one heart and soul. All was held in common and there was great power and grace. *There is power in unity. 1 can put to flight a thousand and 2 ten thousand.*

Proverbs 6:20: The soul tie between a father and son enables the son to remain strong in the face of temptation.

Gen 2:24, Eph 5:31: Man and woman are to leave father and mother and cleave to one another. The two become one flesh. This relationship affects all areas of life.

Negative Soul Ties

Eight Areas Where Negative Soul Ties Occur

1. Under False Teaching: Cult involvement, legalistic churches (ex. Jehovah's Witnesses)

The soul is bound to the organization. It is a soul tie that brings confusion. An example of this occurred in the Bible in the church at Galatia, Galatians 6:1: "transferring your allegiance to a different gospel". The different gospel was one characterized by a list of do's and don'ts. It moved people away from their primary legitimate authority to a false gospel of law. The religious strongholds and their lists of do's and don'ts lead those affected into confusion.

In Galatians 3:1, Paul says who has "bewitched you". Where a soul tie has occurred, witchcraft is involved.

*Witchcraft is defined as getting other people to do what you want through the use of **Domination, Intimidation, and Manipulation.** DIM.*

This happens in churches and individuals who rule by fear and shame. It is more powerful when done in the name of God. It is witchcraft no matter how godly it appears or what good works are being performed.

It also occurs in such organizations as the Masons or fraternities or sororities where secret oaths and vows are made to fellow cohorts bringing curses down upon oneself if secrets are divulged. Cut free from such associations.

2. Fornication: Sex outside the confines of marriage is the chief hindrance between husband and wife in achieving total and fulfilling sexual union. We become scattered with nothing but the physical titillation of sexual union left. We are unable to become one emotionally and spiritually with our spouse. The entanglement causing the scattering will surface repeated in dreams and recurring memories until the soul tie is broken.

1 Corinthians 6:18: We are scattered in who we are in our affections and desires when we have had many sexual partners because we are becoming one when we are joined together.

Prov 6:27: "Can a man take fire into his bosom and his clothes not be burned?"

32: "He who commits adultery, destroys himself." *This literally means we are thrown into a state of confusion in all areas of the soul, the mind, will, and emotions. We are confused about truth, our own emotions and our ability to make wise and godly choices is affected.*

Gen 34:1-3, 8: Dinah and Shechem, the Prince of the Hittites: He raped her, but wanted to marry her. A deep entanglement occurred with the sexual union.

3. Evil Companions, Wrong Friends

1 Cor 15:3: Do NOT be deceived. Bad company corrupts good morals. Ex. Jack's testimony about wrong intentions with girl and 9 years of drug addiction resulting.

Prov 22:5, 24-25: Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse; He who guards himself will be far from them.

Do not associate with a man given to anger; or go with a hot-tempered man, lest you learn his ways, and find a snare for yourself.

The perverse--the hot-tempered, drunkard, drug addict, fornicating--rub off on you before you rub off on them. You take on their characteristics and identify with them.

Amos 3:33: Can two walk together unless they be agreed.

In the act of agreeing with others mentally, emotionally, or in making choices, there is a transference of spirits. The demonic oppressing others will then be oppressing you.

4. Perverted, Twisted Family Ties: Family relationships that are governed by witchcraft, **Domination, Intimidation, Manipulation.** Example: The smother mother who through control, fear and manipulation will never allow her child to come into identity with Christ. Many times the child has become the substitute mate when the needs of one of the parents is not met by the other. They are then getting their love needs met by the child. Sexual desires begin to form wherever unhealthy ties form.

5. With the Dead: Often there needs to be a breaking of soul ties after the death of one with whom the bond has been strong, even godly bonds. Until then, the person is not free to enter into relationship with others. This is true not only with spouses, but with the death of children and their parents and often between friends -- in the cases of teenagers who have closely bonded with another friend who has died.

6. Occult Involvement: This can be something in which a person has become involved personally, as in the use of ouji boards, divination, witchcraft, the "New Age". Or it can be something that has occurred generationally and is now producing fruit in the life of the person-- dull memories, disturbed sleep, inner vows, turmoil, accidents, financial reverses, unexplained illnesses or illnesses that do not respond to treatment. If there is fruit, there is a root.

7. Soul Ties through Vows: Whenever a vow is made, the person is tied to whatever he has vowed against. An inner vow creates a tie between you and the words.

8. Addictions: The root here is idolatry. There is a hook in the mind, will and emotions that draws the person. Break the ties and repent of the sin of idolatry.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Emotional dependency refers to deep manipulation, intimidation and domination. It refers to an extreme attachment between two people that involves the use of manipulation to control the others life. It can occur between friends, spouses, parents/children, boyfriend and girlfriend. Most often those becoming involved in an emotionally dependent relationship do not even know what is occurring.

- Lust, passion or emotional influence to affect or afflict another person.
- Opens doors to demonic forces
- Leads to sexual impurity. The passive is drawn into the relationship by soul ties to a dominate one.
- The deception and the lie: "I cannot live without this person." "I need them more than anything in this world." "We are everything to each other." *Root sin of idolatry and finding strength in another than God. It must be God is my strength and my need.* Hosea 2:5: "gives me what I need."
- Happens between lovers, marriage partners, single's friendships, boss/secretary, counselor/counselee, etc.

Why are we vulnerable to emotionally dependent relationships?

