



## **Steps To Freedom In Christ (5 – 8 years)**

The younger children in this age group can't read the steps, so the parent, pastor, teacher, or counsellor will have to tell them what to do. The advantage we have working with this age is "child-like faith." Little children are less likely to question what a responsible adult shares with them, and they have not yet learned to be defensive about the thoughts they are thinking. You cannot over-emphasize the love of God, and His powerful presence in their life. A child can accept the fact that God is in them and bigger than Satan. Little children in the Lord have the same authority that we do as adults. So they can resist the devil. If the child has not yet trusted in Christ as their Saviour, this might be a good opportunity to lead that child to Christ, and then go through the steps. If the child does not trust in Christ at this time, please download "Praying for Your Child."

Take seriously the fearful comments of a child. If they complain of horrible nightmares, or see things in their room that frighten them, encourage them to share all their experiences without judgment. If we make light of their experiences, they will conclude that we don't care or understand. In either case, they may never share again, which is the worst thing that can happen.

Many children have imaginary "friends" that they play with. That can be harmless unless the imaginary friend is talking back. Then it is no longer imaginary. New Age proponents are actually encouraging children to have spirit friends or spirit guides. They will grow out of harmless imaginary games, but they will not naturally grow out of spiritual bondage. This must be identified as soon as possible. Satan disguises himself as an angel of light, so young children probably won't see the danger. They could even be reluctant to give it up. It may appear harmless now, but it won't be later on.

Young children won't understand the term renounce, so we have them say "no" to Satan and "yes" to Jesus. For instance, if they have been sexually molested, have them say, "I say no to the way (name) touched me and I give my body to Jesus." As much as possible, we have the child assume their responsibility.

The following is a modified version of the Steps to Freedom to accommodate children ages 5-8. They may read the prayers themselves if they can or repeat them after you.



## **Steps To Freedom In Christ**

### **Ages 5 – 8 years**

*Please ensure that you have read through the introductory notes and have found your own Freedom in Christ before leading a child through these steps. There are also special renunciations which you may need to download before you begin.*

Jesus wants you to be free! Free from any sins and free from any fears. If you have received Jesus as your Saviour, He has already won your battles for you on the cross.

Here's the good news for you! You don't have to live with sin and evil in your life! Satan wants you to think that he is stronger than he really is. But he has been defeated by Jesus. And you are in the family of Jesus, and a winner!

Satan doesn't really want you to be free in Jesus. Make sure that you tell the person who is taking you through these Steps how you are feeling and what you are thinking. He or she can pray with you whenever you need to.

We're going to start now. I'm going to read this prayer out loud with you.

**Dear Heavenly Father, we choose to believe that You are present in this room and in our lives. You are everywhere, all powerful, and You know all things. We need You, and know that we can do nothing without You. We believe the Bible because it tells us what is really true. We refuse to believe the lies of Satan. Jesus, we ask You to stop Satan, and protect us so we can do Your will. Because we are children of God, we tell Satan to leave us so we can do the will of God. We ask the Holy Spirit to fill us and lead us into all truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



### **Step One - Saying "No" to Things That Are Wrong**

Now we are ready to start. We're going to go through seven steps to help you be free in Christ. The enemy does not always know what you are thinking. That is why we are going to pray out loud. The first step is to say "no" to anything you have done that has led you in the wrong direction. Repeat this prayer after me:

**Dear Heavenly Father, please help me remember anything I have done that is spiritually wrong. If someone has done something to me that is wrong, would You also help me remember that? I ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Even if you did something as a game or thought it was a joke, you need to say "no" to it. Even if you were just watching others do it, you need to say "no" to it. Even if you had no idea it was evil, you need to say "no" to it.

Put a tick by anything you have been involved in (this is only a partial list):

- Magic charms, lucky charms (four leaf clover)
- Yin-Yang
- Pentagrams
- Dream Catchers
- Yoga
- Crystals, believing they protect, heal or have powers.
- Superstitions, stepping on cracks, walking under ladders etc.
- Celebrating Halloween
- Attending pagan festivals, Hand Fasts, Summer Solstice.
- Ouija board
- Bloody Mary
- Table lifting
- Magic Eight Ball
- Fortune Telling Fish
- Putting spells or curses on people
- Automatic writing



- Spirit guides, any angel or being offering guidance or comfort
- Talking to Aliens (these will be deceiving spirits)
- Talking to Fairies (these will be deceiving spirits)
- Have you ever been visited by a ghost (a dead relative)
- Fortune Telling
- Tealeaves Reading
- Tarot/Angel Cards
- Palm Reading
- Star Signs
- Hypnosis
- Trying to read minds
- Trying to move objects with your mind
- Have you ever left your body and travelled around
- Séances/ talking to dead people
- Witchcraft, books on witchcraft
- Meditation
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Fighting Fantasy Books
- Blood Pacts/brothers or sisters
- Video or computer games with occult powers or cruel violence
- Music that is anti-Christian
- Movies or TV shows that contain magic (Harry Potter), ghosts, violence
- Books, magazines, containing magic, violence or that are anti-Christian
- Martial Arts
- Non-Christian religions, Buddhism, Islam, etc



- Light as a feather
- Special powers from toys (Care Bears, Power Rangers, wands, amulets)
- Imaginary “friends”
- Vows or agreements with the devil
- Guided imagery – has anyone ever asked you to imagine that you are somewhere else, walking around and exploring.

