

# Healing The Wounded Heart

## *Root Problem: Ungodly Soul-Ties*

### Introduction

In this series on “Healing the Wounded Heart”, I have been giving you an integrated approach to healing and freeing the wounded heart. This ministry approach enables us to deal with all of the root problem areas as they relate to a particular heart issue we are looking to the Lord to touch (Kylstra & Kylstra, 2001).

Thus far we have identified the following root problem areas: 1) the broken heart of a child—the sins of the father, 2) family sins and curses, 3) negative expectations & bitter root judgments, 4) inner vows, 5) negative spiritual energies, and 6) chronic personal sins. 7) unhealed traumas. In today’s program we will talk about the root problem area of ungodly relationships and soul-ties.

(Many of the ideas in this series have been drawn from John & Paula Sandford; Mark & Patti Virkler; Chester & Betsy Kylstra; Linns & Fabricant; Bill & Sue Banks; El El Ministries; Ed Smith; Frances & Judith MacNutt; Derek Prince; and Ralph Nault.)

## I. God Created Relationships To Be A Blessing

God has created many different types of relationships; i.e., husband and wife; parent and child; grandparents and grandchildren; brother and sister, even mother-in-law and daughter-in-law; priest/pastor and parishioner; teacher and student; employer and employee; Christian community (the body of Christ); and close personal friends(I Cor. 12:13, I Cor. 6:17). The relationships may be created by blood, kinship, adoption, marriage, mutual agreement, contract or covenant.

God has given us these different types of relationships so that He can bless us through them. These relationships result in either good or bad things for us, depending upon the nature of the interactions between us. Godly-soul ties bring about a development of positive feelings, ideas, attitudes, sentiments, mutual awareness and a sense of belonging within us.

### ***A. Close Relationships Create Soul-Ties***

We are not closed systems, but more like vessels that allow for the movement of the life’s energy between us.

Close relationships involve some type of bonding between two or more people that creates a connection between their souls and hearts. This connection acts like a channel, allowing things to flow between them. We call this channel a soul-tie. Often the soul-tie is formed through some type of covenant, some type of agreement or contract, either consciously or unconsciously, with another person. This agreement can be in writing, made verbally, or just simply understood.

People we have soul ties with influence our lives. We tend to become like the people we are tied to. For instance, when made one spirit with the Lord Jesus, we gradually grow over time to manifest His righteousness in our lives.

### ***David and Jonathan***

In relationship between David and Jonathan, we see that they their souls were knit together:

...that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul (I Sam. 18:1).

### ***Marital Soul Ties***

When we marry, we are joining ourselves to our mates through sexual union. In this spiritual experience, we become one flesh, and a deep knitting of soul and spirit occur (Matt. 19:5). The life and energies of each person are able to flow through them, allowing the blessings of God to come into their lives.

### ***Daughter-In-Law and Mother-In-Law Ties***

Ruth, the daughter-in-law, clings to her mother-in-law, Naomi, after her husband died. Even though Naomi had released her, Ruth vows to stay with her and not return to her own people. From Ruth's decision, we can suggest that their relationship was very good for both of them and that their souls were knit together (Ruth 1:14).

### ***Idea of a soul-tie suggested in the following scriptures:***

In Philippians. 2:2, 20, we get the idea that people can be "like-souled" and "equally-souled".

I Cor. 10:17 suggests that when we take the Eucharistic elements, we are one body, or "like-souled".

I Cor. 12:12 says that the body is one and yet has many members, ...all members are one body.

## ***B. Godly Soul-Ties Release God's Blessings***

When there is a deep connection at the soul level between two persons, it creates a channel that allows the life, energies, and provisions of each person to flow into the other. If the relationship is Godly, the channel between the persons allows the presence of the Holy Spirit and the blessing of the Lord to flow between them.

God created us for human relationships and deep connections—because we are the Body of Christ. The fullness of God's blessings come when we have unity with other believers.

Psalm 33 says that when God's people dwell together in unity, God's blessings flow.

Acts 4:32 describes the early believers as being of one heart and soul, and how the blessings of God flowed through them.

