



WHY SPIRITUALITY IS DEMONIC

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great well welcome and thank you all for submitting your questions we had great questions and I'm so glad that you're wrestling through these things and not willing to just settle or believe the lies of the enemy so I'm really grateful that you all submitted these questions and any of you that um submitted any marriage or parenting questions um we will put those in our um kind of area for our marriage and parenting podcast so we'll we'll put those aside and we'll uh get back to those online at real faith if you want to go to the real Faith site um and today we're going to focus just on Jesus versus spirituality and so this is something that's so important because if we don't get Jesus right then it's easy to stray and we don't want to do that we want to stick close to Jesus right it's all about Jesus the whole Bible is about Jesus and our lives need to all be about Jesus and so we wanted to really hone in on that today and so I wanted to just share a couple scriptures for you to kind of give an introduction to what we're going to be talking about 2 Timothy 3:16 we believe this wholeheartedly as Christians and as a church that all scripture is inspired by God it's literally breathed out by God by the power of the holy spirit it's his words to us God's speaking to us we believe that it is useful as second Timothy says to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives so it helps redirect us when we have wrong thinking and wrongdoing it corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right so anytime we're learning from the scripture that's what we go to the scripture for to learn how to correct what we're doing wrong and to encourage Us in the things that we're doing right and to train Us in righteousness so if we as we're talking this morning and answering these questions if there's anything that you realize oh shoot I'm doing that or I'm struggling with this that's what we're here for we're here to talk it through and redirect you back to Jesus so we're not here to condemn you for it we're here to redirect and help you understand how to get back following Jesus understanding who he is getting back to what the Bible says so that we can follow him and follow his commands and I want to urge you if this is you we're all we've all got different struggles and so this is going to touch each of us differently but I want you to pray and ask the holy spirit for strength and discernment strength to if you need to redirect back to Jesus in a way then strength to do that and also for discernment so that as we go forward we need discernment every day every moment because there's all kinds of crazy stuff coming at us all the time and so we need to pray for the holy spirit's discernment and we need to be in our Bibles and praying because that will keep our minds renewed and that will change our actions and then the second scripture I wanted to share was Titus 2 11-2 for the grace of God has appeared it brings salvation God's grace brings us salvation and we are instructed to turn from Godless living and sinful pleasures that's what Christian Living is we turn from the godlessness that we came from God gives us a new heart and a new mind and and we turn from sinful pleasures and we should live in this evil World he's saying this back in Bible times we should live in this evil world with wisdom righteousness and Devotion to God and that's a lifelong process we we don't arrive until eternity but we need to be on that Journey until we get there so I want to welcome our very special guest guest this morning my best friend my husband Pastor Mark Driscoll hey let's bring your husband to work day so we are going to um answer your questions but I'm going to open up in a word of prayer thanks for letting me come baby yeah thank you for coming can I hold your hand I feel like be better thank you dear Lord thank you so much for this opportunity to glean from your word your very word to us as our holy and righteous God I thank you that you speak to us and you don't leave us wondering I pray that as we answer these questions that you would bring Clarity to people's hearts and Minds I pray that the Bible would speak as only the Bible can speak and I just pray that we would be clear as well in Jesus name amen amen thank you baby good morning ready for this you know I don't know if I'm ready we'll know in a bit I don't know

well it's going to be fun we always have fun doing this yeah but I'm not used to a bunch of women I'm very I'm very nervous I don't I don't feel like I'm just in my Lane I'll be hon just pretend it's me and your girls your daughters okay okay so we are talking about Jesus versus spirituality so why don't you give us a little like what does that even mean mean why why is it important to differentiate between just Jesus and what spirituality in general is General is and then maybe talk about syncretism a bit and what that even means yeah so uh the storyline of the Bible there's a real God who created us and uh he also created Divine beings and the Bible says that there was a war in heaven that these Divine beings declared war on God they were then cast down to the Earth we know them as Satan and demons today and so just like human beings there are people that you can trust and they're going to help you there's people that you cannot trust and they're going to hurt you what's true of people's true of spirits uh some Are Holy some are Unholy some are going to honor the Lord and some are going to serve Satan and really cause damage in your life and so discernment is being able to distinguish is this a holy spirit or an Unholy spirit is this working for the Lord or working for his enemy and so if you don't have discernment you just sort of open yourself up and you're saying you I just want to be spiritual and then you're inviting all the spirits any potential spirit and when that happens um you'll put yourself in grave danger and so uh and and the demonic spirits we don't want to be uh you know overly fearful of them but maybe this would be helpful sweetie pie so when when we talk about spiritual warfare which is kind of what we're speaking of as a backdrop there's the the devil the world and the flesh so Satan and demons we're told that Satan is the God of this world he's running the show now over him is our Lord can tell our Lord Jesus Christ yeah our Lord Jesus Christ is over it all but running and ruling this world is evil and darkness and then as well so there's the world there's Satan there's the world the world is the system that is just opposed to God it's a counterfeit of God's kingdom see look at how politics and education and economics and everything is run you're just like this is just architected in such a way that that