

UNDERSTANDING
GENERATIONAL INIQUITIES



GETTING TO THE ROOT!

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Understanding Generational Iniquities

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My Dream

I had a dream, and in this dream, I was stood next to a reception desk observing people in a waiting room; it looked just like any other waiting room except for the people. Men and women were on the floor, cut, bruised and bleeding. I also saw alcoholics and drug addicts slumped in chairs. I then went to a back room which was very dark, and I knew it represented people had been abused.

I was then led to another room where I saw two prison cells next to each other: in the first cell a man aged around 30, dressed in a grey sweat suit sat on the floor folding toilet paper (I recognised the grey sweat suit from my ministering in prisons, as it is standard issue uniform for prisoners who aren't wearing their own clothes). In the next cell was a young boy, no older than 8 or 9; he was also sat on the floor folding toilet paper, in the exact same way and at the exact same time as the older man. They couldn't see each other and I knew they didn't know each other.

I was then taken to a toilet block and it was a mess, defecation everywhere! I knew I was there to help clean it up. I started flushing chains and I got to work with my cleaner!

When I woke I asked the Lord for the interpretation:

The people in the waiting room represent those who are suffering with addictions, violence and who have been hurt or broken; they are waiting to be healed of Generational Iniquities. The dark room represents those areas of abuse people have suffered; the Lord wants to shine His light and bring forth healing and wholeness.

The prison cells' represent those trapped in cycles and patterns of behaviours they can't escape from, nor do they know the reason why they do it. This is evidenced by the fact that neither the man nor the boy knew each other or could see each other, yet their position

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and behaviour was mirrored. The Lord wants to break those habits and patterns that make people do things and enlighten them to the reasons why they do them.

The mess in the toilets indicate the need for cleansing and a flushing out of the iniquities from the family line – there's a need for healing; it may be quite messy, but it is worth it!

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Introduction

It was when I was seeking the Lord about my finances that revelation eventually came. The problem was that ever since I can remember I've never been able to get ahead with my finances. I'd try to save and make plans but within a short amount of time something would happen and I'd be back to square one. This pattern had been going on for years! There was always more month than money and I was always living from pay check to pay check. I had good jobs earning decent money but it didn't matter how much I earned, the results were always the same. It felt like I was attached to a bungee cord, I would move so far forward but then I'd be pulled back further than where I initially started.

We started a family business and even that ended disastrously, causing division in the family. It was as if we were never able to progress or get past a certain point - regardless of what we did.

The significance of those cycles and patterns are obvious to me now but back then I was clueless! So once I was baptised in the Spirit, my prayer life took on a new dimension as I began to understand Spiritual Warfare. So, with my newfound authority and my new identity in Jesus Christ, I repented, renounced and broke the curse of poverty and bound and cast out every spirit of poverty, lack and insufficiency in Jesus name.

Whilst those prayers worked I only ever achieved temporary results and those recurring patterns re-emerged. I soon realised I was only ever 'surface skimming' the problem, never pulling out the actual root. I also began to recognise other patterns in my life and in my family. I needed Divine Revelation; so I prayed, fasted and inquired of the Lord for answers. Eventually insight came whilst doing a Bible Study and the word 'iniquity' almost jumped off the page at me!

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God certainly has a sense of humour, I had been asking incessantly for such a long time for answers and nothing! Then as soon as he'd told me the root cause, for about six weeks afterwards, I was seeing and hearing the word 'iniquity' everywhere! People would say the word 'iniquity' to me (and I'm sure they had no idea what they said!). In addition to the priest reciting it during Holy Mass "Lord wash away my iniquities and cleanse me of my sin", it was also referred to in every reading during this time. I was even hearing it in non-Christian songs on the radio. It was cropping up everywhere, the Lord certainly had my attention and so I began to study the Word of God to gain a deeper understanding of what iniquity is and the significance it held for me.

As my studies began I soon realised I would have to rely on the Holy Spirit for direction and wisdom because I could not find any teachings on iniquities anywhere to back up what I was reading in scripture. What I did find was numerous teachings on Generational Curses, but I knew in my spirit that iniquity was something deeper. I also realised there was much confusion surrounding this subject because of the inaccuracies of terminology. Hopefully I will shed some light on this and clear up any confusion, so you too can receive freedom in those stubborn areas.

Understanding what iniquities are has changed not just my life but the way I pray and minister; when the root of iniquity is pulled up, weaknesses are overcome by the Blood of the Lamb.

I feel a need to mention that I believe God is sovereign and can heal someone in a moment and deliver him or her in any way He wants. I also realise that through His grace and mercy He allowed me to understand what iniquity is, so that others can receive total deliverance through this teaching.

Some of you may wish to rush through to the end to find out how to get rid of the problems that plague you. But I suggest you read

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through the pages to really grasp the depth of them so you can then see what or how they are manifesting in your life. The findings may shock you!

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The Beginning

He is the Rock; his work is perfect...a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he' (Deuteronomy 32:4)

Iniquity was not found in God. The origin of iniquity began with Lucifer and his demise from Grace. ***Ezekiel 28:15*** tells us that Lucifer was perfect in all his ways till iniquity was found in him.

'Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendour...' (***Ezekiel 28:17***)

'For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High' (Isaiah 14:13-14)

God created Lucifer for purpose on purpose: he was an anointed Cherub, talented musician, full of wisdom and beautiful (***Ezekiel 28:12-14***). But Lucifer's heart was beset by his own beauty, radiance, power and the position he held.

Over time self-generated pride consumed Lucifer's being, gripped his mind and ravaged his heart: twisting and opposing Gods perfect plan for his life. Lucifer's gradual rebellion provided ample opportunity to influence 1/3rd of the angels as he glorified himself instead of God. He didn't just think he was equal to God, Lucifer wanted to elevate his throne higher than God.

These thoughts produced iniquity: an evil wickedness so powerful it distorted God's original and divine perfection.

The 'fruit' of iniquity came when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden and ate from the tree of good and evil. They already knew good as they knew God, but now their eyes, and therefore all of our eyes (their descendants), were awakened to

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evil as sin entered the world. We became susceptible to evil and deception and yet we don't have the capacity to comprehend it fully.

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So What is Iniquity?

The Bible makes a distinction between sin, transgression and iniquity. Now this shocked me as I thought they were a variation of the same word! ***Hosea 4:6*** tells us that ***'people perish through lack of knowledge.'*** Forgive our ignorance Lord!

Sin means to miss the mark in a singular event and also includes sins of omission where we fail to do something we should be doing. Transgression means rebellion; you know what you're doing is wrong, but you continue to do it anyway. Violating one of God's laws is rebellion.

Iniquity is translated from the Hebrew word 'Avon'¹ which means depravity, guilt or punishment. The first mention of the word 'Avon' in scripture is in ***Genesis 4*** after Cain murdered Abel.

'Avon' is taken from the root word 'Avah'² which means crooked, twisted, bent or perverted. Cain's grandson Lamech committed murder, exactly the same transgression as his forefather. There was a crooked bend in Cain's family line as a consequence of his wicked actions.

'The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation'. (Exodus 34:6-7)

We always have to remember that sin never affects just one person; there are always consequences to our actions. The effects of which will fall upon the next generation; our children, grandchildren, and even great grandchildren.

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Iniquity will manifest in a family line as a weakness towards certain sins or transgressions that are difficult to resist. There will be patterns or cycles of a certain type of sin or a tendency to sin in a certain area.

If a person repeats a sin over and over without repentance, and it becomes habitual, addictive or even rebellious behaviour, the propensity to that sin pattern could be passed on through the family line. If someone transgresses and breaks one of God's laws, then a tendency to commit the same violation could be passed on.

Those dysfunctional patterns could be lying, cheating, swearing, stealing, fear, fornication, substance abuse (drink, drugs etc.), obesity, murder etc. we see only the fruit of the iniquity and not the root buried deep within.

