

ONE STEP TO FREEDOM: Lesson 8: ACCOUNTABILITY FOR RESTORATION AND FREEDOM.

Accountability to God and to one another is the foundation for freedom and liberty. We need to have a deep reverence for God first. Our priorities must be God-centered and our values must be based on biblical morality. When this becomes our attitude, our life will be blessed and our knowledge of spiritual things will increase, we will be restored and walk in freedom.

**Accountability to God for restoration and freedom by having reverence for God:*

Isaiah 8:13(NKJV) ¹³ The LORD of hosts, Him you shall hallow; *Let Him be your fear, And let Him be your dread.*

Psalm 89:7(NLT) The highest angelic powers stand in awe and fear of God. He is far more awesome than all who surround his throne.

Psalm 33:8 (KJV) Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

**Selah..... is this question from God directed at you?*

Malachi 1:6 (NKJV) ⁶“A son honors *his* father, And a servant *his* master. If then I am the Father, Where *is* My honor? And if I *am* a Master, Where *is* My reverence? Says the LORD of hosts To you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, ‘In what way have we despised Your name?’

**Having accountability to God for restoration and freedom by fearing Him and following His Commands:*

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 (NKJV) ¹²“And now, (*put your name here*), what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ *and* to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good?

** Having accountability to God for restoration and freedom by fearing His judgement:*

Matthew 10:28 (NKJV) And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear God who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

**What is the fear of the Lord?*

**Proverbs 9:10 (NKJV)¹⁰ “The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.**

Proverbs 15:33a (NKJV)³³ The fear of the LORD *is* the instruction of wisdom.

Proverbs 1:7a (NKJV)⁷ The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge.

**Proverbs 14:27(NKJV)²⁷ The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life, To turn one
away from the snares of death.**

**Psalms 19:9(NKJV)⁹ The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.**

**Proverbs 8:13 (NKJV)¹³ The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil; Pride and arrogance
and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.**

**How can we learn the fear of The Lord?*

**Pray and ask God !*

**Psalms 86:11(AMP)¹¹ Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk *and* live in
Your truth; direct *and* unite my heart solely, reverently to fear *and* honor Your
name.**

**Read God`s Word:*

**Deuteronomy 17:18-19 (NKJV)¹⁸ “Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of
his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, (*Word of
God*) from *the one* before the priests, the Levites. ¹⁹ And it shall be with him, and
he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God
and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes**

**How can we understand the fear of The Lord?*

**Proverbs 2:1-5(NKJV) My son/daughter, if you receive my words, And treasure
my commands within you,² So that you incline your ear to wisdom, *And apply
your heart to understanding*;³ Yes, if you cry out for discernment, *And lift up
your voice for understanding*,⁴ If you seek her as silver, And search for her
as *for* hidden treasures;⁵ Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find
the knowledge of God.**

**The benefits for those who fear The Lord:*

Psalm 34:7 (NKJV) ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them.

Psalm 103:17a (NKJV) ¹⁷ But the mercy of the LORD *is* from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him,

Psalm 145:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them.

Proverbs 10:27a (NKJV) ²⁷ The fear of the LORD prolongs days.

Proverbs 14:26 (NKJV) ²⁶ In the fear of the LORD *there is* strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge.

Psalm 85:9 (NKJV) ⁹ Surely His salvation *is* near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land.

Proverbs 22:4 (NKJV) ⁴ By/through humility *and* the fear of the LORD *Are* riches and honor and life.

Proverbs 19:23 (NKJV) ²³ The fear of the LORD *leads* to life, And *he who has it* will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil.

Psalm 31:19 (NKJV) Oh, how great *is* Your goodness, Which You have laid up for those who fear You, *Which* You have prepared for those who trust in You In the presence of the sons of men!

Proverbs 16:6b(AMP) by the fear of the LORD one departs from and avoids evil.

Psalm 25:14 (NKJV) The secret of the LORD *is* with those who fear Him, And He will show them His covenant.

**Why does God command and desire us to fear him?*

Deuteronomy 5:29 (NKJV) Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!

Deuteronomy 6:24 (NKJV) And the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day.

**Practical application; ways to daily hold ourselves accountable to God for restoration and freedom:*

**Daily studying The Word of God:*

2 Timothy 2:15 (AMP) Study *and* be eager *and* do your utmost to present yourself to God approved tested by trial, a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing *and* accurately dividing ,rightly handling and skillfully teaching the Word of Truth.

