

"Giving you the tools to change your world."



THE PROOF OF DIVINE HEALING

A LIFETEAM STUDY GUIDE- COURSE 1



The Proof of Divine Healing

John G. Lake Ministries

Dedicated to Jesus Christ

Also dedicated to the loved ones of those who died of sickness and disease before God's healing power reached them through the hands of a believer.

God's Word, His message, is a seed. It is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. Once rooted, this seed transforms first the spirit, then the soul and body, resulting in an active, dynamic, fruit-filled life as we grow up into Him, Jesus Christ.

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All Scripture in this study is given in the New King James Version translation unless otherwise noted.

JGLM highly recommends Biblesoft's PC Study Bible

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IMPORTANT NOTE: JGLM does not comment concerning your use of medical treatment. The information presented in this study guide and in the accompanying teaching is in no way intended as advice or instruction concerning the use of medicine, medical treatment, or the avoidance thereof. Each person is responsible to investigate all methods of remedy they are contemplating.

**“When a child of God speaks, heaven hears
and agrees; hell hears and obeys.”**

~Curry Blake

To the Life Team Leader

The JGLM Life Team Vision:

To assist Christians in growing up into Christ in all things by fulfilling the Great Commission and producing spiritually mature Christians in the shortest time possible.

The best and fastest way to grow up into Christ is total immersion. That means the God permeates every part of our lives as we abide in Him and He in us. We are transformed by the renewing of our mind by knowing God's Word and doing God's Word. This study has been designed to offer Life Team members a structured plan to do just that.

Using this Study Guide

For more information on printing or copying this document, see the "About this Study Guide" section in the front of this book.

In this section we discuss the components of this material packet and how it may be used in your team meetings. Due to the uniqueness of each Life Team, the Leader should consider this material to be a help and a guide, with lots of room for flexibility in discussion and activities as the Holy Spirit guides you into all truth. If your group desires to remain on a session for more than one week, or would like to take more time to develop in a particular Scripture passage or topic, feel free to do so!

Here is the basic layout for each week:

Life Team Lesson	One per team meeting, with Scriptures throughout the course of the session
"Listen to Audio Teaching Track"	Short audio teaching clips from Curry Blake. The fill-in blanks help to bring out some of the main points and encourage dialogue among team members. These teachings are optional but definitely enhance and deepen the weekly lesson.

Discussion Questions	Basic questions following the session to further absorb the lesson and bring out deeper revelation.
Digging Deeper	The questions in these sessions are designed to encourage active thinking and inspire deeper study and discussion as a team. Team members are encouraged to not just express their opinions, but support their answers with Scripture. These questions are optional but recommended.
Homework	<p>Each week the team should decide which of the homework “assignments” to do. There are two types of assignments for each lesson.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A Bible study assignment. This assignment’s aim is to direct personal study based on the current week’s lesson. <p>And</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. A Bible reading assignment. At approximately 1 chapter per day, these Scriptures are selected to help prepare you for the next lesson. <p>Being in the Word daily will reap big rewards, but if we do it without purpose it can become a religious act. These assignments are optional but are very beneficial as we progress through the study.</p>

You will find that the concepts presented in this study are simple but life changing. Remember that God’s message is simple. Deeper revelation doesn’t necessarily mean more complex. In fact, it is usually the opposite.

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Be encouraged to take time to sit and meditate on the concepts as you go through them before your Life Team meets, allowing the Holy Spirit time to speak and reveal truth.

Getting Truth from God's Word

"What do you mean, *revelation*?" Many of your team members may not know what it is like to receive revelation from God through the Holy Spirit. Let your group know that they do not have to wait for God to decide what new revelation they will receive. Revelation will come in the area that you/they choose to fervently study, so encourage your group to go after it!

Don't be afraid to raise questions that you do not have an answer for; with the Holy Spirit, you and your team WILL discover God's answers through His Word. Encourage your group in knowing that spiritual maturity is fostered when one can rest in not knowing all the answers but continue expecting that the answers are coming.

Growth/Spiritual Maturity does not come from memorizing the passages or answers to doctrinal questions, but from the Holy Spirit making God's Word come alive. This happens through relationship and action spurred on from that relationship as we actively pursue His truth by learning, saying and acting on that truth. Then the concept is not just something we heard a preacher say, or something we read in a commentary; it becomes an integral part of our Christian life and something that we've experienced through the Holy Spirit.

About the Statement of Faith in Lesson 1

As you proceed through lesson 1, you will find a Statement of Faith. Signing this statement is very meaningful, and you may want to formalize the process of signing this document publically in a meeting by using one of these suggestions:

1. All team member sign the agreement simultaneously, or
2. Each team member individually reads the statement aloud and signs it in front of the group acting as witnesses.

This signed statement of faith may be kept in the team member's journal or all signed papers may be kept at the Life Team meeting place. Simply determine what will be the most meaningful for your team members as you make this commitment to believe God's Word in entirety.

About the Survey

The goal of the Survey toward the beginning of this book is to encourage people to think about their beliefs concerning healing. It is good for team members to realize doctrinal areas where they are unclear or may have lingering unbelief. Once these areas are exposed, people can then study them out, and with Holy Spirit revelation, renew their minds to God's truth.

Before distributing the survey, determine how you will discuss the answers. Here are some options:

1. You may want to forego telling the answers, simply storing the surveys until the last lesson is completed. After the last lesson, ask the team to take the survey again to compare before/after.
2. You may want to give the answers right away. However, this can raise lots of premature questions and discussion before the study helps to build the case for divine healing.

Be careful to quench any unhealthy arguments or pride that may crop up during group discussion of any topic.

About the Scripture Confessions/Declarations Section

Daily Scripture Declarations are key to mind renewal. This special *Live It!* in the back of Week 1 includes (1) a teaching and (2) a sample Daily Confession.

Team members may listen and discuss this teaching together or on their own during the week. The teaching, called, "Making Declarations," is available as track 16 on the accompanying CD/MP3 or online here.

Beginning Week 2, incorporate Scripture Confessions/Declarations into your group meetings regularly. Encourage the team to pick out New Testament Scriptures that are meaningful to them or verses they are struggling to believe and personalize them into Declarations.

Making Declarations web address:

<http://forums.jglm.org/showthread.php?2004-Curry-Blake-Making-Declarations&highlight=declarations>

To the Life Team Member

Is Divine Healing for Today?

Most of us have heard about someone who experienced a miraculous healing in their life. Most people believe that healing exists, but they think of it more like a lottery. They may do everything they can to be healed, and when everything else fails, try prayer. Most people use God as a last resort and are hoping that God heals them because nothing else has worked.

Some think that perhaps God in His mercy will find us worthy of healing. Some may think that if they could just “get enough” faith going they would get healed. They may even think that God wants some to suffer or even die because He has a mysterious plan to use it to reach more people.

The biggest problem is that many of us have never acquired a true biblical understanding of healing for ourselves. Many have blindly adopted the opinions of other believers, or form their beliefs to match what they see. When we study God’s promise of healing for ourselves, many are surprised to find that there are ample unscriptural beliefs lurking in their minds.

The Goal

This study will help you to solidify your biblical foundation in divine healing. This study will be best used by Life Team members that have already attended or listened to a Divine Healing Technician Training. If you have not attended or listened to a Divine Healing Technician training seminar, we recommend that you do so prior to completing this study. There is a free DHT on JGLM’s media website, or click [here](#).

As you proceed through these sessions, you and your fellow Life Team members will be challenged to think about what you have been taught and believe. Through study and revelation in God’s Word, by the end, you will have the necessary tools to answer many questions about divine healing.

It is common to answer questions on divine healing by starting with, “I believe,” “I heard,” or “My pastor said...” A much better way to answer these questions begins with, “God’s Word says ...” because God’s Word is our final authority. This study is based on the truth of the Word of God and will help you to re-establish what you know with God’s Truth (not man’s ideas) as your foundation.

Survey

Just for fun, answer the questions below before continuing on. Sometimes we do not realize how we think about a topic until asked. Choose the answer according to how you honestly feel, not how you want to believe. Answers may be kept private, but healthy discussion on these questions is a great place to start.

1. How much of the Bible do you believe?
 - A) All
 - B) Most
 - C) Some
 - D) Depends on if I can prove it
2. My basic belief on divine healing is:
 - A) It is always God's Will to heal, but believers must do their part.
 - B) God decides when He wants to heal someone. The chances of getting healed are small.
 - C) Healing was used to establish the Christian church and then passed away.
 - D) Healing is not for today but will happen in the end times.
3. Where does your belief about divine healing come from?
 - A) I have studied it in the Bible and I have witnessed people getting healed.
 - B) From teaching I have heard on the subject or books I have read.
 - C) From a lot of research I have done; divine healing is very complicated.
 - D) From experience. I (or someone else) have prayed and the sick have not been healed.
 - E) I have really never studied the topic.
4. (True/False) For someone to get healed, usually a believer/Christian has to do something.
5. (True/False) The Bible tells us that healing has passed away
6. (True/False) God only uses some believers with a special gift to heal the sick.
7. (True/False) Jesus commanded all believers to preach the Gospel and lay hands on the sick

Week 1 – Healing in the Bible: Will You Believe It?



At the very foundation of our faith, we must first decide whether we believe that the Bible is true. Note that the question is NOT whether the Bible is true or false. The Bible is TRUE whether you believe it or not! Think about it for a minute.

Do you believe the Bible is true? Do you believe all of it or just some of it? Do you base your beliefs on what you have been able to prove and see in “real life” rather than what the Bible says?

Once we accept the Bible as the authoritative, infallible Word of God, we can begin to discover and activate His promises in our lives by faith. The Bible is true and God is the source of all truth.

You cannot *hope* or *wish* that it is true. You must decide to believe it - period. The Bible is not something to “try out,” because you will not see the promises of the Bible fulfilled until you believe them. Have you met someone who took a verse out of the Bible and “tried it” for a week, saw nothing, then chose not to believe that piece of the Bible based on their experience?

You do not have to understand every Scripture or prove every concept in order to believe. You don't need to have an answer for every critic that you meet, because believing is a choice. Understanding and answers will come as you mature and grow up in your faith. A secret to understanding the Bible is to do what it says. The truth of the Bible becomes clearer as we do it.

We hear about faith over and over again in the Bible. Biblical concepts often work the opposite of our human logic. Have you heard the phrase, “I'll believe it when I see it?” We think that we have to prove and see something before we believe it. God says that we choose to believe it, and then we see it (Mark 11:24). We don't have to prove the Bible and disprove everything else.