Another biblical example of a sin pattern is when Abram and Sarai travel to Egypt in **Genesis 12**, due to the famine in Canaan. There Abram, through fear of being killed, tells the Pharaoh that Sarai is his sister. This is in part a lie as Sarai was in fact his half-sister; however they were also married (**Genesis 20:12**).

Graciously, God intervenes because Pharaoh was keen to take Sarai as his own and without God's intervention the covenant God made with Abram wouldn't have been fulfilled.

God changes Abram and Sarai's names to Abraham and Sarah and in **Genesis 20** they travel to Gerar. The 'Father of Faith', again through the fear, proceeds to tell a lie to King Abimelech of Gerar that Sarah is his sister. Fast forward now to **Genesis 26**, Abraham and Sarah's son Isaac and his wife Rebekah travel to the same place and tell the same King exactly the same story that his Father told; Rebekah was his sister, not his wife.

Isaac and Rebekah subsequently have twins and name them Esau and Jacob. Jacob's name actually means deceiver and he 'deceives' his

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father and steals from his brother the first-borns' blessing. See how Abraham's half lie becomes a bend in the family line towards lying and deception that both Isaac and then Jacob both inherited. Following on, Jacobs's children then lie and deceive him to believe that Joseph, Jacob's favoured son, is dead when they sold him into slavery. Talk about history repeating itself!

There are many patterns like this in the Bible. For instance King David, the man after God's own heart, (**1 Samuel 13:14**) committed adultery with Bathsheba, then had her husband killed to cover up his betrayal. The spiritual consequences on his family line were: adultery, murder, rape, lust, family division and disunity. He even lost his firstborn son.

'The good thing I want to do, I never do; the evil thing which I do not want, that is what I do' (Romans 7:21)

The root of Iniquity is a compelling power that operates deep within a person, so you ***'do what you don't want to and don't do what you want to'***. The Apostle Paul tells us that a law is operating within him in **Romans 7:23** and I believe he's referring to the law of Iniquity; it's a spiritual law in operation.

However sincere repentance changes things as we are under a new covenant and have a new sacrificial lamb in offering to God and His name is Jesus! He has already paid the price for us so that our iniquities can be blotted out!

'He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities'. (Isaiah 53:5)

Jesus was bruised for our iniquities - this is to indicate the depth of them. They are below the surface; they are concealed mind-sets, motivations, the attitudes in our hearts and mental strongholds that seem impossible to overcome. Some bruises can be

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so deep they go right to the bone, buried and hidden, much like the seeds in an apple.

If you can imagine an apple, you can usually see the little stem sticking up from the centre of it, telling you the part of the tree it came from. You'll also know that deep in the core of that apple there are many apple seeds.

Seeds in the right environment will take root and grow. Iniquities are evil seeds planted in the soil of your core being – your soul (mind, will, emotions) and your flesh.

Now imagine a couple, husband and wife, one minute they are happily married with everything going for them, and then one goes off, has an affair and commits adultery. The seed was already there, deep in their core waiting for the right environment and conditions for it to take root, be nurtured and grow.

Another example is alcoholism within families and it's more common than you think, starting with one person overindulging continually – leading to a bond of iniquity in the bloodline. A pattern is formed as it becomes a way of life and an iniquity to be passed on.

I was praying with a man some time ago who had a dependency on alcohol; the situation was so bad that his wife left him because of his 'out of control' drinking. I led him in a prayer of repentance, he also acknowledged the sin in the family line and God graciously delivered him of alcoholism! The last I heard he hadn't drank since! God is so faithful to deliver us.

Another form of iniquity is abuse; emotional, physical, mental, sexual and neglect. The damage caused by abuse can be so traumatic it can affect a person's physical, emotional and/or mental wellbeing, whilst others are able to recover quickly with no lasting consequences.

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I was praying with a lady when I had a word of knowledge that she had been sexually abused. We prayed a prayer of inner healing and Jesus ministered to the little girl within, lifting from her the trauma, shock and deep hurts. Jesus took away the pain and all toxic shame she carried as a result of the abuse. We then prayed for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and she received a beautiful gift of tongues!

At the end of the prayer time she was smiling from ear to ear, radiating the joy of the Lord! She thanked me and said "I'll never forget you, you've changed my life". I didn't change her life but Jesus did! He healed her inner wounds, baptised her with His Spirit and gave her beautiful gifts. Her life wouldn't be the same again. How awesome is our God!

Abuse in all its forms is not only cruel it's a violation of mass proportions. It's not always obvious what's really going on behind closed doors as people wear masks to cover up the scars within.

Neglect is another form of abuse that easy to overlook: essentially it's where parents or guardians don't provide the basics of care that a child or young person needs to grow and develop. It's more than clothes or food, its spiritual and emotional well-being and then some. You'll find that if a parent was neglected then the chances are that their children and grandchildren will also inherit this pattern.

The seed of abuse can be passed on through the bloodline. We inherit an iniquity or create our own iniquity to be passed on.

The root of iniquity must be destroyed otherwise the fruit will keep reproducing, resulting in endless cycles and patterns of sin.

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Lawlessness and Iniquity

'Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness' 1

John 3:4

Lawlessness is also a fruit of iniquity. A definition of lawlessness is someone who is unruly, who will disobey, break or rebel against (transgress) ones of Gods laws. They will go astray, violate rules and have no regard for justice. The opposite of lawlessness is righteousness, which is right standing before God.

Children are susceptible to lawlessness when their parent or guardian acts in iniquitous behaviour before them. If there are no boundaries in place children will automatically and even psychologically act out the same behaviour as their parents or guardians if hardship or struggles occur.

Lawlessness will keep producing lawlessness. Cycles of dysfunction become a model for the next generation; addictions, laziness, defeatism, negativity, selfishness, greed, anger and the cycles repeat over and over. Children not only inherit these iniquitous traits, they observe them growing up and then they add to the iniquity by the sin in their own life just like Isaac, Jacob and his children.

For instance parents who lived together before they were married will often find this pattern manifesting in their children's lives. I was praying with a lady at a conference and her story was quite interesting. She lived with her husband before they were married, she was a Catholic, he wasn't and he didn't want to know about God in any way. He even went so far as to say that any children they had couldn't be brought up in the faith. They had a daughter and the couple eventually got married, he then allowed the daughter to be baptised as a result of the grace they found in marriage. Fast forward 18 years, the daughter was now in the same situation,

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living with her partner and having a child out of wedlock. The daughter's partner refuses to allow their baby to be baptised, even though he wasn't a Christian nor brought up in any faith. That old saying 'what goes around, comes around' is actually quite true!

'Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit' (Matthew 7:17-18)

Genesis 1:11 tells us that each seed reproduces after its own kind; but an apple seed won't just produce another apple - it produces an apple tree, which becomes an orchard, full of trees and many more seeds. Seeds of iniquity will worsen as each generation adds their own iniquity, weakening the ability to resist sin.

We only need to switch on the news and we are reminded that wickedness is very much at work in the world and you may or may not be aware but it affects each and every one of us. If we look around the world we can see it's getting worse with lawlessness breeding.

Many Christians are falling away from the truth of the Gospel and adopting a life of iniquity as Jesus warned in ***Matthew 7:21-23***
'...and then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity'

These workers of iniquity are those people who continue to behave in 'sins of the flesh' as described in ***Galatians 5:19-21 which are: 'sexual vice, impurity, and sensuality, the worship of false gods and sorcery; antagonisms and rivalry, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels, disagreements, factions and malice, drunkenness, orgies.'***

You could have feelings towards someone of the same sex but never act upon them, or urges to do something but never carry them out. Remember iniquity is all about the hidden things that are under the surface. Those desires need to be brought to the cross of Jesus so you can experience complete freedom.

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This is such a beautiful opportunity for cleaner living, for appropriating (which means to take possession or seize) all the blessings of the Cross and walking in the freedom that Jesus paid for. What we don't want to do is leave a seed buried in our core waiting for the right conditions to root and grow. Just because it hasn't manifested yet doesn't mean it isn't there below the surface. If we recognise a pattern in the family line then we need to bring it to Jesus Christ and let the blood cleanse that iniquity.