1. **Rejection:** occurring in youth or even in the present time. There is a tendency to grab anyone who will accept us. There are people who deliberately set out to control a weaker individual and thereby feel strong and alive. Satanists are trained to identify rejection in the young and deliberately build emotionally dependent relationships in order to control.

2. **Lonely:** A need for companionship, a place where emotional needs are not being met. In many marriages, the deep needs of one another are not being met. There is a need not only to come together physically, and in mind, will, and emotions, but to come together in spirit. This is a major cause of homosexual and lesbian relationships.

3. **Insecurity:** finding security in another other than God.

4. **Low self-esteem, low self-image:** feeding on any strong relationship that comes along.

5. **Fears**

6. **Rebellion:** bonding in rebellion, lives unyielded to God

7. **Life Crises:** Turmoil in life as characterized by divorce, death of a spouse. Often in leadership, there are those who live to dominate. They build relationships with those they can control so they can feel good about themselves. The insecure, lonely, wounded often get trapped. The relationship will usually not survive when the weaker begins to grow stronger.

What Feeds an Emotionally Dependent Relationship?

1. **Flattery:** Expertise with words in getting what they want from another.
2. **Financial and Control through Material Goods:** others will give, give, give but always with strings attached.
3. **Smothering:** Always keeping tabs on the other
4. **Eye contact, facial expressions to keep the other in line.** Rules and controls through “looks”, the “evil eye.” Often must break free of the evil eye parents have used to control children.
5. **The “I need you syndrome”** — “I’ll kill myself if you leave me. . .” Call their bluff.

Characteristics of Emotionally Dependent Relationships

1. **Preoccupation with the other person.** Always making references to the other. Spending time thinking of the other, talking about the other, using their name over and over again in conversation.
2. **Not interested in developing other relationships,** even their marriage in order to pursue the emotionally dependent relationship.
3. **Jealousy when one in the relationship draws close to another person.** Use manipulation, control, even intimidation to end new relationships.
4. **Possessiveness**
5. **Manipulation to control time with you:** fake grief, illnesses, whatever possible to take your time.
6. **Always near one another;** always gravitating towards one another at social functions. If both are married, finding ways to get together as couples.
7. **If one begins to withdraw,** the other panics and depression, anger, hatred results.
8. **Sexual feeling are aroused** towards one another even in the same sex.
9. **In a crowd or group,** always making or looking for eye contact.

How Do I Know If I Am In An Unhealthy Relationship?

1. Do you find yourself doing things you don’t want to do or having feelings you don’t want to feel even things that are unscriptural or borderline in order to please the person and keep them happy? Perhaps such things as sexual activity, peer pressure, gossip.
2. Do you refrain from certain behaviors that have no clear biblical guidelines just to keep this person happy? Do you wear your clothing, jewelry a certain way the keep them happy and off your back? Is there a list of do’s and don’ts you follow in order not to hear grumbling and complaining?
3. Do you refrain from spending time with another or from developing a relationship with someone God may be leading you to in order to prevent conflict with the person?

Example: In divorce, does one parent try to prevent the child from seeing the other?

Do you avoid telling a friend when you have lunch with another?

4. Do you experience doubt, confusion, feelings of being controlled after spending time with that person? Do they make you feel like their problems are your fault?

How to Break Free from Emotionally Dependent Relationships

1. Cut relationships off completely whenever possible. In cases of marriage, take special care and repent from idolatry.
2. Cut off all sexual contact outside of marriage.
3. Guard yourself spiritually.
4. Renew your relationship with God because it was cut off in the pursuit of the EDR.
5. Receive ministry to break the soul ties
6. Allow the Lord to reveal wounds or sins that have led to the soul tie development.
7. Make new friends and do not let your life revolve around that person.

SAMPLE PRAYER

May have to be prayed often. As the breaking of soul ties occurs, demonic forces and soulish forces are activated to maintain the ties.

1. Repent of idolatry and for allowing the unhealthy soul tie.
2. Forgive the person who tied us up, who bound us.
3. Break the soul tie to the mind, the will and the emotions. Renounce every unholy part of the bond and strengthen all the godly.
4. Break any sexual soul ties, desires, bonds that have occurred.
5. Bind any demonic spirits of Domination, Intimidation, Manipulation, witchcraft, familiar spirits, divination.
6. Call back every emotion, thought and part of the will that was given to the other person.
Send back to the other person every thought, emotion and part of the will that was imparted to the one being ministered to .
7. Pray healing over the wholeness of mind, will or emotions. Pray they be made whole and free in Jesus.
8. Thank the Lord for the cleansing and ask Him to bind us in godly associations with His help and strength.

Mark Virkler's Prayer for Severing Ungodly Soul Ties
from Prayers that Heal the Heart

1. I confess and repent of my sin of coming into ungodly agreement with _____. Forgive me, God, of any anger and resentment I may have against You for allowing this to happen in my life.
2. I forgive _____ for their involvement in this sin. I ask you to forgive me for my participation. I receive your forgiveness. I forgive myself.
3. *Prayer Minister pronounces: "In the name of Jesus Christ, I forgive you and God forgives you."*
4. Using pictures of the heart, see the soul ties between self and others. Prayer minister may lead in a prayer of cutting soul ties until all are cut and there is peace. Using the hand to physically simulate cutting the strands may help.
5. When peace is restored, pray the following. *"Lord, restore the broken or torn portions of my soul. Remove from me anything that has come into me through these soul ties and restore to me anything that has been stolen. In the name of Jesus Christ, I now speak to every part of you: your mind, your body, your spirit and your emotions. You are no longer bound to act according to these soul ties."*