Before you give a quick answer, let us fully establish the commitment you are making! Here is the most difficult part: you must believe it ALL. Often, people pick out verses that they choose to believe and those they do not. This is usually based on man's traditions that are taught in many churches but are not supported in the Bible. You must believe every word*.

*Note! In Bible study, it is extremely important to pay attention to the translation. Some Bibles take broad liberties in the translation from the original Greek or Hebrew. As a result, some translations contain more of the translator's opinion than others, which can lead to false doctrines.

The Words in the Bible Most Christians Don't Believe

Consider this passage:

Luke 10:19 – The Believer's Authority

¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you

Note the underlined words, "all" and "nothing." These words are absolutes, meaning that there are no exceptions. That means that there is not even one bit of power that the enemy has over us. Jesus gave us power (authority) over every single bit of the enemy's power (ability). In addition, it says that nothing shall hurt us. That means that Jesus has given us authority over everything. Jesus is telling us that His (God's) will is that nothing should ever hurt us and has solidified it by declaring it in His Word.

Do you see how these absolute words, like "all" and "nothing" change the meaning of the verse when you take them literally? The words, "all" and "nothing" in this verse add up to a powerful promise, but since we may not have experienced it in our lives it can be difficult to believe.

It is important to believe these promises, because God works by faith. We experience His promises when we believe they are true. Below are more words in the Bible that most Christians don't believe. God's Word takes on new meaning when we contemplate absolute words such as these:

- | | | |
|-------|--------------|--------------|
| * Any | * Everything | * Whatsoever |
| * All | * Nothing | * Whosoever |

The purpose of this study is not to prove that God's Word is true, but to use the truth of God's Word to prove divine healing. The Word of God is the foundation for all our beliefs.

When it comes to God's Word, partial believing is the same as not believing. Partial believing is partial doubting and when you

doubt (are double-minded) you will not receive God's promises. A partial truth is a complete lie.

Do you believe God's Word – ALL of it? If so, carefully consider and sign the following statement of faith.

Statement of Faith

I, _____, have made a firm decision to believe that the Bible is the absolute, complete, true Word of God. The Word of God is true and the source of all truth.

Even though I may not understand all of it yet, I choose to believe all of it. As I walk with God, I will have and use the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:17) to extract the truth out of the Scriptures and apply them in my life.

Sign: _____

Date: _____

“That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him” - Ephesians 1:17

Homework

How to Study the Bible

Revelation from the Holy Spirit

The Bible is the only physical connection we have with God. No matter how important prayer, praise, worship and good works are, studying the Bible is absolutely key to a vibrant, growing relationship with Father God. Part of the reason Jesus died and rose was to give us the Holy Spirit. One of the Holy Spirit's primary jobs is to reveal the truth in the Bible as we study.

John 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

Jesus describes the Holy Spirit as the "Spirit of Truth." His job is to lead us into all truth! The Spirit of Truth reveals truth not only in the things of God, but also serves as a "truth detector" in the things of the spirit and of this world.

1 John 2:20

²⁰ But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.

In 1 John 2:20 we learn that the anointing from the Holy Spirit enables you to know all things. This is because God knows all things, and when you have the Holy Spirit abiding in you, then you, too, have access to know what man calls "the mysteries of God."

Many are raised with the idea that there are some mysteries that will never be understood. The truth is that there were mysteries that God had hidden away, but Colossians 1:26 says that Jesus changed all that.

Colossians 1:26

²⁶ the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

¹Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ **and stewards of the mysteries of God.** ²Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

Because the Holy Spirit lived in Paul, he was a steward of the things that the world considered, “mysteries of God,” This means that you are a steward of those mysteries, too!

Have you ever read a passage over and over again through the years, then one day something just “clicked,” and you received an exciting new “revelation” of truth? This revelation came from God Himself through His Word. Revelation from the Bible through the Holy Spirit is what renews your mind and makes God’s promises come alive in your life.

The great news is that there is no end to the revelation you can get from God’s Word. Every Scripture is pregnant with revelation just waiting to come from God’s Spirit who lives inside you, into your mind and heart. You don’t have to beg God for revelation, it has already been given to you as a gift. You just have to open it. There are certain things that make revelation come easier and faster, though. To get the most out of your Bible study time, incorporate some of the following key concepts.

† **What do you want to know?**

The Word says that if we seek we will find (Matthew 7:7). Study is most effective when we are open and actively seeking answers in God’s Word. Think about what you would ask God if He were physically sitting next to you right now. Write down your questions in your journal.

Do a little experiment:

1. Read Luke 17. What truths did you notice in the passage?
2. Now ask a question: “Did every healing of Jesus happen instantly?” Read Luke 17 again.
3. You will notice that from this passage, apparently the 10 lepers were not healed instantly, but “as they went.” This interesting point shows that the healing was not instant in this case, but Jesus had

absolute faith that they were healed, and that healing manifested “as they went.”

As you receive answers to your questions through study of God’s Word, write down the answers, along with the date.

† **Read each verse slowly and carefully**

Slow down and give your mind time to digest what you are reading. Read the verse OUT LOUD and make certain that you say every word. You will be amazed at how much difference it makes to slow down and read out loud.

† **Know if the passage was written before or after the cross**

It is important to know if the Scripture you are reading was written before or after the New Covenant was established. If you are aware of the covenant the people are under, it makes a big difference in how we think about the truths we find there. The Bible is pure truth, but it is truth under the covenant that was active at the time each book was written. All of the Old Testament, and nearly all the chapters in the four Gospels happened before the New Covenant was established.

† **Think through: Who, What, When, Where, Why, How, and What Now?**

Be a detective! Ask these questions as you study to understand each verse. What impact does this Scripture have? What point is God trying to make through that passage today?

† **Understand the translation and commentary.**

Have you noticed how particular news sources seem to have a particular inclination or bias? In the same way, many of the creators of new Bible translations have biases or beliefs that may come through in the translation. Many translations have taken liberties in translating from the original language and should not be used in study.



JGLM recommends the following translations: KJV, NKJV, ESV, The Dake Annotated Reference Bible, Wuest "The New Testament An Expanded Translation," and Young's Literal Translation of the Bible.

What is Commentary? Bible Commentary usually appears at the bottom of each page, and it consists of a person's belief as to what the passage means. Reading someone else's opinion can make it more difficult to receive revelation from the Holy Spirit on a passage, because you have already stored someone else's interpretation in your mind. For this reason, reading commentary is usually not recommended, especially if you do not know who wrote the commentary, or what the writer's doctrinal beliefs were.

What if I still don't understand it?

First, know that we must have patience in Bible study, yet remain focused on the goal (Galatians 6:9). Here are some suggestions in the event that you come across a verse that is difficult to understand or a verse that many people debate.

Suggestion #1 - Repeat the verse OUT LOUD, emphasizing a different word each time

For example, John 14:15:

If you love me, keep my commandments
If **you** love me, keep my commandments
If you **love** me, keep my commandments
If you love **me**, keep my commandments
If you love me, **keep** my commandments
If you love me, keep **my** commandments
If you love me, keep my **commandments**

Each time you read the verse with a different emphasis, you will see new truth emerge. A verse you have read for years suddenly comes to life, and understanding deepens as you see God's truth from different angles. *{Hint: This method is also incredibly helpful for Bible memorization, too!}*

Suggestion #2 – Read and consider it *in context*

1. Read several verses before and after the Scripture in question.
2. To gain an even better understanding of the context, expand your reading area, reading the chapter before, the chapter that contains the verse, and the chapter after. Remember, man put the chapter and verse separators in, not God.
3. Find other verses on the same topic. This can be done using a concordance (such as Strong's Concordance), a computer Bible search website, or other references.

Suggestion #3 – Look up the meaning of the actual Greek words

This is where some people think that they must have a theological degree from a seminary to look up words in the Greek, but YOU CAN DO IT! It is well worth the effort of learning how to look up the meaning of the Greek words. Why? Because there are many Greek words that do not exactly translate into English, we only have the point of view taken by those who wrote the particular translation. Looking at the original Greek word and its definition provides a greater depth of understanding and retention.

Study Tools for looking up the original Greek:

- Ø Use a good reference, such as "The Strongest Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible" by James Strong. This concordance includes the Greek for the New Testament and Hebrew for the Old Testament.
- Ø Subscribe to an online Bible study resource like "Biblesoft's PC Study Bible."
- Ø One of the easiest ways is to look up the verse using an interlinear Greek and English reference available at your Christian bookstore or free online such as at: www.biblestudytools.com

Try it!



Suppose that you are seeking to know more about God's power and how it works in and through us. Luke 10:19 is a verse that mentions both the power of the enemy and the power Jesus gave us to us.

Luke 10:19

¹⁹ Behold, I give unto you **power** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the **power** of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (KJV)

In this verse, we see the same English word, "power" used twice. Does this mean that the believer and the enemy have the same amount and type of power? Using the following steps, we look up both instances of the word, "power" in the original Greek.

1. Go to www.biblestudytools.com, click to search the Interlinear Bible. Enter **Luke 10:19** in the Search box and specify **King James Version**.
2. In the resulting Scripture, click on the first occurrence of the word, "power" to find that the original Greek word is "*exousia*." Read the definition of this word. In your journal, take note that this instance of "power" means, "authority."
3. Click the Back button to return to the verse, then click on the second occurrence of "power" to find that the original Greek word is "*dunamis*." Read the definition of this word. Take note that this instance of "power" means, "ability."
4. Read the passage aloud, substituting the definition of the Greek words for each instance of "power."

For example, we say, "Behold, I give unto you **authority** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the **ability** of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

Consider: How does our understanding of this passage change when we substitute the meaning of the original Greek word? It says that Jesus has given us **authority** over the enemy's **ability**. Just like a criminal, the enemy has some ability, but has no authority. However, a police officer has authority *and* ability. Even though a

criminal has ability, he does not have authority. The police officer's authority overrides the criminal's ability.

Suggestion #4 – Understand your Bible's notation

Italicized words (slightly slanted text that looks like "*this*") in the NKJV and some other translations are words that the translators added to help the reader. These words did not come from the original Greek. Take some time to read the notes in the front of your Bible that explain what various notations mean, such as cross references, special fonts, and numerals.

Go After It!

The very best way to renew our minds to God's way of thinking, know His commands, follow His example, and abide in Him is by studying His Word. Stop wondering about the answers to your spiritual questions and just Go After It! The Holy Spirit will reveal truth in the area that you desire – it is up to you.


