

## Soul Ties and Inner Vows

A godly soul tie is a relationship where we are rightfully bonded together in relationship with another person; for example, a parent and child or husband and wife. The opposite of this is an ungodly soul tie, a relationship where instead of a strong, positive bond between us and another person, we are subject to bondage in that relationship. Unhealthy soul ties go against God's plan for healthy relationships and tie two people together against the free will or mental and spiritual health of the victim in the relationship.

Examples of healthy soul ties in the Old Testament are David and Jonathan (**1 Samuel 18:1**) or Ruth and her mother-in-law Naomi. These healthy and godly friendships clearly brought great blessing to them both. In contrast, a Biblical example of an unhealthy and ungodly relationship exists between Saul and David. In this example Saul attempts to dominate and eventually kill David. Hatred and jealousy characterize Saul, even though David made attempts to respect and preserve Saul's life. These two extremes of relationship typify the differences between bonding and bondage, between godly and ungodly soul ties.

Further examples of ungodly soul ties include parents who refuse to relinquish their hold on grown children, someone who uses spiritual forces to control others, a person who withdraws into nostalgia and loneliness instead of releasing old memories of a boyfriend or girlfriend to the Lord, or a person who holds a grudge or judgment against another. God's judgment came on his house. Despite their best efforts, parents can be tied to their children in unhealthy ways like permissiveness, idolatry, control, compromise or indifference.

If you dealt with an absent parent either physically or emotionally, this can produce lifelong insecurities, the pursuit of unhealthy relationships with others of similar weakness, or a lifelong search for healthy bonding.

Scripture admonishes us to be wise in relationships, avoiding close associations with those that are angry, act foolishly or are unbelievers. (**Proverbs 22:24-28, Proverbs 14:7, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.**) It doesn't prohibit relationships with such people, but advises us to protect us from unhealthy ties where our witness and walk with the Lord may be compromised. How should we relate to such people? Keep your discernment tuned in when you're around them so if there's any transferring of spirits, it will be the Holy Spirit from you rather than an unclean spirit from them.

Soul ties often take time to develop since they involve the joining of minds, ideas and views as well as emotional unions in the feeling realm. Soul ties can range from being fairly loose to very intense and overpowering. Imagine a piece of thread, a string, a rope, and finally a steel cable. Each tie is progressively stronger than the previous one.

The soul tie is a channel. You can think of it like a straw through which flows mental and emotional things. Spiritual things can pass through as well, despite whether they be from the human spirit, psychically induced demonic spirits, despite whether edifying and genuine. Because demonic spirits transfer so easily through soul ties, it's essential to identify and destroy those that are ungodly, controlling, manipulative, or emotionally binding.

The most common ungodly soul ties include relationships of sexual sin and adultery, girlfriend/boyfriend relationships even if no sexual relationship occurs, child/parent relationships, sibling relationships and any friendship where the motivation of that relationship is impure by means of emotional dependency, control, manipulation, or confusion.

Indicators of soul ties include obsessive preoccupation with another, tendencies toward domination and control in relationships or the opposite tendency to be passive and easily manipulated or apathetic, the inability

to forgive another, another person's voice playing tapes over and over in your mind like a tape recorder, the inability to bring a relationship under godly order and Holy Spirit control, patterns of anger, blame and accusation, fear of being real with or speaking the truth to another, intimidation or fear of man, and psychic or occult phenomena in a relationship.

Healing Rooms Ministries describes ungodly soul ties as informal and unspoken covenants between two people based on an unhealthy emotional and/or sexual relationship. This covenant binds the two people together. God actually recognizes these covenants. Without our invitation to Him to intervene, He leaves us free to decide when and if we will appropriate His provision through Jesus Christ to exercise our authority and break off or cut the ties to release both people.

Sometimes believers get romantically involved with unbelievers and justify it as helping that person come to the Lord. This is faulty reasoning. What should you do if you're already romantically tied with an unbeliever? Break the soul tie. Submit yourself to the Lord and have someone pray under Holy Spirit anointing to sever the bonds of emotional attachments. This will cut off the lengthy pain and the process of "pining away" as the relationships ends.

Unhealthy soul ties can also come from alignment with false teaching through cults, the Masonic Order, and vows made in sororities, fraternities and like organizations. The can also come from legalistic church backgrounds where religious strongholds misled people, bringing bondage to rules and guilt, emphasizing do and don't behavior, relationships of domination, intimidation and manipulation, and even witchcraft. Soul ties can even exist with someone who is now dead — a lost parent, child, spouse, or close friend.

### **How do you break ungodly soul ties and leave all godly soul ties in place?**

- ✦ Before praying, do whatever is necessary for the anointing of the Holy Spirit to come: pray, wait, forgive, worship. Then proceed with prayer.
- ✦ Confess and repent for wrong choices made in each relationship, one at a time. Repent for not putting God first, for any part you may have had in looking for, perpetuating, or accepting the relationship, for emotional and sexual sin, and any dependency. Repent for violating God's ordained boundaries in your relationship.
- ✦ Break the tie and renounce it; then break any sexual soul ties or bonds. Solemnly commit to break off any relationship that isn't pure and righteous in God's eyes.
- ✦ Break off any generational sexual sins and resulting curses if applicable.
- ✦ Rebuke and bind any demonic spirits (tormenting spirits, guilt, shame, divination, witchcraft).
- ✦ Renounce and cancel the assignments of all evil spirits sent to maintain the ungodly soul tie (jealousy, control, confusion, co-dependency, manipulation, intimidation).
- ✦ **Break any related inner vows you made to another person or to yourself.**  
(Although inner vows are made early in life and are often forgotten, they act as directives which control our responses to situations and people around us.)