if you love God it's really hard to live here and uh it's really hard to live with Integrity so you've got the devil you've got the world and then inside you've got the flesh which is your own Temptation your own desires your own longings and we've got our own internal struggle so these three things work together Satan will send demonic spirits to build a world system and then that will instigate your sinful desires to then participate in that which is evil so that's kind of the cycle of Temptation and spiritual warfare yeah that's super helpful and that kind of really Segways us into the first question which you a little bit answered but how can you tell the difference between real spiritual warfare versus your own battle with your sinful flesh because not everything is spiritual warfare yeah I think it all depends s by like not everything is demonic but if it is of the flesh it is it's a war it's a battle for you and that can be like you know I want to do something God says not to do because some desire in me is Unholy or tempting and in those moments it is is a spiritual war if you say no and you're willing to resist you're winning if you surrender and give into it you're losing and so there are these moments throughout everyone's day where we're making these decisions and so I was telling the men recently the the uh the strength of everything is living in the power of the holy spirit amen and so the Holy Spirit he is stronger than every other Spirit and the Bible says you know greater is he who is in you than he who is in the world and so if you're living by by the power of the Holy Spirit you're living by the strongest potential power that there is and I I was telling the men um that there's two ways to continually live in the anointing power of the Holy Spirit one is to obey God you know starting with his word and the other is when we don't repent and come back under his word and as long as we do those two things we stay in God's will we stay under God's word and the Holy Spirit comes to help us to

obey as soon as we step out uh he still Lov loves us but he can't help us because he won't help us do wrong yeah absolutely and that's what Galatians 5 speaks to right um so I say let the holy spirit guide your lives then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves so it really is the key is the Holy Spirit the sinful nature wants to do evil which is just the opposite of what the spirit wants and the spirit gives us desires that opposite of what the sinful nature desires these two forces are constantly fighting each other that's what you just just said and we'll talk about what that leads to because it always leads to sexual sin um and so that's is that I think that's helpful to understand that yes ultimately everything is a spiritual battle because it's not against flesh and blood um it's against principalities but it doesn't mean that you know Satan's always trying to get us to yeah I appreciate that sweetie pie and so uh Satan is not like God so God is all powerful Satan isn't God is all knowing Satan isn't God is all present Satan isn't he's limited and so when people are like Satan's after me he's I don't know if he's after plumbers you know I don't know if he's I know if he's like today is plumber Tuesday and I'm going after the plumbers you know and so you know he's us so you think of it like military you send your highest ranking generals to the most strategic targets and so what what this means is even as you're stepping up in life and you're saying well we're going to get married we're going to have a kid we're going to lead in business we're going to lead in Ministry you're probably going to get a different level of resistance but Satan isn't attacking everyone sometimes we'll we'll say that and there's a limited finite number of demonic spirits and so they're not they're not unlimited and constantly deployed um but as soon as you're trying to do something that's right expect that some opposition probably will show up yeah and and when you feel unsettled and you can't get to peace there's something going on either with your flesh or With the Enemy that is Waring and so that's when going back to prayer going back to the word of God and and reading through the scriptures that that and also a great book is called when your War yes it's written by this adorable gal that I like very much yes that we wrote together um and it's a really helpful research just on practical how do you um war against these things in your life um the second question does the Bible talk about Witchcraft and divination um are they completely wrong or just some things okay my mother-in-law is into a astrology and keeps giving us c a couple gifts per year for holidays and birthdays with astrology signs on them I just throw them away and don't bring them into our home my husband and I aren't sure if I should be a if it should be a conversation or a boundary because she would just get defensive I don't want her wasting her money but also don't want to create a problem that may not be necessary so first part of the question is does the bible even talk about Witchcraft and divination it does yeah it talks about uh unclean demonic spirits and it it often times Sumer so high ranking and Powerful that it names them Bale ashra Kos moak some have names um beab and so um they they're real beings and and the higher ranking ones uh we know their names and the Bible's clear about that and so uh witchcraft is the opposite of Christianity and the greatest I believe the greatest threat to Christianity is not atheism but it's paganism and it's taking a little bit of Jesus a little bit of Bible putting it with a lot of Satan and a lot of deception and then mixing it together and uh and the result is that people think that they're Christian is and they're completely deceived so that's syncretism that's syncretism so syncretism so the we get down that rabbit TR how long am I supposed to answer these questions I I'm very long-winded we'll go until they get up okay um so thank you sweetheart um so the language in the Bible is that Jesus is um a groom and the church is his bride and that if you're practicing divination witchcraft or syncretism other religions other spiritualities um then what you're doing is committing adultery and so serious it's a serious word for the women you know like how does Jesus feel about adultery he's not for it no um he's against it and so when you're running around with another Spirit or you're running