In study, do your best to forget about what you have been taught by man and be open to what God has to say. Everything that man says should always be questioned against what God has said in His Word. The Bible warns us about incorrect teachings and false teachers, no matter how long you have known them or how good their motives are. As you study, the Holy Spirit in you will serve as a "truth detector," to discern more and more what are lies and what is truth. God's Word is true. Before accepting a doctrine, always study it out for yourself.

It is not enough to only study God's Word, though. You have to DO it! Put God's truth into action, and as you do, your relationship with God through the Holy Spirit will flourish. You will receive new revelations, develop God's love for others, and a passion for knowing and doing His Word.

Live It!

1. Scriptural Declaration/Confession

All Life Teams are encouraged to do Scriptural Confessions/Declarations together. If you have never done Scriptural Declarations to get the Word in you and renew your mind, we have included an audio teaching on the accompanying CD at Track 16. The same teaching is available as a free video online by clicking [here](#) or by going to this link: <http://forums.jglm.org/showthread.php?2004-Curry-Blake-Making-Declarations&highlight=declarations>

	<p>Listen to Audio Teaching Track 16 – (8 ½ minutes)</p> <p>Making Declarations</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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On the following page, you will find a sample of a Daily Declaration/Confession by Curry Blake. Your group may want to use this confession at first, then branch out by adding Scriptures, personalizing and claiming them as your own. When stating these declarations, use a strong, assertive tone. Think about what you are saying and choose to believe it.

Your team may either read the declarations together or choose a leader to read one phrase at a time and let the rest repeat after the leader. Rotate the person who leads, always keeping in mind that the leader sets the tone, which should be strong and assertive!

Note: For those dedicated to renewing their mind, we strongly recommend the confession CD/MP3, "Acknowledging What Is In You" from the JGLM store (store.jglm.org). This CD is a recording of a live session of extensive Scriptural Declarations done with Curry Blake.

Daily Confessions by Curry Blake

Father, I believe your Word. Your Word is true. What it says is true. What it says I can do, I can do. What it says I am, I am. I'm going to do what it says I can do. I'm going to activate the power of God in my life. I'm going to make my faith effective by acknowledging every good thing in me that is in Christ Jesus because it's not I who live, but Christ who lives in me. I died, was buried, and I was raised up with Him to sit with him in heavenly places far above all principalities and powers. That means far above all sickness and disease.

I am no longer under the beggarly elements of this world, but I'm over them. They don't tell me what to do; I tell them what to do. I tell the flu to get away from me, and it flees. I tell poverty to get away from me and it flees. God has given me the ability to create wealth so that I can establish His covenant on the earth. I work with my hands. I'm healthy. I'm strong. I am an overcomer because greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. I tread upon serpents and scorpions. I have authority over all the ability of the enemy, and nothing, Nothing, NOTHING shall by any means hurt me, touch my family, or come near my dwelling. When sickness tries to come toward me, I'll run toward it. It flees in 7 directions because greater is He that is in me.

The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. I'm free from sin. I don't walk in sin. I walk in holiness. I walk in righteousness. I don't walk in death. I don't walk in sickness. I walk in life. I don't have abundant life. I have life abundant! I have life enough for me, and I have life enough to give away. I have health. Healing is in my hands, and I can give it away. What I have I can give. I have Christ, I have life, I have health, I have strength.

I have the spirit of power, of love, and of a sound mind. Not the spirit of timidity. I have clarity of thought. I don't have anything that clouds my mind. I keep my mind focused. My mind is stayed on Him and because of that I stay in perfect peace. I don't care what the stock market is going to do, because the kingdom of heaven is going to stay the same. I am not of this world—I'm in it

but not of it. I'm of the kingdom of God.

Jesus is Lord. He is Lord over me, Lord over my house, Lord over my health, Lord over my finances, Lord over my family, Lord over all my property. My property belongs to him and therefore the devil can't touch it. Jesus is Lord!

I have an anointing that abides. It doesn't come and go. It abides. It is the Holy Spirit himself. The fullness of God dwells in Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ dwells in me. The Spirit dwells in me. The Father dwells in me. I'm so full of God that there is no room for the devil. There is no room for sickness or disease. There is only room for health and life. I have so much health and life I'm overflowing. People that get around me get infected with life. They get healed and they don't even know why. I am going to tell them because I preach the gospel to every creature. I lay hands on the sick, and they do recover. I can do the same works that Jesus did and greater because He went to the Father. Now I'm going to let my light shine so that man can see my good works and glorify my Father which is in heaven.

Amen!

Week 2 - The Old Testament versus New Testament

Up to this point in the study we have made a definitive decision to believe the ENTIRE Bible. As most believers know, the Bible is comprised of the Old Testament and the New Testament. We will now discuss the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament, along with the Old Covenant and New Covenant. This will be key in beginning to understand the promises that God has made in the past and how they apply to us today.

Old Testament: 39 books of the Bible, from Genesis to Malachi. The Old Testament is primarily historical, mostly stories of God's interactions with His followers and His people, the Israelites. It also shows us the giants of faith from the past and the great blessings that come from following God.

It is common to look at the Old Testament and fail to see the same loving God as in the New Testament. The truth is that the Old Testament is still part of a love story in which God desires to reconcile His chosen people (the Israelites) back to Himself, just as He does with all mankind in the New Testament.

New Testament: 27 books of the Bible, from Matthew to Revelation. Begins just prior to the birth of Jesus, including historical accounts of the life of Jesus and the early church. Includes the divinely inspired revelations of some of Jesus' disciples and apostles, providing God's foundational principles to live by, His plan for man and who we are in Christ Jesus.

Many people find it confusing when they read the Bible as they would a storybook, from cover to cover. They don't see how the God of the Old Testament is the same as the God of the New Testament. However, the Bible states very clearly in both the Old and New Testaments that God does not change.

Old Testament - Malachi 3:6a

⁶For I *am* the LORD, I do not change

New Testament - Hebrews 13:8

⁸Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever

Even though God does not change, God's dealings with mankind changed dramatically from the Old to the New Covenant. One of

the biggest changes, however, was after Adam and Eve sinned. Before that, there was nothing between God and Adam in the garden, but when man sinned, man separated himself from God.

The Old Covenant: Covenant between God and Abraham, and between God and Abraham's Seed (Jesus). Among other things, this covenant stated that Abraham would be the father of many nations, inherit the land and bless people of the earth through Abraham's Seed. In the Bible, the Old Covenant began in the Old Testament from the time of Abraham (Genesis) through the point in the New Testament when Jesus rose from the dead.

Genesis 17:1-7 – The Old Covenant was between God and Abraham

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. 2 And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." 3 Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: 4 "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. 5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you 7 And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.



Extra Credit!

Look up more promises to Abram in Genesis 12:1-3.

See an additional portion of God's covenant with Abram in Genesis 15:18-19.

The Law: The commandments given to Moses by God (see Gal 3:17 below). These commandments were part of a covenant promise that God's people accepted in faith, believing God would do what He said. In return, the people promised God complete devotion and dedication to Him. The Ten Commandments were a spoken and written set of obligations that His people promised to obey to demonstrate their devotion to God and separation from sin. Following these commandments kept the Israelites from sinning and showed them the character of God.

The Law was put in place to deal with man's sin in an effort to bring back relationship with God. The Law gave them rules to live by and a way to receive forgiveness of sins in an effort to reconcile men back to God. Under the Law, we see God responding to people's sin according to the laws that He had set in place. We see strict rules, animal sacrifices and lives governed by law, especially the 10 commandments given to Moses.



Note: Later, the Pharisees added many man-made "laws" to the 10 commandments. Jesus followed all the God-given laws, but was not bound by the man-made laws. Jesus challenged the man-made laws, which the Pharisees used to stir up doubt and anger against Him.



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 1 – (4 ½ minutes)

Galatians 3:16-22

God's promise to Abraham was to one _____.

God made a covenant with _____ through Abraham

The Law was added because of _____, not as a part of the covenant with Abraham.

Life does not come by the _____.

We are not under the Law if we are in Christ.

It is not about you! We don't have a covenant with God, Jesus does. We are in Him. When we are in Him, His covenant counts for us.

Galatians 3:17

¹⁷ And this I say, *that* the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect

Galatians 3:19 – The Law was added because of transgressions

¹⁹ What purpose then *does* the law *serve*? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; *and it was* appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.

Notice that the Law was in effect until the Seed (Jesus) came. The New Covenant went into effect shortly after the beginning of the New Testament, after Jesus died and rose from the dead.

The New Covenant came because Jesus fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

Matthew 5:17

¹⁷ Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

New Covenant: A covenant made between God and Jesus. Jesus fulfilled the terms of this covenant by coming to earth, living a sinless life and dying on the cross. When He rose from the dead, He defeated death and satan. After Jesus rose, the Old Covenant and the Law were no longer valid for believers in Jesus. Jesus

fulfilled the law, which allowed God to deal with mankind the way that He originally wanted to.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ³² not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. ³³ But this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

The New Covenant allowed God to have a relationship with man like He originally wanted – like he had with Adam, with no separation. After sin, God was separated from us, forced to keep man under law due to sin. Under the New Covenant, Jesus paid for man to be made righteous before God, become a child of God, and inherit many promises, including divine health and healing. This is accomplished by God making our spirit brand new (2 Corinthians 5:17), and sending His Spirit to live inside of us (Romans 8:15).

When you accept Jesus as your Savior and Lord, God puts His Spirit inside of you. Your spirit and God's Spirit become one, which is the greatest miracle of all.

Hebrews 8:6 – New Covenant, better promises

⁶ But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.



Extra Credit!

Look up the following passages. What do these verses say about our covenant with God through Jesus?

Colossians 1:27

Luke 17:21

Hebrews 13:5-6

Matthew 28:20

The Covenant That Applies to You

Since we are believers living under the New Covenant, we should spend a majority of our time studying the Scripture that applies to us. This does not mean that we totally disregard the Old Testament. By keeping your focus on the New Testament as you study God's promises, you form a solid foundation in your heart and mind about who you are and what you have in Christ Jesus.

Discussion Questions

1. Absolutely!

In society, it is popular to think that everything is relative – that there are no absolutes. Most of us have heard people say “lying is not really a sin if it keeps people from getting hurt” or “There is no absolute truth. Truth is relative based on the conditions.” This is NOT TRUE. The Bible is full of absolutes!

Consider the following absolute words that most Christians do not believe:

- * Any
- * All
- * Everything
- * Nothing
- * Whatsoever
- * Whosoever

In your Bible, find each of the Scriptures listed below. Identify the absolute words in the verse. Discuss the magnitude of God’s promises to His children by focusing on the absolutes. In the blanks below, write the absolute words and what they mean for us as believers.

