

Prayer Ministry 5

HEALING OF THE SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION

UNDERSTANDING THE SUBJECT

In this session, we're considering the human spirit. This does not mean the Holy Spirit nor does it refer to evil/impure/unclean spirits that are messengers of Satan.

WHAT IS THE HUMAN SPIRIT?

Human beings are comprised of three components: body, soul and spirit (1 Thessalonians 5:23 *"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."*).

- The Body

The body is the physical, visible aspect of our being. With our bodies, we move, act, speak, eat, play. Our bodies have senses (smell, sight, hearing, taste and feeling), and our bodies can be comfortable, hungry, hot, sweaty, in physical pain, etc.

- The Soul

The soul accommodates our will, beliefs, attitudes, thinking and reasoning, emotions. The soul also can feel emotional pain.

- The Spirit

The spirit houses our conscience and intuition. For a born-again follower of Jesus Christ, the reborn spirit is the point of communication with God and from whence we worship God. For a non-believer, the spirit is dead to God but still able to worship; however, the worship is idolatrous, directed towards evil things and inanimate objects. When we are born again, the Holy Spirit cleanses and renews our conscience; in the non-believer, the conscience is seared and stained.

DAMAGE TO THE SPIRIT

CAUSES OF DAMAGE TO THE SPIRIT

Causes of damage to the human spirit are many; some causes frequently encountered include:

- Lack of nurture
- Betrayal and abandonment
- Abuse and rejection
- Domination and control
- Severe shock and trauma
- Grief and loss

EFFECTS OF DAMAGE TO THE SPIRIT

Some effects of a damaged spirit:

- A damaged spirit cannot function fully; communication with God and worship of God may be hindered or obstructed
- Inappropriate or excessive reaction to a situation or event
- Dependence on false comforts – can lead to addictions, promiscuity
- Insecurity, pride/jealousy/envy

This list is an example - each form of damage to the spirit can cause different effects or combinations of effects to be manifested.

EXAMPLES OF DAMAGED SPIRITS

Specific examples of damage to the human spirit include:

- Timid Spirit

Usually due to trauma at an early age before the spirit was fully formed and strong (i.e. 5 years of age)

2 Timothy 1:7 *“For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”*

- Imprisoned Spirit

Originates in the atmosphere in which the person was raised: oppression, deprivation, bondage, etc.

Isaiah 42:22 *“But this is a people plundered and looted, all of them trapped in pits or hidden away in prisons. They have become*

plunder, with no one to rescue them; they have been made loot, with no one to say, 'Send them back.'"

- Crushed Spirit

Usually too heavy a burden at a time when the spirit was not prepared. Also arises from continual onslaught of oppression, belittling and disparagement, negative attitudes, etc.

Psalm 34:18 *"The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."*

Proverbs 15:13 *"A happy heart makes the face cheerful, but heartache crushes the spirit."*

Proverbs 17:22, Proverbs 18:14

- Orphan Spirit

Usually because of a lack of bonding at the moment of conception or birth; rejection or separation and intense loneliness

1 Thessalonians 2:17 *"But, brothers and sisters, when we were orphaned by being separated from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you."*

- Defiled Spirit

A spirit is defiled from walking through pollution, from suffering sexual or defiling abuse or from personal or generational sin

1 Corinthians 6:16-18 *"Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, 'The two will become one flesh.' But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body."*

2 Corinthians 7:1 *"Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God"*

- Broken Spirit

This is not the broken spirit that God seeks (Psalm 51:17 *"My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."*). Psalm 51 is speaking about *"a spirit that has come totally to the end of itself. It makes no claims, offers no*

arguments. All independence, all self-will, all self-righteousness have been purged out. Such a spirit turns simply and solely to God, trusting not in its own merits, but only in God's infinite and unmerited mercy." (Derek Prince Ministries – Through the Psalms)

A broken spirit can come from a succession of sorrows

Job 17:1 *"My spirit is broken, my days are cut short, the grave awaits me."*

Isaiah 65:14 *"My servants will sing out of the joy of their hearts, but you will cry out from anguish of heart and wail in brokenness of spirit."*

- Starved Spirit

Spiritual poverty, often in early life

Deuteronomy 8:3 *"He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."*

Job 23:12 *"I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread."*

Again, this list is not exhaustive and more than one form of damage can be present.

HEALING THE HUMAN SPIRIT

MINISTRY

Ministry Keys

- Each area of damage will require specific ministry – a ‘shotgun’ approach will not suffice.
- Before moving into ministry to the spirit, the ground must be thoroughly prepared:
 - Ensure the root of the damage has been identified
 - Deal with the demonic
 - Ensure forgiveness/repentance
 - Break any ungodly soul ties/generational lines
- Listen to the Holy Spirit

Tools for Human Spirit Ministry

When ministering healing to the human spirit, five essential ‘tools’ are:

- Connection with the subject – empathy
Proverbs 25:20 “Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on a wound, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.”
- Compassion
- Guidance of the Holy Spirit
- Gifts of the Holy Spirit (discernment, words of knowledge, etc.)
- The Word of God

RESTORATION

Restoration of the spirit can take time. These areas can help with the process:

- Love
Love heals so much. Knowing the security of the love of God is beyond price.
- Relationships
Relationships provide a framework within which love can be expressed, shared and experienced. Someone recovering from a damaged spirit needs to know that love is given unconditionally and that they can love without fear.

