



One Thing You Lack: *Removing obstacles to getting more Jesus in your life!*

Roger H. Ford
Isaiah 61 Ministries
October 19, 2008

Mark 10:17, 19-22

- 17 As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to Him and fell on his knees before Him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
- 19 “You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.’”

Mark 10:17, 19-22

20 "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."

21 Jesus looked at him and loved him. **"One thing you lack,"** he said. **"Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."**

22 At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. Let's pray...

I-61 Ministries is based on the following scripture:

“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.. Isaiah 61:1

In Luke 4:18 Jesus said He came to fulfill this scripture. He came to release people from captivity.

The Rich Young Man – Mark 10

- What was the “one thing the man lacked” that was holding the man captive?
- Did Jesus want the man to be set free?
- Did he get set free?
- Why not?
- God will not force us to do anything against our free will! (see Rev. 3:20)

The Rich Young Man – Mark 10

- Is money the only thing that can keep a person from following Jesus? (see vs. 19)
- Are there other commandments that, by extension, could have been added to the list?
- Can a person follow Jesus “partially?”
- Was the man trying to follow the Lord?
- How can just “one thing we lack” be so important?

The Rich Young Man – Mark 10

“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.”

James 2:10

Three Case Highlights

- We ministered to 20 people in Vietnam this past August. Three of them are excellent examples of people for whom it could be said “**one thing you lack**”
 - A young man, Hank, in Hanoi
 - A student, Seth, in Hanoi
 - A middle-age mom, Carol, in Danang

Three Case Highlights

- All three were professing Christians and in good standing with their local fellowships.
- Yet, each was recommended to us for ministry by their pastor, because,
- Each one was bound by something that was preventing him or her from experiencing the fullness of Jesus. There was “one thing that was lacking,” and Jesus was waiting for them to deal with it.

“Hank” in Hanoi

- Hank was referred to us by a pastor , a long-time friend of ours.
- Hank accepted the LORD one year ago, but he had a serious problem...
- Sometimes at church, listening to preaching, or trying to read the Bible he went into a trance.
- Sometimes he suffered various pains, and would speak in an evil language.

“Hank” in Hanoi

- At night he suffered nightmares.
- *Bong De*, pressure when sleeping, resulting in suffocation.
- He could also see dead ancestors walking around, and he could talk with them.
- His pastor understood that Hanks problems were caused by evil spirits.
- But they could not get them to leave.

“Hank” in Hanoi

- AT THE CORE of Hank’s problems was **the sin of worshiping other gods**. (see Ex. 20:3)
- His ancestors worshiped other gods, and this brought a curse on Hank that had not been *effectively* broken (see Ex. 20:5).
- We confirmed Hank’s salvation via EE Q1&2.
- Then we discovered the *one thing Hank lacked*.

“Hank” in Hanoi

- I asked him if when he confessed his personal sins to Jesus he also confessed on behalf of his ancestors – who were all Buddha worshipers.
- Hank answered “no,” he did not know about that.
- Once we explained about ancestral curses Hank cheerfully agreed to confess the SOF.
- He fell into a trance .
- My prayers had no effect for several minutes.

“Hank” in Hanoi

- Holly had a word of knowledge, “deaf spirit.”
- I tested and commanded the deaf spirit to leave and Hank returned to full consciousness.
- We then continued his time of confession and renunciation, and easily expelled all the remaining demon spirits in just a few minutes.
- *“I feel peaceful and happy... God is with me in every move... I feel my spirit becoming stronger... God bless you.” Hank*

“Hank” in Hanoi

- The **one thing that Hank lacked** was to be set free from the curse that resulted from his parents’ worshiping false gods, and dedicating Hank to these same gods when he was young. This gave a legal right to demon spirits to infest Hank to harass him and keep him from growing in his Christian faith.
- Since the curses were primarily due to SOF, his deliverance was quick, easy, and gentle.

