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Weekly Encourager – 27 September 2009

**REAL HOPE TO DEFEAT SCHIZOPHRENIA ARISES IN YOUR HEART AS YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR OWN HELPLESSNESS AND NEED AND IN FAITH CRY OUT IN PRAYER TO GOD**

**“We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Thessalonians verse 3.**

*James:* Yes, there is a facility to do that (to order Schizophrenia Defeated online) and we are pleased to say that there is a missionary in Columbia who is translating it into Spanish, and we also have a lady in Germany who is going to do it into German as well. This is a message which we feel is simply to give hope. That's all we're doing. Jesus Christ is the only hope for many many things, and we felt that the church has not really got underneath the actual problem of mental illness, the whole business of mental illness, including schizophrenia. Jesus has the answer. He has the answer through Himself, through the Word of God, through prayer, and through ministry of the Holy Spirit. He has the answer to everything.

Now in one breath we say He has the answer; the church would declare that. But really, we are not getting our hands dirty and helping the likes of such people like this. We say it with our mouths, but in our hearts we don't believe it. So my hope is that eventually there will be a home, no more than one home, even for schizophrenics with a Christian psychiatrist, with a Christian staff of nurses and helpers who will not be overworked, but there will be many people to share in looking after schizophrenic people who come in who will have their own community in that home. They will be loved for who they are, and they will be taken into atmospheres of worship. That is something beautiful when you take people into an atmosphere of worship where Jesus is allowed to connect with the spirit. And when that is happening, the bondages in the mind often fall off and the deliverance of schizophrenia can be rapidly done, I do believe through active faith in Jesus.

*Charlotte:* Great. Well as you say, your book “Schizophrenia Defeated” is an amazing read, and if you'd like to order this book, you can do so through their website.

If you have one final thing to say; someone who is reading this now and needs a final word of hope or that needs a word of encouragement, what would you say to somebody who maybe is still in the battle of schizophrenia, what would you say to them?

*James:* Well, there is a real difference between a person who has schizophrenia who is a Christian, and a person who has it who is a non-Christian. The person who is a Christian has the Holy Spirit, and he or she therefore has the help of the Lord's presence to help them through and also to respond to ministry.

But someone who is really not a born again Christian who does not know Jesus, the very first step for them is to come to know Him, because this is indeed a demonic presence which is very, very powerful, and it can only be addressed when someone is living in the light and truth of the Word of God, and who knows Jesus intimately and can get people around him or her to pray. There can be a prayer wall as it were helping that person into freedom, but I would just stress as well that until the Lord tells you not to, keep on with your medication. Medication can make you very passive, and sad to say, medication can lead a person into a place where they can become an even easier prey for the enemy to come in to make plans to destroy that life. Medication is very, very necessary for many people.

And indeed they need to know that they need to be stabilized, but I do believe that Jesus Christ is the only hope. It is very difficult to hang on in there, and it is very difficult to be disciplined and seek

God, but I do believe that the freedom that you will enjoy once you pray through, once you travail, once you make it known that you mean business that God will come in and do this work, you will enter into a freedom that you have never before even envisaged. The Lord will bless you and life will become just as He intended it to be for you.

*Charlotte:* Wonderful. Maybe Tina, as somebody that has been lovingly supporting a partner, what would you say to people out there as a word of encouragement that maybe are in a similar situation that you've been in?

*Tina:* Well, I would say that there is hope in Jesus Christ and in the power of Jesus being applied to the individual. Also, not to give up, but persevere. There is a lot that is in the Bible that says keep on praying. As James said, sometimes you feel your prayers are not being answered. I would just encourage you that they will be answered. Just keep on praying, and get as many people as possible to pray for you and to be open and honest regarding the various stages that you're going through so that they can pray intelligently and powerfully for you. And eventually, God will answer just as He did when He said to the angel with all the incense, which were the prayers of the saints, "throw it out now on the earth," which means God answers prayer. So eventually your bowls will be made up of lots of different prayers, and eventually God will say: "Enough is enough; this is the time." But remember, there is a time when it is right for God to act. So don't give up, but keep persevering because we've got a wonderful God.

*Charlotte:* Thanks for being with us James and Tina. It's been a real privilege to talk to you both. ("Our pleasure", said James) If anything has affected you during this program, if your heart is being really spoken to and you need someone to talk to and you'd like prayer, please feel free to email James and Tina to talk to them. We would be really happy to pray with you, and we send you every blessing.

Also, if you would like to read James Stacey's book, Schizophrenia Defeated, you can order it online and read extracts at the web address below.

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***Prayer: Loving heavenly Father, help me to understand the value of hope as I continue to trust in your unfailing love. You can set me free from every mental bondage because I trust in your Son, Jesus Christ, in whom all true hope is found. Amen***

*James Stacey*

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