

Self-deliverance

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“¹⁷And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.”

- Mark 16: 17-18

- ▶ Praying for deliverance is a normal thing in the daily life of a believer.

When was the last time that you casted out a demon?

Can Christians be possessed?

- ▶ The traditional vision (Catholic Church, Hollywood, etc.):
 - only two types of people: 'possessed' and 'clean'
 - polarized and childish
- ▶ A more mature view on reality: 7 degrees of influence
 1. degree: **temptation** (Jesus)
 2. degree: **obsession** (fortress)
 3. degree: **diseases** (cause, imitate)
 4. degree: **addiction** (alcohol, drugs, pornography, gaming etc.)
 5. degree: **motoric system** (shouting, throwing up, etc.)
 6. degree: **strongly demonized** (Gadarene)
 7. degree: **possession** (seldomly)

Which of these have you already experienced?

Can Christians be possessed?

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” - 1. Peter 2:9

- A Christian is God's property and can therefore NEVER be *possessed* by the devil.
- But a Christian can indeed be influenced by any of the other 6 degrees of influence
e.g.: mother in law of Peter, Abraham's daughter in the synagogue, etc.

From which influences would you like to be set free today?

Are demons inside or outside?

Does the presence of the Holy Spirit exclude the presence of demons?

- ▶ According to Hesekiel 8-10, the Holy Spirit lives in the temple together with the idols and the atrocity
- ▶ Demons are spirits and therefore immaterial
 - the question whether a demon lives inside or outside a person is therefore irrelevant
- ▶ God is omnipresent, so God is also where the demons are
- ▶ God is YHWH, the source and sustainer of all. That means even the demons exist and persist through His power and presence

Jesus' model of deliverance

²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. - Mark 1:25-26

► 3 steps of the Jesus-model:

- 1) Proclaim God's Kingdom and make it visible, until somebody shows up with a suffering caused by demons
 - 2) Command the demons: ‘be silent!’ and ‘go out!’
 - 3) The demons flee
- “POWER encounter“

When was the last time you used this model?

James' model of deliverance

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." - James 4:7

▶ 3 steps of the James-model:

- 1) Submit to God. (confess Jesus, repent, etc.) -> get rid of the trash so that the rats stop coming
 - 2) Resist the devil. ("Be silent and leave!")
 - 3) The devil flees.
- **"TRUTH encounter"; Self-deliverance**

Have you ever used this model?

Comparison of both models

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.” -Romans 8:14

	Model of Jesus	Model of James
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Works with non-chrisians- Sometimes faster	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A more gentle way- Identity is confirmed- Very effective
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Correct insight needed- Person stays passive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- identity has to be understood- Doesn't really work with non-christians
Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- For non-christians- When no time for counselling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Whenever there's time- When 1st isn't working

Why not talk to the demons?

1. Spiritism is forbidden by God (Deut 18: 10-12)

2. We practice the wrong instead of the correct thing

a) According to Jesus there is no truth in the devil:

“... the devil (...) is not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” - John 8:44

b) that means, when we let the devil speak through the mouth of a person, we practice falsehood:

- we become mediator and servant of lies
- we cause confusion to the person

3. Jesus never did it Himself

4. God's children are led by the HOLY Spirit

Practical exercise

- ▶ Look for a trustworthy partner of the same gender and pray:

„Lord, show me where my own sin, the sin of others against me, or the sin of my ancestors led to demonic influence in my life.“

- ▶ Then share what God showed you and pray together, submit to Jesus again, and cast out the devil; for example:

„Lord Jesus, I believe that you died on the cross for me. I believe that you bore all my sin and all curses against me. I now confess _____ and ask You to forgive and cleanse me. In in the name of Jesus I command the devil to depart now! Leave and never come back! Amen.“