

"Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his
benefits,
who forgives all your
iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from
the Pit,
who crowns you with
steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
as long as you live so that
your youth is renewed like
the eagle's."

Psalm 103:2-5

What others say about this book...

“Having met and talked with the writer I can understand a little of the book’s purpose after learning of Mark Hemans’ wide and varied experiences after the call of God on His life.

Someone said “an ounce of experience is worth more than a truck load of argument”.

This book is Bible based and will be a means of increased practical knowledge in the ministry of divine healing to all who read it.”

Ps Ken Tydeman

International healing evangelist

“Mark Hemans has covered the subject of Biblical healing in his study book very well. It give the reader not only a challenging balanced Bible view but also a study and discussion guide for contemplation and prayer.”

Ps. Raymond Davey

Healing evangelist and associate pastor

Calvary Chapel, Sydney.

“One of the most complete books on healing I’ve ever read. Pastor Mark Hemans was able to make the very complex subject of Divine Healing easily understandable. I recommend this book to anyone seeking to grow and mature in their faith.”

Ps Nomer Velasco

Senior Pastor

Faith in Christ Fellowship, Sydney

I am the Lord your Healer

Weekly studies

1. Why Jesus heals (pg. 4)
2. You can pray for the sick (pg. 10)
3. Principles of healing (pg. 15)
4. The testing of our faith (pg. 23)
5. The gifts of healings (pg. 30)
6. Pressing in for your healing (pg. 35)
7. Just say the Word (pg. 40)
8. Interceding for the sick (pg. 46)
9. Healing of emotional wounds (pg. 54)
10. Freedom from demons (pg. 61)
11. Deliverance prayer (pg. 67)

Appendix

1. How to bring healing to the demonized (pg. 70)
2. Issues regarding emotional healing (pg. 73)
3. Believing God's great promises (pg. 75)
4. Scriptural promises of healing (pg. 77)
5. Sin and occult list (pg. 81)

Why Jesus heals

Memory Verse:

"...upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed." **Isaiah 53:5**

Bible passage: Matthew 9:18-34

Goal:

- to understand why Jesus healed people,
- and therefore why we should get involved.

Jesus the Healer

Healing occupies a significant place in the New Testament, and particularly so in the Gospels and Acts. In the Gospels there are 26 cases of individual healings by Christ, and ten cases of multiple healings, ranging from a few to crowds¹. Jesus' teaching ministry was usually accompanied by healings and deliverances. The importance of healing to Jesus is emphasized by those who wrote of Him.

"...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." **Acts 10:38**

"And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people. 24 So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them." **Matthew 4:23-24**

"And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or country, they laid the sick in the market places, and besought him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment; and as many as touched it were made well."

Mark 6:56

Why Jesus heals...

To have a fuller understanding of divine healing it is helpful to understand why Jesus healed. Here is a summary...

¹ Your Healing Is Within You, Jim Glennon, Pg 135

Healing is part of the Gospel

Healing is good news (Gospel) to those who are suffering, and Jesus came to proclaim this Good News.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,"

Luke 4:18

When Jesus died He took upon himself our disease, sickness, pain, mental illness, griefs, demonization, and curses. Healing is provided for on the Cross, but it is accessed through faith. In the same way that we believe in Jesus for eternal salvation, we can thank God for our healing and receive it by faith.

"That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick. 17 This was to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."

Matthew 8:16-17

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed."

Isaiah 53:5

Jesus heals to glorify God

It is wonderful to hear how someone is so thankful to God for a healing they have received. Such testimonies bring glory to God, encourage people, and can "electrify" a meeting in praise and worship.

In the story of the ten lepers we see how God desires that healings are to bring Him honour. All ten lepers who called out to Jesus were healed of leprosy, but only one returned praising God with a loud voice. Arriving where Jesus was he fell at Jesus' feet thanking Him. Jesus asked where the other nine were who were also healed. They all should have returned to give glory to God. So God desires that through the healing received we give Him praise and glory for what He has done.

"Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16 and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17 Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to

return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" **Luke 17:15-18**

The raising of Lazarus from the dead was to glorify God.

"Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." 40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" **John 11:39-40**

Likewise Jesus healed the blind man in order to glorify God.

"Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him." **John 9:3**

Miracles and healings should be like throwing fuel on the fire of praise. When Jesus was about to enter into Jerusalem riding on a donkey, the people were ecstatic, shouting praises to God in the streets. They had seen Jesus raise the dead, cast out demons, cleanse lepers, open the eyes of the blind, release the tongue of the dumb, and open the ears of the deaf. So much noise did they make that some of the religious people wanted Jesus to quieten them. But Jesus clearly understood that these signs were to the glory of God, and replied that if the people didn't praise the Lord, then the stones would!

"As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, 38 saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" 39 And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." 40 He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." **Luke 19:37-40**

(See also the healing of the blind man in Luke 18:40-43)

Jesus heals to show compassion

Jesus ministered healing out of a deep compassion for the sick, the demonized, and those suffering pain. We need to have this great love of Jesus for the sick. If you have ever been in intense pain or been very sick, you can understand the need to pray for the sick.

Some have claimed that the only gift we need is love. However, love is not a gift of the Spirit, but a fruit of the Spirit. We need both the fruit and the gifts of the Spirit. The gifts of the Spirit such as healing are to be a manifestation of God's love. How can we truly love the sick and not want to minister healing to them?

“Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, “I will; be clean.” **Mark 1:41**

“As he went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick.” **Matthew 14:14**

Jesus heals to show that He is the Messiah

Jesus used signs and wonders to show people that He is the Son of God, the Messiah, and has authority to forgive sins. Likewise the Holy Spirit uses signs and wonders today, in order to demonstrate the power of the Gospel to forgive sins.

“Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your pallet and walk?’ 10 But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins” --he said to the paralytic-- 11 “I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home.”

Mark 2:9-12

Jesus heals to bring people to faith in Him

Through signs and wonders people came to believe in Jesus. Jesus expected people to come to faith in Him as they saw His miracles.

“Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went his way. 51 As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was living. 52 So he asked them the hour when he began to mend, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” 53 The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live”; and he himself believed, and all his household.”

John 4:50-54

“Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.”

John 20:30-31

“When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. 10 So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, 11 because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.”

John 12:9-11

Jesus heals to propel the Gospel forward

When we meet people who are sick we should seek to pray for their healing, as well as telling them about Jesus.

“And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.” **Luke 9:6**

People want to know if Jesus can make a difference in their lives. Sharing stories of healing and conversion can really help people to believe that Jesus wants to meet them at their point of need. Telling your own personal story can be very encouraging for others who are struggling with something.

“And as he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 But he refused, and said to him, “Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and all men marveled.” **Mark 5:18-20**

(Also Luke 8:37-40)

Jesus heals to destroy Satan’s works

Jesus used healing and deliverance to destroy Satan’s dominion over people’s lives. Originally when Adam and Eve sinned Satan’s kingdom was extended specifically in the form of sickness, demonization, and death. Jesus came bringing healing, deliverance, and life. Through these and the forgiveness of sins, Jesus is extending His Kingdom.

“Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11 And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. 12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.” 13 And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. 14 But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.” 15 Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? 16 And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?” **Luke 13:10-16**

“Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; 9 heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’” **Luke 10:8-9**

Study Questions

Write out the memory verse Isaiah 53:5.

Jesus the Healer

1. What relationship existed between Jesus' healing and teaching?
What can we learn from this for our own ministry?

Healing is part of the Gospel

2. What is the relationship between the Cross and healing?
(Matthew 8:16-17)

To glorify God

3. What effect can miracles and healings have on praise?

To show compassion

4. Have you ever experienced intense pain or sickness? Do you feel a compassion for the sick?

To show that Jesus is the Messiah

5. How do healings advance the Gospel? (John 4:50-54)

To propel the Gospel forward

6. Briefly share a story of healing (your own or someone else's).

To destroy Satan's works and establish the Kingdom of God

7. How has Satan sought to advance his kingdom?
8. How does Jesus seek to destroy Satan's work and establish His kingdom? (Luke 10:8-9)

You can pray for the sick

Memory Verse:

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:37-38

Bible passage: Matthew 9:35-10:1

Goal: that we all be encouraged to pray for the sick.

Healing is the task of the Church

Healing like all the gifts of the Spirit is available to every Christian. We can all believe to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and receive the gifts of the Spirit. While some may have a special calling to minister in healing, yet we can all flow in this gift. In the same way that not every one is an evangelist, but we are all called to share the Gospel. Not everyone is an intercessor, but we are all to give ourselves to prayer. Not everyone is a song leader but we are all called to be worshipers. So we see that some are set aside for a healing ministry, but we are all to pray for the sick.

"All these (the gifts) are inspired by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and all were made to drink of one Spirit."

1 Corinthians 12:11-13

God has appointed pastors, teachers, evangelists, prophets, and apostles to equip and train us to minister healing and to do the works of God. A primary task of these church offices is to encourage the church to be doing the stuff. They are to train people in how to flow in the gifts of healings. This is a key reason for writing this book, so you can know how to pray for the sick.

It is not the job of the pastor to pray for and visit all the sick. That would be like having an army with only one armed soldier!

"And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the

work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...

Ephesians 4:11-12

The promise of healing like any other promise of the Scriptures can be appropriated by faith by all of us. Inspired by a sincere love and compassion, we can all pray for the sick.

The following Scriptures show how healing is a ministry for all believers.

- Those who believe in Jesus will see the sick healed.
“And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Mark 16:17-18

- Looking out in compassion on the multitudes of lost, sick and demonized, Jesus encouraged his disciples to pray for more workers who will go out and minister his power and Word. Every one of us has a part to play in reaching the nations with the Gospel of salvation and healing. Jesus encouraged all of His disciples to go out preaching the Kingdom, healing the sick, and casting out demons. He sent out the twelve disciples, then the seventy, and then He commissioned 500.

“And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity.”

Matthew 9:35 - 10:1

Different types of healings

Scripture speaks of healing as one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
“To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.”

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

In the Greek Paul uses the plural, “gifts of healings”, indicating that healing may be imparted in different ways by the Holy Spirit. The Lord may choose to heal the same type of illness in different ways depending on the person and the root cause of the sickness. Thus we must be open to the leading of the Holy spirit, and not have preconceived ideas of how we are going to minister.

The term “gifts of healings” may also explain why the Lord may use the same person for the same types of illnesses.² Another way of saying this is that a person may have a measure of faith for healing to flow for a particular illness.

The gifts belong to the Giver

The gift of healing is not something that we own, it belongs to God who gives as He chooses. Kenneth E. Hagin writes:

*“The gifts of healings have been manifested many times in my ministry, but I cannot make them work at will... I can’t push a button or pull a lever and the gifts start working. They operate as the Spirit wills, because He is doing it, not I.”*³

This means that:

- healing depends on God not us. This relieves us of self-expectations to heal people, or to fulfill other people’s expectations.
- we must walk in humility being directed by the Spirit of God for each situation. Healing is something the Lord gives, and so we are utterly dependent upon Him, his guidance and provision of healing power when confronted with sickness.