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Iniquities in the Mind

'As a man thinks in his heart so is he' (Proverbs 23:7)

God has graciously delivered me of more iniquitous patterns and behaviours than I'd care to recount, but the biggest deliverance didn't come in the financial arena; that was the 'sprat to catch the mackerel' and the foundation to my understanding of iniquities. It was the battle for my mind that was the biggest breakthrough; from fear, anxiety, discouragement, defeat, failure, low self-esteem, poor self-image, etc. these iniquitous mind-sets came through my bloodline! They are reinforced by the enemy's injection of thoughts and lies, creating strongholds that prevented me from walking in the victory that Jesus purchased for me!

I was once shown that strongholds are like fortresses or castles and the enemy builds them brick by brick so he can then lurk inside them. He injects thoughts and lies into our minds so he can oppress those he has deceived. I believe that each brick the enemy uses represents a thought process we have believed either about ourselves, our circumstances or situation etc. The worse thing about it is we actually believe his stinking lies and curse ourselves in the process if we constantly speak them out!

The enemy is crafty. He conceals and hides so he isn't exposed and cast out. I actually thought I was always 'in the wrong' or 'inadequate' and I was gripped with guilt, fear and anxiety. You see, I'd inherited a predisposition to fear, anxiety, low self-esteem and being overweight in addition to never progressing financially! WOW how's that for an inheritance! (I did receive some good things too!)

When the enemy whispers his toxic lies he is cunning, he doesn't make it obvious as he is the master deceiver, he prowls around when you aren't focused then thoughts run through your mind and they are

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always in the first person. For me it was “I am such a failure” or “I will never be slim” “I will never make anything of myself” “they don’t like me” “I look terrible” etc. etc. I thought all those thoughts came from me yet all I did was believe them by coming into agreement with them. I had swallowed lies from the enemy and empowered him.

We need to realise that Satan doesn’t have authority; he gave up any authority when as Lucifer he fell from Grace. But as Adam and Eve did in the Garden of Eden we also keep yielding our dominion and authority over to him when we believe those lies or are blinded by deception.

‘For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds’ (2 Corinthians 10:4)

We need to pull down these strongholds by replacing those lies with the Word of God, ***‘as it is alive and active, sharper than any two-edged sword’ (Hebrews 4:12)***. It’s the only way to counteract the lies of the enemy. Jesus had to do exactly the same when He was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness in ***Matthew 4:1***. The enemy came at him three times and three times Jesus had to quote scripture. So, next time the lies or thoughts re-emerge, or even doubts, negativity and fear come knocking, we can use the word of God as a weapon of warfare and replace the lies with God’s truth. If you know you have anxiety then search for scriptures that deal with anxiety. The next time anxiety tries to come upon you, quote the word of God and tell it to be gone it will eventually leave.

I previously suffered with anxiety and it’s a terrible affliction. It often left me unable to catch my breath. But with persistence, prayer and the Word of God I haven’t suffered for years with any anxiety attacks. I have perfect peace now!

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Remember we demolish strongholds one thought process at a time, brick by brick. I would ask the Holy Spirit to alert you or give you a nudge when you need to spring into Spiritual Warfare mode and pull down those bricks! I never thought about the consequences or the impact that my thoughts could have on my life and I didn't know that I could choose my thoughts. I realise now that each time the thoughts came they were opportunities to pull down mental strongholds not to give into them or believe them.

'Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God' (Romans 12:2)

However, the Apostle Paul tells us in the scripture above that we should be transformed by the renewing of our mind. Dr Caroline Leaf who authored the book 'Switch on your brain³' tells us that unhealthy choices and thoughts are toxic to our mind and body, then the brain sends out toxic signals throughout the body. We were not created to harbour poisonous thoughts because they affect our attitudes, actions and reactions to other people. This is why it is so important, particularly in this day and age, that we listen to the Holy Spirit's promptings and guidance, so that our minds can be renewed, and He can lead us into all truth. Remember Lucifer fell because he allowed his thoughts to consume his very being. It was then that iniquity was birthed and its fruit, 'sin', followed. Iniquity produces sin and sin separates us from God, and actually prevents us from having an intimate relationship with God!

When Satan tempted Eve in the garden, he first connected with her mind. He told her she would possess the same knowledge as God if she ate the fruit of the 'forbidden' tree. His tactic was cunning and a replica of what was birthed in him, that she didn't need God. Eve's downfall was that she desired to know everything the tree had to offer, she saw the wisdom it contained, and she sought to be

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like God. Temptation is the number one thing that the enemy offers today and unrepented iniquity gives him the legal right to do so!

'For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ'
(2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

Don't be fearful of your thoughts, nor should you allow them to rule you! You are instead to take them captive and make them obedient to Jesus Christ. For when you do, the strongholds will tumble down and only then will you experience freedom in that area! When I first started 'thinking on purpose', I was astonished at the thoughts that crept through my mind, slinking past so I wouldn't notice, but with God's Grace I did notice and have experienced so much personal freedom, with plenty more to come!

'... Live your life as your spiritual nature directs you. Then you will never follow through on what your corrupt nature wants'
Galatians 5:19

The Holy Spirit desperately wants us to be transformed to become more like Jesus. Walking in the Spirit is the only way to overcome the desires of the flesh and live a holier lifestyle.

'In mercy and truth, atonement is provided for iniquity; and by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil' (Proverbs 16:6)

We are all born with a plan, a purpose and a destiny, but through living an iniquitous life, or a life in sin, we are prevented from coming into the fullness that God intended for us. The enemy has a plan for us too and our family! He wants to keep your family bound in a sin lifestyle so you don't come into your godly potential. We need to learn to fight back with the victory of the cross!

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I have a picture on my laptop desktop that says, ***'Life isn't about finding yourself, it's about finding out who God created you to be' (author unknown).***

We need to know our identity in Jesus Christ; we need to know who the Bible says we are! We need to know how to abide in the vine and know that we are loved unconditionally by God.

In fact, He loves us so much that he won't leave us where we are, trapped! How awesome to know that Jesus has set us free by paying the full price for each and every one of us.

Thank you Jesus that we are no longer overcome and living in an endless cycles of defeat with no way out!

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You may have heard the phrase ‘generational sins’ or ‘generational curses’, they are actually referring to the same thing as ‘generational iniquities’.

Generational simply refers to something passing from one member of a family to another and iniquity is similar to a pre-programmed computer we inherited at our conception. Have you ever bought a new PC, laptop or mobile phone? When you switch it on most of the programmes are already there, ready to use:

‘Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me’ (Psalm 51:5)

That is the same with inherited iniquities, right there at our conception they are pre-loaded and either opposed to or in agreement with righteousness.

‘That You should seek for my iniquity and search out my sin’ (Job 10:6)

Sometimes we may feel a type of ‘tug of war’ going on internally, or why we suffer many trials, struggles or ‘wilderness’ experiences. We may feel that we are under constant ‘spiritual attack’ when it could be God’s righteousness judging all unrighteousness.

‘You have placed our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your presence’. (Psalm 90:8)

Its aim is to bring everything back into God’s divine order. In these times usually every weakness we have is brought to the forefront and we need to repent, renounce and bring those sin areas to Jesus for healing and cleansing. God desires that we walk in His ways and in His blessings.

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2 Timothy 1:5 Lois, Eunice, and Timothy demonstrate the fullness of a blessed inheritance.

God's plan is that blessings run through a family line with all receiving a Godly inheritance; He sees individuals as generations, those who have come and gone and those who will come. We tend to see people as individuals, often forgetting about the number of generations that have already gone before us. He's a generational God.

'...I am the Lord thy God, mighty, jealous, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me. And showing mercy unto thousands to them that love me, and keep my commandments' (Exodus 20:5)

God wants the blessings to pass on to many generations; the word hate in this scripture (Exodus 20:5) refers to being disloyal rather than hatred. It had a different meaning then, to the one we know today. The blessings will run for a thousand generations, but iniquity will pass on to the third and fourth generation.

