

Prophetic Insight

Being An Outside Intervener Into Blind Loyalty To A Common Darkness *“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God”* (Matthew 5:9).

July 27, 2016

In our last Insight, *Disengaging From Blind Loyalty To A Common Darkness*, we presented the steps one of the gears must take to stop the spinning. In this Insight we want to pursue being a **Outside Intervener**—a peacemaker who hasn’t been part of the gears spinning, but who is burdened by the love of Jesus to help make the darkness cease. As we mentioned in our previous Prophetic Insight:

“Your love causes you to feel emotional pain as you realize how the wickedness of those who claim to belong to Him is defaming Lord Jesus.” You also sorrow for them as you recognize the demonic prison each one is in.

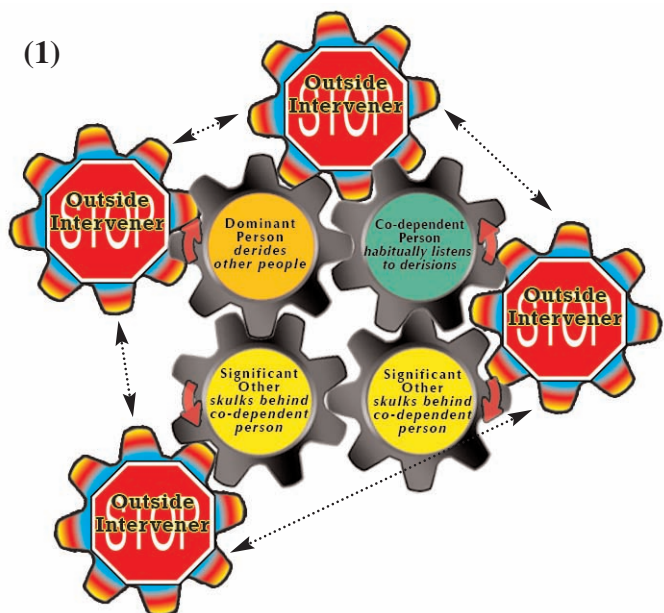
To serve as an outside intervener means you come between the people involved in order to *stop* the spiritual darkness that keeps them together. As you can see in (diagram 1), there are many possible relational starting points for an outside intervener/peacemaker. Just remember this:

Every type of intervention into other people’s lives will have either a positive, a negative, or a neutral outcome.

Prepare yourself that despite all your prayer and best efforts, your intervention may not result in a positive outcome. It may even bring backlash. Why? Because people who’ve habitually lived in spiritual darkness together *may not want* the freedom our Lord Jesus would provide. And you can’t stop all the gears from spinning by just having contact with only one or two of the people involved.

If the individuals you’re seeking to intervene with have been in a faith community that is *not* aware of, or habitually engaged in **spiritual warfare**—overcoming demonic assault against the souls of mankind according to Ephesians 6:10-18—then your work is that much harder. No one frees themselves from the gears without demolishing their strongholds first. The longer those enmeshed in common darkness have been in faith communities that neither emphasize repentance nor excommunicate the unrepentant, the harder will be your task of try-

Outside Intervener: someone who is *not* part of the gears of **murderous co-dependency**. You may be family, faith community member, or acquaintance. Just be sure you have the *love of Jesus* for each of those in spiritual darkness.



Keep in mind that the **demonic strongholds** in each person are keeping the gears *together and spinning*. And when the spirit of Jezebel is the demonic force behind the gears, it has power to induce fear and self-doubt in you similar to what overtook Elijah (see 1Kings 19:1-4).

This demon will often use other people outside the gears whom it’s taken captive to hurt you until you stop trying to help the gears (2Timothy 2:26). This is why the love of Jesus must be the foundation for your willingness to stop the spiritual darkness.

ing to stop the gears. *Repentance* is key to becoming free and experiencing the love of Jesus.



If you're going to try to stop **all** the gears, you need to be in the position of the outside intervener in (diagram 2). The only place you can help *all* the gears is through personal contact and discussion. Again, for *all* the gears to stop, the first thing each must do is be free of the demonic strongholds that have kept them spinning in spiritual darkness.

It's essential that as an intervener you're prepared to not only help the gears stop spinning, but also purposing to spend as much time with each of these individuals until each one experiences the love of Jesus. Only the *love of Jesus* can prevent them from giving way to spiritual darkness again.

May this be said about you:

"Blessed is the peacemaker..." (Matthew 5:9).