around um you know with another quote unquote God a false god it's it's like a wife who's running around with different men other than her husband and it breaks the Heart of Jesus and so there's an entire book of the Bible on this called Hosea and it's a picture of God and his people when they keep practicing syncretism and they keep going after other gods and they want to have a a sort of kind of a convenient relationship with him but really they they only want that to be once in a while and and they want to be doing other things that are evil more often and so the the story line is there's a a prophet of God a man of God named Hosea he's got a wife named Gomer and he marries her and she keeps running off and being a prostitute and he he keeps pursuing her and like honey let's let's just work on her marriage she's like no I really like being a prostitute and so spiritually that's what syncretism is it is deciding I'm going to run around on Jesus and we can call that astrology we can call that astral projection we can call that meditation we can call that self-reflection we can call that a prayer Labyrinth we can call that a dream catcher we can call that whatever we want to call it we can call it praying Interfaith prayers with members of other religions and Jesus looks down he's like man my wife keeps running around on me she keeps running around on me and I just wish we could work on our relationship Jesus says I am the truth the the way the truth the life no one goes to the father except through me he doesn't say I'm one of the ways yeah um he's very clear about that and I think we don't always take it seriously because when there's so much culture that is just accepted right I mean we do things and we think oh well everybody's doing this it must be okay and we don't even realize sometimes the context of what we're bringing into our lives into our relationship with Jesus and so I think pointing out some of those common things like a dream catcher lots of people have dream catchers what's the big deal with a dream catcher Native American Shamanism yes uh the yin and the Yang is an Eastern symbol that God is good and evil it's the definition of pantheism or pantheism and that is that there isn't a the Creator all there is is creation and creation is sacred and divine and creation is good and evil and therefore the Divine is good and evil and so all of this is profoundly spiritual and most people don't know that right um but at some point as you mature in your faith you've got to just ask yourself like does this honor God or dishonor God and if I'm not sure I should air on the side of caution and I'll say this too sweetie pie and if we could answer the Mother-in-law question CU those are always you know particularly fun um thankfully I have a great mother-in-law so I can answer these questions but um within that I was thinking about it as you as we're com conversing so there's a few times in the New Testament that it says that Eve was deceived So speaking to and thinking for the women the first time that syncretism happened on the Earth was with Eve and Satan yeah yes yeah you know she had a relationship with God and there she is and Satan shows up and she says well I want God and Satan and and this is what happens in Liberal and Progressive and apostate Christianity with words like reconciliation Hospitality tolerance and diversity loving your neighbor and I would say love your neighbor but not if he's a demon right absolutely and so what happens is Eve she participates with Satan and that's the beginning of syncretism and her husband was a total coward and he's complicit and he said did nothing and he's a total Ahab and he's a whole other issue and you know I'll talk about that at real men but anyways um appreciate that yeah but within that the the New Testament looking back says that she was deceived and what that means is uh she didn't intentionally or wholeheartedly mean to but she didn't intentionally and wholeheartedly want to be with God no she was trying to she was trying to have both and and some people are like well I want to be a Christian and a Buddhist I want to be a Christian and a new Ager I want to be a Christian and you know generally spiritual it's like no it's it's only Jesus it's always Jesus and Jesus plus anything ruins everything yeah but there are some women that

they get deceived and they're like I didn't know I didn't mean to and I I think honey that's the heart of our time together I guess you girl should know um my wife loves you very dearly I hear about all of you you every night um so you know nice shoes congratulations on the grandbaby your hair looks great and uh and I'm so glad you got engaged so wow I sound so surfacy yeah that's I'm a man that's what I remember yeah I'm like okay um but uh you've had a lot of uh women star coming that are either non-christians or brand new Christians yep and they're like I don't I don't know we're excited about that oh we're Beyond overjoyed and honored it's like God's like I'm GNA adopt some more daughters and you're like well great welcome to the family you know we're so glad to meet you but then uh it's more easy to be deceived because you just don't know and so there's a difference between like hard-hearted rebellion and just un you know sort of a lack of knowledge and in the process of learning and I think a lot of the a lot of the women that you've got they're like they just didn't know and they're learning it and it's new to them yeah we had that last semester when we taught through a deeper walk and we taught about Buddha statues because they're used for Decor everywhere and a lot of people have them and for me like I I automatically know that I grew up in a Christian home there's certain things that I just inly know um but there was women that went home and literally filled their cars with all the decor and like dumped it all because they didn't realize they were bringing something that was a Jesus plus into their home and they just didn't know and so it wasn't like outright sin it was just unawareness and and so in Galatians 5 back to what we were talking about um divination is actually specifically mentioned over 24 times in the Bible so when you do word searches of these things it's a great way to figure out what the Bible says but in Galatians 5 the uh result of following our natural desires our flesh when you follow desires of your sinful nature the results are very clear sexual immorality impurity lustful Pleasures idolatry listen to this sorcery hostility quarreling jealousy outbursts of anger selfish ambition dissension division Envy drunkenness wild parties and other sins like this and so those are some of the just highlights of what happens when we go into that and a lot of these um these divination and Witchcraft and stuff they do require some of these sinful lustful things and so anytime you're even dabbling in it that may just be the tip of it but you will get into these sins eventually because that's where it leads so for the Mother-in-law what should what should this gal do about her mother-in-law or what should the husband do because