

Freedom

focus

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God..." (Acts 26:18)



January—February 2006

Spiritual Protection for Your Family

"At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book....Those who are wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and those that turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever" (Daniel 12:1,3).

What a great promise of future deliverance for God's people from Satan's attack in the final days of the tribulation! Christian families are under attack from the constant barrage of evil influences in today's world. Here are the battle plans for your spiritual conflict in 2006.

1. Have A Spiritual Warfare Worldview

We need to focus on the ultimate source of our battle. Ephesians 6:12 says, *"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."* We are still personally responsible for the choices we make, and it helps us to keep in perspective that, in the midst of family conflicts, our enemy is not our loved ones!

2. Truly Be Glad To Be Together

I am a firm believer that busyness can become a stronghold in a person's life, leaving the ones we love unprotected. Being too busy to spend meaningful time with the Lord or the people that matter most to us keeps us from connecting at a heart level. 1 John 1:3,4 tells us that our joy is made complete as we have true fellowship together. It is especially important for children to feel loved and understood by their fathers. Fa-

thers must take the time with their children to keep their hearts. This same truth applies to marriages as well. Healthy boundaries must be in place in our lives to protect the relationships that are closest to our hearts.

3. Forgive Each Other From the Heart

We all have a need to be emotionally honest with those who we love. Satan uses conflict avoidance as a means of protecting his domain. We must understand how we hurt each other and also forgive each other from the heart. In Ephesians 4:26,27, we read that anger and wrath will give Satan a foothold. Therefore we must quickly resolve any offense between family members. As adults we must be an example to our children. Children become fearful and teenagers cringe when parents argue and hold grudges. It is very destructive to everyone. An atmosphere of peace and joy is a very contagious environment that promotes faith, hope, and love.

4. Have An Eternal Value System

Satan desires to tempt us with all the world has to offer. Families will be protected from evil influences if they follow God's eternal plan for their lives (Matthew 6:33). They will have true success as they accept God's purposes for their lives and by His grace fulfill His calling for them. Parents and children will be fulfilled as they discover their own uniqueness in Christ and use their gifts to edify others and glorify the Lord. Someone once said, "What is forgotten in time is of little significance; what is remembered for eternity is of greatest importance."

I trust that you will prayerfully consider and apply these points. I am praying for a hedge of spiritual protection around your family and mine.

Reverend Jeff Pokone

ICBC Open House

As many of you know, ICBC of Indiana has relocated to Fishers, Indiana. We are grateful for God's good provision for the ministry because of your prayers and gifts.

On April 6th, from 12-4 PM, we are having an Open House for all the supporters and friends of ICBC of Indiana. We will dedicate this office for the Lord's service at noon. We invite you to stop by and visit us.

Our new address is:

**9780 Lantern Road
Suite 330**

Fishers, Indiana 46038

Phone: 317.585.1845

Ninth Biennial ICBC Conference

You are invited to attend the 9th Biennial ICBC Conference in Sioux City, Iowa, on March 2-4. Here is a list of some of the featured speakers for the conference.

- **Rev. Jeff Pokone**
- **Dr. Tim Warner**
- **Dr. Clinton Arnold**
- **Rev. Rich Miller**
- **Dr. Jim Logan**
- **Alaine Pakkala**
- **Dr. Neil Anderson**

For more information, visit us online at www.icbcinc.com.

9780 Lantern Road, Suite 330, Fishers, IN 46038
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Equipping Others for Counseling Ministry

In November of last year, Rev. Jeff Pokone was invited to conduct a counseling training class for approximately twenty young people who are now serving in a Christian residential program, designed to disciple juvenile delinquents. The session topics for the course included the following:



- **A Strategy for Tearing Down Strongholds**
- **Two Types of Trauma**
- **Principles of Reconciliation**
- **Recognizing and Resolving Personal Conflicts**
- **Ten Reasons Why Christians Do Not Find Freedom in Christ**
- **Strongholds That Weaken a Teenager's Faith**

Many of the young people found the topics very helpful. In fact, God used the course in several lives to reveal areas

of personal need. In a note of gratitude to Rev. Pokone, one student wrote, "The things that have greatly impacted me are many, but one...in particular was the area of believing lies. Through those sessions, I was able to recognize some lies I had believed in my own life."

Another wrote, "Every one of your sessions have been very practical and applicable. Your session about 'Strongholds that Weaken a Teenager's Faith' was very challenging to my own life."

Truly personal application of spiritual truth is foundational to dynamic ministry. As these young people were preparing to help others find victory in Christ, it was exciting to see their responsiveness to the truth and its application to their own lives.

One has well said, "A message from the mind reaches a mind, but a message from the heart reaches a life. We look forward to God using these young people to be powerful instruments in His hands to provide hope and healing to the hurting juvenile delinquents they are discipling."

Finding Acceptance in Christ

I came to ICBC because of the pain I was experiencing from unresolved childhood traumas, and from the hurt of betrayal by someone close to me. I felt very lonely.

As Jeff Pokone counseled me, he helped me to identify the pain and the lies attached to bad memories. He taught me to live from the heart that Jesus gave me, and to grow in maturity.

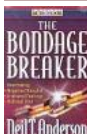
I appreciated the fact that Jeff comprehended the true nature of my afflictions, and understood my emotions and the sin which so easily entangles me. He was gracious and respectful in leading me to truthful resolutions and full repentance.

I have learned that nothing is hidden inside of me that I cannot face together with my Lord and Savior. He accepts me for who I am, not for what I can do. This truth is crucial in my growth and is necessary in throwing off the chains of performance based acceptance that had bound me for so long. I have a true and faithful Friend.



Testimony from a Growing Christian

Resource Review



Do you live in spiritual chains to habits and actions you know are wrong, but feel hopeless in changing your direction? Do you live under the accusing finger of the enemy, feeling that you are worthless and insignificant, and that a person with your problems could not possibly be a Christian?

Satan knows that he is a defeated foe because of the death and resurrection of Christ, but he knows that if he can tempt and accuse you with deception and lies, he can control you anyway.

In his book, *The Bondage Breaker*, Dr. Neil Anderson introduces Christ as the Great Bondage Breaker Who has made every necessary provision for your daily freedom and victory.

The key to accessing your birthright possession by virtue of salvation "in Christ" is *appropriation*. Dr. Anderson gives practical insight and help for victorious Christian living.

He carefully explains how to make your position "in Christ" your daily experience by assuming responsibility for your thoughts, appropriating the biblical truth of your saintly position, and using your spiritual armor effectively. This resource is a great follow-up to Dr. Anderson's book, *Victory Over the Darkness*. Stop allowing Satan to have the winning edge in your life. Meet the Bondage Breaker, the Lord Jesus Christ!

To order this book, please call ICBC of Indiana at 317.585.1845. (Cost: \$13 plus tax & shipping.)

Thank You!

Thank you so much for your generous and sacrificial giving to the ministry of ICBC last year. As a result of the year end donations we received, we have been able to close 2005, meeting the financial expenses of this ministry. We

praise God for His supernatural provision through you. We look forward with anticipation to another exciting year of helping hurting people find freedom in Christ. May God especially reward you as co-laborers with us through your prayers and