The Lord may specifically indicate whom He will heal. If we do not have any clear direction from the Lord, we can still pray in faith on the basis of God’s promises. Blessing will always flow when we come to the Father’s throne in faith.

Healing and the gift of miracles

The gifts of healings and of miracles are similar. Healing may be a process occurring over a period of time, whereas miracles are often instantaneous, and come under the biblical category of signs and

² “The plural relates to the different classes of sicknesses to be healed (Godet).” Pg. 429, Linguistic Key to the New Testament.

³ Pg. 5 Healing Belongs To Us Kenneth E. Hagin, Copyright 1986

wonders. Miracles also require a greater faith expectancy than do healings.

“And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.” 5 And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands upon a few sick people and healed them. 6 And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.” **Mark 6:4-6**

Study Questions

1. Write out the memory verse from Matthew 9:37-38

HEALING IS THE TASK OF THE CHURCH

2. What is the primary task of those who hold church offices? (Ephesians 4:11-12)
3. What qualities are important in those who would minister healing?
4. Complete: “Those who believe in Jesus will _____.”⁴ (Mark 16:17-18)
5. When Jesus speaks of “sheep without a shepherd” (Matt.9:36), who was He speaking of?

THE GIFTS OF HEALINGS

6. Why does Paul use the plural for “the gifts of healings”?

THE GIFTS BELONG TO THE GIVER

7. Complete the sentences: “Healing depends _____.”⁵
“We must walk _____ being directed by _____ for each _____.”⁶
8. What should we do when we don’t sense any clear direction from the Lord when praying for someone who is sick?
9. How do we resolve the problem of those who would put us on a pedestal?

HEALING AND THE GIFT OF MIRACLES

10. What is the difference between healing and miracles? What can suppress the release of miracles? (Mark 6:4-6)

⁴ “see the sick healed.”

⁵ “on God not us.”

⁶ “in humility”, “the Spirit of God”, “situation”.

Principles of healing

Memory verse:

“Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects” **James 5:16**

Bible reading: Mark 7:31-37

Goals:

- To learn the basic principles of praying for the sick
- To be confident and bold in the healing ministry.

The Basics

There are some simple principles that God has established in ministering to the sick. These include:

- **LOVE**
Be filled with compassion for the sick. Healing is a manifestation of love.
- **GODLINESS**
Live a godly life. Be a pure vessel through which the Lord can flow. Establish disciplines of daily prayer and Bible reading.
- **THE HOLY SPIRIT**
Know the Anointing of God. Seek the baptism and daily infilling of the Holy Spirit. It is only the power of God that brings divine healing. Be open to the gifts and direction of the Holy Spirit.
- **FAITH**
Walk and act in faith. Be courageous and believe for God to move.

Healing is almost always released because someone is acting in faith. This is attested to again and again in the ministry of Jesus. It could be the faith of the sick person, a parent, relative, friend, or those ministering healing. For example in Mark 2, Jesus upon seeing the faith

of the friends of the sick man, then forgives his sins and heals him of paralysis.

“And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘My son, your sins are forgiven.’ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ‘Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, ‘Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your pallet and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins” -- he said to the paralytic-- “I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home.” And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”

Mark 2:3-12

Principles and methods

Praying for the sick will vary according to the situation, the people involved, and the specific direction of the Holy Spirit at the time. We cannot depend on inflexible methods. For example, the Lord may direct us to intercede and fast for a sick person, or in another situation we are simply to ask the person to act out their faith (e.g. ask the lame to walk). One person may have to repent of sin first before healing flows, while with another the Lord may choose to heal sovereignly. The experience of many is battling in faith over an extended period until the victory is manifested.

Here are some principles and methods of healing from the Scriptures which can be used as directed by the Holy Spirit.

- Prepare oneself before the Lord in order to minister to others, e.g. prayer and fasting, worship, meditating on the Word of God beforehand.

“In these days he went out to the mountain to pray; and all night he continued in prayer to God... 19 And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came forth from him and healed them all.”

Luke 6:12,19

- Be filled with the Holy Spirit and know his Anointing. Be open to the direction and gifts of the Holy Spirit.
“And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.” **Acts 4:31**
- A healing anointing in a meeting resulting in sovereign acts of God in healing and miracles even without specific prayer for the sick.
“And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came forth from him and healed them all.” **Luke 6:19**
- The church or individuals intercede &/or fast for the sick.
“And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”
Mark 9:28-29
(See also Isaiah 19:22)
- Be moved by the compassion of Jesus
“Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days, and have nothing to eat; and I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.” **Matthew 15:32**
- Share the Gospel (Hebrews 2:1-4). Lead the person into repentance, and to the Saviour.⁷ Jesus told His disciples to preach, cast out demons and to heal the sick. Remember that healing is often manifested to advance the Gospel.
“how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, 4 while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will.” **Hebrews 2:3-4**
- Encourage the person with testimonies of healing, share the promises of God concerning healing, or read a Bible story of healing (Proverbs 4:20-22). In this way faith will well up in the sick person, in family or friends (Romans 10:17).
“Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20 And he went away and

⁷ To be physically healed one doesn't need to be a Christian. Healing may be a gospel opener for the person.

began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and all men marveled.” **Mark 5:19-20**

- Encourage the sick person to forgive others, and turn from bitterness and anger (Mark 11:25; James 5:16)
“Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects” **James 5:16**
 - Break curses said over the person. E.g. “this disease is incurable”, “you are always weak and sickly”, “he has terminal cancer”.
“There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” **Proverbs 12: 18**
 - Pray the prayer of faith over the sick person in the Name of Jesus (Acts 4:30). Thank God for their healing before you see it. “Thankyou Father I believe that you are healing Mary now. In the Name of Jesus, Amen.”
“... and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.” **James 5:15**
 - Anoint with oil as a symbol of the Holy Spirit.
“Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord;” **James 5:14**
 - Lay hands on the sick person Encourage the sick person to put his faith in Jesus. Then when hands are laid for healing, the counselor will add his faith as well, believing together that Jesus is healing in that moment.
“Then again he laid his hands upon his eyes; and he looked intently and was restored, and saw everything clearly.” **Mark 8:25**
- A sick woman can lay hands on the effected part of her own body, and the “counselor” can place their hand on top of the other’s hand. Or women minister to women, and men to men.
- Be authoritative as Jesus was.
“And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.” **Luke 4:36**

- Rebuke and cast out demons, as Jesus did with the epileptic boy.
“And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly.” **Matthew 17:18**
- Speak to the affected part of the body commanding it to be whole.
“And taking him aside from the multitude privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue; 34 and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” 35 And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.” **Mark 7:33-35**
- Be directed by the Holy Spirit, in what you pray for first. Sometimes in order for a person to be physically healed it is necessary for them to forgive people, repent of sins, receive emotional healing, be delivered of demons, &/or take steps of faith.
“And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.”14 When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed.” **Luke 17:12-14**
- Request the person to take steps of faith (John 5:8-9). Often people are healed when they do something in faith. Be bold. Speak and act courageously in faith. For example, tell the person to use the effected part in faith. E.g. To bend over, walk, stretch, bend the arm, read, listen, etc.
“And he looked around on them all, and said to him, “Stretch out your hand.” And he did so, and his hand was restored.” **Luke 6:10**
- Keep your eyes on Jesus and your faith in the promises of God. Don't focus on the person's pain, nor in the look of anxiety and doubt that friends and family members may have.
“Looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...” **Hebrews 12:2**
- If the person does not experience immediate healing, encourage him that you will continue to believe on his behalf. Explain why sickness may remain or symptoms return (see chapter, The testing of your faith).
- NEVER BLAME OR CONDEMN THE SICK. Being sick is bad enough without Christians telling you it is your fault for not getting better. Sadly there are those today who vehemently oppose divine

healing because someone put a guilt trip on them for not being healed when sick. (“If you really had faith you would be better by now...”) The guiding principle is always love.

“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.”

Matthew 7:1-2

Study questions

1. Write out the memory verse from James 5:16
2. What one thing is necessary for healing to be released?
3. How can we prepare ourselves beforehand in ministering to the sick?
4. Explain the Gospel message briefly using John 3:16.
5. We can encourage faith for healing through the following. Write down one example of each...
 - a promise of Scripture
 - a personal testimony
 - a Bible story of healing
6. What is the prayer of faith?
7. Why do we anoint with oil for healing?
8. How did Jesus pray for healing?
9. How are we to respond if the sick person is not immediately healed?

GROUP ACTIVITY

- ◆ Any one who is sick can request healing. Members of the group can gather around and wait on the Lord for His direction and then minister.

- ◆ During the week each group member should seek to visit a sick person and pray for them. Or the group may go and visit a local hospital and pray for the sick.

The testing of our faith

Memory verse:

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.”

Ephesians 6:10

Bible reading: John 11:28-40

Goals: To be firm in our faith in the midst of trials.

Difficulties in the healing ministry

There are a number of reasons why we may experience setbacks and difficulties in the healing ministry. Unless we are aware of this it can be discouraging when

- people die or continue to be sick,
- who were healed become sick again,
- there seems to be no progress,
- there is persecution,
- or we ourselves experience spiritual attack.

In this chapter we are going to look at a number of reasons why this may be so.

In the New Testament there are cases of godly people whose healing was not immediate or possibly never happened.

- Paul was sick when he preached to the Galatians.

“Brethren, I beseech you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong; you know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first; and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus.” **Galatians 4:12-14**

- Timothy suffered from an ongoing stomach complaint and other “ailments”.

“No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.” **1 Timothy 5:23**

- Epaphroditus was with the Apostle Paul and doubtless was prayed for, yet he was ill for some time and worsened until he almost died.

“I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister

to my need, for he has been longing for you all, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.” **Philippians 2:25-27**

- Trophimus was Paul’s travelling companion on his third missionary journey (Acts 20:4) and was left behind sick.⁸
“Trophimus I left ill at Miletus.” **2 Timothy 4:20**

Spiritual Warfare

Healing and deliverance often went hand in hand in the New Testament. In fact in Acts it says that Jesus healed “all who were oppressed by the devil”. All sickness is a form of Satanic oppression, whether via a specific demon or in general through the curse of original sin.

“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.” **Acts 10:38**

Spiritual warfare is often the primary reason for difficulties in the healing ministry. Healing is a weapon of the Kingdom of Heaven against Satan. God advances His Kingdom through casting out demons, healing sick bodies, and the preaching of the Word. Healing drives back the forces of darkness and strengthens the church. Therefore it should not surprise us when we experience various types of opposition or apparent setbacks as Satan and his demons oppose us.

If people become sick again after healing or continue to experience demonic attack we need to remain firm in our faith, and not waver. When Paul talks about spiritual warfare in Ephesians, again and again he exhorts us to stand firm in the battle.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore...” **Ephesians 6:10-13**

⁸ Power Healing. John Wimber Pg 163

Healing is part of the way God manifests His authority. In His authority, and in His Name we command evil spirits and sickness to be gone. The Kingdom of heaven is the manifest authority of Jesus the King. Through healing we are attacking Satan's kingdom.