Philippians 4:13

Romans 10:13

James 5:13-15

Mark 11:23

Luke 10:19

2. Do you see God through His grace?

Many of the world's religions serve angry gods. They do works to try to please their god, convinced that if they do enough, they will be rewarded in the afterlife.

Some people incorrectly think our Father God is the same way - a harsh and judgmental God who is just waiting to discipline them. They believe that the blessings they receive are somehow related to their performance. Their lives are governed by "do's" and "don'ts" and Law (legalism), just as people lived during most of the Old Testament.

God's salvation and grace means freedom from sin, not freedom to sin. As a group, discuss what our Christian life under grace looks like.

3. What are the dangers to your Christian walk if you live as though God functions according to the Old Testament/Old Covenant/Law? Discuss how this affects the body of Christ.

4. (Part A) Think about and discuss what is generally taught to young children in Sunday School. Are we spending our time teaching them the Law or New Covenant principles? New Testament or Old Testament stories and Bible verses?

(Part B) A child's world and environment are governed by lots of rules and boundaries (laws). How can we teach sin, sowing and reaping, and consequences, and at the same time train children up with a New Covenant mindset?

5. Consider your spiritual walk. During Bible study, how much time do you spend in the New Covenant books of the Bible (Romans – Jude)? In Scripture memorization, how many of the verses are you choosing from New Covenant books?



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 2 - (2 ½ minutes)

Religion versus Christianity

Upon His shoulders will be the _____, not _____.

Jesus preached the Kingdom of God. He was trying to establish God's social order, not a _____.

Religion is _____ attempt to have union with God.

Christianity is God's fulfillment of a promise to _____ with man.

Religion is about doing things. Christianity is who you _____.

Digging Deeper

Using the following Scriptures, study the Old Testament and New Testament more closely to clearly identify how we are to live our lives under the New Covenant.

Sin

Old Testament Atonement

Leviticus 16:27, 33-34

²⁷ The bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place, shall be carried outside the camp. And they shall burn in the fire their skins, their flesh, and their offal.

³³ then he shall make atonement for the Holy Sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tabernacle of meeting and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. ³⁴ This shall be an everlasting statute for you, to make atonement for the children of Israel, for all their sins, once a year." And he did as the Lord commanded Moses

The Hebrew verb "to atone" (*kaphar*) means 'cover'¹, so the noun 'atonement' (*kippurim* pl.) is a form of 'covering'.

The Israelite people had to *atone*, or make sacrifices each year to cover their sins.

New Testament Redemption

In Romans 3:24, the word, "redemption" is translated from the Greek word, "*Apolutrosis*," (*Strong's 629*) meaning:

1. releasing effected by payment of ransom.
2. redemption, deliverance
3. liberation procured by the payment of a ransom ²

¹ Brown, Driver, Briggs, Gesenius. "Hebrew Lexicon entry for Kaphar" *The KJV Old Testament Hebrew Lexicon*, <http://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/hebrew/kjv/kaphar.html> (accessed December 13, 2012).

² Thayer and Smith, "Greek Lexicon entry for Apolutrosis" *The KJV New Testament Greek Lexicon*, <http://www.biblestudytools.com/lexicons/greek/kjv/apolutrosis.html> (accessed December 13, 2012).

Romans 3:24-25

²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

1 Peter 1:18-19

¹⁸ knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Hebrews 10:1-18 (passage not written here due to space)

Ephesians 1:6-7

⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. ⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

(Fill in the blanks below)

Under the Law, sins were _____. Under the New Covenant, sins are _____, because a ransom was paid for mankind.

Discuss why you would want your sins handled through the New Covenant instead of the Law.

How should the New Covenant affect our attitude and how we live?

Homework

Assignment 1

This exercise is intended to help you get the Word of God in you, and at the same time, show you how the Word comes alive based on how you study Scripture. Pick a chapter of the Bible, preferably from 1 John, 2 John or 3 John.

Step 1

Read the chapter the way you normally do – most people read quickly and silently to themselves. Close your eyes and think about what you just read.

Step 2

Now read the same chapter, but read it out loud. Read slowly, making sure to think about each word and phrase as you say them. After reading the passage, close your eyes and think about (meditate on) what you just read. Write down the key points from memory.

Step 3

Read the same passage out loud in a different translation of the Bible. Take note of points that stand out in the chapter, and the impact that this exercise has on your thinking*.

*TIP: Consider the KJV, NKJV, ESV and Wuest translations. There are many websites that can show translations side-by-side, such as www.biblegateway.com (the "add parallel" option) or Biblesoft's *PC Study Bible*.

[*Go on to Assignment 2*

Live It!



The next time you are at church or listening to Bible teaching, analyze if what you are hearing is Old Testament/Old Covenant/Law or New Testament/Covenant.

- ü List the Scriptures the teacher used, and beside them, write "Old" or "New," based on whether it is an Old or New Covenant passage. Old Covenant: Book of Genesis through nearly the end of the Gospels. New Covenant: Acts through Revelations.

- ü Take some time to listen to the lyrics of the Christian songs that you hear in church or on the radio. How many of them discuss "waiting for God," being "desperate for God's presence," or imply that God is using bad things in life to help you? The Bible says that we do not have to wait – we have God living inside, blessing us with every spiritual blessing. We never should be desperate for Him or begging Him to come and pour out His blessing.

- ü Do a brief interview with a friend or stranger. Ask them their view of God. What does God think of people? How does God get us to change? Does God give us rules or freedom? Write down their answers (not their names) and determine if they are a reflection of a New Covenant mindset.

As we start to understand and think with a New Covenant mindset we will see God differently. When we see His love for us and His true nature, we will realize that we are able to walk in great freedom. This is not freedom to sin; it is freedom to walk in the righteousness that Jesus paid for.

Live It! – The Next Step

As a group, pick out the top three “Old Covenant/Old Testament/Law” comments you usually hear when ministering to the sick and oppressed. Identify some easy-to-understand verses that you can share as you minister to help build New Covenant thinking. As you lay hands on the sick and see God heal them, jot down people’s comments and reactions to the healing that just took place.

Week 3 – Healing is a Result of God’s Goodness and Love

To start, discuss the homework and Live It! assignments that your team decided to do this past week.

! Note to Life Team Leader: At the beginning of the lesson, please encourage discussion of the homework and *Live It* from the past week, but set a time limit. Help your team to share but stay on target so that all the planned activities (lesson, prayer, etc.) are given their due time.

Have you ever really stopped to think about who God is? What is He like? How does He act? What does He want for people? Many people know what they should say about God, but deep down they really question who He is and whether they can trust Him. In this session each of us will consider how we truly see God, then look in His Word to see what He says about Himself.

Who Do You Think God Is?

Before we get into Scripture, take a few minutes to look inside your heart and write down all the words that come to mind when you think about who God is. They may be words like, “loving and kind,” and “strict and harsh.” Do not be afraid to write down the ones you feel, even if you know they are not true. It is much easier to defeat the lies of the enemy when we meet them head on, then crush them with Scripture.

Have you ever noticed that when you talk to others about what God is like, you will get a different answer from every person? In fact, most people believe that the nature and character of “God” is based on our perception of Him, and everyone’s perception is different. This is just not true! Although every person sees different facets of God’s character more clearly, God’s personality does not change as He deals with different people.

How do we know who God really is? To a large degree, we know His character the same way we know about other humans:

- We read what He has said in His Word.
- We know the works He has done.
- We read what He says about Himself and His character.
- We hear His voice through the Holy Spirit inside us.

The same way we can predict the actions and intentions of a good friend, once we know who God is, we have an automatic “God sense,” or “filter.” We will automatically filter out the things that we hear that do not line up with His character and nature and accept those things that do.

God’s Character

Now let’s see what God has to say about Himself through the Bible. For each of the following passages, write down what the Bible is saying about God’s nature and character (there may be multiple statements for each Scripture). After each set of passages, discuss your answers with your team. To get you started, the first verse has been completed for you as a sample.

Titus 1:2

² in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

God can never lie. He always tells the truth. Everything God says is

true. God’s Word (the Bible) is truth, which means that I can trust

Him. I can have faith in His promises because they are true.

James 1:17

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Matthew 7:7-8

⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 3 – (3 ½ minutes)

All the _____ you will ever have, you already _____.

God has given us _____ He is going to give us.

The Gospel is the _____ of God.

Don’t have faith in your faith; have faith in God.

Have faith in His _____

Have faith in His _____

Have faith in His _____.

Faith is not the currency from heaven that you can use to “buy” something from God.

Faith is love and _____ that God is true and He will keep His _____.

If you want to see the power of God operating, go where the sick are.

God’s Will

God has told us in the Bible what His goals and desires are. However, because God has chosen to use man to carry out His Will on earth, and man has free will, God does not always get what He wants. For each passage below, identify what God’s Will is.

John 10:10 (*See Note following)

¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

! *Note the end of John 10:10, where the passage says Jesus came to give us “life more abundantly.” Many believers have misinterpreted this as, “Jesus came to give me an abundant life, blessed with lots of money and possessions.” This is not what the Scripture says. Jesus wants us to have life, and lots of it. We are to have life in our bodies, finances, relationships, ministry to others, and in everything we have and do. Having lots of money and possessions does not necessarily bring life. Think about and discuss what “life in abundance” looks like.

1 John 3:8 (See Note Following)**

⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

! **Note: In 1 John 3:8, we see that Jesus was sent to “destroy the works of the devil.” What does that mean? First, notice that it does not say that Jesus came to destroy the devil, but rather the works of the devil. Throughout His ministry, Jesus did not usually react defensively to the devil but “destroyed his works” by being proactive and performing acts in direct opposition to the devil’s goals. He healed all the people wherever he went. He shared love and life; he preached the Gospel, cast out devils, fed the hungry and cared for people. He destroyed the works of the devil by doing the works of God.

God is a Doer

God is a doer of His Word. In each of the following passages, write down what God has done, will do and wants us to do. Also note any additional clues to God’s nature and character. Think about what the Scripture does say and also what it does not say.

1 John 3:16

¹⁶ By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

1 John 1:9

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 3:1

¹ Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him

Romans 8:31-32

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Jesus laid down His life for us to forgive our sins and make us children of God. Think of how the best Father in the universe treats His children – that’s how God treats us. What does it mean to be a child of God?

Many Christians’ view of God as their heavenly Father is biased or tainted by their view of their earthly father. Some who have never had a positive father figure in their lives may find it difficult to see God as a good father, possibly because they do not know what a good father would be like. Ask God to show you who He is as your heavenly Father, and refuse to allow the enemy to impact your view of God through negative memories or feelings toward your imperfect human father.

