IMPRISONED BY YOUR DECISIONS

Proverbs 16:9

"A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps."

Today, there are many of you that are not where you should be in life. Noone wakes up and says "I want my life to be unsuccessful, wasted, or broken." The outcome of your life sometimes started with what you allowed to enter into your heart and your mind. Some decisions and choices you made have now begun to manifest in negative ways. When you open doors to negativity, you reap the repercussions of what it brings with it. Many times you don't assess whether something or someone is negative. You just go with the flow. You can't just go with the flow. You have to take time to analyze how something or someone may affect you inwardly and affect your life eternally.

You are God's child and God wants to protect you from all hurt, harm, and danger. Therefore, you can't override God's wisdom to please others or please your flesh. The flesh is greedy and it has no boundaries. It wants whatever makes it feel good no matter the consequences. **Galatians 5:16-17 reads "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."** In order to keep the flesh under subjection and to always hear from God, you have to set aside space and time for fasting. You have to make the flesh do what the Spirit wants. If the flesh had its way, it would dictate your every thought and your every action. You are the one in power and responsible for how far you allow the flesh to be in control.

You must seek the Lord in all things and let him know what you are in need of according to **Philippians 4:6 "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."** The Word of God gives direction on how to remain free of the bondage that you often encounter. The Word, which is God, has all the answers to your FREEDOM. God is always in protection mode over his children, but when you make decisions that are not in the will of God, he will not override them. He will allow you to suffer the consequences of your choices. So, don't blame him when you don't get the results that you thought you would. God wants you to decide to obey him and will never <u>make</u> you do anything. That will not bring him any glory. Your willingness to trust and obey him is what brings him glory.

You may be going through something right now that you can't handle. We want you to know that our Father knows about it and he cares for you. Yes, you may have made the wrong decisions for your life and feel that your life can't change, but rest assured that Jesus has the power to change all things. It is never too late to return unto the Father. He is married to the backsliders and has open arms for the sinners. (Jeremiah 3:14-15) So, don't allow the enemy to trick you and tell you that you are not worthy of God's love and forgiveness. You are worthy! Don't feel because you messed up or didn't listen to God that he doesn't want anything to do with you. Oh, yes he does. He never stopped loving you. He is just waiting for you to love him back.

No matter where you are in life, God is ready to restore you. He is ready to heal, set free, and deliver you. You matter to God. You are important to him, if it weren't so, he wouldn't have sent his son Jesus to be a ransom for you or allowed his only son to die for your sins. The love of God never waxes cold. He doesn't want you to suffer any longer, but the choice is yours. The choice has always been yours. Don't think that just because you are already saved, that you are in the will of God. You have to ask yourself, have you followed God's instructions for your life? Have you ignored sound wisdom? Have you veered from God's divine authority? Is where you are today because of your disobedience to God? These are all questions we must ask ourselves in order to truly walk in his will.

In closing-Today is going to be a new day for you. Once you recognize where you are and decide to trust God, your life will never be the same again. Whatever you are going through or facing today, just know According to 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." See,God has already made a way of escape and trouble won't last but for a night and joy will come in the morning. Now take time out to ask for God's forgiveness, repent, and then lift your head up and rejoice because according to 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Hallelujah!!!

Definitions:

Deviseth: 1. : to form in the mind by new combinations or applications of ideas or principles : invent. devise a solution to the problem.

Directeth: To order; to instruct; to point out a course of proceeding, with authority; to command.

Lusts: be consumed with desire for something or someone

Supplication: the action of asking or begging for something earnestly or humbly. "he fell to his knees in supplication"