"And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons."

Matthew 10:7-8

"And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, 2 and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal."

Luke 9:1-2

Through healing and deliverance we are plundering the strong man's house. Healing is not simply a release from pain and sickness, it pushes back Satan's influence over people.

"But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house."

Matthew 12:28-29

Lack of repentance and unforgiveness

Sometimes a person will not experience complete deliverance or healing due to sin in their life. This may also explain why the healing doesn't "stick". The sick person continues in a sin that may be directly causing the illness.

For example a lame woman came for prayer and fell down manifesting a demon. During the deliverance she repented of bitterness towards her ex-husband. Afterward she stood up and was able to walk normally. However several months later she was again limping. Asked what had happened, she responded by saying that she had gone back into her bitterness towards her ex-husband. So we see that while she continued in the sin of bitterness that her deliverance and healing were impeded.

Involvement in the occult

Failure to truly repent of any involvement in the occult can impede healing. Also failure to destroy anything belonging to the occult. People sometimes have occult things that are of emotional or economic value. These objects may have been in the family for many years, a present from a special person, or made of gold or precious jewels. Yet they must be destroyed or curses can still afflict family members.

Accepting the sickness

The decision to accept the sickness and not to trust in Jesus for healing is an impediment for healing. Virtually every healing in the Bible occurred because someone desired healing, either the sick person or a friend on their behalf. The desire to be healed and to request prayer is a manifestation of faith. James says that the sick are to call the elders of the church:

“Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.”

James 5:14

Jill (not her real name) suffered terribly from an auto-immune disease. Despite prayers of family she continued to deteriorate. When asked if she wanted to receive the prayer of faith, she declined prayer. She had accepted her condition. This is not to pass judgement on her, but to point out that the sick person normally needs to want healing. Jesus often asked the sick what they wanted Him to do for them.

“And behold, two blind men sitting by the roadside, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, “Have mercy on us, Son of David!” The crowd rebuked them, telling them to be silent; but they cried out the more, “Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!” And Jesus stopped and called them, saying, “What do you want me to do for you?” They said to him, “Lord, let our eyes be opened.” And Jesus in pity touched their eyes, and immediately they received their sight and followed him.”

Matthew 20:30-34

Some of the reasons why people may prefer the problem, to accepting healing is:

- They cannot see past the sickness and pain. They may have believed a negative diagnosis of a doctor: “This is a permanent disability. It is incurable. It will only grow worse over time.”
- Doubt that Jesus heals today.
- Fear that they may lose a compensation pay out.
- The desire for attention and sympathy.

Perseverance in the deliverance & healing ministry

People may regress in their sickness, some are not healed or fully delivered, and people die. The reason someone is not healed or delivered is not always obvious. As Wigglesworth said: “He who understands healing, understands God.”

In 1994-95 Mark repeatedly prayed for a man, Candido, who had been in a coma for months. He even took Candido to a house group for prayer in his semi-coma condition. Yet there was no significant improvement and Mark found it discouraging. One day the Lord said to Mark that in 3 years time he would wake Candido up.

Then in 1998, 3 years later, a visiting evangelistic team went to Candido's house and prayed for him. Candido woke up! At the time of writing he has begun to go to church and be disciplined. So if you are seeking to minister in God's power may this be an encouragement to you to keep going through the "ministry troughs".

How committed are we to Jesus?

Many who have been sick have acknowledged that through it they have learnt something, and grown spiritually. The Lord does not send sickness, but He may allow it, in order to:

- Reveal if we really love Him from the heart, and are willing to follow Him when the heat is on.

"And you shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments, or not."

Deuteronomy 8:2

"They were for the testing of Israel, to know whether Israel would obey the commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their fathers by Moses."

Judges 3:4

- Produce godly character. The testing of our faith is important in producing perseverance and strength. Believing for healing and deliverance will produce godly character.

"Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

James 1:2-4

"Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong."

1 Corinthians 16:13

After 10 plagues Pharaoh is back!

Here are two examples of how we may have to wait for a healing or victory.

1. After being hit by ten plagues, Pharaoh strikes back yet again at the Red Sea, seeking to wipe out the Israelites. The Israelites were terrified and began to complain when faced once more with Egypt's might. The temptation for us is to become discouraged and fearful when after a victory we again experience problems.

"When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them; and they were in great fear. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD; and they said to Moses, 'Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.'" And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again."

Exodus 14:10-13

2. Jesus waited two days to visit Lazarus rather than going immediately. When He arrived Lazarus had already been dead for four days. Martha rebukes Jesus saying , "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Jesus had His own purpose for waiting. He wanted to reveal His glory and power. Through the sickness and death of Lazarus, Jesus would show that He is the resurrection and the life.

"But when Jesus heard it he said, 'This illness is not unto death; it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by means of it.'"

John 11:4

"Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.'" Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:21-25

Study

1. Write out the memory verse from Ephesians 6:10

Reasons for difficulties in the healing ministry

2. Share a struggle you have had either in your own healing or in praying for healing for someone else. Why do you think there were difficulties?
3. Give two reasons why sickness may be delayed or return:
 - a.
 - b.
4. How does healing advance the Kingdom of heaven?

How committed are we to Jesus?

5. How has the Lord tested your heart?
6. What does the testing of our faith produce (James 1:2-4)?

After 10 plagues Pharaoh is back!

7. How did the Israelites react to Pharaoh at the Red Sea?
8. How did Martha react when Jesus did not turn up immediately to heal Lazarus?
9. Ask the Lord to lead you to a sick person and commit yourself to believe for their healing.

The Gifts of Healings

Memory Verse:

“And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity.” **Matthew 10:1**

Bible Passage: Luke 13:10-17

Goal:

To learn to use the gifts of healings with the other gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Learning to use the gifts together

The gift of healing is often accompanied by the other gifts of the Spirit in any given situation. Particularly we find the gift of healing is manifested along with word of knowledge, discernment of spirits, and faith. Word of Knowledge and discernment of spirits function as a picture, a thought, an impression or an audible voice. The gift of faith is a supernatural confidence or expectancy that God is going to do something.

When ministering we must be open to the different ways the Holy Spirit chooses to bring healing, and attentive to the way He is guiding us.

Healing and the gift of word of knowledge

The gift of word of knowledge may identify a sick person in a public meeting or small group. This shows God’s personal concern for our every need. Likewise word of knowledge works to raise the faith level of the meeting, as we know that God is amongst us.

Through word of knowledge the Lord may also identify a person who is not present in the meeting such as a relative, neighbor, or friend. When Mark was in a small group the Lord gave a word of knowledge of a lady suffering from mouth ulcers. A young lady said that her mother, Jill, who wasn’t present, suffered from cancer and a side effect was mouth ulcers. As a group we rebuked the cancer, and believed for God’s healing upon the mother. Jill hearing of the word of

knowledge was greatly encouraged in her faith, and requested further prayer from the church. Over a period of time, accompanied by medical attention, she was completely healed. Praise God.

When an individual responds to a specific word of knowledge, there may be others who do not exactly fit the description but also desire prayer. As God is compassionate and generous in healing, we can pray for all who have a similar condition. Many people receive wonderful healings who request prayer, but who have not responded to a word of knowledge. Thus word of knowledge serves to heighten the faith expectancy of a meeting that God is here to heal, and that He knows our every circumstance. But this gift should not be considered as limiting healing to only those who are identified in this way.

Word of knowledge also functions to reveal underlying causes of sickness. These may include: fear, anxiety, occult or witchcraft involvement, curses, broken or ungodly relationships, and wrong attitudes. The Lord may direct us to deal with such areas first, before praying for the actual sickness.

For example, Julie, came for prayer for a brain tumor. The Holy Spirit revealed that she had been involved in the occult. She responded by saying that as a child she had watched the Ouiji board out of curiosity. She repented of her sin. The Holy Spirit then came upon her and a demon came out of her mouth. After her deliverance her tumor shrunk and in a few months was gone. The word of knowledge revealed the root problem of her tumor, enabling repentance, cleansing, and healing to follow.

“Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.” And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God.” **Luke 13:10-13**

The gift of discernment of spirits

Demonstrating the power of God in healing is a key way the Lord has chosen to advance His Kingdom authority against the realm of Satan. Jesus calls us all to stand up and fight in this great battle proclaiming the victory of the Cross of Christ against sickness and oppression. It is important to understand that healing is a spiritual

weapon. To pray for the sick is to immediately involve oneself in a spiritual battle.

The gift of discernment of spirits enables those ministering to identify and deal specifically with a demon which is causing pain, etc. This gift of the Holy Spirit functions in allowing a person to “see” the demon, or be aware of its presence, or to know its name. Demons are not normally seen with one’s physical eyes. Rather the Lord gives impressions or visions which are often superimposed upon what we are physically seeing. Such specific knowledge can be helpful in dealing with the sickness with greater authority. As in a war, knowledge can be strategic.

Healing and deliverance go together

In the New Testament we frequently see healing being ministered along with deliverance from demons. At times it is first necessary to cast out or rebuke a demon of infirmity. We can then pray for healing for the physical or emotional damage that the demon caused.

“And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity.”

Matthew 10:1

The call to repentance

The call to repentance accompanies healing and deliverance. The call to repentance is in fact a message of love, enabling God’s peace and forgiveness to flow. In the New Testament, healing and deliverance from demons were accompanied by a strong message of repentance from sin.

“And he called to him the twelve, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits... 12 So they went out and preached that men should repent. 13 And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.”

Mark 6:7,12,13

“And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, 2 and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal.”

Luke 9:1-2

Not all sicknesses are caused by demons. Nor should we assume that a spirit of sickness is there because of personal sin. We must always avoid bringing condemnation on the sick.

A crippled lady walks

During the church service Joan was lying on a church pew unable to sit up due to her constant back pain. As she listened to the message on the power of God, a struggle was taking place within her between doubt and faith. Satan reminded her of how her husband had died of cancer, and of her own desperate situation. But the Word of God stirred faith in her heart. After the service she painfully shuffled over to Mark with the help of her walking frame, and asked for prayer. Mark's first reaction was: "Help Lord!". But the Lord said that all Mark had to do was to obey Him (it isn't our responsibility to heal).

The Lord revealed through word of knowledge that Joan was living in an ungodly relationship. She was then invited to repent of her sin. After she prayed she coughed and it was evident that the Holy Spirit had instantly driven out a demon from her. Joan was then asked to set aside her walking frame and walk in faith. As she walked she was miraculously healed. Some weeks later she was driving her car, and walking around town sharing with all what God had done. In this true story of a woman healed of crippling arthritis, we see healing accompanied by word of knowledge, repentance, and deliverance of demons.