## ***C. Ungodly Soul-Ties Open Flood Gates To Destruction***

However, if ungodly, the open channel permits every evil thing—destructive spiritual forces and curses—to flow between them. The kingdom of darkness works to use our relationships to bring us into a type of bondage which opens a door that allows negative spiritual forces to flow between them. When this happens the relationship is not a channel for the blessings of God to flow. The destructive forces, negative energies, and curses press on our hearts and wage war with our souls, robbing us of the fullness of the blessing that the Lord intended for us.

### ***Lead Us Astray***

Because of the ungodly soul-tie, we can be led astray more easily (Deut. 30: 6,7). People can secretly entice us to do something, and we find it difficult to stand firm. We see this in the following scriptures:

#### ***Man and Wife***

According to the Bible, King Solomon had 700 foreign wives. It describes King Solomon as “clinging to” his wives, suggesting some type of soul-tie between him and the women. In his later years, his wives turned his heart away after other Gods. Apparently the open channel between he and his wives allowed his heart to be touched by destructive evil forces (I Kings 11).

#### ***Teacher and Student***

...there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them...and many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; and in their greed they will exploit you with false words...Enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children; forsaking the right way they loved the wages of unrighteousness...For speaking out arrogant words of vanity they entice by fleshly desires, by sensuality, those who barely escape from the ones who live in error, promising them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption, for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved (II Peter 2: 1-3, 14, 18,19).

#### ***Brother and Brother***

Soul ties in families can also be ungodly—between parent and child, siblings, or grandparents. When Cain hated Abel and killed him, he turned his relationship with his brother into evil and brought unclean, evil things into it.

#### ***Father and Child***

When Fathers fail to love and protect the child with Godly love, when he uses the relationship to abuse the child, beat the child in a wrong way, speaks in harshness, the blessings of God cannot flow between them, and the destructive forces of the kingdom of God begin to flow through the channel between them. A curse is released through the soul-tie, not the blessings of God.

#### ***Mother and Child***

Amazingly, the voice of mothers often control their children even after they grow up. Having internalized her voice, they are tied to her pressure and disapproval in some destructive way. Instead of the blessing, a curse flows.

### *Adultery & Fornication Soul Ties*

The Bible says that sexual intercourse results in the two becoming one flesh (and creating a soul tie, for sure). This is true in marriage (Gen. 2:24) as well as in fornication or adultery.

Know ye not that he which is joined to a harlot is one body? For two, saith he, shall be one flesh (I Cor. 6:16).

## II. How Do Soul-Ties Become Ungodly?

The scriptures make it clear that another person can bring us into bondage.

For you suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face (II Cor. 11:20).

When Godly soul ties between people become corrupted and perverted, the bonds become ungodly. Some ungodly soul-ties are formed in relationships that we consider to be loving, especially if they involve sexual activity. Others are rooted in fear, or in the occult. Ungodly soul-ties exist wherever there is violence, domination, manipulation, control or fear.

Ungodly soul-ties may have been a natural result of generational sins and curses which allowed the negative spiritual energies in your family tree to be passed down to you. Thus, as soon as you were born, you began sending out ungodly messages which were heard and responded to by other people's spirits. They feed into the issues or problems we have in our hearts.

### **1. Use Others To Meet Our Needs**

One type of ungodly relationship or soul-tie occurs when we try to make another person responsible to fulfill our needs. When we surrender our needs to another person, we give the other person power over us, holding him or her responsible for our happiness. We call this co-dependent relationships. This type of relationship exists out of necessity, not out of love. We require another individual for our survival; i.e., parasitism. There is not freedom in the relationship. The person feels that he or she has no value or meaning within them; almost all of their value and meaning comes from outside them.

### **2. Violate free will**

Soul ties turn ungodly, when the free will of a person is violated in some way. In a relationship, when a person loses his or her choice it becomes ungodly and violates God's fundamental principle of free will.

God always honors free will, allowing us to make choices for ourselves—even if they will hurt us. Jesus came to set the captives free, no longer slaves but sons. To His disciples, Jesus gave them an opportunity to walk away. He asked, "Do you want to leave me?"

