



WEEK 4: WEAPONS OF FREEDOM

FREEDOM FROM PASSIVITY

This worksheet will help you become aware of the strongholds rooted in passivity in your life. Set aside the time to read through it and check the boxes that apply to you. Make sure to do this thoroughly and honestly, and then share with others in your LIFE Group. Finally, respond with the next steps to find freedom from passivity.

Passivity can cause us to grow in our Christian life at a snail's pace. Not only will it hinder our growth, but it can literally cause us to move backward in our development. This is why our enemy wants passivity to remain hidden. We will have a powerful breakthrough in our life if we bring it out into the open. Passivity must be destroyed with force in the Christian life.

PASSIVITY is the opposite of initiation. Passivity makes us move slowly and resists change and transformation. A good picture of passivity is the slowness of a turtle or sloth.

Passivity is not from the Lord, and is a form of rebellion:

- It is the void left where action should be occurring.
- God calls us out of passivity. He calls us to be active in our faith, in building relationships, in service, and in every area of our lives.

CHECK ALL THE BOXES THAT APPLY TO YOU:

1. Passivity is a lack of initiation.

- I walk in passivity when I fail to initiate conversations with others, always waiting for someone to come to me.
- I am passive in building relationships.
- I do not call others.
- I do not call people back when they call me (at least not right away).
- I do not initiate activities with others.
- At church or social gatherings, I tend to hang back until someone comes to talk to me.
- I do not affirm others; I withhold words of blessings.
- I do not protect others.
- I do not initiate growth in my relationship with the Lord.
- I cannot seem to motivate myself to read, pray, or worship.
- I feel no urgency or hunger in my relationship with God; I feel blocked (literally "locked down") when I consider spending time with Him.
- I feel content with where I am spiritually.

- I want to grow in the Lord, and I know what to do, but I do not do it.
- I know I need someone to pray with me for freedom in some areas, but I never get around to asking for help.
- Conversations with others about God do not push or motivate me.
- I do not initiate in serving others because I figure someone else will do it.
- I do not believe I can change the way I am.
- I often let others do what I could do myself.

2. Passivity is about being too comfortable.

- I allow myself to be comfortable with where I am spiritually. I am alright with my walk with God right now.
- I allow myself to be comfortable with where I am emotionally. I have always struggled with depression, insecurity, shyness, fear, loneliness, etc. This is the way things are, so why should I worry about it and try to find a "cure"?
- I allow myself to be comfortable with where I am physically. I do not care what others think of my appearance. It is too bad if they do not like what they see; I do not need them anyway.

3. Passivity is a form of independence and leads to isolation.

- I resist interdependence.
- I do not ask for help from the church body.
- I do not offer help/service to others in the church body.
- I see myself as more of a "private" Christian; I am reserved and keep to myself.
- I am critical of the way things are done in my church, and I have doubts about the leadership (I can see many flaws); it seems best for me to keep some distance and not get too involved.
- I tend to observe the activities of others (socially or in ministry); I rarely feel motivated or worthy to participate.
- I feel like I do not need anyone else.
- I feel unworthy to be in relationship with others.

4. Passivity is a form of resistance and rebellion.

- I resist God's forgiveness by not taking the authority Jesus has given me over my sin.
- I resist obedience to the Lord by allowing sin to remain in my life.
- I do not seek the place of repentance.
- I have become familiar with, and indifferent toward, sin in my life.
- I do not believe it would do any good to take authority over the enemy, so I rarely pray.
- I resist receiving the Lord's gifts.
- I do not believe that God will give me supernatural gifts and use them through me.
- I am not sure that spiritual gifts are authentic or for today; I want to keep a safe distance from them.
- I expect that others may receive spiritual gifts, but not me.

- I resist leadership positions, because I do not want that much responsibility or pressure.
- I do not like to do what everyone else does; I am my own person.
- It is not like me to get "more involved", and I do not want to be pressured to do so.
- It is not like me to be a leader or to be assertive.
- "If [that person] would just shut up and let some others talk/lead/initiate once in awhile, *then* maybe I would get involved" (critical, judgmental spirit).

5. Passivity allows self-pity to remain.

- I am familiar with feelings like fear and rejection, so I tend to believe that I will always struggle in these areas.
- I am comfortable with the way I am.
- I am a victim; I do not know how *not* to be a victim.
- Others are wrong to push me to become someone I am not.
- I blame others for the way that I am.

6. Passivity perpetuates lies and deceptions.

- This is part of my personality.
- I am not meant to step out and initiate or I would really feel like it.
- I will be a failure if I try to initiate.
- It is just not me!
- There is nothing wrong with me, so I do not need to seek change or freedom.
- At least there is *some* comfort in self-pity and being a victim.
- I do not need anyone to tell me how to act!

WALKING IN THE OPPOSITE SPIRIT

- Initiate conversations, activities, etc, with others. Go to them - do not wait for them to come to you.
- Even when you do not "feel like it", take authority over sin patterns such as self-pity and victimization. Do not allow sin to remain. You have authority - use it!
- Doing things when you really do not feel like it is the whole point of walking in the opposite spirit. Here is the lie: If you do not feel like it, you do not have to do anything. Do what you know to do - whether you feel like it or not!
- Go out your way to bless people.
- Begin to cry out to God for a greater hunger to grow spiritually.