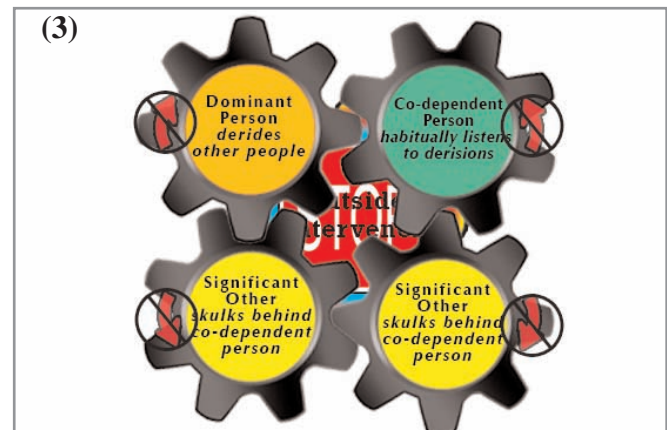
What If NO Gear Wants To Be Free?

Being welcomed by **all** who are involved in the spinning spiritual darkness is rare. And **if** they have in common the demonic stronghold of **fear** and **insecurity** along with the stronghold of **control**, you will most likely find that the spirit of control turns everyone against you (diagram 3) before

you have any success. We can't stress strongly enough for you to *guard yourself* against bitterness or resentment toward the people who turn on you. As Paul warns:

"Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted" (Galatians 6:1).

You may not become like the gears in the same spiritual darkness, but you may find it hard to let go of bitterness and resentment if all of your most caring actions become a counterattack against you. Keep reminding yourself that you got involved because of the *love of Jesus*. If you base your actions just on achieving a positive outcome for others, you'll become bitter if things don't work out!



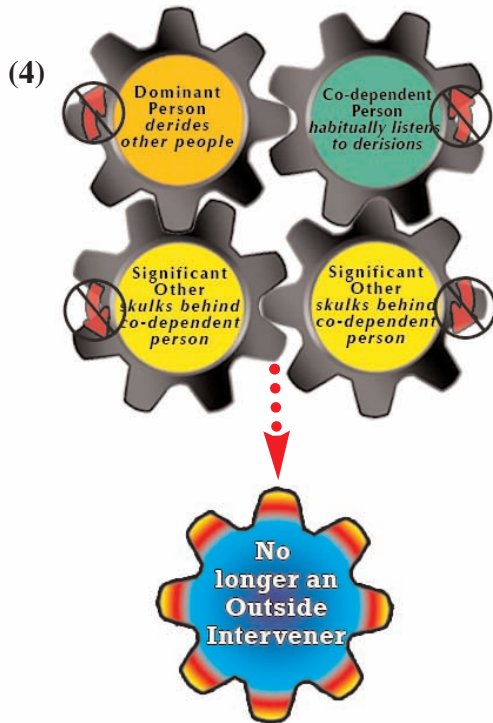
When NO Gear Wants To Be Free

Be careful that you don't resent the people who are spinning in darkness if **all** the gears refuse your help. When people *want* their spiritual darkness, you'll find yourself in a pitched spiritual battle against the demons who hold them captive. And the demons would like nothing more than to turn the table on you by enticing you to become bitter or resentful. You may have thought you were on the offense, but you'll find yourself on the defense.

Again, trying to help only one or two of the gears trapped in spiritual darkness is difficult but not impossible. You may be able to help free the person(s) who do want your help. But realize that *all* of the gears will not

When ALL The Gears Turn Against You

The gears who've rejected your help will likely turn against you. Most often this happens when you're trying to help families and/or those in faith communities escape spiritual darkness, especially when a *stronghold of control* dominates.



As the Outside Intervener you'll need to terminate any further help! You'll find that the people holding on to spiritual darkness will construct lies about you to disparage your reputation. They'll brand you as **"unloving"** or **"harsh"** or **"lacking compassion."** Your caring actions have prompted retaliation!

The verbal counterattack has caused many who were outside peacemakers to not want to try peacemaking again. The unrenounced demonic strongholds of the unrepentant have done this to you. It was always the deceiving demons you were warring against, even if you didn't recognize it.

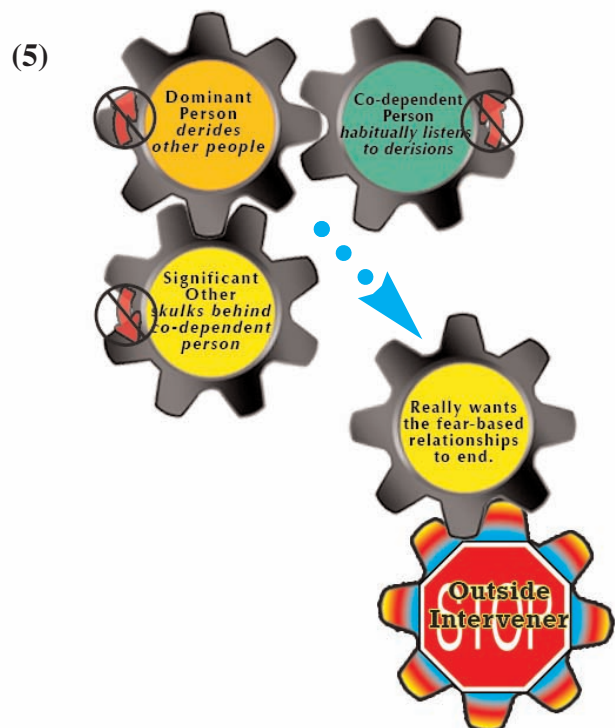
People who have chosen spiritual darkness may smile on the outside, but inside they live oppressed by **mutual demonic bondage**. Their fear of not being accepted by each other is a greater attraction than experiencing the love and freedom our Lord Jesus gives. God will deal with them through the agitation of their mutual demonic oppression, so leave them alone!