Even our views and opinions are important to the Lord. In Is. 52, He says, "come, let us reason together." He is interested in our perspective on things.

*“Godly soul ties are like holding hands, each person could let go if they wanted to. Ungodly soul ties are like handcuffs tying the people together. No one can let go even if they wanted to” (Audio Cassette: El El Ministries).*

### **3. Fear of people**

The scriptures make it clear that we are not to live in the fear of people or to be led by others. Even though Jesus greatly loved people, He did only the things His Father told Him to do. When His mother exerted pressure for Him to do a miracle, He refused, saying it

All pressure exerted by others to work miracles outside of God’s timing, for the wrong reasons, to submit to someone other than the Father, or to prove Himself to man, to please people, seeking public approval, and even His own soul needs for self-preservation.

### **4. Abusing others**

Whenever abuse (child abuse, sexual abuse, religious abuse, emotional abuse, etc.) enters into a relationship, something of a person’s free will is stolen from them.

### **5. Making others depend upon us**

### **6. Allow others to control us**

Any soul tie can turn ungodly when we allow another person to control us, even mother or father or other family members. The person uses the relationship to try and get his or her needs met. The motivation operating in the relationship determines whether or not it is godly or ungodly. We are called to lay our life down for others,

### **7. Allowing others to demand something from us**

Soul ties become ungodly when one person demands something from another.

### **8. Adultery and fornication**

When we enter into ungodly sexual activities through adultery and fornication, we are glued or joined to the person. There is a joining of the life and energies of the two bodies.

According to the scripture, every sin which a man commits has its immediate effect outside of the body, but not true for sexual sin. This sin has destructive results within the core of the person’s being.

Every man who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body (I Cor. 6:18)

If a harlot has already joined herself to many others, we have to ask then how many other people is her soul joined to? Think about this: if we have sex with a person who has already had sex with many others, does it mean that we now have become connected to those people as well? Does the energies flowing through that person now have access to flow into you and cause all sorts of sins, sexual pressures, sicknesses and problems?

## **9. Entering into covenant relationship with ungodly people**

If we made an agreement with people who are not godly, we may still be joined to the things that come along that channel that draw you into things they are involved in. Thus, we may be joined to people from our past, by sexual activity, by hating, or by being fearful of . Jesus came to set the captive free from these things.

## **III. Identifying Ungodly Soul-Ties**

The first thing is to ask the Lord Jesus to make known to you any close relationship that was ungodly, unhealthy, dominating, controlling, or manipulative. Think about your parents, authority figures, teachers, pastors, close friends, and spouses.

Ask the Lord to bring to your mind everyone with whom you have had a sexual encounter of any kind. "Lord, did I have any sexual encounters in my early childhood that I was too young to remember?"

Think about the things you struggle with in your heart and then ask the Lord to make known to you any close relationships you had during your life where people have demonstrated this issue and fed this issue to you and into you? For example, if you have an issue of self-doubt, then ask the Lord what relationships have you had in which people have fed you self-doubt?

### **1. Asking Questions**

The bondage of a soul-tie may prevent you from identifying the control someone is trying to exercise over you, so ask the following questions:

*Is someone trying to...*

- bring you into bondage?
- make decisions or plan your life for you?
- control you?
- make you afraid?
- secretly entice you to do something?
- hit, hurt, strike you physically or violently?
- smother you, eat you up, devour you?
- exalt him/herself over you, thus putting you down?
- be overly protective of you?
- constantly flatter or butter you up?
- take from you that which is yours?
- exercise financial control over you?

*Have you experienced a loss of*

- ✓ choice?
- ✓ individuality and self confidence?

- ✓ clear thinking in decision making
- ✓ peace?
- ✓ ability to really love others?
- ✓ spiritual liberty and personal freedom?
- ✓ good health?
- ✓ closeness to the Father?
- ✓ ability to control your thought life (think obsessively about another)?