Study

Write out the memory verse from Matthew 10:1

Learning to use the gifts together

1. How do word of knowledge and discernment of spirits function?
2. How does the gift of faith function?

Healing and the gift of word of knowledge

3. Why is word of knowledge important in healing?
4. Name some of the underlying causes of sickness...

The gift of discernment of spirits

5. How can the gift of discernment of spirits be helpful in healing?

The call to repentance

6. How is the message of repentance different from simply condemning people?
7. Why should the message of repentance go with healing and deliverance?

Group ministry

If there is someone who is sick or oppressed in the group, the rest can wait upon the Lord for discernment or word of knowledge. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead the group. Then pray according to what has been revealed.

Pressing in for your healing

Memory verse:

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." **Matthew 5:6**

Bible Passage: Matthew 20:30-34

Goals:

- To have an intense desire for God's power to be released
- To surrender ourselves fully to Him.

Our desire for God's healing

The Lord wants us to come to Him and seek Him for our healing. Jesus constantly challenged the sick to tell him what they wanted Him to do. If we want to be healed we must press in to the Lord and tell Him what we want. Some people never really come to that place of intense desire for God to heal them. Their hope is in surgery, diet, medication, and so on. God may choose to use these, but the point is are we really depending on the Lord, is our hope in Him.

"A woman testified in my hearing one day to this fact. She had been pronounced hopeless and was going blind. No human remedy could do her any good. Someone opened to her, in a dim way, the possibility of seeing through the power of God. She was not very well-taught, but she said this, "Every day for four years I gave up two and one-half hours absolutely to expressing the desire of my soul for real sight." Not only expressing it in words, but calling the power of God to her that would recreate in her the function of sight in her eyes and make her see. At the end of four and a half years, she said, 'My eyes are as well as they ever were'."⁹

People say things like: "If the Lord wants to He will heal me ok, but if not..." "If it is His will that I be healed." Such statements reveal an apathy, a laziness of the soul, an indifference to the things of God. Such an attitude will not rend the heavens. When it comes to healing we must seek the Lord. Jesus described this strong, intense desire as storming the heavens by violence.

⁹ John G. Lake The Complete Collection Of His Life Teachings Copyright 1999. Pg 200

“From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and men of violence take it by force.”

Matthew 11:12

We see this intensity to seek the Lord for healing by the way the sick did not stay home but came from all over to see Jesus. Those too sick to walk were brought on mattresses in order that Jesus might touch them. If one is too sick to come to church the Bible says to call the elders to pray. Asking others to pray is a reflection of our desire and faith that the Lord heal us.

“Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.”

James 5:14-15

There are many New Testament examples of sick people who pressed in for divine healing...

1. The woman with the flow of blood

“And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and could not be healed by any one, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, “Who was it that touched me?” When all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!” But Jesus said, “Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me.” And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”

Luke 8:33-48

2. The blind men who cried out on the road that Jesus heal them.

“And behold, two blind men sitting by the roadside, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, “Have mercy on us, Son of David!” The crowd rebuked them, telling them to be silent; but they cried out the more, “Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!” And Jesus stopped and called them, saying, “What do you want me to do for you?” They said to him, “Lord, let our eyes be opened.” And Jesus in pity touched their eyes, and immediately they received their sight and followed him.”

Matthew 20:30-34

3. Those who tore open the roof to let their paralyzed friend down to Jesus.

“And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “My son, your sins are forgiven.” **Mark 2:3-5**

Surrendering ourselves to Jesus

In divine healing there is a surrendering of ourselves to the Lord. We entrust our body, soul, mind, and spirit to the Lord for healing. We surrender our anxious thoughts and choose to trust Him. We surrender our will to Him and choose to obey the Lord.

One of Mark’s children was slowly becoming deaf. A friend who was a specialist in hearing said that it was urgent that she have her hearing tested and that we seek medical advice. He went on to say that we would be negligent if we did not do so. However, the Lord clearly impressed upon Mark that he was not to have hearing tests or consult medical advice for his child. Rather the Lord Himself would bring healing. So he began to say the prayer of faith for healing. After a short period of time she was miraculously healed.

This story illustrates our need to surrender ourselves into the hands of the Lord and to trust Him implicitly. If we do go to the doctors our hope and faith is to be in the Lord. Trusting the Lord for healing will not always be understood by family and friends, or even by other Christians. The natural mind often cannot receive spiritual things or understand the walk of faith.

“The unspiritual man does not receive the gifts of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.” **1 Corinthians 2:14**

In the Old Testament, we read how King Ahaziah fell through a lattice in the upstairs room. He lay sick and sent a messenger to one of the local gods or demons named Beelzebub. He chose not to seek the Lord for healing by calling for the prophet Elijah. He did not surrender himself, or his sickness to the Lord. He had no desire for divine healing. What he did would be like a Christian going to a psychic healer. Ahaziah died under the judgment of God for not consulting or seeking the Lord.

“Now Ahaziah fell through the lattice in his upper chamber in Samaria, and lay sick; so he sent messengers, telling them, “Go, inquire of Baalzebub, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this sickness.” But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, “Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say to them, ‘Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baalzebub, the god of Ekron?’ Now therefore thus says the LORD, ‘You shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone, but you shall surely die.’” So Elijah went. The messengers returned to the king, and he said to them, “Why have you returned?” And they said to him, “There came a man to meet us, and said to us, ‘Go back to the king who sent you, and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are sending to inquire of Baalzebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone, but shall surely die.’... So he died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. Jehoram, his brother, became king in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, because Ahaziah had no son.” **2 Kings 1:2-6,17**

Some people receive financial remuneration for being sick in the form of a pension or workers’ compensation. This may be a hindrance in truly desiring healing from the Lord, due to potential loss of income. The sick person must release these funds from the heart, and choose healing.

In the same way someone may subconsciously want to continue to be sick for the attention received from others, such as receiving home help, visits from family and friends.

In no way is this meant to condemn or judge people who receive a disability pension, or who get home help. The issue rather is one of the heart. Are we really seeking the Lord and trusting Him for healing?

Study

1. Write out the memory verse from Matthew 5:6

Our desire for God's healing

2. When seeking healing, why is it inappropriate to pray, "Lord if it is your will"?
3. What question did Jesus frequently ask the sick?
4. What did Jesus mean when He said that men of violence take the Kingdom of heaven by force?
5. Give two New Testament examples of sick people who really pressed in for divine healing:
 - a)
 - b)

Surrendering ourselves to Jesus

6. What does it mean to surrender ourselves to the Lord for healing?
7. Why did King Ahaziah die under God's judgment (2 Kings 1:2-6,17)?
8. How can a disability pension, worker's compensation, or home help become a hindrance to healing?

Just say the Word

Memory Verse:

“And they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that attended it. Amen.”

Mark 16:20

Bible Passage: Luke 7:2-20

Goals:

To be speak with authority and power in dealing with sickness.

Say the word

Betty tells the story of how as a child she was dying of cancer. Church members encouraged her mother to “let her go”. When Betty was near death with conviction her mother said: *“In the Name of Jesus she will live”*. Betty was instantly healed.

Many times people were healed by a simply word from Jesus. This continues to be true today, people are healed by a word spoken under the Anointing.

“Now a centurion had a slave who was dear to him, who was sick and at the point of death. When he heard of Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his slave. And when they came to Jesus, they besought him earnestly, saying, “He is worthy to have you do this for him, for he loves our nation, and he built us our synagogue.” And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying to him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. For I am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” When Jesus heard this he marveled at him, and turned and said to the multitude that followed him, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave well.”

Luke 7:2-10

Our words can release the power of God. An official came to Jesus on behalf of his dying child. Jesus simply spoke the words: "Go your son will live." and the boy was healed.

"The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went his way. As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was living. So he asked them the hour when he began to mend, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live"; and he himself believed, and all his household." **John 4:49-53**

Notice also how the man believed the words of Jesus.

Jesus is called the incarnate Word, He is the Word of God. It was through Him that the universe was made. God spoke and it came into being. This Word is life. We can command life and healing in the Name of Jesus.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." **John 1:1-5**

When the inspired Word of God is preached it brings life, cleansing, encouragement, strength, healing, freedom, purpose and comfort. For example, Jesus said:

"You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you." **John 15:3**

The Holy Spirit confirms the Word

The Holy Spirit comes to confirm the Word preached. Healings will often occur as the Spirit of God confirms what is preached.

"While Peter was still saying this, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word." **Acts 10:44**

"And they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that attended it. Amen." **Mark 16:20**

"For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by

the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his own will.”

Hebrews 2:1-4

Often times one will sense the Holy Spirit hovering over a meeting or a situation. When the Anointing of the Holy Spirit is then combined with a spoken Word, God’s power is released.

“The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. And God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.”

Genesis 1:2-3

Having ears to hear

We need to pray that the Lord would give us understanding and a hearing ear to receive the Word.

“And Moses summoned all Israel and said to them: “You have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, the great trials which your eyes saw, the signs, and those great wonders; but to this day the LORD has not given you a mind to understand, or eyes to see, or ears to hear.”

Deuteronomy 29:2-4

Numerous times when Jesus was giving wonderful truths and revelations He would say: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” Truth not only is to be preached, it is to be heard.

“And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Luke 8:8

“Therefore we must pay the closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.”

Hebrews 2:1

While the Word has life and power, it needs to be received in faith. When we do receive it and hold on to it the Word will bring forth good fruit in our lives. Meditating on the Word of God is a wonderful way of receiving healing.

“And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience.”

Luke 8:15

In seeking healing we should be careful as to what we are listening to. Listening to negativity, doubt, fear or/ & anxiety may be destructive to our walk of faith. This may be true of what the medical profession says to the sick. Sometimes professionals will say things that

they may believe to be true according to their medical tests etc. But can have a profound negative impact on the attitude and faith of the sick. So much so that their words can actually have the effect of a curse on a sick person (e.g. “You are going blind.” “You will die in 6 months.”).

“And he said to them, “Take heed what you hear...” **Mark 4:24**

“And others are the ones sown among thorns; they are those who hear the word, but the cares of the world, and the delight in riches, and the desire for other things, enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.” **Mark 4:18-19**

The authority of Jesus

People were awed by the tremendous authority that Jesus exercised, whether it be in His teaching, calming a storm, commanding the dead to rise, or over the demons. When He spoke diseased bodies were healed, blind men received their sight, and demons fled.

“And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching! With authority he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” **Mark 1:27**

“... and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word was with authority. And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon; and he cried out with a loud voice, “Ah! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.” **Luke 4:32-36**

The authority of Jesus arose from His submission to His heavenly Father. Herein lies the principle of authority. Our authority arises from our full submission to Jesus Christ.

“So Jesus said, “When you have lifted up the Son of man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority but speak thus as the Father taught me.” **John 8:28**

“For I have not spoken on my own authority; the Father who sent me has himself given me commandment what to say and what to speak.” **John 12:49**

Authority in His Name

We as Christians have authority which is derived from our submission to Christ. As we seek to be totally obedient to the Lord, we will also know His authority. Therefore this authority is not in our own name, but rather in His Name. As we abide in Him, He gives us power and authority in His Name.