So we need to remember the blessings and that it isn't just the iniquity or 'bad stuff' that's passed on. Whilst there is a predisposition to inherit certain weaknesses, the same can be said for strengths, faith, skills, music abilities, athletic abilities, determination and so much more.

For example my mum is very talented with interior design and she always kept a beautiful house whilst my sisters and I were growing up; spotless, clean and well presented and I inherited this trait! Although I have to confess I was prone to get very frustrated if the house didn't stay tidy (I have since received lots of healing)! A funny incident happened before I got married and whilst courting my beloved; he was in my kitchen making a cup of tea one day and remarked 'I never know what's real or not in this kitchen!'. I was

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initially taken aback, but what he meant was everything visible in the kitchen he couldn't use; for instance the matching cups on the cup stand were for display only, I told him to use the old cups in the cupboard. Then the utensils in the pot on the sideboard were display only, he needed to use the ones in the drawer. I told him not to use the wooden breadboard on the side and use the board in the cupboard; the tea towel hanging on the cooker – yes you guessed it was display only, he needed to use a clean one from the drawer! He wasn't even allowed to use the trays that came with the oven; he had to use old ones from the cupboard (and this was just the kitchen, we won't mention the display towels and display bath mat in the bathroom and the throws and pillows in the bedroom!)

I've since done away with all the 'show items' in the house but the funny part of it is that I never thought about 'why' I did it nor did I think it was anything out of the ordinary as I'd always lived like that!

The problem is we do things on automatic pilot without understanding why we do them – this isn't a sin obviously but it was a welcome revelation when I realised I didn't need to do something because it was always done that way! Since we got married our home is very much loved and lived in and not a show house. We still laugh about all the show items!

Deuteronomy 24:16 'Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their fathers; a person shall be put to death for his own sin'

Each person will give an account before the Lord for his or her own actions or omissions. Remember it isn't the sin that's passed on but a weakness to sin areas and the further down the generations it goes, the tighter the bondage can get. God wants to and can set us free from the compulsion that we may have towards any behaviours. But let me be clear you are not being punished for

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the sins of your ancestors, nor are we punished for having a predisposition to sin. God desires that we choose life and choose blessings.

***‘I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live’
(Deuteronomy 30:19)***

God intended that Adam and Eve’s genes would pass on and create nations so that God’s seed of righteousness, abundance, protection and provision would pass on to all. That personal relationship that Adam had with God is what God longs for with each of us.

I believe God raises someone up in a family line so that His grace, mercy and forgiveness can be ministered through relationship. God blessed Adam and Eve with Seth after Cain killed Abel. The seed of righteousness was passed down to Seth and we see through his lineage that people came back to God, unlike Cain’s descendants. We also see Daniel in the book of Daniel bringing restoration and order to God’s people.

Acts 5:29 ‘We ought to obey God rather than men’

If we look at the life of Abraham he was obedient to God, He chose to leave his homeland, family and follow God. The culture of his day was paganism and hedonism (not very different from our world today!) and he rejected this lifestyle in favour of the life God had promised. ***‘And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered’ (Genesis 13:16)***

His patience endured and after years of barrenness and aged 100 he fathered Isaac! God is faithful!

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Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be" (Genesis 15:5)

Let me reassure you that living a life pleasing to God isn't debilitating in fact it's the opposite – liberating. My husband and I enjoy life and we try to make the most out of it. The difference is we do it all with Jesus Christ being the centre, He is the centre of our marriage, our home and our future. We avoid the ungodly desires and lures and instead we listen to and are led by the Holy Spirit. This not only benefits us and our family but also our future generations.

Don't get me wrong, it isn't always plain sailing – as life just isn't that way! We have ups and downs but we trust in and rely on God, we have to press into God and be disciplined as we go to Holy Mass, read the Word and pray together.

When I met my now husband he was very active and fit and I was the complete opposite. Opting for creature comforts rather than pushing myself in any way! (Although when I was single I used to pray for a personal trainer but I got more than I bargained for!)

Do you remember the story in the book of Numbers⁴ about the spies who went into the Promised Land? Moses sent twelve spies into the land of Canaan; this was land that God promised to Moses. Ten came back and said the land was full of good fruit but it had giants and couldn't be defeated. Only two, Joshua and Caleb came back with a good report that the land could be taken.

This is one of my favourite stories in the bible because we each have our own Promised Land and areas in our life that God wants us to conquer. The giants could be circumstances, jobs, people, family, addictions or situations but ultimately if we focus on God and not the 'giants' we could enter our Promised Land!

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I'd love to tell you I was like Joshua and Caleb but I was more like the other ten! If I attempted anything challenging I'd usually give up straight away because I didn't believe I could achieve anything out of my comfort zone, so I didn't even try - what a waste! I was defeated before I'd even begun! I was basically saying 'It can't be done - giants in the way' and this iniquity affects so many people and restricts them from ever reaching their full potential. I think of this when I see the homeless or the broken, so many wasted lives out there and yet God has so many plans for each of them.

Joshua and Caleb had a determined mind-set, so when they saw the Promised Land and its inhabitants they knew with God on their side the land could be taken, because ALL things are possible! I don't think they actually saw 'huge giants' but a challenge that could be overcome. Iniquity will keep you feeling defeated and never progressing focusing on the negative!

Can I be honest with you? When I met my husband the Lord began to work at a deeper level on my heart, healing insecurities and inadequacies. I was on an emotional rollercoaster for a few years and I put on weight! The problem was I was already overweight to start with! Then with the extra weight gain I started to feel quite burdened and disappointed with myself as my clothes no longer fitted me, even having the odd pity party on my own (we like to do that don't we when it's not going right - the 'woe is me' moments!).

Then a friend of mine who is a counsellor and beautiful Christian advised me to pray and ask the Lord to remove any character defects of greed. I also received a 'Word of Knowledge' about 'starvation' in my bloodline which transpired to be a Generational Iniquity going back in the bloodline to my ancestors.

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Since I prayed that prayer regarding character defects and after praying into the consequences of starvation on my family line, amazing changes have happened. I didn't receive a supernatural weigh loss miracle (wouldn't that be great!) but I did receive a new mind-set as I also had to be really honest with myself regarding unhealthy food addictions or patterns, and I did have them! But they were easier to recognise as the prayer loosened any spiritual oppression and blindness, enabling me to bring them before the Lord for healing. I even had to admit (and repent!) that I enjoyed (unhealthy) food, I ate too much and I was emotionally eating and comforting myself instead of rolling my cares onto the Lord. **(1 Peter 5:7)**

More recently I asked the Lord for a word with regards to my weight as it wasn't shifting as fast as I'd have liked, even though I was eating healthier and I was told to 'move more'! Not eat less, not portion control, or count your calories. It was to move! So I did and now I exercise and train with my husband and, my goodness, initially everything in my flesh wanted to scream, shout and rebel – it still does but not as bad! This was unconquered land and the giants were huge! But I haven't given up! I am plodding on and learning to push myself!

The flesh is weak but the spirit is willing **(Matthew 26:41)**. It's getting easier as the giants get less and less, but it's been a battle and a half because I'd never pushed myself before. Remember I had a mind-set that said 'It can't be done – giants in the way'.

I have to lean on and trust God each time because I wouldn't be able to do it on my own! So with heavenly assistance I focus on the goal I am trying to achieve, not on feelings but a healthier version of me!

The amazing thing is that God gave me the grace to 'move more' but it's having a positive influence on other areas of my life as I am

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not as tired but more focused and energised. I am becoming more disciplined, organised and determined because I am not defeated by those giants of fear, doubt and procrastination. I'm claiming my Promised Land acre by acre!

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Manifestations of Iniquity

Iniquity is 'cause and effect' responsible for many of the sufferings we see today in everyday life - '**multiplied lawlessness and iniquity**' (*Matthew 24:12*) I've already mentioned 'Sins of the flesh' as described in Galatians 5 and lawlessness but how else would you recognise iniquity?