God Is Love

The following Scriptures talk about love. Write down what God says about His love, how it defines Him, and how it should define us.

1 John 4:7

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:9-11

⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 5:3

³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome

God loved us so much that He sent His Son to die for us. He loves us so much that He made promises that provide life in abundance if we make the constant choice to live in Him.

God Wants More Children

God’s Will is for **ALL** to belong to Him. Think deeply about each verse and in your own words, write what it says about who God is.

1 John 2:25

²⁵ And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

Romans 10:13

¹³ For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

God has promised us eternal life. When does that “eternal life” start? It does not begin when we go to heaven; it begins the second that a person “calls upon the name of the Lord!” God does good things to save people and bring them life, not bad things to punish them. God wants all people to be His children. His goal is that none should perish!

2 Peter 3:9

⁹The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Have you ever thought that God is up in heaven with His Book of Life open before Him, deciding whether you have done enough to write your name down? That is not God’s nature! From Revelation 3:5 we know that God already has everyone’s name in the book of life, but a person’s name can be removed (blotted out). Looking at it this way, eternal life is ours to lose, not gain. God has predestined us to become children of God, but we have to choose to accept that gift.

Revelation 3:5

⁵He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Think about your best friend. If someone accused them of wrongdoing, you would instantly know whether they probably did it or not – you know their character. You know your friend’s opinion and their way of thinking on all sorts of topics; you can accurately predict how they would respond in situations, because you know them. The same thing goes for God. Once we have established in our minds God’s nature and character, we not only know who God is, we know who He is not. We will be able to accurately determine what is from God and what is from the devil.

God’s Will is Forgiveness and Health

In many Scriptures, forgiveness of sins and healing are mentioned together, and not in any particular order. Sometimes healing occurs first, sometimes forgiveness. Both have already been paid for by Jesus, and only need to be accepted!

God sees salvation as a much more complete package than many of us do. God saves our spirit by making us a totally forgiven new creation, and saves our bodies through healing. In God’s mind, they are all part of the same salvation package. God doesn’t just want more children; He wants His children to have an amazing life in this world.

In the Scriptures below, note the portions that pertain to salvation of the spirit versus salvation of the body.

Psalm 103:2-3

² Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: ³ Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,

Isaiah 53:4-5

⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

Mark 2:5, 10-12

⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.”

¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins” — He said to the paralytic, ¹¹ “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” ¹² Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw *anything* like this!”

James 5:14-15

¹⁴ Is anyone 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, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

James 1:17

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Discussion Questions

1. As a team, discuss the promises of God that you wrote from each verse in this week’s session.

2. (A) This week, we discussed how forgiveness of sins and healing were often mentioned together in the Bible. Why do you think this is?

(B) Must a person be forgiven of their sins before there are healed? {Hint: There are many passages that mention healing and forgiveness; a few are listed in this lesson} Why do you think this is?

Digging Deeper

1. We have probably all heard the phrases, “Jesus loves me,” and “God is love.” Now, really stop to think about it. God is love, and love is from God. How does God define love? (Read 1 Corinthians 13)

2. In the Greek, there are three words for love: *eros* (romantic love), *phileo* (brotherly, friendship love), and *agape* (divine, God-given love).

How does the world rank the three types of love in a “hierarchy?” how does God rank them?

3. How did God show His love in the past (Old Testament), and how does He show His love today (New Covenant)?

4. Does the Bible talk about salvation of the mind? What is the difference between our physical mind/brain and our soul?

Homework

Assignment 1

The passages in this session were only a small portion of the Scriptures in the Bible that talk about God’s character. There are hundreds of verses that talk about who God is! Your mission this week is to find at least 5 more verses that talk about God’s nature and character and list them below.

Assignment 2

Read James, Isaiah 53, Psalm 103, and 1 Peter 2, paying special attention to verses about healing. Record your findings below.

Live It!

1. How can you reflect the nature of God in your own life? Consider the following and choose one area to focus on this week. Our goal is to know Him and His character, then activate it in our lives with all that cross our path:
 - A. If you’re a parent, do your parenting techniques represent the Law or New Covenant?
 - B. When working with coworkers do you display the character of God in your life, such as forgiveness and health?
 - C. In your relationships, do you display God’s agape love or a carnal love that is based on getting something (including love) in return?

2. How can you show the characteristics of Love/God as described in 1 Cor. 13 this week to someone? Pick one person, write their name below and think of a way show God’s love to them this week. Be purposeful! Remember that agape love does not expect or need anything in return.

Week 4 – What the Bible Says About Divine Healing

To start, discuss the homework and Live It! assignments that your team decided to do this past week.

The doctrines of Christ never change. The Bible says the same thing now that it did 1,000 years ago, and it will say the same thing 1,000 years in the future. The truth of the Bible is timeless.

This week we will begin talking about believers and divine healing in the Bible, and how we know that divine healing is for today. Healing does and should happen today, just as it did when God healed people through Jesus and the disciples.

Has Healing Passed Away?

In Hebrews 6:1, the Bible says that healing is a foundational principle of the doctrine of Christ. That means that healing is considered a basic, fundamental truth for every believer. Because it is a basic truth, all believers should be walking in health and healing as a lifestyle. Read Hebrews 6:1 several times carefully to absorb what it is saying.

Hebrews 6:1-2 – Laying on hands is foundational

¹Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ²of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

This verse is talking about believers moving past the basics into maturity. Note that Hebrews 6:1 puts laying on of hands (healing) in the same group with repentance from dead works, faith in God, eternal judgment, and more. Do you believe in heaven and hell (eternal judgment)? Every true believer in Christ should! Many Christians believe almost everything in the list given in Hebrews 6:1 *except* healing by laying on hands. The choice is very simple. We either believe all of the Bible or none of it; there is no middle ground. As believers, we are to be firmly rooted in the principles of Christ. His Word never changes.

Let's go on to another passage in James. In James 5, we read about one way that sickness is to be addressed in the church.

James 5:13 - 15

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. ¹⁴ **Is anyone 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, and the Lord will raise him up.** And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

There are elders (overseers, shepherds, pastors) in most Christian churches today. Part of the responsibility of being an elder, according to this passage, is to pray the prayer of faith for the sick, and God will heal them. We know that sickness exists in today's world, as do elders and churches. If one of God's answers for healing the sick is to call the elders of a church and have them pray, then it follows logically that this method has not passed away.

Notice that this verse does not talk about healing of the sick as a sign to establish the church, to prove Jesus is God, or any such thing. It never gives an end point or conditions for this means of healing to end. This passage is a list of instructions for helping a church member to get well. The sick are to call the elders of their church, they are to pray the prayer of faith, and the sick person will be raised up (healed).



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 4 – (5 ½ minutes)

James 5:13-15 lists the remedy for each item listed:

- If afflicted -> _____
- If merry -> _____
- If sick -> _____

The elders pray the prayer of _____. The faith of the elders in prayer will _____ the sick. We are not told anywhere for the sick person to have _____.

God Still Heals

God does not change. When Jesus was ministering on the earth, He represented God exactly (or accurately). Jesus always healed everyone He ministered to, and God's Will is that every person be not only healed, but walk in perpetual divine health.

Hebrews 13:8

⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Why did Jesus come to earth?

1 John 3:8

⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Jesus healed EVERYONE, ALL the time, and Jesus WANTED to heal!

Acts 10:38

³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

Mark 1:41

⁴¹ Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed."

Jesus healed people a lot. It is a good study to find all of the places Jesus healed people, documenting:

1. Who was healed (note the problem if given)?
2. How many were healed?
3. How many were not healed?

Let's look at some of the healings in the book of Matthew. As your team reads each passage, answer the questions above.

Matthew 4:24

²⁴ Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him **all sick** people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and **He healed them**.

Matthew 8:16

¹⁶ When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and **healed all who were sick**,

Matthew 9:35

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing every sickness and every disease among the people**

Matthew 12:15

¹⁵ But when Jesus knew *it*, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and **He healed them all**;

Matthew 14:14

¹⁴ And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and **healed their sick**.

Matthew 15:30

³⁰ Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them *the* lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, and **He healed them**.

Matthew 21:14

¹⁴ Then *the* blind and *the* lame came to Him in the temple, and **He healed them**.

Jesus always healed everyone, independent of their amount of faith, sinful life, or cause for disease. With Jesus as our example, we are to minister God's healing power in the same way.

Physical healing was paid for by Jesus

Healing is not "maybe," it is a fact. Most people have no problem believing that their sins are forgiven, but when it comes to belief for healing, many struggle. The truth is that healing is always God's Will - Jesus paid for it over 2,000 years ago.

1 Peter 2:24

²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—**by whose stripes you were healed**.

Most Christians believe that God can heal, but they do not understand that the healing is already done. The Bible states it clearly in 1 Peter 2:24 that “we were healed.” Give yourself a minute to really absorb this statement. It does not connect logically in our natural mind. How can we already be healed when our body looks and feels sick? This is where faith comes in. Faith is believing God’s promise of a “thing” when that “thing” has not physically happened yet.

The Bible is also very clear that God does not choose some for healing and not others. All healing - physical, mental and emotional - was paid for by Jesus. This holds true for believers and unbelievers, for everyone! It is available to anyone that obeys His commands and believes His Word. He is not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). Jesus always healed all people. Just as Jesus paid for every sin on the cross, He paid for every healing of every sickness at the whipping post where He received the stripes.

Healing is Part of the Believer’s Job Description

Are you a believer and a follower of Jesus Christ? Because Jesus is our Lord, we take His commands very seriously. Most of us have heard the great commission in Matthew 28:18-20. First, He gave us the great commission, to go into all the world, preach the gospel and baptize. Then in verse 20, we are instructed to teach everything that He commanded.

Matthew 28:18 - 20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen

In the following passages from Matthew, Jesus is commanding His disciples. Notice the common message and theme that we saw in Matthew 28. As we go preach the Gospel, He gives the signs that should follow us, including healing!

Matthew 10:7

⁷ And **as you go**, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' ⁸ **Heal the sick**, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Matthew 11:1

¹ Now it came to pass, when **Jesus finished commanding His twelve disciples**, that He departed from there to teach and to preach in their cities



Note: Between Matthew 10:7 and Matthew 11:1, the break in the chapter is something man put in (not God). It goes to follow that Matt 11:1 does not have a time lapse from chapter 10. Read the verses together as if they were not separated by chapter and see how they flow together.