*Ask these questions:*

- Do you have disturbing nightmares and dreams about the other person?
- Do you have free will in your relationships?
- Is someone using discipline to control you?
- Is someone trying to manipulate you, control you, dominate you?
- Are you tormented with thoughts of a former friend or lover?
- Is someone trying to manipulate you with super spirituality or fear of God?
- Do you have difficulty with an obsessive thought life?
- Is someone being threatened by any new friendships you make?
- Is someone trying to isolate you from other people?

## IV. Steps To Breaking Ungodly Soul Ties

### **A. Repent From Dead Works**

To become free, we need to repent of this terrible situation which is robbing us of joy and bringing death to us. We need to repent from dead works and apply our faith in the Living Christ and His work on the cross (Heb. 6:1,2).

*Underlying the process of breaking free from ungodly soul-ties is the biblical concept of repentance from dead works and faith toward God. (Hebrews 6:1-2)*

Repentance (Metaonia) simply means to change direction, to turn around and go the other way. Repentance from dead works requires us to recognize the destructive soul-tie that is robbing us of joy and then make the decision that we want to turn away from it.

#### **1. Verbally Renounce Your Agreement & Soul-Tie With The Other Person**

Breaking free requires us to come out of agreement with the relationship, confessing and renouncing the soul-tie, and verbally break that tie with our words—doing this from the heart, trusting in Jesus Christ to meet our needs. In breaking ungodly soul-ties, we actually sever the tie through prayer, breaking ourselves off from forms of the person's control and domination over us.

Breaking free may require us to get rid of any gifts/photos/mementoes, etc. from the person or group trying to control us.

#### **Breaking Soul-Ties With Controlling Family Members**

Breaking ungodly-soul ties is painful, especially so if it involves a family member. The Banks (p. 101-102) suggest we examine the definitions of family from the teachings of Jesus to help us gain perspective. (See Matt. 12:48a, 50; 10:37).

Once we are born from above, we are adopted into the family of God, and our true father is God. (See Heb. 2:11; John 1:12)

#### **Breaking Soul-Ties With Illicit Sexual Partners**

It is vital that we break ungodly soul-ties with all those with whom we have had an illicit sexual encounter. These relationships were developed in lust, pornography, infatuation, sexual activity short of intercourse, and intercourse.

#### **Breaking Soul-Ties Rooted In Fear & Occult**

Ungodly soul-ties rooted in fear or the occult are usually the strongest and more difficult for the person to break. Because destructive spiritual energies are involved, the breaking of ungodly soul-ties will usually involve a spiritual battle.



## **Breaking Religious Soul-Ties From False Prophets, Sects, Cults**

Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself (I Tim. 6:5).

In the last days...men shall be... having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.(II Tim. 3:1,2,5).

### ***B. Restore Fragmented Portions Of The Soul***

Sometimes after praying to break the soul-tie, we may need to speak to the fragmented parts of the soul or heart, calling them back into their proper place in the person so that the damaged soul can be made whole.

### ***C. Confess Sins & Receive Forgiveness***

### ***D. Forgive The Other From Your Heart***

We need to make peace in our heart with everyone who has ever hurt us and get that cleared up before God. We need to forgive your father or mother and all other family members for what they did or did not do in our life. Pray, asking the Lord to teach you about forgiveness.

#### ***1. Unforgiveness, a barrier***

Unforgiveness is a barrier to becoming free from ungodly soul ties. It prevents God from giving His grace to the person seeking to be free.

...delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if you from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses (Matt. 18:34-35)

The Lord makes it clear that forgiving others is a condition to receiving the desires of our heart—our healing. Some sobering thoughts: According to the Lord's prayer, we will not be forgiven if we do not forgive others for their sins against us (Matt. 6:9-15).

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil...(Matt. 6:12-13).

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses (Matt. 6:14-15).

And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your transgressions. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions (Mark 11:25-26).

If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained (John 20:23).

## **2. Unforgiveness holds the curse on us.**

The Scriptures command us to forgive before we can be freed, because demonic bondages often stem from broken relationships of trust between people (Banks, p. x). When we hold another's sins and do not forgive them, we are holding the curse upon ourselves. When we will not let go of the sins of others, we are keeping that person under the "bondage of my judgment".