- Anchoring

The body of Christ is a family and God's intention is that it becomes the safety and protection He intended

Psalm 68:6 "God sets the Lonely in families, he Leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched Land."

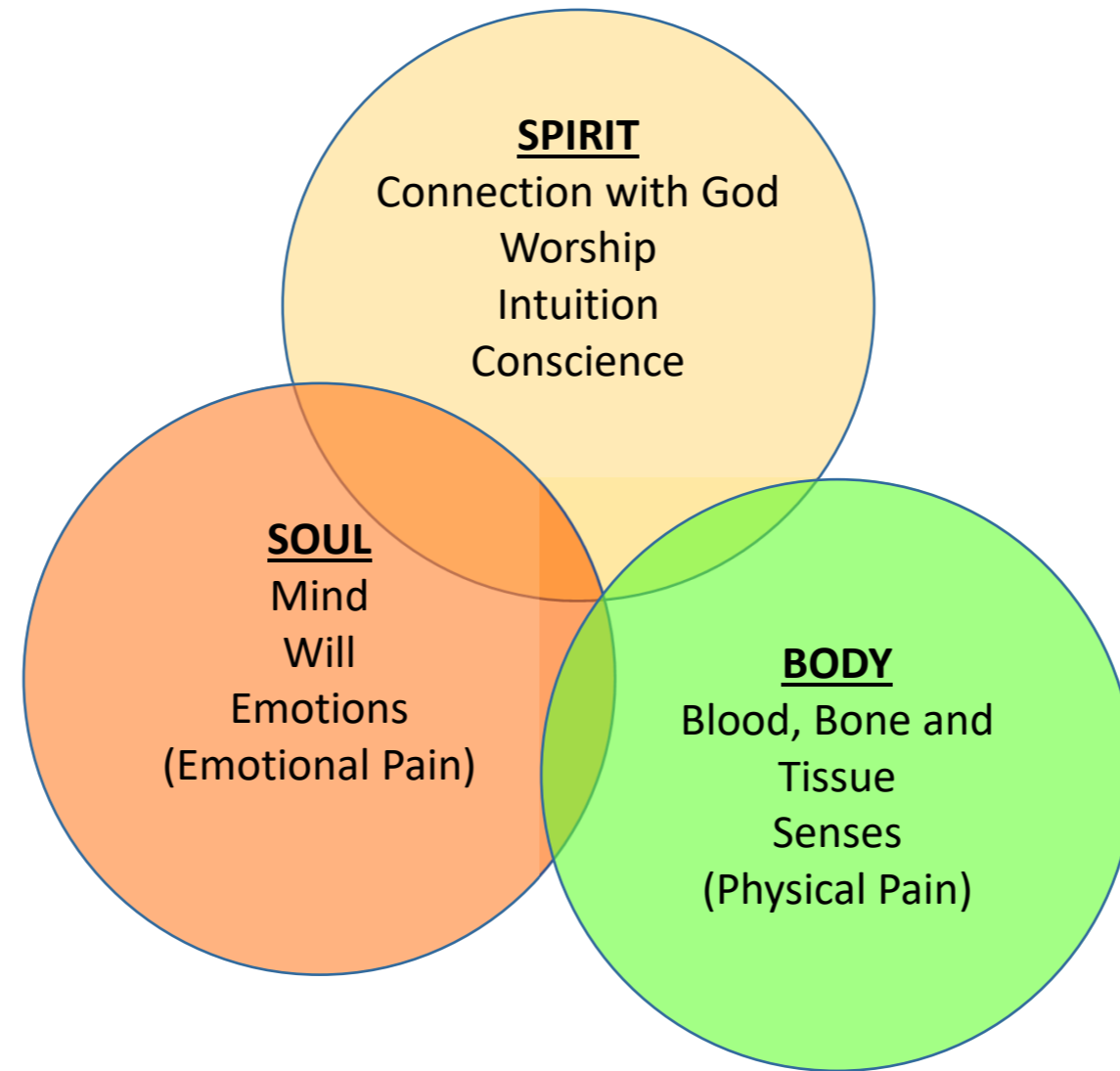
- Safety

We all need the freedom to choose, make mistakes, learn, think and feel and express ourselves without fear

NOURISHMENT

Once the spirit has received healing, building and growing the spirit is achieved by:

- Hearing the Word of God
- Worship
- Fellowship with the Holy Spirit
- Creativity



Lordship of
Jesus



Forgiveness
Repentance



Soul Ties
Generational



Deliverance



Healing of
the Spirit