Many people try to use the Name of Jesus without being surrendered to Him. They want the Lord to do certain things for them, while holding on to their own rebelliousness. It doesn't work. Heavenly authority comes to us through a submitted relationship with Jesus.

When Mark was in Paraguay he used to go to the market place to share the Gospel. One day a demonized man was determined to attack Mark. One of the bystanders took a hose and began to beat the man. Despite the beating the man came again to attack Mark. Mark looked him in the eyes and rebuked the demon in the Name of Jesus. The man collapsed backwards. Again Mark rebuked it, and he fled away. As Christians we have been given authority in the Name of Jesus over disease and evil spirits.

“And he appointed twelve, to be with him, and to be sent out to preach and have authority to cast out demons.”

Mark 3:14-15

“And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases.”

Luke 9:1

“Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you.”

Luke 10:19

Study

Write out the memory verse from Mark 16:20

Say the word

1. The centurion believed his servant would be healed by _____ from Jesus¹⁰.
2. According to John 1:1-5 how did the world come into existence?

The Holy Spirit confirms the Word

3. Why is it important to preach the Word?

Having ears to hear

4. In Luke 8:15 Jesus compares some people to good soil that yields good fruit. In what way can we be like good soil?
5. Share an experience of how listening to something you shouldn't have. How did it effect you (Mark 4:24)?

The authority of Jesus

6. Where did Jesus say His authority came from (John 12:49)?

Authority in His Name

7. What do we have authority over (Luke 9:1)?
8. Share an experience where you have used the Name of Jesus with authority.

¹⁰ Answer: "a word".

Interceding for the sick

Memory verse:

"...for we walk by faith, not by sight."

2 Corinthians 5:7

Bible Passage: Matthew 15:22-28

Goals:

- To take up the ministry of interceding for the lost, sick, and demonized.
- To be able to effectively say the prayer of faith.

Believing that God heals

We live in a very skeptical society when it comes to healing. Many people because of their education have a materialistic and rational view of the world. They do not believe that God exists or heals today. Others believe that God exists but do not believe that He does miracles for the simple reason it is not part of their experience. The first step in interceding for the sick is to accept that God heals, and therefore that prayer makes a difference.

Clearly the Scriptures promises that God is our Healer:

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases," **Psalm 103:2-3**

"If you will diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give heed to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases upon you which I put upon the Egyptians; for I am the LORD, your healer."

Exodus 15:26

Many people are wonderfully touched by God simply because people are praying. Prayer releases His blessings so that people are converted, delivered, and healed. We can intercede alone, or with a prayer partner, or in a group.

When we intercede for the sick we are for the most part appropriating the promises of healing for other people. As we believe the promises of Scripture that Jesus heals, God's healing power is

released. Therefore it is important that we strengthen and build up our faith. We can do this by:

- meditating on the promises of God (see appendix),
- reading the miraculous healings found in the Bible,
- listening to Bible teaching,
- and listening to encouraging testimonies of healing.

“So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ.” **Romans 10:17**

Eyes of faith

Mark was invited to pray for an elderly lady who was said to be dying of an enlarged heart. When Mark entered the hospital room he was confronted with a choice, to be overwhelmed by the situation of sickness and fear, or to walk by faith. He looked at the elderly lady who was near death. Then looked at the anxious faces of the relatives gathered who feared death would soon take their loved one.

Mark briefly shared the promise of God for healing with the lady and prayed the prayer of faith. Then the lady was invited to sit up and walk around the hospital room. As she feebly walked a few paces she looked like she was going to collapse and die. She was helped back into bed and immediately passed out or fell asleep. During the night she almost died. But in the morning the Lord miraculously healed her and she was released from hospital in good health. Praise God!

The constant struggle in believing for the sick is not to focus on what we see but to trust in the Word of God. Anxiety, doubt and a sense of hopelessness tend to overwhelm us when we focus on the problem. We may be faced with a negative report from the doctor, pain, how the sick person looks, what friends and relatives are saying, etc. Faith comes as we lift our eyes off the problem and onto Jesus the Healer. We are to walk by faith, and not by sight. In fact we are to see the sick person through the eyes of faith. We are to see them whole, without sickness and pain. This is a wonderful way of using the promises of God.

“...for we walk by faith, not by sight.”

2 Corinthians 5:7

Interceding for the sick

The story of the Canaanite woman who came to Jesus on behalf of her demon possessed daughter for deliverance, is a clear example of intercessory prayer. Jesus never laid hands on the daughter, He simply

responded to the faith of the mother. Many times people are healed as others cry out to God on their behalf.

“And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, ‘Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon.’ But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she is crying after us.’ He answered, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’ But she came and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, help me.’ And he answered, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.’ She said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.’ And her daughter was healed instantly.” **Matthew 15:22-28**

The Canaanite woman showed a number of principles of intercessory prayer.

➤ **Her prayer was an intense desire.** It was not casual or half-hearted, but demanding.

“(she) cried, ‘Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon.’” Jesus answered her *“Be it done for you as you desire.”*

➤ **She persevered** even when the Lord did not answer her. She did not give up.

“But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she is crying after us.’”

➤ **She humbled herself** before Jesus.

“But she came and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, help me.’”

➤ **She was a woman of faith:**

“Then Jesus answered her, ‘O woman, great is your faith!’”

Again we see the importance of intercessory prayer when the disciples tried to cast out a demon but could not. Asking Jesus why, they were told that *“This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”* Surely we would see a greater manifestation of the power of God in the lives of the sick and demonized if the church would give herself to prayer. Intercessory prayer is critical for miracles and deliverances to occur. Prayer will create the spiritual climate for God’s power to be released.

*"And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." 26 And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. 28 And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" 29 And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer." **Mark 9:25-29***

THE PRAYER OF FAITH

We find the prayer of faith mentioned in James' instruction of how to pray for the sick. We discover that the prayer of faith is tremendously powerful, resulting in the salvation of the sick man, his healing, and the forgiveness of his sins.

"Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."

James 5:14-15

Jesus teaches us how to pray in faith...

*"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." **Mark 11:24***

We understand that the prayer of faith has three basic principles:

1. **Ask** for what is needed or desired.
2. **Believe** that we have already received it.
3. **Give God the glory** for the blessing.

1. Knowing how to ask

A good parent will not give a child what he wants, simply for the asking. If the child is demanding, greedy, selfish, or asking for the wrong things the parent will say no. So it is with our heavenly Father, we need to ask with right attitudes.

The following are some principles as to how to ask...

- Repent of specific sins in your life, and particularly that of unforgiveness. Sin can block the granting of requests. Examine your heart, is there a critical attitude, jealousy, revenge, anger, pride, or greed?

- Spend time with God. Develop intimacy with Him. Read and know His Word. In this way we can have increasing assurance of how to ask, because we are in relationship with Him.
- Make your prayer specific. What is it we are asking for? What exactly are we expecting God to do? After praying, do you know what you have asked for? If God was to answer your prayer would you know it?

Do you pray “if it be thy will”? This was the prayer of surrender by Jesus to do the will of the Father. When people pray this prayer (in the context of petition) what they are really saying is that they don’t know God’s will in the situation, and therefore don’t expect anything to happen.

“And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

Matthew 21:22

2. Believe that you have already received it

- Faith is giving thanks to God before we see it happen. Faith is praising God before it has occurred. Scripture says that “Now is the day of salvation.” We believe that now it has happened, even if it takes years to transpire in the natural. We must live in the Kingdom NOW, making heavenly realities manifest on earth by faith in Jesus.
- Whether we experience anything or not we are to continue to give thanks by faith, until it is “manifested” (we have received it in the natural), or until the Lord gives us the peace that our prayers have been heard.
- We have what we accept. If what we accept is poverty, sickness, marriage failure, or job dissatisfaction, that is what we will probably experience. However, if what we accept is the promises of God, then the blessings of God will be released upon us.
- The form and timing of the blessing. When we say the prayer of faith, God’s blessing is always released. However the timing and the form of the blessing may be different from what we expect.

3. Give God the glory for the blessing received

- For our own spiritual health we should give God the glory upon receiving answers to prayers. How often upon being blessed do we

fail to really show our appreciation to God. The temptation is to take God for granted and simply go on with life. How often when God answers prayer do people then attribute the breakthrough to natural causes.

- Giving thanks to God for answered prayer builds our faith. When you are persevering in the prayer of faith, and feel discouraged, or it seems like nothing is happening, thank and praise God for what you have already seen Him do. As the song says: **“Count your blessings one by one.”**

Study

1. Write out the memory verse from 2 Corinthians 5:7

2. By what means can we strengthen and build up our faith:
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

3. How can we use our imagination in praying?

Interceding for the sick

4. Write down some of the prayer principles shown by the Canaanite woman:
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

5. In Mark 9:25-29 why could the disciples not drive out the demon?

The prayer of faith

6. What are the three principles of the prayer of faith (Mark 11:24)?
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

7. Write down two principles regarding the way we are to ask God:
 - a.

 - b.

8. Complete the sentence:
“Faith is giving thanks to God ...”
9. Why is it important to give God the glory when He answers prayer?
10. Spend time in the group or alone interceding for those who are sick.

Healing of emotional wounds

Memory verse:

“Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.” **Isaiah 53:4**

Bible Passage: Isaiah 53:1-12

Goals:

- ❖ To be a vessel of comfort to others.
- ❖ To experience the comfort of the Holy Spirit

Healing of a painful separation (see note below)¹¹

Mark was born in Valparaiso, Chile, where his father, Michael, worked as director of the small mission school. As is often the custom of western foreigners living abroad, the family had a maid who helped look after the children and keep house. The maid became very fond of Mark and was like a second mother to him. When Mark was at the tender age of two his father accepted a new position in the U.S.A..

On the day of departure Mark began screaming as he was removed from the care of the maid, who was also in tears. It was so traumatic that decades later his mother, Janet, still vividly remembers it. Even though Mark can not remember the separation, which is buried as an early childhood experience, yet the trauma and grief of it continued to effect him. Later in life he could not understand why he would feel so hurt and grieved inside in response to certain situations. He visited a psychologist who asked if something had happened in his childhood, but he couldn't remember anything.

One day Mark was praying with his wife Helen. The Lord spoke to him that something had happened at the age of two. Mark couldn't think of anything and then asked the Lord what it was. The Lord reminded Mark of how his mother had mentioned the day he was taken away from the Chilean maid. Suddenly the grief and pain surrounding that experience were unleashed. Mark sobbed deeply for about an hour.

¹¹If you are in a group context, you may like to invite a member of the group to share about their own experience of inner healing instead of using the above example.

It was like the Holy Spirit was draining the puss from an infected wound.

After the sobbing passed, Mark felt a wonderful peace and comfort. Since that time Mark has found that he feels much more whole inside. In difficult or trying circumstances he no longer feels that rejection, grief and hurt as previously. Mark had experienced the inner healing and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Healing of the whole person

Before defining inner healing we need to have some understanding of what a person is. A person consists of thoughts, emotions, spirit, and body, within the context of relationships and community life. Healing therefore relates to the healing of the whole person. Every aspect of our life potentially can effect the other.