The following list is not complete by any means but displays symptoms of iniquity that we would be most familiar with and is adapted from various Bible scriptures:

- ✚ Abortion
- ✚ Abandonment: parents abandoning children
- ✚ Abuse: emotional, physical, mental, sexual and neglect.
- ✚ Addictions: drugs, alcohol, sex, food, people can be addicted to people, celebrities, shopping, sports activity, games: it's idolatry in root.
- ✚ Anger: also rage, violence, wrath (and revenge)
- ✚ Bitterness
- ✚ Complaining
- ✚ Contentious: causing arguments by debating etc.
- ✚ Control and manipulation
- ✚ Coveting: something that belongs to another
- ✚ Cruel tendencies
- ✚ Criminal families: trapped inside the prison system
- ✚ Depression
- ✚ Destinies blocked: dreams unfulfilled and no hope
- ✚ Dishonesty: deceit, lying, exaggeration
- ✚ Disobedience to God
- ✚ Dissensions: disagreements that lead to conflict
- ✚ Discontent
- ✚ Drunkenness/binge drinking
- ✚ Eating Disorders: Bulimia, anorexia, overeating

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- ✚ Emotional dependency
- ✚ Envy: resentful longing after someone's possessions
- ✚ Fear: it neutralises faith. **Hebrews 10: 38-39** '*Without faith it's impossible to please God*'.
- ✚ Gluttony
- ✚ Gossiping, cussing, sarcasm, slander: **James 3:5-6**: '*The tongue is a world of iniquity*'.
- ✚ Greed
- ✚ Hatred: **John 3:15** '*if anyone hates then they are the same as a murderer*'
- ✚ Idolatry: this is about putting people, relationships, things, activities before God i.e. Spouse, hobbies, children, appearance, home, image, job, goals, can be worship exalted over and above God. **Exodus 20:3** He is a jealous God!
- ✚ Judging
- ✚ Jealousy: is a defensive emotion and a fear that what you have will be taken away
- ✚ Lack of compassion towards injustice
- ✚ Laziness/slacking
- ✚ Learned helplessness
- ✚ Lust **1 John 2:16** '*The lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life*'
- ✚ Mental health issues
- ✚ Money extremes: cycles of debt, bankruptcy etc. Learned ways of handling money or not handling it
- ✚ Murder: by definition, means killing someone but the bible says that hatred is also the sin of murder. **1 John 3:15**
- ✚ Negativity
- ✚ Parents/Children exchanging roles
- ✚ Physical deformities

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- ✚ Poverty: a 'poor' or 'poverty' mind-set/mentality and comes in many forms including financial, emotional and spiritual.
- ✚ Pride/false humility
- ✚ Prostitution
- ✚ Rebellion/rebellious children
- ✚ Rejection/insecurity
- ✚ Religious bondage and cults i.e. Satanism, sorcery, witchcraft, occult, secret organisations. Paul thought he was doing a service to God when he murdered Christians, but we know God wouldn't ask him to do any of that. He was blinded by iniquity and then sent to Straight Street; to straighten out his bend of iniquity.
- ✚ Revelries: people who get 'out of their mind' on drink or drugs.
- ✚ Self-defeating behaviours and mind-sets
- ✚ Self-harm – cutting etc.
- ✚ Selfishness and selfish ambitions
- ✚ Sexual lusts: adultery, fornication, all sex before or outside marriage
- ✚ Shame: toxic shame is a learned reaction and will make you feel unworthy and embarrassed. Guilt is a natural reaction when we've sinned but will disappear once we have repented before the Lord.
- ✚ Sickness: heart disease, strokes, some cancers are caused by the iniquity. When we visit a GP for first time he asks for an inventory of your family, who suffered with what disease. Some diseases are genetically inherited, and some are spiritually rooted. It's always worth seeking the Lord for His wisdom. In **Luke 5:20** Jesus healed the man by forgiving his sins. I was ministering at a conference and was praying for a lady who had a sore shoulder; she couldn't even move it. I had a word of knowledge about rejection, she needed to forgive those who had rejected her

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and there was a list! As soon as we prayed this, straight away her shoulder moved beautifully! How great is our God!

- ✚ Strongholds in the mind: fear, defeat, image, no value, self-worth issues
- ✚ Suicide
- ✚ Toxic relationships
- ✚ Unbelief
- ✚ Uncleaness: when we repent and walk in the new life that Jesus purchased for us, with our minds renewed only to go back to the sins that we were set free from. ***Proverbs 26:2 as a dog returns to his vomit, so a fool repeats his folly.***
- ✚ Unworthiness: low self-esteem, self-hatred
- ✚ Vanity

It is so important that we do not judge anyone we see walking in iniquity, but instead focus on loving and interceding for those who aren't in the right place to pray for themselves.

We can often be blinded to our own iniquities and weaknesses! So I wouldn't be quick not to point the finger either, but rather concentrate on seeking the Lord to address the areas in our own lives that need attention, because we've all got areas that need a healing touch from God. And remember there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ***(Romans 8:1)***

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How are Iniquities passed on?

Inherited iniquities are passed on in the same way as our physical makeup is passed on: through our DNA. DNA is essentially the chemical substance that makes up chromosomes; its primary function is to carry genetic information and codes in our cells. Genes are short sections or segments of DNA that carry those specific codes in 'pairs'. They are the recipes that tell cells what we look like on the outside, i.e. eye colour, hair colour, straight or curly hair etc., and how we work and function on the inside. An architect would have a blueprint for designing and building a house. DNA acts in a similar way; it is our unique genetic blueprint.

At our conception we inherit 23 chromosomes from our father and 23 chromosomes from our mother; each chromosome from our parents makes up a pair. Babies are formed from those 23 pairs of chromosomes. I mentioned earlier that at our conception we are like a pre-programmed computer; those programs are taken from those chromosomes that we inherit and are carried in the genes.

This is the reason why iniquities skip a generation and why we inherit different weaknesses and strengths, because the actual pairing is taken randomly, meaning that each parent would pass on a different mix of chromosomes to their children than they inherited from their parents or grandparents. We can then understand why children in the same family will look similar to each other or not, or look more like one parent over the other. They may even resemble a grandparent rather than a parent. It is also why one child will inherit an addiction or weakness that misses his siblings, because we all get a different combination of chromosomes.

The study of heritable changes in our genes is called Epigenetics. The company Genomic England⁵ is currently studying and examining

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the DNA of 70,000 NHS patients. They will sequence nearly 100,000 genes to see the mutation of genes in people with cancer and rare disorders. Scientists are constantly advancing medical knowledge with regards to the sequence of genes and the information contained therein.

In its simplest term, the problem we have is that iniquity can damage, corrupt, twist and change the genetic code contained within genes or even switch genes on or off, and then they will carry a defective message to each cell. If these genes are passed on through the sperm and ova, then the cell will have a deformed code to function, resulting in genetic disorders, physical abnormalities, crookedness or deep-rooted mind-sets and strongholds that seem impossible to overcome. It could also impact our mental health or spiritual development.

Obviously there are millions of genes and millions of possible defects not limited to malfunction through sin, transgressions and iniquity. Some genes can be damaged through infections, disease, bacteria etc. and can be so twisted that they are out of sequence or order. But we can't ignore it because we don't know anything about it. As medical science progresses and as more studies are done we will hopefully grasp a deeper understanding of this fascinating subject!

On a visit to a male prison, I was ministering to a man who was telling me the reason he had been locked up was to do with fraud. I enquired about his childhood, to see if there were any traumas, brokenness or any other triggers to his 'misdemeanours'. Only to be told that his parents were great, he came from a normal, middleclass, working family. He'd had a good childhood and that he had a twin sister who had a high-profile job. He said they were all law-abiding citizens. He described himself as 'the black sheep of the family' because he couldn't stop doing what he was doing. He'd

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inherited the iniquity of deceit, probably from his grandparents, great grandparents or even further up the blood line, as he admitted to deceiving people and then stealing from them. He deliberately transgressed. Like I said earlier it's not an excuse or a justification to sin, nor is it our destiny. It is about becoming free so that we can live the life Jesus paid for, so the next generation won't have a bend or leaning towards the same crookedness.