**Dear Heavenly Father, I have done (name everything you ticked above) Thank you for your forgiveness. I say “no” to all those wrong ways. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.**

(Note to parent, pastor, or counsellor: If the child has been subjected to Satanic rituals or has any eating disorders, please download "Special Renunciations for children ages 9-12" from the FIC website)

### **Step Two – Choosing Truth**

The Bible is true, and we need to believe the truth (Psalm 51:6). Start this important step by praying the following prayer out loud:

**Dear Heavenly Father, I know that you want me to tell the truth. You know everything about me and You still love me. Because I have asked Jesus into my life I am now Your child. Show me where I am wrong, because I want to be free. I choose to believe the truth about who You are and who I am as Your child. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.**

Remember that God loves you and wants you to have an honest relationship with Him and others. If what you believe and what you are doing is wrong, then you are not living like you should and that will only hurt you and it will hurt your relationship with others. Satan is a deceiver and believing his lies will take you down the wrong path. If what we believe is wrong then what we feel won’t be right. Below are some common lies that many have believed. Tick the ones that you have been tempted to believe:

- Believe that money and things can make me happy.
- Believe that I should only have to eat the food that tastes good and not have to eat the food that is good for me.
- Believe that I can only be happy if I am pretty/handsome to look at.
- Believe that sex is okay, that it is fun and it will not harm me in any way.
- Believe that I can sin and it won’t harm me if I get away with it.
  
- Believe that I can do whatever I want and life will still be good for me.
- Believe that I can have the wrong kind of friends and it will not harm me.



- Believe that I can watch bad movies, read wrong books, listen to bad music, play wrong video games, and it will not harm me.
- Believe I must do whatever it takes to make other people love and accept me in order to be happy.
- Believing that it's OK to not tell the truth sometimes

Now that you have completed the checklist, pray the following prayer:

**Dear Heavenly Father, I confess that I have believed (name everything ticked above). Thank you for your forgiveness. I choose to believe the truth that is in the Bible. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.**

Read the following statement of faith out loud:

- 1. I believe that there is only one true God who is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**
- 2. I believe that Jesus is the Son of God who defeated Satan and all his demons.**
- 3. I believe that God loves me so much that He had His own Son die on the cross for all my sins.**
- 4. I have the authority to stand against Satan because I am God's child. I put on the armour of God so I can stay strong in the Lord.**
- 5. I believe that the truth will set me free.**
- 6. I choose to use my body to do only good things.**
- 7. I ask God to fill me with His Holy Spirit. I love God with all my heart, soul, and mind.**

### **Step Three – Forgiving Others**

*You may need to reassure the child at this point that it's OK to say how they feel towards others, even if that person is you. In some cases it may be hard for a parent to take their own child through this step.*

God tells us to forgive others just like He has forgiven us (Eph. 4:31). Ask God to bring to your mind the names of the people you need to forgive by praying the following prayer out loud:

**Dear Heavenly Father, help me remember who the people are that hurt me so that I can forgive them. I know Jesus will heal me from my hurts. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

I'll help you make a list of all the people you need to forgive. Remember that forgiving people that have hurt you is God's way of setting you free from those past painful experiences. (Take time to make list.)



Now that you have finished your list, you can pray. Pray about each person until all the pain is out. Then go on to the next person. Say the following prayer out loud for each name.

**Lord, I forgive** (name the person) **for** (say what they did to hurt you).  
**It made me feel** (say how you felt).

#### **Step Four – Rebellion**

Some children don't like people who tell them what to do. But God has given us parents, teachers, church leaders, policemen to protect us. This is for our good.

Disobeying God and other leaders gives the devil an opportunity to attack us. We must obey God who told us to obey our leaders. Pray the following prayer out loud:

**Dear Heavenly Father, the Bible says that rebellion is like witchcraft, and to disobey is like honouring other gods. I know that I have disobeyed You, my parents, and other leaders. Thank you that I am forgiven. I now choose to be obey You, my parents, and other leaders. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.**

#### **Step Five – Pride**

Have you ever thought, "I am better than everyone else," or, "I don't need anyone else!" We all need God, and we all need each other. We should never be selfish and we should think of others (Philippians 2:3). We are all special to God, but none of us are better than anyone else. God loves us all the same. We can have spiritual problems if we don't think that way (James 4:6-10 and 1 Peter 5:1-10). Pray the following prayer to God.