stop if you're not intervening in the center (diagram 2).

When Only ONE Gear Wants To Be Free

If you hope to have a positive outcome with one person (or two), they must first rid themselves of demonic strongholds and also pull away from the other gears. If they truly want to be free and experience the *love of Jesus*, they need time to be healed of their desire to be accepted by the other gears. This can only be accomplished by having their strongholds demolished and by confronting the toxic motivations which the strongholds left behind. The toxic motivations in their mind must be taken captive and brought into obedience to the way our Lord would think and act (2Corinthians 10:3-5).

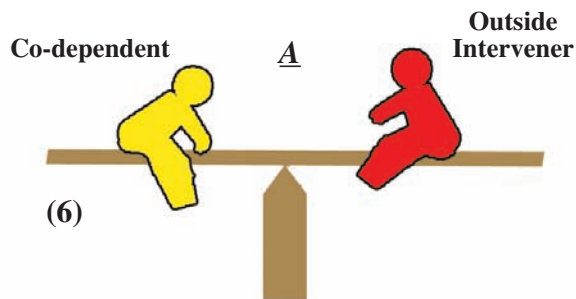
AFTER they experience the love of Jesus they may be able to help the relational gears they left experience the love and freedom they now have. In fact a true indicator that they've experienced His love is that they have compassion on the other gears and want them free too. A great example of this is Much-Afraid in Hannah Hurnard's timeless classic, *Hinds Feet On High Places*. When the Shepherd changes Much-Afraid into Grace & Glory, she's becomes burdened for her relatives, the Fearings.



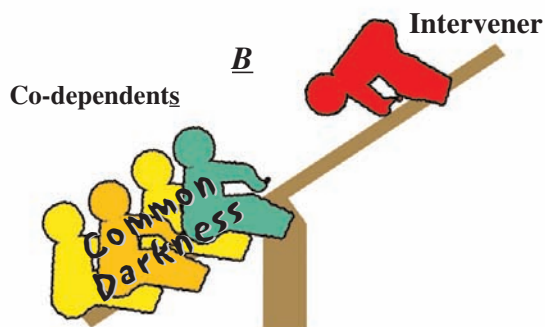
How Bitterness Can Beset You When You're Trying To Help Just One Gear

A. If you have access to only one person who's a gear in common darkness, you may pour your heart out trying to help that individual. But what happens to you if they *don't* rid themselves of demonic strongholds and toxic motivations? You may get bitter and even begin to avoid that person so you won't have to listen to their tales of misery over and over again.

The demons will agitate them to blame you for not loving them enough or not having enough patience. Or, you may feel ashamed that you've let the Lord down.



B. But what has really happened to you is that this person has been using up *his/her* emotional energy trying to remain accepted by the other gears while robbing you of your emotional energy. You'll know you've been used this way the moment you realize that the person (gear) you've poured your heart out to help had *no intention* of changing or of losing their place in the spinning gears. They recruited you to listen to their misery, but they really didn't want to change what was making them miserable.



"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Christendom today would be far different if more followers of Christ took their Lord at His word about peacemakers being *"sons of God"* (Matthew 5:9). How sad that Christians have come to accept the 38,000 competing divisions throughout Christendom as "normal." Yet it's this division which has rendered Christianity so ineffective against Satan's captivity of most of mankind. As we've demonstrated in these various illustrations, peacemaking is fraught with difficulties because of the *darkness* you're up against! But the *love of Jesus in you* is the most powerful force He can offer the people who are spinning in darkness. And *you* are His source to reveal this love.

You need only look around you at your family, faith community, workplace, neighborhood. **People captured in blind loyalty to a common darkness are the most prominent type of social connection in this nation.** Our Lord foresaw this relational bondage and the need for peacemakers. That's why He placed being *peacemakers* between these two verses:

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God" (Matthew 5:8).

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:10).

Anyone who is encompassed with and impelled by the *love of Jesus* has a pure heart. It's our heartfelt love that causes us to intervene in relational impasses by shining His Light into the spiritual darkness that imprisons others. The issue for you isn't their darkness, but rather *your love* through the Spirit of Jesus in you.