



I can pray with someone that the cleansing blood of Jesus would completely cover them; that in seeking forgiveness the blood that Jesus shed has paid the price and has washed all stain of sin away. This is a spiritual truth – the banner doesn't alter the foundational truth in any way. Wrapping someone in "The Blood" banner as I pray them through this truth makes it more tangible and real – it helps both me and the one receiving ministry to stay focussed on Jesus and the blood He shed as the cleansing element. It helps the individual sense in their body and soul what they know to be true in their spirit. It reinforces the truth. The banner has become a physical representation of a spiritual truth.

I can pray that the Lord will lift burdens from a person who is overwhelmed by situations that they are facing. If at the same time I lift off a banner that had been placed over them, the sense that God has lifted the burden is reinforced in their mind, their will and their emotions. Once again the banner becomes a physical representation of a spiritual truth. It is not the banner that does the ministry, it merely reinforces the work being done.

I can encourage someone to focus or hang on. Imagine that someone knows God's promises and purpose for their life, but are distracted or discouraged by people and circumstances. If the Lord instructs me to exhort them to focus and hang onto His promises, I can tell them – or I can show them. I select a banner that represents what has been promised, fold it lengthwise and get them to hold it with both hands. I then share those things

Wielding Banners

How

that might be trying to rob them of that promise and as I do, model the promise (I have seen the banner) being pulled from their grasp. They need to hold on tight and even tussle with me over their promise. The banner that they are facing takes on a physical form.

The banner has become a physical representation of a spiritual truth.

The who, what, when, where, why and how of banners in the hands of Christians

Electronic Version

Wherever possible, check that the person receiving ministry is comfortable with you using a banner to minister to them. Sometimes this cannot be done without interrupting ministry already in progress. In these cases, check with the person leading the ministry.

Once the time of ministry is complete, if you can, leave the banner over the person until Holy Spirit has finished. Leave them to soak or marinate in the truth of what is being given to them. This may actually continue for hours! I believe the Lord is releasing a new way of bringing His truth to people.

Which Banners When?

For all of these ministries, any banner can be used. However, if you have the luxury of a number of banners which represent different attributes, gifts, anointings or purposes of God, tuning in to exactly which banner Holy Spirit is prompting you to use will have even greater impact. Remember, these banners are physical representations of spiritual truth. The more obvious the physical representation is to the spiritual truth, the easier it is for the person receiving ministry to connect.

You may also find yourself prompted to use a number of banners either in parallel or in sequence. As prayer-focusing tools, the banners help the ministers stay focused on one thing at a time. For example, let the cleansing finish before the healing takes place, then let refreshing come, followed by the joy of freedom and release.

A helpful way to "exercise" your spirit and mind to be more receptive to how He wants to minister is to understand the meaning of the banners you have. For *Out of Our Minds Banners*, you might want to review the descriptions later in this book. Again, don't be limited by my insight or imagination – let Holy Spirit be your guide.

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to the Lord. For individuals called to other nations, I will use "The Nations Affame" banner.

David J. Stanfield