it's his mom so this is a good question so um there's a problem with the in-laws so who should talk to the In-laws I should talk to my parents you should talk to your parents you should also talk to my parents right now I love your parents yeah my parents are great yeah so you talk to your side of the extended family I talk to my side of the extended family do so prayerfully respectfully don't spring it on them in a group um say hey I'd like to talk to you about something when's a good time for a call or a cup of coffee or whatever and then just say hey we were Christians we love Jesus and we actually really do not believe in astrology uh astrology um it is completely Pagan it is demonic and it's Clairvoyance it's trying to determine the future and only God knows the future future truly and Only God reveals the future and I would tell you this I don't want to know the future unless God tells it to me amen because if God doesn't want me to know I don't want to know and and so trying to determine the future is literally trying to be God it's trying to be omniscient and all knowing it's trying to be Sovereign and controlling it's like I don't want that I just want to walk in God's will and if he wants to speak to me great if not I don't need to know and so the the and it hints on what I identity is if you read the astrology stuff like oh what sign am I and all that then tells you what you're supposed to be like that's identity only God can give us our identity yeah and in that sweetie pie you're absolutely right what it's doing it's it's shaping for you this is who you are and it's like no no no unless no he he has something

else to say he says I'm loved I'm adopted I'm forgiven I'm in Christ you know I'm not a Sagittarius I'm a Christian you know and I Virgo yeah you're I don't know what I am I don't know I don't know what it means but I don't care yeah um but at the end of the day you know as well with that it's um it's a wicked thing to try and control the future and the one of the the heart of difference between Christianity and Witchcraft and divination is Witchcraft and divination is trying to manipulate the spirit realm to get the future outcome that you desire and Christianity is like thy will be done yep amen and so in witchcraft it's like well if you if you go to this place or you do this thing or you give this gift or you you know you participate in this whatever event or thing might be then um the spirit realm will give you the outcome in the future that you desire it's like that's completely demonic because the whole point of Christianity is I'm not the one in Authority or control I'm the one who trusts my good God the Lord Jesus who is Sovereign over all and he's in authority and he's in control and I can't manipulate him instead I don't exist to control him he exists to change me you know and and so the relationship isn't me driving it's it's it's me following that's right that's really good okay ready for another one so what did you I guess what did you think that the so the wife should talk to her parents the husband should talk to his but you think they should probably talk to him honestly I I don't mean to be rude but those gifts are offensive to us wow okay I would take it a little different really but you could try that all right I mean you know I don't know that's what we'd say real men I don't know what we do women I suddenly feel out of my Lane yeah just like knock it off dad knock it off tell Mom to knock it off you I don't know or well I would maybe be a little see I told you you should talk to my parents too you should do all the all the conflict stuff yeah I I I mean definitely pray about whether you should address it but I would say you probably want to and train your kids in it while you're at it so that they know what you're doing um it's an opportunity for them to know how to resist those things in the future but I would I would kindly talk to her and just say we love you we care about you yeah um we are Christians and we um want to walk with God fully and we are um learning that these things are outside of what God desires for our life and we trust him to teach us about our future and this is trying to learn it out of God's will and his ways and so we really we really don't want to receive this if there's things that you would like to do other than that great but we just we'd rather spend time with you or whatever whatever things you would rather have as gifts um or or not but I would just it's very sweet I would just no but anyways um but in I think you brought up something there honey that's really really helpful and that is let's say you're single and you're a new Christian you want to establish some healthy loving boundaries with family otherwise when you get married they're giving you wedding presents that maybe are things you don't want in your house and you're like well they think it's Decor but for us it's connected to other religions and it could even be considered an idol and something that we don't want in our home and if you don't you know sort of have that boundary conversation then you have kids next thing you know they're giving stuff to your kids they're teaching stuff to your kids your kid comes home and they're like Grandma says I'm a Capricorn you're like a Capricorn H and so you know I think the earlier you draw the line the less painful the conversation later because kids are uh kids who have the Holy Spirit can be Discerning but kids as a general rule they tend to think that adults are right especially if they're family that's why it's dangerous to just drop your kid in school um you got to get to know who the teacher is because um you know this is part of the difference between being an adult and a child when you're a child you're like well they're an adult I'll listen to them they know what they're talking about you're an adult you're like adults don't know what they're talking about and you should not listen to them but kids are a little vulnerable yeah completely thank you you're welcome okay question three I've heard of bad and