**Examples of inner vows might include** (taken from Christian Healing Ministries, Inc., *School of Healing Prayer Level 1*):

**I will never ...**

- let anyone love me
- go out at night
- be weak
- let you see who I am
- trust anyone
- let anyone know I hurt
- allow myself to need
- tell a man/woman anything
- let them take anything away from me
- let a man/woman control me
- allow anyone to touch me
- be responsible for actions of others
- share what is mine
- allow anyone to give me anything
- be violent or abusive
- write, read, understand
- receive a compliment
- be sick
- participate in life
- allow a man/woman in my heart
- grow up, mature
- be anything worthwhile

More **examples of inner vows**:

**I will always ...**

- remain aloof, separate
  - be logical
  - be in control of my life
- ✦ Call back every part that was given away (every emotion, will and thought that was part of the bondage) through the blood of Jesus so that it comes back sanctified.
- ✦ Release the person by sending back all that was taken from them (every emotion, will, thought) through the blood of Jesus so it goes back sanctified.
- ✦ Pray healing over your mind, will and emotions; ask for memories to be completely cleansed and healed.
- ✦ Thank the Lord for refilling you with wholeness, holiness, and grace.

## Sample Prayer:

[Chris Simpson, New Wine Fellowship]

In the name of Jesus I repent for any sin relating to this soul tie on my part or any previous generation's. I now renounce, break and loose myself from all demonic subjection and any ungodly soul ties and unhealthy bonding with \_\_\_\_\_. Lord, I ask You to break that ungodly soul tie. Break!

It is now broken and Satan, you no longer have any legal grounds here.. Lord, I ask you to do whatever it takes to break me of my tendencies to obsessive preoccupation, domination, control, passivity, apathy, unforgiveness, anger, blame, accusation, fear, intimidation, and disobedience in relationships. Finally, in the name of Jesus I declare every demonic hold in my life that has come as a result of unhealthy soul ties null and void. Satan

I renounce you and your demons and command you to depart from my spirit, soul, and body. I place myself under the blood of Jesus and the control of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

### **Sample Prayer for any area of ungodly soul ties:**

[Ellel, Module A Training Manual; Truth about Sex and Sexuality, p. 20]

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I proclaim a breaking of the ungodly ties that have been established between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (name individuals). I ask you Lord to sever that linking in the spiritual realms and to remove from \_\_\_\_\_ all influence of \_\_\_\_\_ and draw back to \_\_\_\_\_ every part which has been wrongfully tied in bondage to \_\_\_\_\_ .

I now speak directly to every evil spirit that has taken advantage of this ungodly tie: you no longer have any rights here and I order you to leave now without hurting or harming \_\_\_\_\_ or any other person and without going into any other member of the family. In Jesus' Name, AMEN.

### **Sample Prayer, specifically for sexual soul ties:**

[Joe Johnson, Pastor/adapted from Norma Dearing, CHM]

In the name of Jesus Christ and by the power of His cross and blood, I take the sword of the Spirit and cut \_\_\_\_\_ (myself or first name of person you are praying for) free from all previous sexual partners. I cut \_\_\_\_\_ free from \_\_\_\_\_ (first name of person you are breaking off from).

I cut him/her free from \_\_\_\_\_ (me or name of person you are praying for) physically, spiritually, emotionally and mentally. I also cut him/her free from everyone with whom he/she has had sexual relations.

I place the cross and the blood of Jesus between \_\_\_\_\_ (me or name of person you are praying for) and each of these people. I pray for a cleansing of \_\_\_\_\_ (my or name of person you are praying for's) mind, body, and spirit.

Fill \_\_\_\_\_ (me or name of person you are praying for) with the power of Your Holy Spirit, that he/she may walk in Your abundant grace and mercy.

Fill him/her, Lord, with Your love, that it may permeate all dark and lonely places. Most of all, Lord, help \_\_\_\_\_ (me or name of person you are praying for) to know how much You love him/her and how special he/she is to You. In Jesus' precious name, AMEN.

### **Praying to Strengthen the Will**

[Pastoral Care ministry School, Leanne Payne]

Related to generational healing and soul ties, there may be a lack in the area of the will where passivity, addiction, or abdication of the will has been a pattern. This pattern of prayer is appropriate where the person wants the Lord to repair this area of damage. It is appropriate where, through a soul tie, they have relinquished their will and are reclaiming it.

**1) Explain briefly that God is able to strengthen their will as they turn to Him for help.**

**2) Have the person confess and repent of the specific problem:**

- a. Of abdicating their will to another person
- b. The sin of passivity
- c. Addiction to something, someone (other healing issues may need prayer relative to this)

**3) Proclaim forgiveness in Jesus' Name.**

**4) Pray with them as they ask the Lord to enter in and strengthen their will.**

It is sometimes helpful if the person also stands and steps forward symbolically, out of passivity, and into the Lord, or stands up straight as a way of declaring the desire to be strengthened, to have "backbone" in choosing God's will.

**5) Wait on the Lord for any specific personal words or prayers following this formal prayer.**