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This checklist has evolved over many years of a growing experience in helping people resolve their non-Christian spiritual experiences. I am indebted to Rev'd Howard Astin of St John's Church, Bowling, Bradford for giving me permission many years ago to adapt some of his original material which is included in sections 1 & 2.

The Prayer of Identificational Repentance in connection with the Border Reivers found on pp.39-41 of the *Baggage Checklist* is reproduced from a blog posted on 26th April 2011 by Angus MacKillop *The Archbishop of Glasgow's "Monition of Cursing."* Copyright is with "His Kingdom Prophecy" and is licenced under a Creative Commons Licence.

Appendix 1: *Freemasonry Renunciations 1-33* degrees are taken from *Unmasking Freemasonry - The Hoodwink* by Selwyn Stevens ISBN 09583417-3-7 published by Jubilee Publishers, PO Box 36-044, Wellington 6330, New Zealand. Copying of these prayers is both permitted and encouraged provided reference is made to where it comes from.

Appendix 4: *Grouping of Demons* is taken from *Pigs in the Parlour* by Frank & Ida Mae Hammond, published by Impact Books, Kirkwood, MO. 1973. This material is available on the internet for free download. Otherwise copies can be obtained from Amazon.

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Group Leaders Guide

A guide to using the Baggage Checklist

WHY PRAYER MINISTRY?

It is not unusual for people to sit around a table having a meal and for one person to recollect a bad experience they had and then go on to relate the effect that experience has had on their life or describe why they no longer do 'x, y or z' because of it. Then someone else will start telling their story. By the end of the evening everyone has shared something from their experience: perhaps it was a recurring nightmare, being trapped in a broken lift, finding someone dead, being a witness to a rape or how they once experimented in the occult and had a terrifying experience with a poltergeist!

As believers we often fail to process these events at all saying "*It was all dealt with at the Cross.*" That is completely true BUT as with all matters pertaining to faith we need to APPLY the freedom Christ gained for us by His death and resurrection for ourselves. We need to be active in our faith not passive. The Bible clearly teaches that we are seated with Christ in heavenly places (Ephesians 2: 6-8) and from this perspective we have been given the ability, authority and power to be overcomers. Therefore we need no longer live with the crippling limitations and fears which are often the lasting result of such experiences. Possibly for the first time ever, we genuinely, have a choice either to remain in bondage to the limitations or to live instead in freedom.

Prayer ministry is a special opportunity to take back ground the enemy has stolen and rededicate our lives to Jesus and His Kingdom

My testimony

When I was in my 20s and living on my own I was followed home late at night by a gang of youths who came right to my door. They obviously thought it was funny to tail-gate me and flash their lights in my mirror but I was terrified. A lady just a few doors away had been recently murdered and my mind raced ahead... Eventually I drove to a friend's house but my nerves were shot to pieces. The next day I wrote my car off under a railway bridge and I never went back to work full-time in the job I had at the time. Every night I would move a chest of drawers to barricade myself into my bedroom. It was the beginning of years of successive bouts of depression and occasional suicidal thoughts. The experience happened to me. It was not my fault. BUT the result was that I opened the door of my heart to fear and the enemy made the most of his opportunity.

Satan is a legalist and holds on tightly to whatever legal ground we have given him in our lives. If we fail to deal with the aftermath of such an event or experience fairly soon, e.g. by praying-off the shock and giving all resulting anger, fear and emotions [e.g. shame or guilt] to God, then the devil will continue to use the foothold given him to not only harass our thought-life but also influence and control our behaviour for many years to come. From that original experience we might be drawn deeper into fear, anxiety, pain and illness, promiscuity, the occult, drugs, debt or whatever our chosen coping mechanism might be. Satan's strategy is to rob us of fulfilling Father God's destiny for our lives which is why, as believers we must take our stand against his schemes and get rid of our spiritual baggage as soon as possible.

INHERITED GENERATIONAL CURSES AND THEIR EFFECTS

Another form of non-Christian spiritual experience that commonly goes unrecognised and which most of us live with is the ungodly spiritual inheritance we each have from our ancestors.

Read Deuteronomy 28.

There is a spiritual law that flows throughout scripture: whenever the people of God walk in obedience to Him they are blessed and prosper but whenever they go off-track into disobedience they forego the blessings and experience instead His discipline and judgement. In fact, the word 'curse' used in verse 15 and throughout the remainder of chapter 28 is stronger than either 'discipline' or 'judgement'.

OBEDIENCE = BLESSINGS

DISOBEDIENCE = DISCIPLINE and JUDGEMENT (i.e. CURSES)

It might seem strange to associate a loving Father God with curses but He is not the one doing the cursing; we are!