“Seth” from Hanoi

- The next case is young professional man, also in Hanoi.
- He too had asked Jesus to become his personal Savior, but something was holding him captive. Seth was “double-minded.”
- “Seth” had gotten deeply involved in pornography at a young age.
- Then he shared his “hobby” with many others.

“Seth” from Hanoi

- At first Seth was able to balance his love for Jesus and his love for forbidden images.
- Gradually the dark side grew stronger, and his love for Jesus grew faint. Perversions overcame him, though he kept his sin hidden.
- Seth confessed and renounced all his sins to us in detail.
- Then I began to test for and expel demons.

“Seth” from Hanoi

- This deliverance was more difficult.
- Seth quickly fell to the floor as his body trembled and shook violently.
- Dozens of spirits manifested and departed as he moaned, groaned, coughed, and retched for two hours.
- It ended when we discovered the “strongman,” a spirit named *pornographer*.

“Seth” from Hanoi

- Why was a Pornographer spirit stronger than a pornography spirit?
- “...if anyone causes one of these little ones... to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck...” Mt. 18:6
- Still, one drop of Jesus’ blood is more powerful than any demon spirit.
- Once we had Seth confess this specific sin, the demon’s power was broken and it departed.

“Seth” from Hanoi

“(I want) to share with you how amazingly God has worked in my life recently. He has always been there but, because of the evil spirits, I wasn’t able to see Him. I was able to testify (to my friends about) the deliverance. It is great. I understand that I still need a lot of time to recover and to let the Holy Spirit to fill in the blanks inside me. It will take time and I would urge you to pray for me. I pray that God continues to bless I-61 Ministries!” Seth

“Seth” from Hanoi

- The **one thing that Seth lacked** was to be set free from the curse of his exposure to pornography and related unconfessed sins.
- The Bible teaches that we need to confess our sins to one another so that you may be healed (James 5:16)
- **Once his sins were confessed, the deliverance was completed. Jesus is infinitely stronger than any evil spirit!**

“Carol” from Danang

- Carol was part of a group we trained and ministered to recently. An evil spirit manifested in her even before it was her turn for prayer. This reminded me of Luke 4:33-34:
- While Jesus was teaching in the synagogue *“a man possessed by a demon, an evil spirit... cried out at the top of his lungs, “Ha! What do you want with us, Jesus...?”*

“Carol” from Danang

- She bolted towards the door, and I rebuked the evil spirit in her.
- Carol fell to the floor moaning and chanting in Vietnamese.
- The evil spirit was related to a love affair from many years ago – prior to her marriage
- Carol is a mature Christian wife and mom.

“Carol” from Danang

- Yet she had a dark secret – that she had never shared with anyone.
- Every night she was visited by a demonic spirit that physically touched her – in a romantic way. These visits paralyzed her.
- This secret affected every part of her life.
- Once the truth came out and she confessed her sin, we easily cast out the evil spirit.

“Carol” from Danang

- The **one thing Carol lacked** was to be set free from a romantic soul tie that still controlled her emotions – and opened the door for the visitations of an evil spirit at night.
- The next day, *“I am so happy! The Lord has healed me. Last night, for the first time I had no nightmare. Instead, I woke up to pray in happiness. Cam on Chua! Cam on Co Chu!”*

Carol

Deliverance is a Journey

- Few people experience complete freedom in Christ in a single step. But that is how it starts.
- Each of these people will continue their sanctification process until they meet Jesus face-to-face.
- As they renew their minds and enter the Kingdom, they may need more deliverance.
- But the step each took 2 months ago was truly significant.

Bringing It Home

- These were 3 good people trying to obey the Lord, just like the man in Mark 10
- But there was “*one thing they lacked*” in order to get right with Jesus.
- How about you? Is Jesus saying to you “*One thing **you** lack?*” Is there a stronghold in your life holding you back?
- If so, do you know what it is?
- Let’s pray