Jesus taught His disciples how to preach the kingdom. When we study Scriptures, it is important to not only notice what is said, but also what is NOT said. In this passage, Jesus did NOT give an end date for His commands.

Mark 16:15 - 20

¹⁵ And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ **And these signs will follow those who believe:** In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**" ¹⁹ So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with *them* and **confirming the word through the accompanying signs.** Amen

Notice that verse 18 states that believers (1) Shall lay hands on the sick, and (2) They shall recover.

Let's back up to verse 15. How long are we to preach the Gospel? It says we are to preach to every creature. That means that we can stop our work when every creature has heard the Gospel. Jesus said until that time, we are to keep preaching with signs following. Healing has not passed away, and will not as long as believers are doing their job.

And that's not all! Jesus does not stop with the list of signs that follow believers in Mark 16. Read what He says in John 14:12:

John 14:12 -15

¹² "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. ¹⁵ If you love Me, keep My commandments.

We believe on Jesus, so we are authorized and commanded to not only do the works that He did, we are to do GREATER works! What works did Jesus do? Healed the sick, raised the dead, cast out devils, fed the multitudes, commanded the weather and preached the Gospel. Jesus said that we are able to do these things because He went unto the Father. Jesus gave no ending criteria to these mighty works, He only gave the beginning: "because He went to the Father."

In verse 15, we see that if we love Him, we are to keep His commandments. Often when Christians hear the word, "commandments," we think of the 10 commandments given to Moses; Jesus is talking about doing everything that He commanded and did, and even greater things. Jesus ALWAYS healed the sick. We have no record of Jesus refusing or being unable to heal someone. If we love Jesus, we will lay hands on the sick and God will heal them. By laying hands on the sick, we are also obeying the command to love our neighbor.

To get a different perspective, turn Jesus' statement in verse 12 around: We cannot say that we love Jesus if we do not keep His commandments. We will discuss His commandments in more depth later in this study.



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 5 – (5 ½ minutes)

We don't need _____, we have Scripture

To be led, do the _____; take the Word literally.

The Holy Spirit leads us into all _____. Once He leads us into truth, we are responsible for _____ on it.

When you stand before _____, you represent God to them; when you stand before _____, you represent the people to Him.

We are to love God and love our _____, doing to others as we would want done for ____.

We are led by _____ and compassion.

No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care.

Discussion Questions

1. Looking again at Hebrews 6:1-2, what are the foundational items/elementary teachings of Jesus Christ? Can a person be a believer and only believe some of them?

2. Consider James 5:13-15. With your group, discuss the position of a pastor in the church today. How does this passage impact the current job description of a church elder/pastor? Do you think that the “sick” mentioned in this passage are new or mature believers, and why?

3. Most churches discuss the great commission in Matthew 28:18-19, but they do not normally discuss Mark 16:15-18 or Matthew 28:20. Why do you believe that this happens?

[Go on

4. How do the following commandments in Matthew 22:37-40 relate to healing?

Matthew 22:37-40

³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is *the* first and great commandment. ³⁹ And *the* second *is* like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Digging Deeper

Looking closely at the following verses, determine what was and is the purpose of healing the sick?

Hebrews 2:3-4

³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

Acts 2:22

²² "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—

Exodus 4:1-9

¹ Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.'" ² So the LORD said to him, "What *is* that in your hand?" He said, "A rod." ³ And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it. ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take *it* by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand), ⁵ "that they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you." ⁶ Furthermore the LORD said to him, "Now put your hand in your bosom." And he put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand *was* leprous, like snow. ⁷ And He said, "Put your hand in your bosom again." So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his *other* flesh. ⁸ "Then it will be, if they do not believe you, nor heed the message of the first sign, that they may believe the message of the latter sign. ⁹ And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall take water from the river and pour *it* on the dry *land*. The water which you take from the river will become blood on the dry *land*."

Live It!



Find out some common beliefs that people have regarding healing. Using the questions below, interview one Christian and one non-Christian.

When interviewing the Christian, ask them if they have Scriptures to support their beliefs. **This should be non-confrontational**: do not share your point of view unless asked. Healing is a very sensitive topic for many people that have lost loved ones to sickness, so be compassionate and loving toward those you interview. Remember to keep their names confidential.

Do you believe that God heals people today? Why or why not?

Why do you think that some people get healed and others do not?

If you believe in healing, what are the necessary “ingredients” or conditions for someone to get healed?

If you believe in healing, what means/methods do you think that God uses to get people healed?

Live It! – The Next Step

We know that the devil comes to steal the Word of God (parable of the sower). After you lead some to Christ or minister to the sick and oppressed, it is important to do whatever discipleship you can. One way to do this is to hand out materials to keep them growing.

Your Mission

Alone or as a team, develop and prepare materials to hand out to those you minister to, such as a card or folded brochure. This material may include the salvation message, information about healing, receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit or something else the Holy Spirit lays on your heart.

Consider investing in some inexpensive Bibles to hand out (preferably KJV or NKJV New Testament). Mark a few places in the Bible for them to read, including the book of James and one of the Gospels. {Hint: you may be able to find inexpensive Bibles at your local dollar store or online}

Week 5 – Why Healing Takes Place: Who We Are in Christ

To start, discuss the homework and Live It! assignments that your team decided to do this past week.

**“God heals and sets people free because of who you are, not because of what you have done.”
~Curry Blake**

Why Divine Healing Works

Knowing who we are in Christ is what makes divine healing work. We do the easy part (laying hands on the sick), and God does the hard part (healing). Our standing with God is the reason why divine healing takes place. Our position in Christ should impact how we act, how we think, our goals and our mission.



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 6 – (6 ½ minutes)

When a child of God speaks, heaven hears and _____;
Hell hears and _____.

God heals and sets people free because of who you _____,
not because of what you have _____.

Authority is _____ - _____. If someone gives you
_____ to do something in their name, they are giving
you pre-permission to do whatever they told you that you
can do.

Police officers are given pre-permission (authority) to do
_____ that is in the parameters of their job, they
don't have to _____.

God gave us pre-permission (authority) to do everything
that pertains to the _____ (heal the sick, raise the dead,
etc.) the minute we were born again. The moment
heaven accepted us, it _____ you to _____ it.

In Matthew 17, we see Jesus' disciples trying to get a boy healed unsuccessfully. In verse 20, we see Jesus' response to the disciples' question as to why the boy was not healed:

Matthew 17:20

²⁰ So Jesus said to them, “**Because of your unbelief**; for assuredly, I say to you, **if you have faith as a mustard seed**, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and **nothing will be impossible for you**.”

Now read verse 20 in context, from verse 14 through 20. Jesus said the reason the boy was not healed was because of the disciples' unbelief. PLEASE NOTE: Jesus **never** said that it was because of sin, a generational curse, God's Will, or because of the boy's lack of faith. He did not identify a hidden root cause. Jesus did not say that it was because they did not have enough power or because they didn't know enough Bible verses, or because healing was really not the disciples' job. He said it was because of unbelief. Period.

Also notice that in Jesus' response, He concludes by saying that nothing would be impossible for them. This applies to us, too, as Jesus' disciples and children of God.

Jesus is saying to his disciples that if they have only a tiny bit of faith, they only need to say (command) and it will be done. Jesus promises that NOTHING shall be impossible to us. Do you believe it?

*Note, Matthew 17:21, concerning “prayer and fasting,” was not in the original Greek manuscripts. In many Bibles, this statement is shown in parentheses or italics to show that it was added later, and sometimes omitted entirely. Jesus never made this statement, so we must conclude that unbelief is the only reason the boy was not healed, not because the disciples had not prayed or fasted enough.

BEING Jesus in the world

We have discussed how believers are commanded to do the same works of Jesus (including healing), but the Bible goes even further. In 1 John, we see that God dwells IN US! Many people think of this verse figuratively or symbolically, but not literally. Is it

really possible that the God of the universe has actually taken up residence inside us? Yes! We are in Him, and He is in us – we are in union with Him. Because of this union, we are commanded to BE as Jesus in this world.



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 7 – (4 minutes)

You do not have _____ authority, you have inherited authority because you are ____.

The name of Jesus is also _____ name because you are in Him. At the name of Jesus, everything that has a name must _____ its knee.

The power is in the _____. It is your right to use that name as you see fit.

1 John 4:15 - 17

¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in

God. ¹⁶ And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; **because as He is, so are we in this world**

We are like Jesus in this world! At this point, many people might say, “Well, now that’s saying that we are like God, which is New Age thinking, and that’s wrong!” Let’s be clear: humans are NOT deity. We are not God, but the Bible says that when we make Jesus our Lord, then God’s Spirit actually, literally comes to live inside us, enabling us to be Jesus to the world. That means that as we renew our minds, lining them up with God, then the Spirit of God heals people through our hands, as we speak God’s words through our mouths, and enables us to see people the way God sees them.

Usually Christians error on the side of thinking they can never come close to operating in the power that Jesus did. And although we do not want to go into the other ditch of thinking

that the power comes from us or what we do, we know that the Bible says that God's power works in us and through us.

Ephesians 3:20

²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

Read Ephesians 3:20 a few times. Notice that God does exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us! That's how God gets things done. Have you ever stopped to think that God needs YOU? According to the rules God set up, He almost always works through humans. GOD NEEDS YOU. He needs your hands, your feet, your mind and voice. He needs your heart and your willingness to do His work. It is no longer about praying for God to do something, it is about us doing it, using His power that is in us and works through us. We do not have to call God down out of heaven; He lives in us all the time. He never leaves and His power never fades. He is in us and we are in Him.

Acts 10:38

³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

Just as God anointed Jesus with the Holy Ghost, God also anoints us (as believers) with the Holy Spirit and with power. Why? For the same reason He anointed Jesus! It is so that we can go about doing good and commanding healing for all that are oppressed of the devil, because God is with us and lives in us.

1 John 4:17

¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.

Contemplate the last part of 1 John 4:17, "...as He is, so are we in this world." Why are we like Him? Because we have His Spirit living inside us. His Spirit dwells inside us at our invitation when we made Jesus Lord of our life. Notice that this verse says that as we walk

this earth, we are to be like He is right now – righteous, having dominion over the enemy, sickness, disease and poverty. Totally victorious. YOU are totally victorious because of Jesus! Do you believe it?