Scripture is quite clear that there are always consequences when we sin so it is our disobedience that brings the consequences of our sin God has warned us about back upon ourselves!

Re-read verses 16-68.

There are at least nine different consequences of disobedience mentioned in these verses. They can be broadly summed up as mental or emotional breakdown; recurrent sicknesses, diseases or chronic health disorders; shame, abandonment, poverty and persistent financial lack; barrenness, suicide, premature death or being accident prone; warring, fighting or cruelty, including family breakdown.

It is very common for the same sins, behavioural traits or physical consequences to be seen operating in more than one generation. Whilst this can be explained away in the natural as genetic [e.g. children separated from their natural parents at birth may still end up reproducing their mistakes and life-choices without having had any physical contact at all] or as copied/learned behaviour [e.g. someone brought up in a household containing an alcoholic may predispose them to copy that method of coping [or not coping] in their own times of stress] there is actually a biblical explanation.

Read Exodus 20:5; Hosea 1:2; Galatians 3:13.

The Lord views any departure from His righteous ways as spiritual adultery or idolatry. When someone dies unrepentant of such bondages it seems that the resulting curse from their sin continues to affect the family line – possibly for generations.

This is much more common than we might first imagine, e.g. some families appear to have a weakness or tendency towards certain illnesses; in my family line the recurring illness is pneumonia. Other families have tendencies towards such things as addictions, illegitimate pregnancies, poverty or premature death. There are many different possibilities. To have pneumonia is not a sin; it is simply the manifestation or fruit of a deeper underlying sin or act of rebellion on the part of one of my ancestors at some point in history between me and Adam and Eve! Although I am not guilty of the sin of whichever of my ancestors first opened the spiritual door to allow demons to harass us with pneumonia, the truth is that I still live with the consequence of what they did, whether I like it or not, believe it to be true or not. God Himself explains this in Exodus 20:5:

“You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me...”

Whenever a generation dies unrepentant, because of sin the demonic spirit has a legal right to remain in the family line and is passed on at the point of death to the most likely candidate (usually the first-born) and so the generational rebellion in that specific area is perpetuated until someone who understands their identity as a child of God stands up against it saying, "*Enough. No more!*"

Once we are born again into God's Kingdom we no longer have to put up with these inherited consequences. We can make the choice to believe that because Jesus became a curse for us on the Cross the power of all curses has been broken. Jesus took the punishment for any and all sin that was committed in His body when He died on the Cross so you and I no longer have to bear the consequence of that sin in our own bodies. This truth means that because we are in Christ we can sincerely take our stand against any generational curse that may be operative in us and our family line, breaking its chain forever.

We do this not by repenting of our own behaviour (if we have done that thing ourselves), and renouncing it verbally but also by choosing to live a submissive holy and obedient life before God.

Many people want to live in God's blessings but the fulfilment of His promises is always conditional upon our obedience to His prescribed rules and standards. Obedience (first Jesus', then ours) is what breaks the power and on-going consequences of the curses that come to us as a result of disobedience, ours or our ancestors'.

OTHER FORMS OF CURSES:

Not every curse is the result of our own or ancestors' *physical* sinful action; sometimes that action might have been verbal or spiritual and it might even come from outside the family altogether. These types of curses usually fall into three categories:

1. Words and oaths spoken by ourselves.
2. Words and curses spoken by others against us.
3. Written curses, spells, hexes and incantations

Words and oaths spoken by ourselves

Self-cursing: What we say with our lips matters. Many of us innocently, regularly and occasionally continually speak negativity or limitation over ourselves, our family or the situations we are part of e.g. “*He will never change.*”; “*I will never be able to afford....*”; “*I will never get pregnant*” or “*I will never get a job...*” These sorts of sentences leave our lips far too frequently and are almost always self-fulfilling prophecies because our lips hold the power to bring us life or death. As we grow in understanding of our significance to God and security in His love, we must take steps not only to root out and revoke all self-imposed curses the Holy Spirit reveals are operational over us but also to take deliberate steps to choose NOT TO SAY these things any more.

Oaths and vows of allegiance: Whenever we have made ungodly oaths or vows of allegiance [which are forms of covenant] to organisations or individuals, these bind us spiritually and should be renounced as specifically as possible [see section headed *Witchcraft and Freemasonry* below].

Words and curses spoken by others against us

Individuals: I have seen my mother curse someone who immediately became seriously ill and was struck down within hours by a serious back problem and admitted to hospital. I also witnessed her stand in a room and deliver a verbal curse upon a whole family that was clearly worked

out by the subsequent disintegration of family relationships. But not every form of curse is that obvious: grumbling against us, negativity and criticism towards us and limitation are also curses that may result in demonic oppression on the spiritual gateways of our life, e.g. health, finances, work, family and/or relationship with and ministry for God.