good things regarding deliverance and healing Ministries I know of some people that it helped and some people it made worse do you know if it's bad how do you know if it's bad or helpful uh well the oh boy this is I probably should have pre for this one um So within that honey um every believer has the same Authority in Jesus Christ amen okay by the power of the Holy Spirit yeah the the Bible talks about a priesthood of Believers and so it's not like this person you know has you know access to God's grace and this person doesn't so thinking about it there's a line in Ephesians where it says that right now Jesus Christ is seated in Authority in the heavenlies and it says that we are seated with him right now so practically here we are but positionally there we are as Christians as Christians and so um and yeah and so I think it's 319 times or something the New Testament says in Christ in Christ in Christ in Christ so the primary identity for a Believer is we're in Christ and so we're positionally if we've turned from sin trusted in him and he's Lord over our life we now are positionally in Christ and we're seated with him and so what that means is that number one um The Authority against the Demonic is Jesus Christ amen and so um that being said if you are in Jesus Christ you have access to his Divine Authority and so uh so so a couple of things happen number one some people blame everything on demons you know and um I mean that was even Eve she eats the fruit Satan shows up she's like devil made me do it you know it's like no actually you did it you know and uh and so some people blame everything on demons you know they're like yeah I can't stop eating dessert I got this dessert demon you're like well you know I don't know I don't know if you call in the Weight Watcher Spirit you know I don't know what you to do with that but like cuz sometimes people will blame shift to the Demonic and blame everything on Satan and demons and it's like well you got to ask you know did I did I make a bad decision was this my my life my decision My Flesh sometimes there is genuine demonic and sometimes uh this will come with an oppression and people and some people have genuine depression it can be emotional mental physical spiritual but sometimes they have oppression it's on them uh there's a guy uh in the Old Testament named Elijah he's under a demonic oppression he runs into the woods and he tells God he's like I just want to die that's a dark moment in the in The Narrative of Elijah and he's just oppressed and so the oppression needs to be lifted off of him sometimes people have sickness and it's it's medical treatment and they need a doctor and sometimes it's spiritual there are times that that their physical ailment is because of a spiritual um attack and so you know sometimes in these things it's hard to discern but I would say um if it is what are the ways that we can um allow that to come in like we we've talked about last week we talked about forgiveness Susan Thomas talked about forgiveness so like unforgiveness that's an example so the question is I mean you think of it like um are you leaving any doors to your house open you know every night I do the perimeter check three or four times and make sure I check all the doors and if your husband doesn't tell him to start doing that and uh and if he hears something he shouldn't look at you and be like honey go go figure that out um but you know did I did I have bitterness and forgiveness that left a door open um you know am I unrepentant in a habitual sin and being stubborn that could have left a door open um did I uh am I participating knowingly in in a lie something that is just wrong and and I'm I'm wanting to control the outcome of the situation so I'm I'm going to support the lie that's a that's an open door and so when those things happen think of it like your home you own your home and um no matter what happens it's your home but you can allow people to come in and visit and if you don't exercise your authority to remove them they might just move in so the Demonic is like that and so the Demonic in the Bible doesn't talk about demon possessed some translations do in in the original Greek it's it's actually demonized um I don't think that Satan can own a Christian I believe once you're in Christ you're sealed and your salvation is secure cure but you

can allow influence and just because you're a Believer doesn't mean you're partic not able to participate in the Demonic um there was a Time with Peter where Jesus looks at him uh and said get behind me Satan Peter's like man it's not my name tag I'm Peter it's like but what he was saying he heard from Satan yes so he was a Believer but at that moment Satan was whispering in his ear and it was coming out of his mouth and the same thing happens in the book of book of Acts around chap chapter 5 with ananas and Safara they're Believers they're numbered in the early church and um and they they lie and they steal from God and they drop dead and Peter looks at them and he says you've not just lied to us you've lied to the Holy Spirit you know and so um so it is possible for a Believer to participate in evil but they don't have to and they can be delivered from oppression they can be delivered from any demonic um harassment and it's it's really not that complicated first of all it's looking at any sin that you need to repent of any lies that you've believed um any uh any unclean people or things that you've tolerated um and then it is praying and you know everyone's got their opinion on this but for me I say the Lord rebuke you I don't run around like I rebuke you like that's pride and pride is demonic 101 you know Jesus does humility Satan is the father of Pride like I don't I want to be humble um you know as much as I can by the grace of God and so you know even it says like um what it says in the Old Testament it says in the New Testament the Lord rebuke you because ultimately if it is evil it's not between me and them it's between them and him and I don't want to get in the middle because he can handle it yeah and so it's like the Lord rebuke you in jesus' name and by the authority of Jesus any oppressing Spirit you are commanded to depart in jesus' name and it's it's in the name of Jesus that Authority comes and it's it's interesting because that's what Phillipian says at the name of Jesus every knee will bow every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father both on the earth and under the Earth so it's there's there's there's a significant power and A Spiritual Authority in the name of Jesus Christ that's why people use Jesus name is a curse word it's it's a mockery and it's why even other religions and even demonic spiritualities will try and pull Jesus in because they know that there's power in his name um and so but then don't stop there because the windows are still open in your house close any Windows Doors you've opened like God I Repent of that lie God I Repent of that sin um you know and some that person I forgive that person and then it's inviting the powerful presence of the person of the holy spirit so Jesus has got a I called the principle of seven demons he said if you cast a demon out and you don't invite the Holy Spirit you get seven more demons which is different but not better no you know and that's in the question where she said I've seen some people get worse that's what happened they didn't invite the Holy Spirit back in to control those areas yeah and repent and close those doors it's like well if you left all the doors