A definition of inner healing

The Bible says we are wondrously made. People are complex. Having damaged emotions adversely affects much of a person's life. For example feelings of rejection can impede team unity in the church or the work place, it can cause nausea and withdrawal for a school child, or can be the reason why one doesn't move forward in life as the Lord would desire. As such these problems are the fruit of a deeper emotional problem requiring the Father's love and acceptance. The Holy Spirit treats us in our complexity and may bring healing to the various aspects of our lives over a period of time.

Inner healing is the divine comfort of sorrow and affliction. The bible uses the words soul, spirit and heart in an almost inter-changeable manner. Inner healing involves all these areas. Yet more specifically it deals with the healing of emotions, and feelings associated with memories.

Steps towards inner healing

Some of the steps of inner healing may be summarized as:

- Repentance from anger, bitterness, hate, unforgiveness, and grudges. These act like an infection to wounded emotions.
- Choosing to forgive, love, and bless those who have hurt us. Healing of the emotions often begins as we forgive others.

- Release of the emotions through crying or screaming. The Holy Spirit releases the person from harmful emotions and feelings, bringing true healing to the heart.
- Deliverance from tormenting demons. The counselor commands the demons to leave in the Name of Jesus. (It is important that the person repents and forgives first).
- The infilling of the Holy Spirit with comfort, joy, and peace. If the person has not been baptized in the Spirit they should be encouraged to seek this experience.
- To keep one's inner healing and deliverance it is essential to continue to love, bless, and forgive, even daily, those who have caused us hurt.

Emotional healing is the deepest form of healing

Inner healing is the deepest form of healing and may be necessary before other types of healing or deliverance occur. Healing of emotions may precede or accompany deliverance ministry and physical healing.

At the end of a home group meeting the Holy Spirit was invited to come and minister. A young woman, Dorothy, fell to the floor and began manifesting a demon. When the demon was commanded to leave Dorothy's head swung from side to side. The demon was signaling its refusal to go. It was evident that there was more to deal with than just deliverance, and so Dorothy was invited to come back later for further prayer.

Dorothy then shared of how she had been sexually abused a few years ago. She was invited to forgive the person, which she did. The Holy Spirit then came upon her and she began to weep. God was comforting her, releasing her of the hurt associated with those memories. When the time of inner healing had drawn to a close, the demon was commanded to go. The demon manifested again briefly and then quickly left. Dorothy's deliverance had been preceded by repentance of bitterness, forgiveness toward the man involved, and inner healing. By first dealing with the deeper problems of emotional trauma and unforgiveness, the demon could then be cast out.

Emotional healing flows from our salvation

Inner healing flows from our salvation. Receiving Christ in himself is the most basic form of inner healing. Through salvation we

receive the forgiveness of sins, the removal of guilt, acceptance, and peace with the Father. Likewise we also receive the grace to forgive others which is so basic to inner healing. Only those who have partaken of this great salvation in Christ can truly know the joy and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

“Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.”
Psalm 51:11-12

“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.” With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.”
Isaiah 12:2-3

Even as our salvation is eternal, so also the comfort we receive in Christ is eternal. His comfort, peace, and joy are like a well that never goes dry. Every day we can come to the Lord and drink more of his living restoring water.

“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.”
2 Thessalonians 2:15

Repentance and God’s peace

Only as we daily turn from sin, and decide to obey the Word of God can we know God’s peace and joy in an ongoing way. Sin can be devastating on the emotions. Bitterness and anger eats away at the heart. Guilt creates anxiety and inner turmoil. Doubt leads to stress and nervousness, as the person fails to trust in God.

When leading a person to the Father’s comfort, we must not simply sympathize. If we are going to love the person we must go beyond sympathy to the loving call to repent of sin. There is no lasting comfort from God unless there is repentance of sin. The following psalm shows how sin can make us physically sick.. Sin is like carrying a heavy burden, it can be crushing and exhausting, causing stress and anxiety.

“There is no soundness in my flesh because of thy indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me... I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart... Lord, all my longing is known to thee, my sighing is not hidden from thee. My heart throbs, my strength fails me; and the light of my eyes—it also has

gone from me.”

Psalm 38:3,4,8-10

“Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.”

Psalm 97:11

“Sorrow and sighing” shall flee away and we shall be crowned with everlasting joy as we walk in the Holy Way.

“And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not pass over it, and fools shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” **Isaiah 35:8-10**

The fullness of joy

All true healing, goodness, life, and comfort comes from Jesus. So it is necessary that we remain in Him. The only way to know His comfort in an ongoing way is TO OBEY HIM. His command is that we love one another. If we fall back into bitterness, anger, or unforgiveness, or are disobedient to his Word, we will not know the beauty of fellowship with Jesus and the comfort and joy that He gives.

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.” **John 15:9-11**

Comforting others

Receiving God’s blessings or healing is not an end in itself. God heals and restores us so that we in turn may be a vessel of comfort for others. It is important that we not be self-centred and inward looking when it comes to emotional healing. Take the portion of bread that you have, and in faith begin to hand it out to others.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

The wounded soldier

While on earth we will always be in the process of becoming whole. We must deal with our own fleshly desires and sin, the stresses

of life, an evil world of war and atrocities, and deal with those who sin against us. Most Christians are wounded in some way and need ongoing comfort and healing of the Holy Spirit. The fact that the majority of Christians need emotional healing, does not mean that we simply retreat from bringing healing to others. As a Christian song says: "I am a wounded soldier but I will not leave the fight..." So let us seek for opportunities to share His healing love with others.

Some Christians become overly focused on their emotions, and repeatedly turn over the stones of the past. This is where it is beneficial to appropriate the promise of Scripture, and believe that He is making all things new.

"Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come." **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Study

Write out the memory verse from Isaiah 53:4

Group sharing

1. Some one in the group can share an experience of inner healing.

Healing of the whole person

2. What are the various aspects that make up a person?
3. Explain how one aspect of our life can effect another.

A definition of inner healing

4. What effect can rejection have on a person?

Steps towards inner healing

5. What steps may be necessary for inner healing to occur?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
6. How can we keep our inner healing and deliverance?

Inner healing is the deepest form of healing

7. Why may inner healing be important in deliverance ministry?

Inner healing flows from our salvation

8. Why is salvation so important to inner healing?

Repentance and God's peace

9. In Psalm 38:8-10 why was David so emotionally low?

Comforting others

Take time in the group to pray for emotional healing for one another.

Freedom from demons

Memory verse:

“And he appointed twelve, to be with him, and to be sent out to preach and have authority to cast out demons.” **Mark 3:14-15**

Bible Passage: Ephesians 6:10-13

Goals:

- To experience freedom from all types of spiritual bondage.
- To be equipped to cast out demons with authority and power in Jesus.

Satan’s aim

A primary goal of Satan is that Christians fall into sin, and turn away from the Lord. We are in a spiritual battle as Satan seeks to compromise our devotion to the Lord. For this reason Paul says:

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

Ephesians 6:10-13

Can a Christian have a demon?

First of all it should be understood that every Christian is involved in spiritual warfare. We all battle against demonic forces. Whether it be a temptation to sin, an illness, or a form of demonization.

Scripture and ministry experience both point to the fact that many Christians are afflicted by evil forces. Dove Ministries (Bill Subritzky) has video footage of a demon speaking through a Christian man while being delivered. Those involved in deliverance ministry will often encounter Christians who suffer from demonic affliction.

Freedom from demons is a promise provided for in the Cross of Christ. Jesus took upon Himself our curses. As such it is a promise to

be appropriated by faith. By receiving Christ as our Saviour we receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life, but we may not automatically be healed or delivered, these are to be appropriated by faith.

Some ask: “If Jesus has come into our heart how can there then also be demons?” Spiritually we are like a house with many rooms. Jesus may occupy the central room, but there may be other areas of our lives that we have not yet opened to Him. These rooms are opened up and cleansed through confession of sin, repentance, and faith in Jesus.

Scriptures that show that a Christian can be affected by a demon include:

➤ Paul warns the Corinthian church not to receive a different spirit.
“But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if some one comes and preaches another Jesus than the one we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you submit to it readily enough.”
2 Corinthians 11:3-4

➤ Paul tells Timothy that some Christians will leave the faith because of deceitful spirits.
“Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by giving heed to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons...”
1 Timothy 4:1-3

➤ Paul reprimands the Galatian church for going back into bondage to demons.
“Formerly, when you did not know God, you were in bondage to beings that by nature are no gods; but now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits, whose slaves you want to be once more?”
Galatians 4:8-9

➤ The book of Acts says that Satan had filled Ananias’ heart so that he lied to the apostles.
“But a man named Ananias with his wife Sapphira sold a piece of property, and with his wife's knowledge he kept back some of the proceeds, and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land?” **Acts 5:1-3**

- Jesus said that a hunch-back woman had been bound by Satan for eighteen years. Jesus also described her as a “daughter of Abraham”. It is probable that this expression showed that Jesus considered her a woman of faith (Lk 19:9-10; John 8:39; Gal 3:7)

“But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.” Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?”

Luke 13:14-16

- Paul was harassed by a “messenger of Satan”.

“And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

The above passages demonstrate that Christians are involved in a spiritual battle. Evil spirits can tempt, afflict, harass, torment and deceive. Demons will seek to bring depression, mental and emotional sickness, hopelessness, restlessness, suicide tendencies, and physical sickness in Christians.

Why do demons afflict people?

Christians may experience various levels or degrees of demonic problems. The primary reason for this is sin, whether our own sin or the sins of our ancestors. Demons attach themselves to sin, and especially to habitual sin. The most common entry point for demons is any involvement in witchcraft or the occult. Other factors include:

- The spiritual warfare that is part of being a soldier of Christ. We are all in a spiritual battle. Satan and his hosts are at war against us. Christians sometimes will experience demonic attack for example in the form of oppression or sickness.
- Curses said against Christians by witches.
- Deep hurt or grief experienced (sexual abuse, violence, death of a loved one).
- Resentment and unforgiveness,

- Sexual sin and pornography,
 - Self-curses,
 - Substance abuse (drugs & alcohol).
- For a fuller list see the sin and occult list at the end of this book.

Sickness and the curse

When Adam and Eve sinned the Lord cursed them. As a result sickness and death entered into human experience. Sickness is a part of living in a cursed, fallen world. When Jesus died on the Cross He took upon Himself the curse. For all who believe in Him the curse is removed. In Him we have forgiveness, eternal salvation, healing and deliverance.

While some sicknesses may have a spiritual root, or be caused by specific sin or demonic activity, this is not always the case. In the story of the blind man, Jesus did not attribute any specific cause for his blindness.

“As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him.”

John 8:1-3

However, Scripture is clear that many sicknesses are demonically based. Demons can cause mental, emotional and physical sickness. Deliverance from demons is a form of healing.