My son suffered for several years with severe colic-type pain in his gut. He was investigated for Crohne's and Coeliac diseases but nothing obvious showed up other than vague 'allergies'. When we finally sat down to pray with him the Lord revealed that someone had cursed him by saying: "*I hate your guts.*" Once this verbal curse was revoked the symptoms disappeared.

If someone or their known ancestors have worked on other continents then be alert to curses that may have been placed upon them by shamans, witchdoctors, voodoo, etc.

Inherited curses: Whenever our ancestors have made ungodly oaths and vows of allegiance [i.e. covenants] to organisations or individuals, we live with the spiritual consequences and limitations of these until we renounce them. This should be done as specifically as possible [see section headed *Witchcraft and Freemasonry* below].

Border Reivers: In 1524-25 Archbishop Dunbar of Glasgow cursed every clan known as the Border Reivers. The curse is very thorough and I deliberately chose NOT to reproduce it in this manual in the hope that its words might not be spoken out loud again either deliberately or accidentally. If you feel you must read the curse for yourself, you can do so by visiting <https://www.hiskingdomprophecy.com/monition-cursing/>.

The clan names affected are listed on pp.38-39 of the Baggage Checklist and specific prayers of identificational repentance, renunciation and blessing are found on pp.39-43 of the Baggage Checklist.

Written curses, hexes or spells

Not every written curse says obviously “*I curse you.*” An unpleasant, nasty or slanderous letter is actually the same thing and carries the same kind of limiting oppression. As we take serious steps to influence people, communities and circumstances for God’s Kingdom it would be surprising if we did not attract the attention of those who spiritually oppose us, our ministry and the Kingdom we represent. These intentionally malevolent individuals may write curses or make spells or incantations against us in order to bring oppression, limitation or harm. In my book *Restoring Eden*¹ I go into the evidence of such curses in much greater detail but over the years, for example, we have experienced our finances being plundered like a purse with holes in it, we have had the crops in our garden wither and die without reason, a whole series of goat skulls hidden around the property, severe life-threatening illness and what seemed like World War III break out in our core ministry team. Every single one were immediately corrected once we prayed to break any curses, hexes or spells made against us!

As a result of our experience we have learned to begin each new day by breaking any curses, hexes or spells and sending them back to where they came from – to the place appointed for them by Jesus. Because of this learned wisdom we give glory to God that we rarely suffer the oppressions, discouragements and disappointments of the early days of our ministry.

WITCHCRAFT AND FREEMASONRY:

Witchcraft: Some would argue that witchcraft had its origins in the United Kingdom as recently as the 1500s, reaching its zenith in 1612 when ten men and women from Pendle in Lancashire were hanged at

¹ Available for purchase on website www.newbeginningsdiscipleship.wordpress.com/shop.

Lancaster gaol for the crime of witchcraft. The Pendle Witches, as they became known, were believed to have been responsible for the murder by witchcraft of seventeen people in and around the Forest of Pendle. It is then assumed that witchcraft in the United Kingdom then died out. THIS IS NOT TRUE! *Witchcraft is as old as civilisation itself*. Although none of us likes to think that witchcraft or its darker associate, Satanism, really exist today, an Internet search on Google quickly reveals that *witchcraft is very much alive and thriving in our neo-pagan culture and it has a long historical association with the rural areas*.

The word 'pagan' derives from the Latin *pagus*,² meaning a parcel of land in a rural area. Those who lived in the countryside were called *paganus*³ or pagans. As Christianity became established in the United Kingdom, the people in the towns and cities were converted but those in the countryside would often remain practising the old religions – if not openly, at least in secret. Therefore, the word 'pagan' became synonymous with those engaging in non-Christian religious rituals. Historical research of the Eden Valley area of Cumbria revealed that during the dark ages, in AD688, zealous 'cleansing' of the old religions by Christians meant that seven thousand (!) pagans were rounded up and slaughtered. This did not extinguish the old way; it merely drove the practice of 'the craft' underground.

Each culture around the world has its own particular expression of the 'craft'. Neighbouring groups will vary in what they do and whom they worship. Therefore witchcraft as practised today is a hotchpotch of all manner of different arts and practices. However, a broad, general definition is as follows:

² Longman Concise English Dictionary, Longman Group Ltd. Harlow, 1985, p. 986.

³ Ibid.