of your house open just because you run everybody out doesn't mean it's good you got to figure out how to shut the doors Y and that the Holy Spirit does that and the Holy Spirit and then you invite the Holy Spirit like hey I'm going to lock all the doors and I invite you to live here in my heart in my life in my family in my marriage you know and we consecrate and dedicate ourselves to you and and this is your home you know but you better keep the doors and and Windows shut otherwise evildoers can come in yeah and we've dealt a lot with this over the years of Ministry for so many years and I think in general as as the question asks you know is it okay go to these it's not necessary in general I mean there's times when we have to get wise counsel get help you know whether it's with trauma counseling because trauma can bring that in without and we're a victim of that if we've had trauma and that's not that's something we need to ask the Lord to heal in us but we don't necessarily have to go to get these things expelled like he said we have the power of the holy spirit in jesus' name to be able to do this in our life and and I think it's easy when we're

struggling with something to want a quick fix like let's get this out let's take care of this but that isn't always the best way and there's so many Ministries unfortunately that take advantage of vulnerable people in this realm and you can end up having seven seven more demons if it's not a place that's a community that loves Jesus that's walking by the power of the holy spirit that um and so I don't I don't know of any I haven't done a lot of research in this area but um we didn't know of any uh in the area that we were in before doing Ministry and it's it's very hard to find like a Ministry that does this well it's best to do this in community in your church with your relationship with the Lord and we do have resources of course the Bible is the number one resource when you're in the word God will bring this up and he will show you what needs to be purged out of your soul that isn't in line with him and the scriptures um and so but we do have other resources we went through a deeper walk a bit ago and that's a a great book by Marcus Warner um there's also bondage breaker Neil Anderson Neil T Anderson he also wrote steps to freedom in Christ um there's Pastor Jimmy Evans has a 21-day inner healing it's really taking you all the way back to the front first part of when you got saved and walking you through the process of what it means to be healed from all these areas in your life because it can be a generational thing um and then Marcus Warner also wrote understanding the Wounded Heart um which is great for any trauma help so there are good resources but just don't want you to feel I think the deception of the enemy is he wants us to think that we don't have it in us to be able to cast out anything that's not of the Lord and the Holy Spirit but we do and and nothing can overcome us um as long as we're saying in Jesus Jesus name and the Lord rebuke you we have the power to overcome these things because of him it has nothing to do with our power it's only his power yeah sweetie pie and the Bible says resist the devil and he will flee from you and sometimes sometimes there is Del I've seen people like supernaturally saved and delivered from Deep addiction and all kinds of things and so we we do believe in the power of God but often times God works through a process and I think your your Note is is noteworthy and that is sometimes there just isn't a quick fix like if you've neglected your marriage and your health for 20 years and your health is bad and your marriage is on the Rocks you're like okay let's just get rid of the demon and then it'll all be better it's like actually you know this is a you know this is going to be a process of repentance and healing and learning and growing and sometimes people they just want a quick fix they don't want to process and sometimes the process is exactly what's needed because um because sometimes there isn't a quick fix it's like you got to put in the work you know it's but this is the the world in which we live everybody's like if I could just find the right medication then I'd be fine if you know if I could just find the right diet then I'd be fine it's like actually it's it's self-discipline its habits its lifestyle and um and and and some Christians with Deliverance Ministry it's like people that eat all year and then take a diet drug and then eat all year and then take a diet drug and they're just like okay I'm going to I'm going to do bad all year and then this is going to fix it and I'm going to do it again it's like no healthy habits new lifestyle um you know good choices going forward um is really what is necessary and and the truth is there are times that the Christian life is just hard when Jesus said pick up your cross and follow me he was definitely referring to that and there are seasons you're like I'm going through the valley of the shadow of death you know like I'm in it and and I I can't book a flight over it but he's with us he is with us and so yeah I mean there are times that God delivers us from it there are times that God walks with us through it yeah that's really good okay number four I am a new Christian and someone told me I wasn't really saved if I didn't speak in tongues what does the Bible say and is that true uh the Bible says you need better friends um so um so if you are a new Christian wonderful praise God welcome to the family and and and we're honored to have you

you so the um the evidence that you are a Christian is that um you and Jesus have a a saving connection so the Bible says no one says that Jesus Christ is Lord but by the Holy Spirit and so really the the ultimate test is is Jesus Christ your lord and savior did he save you from your sin and is he now Lord over your life and and that's where back to the initial discussion syncretism is Jesus is part of my life but he's not over my life it's like no no Jesus is over your life he speaks into your sexuality your spirituality your finances your relation like he's Lord over all of it he has authority over all of it and so as long as someone really truly has turned from their sin and received Jesus Christ as their lord and savior they're saved amen now other things may also provide additional indications um that they have been saved maybe there you have a spiritual gift and they're able to serve with it maybe they have a supernatural manifestation like a prayer language of tongues which I do believe in the Apostle Paul says if I pre if I speak in the tongue of men and angels I believe that like every nation has a language I believe the kingdom of God has a language the Angels know that language and sometimes God allows us in the spirit to