



# BREAKTHROUGHS

FINDING FREEDOM AND TRUE  
FULFILLMENT IN JESUS

## LESSON 12 LOVING GOD



# OUR JOURNEY

LIGHT VS. DARKNESS

EXPOSING DARKNESS

AN HONEST HEART

LITTLE GODS

MARKERS

PITS

STRONGHOLDS ONE

STRONGHOLDS TWO

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

FORGIVING OTHERS

DESTROYING STRONGHOLDS

LOVING GOD

LIVING OUT LOUD

# FREEDOM

God's gift to every believer that tears down the strongholds in our lives so that we can live the life we were created to live.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)



**FREEDOM LEADS US  
TO A DEEPER  
RELATIONSHIP  
WITH GOD**



# Loving God

*When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, an expert in the law, asked a question to test him. "Teacher, which command in the law is the greatest?"*

*He said to him, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and Prophets depend on these two commands" (Matthew 22:34-40)*

## **WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US (1 JOHN 4:19)**

- We see God more clearly
- We see ourselves more clearly
- We understand our Identity in Christ
- We are asking Jesus to heal our hearts
- We have an Honest Heart
- We recognize the lies of the enemy and choose truth
- We bring our sin and brokenness to God
- We don't hide from God
- We fight the battle with spiritual weapons
- We listen and depend on the Holy Spirit

**FREEDOM  
TO  
LOVE  
GOD**

# The Traps



LITTLE GODS



MARKERS/PITS



FEAR OF MAN  
ORPHAN SPIRIT



INDEPENDENCE





# THE DEADLY EXCHANGE

“No! You will not die,” the serpent said to the woman. “In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her and he ate it (Genesis 3:4-6)

**WE EXCHANGED INTIMACY WITH GOD  
FOR INDEPENDENCE**



# The Battle of Independence

## ***Independence***

freedom from the control, influence, support; self-determination; the ability to live your life without being helped or influenced by other people.

***Independence is healthy and a normal path in human development.***

***Independence is important to be successful in life.***

However, independence from God is a trap and hinders us from walking in freedom!

# HELP ME OR I GOT THIS

"He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and looked down on everyone else: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee was standing and praying like this about himself: 'God, I thank you that I'm not like other people- greedy, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like the tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of everything I get.'

"But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even raise his eyes to heaven but kept striking his chest and saying, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner!' I tell you, this one went down to his house justified rather than the other; because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 18:9-14)

What is the  
answer to  
Independence  
from God?





# PRAYER

After he said good-bye to them, he went to the mountain to pray. Well into the night, the boat was in the middle of the sea, and he was alone on the land (Mark 6:46-47)

Devote yourselves to prayer; stay alert in it with thanksgiving (Colossians 4:2)

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your cares on him, because he cares about you (1 Peter 5:6-7)

The LORD is near all who call out to him, all who call out to him with integrity (Psalm 145:18)

# FREEDOM & PRAYER

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- FREEDOM IS DEPENDENT  
ON PRAYER

- PRAYER LEADS TO FREEDOM

- THERE IS NO FREEDOM APART  
FROM PRAYER!

- PRAYER IS CONNECTING OUR HEART  
WITH GOD.

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**CONNECTED TO GOD?**

**HOW DO YOU FEEL  
WHEN YOU PRAY?**

**FAR FROM GOD?**

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## COMMON LIES ABOUT PRAYER

- God doesn't really listen to my prayers
- I don't know how to pray
- My prayers aren't really powerful and effective
- Praying is actually boring
- I don't have the spiritual gift of prayer
- Prayer doesn't really make a difference
- I will never be good enough to pray
- My prayers are weak
- I have too many sins to pray

# FREE TO PRAY

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Ask God to reveal to you every lie the enemy tells you about prayer.

Ask God to forgive you for believing the lies and to break the "agreement" you've made with those lies.

Ask God to help you believe what He says about prayer and to give you a passion for prayer.

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# Prayer is about our Relationship with God

*Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens - Jesus the Son of God - let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need (Hebrews 4:14-16)*

*You will call to me and come to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart (Jeremiah 29:12-13)*