“...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”

Acts 10:38

“Then a blind and dumb demoniac was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw.”

Matthew 12:22

“And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities.”

Luke 8:1-2

Preaching, healing and deliverance

Again and again in the ministry of Jesus we see that deliverance and healing went hand in hand with the preaching of the Word.

“So they went out and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them.”

Mark 6:12-13

“That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered together about the door. And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.” **Mark 1:32-34**

Authority to cast out demons

Deliverance ministry is a manifestation of the Kingdom of God. God’s Kingdom is His authority and realm. Jesus said that He was a King. So when demons are cast out it is because the King has destroyed the demonic place in that person’s life. His authority has been exercised. Healing and deliverance are weapons of the Kingdom of God.

“But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you..” **Matthew 12:29**

“And he appointed twelve, to be with him, and to be sent out to preach and have authority to cast out demons.” **Mark 3:14-15**

“The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” **Luke 10:17**

The authority to cast out demons really stems from our confidence in the Word of God.

“And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;” **Mark 16:17**

Faith is necessary

Many people understand that faith is necessary for healing, but do not draw the connection between faith and deliverance. Demons know if we come against them charged with faith, or if our words are mixed with doubt and fear. Demons will often put up a fight in leaving a person. This is why a persistent faith is necessary. We read of how a Greek woman came to Jesus on behalf of her demonized daughter. It is clear that the mother’s persistent faith was key to the healing of the girl.

“Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. And he said to her, “Let the children first be fed, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” And he said to her, “For this saying you may go your way; the demon has left your

daughter." And she went home, and found the child lying in bed, and the demon gone." **Mark 7:26-30**

The power of the Holy Spirit

The Anointing breaks the spiritual yoke of Satan. Every Christian should seek to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and know the Anointing of God.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing" **Isaiah 10:27 (AV)**

Demons will sometimes manifest simply because of the Anointing that rests upon a meeting. There is nothing to be afraid of. The power of the Holy Spirit comes to drive out demonic forces and the result may involve some type of demonic manifestation.

This is sometimes described as a power conflict. The boy with an epileptic spirit is a good example of what can happen:

"And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose." **Mark 9:20-27**

Deliverance prayer

“Heavenly Father, I turn to Christ and His light. I choose to be a follower of Jesus Christ. I choose this day to love and serve the Lord, and to walk in godliness. Jesus I ask that you would take control of my life and be my Lord. I willingly submit to your authority and to your Word. I renounce all rebelliousness and selfishness.

Heavenly Father I forgive all those who have hurt me. (Name the person(s) who hurt you, in silence if you prefer). Father, all those who have hurt me I now forgive. I choose to love them, and to bless them in the Name of Jesus. I honor my father and my mother, and forgive them also if they wronged me. Forgive me Lord for being angry, resentful, or bitter towards these people.

Heavenly Father I now confess my sins, repent, and turn away from them, and ask for Your forgiveness (take time to confess each of your sins, see sin list). I renounce Satan, I renounce all forms of witchcraft, the occult, the New Age, and any previous vows, baptisms, and experiences I had in religions or sects.

Forgive me Father and cleanse me from my sins by the Blood of Jesus Christ. I invoke the Blood of Jesus against my sins and the sins of my ancestors. In the Name of Jesus I break any curses upon my life.

I command demons (of lust, witchcraft, anger, unforgiveness, etc.) to leave me in the Name of Jesus. My body is the sanctified temple of God.

Heavenly Father, may your Holy Spirit take control of every area of my life. Fill me now with the Holy Spirit.

Father I thank you now that by the Blood of Jesus I am free, I am whole. I thank you now for the Holy Spirit filling me to overflowing in the Name of Jesus. Amen.”

Study

1. Write out the memory verse from Mark 3:14

Satan's aim

2. What is Satan's primary aim against the Christian?
3. How are we to defend ourselves (Ephesians 6:10-13)?
4. What is your personal experience of victory over the demonic?

Can a Christian have a demon?

5. What promise does the Cross of Jesus hold for the spiritually afflicted?
6. Give two Scriptural examples that show that a Christian can be affected by demons.
 - a)
 - b)

Why do demons afflict people?

7. Name some of the entry points by which a person can be afflicted.
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)

Sickness and the curse

8. Is all sickness caused by sin or demons (John 8:1-3)?

Authority to cast out demons

9. Why are healing and deliverance weapons of the Kingdom of God (Matthew 12:29)?

Faith is necessary

10. What was key in the healing of the demonized girl (Mark 7:26-30)?

The power of the Holy Spirit

11. What is a “power conflict”?

12. Give an example of a power conflict in the ministry of Jesus.

APPENDIX 1

How to bring healing to the demonized

Immediate and progressive deliverance

Just as we must persist in our faith with physical healing so also with deliverance. People may experience a miraculous and immediate deliverance, or it may be progressive. Reasons for progressive deliverance include:

- More than one demon needs to be cast out. Often less powerful demons will leave first, while the “strong man” seeks to hold on. The gift of discernment of spirits is helpful to know if evil spirits are present and what their names are.

“Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss.” **Luke 8:30-31**

- Failure to repent of sin. Sin is what a demon will hold on to. Get rid of the sin and they have nothing to latch on to. For example:
 - a) The demon of lust remains until the person deals with his pornography.
 - b) The demon of hate will not leave unless there is deep forgiveness.
 - c) Demons of witchcraft remain until occult objects are destroyed and the person deeply repents of all occult involvement (see sin and occult list).
- The person does not seek the Lord with all their heart. In being released of demons it is important that the person spiritually builds themselves up through such things as fasting, the Word of God, attending church, fellowship, and personal worship. It is the Holy Spirit that frees us from demons. As we seek the Lord, turn to the Light, and experience the Anointing, the Holy Spirit will even sovereignly bring freedom.

Deliverance Guidelines

- 1) It is advisable to pray with another mature Christian when ministering in deliverance.

2) Individuals should avoid praying for the opposite sex by themselves, particularly in deliverance ministry.

3) One must always treat the afflicted person with respect and love.

3) Demons leave by the power of God, not by physical force such as shaking the person, or by shouting.

4) In meetings demons may try to cause a disturbance, create fear, and distract people from worship. We can command them to be silent and deal with them. We read how when a demon was causing a disturbance for Jesus, He simply rebuked it and told it to be silent, then cast it out.

"And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon; and he cried out with a loud voice, "Ah! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out."

Luke 4:33-36

5) The person ministering should prepare themselves before the Lord (e.g. read the Word, repent, pray, fast, worship), and be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is wise to put on the armour of God and to invoke the protection of the Blood of Jesus upon ourselves.

6) Likewise the person receiving deliverance needs to prepare themselves. They must actively want to get rid of the spirit(s) and really seek the Lord. Heartfelt repentance is imperative. It is helpful to go through a sin and occult list with the person first and ensure that the person has repented, and destroyed all witchcraft and occult objects etc. If this is done, the deliverance will flow much easier.

7) Inner healing may be necessary before deliverance can happen. For example where there has been sexual abuse or rape, the person may need to experience God's comfort and healing first.

7) The deeper the repentance, the deeper the deliverance. The person must truly repent and turn away from sin. For example if a person has a spirit of lust and has been addicted to pornography. They must repent of

the addiction, destroy all pornography, and not go back to it. Otherwise they are simply leaving the door wide open for these spirits to return.

8) After deliverance the person should seek to be baptized in the Holy Spirit to fill every area of their life.

9) The person should then attend a Spirit filled, Bible believing Church, and make himself accountable to its leadership.

APPENDIX 2

Issues Regarding Emotional Healing

It is helpful to be aware of some of the pitfalls that occasionally people experience in inner healing. We can summarize these as:

1. An unhealthy introspection by Christians seeking wholeness and self-understanding.

The Kingdom of God is outward focused:
in love to God as Father in worship,
in loving our brothers and sisters in Christ,
and in compassion to the lost and needy of this world.

As we seek to bless others, God will also pour out His healing love upon us.

"...give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back." **Luke 6:38**

2. The mixing of secular, psychological concepts and methodologies with divine inner healing under the name of Christian counseling. That is not to say that all these concepts are wrong or anti-biblical. Some of the various types of secular counseling available have doubtless helped many, in the same way that receiving medical attention can be beneficial. However inner healing as a divine gift comes as we repent, forgive, place our faith in Jesus for healing, and be open to the Holy Spirit's work.
3. The increasing reliance by the church on psychology to bring comfort to the broken hearted reveals a lack of confidence in the principles of Scripture, and an unwillingness to fully embrace the wonderful healing work of the Holy Spirit. It's like dispensing pills at church instead of praying for the sick. Medicine and psychological therapy have their place, but they are no substitute for Christ's commission to the Church in bringing divine healing to broken bodies and souls.

4. The venting of emotions as an end in itself. Certain therapies encourage the client to vent his anger and other negative feelings, and experience his feelings. This brings the person not only into contact with his emotions but also with those demons of anger and bitterness that may fuel the emotions. Our goal is not the experiencing of emotions but the healing of them.

Therapies may be able to help someone to cope with and understand their emotional makeup, but it is the Lord who removes sorrow, anger or bitterness and fills the person with gladness and love. The Scriptures abound with verses of how the Lord comforts us, and changes our sorrow into joy and laughter.

“Then shall the maidens rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.” **Jeremiah 31:13**

This is not a put down of psychological therapies. It is to clearly say that the church has the most wonderful healing provision in Christ. The joy and comfort that the Holy Spirit brings to the broken heart has no human comparison. The Jesus who was sufficient to the multitudes of needy people 2000 years ago, is the same Jesus whom we proclaim as Healer today.

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.”

Hebrews 13:8

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

Some individuals seem to use counseling as a substitute for the hard work of personally seeking God and choosing to walk by faith. Inner healing like all the gifts of the Holy Spirit is released as the church dedicates itself to prayer.

APPENDIX 3

Believing God's Great Promises

Great and precious promises

As we battle in faith against sickness, the Lord has given us “great and precious promises” to encourage our faith. These promises are true and reliable.

“Not one of all the good promises which the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.” **Joshua 21:45**

“This God--his way is perfect; the promise of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.” **2 Samuel 22:31**

“The promises of the LORD are promises that are pure, silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.” **Proverbs 12:6**

“For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why we utter the Amen through him, to the glory of God.” **2 Corinthians 1:20**

Confessing our faith

Are you sick, or praying for someone who is ill? Often we are tempted to be anxious or negative about the sickness, and to affirm the sickness rather than the promises of God. We may say things like, “Oh dear me, I’m sick and in pain.” “I’m always sick.” “This pain will never leave me.” “I always feel depressed”, and so on.

Please take a promise from the next section and confess it until it becomes what you are believing for. For example:

*“I believe that: ‘by His stripes I am healed.’
‘I am the Lord your Healer.’”*

Without wavering

Although you may not immediately see the answer, we are told not to waver in our faith, but to be patient and persevering.