1 John 2:27

²⁷ **But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you**, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

Here is a new way to think about it: Just as Jesus was in union with God the Father, so we are to be in union with God. 1 John 4:15 says this very clearly. Look at how similar 1 John 2:27 (us) is to Acts 10:38 (Jesus). Jesus was anointed by the Holy Ghost and so are we. Again, this does NOT mean that we are God. Think of it as a husband and wife who are so connected that they can finish each other's sentences. Now multiply that closeness by 100 or 1,000 and that's how we are to be with God. When we grasp God's plan for our relationship with Him, we hold our head high in total trust, never accepting sickness, disease, poverty or any such thing.

After a while, those blessings are taken as normal living and we enjoy being loved by Him, loving Him in return, fellowshipping with Him about His Word, and being Jesus to the world. How are we to **be** Jesus? Well, sharing the Gospel and healing the sick are a great start!



Think about this: How is it that the early Christians were burned at the stake, thrown in with lions and ostracized from society for their faith, yet Christianity continued to spread? They must have lived lives beyond today's "normal" Christian. Could it be that they lived their lives "in Him" and regularly experienced God's power, love and presence in their lives?

Growing up into Him



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 8 – (3 minutes)

We are to grow up ____ Christ. We shall be like Him.

The purpose of the _____ is to grow us up into Christ.

It is not about healing; it is about who you are in _____.
Once you understand who you are in Christ, healing is not just a _____, it is a part of who we are.

If His words are spirit and life and if our words are ____ words, then our words are spirit and ____.

Ephesians 4:13-15

¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the **knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**; ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may **grow up in all things into Him** who is the head—Christ

This passage from Ephesians 4 tells us very clearly that when we are mature (“be no more children”) that we will grow up into Him in all things. We are to mature to the fullness of Christ.



Note: We know that Ephesians 4:13-15 is referring to believers right now, not when we get to heaven. Notice the other elements in the verse that will occur at the same time that we are to be grown up into Him, such as changing doctrine/teaching and the trickery of men. These issues will no longer exist in heaven, so this verse must refer to our life here on earth.

When the Bible says we are to be “like” Jesus, this means we are to share the Gospel, show love, care for the needy, and be God’s instruments for miracles and healings. Further, Ephesians 4:13-15 explicitly states that we can and should grow up into Jesus in

fullness. That is not just doing His good works, but His mighty acts, too.

As believers, we often read the Bible and identify with the disciples or the sick, but being like Jesus? That seems so far out of reach. However, according to Scripture, Jesus is our ONLY true role model. With God's Spirit in us, we receive His power to live like Jesus did. You can be Jesus to others! Do you believe it?

1 Peter 2:21

²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

Discussion Questions

Many people think that we will only be able to act like Jesus in heaven, while on the earth we are weak getting beat up by the devil and just trying to suffer through life with a good Christian attitude.

Please discuss these verses and write down if the Bible is talking about heaven or on earth in this current life and why you came to that conclusion.

1 John 4:15 - 21

Ephesians 3:11-21

Ephesians 4:11-17

Digging Deeper

Read John 6:1-14

Why did the people follow Jesus and listen to his preaching?

Why did the people believe that he was representing God?

Read Mark 10:46-52

Why did Jesus heal the blind man?

Read Luke 7:11-16

Why did Jesus raise the boy from the dead?

Read Luke 13:10-13

Why did Jesus heal the woman?

Live It!

As you go through your day and see people in need, ask yourself:

1. What would Jesus do?" and
2. Why would He do it?



Now Be a Doer! Intentionally line your mind and will up with God's Will, think about what Jesus would do, then do it.

Week 6 – God’s Promise of Divine Health

To start, discuss the homework and Live It! assignments that your team decided to do this past week.

What if God’s promised more for your life on this earth than you could possibly imagine? God promises us a much better life than the process of getting sick and receiving healing. So often, we underestimate God’s goodness, His grace, and His love. The natural mind thinks (and common teaching says) that we have to wait to get to heaven to experience His amazing goodness. God’s idea is for believers to experience a life of health, peace, joy, and blessing starting now.

In this session, we will study some Scriptures that talk about God’s promises. *Prepare yourself*, because these promises can sound too good to be true! Remember the agreement at the start of this study? We agreed that the Bible is true – every word.

On the lines provided throughout this lesson, write the promises that God is making to you as a believer in each of the following verses. If there are prerequisite criteria, make sure to state that as well. As an example, the first one is done for you. {Bonus! Find the absolute words in each passage as well}

God Gives Good Gifts

From 2 Peter 1:3-4, we know that God gave us “all things” pertaining to life and godliness in this life. By aligning our will with His will, we will not walk through life lusting after carnal (earthly) things. His promises are “exceeding great” and precious! We do not need to be biblical scholars or great Bible teachers to know who our heavenly Father is. We know He is good; He is love. Living with sickness or pain until we die is not God’s promise of life! It is not part of His precious promises.

Further in verse 4, we see God’s Will, that we be partakers of the divine nature, escaping the corruption in this world. What is this saying? God’s promises are so great that they essentially allow us to live physically unaffected by the sin in this world. Why? Because of His divine nature and power that we are partakers of. Believers are partakers in His divine nature and power! Do you believe it?

2 Peter 1:3-4

³ as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

Prerequisite: I have these promises through the *knowledge* of Him

Promises: I have all things pertaining to life and godliness. He

has called me! I am a partaker of His divine nature. I have

escaped the world’s corruption (through lust)



Note: In 2 Peter 1:4, note that the word promises is plural (more than one). God has promised believers more than just heaven. The Bible is full of promises! Do you know what they are?

Divine Health

Through Jesus’ stripes/scourging, divine healing is paid for. However, that is not God’s best! God’s best is that we walk in perpetual divine health here on earth, so He made a way that we can walk through life untouchable by the enemy just as Jesus did.

1 Peter 2:24

²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

Why don’t Christians walk in divine health? Like every promise, we must choose to believe it. We must apply our faith to it. If we believe we can’t be touched by the enemy, then we won’t be.

Mark 9:23

²³ Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.”



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 9 – (1 ½ minutes)

Renewing the mind

As you renew your mind, you will be _____ As you are transformed, His thoughts will become _____ thoughts; His ways will become _____ ways. You will have the _____ of Christ.

As you have your mind renewed, by these precious promises, we become partakers of God’s _____

Promise of Divine Protection and Victory

Ephesians 6:16

¹⁶ above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

Luke 10:19

¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

1 John 5:18

¹⁸ We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

James 4:7

⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

2 Thessalonians 3:3

³ But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.

2 Peter 1:10

¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble;

Notice in 2 Peter 1:10 the word “never” is used. This can be a hard Scripture for many to believe. “...for if ye do these things, ye shall **NEVER** fall:” Never! Do you believe it?


Isaiah 54:17

¹⁷ **No weapon formed against you shall prosper**, And every tongue *which* rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness *is* from Me,” Says the LORD..

In Isaiah 54:17 it says that **No** weapon that is formed against you shall prosper. This word is clear in all translations. NO weapon shall prosper – they may form but they won’t prosper. Do you believe it?

2 Corinthians 2:14

¹⁴ Now thanks *be* to God who **always leads us in triumph in Christ**, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

	<p><u>Extra Credit!</u> In 2 Corinthians 2:14, we read that we “triumph” in Christ. Find out what a “triumph” meant in ancient Rome, then read your findings as a team.</p> <p>A triumph was not given to a commander for an ordinary defeat of the enemy, it was decreed only for an impressive victory after which the conquered foe was paraded down the street (humiliated) and the spoils of war were displayed.</p>
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How to Activate God’s Promises

Mark 11:24

²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

Romans 4:17

¹⁷ (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

Hebrews 6:10-12

¹⁰ For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. ¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹² that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

We receive God’s promises when we

- know them
- have faith (believe) they are ours
- speak and/or do
- have patience (stand firm) for them

Mark 11:24

²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

In Mark 11:24, Jesus is giving us the steps for getting answers to our prayers:

1. Pray
2. Believe that you receive them
3. Then you will have them.



Key: See Through God’s Eyes

As you renew your mind to God’s Word, you will see situations the way He sees them. When we have God’s perspective, it becomes easier and easier to believe and not doubt God’s promises.



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 10 – (6 minutes)

If you have faith, you have _____. It is not a matter of having enough faith, it is a matter of having _____ or not.

Faith _____. What is in your heart comes out your _____.

“Between faith and power, choose faith, because _____ directs power.” ~ John G. Lake

God’s power can do _____, but it is dependent on your _____. Your faith pushes God’s _____. You don’t need much. It is not volume, it is _____. Great faith is _____ faith.

We _____ and God _____.

How can I have great faith? Don’t stop. Don’t back off.

**Carnal Mind = I will believe it when I see it.
Renewed mind = I will see it because I believe it.**

Digging Deeper

In Revelations 3:7-8, we see that the church is praised. Why?

Live It!

Aren’t God’s promises exciting? As you believe them more and more, you will see them bear fruit in your life.



Your mission this week is to share what you have learned about divine healing with someone outside your Life Team. This may be someone you interviewed in the past or someone new. It is important to be humble and sensitive to others.

To start, you may want to talk about how where you started and how your beliefs have changed. Make sure this is **not** a debate (consider who you share with).

The goal of this conversation is: (1) to love them and (2) to share what you have learned so that they can experience God’s promises in their lives. The goodness of God (not His judgement) draws men to repentance.

Romans 2:4

⁴ Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that **the goodness of God leads you to repentance?**

Write down impressions from your conversation:

Week 7 – Healing is in the Believer’s Job Description



IMPORTANT NOTE: JGLM does not comment concerning your use of medical treatment. The information presented in this Study Guide and in the accompanying audio teaching is in no way intended as advice or instruction concerning the use of medicine, medical treatment, or the avoidance thereof. Each person is responsible to investigate all methods of remedy they are contemplating.

To start, discuss the homework and Live It! assignments that your team decided to do this past week.

We know that divine healing and divine health are ours because Jesus paid for all sickness and disease at the whipping post. He was also given all authority over everything after He rose from the dead; thus so have we.

We know that Jesus said that we only need to believe (have faith) and we will receive healing, along with all the other blessings and promises of God. Remember that healing is only one of the promises of God. There are many others, and they are all received in the same way. This week we take divine healing to a practical level, giving the how-to steps to activate faith and receive healing.

How To Receive God’s Promises

1. Learn God’s promises: Study the Bible

Obviously, to be able to have faith for God’s promises, we have to know what those promises are, right? The fact is that we do not need lots of verses right away. As we study, getting more of the Word of God inside us, it will grow and bear fruit in our thoughts, our actions, and our bodies.

You might find yourself saying, “Who, ME? I was never interested in studying at school, and I don’t even know how to study the Bible.” But the truth is that YOU CAN DO IT! God tells us to study His Word, and even if it is difficult at first, you must press through and really study the Word of God so it can take root in you. It may help to

set goals as a Life Team, encouraging and keeping each other accountable. The most important thing is to start. Be intentional and study regularly.