**Examine and test yourselves by The Word of God daily to see if you pass the test of living a life that proves Jesus Christ is in you:*

2Corinthians13:5 (NKJV) Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? unless indeed you are disqualified. References; 2pet 1:3-11, John 15

**Daily pray to God to help you:*

Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV) ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven.¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread.¹² And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**Watch what you say:*

Proverb 21:23(NKJV) Whoever guards his mouth and tongue Keeps his soul from troubles.

Matthew 12:36-37(NKJV) ³⁶ But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. ³⁷ For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

**Watch what you do:*

Colossians 3:17(NKJV) ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Romans 2:6 (NIV) ⁶ God “will repay each person according to what they have done.”

**Ask God what you should be doing:*

James 4:13-15 (NKJV) ¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”; ¹⁴ whereas you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away ¹⁵ **Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.”**

**Receive chastiment and correction from God:*

Proverbs 3:11-12 (NKJV) ¹¹ My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction;

**Acknowledge and confess your sins to God*

Psalms 32:5 (NKJV) ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*

**Separate yourselves from unbelievers*

2 Corinthians 6:17(NLT) Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. Don’t touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you.

1 Corinthians 15:33(AMP) Do not be deceived/ *don’t forget!*; “Bad company corrupts good morals

**Purpose in your mind and heart not to befriend the world and the things the world offers*

James 4:4(AMP) You adulterers and adulteresses , Do you not know that being the world’s friend that is, *befriending* the things of the world, is being God’s enemy? So whoever chooses to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

**Purpose in your mind and heart not to love the world and the things the world offers*

1 John 2:15(AMP) Do not love the world of sin that opposes God and His precepts, nor the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

**Having accountability one with another for restoration and freedom:*

Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV) As iron sharpens iron, So a man/woman sharpens the countenance of his friend.

**The correct perspective and attitude of accountability one with another:*

Ephesians 5:21(AMP) ²¹ Be subject/*accountable* to one another out of reverence and in fear and awe for Christ.

Galatians 6:1-2(NKJV) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (AMP) ¹¹ Therefore encourage and comfort one another and build up one another, just as you are doing.

James 5:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed/restored. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

**Accountability with each other in collective worship, Word and fellowship:*

Hebrews 10:25 (NKJV) ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Colossians 3:16(NKJV) ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

**Continual, daily accountability one to another:*

Hebrews 3:12-13 (AMP) ¹² Take care, brothers and sisters, that there not be in any one of you a wicked, unbelieving heart which refuses to trust and rely on the Lord, a heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But continually encourage one another every day, as long as it is called "Today" and there is an opportunity so that none of you will be hardened into settled rebellion by the deceitfulness of sin; its cleverness, delusive glamour, and sophistication.

**Summation:*

Ecclesiastes 12:13 (KJV) ¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Accountability worksheet:

Accountability to God and to one another is the foundation for freedom and liberty. But what is true freedom? It's both the responsibility and the ability, by the grace of God, to do what is right according to God's Holy Word. Accountability is one of the means God uses to bring about solid growth and maturity in our Christian walk, to bring about restoration from a sinful lifestyle.

1. Write out Proverbs 9:10 and Psalm 115:11
2. According to Proverbs 8:13, what should be our biblical value?
3. What should be our attitude for restoration, and how will God bless us? See Proverbs 22:4.

Obedience to God A person who has truly been redeemed by Jesus Christ will not live a life characterized by continuous, willful sin. For restoration to take place, we must be accountable to God and obey Him. We must have a loving relationship with God Himself.

4. In order to obey God, what does He ask of us? See Deuteronomy 10:12-13.
5. How can God's Word help you to obey? Write what you find in Psalm 119:9-11.

Restoration comes with accountability in serving God. We can do this by teaching our children about Him or declaring Him to others. Serving God also helps us to remember what God has done for us.

6. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9 and explain in your own words what this commands.

Receiving Accountability

7. Write Proverbs 12:15.
8. When receiving counsel, what does Hebrews 13:17 instruct?

9. Without the power of the Holy Spirit and reading God's Word, it's impossible to stay accountable to God. Write Galatians 2:20 as a reminder of who you are today.

10. Read James 4:17 and share your biblical responsibility for restoration.

11. What encouragement do you see in Galatians 6:9? Helping others with accountability

12. What must we consider when keeping our friends accountable? See Hebrews 10:24-25.

13. As a Christian, why is it vital to have the courage to help in someone's accountability? See James 5:19-20.

14. Read Galatians 6:1-5 and share what the Bible teaches about being accountable to one another. "So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God." Romans 14:1