Witch: A person engaging in Wicca – a pagan religion that includes ritual, sorcery, magick,⁴ spells and the worship of any number of different deities, including the earth, sun and moon.

Craft: How a person or group practise Wicca (the Old English word for 'witch') – this includes the workings of the ritual; for example, the wording of spells, ceremonial use of knives, sacrifices, candles, stones, herbs, divination, sexual activities, etc.

It is rare for witches to practise their art alone. It is usually done in small groups or 'covens,' commonly of no more than thirteen people. Each group normally operates within a territorial *pagus* that has a radius of around three miles. The group will generally be led by a high priestess like the dominant and powerful Queen Jezebel found in 1 Kings 16-21. Occasionally this leader may be a man. The coven leader will be utterly dedicated to the 'craft' but usually respectable, upstanding citizens who, to our shame, may well demonstrate a much higher degree of commitment and dedication to the affairs of their communities than many church-going Christians.

The veil of deception means that witches struggle to see themselves as engaged in anything harmful or evil and when challenged are usually extremely defensive about this. Their stated aim, which is the same whether in Africa, India or Britain, is to *manipulate 'neutral' spiritual forces for 'good'*.

Witches determinedly seek to distinguish themselves from Satanists, whose black art involves an exaggerated form of Wicca that is more perverted, sadistic and overtly evil. Whilst Satanists structure themselves in a similar manner to Wiccans, it is not unusual for them to also be associated with a seedier side of life, for example, involvement with the sex industry, drugs or the underworld, which they use to draw innocent,

⁴ The letter 'k' is added by pagans to distinguish their particular type of magic art from that of the likes of magic used in entertainment like that of Paul Daniels or Sooty!

needy and sometimes desperate people into their world and then exploit them for their own purposes.

The Bible, however, makes no distinction between the two; whether people engage in outright worship of Satan with human sacrifice or simply engage in the ritual of the 'craft' or indeed other 'lesser' occult pursuits, the Bible resoundingly rebukes it all:

*“Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. **Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord, and because of these detestable practices the Lord your God will drive out those nations before you.**”⁵*

In the Ten Commandments the Lord says:

*“You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of **those who hate me...**”⁶*

All witchcraft is an attempt by deceived people to manipulate spirits for the purpose of gaining a measure of power, control or influence for the enemy's kingdom. This could be over individuals, situations, business dealings, churches, villages and towns or over whole geographical areas. Where witchcraft has power in the land, then we must also expect to see its traits and characteristics in the lives of the people.

Witchcraft is ruthlessly anti-Christ. It hates God, God's people and the purposes of God. The Bible clearly states those who practice the 'craft'

⁵ Deuteronomy 18:10-12.

⁶ Exodus 20:3-5.

are detestable to the Lord and bring His judgment upon themselves **and their family line**.

Freemasonry: Hiding behind the benevolent brotherhood of the Masonic Lodge are layers of centuries of deception. The earliest Celtic settlers who migrated here from North Africa brought their religion with them. They followed the ancient mystery religions of Sumeria and Egypt and worshipped the sun god Baal [Lucifer himself!]. It was a polytheistic culture, using rituals we associate today with witchcraft and Satanism, including human sacrifice on the high feast days. As we have already seen, although witchcraft has a growing following today, most of us consider ourselves too sophisticated to make sacrifices [especially human ones] to the sun god and Satan knows this. Therefore, he employs a more subtle deception that appeals to man's basic instinct to gain power and control not only over his own affairs but also those of others.

It appears that over the centuries Baal worship has taken on many different masks and identities but Satan has cunningly managed to evolve, develop and re-incarnate this same deception throughout the centuries in various 'culturally-friendly' guises specifically designed to deceive successive generations.

The incarnation in Roman times was the Mithras religion and during the 11th-14th Centuries the spirit was incarnated in the religious practices of the Knights Templar. I teach in depth on this subject in my book *Restoring Eden*.⁷

The most recent reincarnation of this ancient spirit came in the eighteenth century, almost concurrent with the Wesleyan revival. As chapels sprung up in every town, so did Masonic Lodges. In his 1983 book *Freemasonry*, former practising Mason Jack Harris, now a born-again

⁷ Available for download on website.

believer teaches the following:

“The body of an initiated Mason is a temple, and together, Masons worldwide form a larger corporate temple of Freemasonry.”⁸

This one single statement demonstrates Freemasonry’s place as a counterfeit religion operating in opposition to true Christianity. For the Christian, scripture is quite clear:

“...Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.”⁹

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body.”¹⁰

As members of God’s Kingdom our bodies belong to God, not ourselves, and are in fact a living temple of the Holy Spirit. Members of the body of Christ are together being built into a spiritual temple of which Christ Himself is the cornerstone. Thus it can be seen that Freemasonry for the born-again Christian is not an option. Freemasonry is a counterfeit religion operating in opposition to true Christianity and is, therefore, not compatible with it.