“No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.” **Romans 4:20-21**

“And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness in realizing the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

Hebrews 6:11-12

Godliness

If there is any sin in our lives we need to repent of it and turn away from it completely. Especially all unforgiveness, bitterness, the occult and witchcraft. As we humble ourselves before God and repent of sin, we pave the way for God’s healing power to flow in our lives.

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

“Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.”

2 Corinthians 7:1

APPENDIX 4

Scriptures that promise healing

He is the Lord your Healer

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."

Psalm 103:2-5

"For he wounds, but he binds up; he smites, but his hands heal."

Job 5:18

"O LORD, the hope of Israel, all who forsake thee shall be put to shame; those who turn away from thee shall be written in the earth, for they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living water. Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved; for thou art my praise."

Jeremiah 17:13-14

Healing for the obedient

"If you will diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give heed to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases upon you which I put upon the Egyptians; for I am the LORD, your healer."

Exodus 15:26

"But for you who fear my Name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go forth leaping like calves from the stall."

Malachi 4:2

"May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Healing for those who repent

"Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones."

Proverbs 3:7-8

"Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, Here I am. "If you take

away from the midst of you the yoke, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. And the LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your desire with good things, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.”

Isaiah 58:8-10

“Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn, that he may heal us; he has stricken, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD; his going forth is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.””

Hosea 6:1-3

Healing for those who are merciful to the poor

“Blessed is he who considers the poor! The LORD delivers him in the day of trouble; the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; thou dost not give him up to the will of his enemies. The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness thou healest all his infirmities.”

Psalms 41:1-3

Healing of the land

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

Healing in answer to our cry

“O LORD my God, I cried to thee for help, and thou hast healed me.”

Psalms 30:2

The prayer of faith

“Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.”

James 5:14-15

“Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects.”

James 5:16

Trusting in the Lord

“I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure. For thou dost not give me up to Sheol, or let thy godly one see the Pit. Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fulness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures for evermore.” **Psalm 16:8-11**

Healing through the Word of God

“My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to him who finds them, and healing to all his flesh.”

Proverbs 4:20-22

“Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.”

Proverbs 16:24

Healing of inner wounds

“The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.” **Psalm 147:2-3**

“Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.” **Isaiah 53:4**

The Cross of Christ

“But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.” **Isaiah 53:5**

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.”

1 Peter 2:24

The Name of Jesus

“And his name, by faith in his name, has made this man strong whom you see and know; and the faith which is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.” **Acts 3:16**

The Anointing

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.” **Isaiah 10:27**

“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.” **Acts 10:38**

“Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. There shall no more be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and his servants shall worship him;” **Revelations 22:1-3**

Freedom from demons

“So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them.” **Matthew 4:24**

“That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick.” **Matthew 8:16**

“That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick. This was to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, “He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.” **Matthew 8:16-17**

“And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;” **Mark 16:17**

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.” **Isaiah 10:27**

APPENDIX 5

Sin & Occult list

This sin & occult list is adapted from Bill Subritzky's literature (see website, Dove Ministries).

Recognizing our Sin is Half the Battle

Often people don't recognize their sins because no one ever told them it was sin. This list of sins and occult is meant to be a blessing and help to people. As we identify our sins we can then confess them to God and receive forgiveness and peace. A real barrier in recognizing sin is the way that we justify what we do.

For example, some justify their anger by blaming the other person – "It's their fault that I'm angry because they.....". Others justify pornography as "a personal diversion which doesn't harm anyone". Men may justify violence in marriage "because it is the only way she will learn". White lies are said to be "necessary and useful".

There is no end to the reasons we give to justify our sins. Such arguments become demonic fortresses of the mind that must be identified as unbiblical deceptions. True repentance begins when we stop justifying our sin, and call it what it is: sin. Then the cleansing work of the Blood of Jesus can begin in us.

"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor sexual perverts, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God."

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

Sin is sin, and we are guilty before God for our rebellion. Sin brings condemnation, curses, demons, eternal death, guilt and sickness. God requires humility in repentance so that there might be forgiveness and peace with Him. While we defend our sins, we have not truly repented, and therefore are not forgiven by God. Through repentance you can receive peace and forgiveness from God.

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1:8-9

The greatest sin

Not believing in Jesus Christ as the only Saviour

Sins of the tongue:

Lies
 Anger, shouting
 Making fun of others in their need
 Coarse language, swearing
 Slander
 Criticism
 Judging others
 Gossip
 Self curses (e.g. "I am worthless, I will never succeed.")
 Cursing others (e.g. "He will always be sick.")
 Grumbling/criticism against the leadership of the church.
 Unfulfilled promises and good intentions.
 Using God's Name in vain
 Blasphemy

Sins in the family:

Neglect of children
 Lack of discipline and order in the family.
 Not teaching the Bible to one's children.
 Lack of respect for your partner
 Putting down your spouse in front of others.
 Lack of love and mistreatment of one's wife
 Not honoring & obeying the husband.

Violence and anger in the marriage.
 Violence towards children.
 Disobeying parents
 Lack of respect of parents

Sins of the heart:

Unforgiveness
 Resentment
 Bitterness
 Holding grudges
 Hate
 Lust
 Greed
 Envy and covetousness
 Pride
 Selfishness
 Jealousy
 Double mindedness
 Lack of faith, doubt
 Anxiety, worry, not trusting God.
 Racism and bigotry

Various sins:

Lack of love towards God and others.
 Religiosity and legalism
 Persecution of Christians
 Religious pride
 Lack of daily prayer and Bible reading
 Lack of prayer for authorities in the church
 Lack of obedience, respect and support of church leaders and pastors.
 Causing division in the body of Christ.
 Rebellion and disrespect towards authority.

Laziness
 Stealing
 Addictions
 Taking advantage of others unjustly
 Violence
 Impatience
 Manipulation
 Deceit
 Not visiting the sick and prisoners
 Mistreating the poor and needy
 Murder
 Vengeance
 Abortion
 Drunkenness
 Bribes
 Attending worldly parties with drinking & dancing.
 Videos or films of violence, horror, swearing, pornography.
 Inappropriate TV watching

Sins of the use of resources:

Dressing luxuriously as an expression of pride & vanity.
 Buying things out of vanity.
 Gambling
 Using our time wastefully
 Not obeying God with our finances (tithing and offerings)
 Lack of compassion and generosity to the poor
 Using our resources selfishly
 Not offering hospitality
 Financial irresponsibility
 Not paying taxes
 Not declaring income in order to receive government assistance.

Not paying child maintenance

Sins against the Holy Spirit:

Resisting or grieving the Holy Spirit
 Criticizing and belittling the work and manifestations of the Holy Spirit
 Mistreating and persecuting those who are used by God in the Anointing
 Speaking against the gifts of the Holy Spirit

Sins in the work place

Laziness or sloppiness at work
 Taking advantage of and mistreating employees.
 Not paying or withholding appropriate wages.
 Borrowing and not returning is stealing.
 Unjust or illegal contracts
 Corruption
 Not paying taxes

Sexual sins:

Perverse sexual acts – oral, anal, or sex with an animal.
 Violent or forced sex (including in the marriage).
 Rape
 Prostitution
 Fornication
 Adultery
 Masturbation
 Homosexuality
 Lesbianism

Sex between family members – incest
 Pornography
 Lustful thinking

Obsessions & addictions

Addiction to smoking, alcohol, novels, TV, the internet, computer games, video games, or play stations.

NB. Watching TV, reading novels, using the internet and games are not necessarily sins, but lack of self-control in these areas is.

Occult and witchcraft sins:

Acupuncture
 Amulets (good luck objects, etc)
 Ancestral worship
 Ankh (a cross with a ring top used in satanic rites).
 Apparitions – occultic
 Astral traveling
 Astrology
 Automatic writing
 Birth signs
 Black arts
 Black mass
 Blood pacts
 Casting of spells and curses
 Chain letters
 Colour therapy
 Conjuraton (summoning up a spirit)
 Consulting medium, spiritists, witchdoctors or psychic healers.

Contact with spirits
 Control of objects by mental power (Tk or Pk).
 Coven of witches
 Crystal ball gazing
 Crystals & stones
 Demon worship
 Divining rod, twig or pendulum
 Dungeons and dragons
 Eastern meditation
 ESP
 Fire walking
 Fortune telling
 Halloween
 Hallucinogenic drugs
 Hard rock & heavy metal secular music
 Harry Potter novels, toys & movies
 Horoscopes
 Hypnosis
 Idols and images used in worship
 Incantations
 Iridology (eye diagnosis)
 Jonathan Livingstone Seagull (reincarnation).
 Judo
 Karate
 Kung-fu
 Levitation
 Listening to demonic voices (including voices of deceased).
 Magic (not sleight of hand but supernatural power)
 Manipulation and cursing of others
 Mantras
 Martial arts
 Mental suggestion, telepathy, therapy
 Mesmerism

Mind control, dynamics,
 mediumship, mind reading.
 Necromancy (conjuring up
 spirits of the dead)
 New Age (in all its diverse
 forms)
 Numerology
 Occultic games
 Ouiji boards
 Occult novels, magazines,
 music, or movies
 Pagan rites, religious objects,
 artifacts and relics
 Palmistry
 Pokemon Cards
 Satanism
 Secret society oaths
 Sorcery
 Soul traveling
 Spells
 Spirit guides or friends
 Spiritism
 Star signs
 Superstitions
 Tarot Cards
 Tea-leaf reading
 The Lodge (Free Masonry)
 TM – transcendental meditation
 Videos and movies of violence,
 horror, pornography, occult.
 White magic
 Witchcraft
 Yoga
 Zodiac signs

**Sects, World Religions
 & Philosophies:**

*It is important to
 renounce all oaths, pacts and
 baptisms made with any sect or
 secret society, destroy their
 religious objects, and destroy*

*any books that are not in
 accord with Scripture.*

*A sect is a religious group
 that has one or more of the
 following characteristics:*

- Denies the full divinity of
 Jesus Christ.
- Doesn't recognize the full
 authority of the Bible as the
 basis of faith and conduct.
- Accepts prophecies,
 traditions, and other books as
fundamental to belief and
 practice.
- Denies the Trinity, that of
 God the Father, Son, and
 Holy Spirit.
- Emphasizes traditions and
 rules to gain salvation.

*All religions that deny
 that Jesus Christ is the only
 Saviour and way to God are to
 be renounced.*

*To pray to, to use as a
 mediator, to show religious
 respect, or to worship idols and
 images.*

*To burn candles to them,
 to prostrate or bow before an
 idol or image.*

Seventh Day Adventists
 Amanda Marga Yoga Society
 Bahai
 Buddhism
 Catholicism
 Children of God
 Christadelphians
 Christian Science
 Communism
 Confucianism
 Divine Light Mission

EST
Hare Krishna
Hinduism
Islam
Jehovah's witnesses
Marxism
Materialism
Mormons
The International Way
The New Age (in all its diverse
forms)
Unification Church (Moonies)
Universal Church of God