pray or sing in that language um there are also manifestations where people will be able to speak Earthly languages that they didn't know as a missionary gift by the power of the holy spirit all of those things could be additional evidences but the exclusive evidence have you turned from your sin and trusted Jesus Christ as your lord and savior and if so you don't you know it's it's not like uh there's junior varsity and varsity Christians you know like oh you spoke in tongues all right well now you get a jersey you know like here and and this will shock maybe this will surprise people like um I have never spoken in tongues so apparently you know I'm not saved either um which is remarkable you need a new career yeah I need a new career so uh I have defended the the prayer language of tongues and the Earthly known languages of tongues and I firmly believe in all of that and I've asked God to give me whatever he would have for me uh we actually have members of our family that do have the prayer language of tongues um but um you know Paul asks if you want to read this you read 1 Corinthians 12:13 and 14 and he he literally asked he's like do all speak in tongues and it's a rhetorical question no because it's in the list of spiritual like it's like asking like does everybody have the gift of administration obviously yeah I know I know I know you know and is yeah be nice know I'm saying I don't have the gift of Mercy obviously so I mean we've all got our we've all got our struggles you know so but to say but what happens is sometimes people are so grateful for their gift that they think that everybody should have it and it's like God gave you your gift God gave them their gift and actually they're going to enjoy their gift like you enjoy your gift and just because they don't have your gift doesn't mean that God has withheld something from them and I think the key word is gift so we can't get it God gives it no that would be stealing not giving so it's okay to ask the Lord for things but he chooses whether or not to give it to you and and so I think that's super important to understand so yes 1 Corinthians 12 13:14 and acts 210 and 19 are all places if you want to dig deeper into that um but it's not a requirement for salvation so welcome to the kingdom um okay number five ready I don't know what can I say to my Christian family and friends who are beginning to turn scripture to what they want it to be instead of allowing scripture to change them what can I say to turn them back to Jesus they think they're very spiritual yeah so uh this is a great question so um and I just want to publicly uh thank you you bought me my first real Bible I became a Christian reading it and it changed my life and um and so have you and I adore you and I'm very grateful that you bought me a Bible um and so for me one of the greatest things that happened in my life in college was our first my first Pastor um I remember um I went to him and I had a big it was called a Systematic Theology this big old book I bought and I said and I had that book and I had the Bible that you gave me and I asked him I said well is this a good book and he pointed to the

Bible he's like have you read that whole book I was like no I've not read that whole book and he's like okay then give me the book he took my book he's like you can't read that book till you finish this book I was like I to read the whole Bible he's like yep I was like oh okay so I started reading it and I read it in a few months um I'll be honest like the the list of names read pretty quick you I wasn't like what is an Obadiah you know like I didn't I didn't really dig in so I went back to my pastor I said okay can I have my book back I read the whole Bible and he said uh nope not yet I said okay well what do you want me to do now he said pick a short book of the Bible and I'll teach you how to study it I just want you to study it verse by verse and just learn how to let the Bible tell you what God says don't come to the Bible and pull things out that you want to hear and I was like okay so I picked first John and he taught me how to study it and I finished it and uh he let me teach it a little bit to some small groups and then um I said okay what do I do now he said well just keep he said pick another book of the Bible and he said do this for the rest of your life so that's what I've been doing since 19 awesome did what my pastor told me to do and so the best thing you can do if you really want to learn the Bible in my opinion pick a short book and just study it learn it highlight it feel free to write in your Bible feel free to make notes feel free to you know get additional resources and just study it for yourself and what'll happen is over time as you study books of the Bible and what he told me at the time it was interesting he's like he's like how old are you I was like 19 20 whatever he's like well there's 66 books of the Bible he said uh now that I think about it it's kind of curious he said how long do you think it'll take you to study a book of the Bible I said well some are short some are long maybe 6 months each he said well in you know let's say let's say in 33 years you'll have done the whole Bible that I'm 53 so I'm now that age and it's like yeah I I don't regret taking a book at a time and it's the best way to live your life yes and I would just say you know pick a book that you have a burden for and then what'll happen is as you study the Bible and the stories and the verses and the concepts in context you'll be able to put them together categorically this is about prayer the Holy Spirit or finances or marriage or friendship the worst thing you can do is say here's what I think where does the bible say that yes that's called contextualizing well that's yeah that's well that what that is is that's weaponizing the Bible and religious people do this all the time and so do evil people Satan even shows up and quotes the scripture and he's like I know the book and if you don't I'll use it to my advantage and so the best thing you can do is is really just study the Bible book by book and then and I will say this um these are very long Answers by the way um sorry um so what is the bi so the Bible's got all kinds of people and things and Concepts and events what's the center it's Jesus Jesus so the Bible begins in the beginning God so God is the hero he's the author he's the center of the scriptures and history and then as the Bible unfolds we realize that that this God is Jesus Christ and so Jesus comes and in John chapter 5 he's having an argument with religious leaders and they're arguing with him about the Bible which is wild they're like Jesus we're here to teach you stuff he's like actually you should take notes you know like I if one of us is going to be the student probably you um but he says you diligently study the scriptures thinking that in them you'll find eternal life you fail to recognize that these scriptures testify about me and what Jesus says is you know the Bible you don't know me so you don't understand the Bible because the Bible's about Jesus and unless you get to Jesus you don't understand the Bible after Jesus raises from the dead at the end of Luke's gospel there's two different occurrences where they don't immediately recognize him for some reason in his glorified body so he's having a discussion with them and he's talking to them about the Bible and it says uh that he went to the one says the law and the prophets the other says the law of the Psalms and the prophets so he walked through the whole Old Testament showing how it was all