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Curses

There are many sources of curses but the most common are:

- ✚ People in authority speaking negative words over us
- ✚ Other people speaking negative words over us
- ✚ Witchdoctors, shamans or those who practice dark arts

We also speak curses over ourselves, 'I will never be able to do that' or 'that's too hard for me' or maybe 'I can't be bothered!' 'I'm too tall' 'I'm too fat' 'I'm too short' the list is endless!

The problem is that these become self-fulfilling prophecies and we become what we say! Or the worst case scenario is that what we say will be used by the enemy as a weapon against us.

Just before I got married a situation had occurred whereby people had been praying wrong kind of my prayers for my beloved and I, these prayers were not Gods will for us. But feeling the stress of the situation I said something out of fear (that was also very negative) but as soon as I spoke the words the Lord opened my spiritual eyes so I could see in the spirit realm and immediately I saw a demonic power attach to my words! I had cursed myself! I repented immediately, renounced what I said and covered them in the blood of Jesus. The Lord was gracious to me. We have to be careful what we speak out, replacing negatives for positives.

Another source of curses is disobedience to God's Commandments. Deuteronomy 28:1-15 talks about the blessings that will come and overtake us if we obey God and verse 15 onwards talks about the curses that will overtake us if we don't and disobey God!

'If you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you' (Deuteronomy 28:15-68)

Some biblical curses would be:

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- ✚ Betrayal against a neighbour: **Deuteronomy 27:17**
- ✚ Bribery, deceit, lying: **Deuteronomy 27:25**
- ✚ Dishonouring parents: **Deuteronomy 27:16**, it's the only commandment that has a promise attached to it '**honour your mother and father so it will go well with you**'
- ✚ False gods/idols: **Exodus 20:3-4 and Deuteronomy 27:15**
- ✚ Fearing or trusting man: **Jeremiah 17:5**
- ✚ Illicit sex: **Deuteronomy 27:20-23** effects of wrong sexual relationships: relations outside marriage or with members of one's family
- ✚ Injustice to the weak: **Deuteronomy 27:18-19**
- ✚ Occultic activity
- ✚ Perverting the gospel: **Galatians 1:8-9**
- ✚ Stealing from God: **Malachi 3:9**
- ✚ Stealing, fraud
- ✚ Theft/Perjury: **Zechariah 5:1-4**

Curses cannot hurt you unless you deserve them. They are like birds that fly by and never light. (Proverbs 26:2)

Another bible version declares that '***a curse without a cause can't land***'

Curses will not just come upon you and they don't just happen; someone has to trigger their activation by overstepping the boundaries that God has put in place i.e. through sin or transgression.

We've already mentioned the story of Cain⁶ in an earlier chapter but he was the first person in the Bible on whom a curse was pronounced because Abel's blood cried out from the ground. As a consequence God told Cain '***...now you are cursed from the earth***'. Cain's punishment was a curse because he wouldn't be able to work the land for food, it wouldn't yield any crops for him and

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consequently he would be a wanderer from then onwards. He didn't have the sacrifice of Jesus Christ to speak for him.

The thing about curses and why they are serious business is because they are driven at force by demonic powers (evil spirits/demons), who will do what they can to oppress a person or better still a family line and they will enforce the consequences.

Curses can open the door to demonic oppression; giving the enemy legal right to enter, torment, harass and oppress individuals and their family line. Remember Cain and his grandson Lamech, or Abraham or King David. The enemy is a legalist and his mission statement is **'kill, steal and destroy'** (*John 10:10*)

Symptoms of a curse could be:

- ✚ Accident after accident
- ✚ Barrenness and miscarriages
- ✚ Constant sickness, infirmities, especially hereditary sickness
- ✚ Continuous poverty and cycles of lack and insufficiency
- ✚ Marriage breakdowns, divorce and family splits
- ✚ Mental, emotional and physical breakdowns
- ✚ Premature deaths
- ✚ Dysfunctional lifestyles
- ✚ Things just not lining up or going wrong. I previously received fines all the time, for my car (parking etc.), library books – if there was a fine for it I got it! Until it was broken in the name of Jesus!

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Iniquity and curses

'But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed' (James 1: 14)

The book of James is describing what happens when we are tempted; the amplified version says ***'enticed and baited by his own evil desire (lust, passions)'***

Temptation is never of God and is really not a test. Temptation comes from having iniquity in the bloodline that needs addressing. It is evil desires or inclinations trying to hook you in or seduce you into succumbing to the sin it is trying to birth. It's iniquity 'visiting' you as it says in Exodus 34:6.

Genesis 4:7 '... sin is crouching at your door. It wants to rule you, but you must overcome it'

A young man I met at a conference needed prayer as he had got into the habit of watching pornography on his phone and masturbating – he needed deliverance. Another young man ended up in a similar predicament and needed deliverance after he watched an advert! Remember the iniquity was there in the first place as both men had a weakness in their bloodline to sexual sin – the enemy capitalised on this, they took the bait and their indiscretion became a habit and a consequence for their disobedience a curse was activated – hence the need for deliverance.

I have ministered to both males and females with addictions to pornography and it's an epidemic among our youth. I believe the enemy is succeeding in this area because pornographic websites are easier to access via modern smart phones.

'Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death' (James 1: 15)

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Once the bait is taken, James tells us that conception takes place and gives birth to sin. Even more pressure and more temptation is applied until the person is driven to compulsion and cannot stop doing what it is they are doing which brings forth death. Death I believe refers to the activation of a curse.

When it comes to iniquity and curses - we are dealing with a twofold situation:

1) Iniquity infected the human race as a force to influence the mind and heart to disobey and sin, then a weakness to that sin / transgression could be passed on to the next generation far greater than that which was inherited - almost gathering lawlessness.

2) When sin is birthed and brings forth death; a curse could be enforced and a door could be opened to an evil spirit that will cause demonic oppression and torment.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

You may have previously heard the term 'Familiar Spirit'; well they are actually evil spirits (some refer to them as demons) that attach to a family through patterns of sin. They are familiar with your family history and know the right temptation or bait to hook you in. It's really no coincidence! They've studied our family ancestry and have a good idea what iniquities are there: they also know our spiritual condition. And the last thing they want is to be evicted from the family line it knows so much about.

Evil spirits need a body to exercise their evil nature which could be: substance abuse, addictions, lying, cheating, stealing, swearing, lust, gossiping, violence, anger, sexual sin etc. so they will keep enticing the next generation to fall for the same sin

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patterns. They will apply extra pressure so the person is weighted down by the sin until it becomes a compulsion. Then in true wicked form they'll invite other evil spirits until the person is demonically oppressed and needs deliverance.

Also if one lure doesn't work, they'll keep trying different temptations or bait to see which one gets a bite! This is why it's so important that we deal with anything that's below the surface and not rooted and if it has rooted then let's deal with that too! Nothing is impossible for Jesus. He dealt with everything on the cross and we need to take hold of the victory he's purchased for us. Nothing is too big that Jesus didn't die for and there's no need to be ashamed – get it off your chest, give it to Jesus through repentance and be reconciled to the Father.

John 13:27 tells us that 'satan' entered into Judas and took possession – I believe an evil spirit had a legal right to enter Judas because of a bond of iniquity rooted in coveting and his love of money. If you remember when Mary was washing Jesus' feet with the expensive perfume, Judas pretended he was concerned that the perfume be sold for the poor but **John 12:6** says that Judas was a thief and didn't care for the poor! Rather he helped himself to the moneybag and took what was put into it – he stole the collection! Judas went on to betray Jesus but the door was already opened for the evil spirit to enter him and then manipulate his actions. Peter then tells us he '**...purchased a field with the wages of iniquity...**' (**Acts 1:18**).

Judas committed suicide probably when he realised the gravity of what he'd done. That is another trap of the enemy – tempting you to do something to get a foothold/legal right, usually to do something you wouldn't consider if you were in your right mind. Then once you've committed the sin and it's given birth to death, he has free

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access to oppress you but also heap lots of guilt and shame on you and causes you to feel condemned!

