

## How to get out of your own way Part 1

**II Tim. 2:24-26- In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves \* Berean translation- In a gentle way he must discipline those who put themselves in opposition.**

**I. There are no shortcuts in the kingdom of God.** You don't get graduated to another level just because of your age. BUT there is a straighter line. The shortest distance between two points is a straight line. NOTE- This will be a repeated theme in ALL my teaching.

- A) Always start with yourself first; taking responsibility for your own happiness.
- B) Realize no one can MAKE you feel or react in any way without your permission.
- C) We can see how other people are hindering themselves but need the Holy Spirit to help us see how we are hindering ourselves.

### **II. Different ways we hinder ourselves.**

#### **1. We blame other people for our unhappiness, lack of success and lack of self-esteem, etc.**

Note: Adam blamed God and Eve. Eve blamed the snake. Cain believed Abel was the reason he wasn't blessed by God. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you where you have blamed others or failed to take responsibility for your own mistakes. He will not condemn you and make you feel like a failure but He will show you. With any problem always start with yourself first. God is much more likely to speak to you about you than He is to speak to you about others.

#### **2. We haven't made the Word of God our final and complete authority.**

Note: What if Eve had answered the serpent, "No God said it and that settles it!" When we hesitate and allow a debate in our mind about God's word we cut off one of the main sources He uses to guide us. Once we've made sure the word we are hearing is not twisted or misinterpreted we should let that word settle the issue. Period. Our own opinion, others opinions and what's popular are voices that are silenced immediately. Confusion leaves and clarity brings peace.

**EXAMPLE** - Many people want to argue about tithing saying it was done under the law and we are under grace (although tithing was established through Abraham before the law). The answer is simple; if they could and would willingly tithe under the law and we are under grace, which is better, shouldn't we at least be willing to do what they did under the law? When you settle it in your heart that the word of

God is the final authority in your life then peace will come along with faith to tithe allowing the blessings of God to be poured out.

3. We believe and therefore speak the wrong thing about ourselves. **Proverbs 23:7**  
**- For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.**

A) No person can rise above what they believe and say about themselves.

B) No one talks to you more than you. What if you are not telling yourself the right thing?

C) You cannot walk with God until you agree with Him, **Amos 3:3.**

**EXAMPLE** - How many people say, "God doesn't speak to me. I don't hear God the way other people hear God." **John 10: 3-5 - To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.**

Note: In this scripture we can claim four great blessings and make them our confessions; I am God's sheep; He calls me by my name, I HEAR HIS VOICE!; I will not be deceived and follow the voice of a stranger.