

STEPS TO FREEDOM

The Four R's

The road of freedom begins with the disposition of “humility.” Humility confesses I don't have it all together. It confesses that I need help. It enables me to receive admonishment and correction from the Lord and others. It empowers me to embark on a road of confession and repentance, in which the destination is freedom, rejoicing, and the peaceable fruit of righteousness.

1 Pet 5:6-9 *Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you. Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith.*

Prayer is the heart of spiritual warfare. It is the humble admission that “there is someone greater than I” and that “I am not able to do this myself.” It is crying out to God for Him to fight on my behalf, knowing in faith that He will.

James 4:6-8 That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

The 4 R's Include:

Repent
Rebuke
Replace
Receive

1. Repent & Receive

Humbly submit yourself before God in confession and **repentance** and **receive** His forgiveness through Christ's death and resurrection.

2 Chr 7:14 *If my people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

Acts 3:19 *Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.*

2. Rebuke & Renounce

Resist the devil by **rebuking** him from the stronghold(s) in your life through the power of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In God's authority **renounce** any lies believed about self, God or others.

Matt 4:10 *Jesus said to him, “Away from Me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.’”*

Luke 10:17, 19-20 *And the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”*

3. Replace & Renew

Come near to God through washing your hands of sinful behavior, and cleansing your minds of duplicity of devotion to God. **Replace** it with a single-focused devotion to God and obedience. Ask God to **renew** your heart, mind, emotions and will through the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

Eph 4:22-24 *You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

4. Receive & Rejoice

Claim, and **receive** in faith, the empowering/infilling work of the Holy Spirit to walk in His ways. **Rejoice** in the abundant grace and peace that is yours in the Holy Spirit!

Titus 3:4-6 *But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,*

Ephesians 5:18 . . . *be filled with the Spirit.*

2 Pet 1:2-4 *Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*