

BASIC BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES: FREEDOM (OR SOZO)

What is SOZO?

SOZO: A Greek word in the New Testament for: salvation; to save, that is, to deliver, protect, or preserve (literally or figuratively); defend, to heal; to be or make whole; to do well; rescue or safety (physically or morally). (Mrk. 5:34; Lk. 7:50, & 8:36)

What do these essential terms mean?

Freedom: the state of being at liberty; enjoying personal rights and able to exercise choices rather than being controlled, confined or restrained; ease of movement or action.

Agreements: coming to one mind; harmonious in opinion; give consent; concede or to grant; to make a contract.

Process: a series of actions directed toward a specific purpose or end result; to prepare or change by some series of actions.

Recognize: to identify from knowledge or appearance or characteristics; to perceive as existing; to realize.

The key is to **recognize** where we have made **wrong agreements** or have unresolved issues of hurt, judgments or unforgiveness. We use freedom/SOZO prayers to **move out of wrong agreements and into agreement with God.**

We choose to **agree with God's truth and His ways** and all the healing and love that He offers us and paid for us to access & appropriate through the cross & His resurrection.

SOZO/SALVATION is both an Event and a Process

Salvation is an Event:

John 6:47 Truly, truly I say to you, **whoever believes [in Jesus Christ] has eternal life**

Ephesians 2:8 For it is by grace **you have been saved, through faith**/believing

2Cor 5:17 This means that **anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.** The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Salvation is a Process:

1Corinthians 15:2 By this gospel/good news...**you are being saved**, if you hold fast the word preached to you

Phil 2:12 **Continue to work out your salvation** with fear and trembling

Phil 2:12,13 ... you must **be... careful to put into action God's saving work in your lives**, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him.

2Cor 3:18 We all, beholding the Lord's glory, are **being transformed** into the same image **from one degree of glory to another**

2 Cor 7:1 Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us **cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit.** And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.

How do we recognize the issues that need to be addressed?

Over reactions – an excessive or exaggerated response to some influence, event or stimuli.

Torment – when we experience mental or emotional suffering or worry excessively.

Addictions - the state of being devoted to, surrendered to or given up to a practice or habit. Anything that we utilize to soothe or comfort ourselves that is a substitute for the peace and love of God.

What are we looking for?

- sin patterns
- fear, depression, anger, shame (negative emotions)
- I will never...or, I will... (unholy vows)
- putting anything or anyone ahead of God
- negative words/expectations
- demanding or overly needy relationships
- unforgiveness and bitter judgments
- inability to receive or give love
- people we need to forgive

FREEDOM PRAYERS: MODEL SOZO PRAYERS

Hebrews 4:16, Let us come boldly to the throne of grace and obtain mercy & find grace to help in time of need

1John 1:9, But if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness

Luke 7:50/Mark 5:34, Your faith has saved/healed [SOZO] you, go in peace/wholeness

NOTE: These prayers are models. You may pray from your heart! You do not need to focus on saying every word exactly as written.

FORGIVE, CANCEL THE DEBT, AND BLESS: (Matt. 18:15-35; Eph. 4:29-32; Lk. 6:27-28)

Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, I forgive ___(name(s))___ for ___(specific offenses)___ (say each specific thing Holy Spirit brings to mind/heart). There is nothing they can do to repay the debt. I cancel the debt and accept the loss; they do not owe me anything, not even an apology. And so in the name of Jesus, I bless ___(name(s))___.

RENOUNCE BITTER ROOT JUDGEMENTS: (Deut. 29:18; Hebrews 12:15; Num. 13:25-33; John 7:24)

Lord God, in the name of Jesus Christ, [on behalf of myself and my family line] I repent & renounce bitterly judging ___(name(s))___ for ___(specific things)___, even if it was true. Father, I ask you to cut the root of these judgments and I cut my life free from them. I also ask You to restore multiplied everything that has been lost as a result of this.

CUT UNHOLY RELATIONAL OR SOUL TIES: (1Sam. 15:17-35; Mark 6:20, & 12:12; Luke 12:4; Gal 6:7-8)

Father God, in Jesus Christ's name, I ask you to cut all unholy relational/soul ties with ___(name(s))___, and I cut myself free.

BREAK THE POWER OF NEGATIVE WORDS: (Prov. 11:11, & 18:21; James 3:2-5; Rom. 10:17)

God Almighty, in the name of Jesus Christ, [on behalf of myself and my family line] I renounce & break agreement with all negative words spoken over me or by me, ___(specific(s) if possible)___ . And I speak words of blessing over myself ___(specific(s))___.

REPENT & RENOUNCE LIES: [about God, yourself, others, life, etc.] (2Cor. 10:5; Eph. 4:25; 1John 1:6-10)

Father God, in the name of Jesus Christ, [on behalf of myself and my family line] I repent & renounce and break agreement with the lie that ___(name specific lie(s) believe/agreed with)___ . The truth is ___(speak the truth(s) as Holy Spirit leads you)___.

RENOUNCE BITTER ROOT LIFE EXPECTANCIES: (Ex. 4:1-17; Num. 13:25-33; 1Kng. 19:9-18; Luke 15:17-32)

LORD our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, I repent & renounce bitterly judging life as ___(bad, hopeless, depressing, fearful, etc.)___ . And I declare the truth that life is ___(good, joyful, fun, exciting, blessed, etc.)___.

RENOUNCE UNHOLY VOWS: (Prov. 20:25; Ecc. 5:4-5; Mal. 1:14)

Father, in the name of Jesus, [on behalf of myself and my family line] I repent & renounce ___(Example: I will never be like so and so)___ . Instead of relying on my own strength, I take a stand that by Your grace I will ___(be free, loved, etc.)___.

BIND AND LOOSE: (Matt. 16:13-19 & 18:15-20; Isa. 22:22; Rev. 3:7; 2Chronicles 23:19)

In the name of Jesus Christ I bind ___(fear, depression, anger, shame, evil)___, and I loose ___(peace, joy, love, forgiveness)___.

REPENT & RENOUNCE SINS, SIN PATTERNS AND/OR AGREEING WITH OR ALLOWING EVIL SPIRITS TO OPERATE: (Luke 17:4; Acts 3:19; Jms. 4:6-7; Rev. 9:20)

Holy Father, in Jesus Christ's name, [on behalf of myself and my family line] I repent & renounce agreeing with and choosing ___(specific sins and/or evil spirits)___ . I recognize how this separated me from experiencing the love of ___(God, myself, others)___ . I ask for and receive Your forgiveness for this, and I receive Your love. I believe & choose ___(specific Righteousness(es))___.

REMOVE AND REPLACE SINS, SIN PATTERNS AND/OR AGREEING WITH OR ALLOWING EVIL SPIRITS TO OPERATE: (Matt. 12:43-45; Eph. 4:22-24; 2Thess. 2:13; Heb. 12:1-2)

In the name of Jesus Christ I throw out ___(name sin(s) and/or evil spirit(s) such as fear, depression, anger, lies, etc.)___, and I fill ___(myself, name(s))___ with ___(Holy Spirit and His specific truth or righteousness(es) such as peace, joy, love, etc.)___.