If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained (John 20:23).

So shall My heavenly Father also do to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart (Matt. 18:35).

## **3. Principles of Forgiveness**

Forgiveness is key to our own healing, thus it is vital that you understand what true forgiveness is. Pray, asking the Lord to teach you about forgiveness. Here are a few principles of forgiveness.

### *Genuine forgiveness is from the heart*

Real forgiveness must come from the heart. The heart must be postured with an attitude of forgiveness toward the person:

...if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart (Matt. 18:35).

### *Separate person from their sin*

Forgiveness becomes easier if you can separate the person who hurt you from the sin they did against you, just like the Lord did for you. He loved you even in your sin, because He was able to separate you from your sin. This means that we too can forgive others of their failures yet love them.

Jesus was saying, 'Father forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing' (Luke 23:34).

I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you (Matt. 5:44).

Love your enemies, and do good... be merciful, just as your Father is merciful (Luke 6:35-36).

## **E. Resist Evil Things**

After praying for the fragmented soul to be made complete and totally restored, we will need to command the demoniacs to leave the person.

The following scriptures talk about demoniacs, and evil things. From these verses, it appears that demoniacs attach themselves to our fleshly, natural emotions and behaviors. It also tells us that we need to resist the devil and he will flee from us.

But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition (strife) in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural (unspiritual), demonic.

For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and evil thing.

But the wisdom from above is first pure, (pure motives), then peaceable, gentle, reasonable (willing to yield), full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy (James 3:14-17).

Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded ... (James 4:7,8).

And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name they shall cast out devils (Mark 16:17a.)

Behold I give unto you power...over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall be any means hurt you (Luke 10:19).

God has invested us with unbelievable power and authority to cast out every evil spirit and to break every demonic bondage. You are a believer, the power is yours. Having done the previous steps, now use the authority given to you and the privilege of invoking the Name of Jesus—command each spirit by name, to leave you right now in Jesus' Name. In resisting these evil things, we need to learn how to speak very authoritatively using the wonderful name of Jesus Christ.

## ***F. Renew The Mind & Establish Godly Relationships***

And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind (Rom. 12:2)

## ➤ Doing Business With God: Severing Ungodly Soul Ties

(Taken from Virkler & Virkler, 2000, *Contributing Strands Worksheet*, p. 6.) Start by welcoming the Holy Spirit's presence to guide and empower you. Position your heart in humility before the Lord. Come before the Lord, tell him the heart issue you are bringing to Him. Give your heart to God now; allow Him to access your heart.

Lord, sever that ungodly soul tie between me and ..... and release me from the ungodly flow of ..... from him to me. Restore back to me any parts which have been taken, and send back any parts of others which have been received.

### **Prayer:**

Father in Heaven, I come to you now, because I need You. I recognize that I have an ungodly soul-tie with..... I confess and repent of my sin of being in bondage to another person. I confess and repent of my sin of an ungodly soul tie with.....

I forgive ..... for their involvement in this sin. I ask You to forgive me and to wash all sin and guilt from me with Your blood. I now receive Your forgiveness and I forgive myself for participating in this sin.

I also confess and repent of my anger and resentment against You, God, for allowing this to happen in my life.

In the name of Jesus Christ, I break this ungodly soul tie between me and ..... and I cut myself off from every evil thing coming to me through them.

Lord, please restore to me any broken or torn portions of my soul. Lord, remove anything that has come into me through this soul tie. Please restore to me anything godly that has been stolen from me.

I am drawing close to You and I resist the evil one like Your Word tells me to do.

In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, I thank You. Amen.

### ***Follow with laying hands on the heart***

If you are ministering this breaking of soul ties to another person, speak freedom and release and healing directly to the person's heart. The heart can hear and will respond to your direct words.

Note: Part of our problem in identifying ungodly soul-ties is our ignorance of the differences between God's blessings and curses. Read Deuteronomy 27-29 (Book of Moses?) to help you become familiar with the differences between them.

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