

SPOTLIGHT: Exorcism Routine

➔ Christians have been casting out “unclean spirits” since Jesus dispatched the 12 disciples throughout Israel (Matt. 10). But how do deliverance ministers deal with demons in North America today? A recent study by Michael Mohr, an Ohio pastor, and Kenneth D. Royal, an adjunct professor at the University of Kentucky, found that today’s self-professed exorcists don’t see it as special or complicated. That is, most believe any mature Christian can cast out demons, and that no special items—water, oil, or crucifixes—are needed beyond the authority of Jesus’ name.

How to Drive Out Demons

Survey responses of 170 self-professed North American exorcists.

■ None/Almost Never
■ Occasionally
■ Frequently
■ Almost Always/Always

I use Jesus’ name to cast out and/or bind demons. 1% 99%

I/we use blessed items such as water, oil, salt, a cross, or a crucifix. 43% 13% 11% 33%

I have the demonized person or guardian sign a consent form. 69% 11% 5% 15%

I operate my ministry out of a community/church where follow-up can happen. 11% 7% 9% 73%

I lay hands on a person to cast out a demon from him or her. 25% 28% 15% 32%

People seek me to cast out demons. 6% 27% 30% 37%

The demonized person tells me when the demon has left. 17% 28% 26% 29%

I fast in preparation for casting out demons. 15% 38% 29% 18%

I try to find out the demon’s name. 28% 35% 10% 27%

I/we take breaks during the process of casting out demons. 27% 32% 20% 21%

When casting out demons, I send them to a specific place. 31% 14% 11% 44%

I have other believers with me during sessions. 3% 12% 19% 66%

I believe that any mature Christian can command demons in Jesus’ name. 2% 2% 96%

The church should confirm and commission or ordain those who cast out demons. 30% 22% 48%

“Dealing with spiritual/emotional ‘garbage’ first is more important than dealing with the ‘rats.’ I’ve clocked well over 2,000 deliverances, and this approach weakens the demons so casting them out is usually quite easy. Demons are ‘the little problem.’”

Charles Kraft, author, *Christianity with Power*

“God is bringing deliverance to the forefront again because he wants us to do it right this time—with love, credibility, and being biblically sound. Jesus spent about one-third of his public ministry casting out demons. Our ministry should be no different today.”

Bill Sudduth, International Society of Deliverance Ministers

“For a group of people who rarely, if ever, have contact with one another, what exorcists from a wide variety of religious traditions share in common is astonishing. Perhaps the Holy Spirit is actually leading us who serve the Lord through this ministry.”

David W. Appleby, president, *Spiritual Interventions, Inc.*