BREAKING FREE FROM THE SPIRITUAL EFFECTS OF WITCHCRAFT AND FREEMASONRY:

The following table shows just some of the physical or spiritual traits and characteristics that we might see evidenced in the life or family line of

⁸ J. Harris, *Freemasonry*, Whitaker, New Kensington, 1983, p.13.

⁹ Ephesians 2:20-22.

¹⁰ 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

someone who has either been involved themselves or whose ancestors were. This list is not meant to be exhaustive.

Sickness	Disease	Untimely death	Barrenness
Heart disease	Back infirmity	Epilepsy	Depression
Cancers	Blood disorders	Unforgiveness	Controlling of money
Cursing	Self-righteousness	Pride	Arrogance
Selfishness	Domination	Manipulation	Control
Rebellion	Rage & anger	Vicious tongue	Scoffing
Intolerance	Sexual immorality	Failure	Fear of failure
Low self-worth	Passivity	Envy	Falsehood & deceit
Unbelief	False beliefs	Selfish ambition	Jealousy
Bullying	Using others	Workaholism	Orphan spirit
Poverty spirit	Obsessive spirit	Mean spirit	Independent spirit
Murderous spirit	Divisive spirit	Unteachable spirit	Warring spirit
Critical spirit	Anti-Semitism		

There are many varieties of prayers for breaking free from inherited witchcraft and Masonic curses, [and a great many other specific forms of curses] available on the internet.¹¹ Appendix 1 contains a printed version taken from *Unmasking Freemasonry – Removing the Hoodwink* by Selwyn Stevens.¹²

It is best for the individual to pray these prayers aloud as part of their prayer appointment and with a Christian witness present.

We suggest a brief pause following each paragraph to allow the Holy Spirit to show any related issues which may require attention. A

¹¹ E.g. www.jubilee.org.nz/prayers/freemasonry/.

¹² Stevens ISBN 09583417-3-7 published by Jubilee Publishers, PO Box 36-044, Wellington 6330, New Zealand. Copying of this prayer is both permitted and encouraged provided reference is made to where it comes from.

significant number of people have reported having experienced physical and spiritual healings as diverse as long-term headaches and epilepsy as the result of praying through these prayers which have been used by Christian counsellors and pastors in many countries in counselling situations and seminars for several years, with real and significant results.

These prayers can be adapted to renounce oaths of allegiance made to other organisations or people. As a discipler of others it is important to stress to the disciple that it takes just a few moments to renounce oaths breaking ungodly curses but it takes a great deal longer to renew the mind and change ingrained learned patterns of behavior. There is no quick fix. This takes persistent effort and is the hard bit!

Child sex abuse, Satanic Ritual Abuse (SRA), Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD) or Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID)

Very occasionally we may find someone in the discipleship process who needs prolonged help to deal with their non-Christian spiritual experiences. Typically, this person will have experienced deep personal trauma, abuse or emotional pain with the result that they find it difficult to form deep trusting relationships because they somehow feel 'different' or excluded because of their experiences. It is also possible they may have had their minds shattered by feelings of guilt, shame and terror. These emotions, along with the need to survive in the presence of dangerous circumstances, may have caused them to subconsciously adopt a coping mechanism by which a particularly traumatic event is sectioned off – or stored – and sometimes attributed to having happened to a completely different personality. By doing this the victim is able to keep their condition hidden, continue functioning on a daily basis and protect themselves from further harm.

The wonderful grace of God means that nobody is so wounded or damaged that, with much love and support they cannot have their life turned around to become a fruitful disciple. Therefore I encourage you to not reject but embrace such precious souls and encourage them to be part of a discipleship group. Being part of a group who agree to work together to love and see them develop and mature spiritually will mean such a great deal to them. Supporting them will certainly be a challenge for the whole group.

If you are following a discipleship process such as New Beginnings then be prepared for there to be whole chunks of the course they may not be able to process or cope with until significant parts of their spiritual history have been resolved; in fact, they may work through the material more than once. Do not try to force them to complete exercises; just allow them to enjoy being part of a 'normal' gathering with the prospect of forming some real loving caring friendships.

If you feel you as the group leader need personal support then I recommend you make contact with a ministry such as Carolyn Bramhall's Heart For Truth www.heartfortruth.org.uk who will be able to provide you and your apprentice(s) with encouragement, support and practical guidance on how to facilitate the whole group in helping the person resolve their issues and move on to spiritual maturity.