DELIVERANCE
Prayer Study #374
First Love Ministries of Perry, Georgia USA

Handout #26: Rejection and a Wounded Spirit

The heart knows its own bitterness.
Proverbs 14:10

"At the Master's workbench, where He forms His servants into the image of Christ, there are many tools at His disposal for fashioning character development. There is one tool which He uses in a singularly powerful way, however, to accelerate the maturity of His chosen vessels, and yes, that tool is called *rejection.* When God destines a saint for extraordinary influence in the body of Christ, He prepares him through the rejection of people. If that saint is to become a compassionate servant-leader, he will first need to drink deeply of the lacerating sting of rejection. This will tenderize him to the reality of rejection and help sensitize him to how easily rejection can be inflicted upon others. Because of his sensitivity in this area, the servant-leader will handle the flock of God with exceptional care and tenderness. It is to these sensitized shepherds that God can entrust great influence."

Bob Sorge in *Dealing with Rejection and Praise of Men*

<u>You Are Not Alone, If You Suffer From Rejection.</u>

1. Jesus: *He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And yet we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely, He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.* Isaiah 53:3-4 KJV**.** *He was looked down on and passed over, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand. One look at Him and people turned away. We looked down on Him, thought He was scum. But the fact is, it was our pains He carried-our disfigurements, all the things wrong with us. We thought He brought it on Himself, that God was punishing Him for His own failures. But it was our sins that did that to Him, that ripped and tore and crushed Him*-our *sins!* Isaiah 53:3-5 The Message

2. Moses: Moses was taken from his own Jewish family to be raised as an Egyptian. The Jews did not trust him and denounced him when he murdered an Egyptian who was fighting an Israeli. He then had to run away from Pharaoh's

house and the Egyptians and spend his life from age 40 to 80 on the backside of a desert. Later He married an Ethiopian and was denounced by his own brother and sister. They later repented when the Lord struck Moses' sister with leprosy because of His anger at their criticism of Moses but mercifully healed her when she repented.

3. David: David's father called all of his sons, except David, to the meeting with the Prophet Samuel when Samuel said he had come to anoint a new king. When David was sent by his father to check on his brothers in the battle between the Philistines and Goliath, his brothers put him down and criticized him for coming. David's father-in-law King Saul tried to kill him. David's wife despised him when he brought the ark back and danced before the Lord. Two of David's sons, Absalom and Adonijah, whom he loved deeply, tried to overthrow him and kill him. And his own troops threatened to kill him when the Amalekites had kidnapped all of the Israeli women and children. (David inquired of the Lord who told David to pursue the Amalekites. He and 600 men did, and he had a great victory recovering all that the Amalekites had taken.)

4. Jeremiah: Jeremiah prophesied courageously and faithfully what God told him, and, as a result, everyone hated him. He said of this experience: *Woe is me, my mother, that you have borne me, a man of strife and a man of contention to the whole earth! I have neither lent for interest, nor have men lent to me for interest. Every one of them curses me.* Jeremiah 15:10

5. Job: Job was rejected by his family, friends, and acquaintances, all of which falsely believed he was also rejected by God.

6. Practically every person used in the Bible, from Joseph who was sold by his own brothers into slavery to the Apostle John who was exiled to the Isle of Patmos, suffered great rejection. Almost everyone we see in the Body of Christ today has gone through at least some measure of rejection.

<u>People with a Spirit of Rejection</u>

1. Generally, they are quick to reject others because they don't want to go through more pain of rejection.
2. They don't feel loved and accepted by others.
3. They have an inability to receive or communicate love.
4. They are out of balance in many areas of their lives. Some, for example, give in too easily to others and are relegated to the position of "door mat."

Others will not back down or compromise and stubbornly hold on too strongly.

5. Usually, they have many of the following characteristics deep in their souls: Loneliness, self-pity, misery, depression, despair, hopelessness, suicidal thoughts and death wishes, anger, mistrust, bitterness, guilt, fear, defensiveness, hard heartedness, disrespectfulness, competitiveness, and jealousy.
6. They are quick to over-analyze and wrongly perceive the actions of others.
7. They engage in escapism (ex. day dreaming, addictions, workaholic behaviors) and in fantasy (material, sexual, power positions, etc.).
8. Usually, people with a rejection spirit are judgmental and critical.
9. They often operate in perfectionism and blame others when they do not live up to their own ideals.
10. They have a poverty image because they perceive that they really are worthy nothing.