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Freedom!

Please don't let this give you fear or worry because Jesus has made the way so we can be set free! *2 Timothy 1:7* teaches us that **'God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind'**. Jesus made a **'public spectacle'** (*Colossians 2:15*) of the enemy by dying on the cross and as a consequence we operate from His victory!

We are now under the covenant of grace. This doesn't mean that iniquity won't pass on through the generations it means that Jesus has provided the atonement and remedy we need to be free:

Galatians 3:13- 14 'Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith'.

Jesus has made a way so that we do not have to live under any curse, but instead that the blessing of Abraham may come upon us and bless us!

I encourage you to do a bible study on the divine exchange on the cross and see what Jesus purchased for you on the cross. We operate from His victory.

Alleluia Jesus!

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Removing Iniquities

If you're feeling overwhelmed that there's a lot of information to take in and thinking 'where do I start', don't worry, I will show you in the next few pages the way forward. This will be the best investment for your future you could make.

Firstly we need the help of the Holy Spirit in order to determine the iniquities that need dealing with. Some are more obviously recognisable than others, for example drunkenness, drug abuse, sexual immorality etc. Whereas anxiety, fear, phobias, Jealousy, coveting (this is a big one for anyone with financial problems), may be more difficult to distinguish. Some iniquities are easily overlooked, but it's important to highlight them to obtain a full healing! Ask your husband or wife, or closest and dearest friends if they have noticed anything that you are particularly sensitive to, have a reaction to, something that they know affects you or even if you are averse to their honesty, then add that to the list!

If you are unsure of your bloodline or cannot speak to biological parents and grandparents because you have been adopted, orphaned etc. don't worry because the Holy Spirit will show you all you need to know! But a good place to start is what is manifesting in your life.

Once iniquity has been uprooted, healing and freedom will come almost instantly in some areas and for others it may unpack and unfold in layers. My healing journey has been on going as the Lord has stripped away one layer at a time – almost like an onion! I asked once why my healing was so fragmented and He told me it was for my understanding so I could help others! Remember we are changed from glory to glory so it's OK and sometimes better for your journey to be a process.

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Alternatively your situation may be a Deliverance Process whereby you need to schedule an appointment with an experienced deliverance minister especially if there are any manifestations. If you are Catholic then I would suggest contacting your local charismatic prayer group or if you belong to another denomination then contacting your nearest Pentecostal Church. This is simply because it's not as straight forward as simply saying 'I'm sorry' and receiving God's forgiveness. The iniquity can be so deeply embedded in the family line that it requires more than one prayer. If this happens to you be assured healing is happening and remember God always forgives! Stay close to the Holy Spirit and listen to Him. He will lead you if you let Him.

God will never push you, condemn you, or make you feel ashamed. That is the work of the enemy and if that happens you need to rebuke him in Jesus name.

God provides the remedy for removing iniquity in Leviticus 26:40-42, Nehemiah 9:2 and Jeremiah 14:20. If we confess our iniquity and the iniquity of our forefathers – He will forgive us and heal our land! God is gracious!

'But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers, with their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to Me, and that they also have walked contrary to Me, and that I also have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt– then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and My covenant with Isaac and My covenant with Abraham I will remember'
Leviticus 26:40-42

'And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers' Nehemiah 9:2

'We acknowledge, O Lord our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against thee' Jeremiah 14:20

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Actions:

I have created a Suggested Prayer for you to pray through and have also listed steps below for you to follow. However please be led by the Spirit and follow His promptings. Remember these are just suggestions – the Holy Spirit always knows best!

Resources needed: paper and pen

Let us come boldly to the throne room of Grace as it tells us in ***Hebrews 4:16 'Let us have confidence, then, and approach God's throne, where there is grace. There we will receive mercy and find grace to help us just when we need it'.***

Pray the following prayer asking the Holy Spirit to reveal all iniquities and curses:

“Holy Spirit, I ask for your illuminating truth to shine now on my family line, I ask for you to reveal all iniquities and curses that need to be brought to the Cross of Jesus, everything my ancestors did and everything that’s hidden. Open my spiritual eyes so that I can see. Show me what’s affecting my life and preventing me from living the life that Jesus purchased. Amen ’

As a suggestion, take your piece of paper and do a column for yourself and a column for your ancestors, then go through the list of iniquities in the suggested prayer. Pray each individually to see if the Holy Spirit prompts you to anything for yourself and/or your ancestors. Wait for Him to reveal things to you, When He does, write them down on your paper. But be patient, He may also give you images, words, people or memories; He may even bring conviction as you are praying over each area. Be open to receiving all that He is showing you. Start by writing down the obvious ones that you are already aware of and any sins, habits or failures you know.

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When I had that word 'starvation' in my bloodline, I prayed into the consequences of that, how people would have reacted and why they were in that situation. It's worth listening to the Holy Spirit!

The next step once you have your list is to repent and renounce your own sins, transgressions and iniquities as we need to cancel the enemy's foothold over us. (If you are Catholic then going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand may be appropriate.)

Also repentance is to change your mind and heart - don't just say it with your lips; believe what you are saying as God is faithful. ***'So produce fruit that is consistent with repentance [demonstrating new behaviour that proves a change of heart and a conscious decision to turn away from sin]' (Matthew 3:8)***

You should also confess the iniquities of your ancestors. You don't repent on behalf of your ancestors as true repentance means changing your mind. The amplified bible tells us in ***Matthew 3:2*** ***'Repent [change your inner self-your old way of thinking, regret past sins, live your life in a way that proves repentance; seek God's purpose for your life], for the kingdom of heaven is at hand'***. So, you confess them to show that you don't agree with them, nor do you associate with them. You're acknowledging them as being wrong and you're not partnering with them anymore! We then ask Father God to forgive us and our family line.

Even though repenting on behalf of your ancestors isn't an appropriate prayer God will honour whatever we say with our heart, so you don't need to get caught up in words.

Please also don't fall into the trap of feeling like a victim. Your ancestors were in the same boat as you but obviously didn't have the teaching needed to be free - Praise God you do!

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Suggested Prayer

Matthew 15:13 'Every plant which my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted'

It would be best to speak the following suggested prayer out loud.

Father God I come boldly to the throne room of Grace.

Lord Jesus Christ, I confess you are the only Son of God, that You died on the Cross for my sins and rose again – I ask you to come into my heart anew. I thank you for the beautiful Holy Spirit who dwells within me (***Romans 8:9***). I ask for the anointing that fell on all in the upper room at Pentecost. Thank you that this day I will be set free from the iniquities and from any curses caused by these iniquities which have been travelling through my family line.

So today I choose, by my own free will, to repent of my own sins, transgressions and iniquities of _____ [mention those from the list you have made] I renounce all of these and any way I have offended you Lord, for my disobedience, unfaithfulness, for all my rebellion and idolatry and for not walking in your ways.

Please forgive me and blot out my iniquities and remember my sin no more. (***Isaiah 43:25***)

Father God, through Jesus Christ and by the power of His death and resurrection, I ask for your forgiveness and I thank you that through Jesus Christ you forgive me for all these things I have mentioned and I receive that forgiveness now. I thank You for Your righteousness and I desire to live by Your Spirit and receive the blessings of living by Your ways.

I have been totally forgiven and I cancel all demonic workings that have in anyway been affecting my life, and any foothold the enemy had is now cancelled and broken in Jesus name and by the power of His death and resurrection.

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Father God I now bring before you my father and his ancestry line going all the way back to Adam and Eve and my mother and her ancestry line going back to Adam and Eve. I confess all their sins, transgressions and iniquities of my parents and ancestry. In doing so I thank you Father that I will also be released from any curses these sins may have produced against me.

