### "A CONTRAST IN BEHAVIOR- Free to forgive

"Whom the Son sets free is free indeed."

(St. John 8:36)

"But be ye kind one to another; tenderhearted, forgiving one another even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you."

(Ephesians 4:32)

"But be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

(James 1:22)

\*

Your attitude will drive what your attached too What is your attachment?

Your past can't be changed it has to be delt with so you can be loosed and set free!

You are more than victorious!
Because you are set free through Christ!

### I. Secrets in the closet

- ♥ Emotions are feelings that bind you to an event that caused the hurt.
- You can keep memories of hurt in your secret closet of your mind
- Don't allow yourself to be held in bondage because you are refusing to open that secret closet door
- ♥ Christ came to heal the broken hearted, and loose you and set you free from those things that hold you in bondage
- ♥ God is faithful to those who are doers of his Holy Word
- ♥ If you believe in the truth of the word, you will be set free
- ◆ Don't be afraid to open your closet door and allow God's light to shine on those things in the darkness that reveal the dark secrets of your life.

#### II. Out of the Sewer

- ▼ You have to forgive in order to be forgiven
- ♥ Holding on to anger and unforgiveness is like you drinking poison and expecting the other person to die.
- ♥ God will never tell you to do something that his grace and power has equipped you to do.
- ▼ The principle is to forgive, and the application is to do unto others as they would do unto you.
- ▼ To forgive= to loosen or set free; give something up for something else in return.
- ♥ You give up you in order to get God's gift in return
- ♥ You have to release yourself so you can be free in forgiveness
- Your relationship with God will help you to operate in your faith and not in your emotions or fear
- ▼ The word produces faith, and your faith allows the Holy spirit to activate your faith and trust in God.





#### The lesson from the sewer

There was a time when Dr. Dye was a little girl and she and her neighborhood friends would be outside playing a game of streetball. There was a sewer drain that the ball would sometimes fall into, and she and her friends would put a piece of cardboard up to prevent the ball from falling in. Sometimes the cardboard would fall down, and the ball would go into the drain.

In order to get the ball from the drain; the older boys would form a human chain and lower the youngest boy into the drain to retrieve the ball.

Unforgiveness is like the ball falling into the sewer sometimes you think you have safeguards, but they fall away. The grace of God is like you being lowered down into the sewer and you grabbing the ball. (The ball represents the word of God) When your lowered into the sewer you say "God, I got it! God, I got it!" When you reach down but refuse to grab hold of the word you are like the ball stuck in the sewer

The word is available to you; speak over your circumstances and allow the Holy Spirit to be your guide.



# III. A Story of Deliverance

- ♥ Obedience to the word and your vertical relationship are the keys to forgiveness
- ♥ God tells you to speak the word and build up your inner man
- **♥** The Lord is faithful to those who trust in him
- ◆ Deliverance comes from only God; Jesus is the same yesterday and forever more!
- ▼ A principle from Phil 3:13-14; Forget & lay aside
- You forget & lay aside by renewing your mind by the word of God
- ♥ What you put in your head is what will guide your choices
- **♥** Do you choose to be a doer of the word?
- **♥** Do you choose to let go of those things in the past?
- **♥** Do you choose to allow the Holy Spirit to be your guide?

# A modern-day story of Deliverance (A principle from Phil 3:13-14)

There was a man who learned of his past history and developed a hatred of all white people; he refused to allow anything white to be tolerated in his house. He joined the nation of Islam only because of their hatred of white people. He became a member of the black panther party. He got involved with drugs and was so deep into the twisted lies of the others he convinced himself and forced his wife to take on a sister wife because he felt he had the right to do so. He kept spiraling in his hatred and unforgiveness of the past and then one day while in rehab met the word of God.

He was able to release his past and began to be set free and forgive and then later became a great gospel preacher

Don't waste your precious time by looking back in your past and living in the place of despair. Forgive and walk in love!

You can walk a life of forgiveness and live in the freedom of forgiveness!

Choose to be set free!