Causes of Rejection

1. Being unwanted at birth
2. Little physical affection and touch from a person
3. Divorce of parents
4. Having a sibling who is the favored child
5. Betrayal in a trusted relationship
6. Shame
7. Public humiliation
8. Child abuse
9. Attempted abortion
10. Being the wrong sex that the parent wanted
11. Physical or mental defects or learning disabilities
12. Adoption
13. Abandonment
14. Death of a parent
15. Abuse-physical, mental, sexual, emotional, etc.
16. Mental illness of parent
17. Victim of circumstances (ex. Having to stay in the hospital when born and thus being separated from mother)
18. Turmoil in the home (Children usually assume the problem is their fault, even though it may have nothing whatsoever to do with them.)
19. Peer rejection
20. Bloodline curses

How to overcome rejection

1. **Go to the secret place of the Most High:** *He who dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in Him will I trust. Surely He will deliver thee from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence.* Psalm 91:1-3
2. **Praise Him!**: Some deliverance ministers classify the Spirit of Rejection as a manifestation (along with mourning, sorrow, grief, hopelessness, loneliness, discouragement, self-pity, gluttony, and gloominess) of the Spirit of Heaviness. If that is true, the "medicine" for rejection is praise-*To appoint unto those who mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified.* Isaiah 61:3
3. **Forgive:** *For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you* (Matthew 6:14). *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you.* Ephesians 4:32
4. **Be led by the Spirit of God:** *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba Father. The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the suffering of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory, which shall be revealed in us.* Romans 8:14-18
5. **Accept the power of His love:** *What shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?....Nay, in all things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life nor angels nor principalities nor powers nor things present nor things to come nor heights nor depth nor any other creation shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.* Romans 8:35-39

In Utero Wounds

Spirit-baptized people have long recognized what medical science is proving today, i.e. that babies from the time of conception are spirit beings who can pick-up things going on outside the womb. It is very important for a husband and wife and other family members and spirit-filled friends to pray over the child frequently from the time of conception to birth.

John and Paula Sandford with Elijah House Ministries have documented some possible characteristics of children born with *in utero wounds.* The name of their book is *Healing the Wounded Spirit.*

The following is not true in all cases, but the characteristics are frequently found in children born in these different situations. Because of God's grace and people's prayers or for unknown reasons, some children are born in these circumstances but don't show the negative consequences.

1. **A child is not wanted.** This child often shows the following characteristics: striving, performance oriented, overwhelming desire to please people, rejection, anger, wishing death, frequent illnesses, refusing affection, problems with bonding to parents.
2. **A child is conceived out of wedlock.** This child often has a deep sense of shame and feels that he does not belong.
3. **The child's parents face a bad time financially.** The child grows up to feel he is a burden.
4. **The child's parents fight all the time.** The child is nervous, uptight, fearful or full of guilt.
5. **The child is a breech delivery.** The child has a higher risk of having learning problems.
6. **The delivery is unusually painful.** The child is angry, has ulcers or is depressed.
7. **The cord is wrapped around the neck.** The child has throat-related problems, sometimes anti-social behavior and depression.
8. **Father dies or leaves.** The child feels guilt, blames self, is angry, and often has depression or a death wish.
9. **Mother loses a loved one during the pregnancy.** The child has a deep sadness, has a fear of death, and is lonely.
10. **Father's sexual approaches to mother are insensitive or violent, or father and mother have more than one sexual partner.** The child has an unhealthy attitude towards sex.

Scripture seems to support this belief in *in utero wounds* but also gives us hope that healing can come to those born with these wounds.

Yet Thou art He who didst bring me forth from the womb. Thou didst make me trust when upon my mother's breast. Upon Thee I was cast from birth. Thou hast been my God from my mother's womb. Psalm 22:9

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones. Proverbs 20:27

Thou hast been the helper of the orphan. Psalm 10:14

For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me up. Psalm 27:10

The wicked are estranged from the womb. Those who speak lies go astray from birth. Psalm 58:3

Behold, I was shaped in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me. Psalm 51:5

For thou hast possessed my inward parts; thou has covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are thy works and that my soul knoweth right well. Psalm 139:13-14