Lord I plead your blood over each of the following sins, transgressions and iniquities that may have been in my life or that of my ancestors:

- ✚ Abandonment: all who were abandoned as a child, conceived in lust, rape or were illegitimate
- ✚ Abortion: Those who had an abortion or considered an abortion,
- ✚ Abuse: all who suffered emotional abuse, physical abuse, mental abuse, sexual abuse or neglect
- ✚ Addictions: all who had addictive behaviours to drugs, alcohol, sex, food, people, celebrities, shopping, sports activities and games – anything that was addictive in their life we plead the blood of Jesus over it.
- ✚ Anger: all who were angry, suffered from rage, violent outbursts, wrath or who sought revenge
- ✚ Bitterness: all who had roots of bitterness growing in their hearts
- ✚ Burial: those who died without a proper burial, babies: who were aborted, miscarried or died during birth. Soldiers who died in wars, those lost at sea or in prisoner-of-war camps. All the blood that is crying out from the ground
- ✚ Complaining: all who complained, murmured and moaned
- ✚ Contention: those who had contentious behaviours and caused arguments by debating
- ✚ Control: those who controlled and manipulated others or were open to be controlled or manipulated

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- # Coveting: all who coveted something that belonged to another
- # Cruelty: all who had cruel tendencies towards people or animals
- # Defeat: all who had self-defeating behaviours and mind-sets that prevented them moving forward and achieving anything, unable to dream and have goals
- # Depression: all who suffered with depression and/or all mental health complexities
- # Disagreements: those who had disagreements that led to conflict and family rifts
- # Discontent: those who were discontent and dissatisfied in life
- # Dishonesty: all who were dishonest, who lied, exaggerated or were prone to deceit – send the Spirit of Truth Lord
- # Disobedience: all who disobeyed God, rebelled and acted lawlessly
- # Drunkenness: all prone to drunkenness and binge drinking
- # Eating disorders: all who suffered with eating disorders bulimia, anorexia, overeating
- # Emotionally dependent: all who were emotionally dependent on others
- # Envy: all who envious or resentful of someone else
- # Fear: all who were prone to fear, insecurity, worry and anxiety
- # Gluttony: those who were gluttonous
- # Gossip: all who gossiped, cussed or were sarcastic, slanderous, critical – those who were prone to idle talk and/or had a loose tongue
- # Greed: all who were greedy
- # Hatred: all who had hatred in their heart
- # Helplessness: all who were helpless and unable to move forward out of unpleasant conditions
- # Hopeless: blocked and unable to achieve goals or dreams

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- ✚ Idolatry: those who put people, relationships, things, activities before God i.e. Spouse, hobbies, children, appearance, home, image, job, goals,
- ✚ In utero: all pregnant mothers who were anxious or in fear whilst pregnant
- ✚ Injustice: all who had a lack of compassion towards injustice, the poor and the orphans
- ✚ Jealousy: those who were afraid of what they had will be taken away
- ✚ Judging: those who judged others
- ✚ Laziness: all who were lazy and/or slackers
- ✚ Lust: lusting after people, sex, things and money - materialism and those who would do anything to satisfy the lust of their flesh
- ✚ Money cycles: those who experienced cycles of debt and bankruptcy etc. and who were unable to manage their finances
- ✚ Negativity: all who had negative personalities
- ✚ Physical deformities: those who had physical deformities
- ✚ Poverty: those who had a 'poor' or 'poverty' mind-set/mentality, whereby they never had enough or they had a fear they couldn't spend what they had
- ✚ Pride: all who were prideful or who portrayed false humility
- ✚ Prison Cycles: all those who were trapped inside the prison system - bring your freedom into this iniquity
- ✚ Prostitution: those who prostituted themselves for money or food etc.
- ✚ Rejection: all who experienced rejection, insecurity and/or lack of self-worth, resulting in people pleasing, working harder to be accepted, withdrawn personalities, inferiority complexes, self-hatred, frozen emotions, couldn't give or receive love and all those lost identity's

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- ✚ Religious bondage/cults: those who were/are involved in satanism, sorcery, witchcraft, occult and/or secret organisations, eastern religions and non-Christian religions
- ✚ Revelry: those who enjoyed 'partying'
- ✚ Role reversal: those children who became the parent
- ✚ Self - harm tendencies: cutting themselves
- ✚ Selfishness: all who were selfish and who had selfish ambition that they would trample over anyone to succeed
- ✚ Sexual lusts: adultery, fornication, prostitution, homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, pornography, sexual promiscuity, sexual perversions such as bestiality (sex with animals), paedophilia (sex with children), and necrophilia (sex with dead people).
- ✚ Shame: all who felt shame that made them feel unworthy and embarrassed.
- ✚ Sickness: all who were sick or have health problems: heart disease, high blood pressure, arthritis, respiratory trouble, headaches, forgetfulness, ulcers, strokes, skin problems cancer, leukemia, tumours, diabetes etc. - infirmity, sickness and disease in all the organs
- ✚ Strongholds: those who had mental strongholds in the mind of fear, defeat, image issues, no value, self-worth issues, felt unworthy and who had low self-esteem or self-hatred
- ✚ Toxic/destructive relationships: all who were attracted to individuals with problems or troubles
- ✚ Traumas and those who experienced: holocausts, epidemics, slavery, massacres, war, famine etc.
- ✚ Unbelief: all who had unbelieving hearts
- ✚ Unforgiveness
- ✚ Unusual or untimely deaths: those who suffered death that was violent, accidental or sudden. Those who were murdered, or had attempts on their life and those who committed suicide,

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suffered premature deaths or those who suffered with unresolved grief

✚ Vanity

Father I ask for your forgiveness on my family line for all that we have done, for the ways we have offended you Lord, for our disobedience, unfaithfulness, for our rebellion and idolatry and for not walking in your ways.

I choose today to forgive my father, my mother and all my ancestors for every single sin, transgression, iniquity and curse that's come down to me. I declare them covered by the blood of Jesus. I reject and disown all the sins of my ancestors. I renounce all the aforementioned and any ungodly beliefs, traditions, rituals, or customs my ancestors may have followed.

In the name of Jesus Christ I confess, take authority over and renounce every un-Godly 'vow or oath' my parents, grandparents or ancestors have made or spoken, against my family or any other person or family line and I render them null and void and sealed in the blood of Jesus Christ.

I will not partner with any iniquity in the name of Jesus Christ by His power, death and resurrection.

I command by the authority of Jesus Christ that all iniquity to be uprooted from me and my family line bound and cast out from my body; organs, joints, blood. From my soul: mind, will, emotions and personality and from my spirit. I command its work of oppression and curses to be broken from me and my children, my children's children going forward to the very last generation to go home to heaven.

In the name of Jesus Christ by His power, death and resurrection I command every curse of oppression, sickness and infirmity,

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dysfunctional lifestyle, failed marriages, accidents, barrenness and miscarriages, poverty, lack and insufficiency, nervous breakdowns, premature deaths, life not lining up, or however a curse has manifested against me or my family line to be broken off from me and my family in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. I take authority over the root of all these curses and evil spirits, responsible for enforcing these curses and command they loose me immediately and go to the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ. All curses are cancelled, rendered null and void and sealed in the blood of Jesus Christ.

I thank you Father for Your grace and mercy and for Your forgiveness. Thank you that I am a child of God as I have been purchased at a price by the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ that cleanses me and my family line. I declare I have been delivered by the power of darkness and brought into Heaven's beautiful light.

Father as you are outside time I now bring before you the moment of my conception and I ask you to wash the sperm and ova that gave me life, cleanse it with the precious blood of Jesus. I ask for Jesus' heavenly DNA to replace any defective codes, message or sequences of my genes, to blot out any iniquity hidden in any part of my body, soul and spirit - bring it all into divine order as it should be.

We place the cross of Jesus between the law of sowing and reaping and we ask you Jesus to collect all the unholy fruit. We close ourselves down in any area where we were/are affected by any iniquitous traits and seal these areas in the blood of the Lamb.

All of these iniquities are being blotted out right now and all defective genes or codes that have been distorted are being reset. I fill myself up to overflowing with the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

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I believe that I have been redeemed from the curse of the law and declare the blessings of Abraham on my life. I believe I have purpose and you have a perfect plan for my life.

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