**Dear Heavenly Father, I have thought only of myself. Sometimes I think I am better than others. I want my own way and I have not let others have their way. I need You and I need other people to help me live right. I choose to be like Jesus. In His name I pray. Amen.**

#### **Step Six – Sin**

The next step to freedom deals with sins in our lives. There are many sins that can control us. Pray the following prayer out loud:

**Dear Heavenly Father, I agree with You that I have done some bad things. I ask You to help me know all the things that I have done that are wrong. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.**

Put a tick by the sins you have done and then pray the prayer below for each sin.

- stealing (shop lifting)
- lying



- fighting
- jealousy, envy
- anger
- bad thoughts
- cheating
- swearing
- laziness

**Lord, I have committed the sins of (say each one that you ticked). Thank You for Your forgiveness and cleansing. I turn away from this sin and turn to You. In Jesus' name I Pray. Amen.**

God has completely forgiven you of those sins. Don't ever let Satan put you down or make you think you are still guilty of them. Whenever sin creeps back into your life, remember what the Bible says in 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Pray the following prayer:

**Lord, I thank You for forgiving me for all my sins. I now command Satan to leave me. I choose to live the right kind of life so that I can be free. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.**

(Note to parent, pastor, or counsellor: If the child has been subjected to sexual sins, please download "Renouncing Sexual Sins for children ages 9-12.) from the FIC website.

### **Step Seven – Sins Of The Father**

The last step to freedom is to say "no" to the sins of your parents and grandparents. You are not guilty for the sins of any parent, but because of their sin, Satan has an open door to your family. Pray the following prayer out loud:

**Dear Heavenly Father, I say "no" to all the sins of my parents and my grandparents. Jesus has died for all my sin and their sins. I belong to Jesus. I do not belong to Satan and his evil family. I say "yes" to God and "no" to Satan who must leave me now. I now ask my Heavenly Father to fill me with His Holy Spirit. I give my body to God. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.**





## Staying Free

Getting free and staying free in Christ are two different issues. Go over the following points with your child.

1. Make sure you have the right kind of friends.
2. Always think and speak the truth in love.
3. Read your Bible daily (or have someone read it to you).
4. Obey your Mother and your Father.
5. Obey all those who have authority over you.
6. Don't let problems build up. Share your struggles with someone.
7. Don't try to live the Christian life by yourself.
8. Always call upon God when you think you are under attack.
9. If something tries to scare you, tell it to leave in the name of Jesus.
10. Enjoy the wonderful life that God has given you, and all that He has created. Christ will meet all your needs according to His riches in glory.
11. Read through the I AM list regularly and discuss them with your child.

Read together the following:

### I AM ACCEPTED IN CHRIST

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| John 1:12   | I am God's child.                                 |
| John 15:15  | I am Jesus' friend.                               |
| 1 Cor. 6:20 | I have been bought with a price. I belong to God. |
| Eph. 1:5    | I have been adopted as God's child.               |
| Col. 1:14   | I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins. |

### I AM SAFE AND SECURE IN CHRIST

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Rom. 8:28   | I am assured that all things work together for good.                          |
| Rom. 8:35   | I cannot be separated from the love of God.                                   |
| Phil. 3:20  | I am a citizen of Heaven.   |
| 2 Tim. 1:7  | I have not been given a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. |
| 1 John 5:18 | I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me.                            |

### I AM SIGNIFICANT IN CHRIST

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Matt. 5:13, 14 | I am the salt and light of the earth.                  |
| 2 Cor. 6:1     | I am God's co-worker (1 Cor. 3:9).                     |
| Eph. 2:6       | I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realm.         |
| Eph. 3:12      | I may come to God with freedom and confidence.         |
| Phil. 4:13     | I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. |



Notes:

Binding Satan does not ensure total release for the victim. If that were the case then the entire instruction in the Epistles would be to bind Satan all over the world and cast him to some far away planet. The Lord will cast him into the abyss in the final days, but until then he roars around. We do have all the authority in Christ we need to live a righteous life ourselves, and carry out the ministry that God has called us to. The beginning declaration is an agreement with scripture, an acknowledgement of God's sovereignty and an announcement to the enemy of our authority in Christ.

Our children will be genetically predisposed to certain strengths and weaknesses. And the environment that they were raised in will also affect them for good and evil. Could there also be an unrighteous inheritance? We think the answer is yes. Look at the words of Jer. 32:17, 18. "Ah Lord God! Behold, Thou hast made the heavens and the earth by Thy great power and by Thine outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for Thee, who showest lovingkindness to thousands, but repayest the iniquity of fathers into the bosom of their children after them, O great and mighty God. The Lord of Hosts is His name." In our experience, sins passed on from one generation to another is the second most common ground for Satan having access to our children. In little children that is about all it can be since they haven't yet had the opportunity to get involved in sex and drugs, etc.