about him and so and it says in our hearts were're burning within us they're like oh now we see now we see so when you see a judge Jesus is our judge when you see a King Jesus is our King when you see a priest Jesus is our great high priest you see a groom you see that Jesus Christ is the groom of the church when you see a sacrifice Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world when you see the temple that is the Connecting Point Between Heaven and Earth Jesus Christ is literally uh the holy of holies and the Connecting Point Between Heaven and Earth when you see Cain betray Abel that's how we have treated Jesus when when you see um when you see for example Shepherds Jesus is our Good Shepherd um when you see the burning bush with Moses and the god therein says I am Jesus says before Abraham was I am um that over and over and over the whole Bible either in principle or in Prophecy it points to Jesus and once you understand Jesus the whole Bible makes sense and if you are studying the Bible and you don't get a deeper richer truer love for awe of Devotion to Jesus you've missed the intent of the scriptures and so you know a lot of people are like well what am I looking for just find Jesus the rest will figure itself out yeah that's perfect and that is what you can tell your family that are beginning to turn scripture to what they want just kindly ask are you reading the scriptures to learn about Jesus and if they say no and say well that's a good place to start because the Bible's not about us it's about Jesus well and too sweetie pie what religious people are about they're about control right and then they will quote the Bible to control you and it's like the point of the Bible is not that they would control you that you would be under the influence and control of the Holy Spirit yes because you know and so at the end of the day if it's it's like I'm using the Bible to be domineering overbearing controlling it's like that's not the intent the intent is that the Bible reveals to me the lordship of Christ and then I live under his lordship not because I have to but because I want to but because I believe that my lord is good and if I disobey him I'll hurt myself and if I obey him he'll help me to be blessed that's good that's what my shirt says the righteous will flourish I know it's cute God wants to bless us he wants to get to know us and I think if we take Jesus outside of a relational context that's when we start to bring rules in and condemnation comes and but we if we see Jesus as a relational God who created us and loves us and wants a relationship with us it changes our whole view of God and so I don't know if there's any closing comments you want to make but we're we've gone our time yeah thank you sweetie pie thanks for letting me come thank you for loving and serving and teaching and leading and investing in the women I know you have great deep affection for them um I want to honor you um you're an incredible woman I love you with my whole heart and I'm honored to be with you um and I love doing life with you I love the season that we're in I love that we're friends and we go for walks we hold hands my favorite thing is to Hold Your Hand In Worship in church and now to see our grandkids coming into the world and you know all these years together thank thank you for being resilient thank you for um you know enduring all the drama that comes with me um I always say we're exciting yeah it is I always say we're a drama queen she's a queen I'm the drama That's How We Do It um but um yeah thank you for Still Loving Jesus and and I would just say thank you sweetie pie for the the repeated times when you bring me back to God's word and I know you love me and you're kind about it but there times that you know I get frustrated or agitated or you know In the Flesh and you're like honey here's what the Lord says and so I thank you for doing it kindly I'm still working on that um but um you're my favorite person and I'm very glad that we get to do this together so thank you yeah no we've walked we've walked some long hard years and some amazing years and that's the thing about walking with Jesus is it's a walk it's a daily walk and when we're doing it we can look at all the things he's done for us and we can look at all the hard things that we've gone through a we

can look at all the good things that God has done and we need to weigh both because this world is a hard place to live but when we see the overarch The Arc of our relationship over 30 years um we can see that when we chose to walk with the Lord through whatever trial whatever Temptation whatever spiritual warfare it was always better to stick with the Lord and we can testify to that and the blessing now that we're living because of that because he's such a good God not because of what we've done but because of what he's done um I just I wouldn't trade anything I don't like all the stuff we've been through but I love what God has done through it and he will do that in each and every one of our lives so just want to encourage you that we don't need to add to Jesus he's more than enough and he's amazing he's an Incredible God he is the only God and so let's not add to him let's just get to know him and as you get to know him you'll discover that he's enough and he's everything so I'm going to pray us out dear Lord thank you so much um that we get to know you thank you that you're not a distant God that just stays out there and we don't um get to interact with thank you that we get to pray to you we get to read about you from your word we get to hear from you through the power of your Holy Spirit um we get to experience your presence Lord I just pray that each of us would deepen our relationship with you um as we get to know you better Lord that that desire would just uh burst in our hearts to get to know you and Lord thank you um for your patience thank you for your forgiveness thank you for your power thank you that you are enough you're more than enough in Jesus name amen thanks