1 Peter 2:24

²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

Mark 16:18

¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

James 5:15

¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Remember, we do not read the Bible as we would a storybook. We read slowly, taking in every word of every verse.

When it comes to Bible study, be encouraged that the God’s Holy Spirit will explain all things to you. When you do not understand a passage or have a question, write it down, and ask God to show you the answer. You will be surprised as you study that God will speak to you and explain the Bible to you. The more of God’s Word that we have inside us, the more our faith grows, bringing out God’s promises like healing for ourselves and others.

2. Hear God’s promises: Say them out loud

There is something special that happens when we think, then speak that thought out of our mouths. The Bible is full of warnings about what we say and the power of the tongue. The things we say become more and more rooted in our minds. To really get God’s truth inside us, changing our thinking and growing our faith, we have to speak it. As you study the Bible, read it out loud.

Here is an exercise: instead of saying the things that you do believe, say the things that you want to believe. For example, the natural, worldly mind feels the flu coming and says, “I’m sick.” Choose a few verses on healing that you want to believe. Say them out loud over and over again, emphasizing every word. It

may take some time, but you will re-wire your mind in the area of healing to believe God's truth instead of the world's lies. You will change your default thought pattern.

Romans 10:17

¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

In Romans 10:17 we find a key about strengthening our faith. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. Notice that it does not say that faith comes by reading the Word, but by hearing it. And the best way to hear the Word is to say it.

3. Believe God's promises: Make a decision and stand firm

After you know God's truth, make a conscious decision to believe it. Just the way we decide to believe the Bible is true, we decide to believe what God said about healing and all His other promises. The enemy will always try to deceive with opportunities to doubt and waver, but we stand strong. It does not matter what the doctor says, what the symptoms are, what people think, or what you feel like. You must make a decision to believe that no matter what, God's Word is true. Faith is believing what God said is true. Remember, God's Word is true, whether you believe it or not. We must choose to believe it is true.

When the world sees your stand and says "You're crazy," God smiles and says, "That's faith."



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 11 – (3 minutes)

The secret of healing is to _____. What you believe when you _____ is what is going to happen.

If you _____, nothing will happen.

- It is not about _____ in the sick person's life
- It is not about generational curses
- It is not about praying and _____ enough

Fasting is not for _____, it is to die (to the flesh).

Mark 9:23

²³ Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.”

Mark 11:23

²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

Stand steadfast in your belief, not second-guessing. Do not be distracted by what you may initially see or not see. We do not have faith against sickness. That is much too difficult.

It’s simple! Instead of having faith against sickness, or faith for healing, we have faith in God. Our part is to believe what God said in the Bible that healing is God’s Will, is paid for and done; God always does His part to heal the sick person. Isn’t that simple?

“The level of manifestation you have is equal to the amount of pure Word you are putting out.” ~Curry Blake

4. Do God’s promises: Step out in faith and lay hands on the sick

Mark 16:18

¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**”

Mark 11:23

²³ For assuredly, I say to you, **whoever says to this mountain**, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those **things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.**

James 1:22

²² But **be doers of the word**, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Now that we are armed with God’s truth and faith to back it up, we put it into action (James 1:22). Jesus does not give us exact steps to take in praying for the sick, but we can use Jesus’ words and actions as an example.

Lay hands on the sick

In Mark 16:18, we are told to lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.

Mark 16:18

¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**”

This is a promise, and a key to ministering healing. Notice that the verse never actually mentions a prayer or *saying* anything! It only says to lay hands; that is because it matters what you believe more than what you say. This does not mean that we are not supposed to speak, because faith definitely speaks! However, our intention and belief is more important than using precisely the “right” words when we pray. If there were magic words, God would have told us in the Bible. God has given us everything we need to know in the Bible.



Extra Credit!

With your teammates, discuss how you would approach a sick person to minister healing to them. If you have never ministered healing to a sick person, try role playing with a partner **OR** ask one or two who have prayed for the sick to explain briefly how they approach a stranger to pray for them.

How We Are To Pray

Under the New Covenant, the Bible does not give many specifics about how we should pray. What the Bible does tell us to do is to pray fervently and effectively.

James 5:16

¹⁶ Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. **The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**

What is a fervent prayer? Fervent means, “passionate” or “white-hot.” Often, a fervent prayer is forceful, loud and strong. A son of God who knows God’s promises and will not settle for anything less prays fervently and effectively. An effective prayer is praying God’s Will according to His Word. Effective, fervent prayers get results, because when we do our part (commanding the problem to go and applying faith), God backs us up with His part, fixing the problem.

Speak to the mountain

Faith speaks! In Mark 11:23, Jesus said we are to speak to the mountain, which represents any problem that is coming between us and God’s promises (Mark 11:23). What do we say to the mountain? We tell it what to do. {Hint: When reading the gospels, write down how Jesus “spoke” to problems.} We activate our faith

when we speak to the mountain, not doubting, and what we say comes to pass.

Mark 11:23-24

²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. ²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

We know that healing is always God’s Will, so we can confidently command sickness to go and bodies and minds to be healed. The next step is in verse 24; believe that you receive, and you shall have it. This is opposite to the world’s common phrase, “I’ll believe it when I see it.” God rule is, “You’ll see it when you believe it.”

When Jesus ministered healing to people, He took action. He took them by the hand and lifted them up, told them to receive their sight, and commanded Lazarus to come forth. Jesus had faith, and He showed it by his actions and His words. Out of obedience and faith, we do the same and follow their example.

“Between faith and power, choose faith, because faith directs power” John G. Lake

Use the name of Jesus

In Luke 10:17, the disciples are telling Jesus what happened when they went out to minister to people. They were seeing great results when they commanded in the name of Jesus.

Luke 10:17

¹⁷ Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.”

To summarize, as we step out in faith and minister healing to ourselves and others, we are to:

1. Lay hands on the sick (this is not a requirement if distance is an issue, such as praying over the phone)
2. Pray in faith. Using the name of Jesus, command the sickness to go and the body to be healed (“speak to the mountain”). Believe that God has released the power needed for the healing, and receive the healing as done.
3. Stand firm, not doubting or wavering
4. Get the physical bodily healing.

Note that if we do not pray in faith, believing we have received what we prayed for, it is not God’s fault if we do not get it.

God always does His part, He is always faithful. He has released the power for the “thing” that you asked for, and your faith is the bridge that brings the “thing” from God’s realm of the spirit into the physical/natural. Faith (believing) is the only biblical reason that some prayers are answered and others are not. It is really the only requirement given in the Bible for answered prayer.

Sometimes the healing is instant, and sometimes it can take a short time. The important thing now is to stand in faith, believing God’s promise of healing, not necessarily what you initially see or do not see.

When a believer stands in faith, the enemy tries to introduce discouragement, distraction and lies. The enemy wants you to quit! He wants you to lose faith and speak his lies, so he will do his best to delay healing for a while in an attempt to convince you to think and say that it did not work. **DON’T GIVE UP!**

When you release your faith for a healing, that healing is supernaturally put in motion. If healing does not manifest instantly, it is tempting to say, “I guess my prayer didn’t work this time.” Making this sort of statement actually stops the healing process that was started when you prayed. This is called “pulling your faith

back." Your words have power and if you say, "it didn't work," then you just stopped your faith.

God is faithful. Don't give up, keep believing and take a firm stand on what God promised! We do our part and God does His. Healing is not hard for God – He is the master designer of the universe, and of every human body.

"Faith will keep working in that person until they are healed or until you pull your faith back. Don't pull your faith back." ~Curry Blake

Ministering Healing to Others

As a child of God, we have dominion to carry out God's Will for others. We know that it is always God's Will for the sick to be healed, so we never have to ask God His opinion when we encounter a sick person – we simply get healing for them the same way we get it for ourselves. We lay hands, command healing, and apply faith.

In all the biblical healing accounts, lack of faith on the part of the sick person is never reported as a cause for failure to be healed.

As a minister of healing, never comment on medications or treatments people are taking or not taking for legal purposes, but more importantly, because we just don't need to. God is much stronger than any medicine that a person can take, and His love and power are not stopped by the sick taking medicine or treatments.



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 12 – (7 minutes)

In prayer for healing, there are no formulas.

In commanding healing the general principle is:

1. Tell the body what you want it to do
2. If there is a spirit involved, tell the spirit what you want it to do.
3. Command healing.

Start _____, then get only as specific as necessary.

We really don’t pray for the sick. We _____ the sickness to go.

Jesus cast out devils with His _____, which was usually, “Go.”

Why The Sick are Healed

JGLM Life Teams are much more than healing ministry, but healing is a key part of JGLM and a large part of how Life Teams share the Gospel. God is interested in salvation of people’s spirits, souls and their bodies. He wants more children! Our goal as children of God is to spread the Gospel, bringing more to Christ. Healing is a great way to show God’s goodness and love, drawing people into the Kingdom.

In the following Scriptures, identify the purpose(s) for healing and write them in the blanks below:

Matthew 5:16

¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Hebrews 2:3-4

³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

Romans 2:4

⁴ Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

The sick are healed to:

- Ø Bring Glory to God
- Ø Verify His Word
- Ø Draw Mankind to Repentance

Discussion Activity

With your team, practice ministering healing to one another. Partner with one of your teammates, and using a role-playing technique, practice approaching the “sick” person. Discuss various ways to approach a person in need. {Hint: If anyone on the team is “sick” in reality, this is a terrific opportunity to practice ministering healing and seeing results!}

In God’s mind, our salvation is a total package. He has provided for salvation in our spirit, soul (mind, will and emotions) and body.

How do we experience salvation in our:

Body?

Soul?

Spirit?

Digging Deeper

In the Gospels, it is recorded that as Jesus and the disciples ministered, sometimes they first healed, then preached, and other times, they first preached, then healed.

Why doesn’t the order (of healing and preaching) seem to matter?

How does the order (of healing and preaching) impact the people and message? Which order do you prefer and why?



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 13 – (5 ½ minutes)

The difference between Healings and Miracles

Healing is a process. Miracles are instantaneous.

Live It!

Put God’s Word into action! When you see someone in need of healing, minister healing to them.

1. Approach the individual. Depending on the situation, it is sometimes easiest to ‘break the ice’ by asking them about their visible problem.
2. Tell them that you pray for sick people and God heals them. Then ask if you can pray for them.
3. Lay hands on the person, then command with authority what you want to have happen, for example, “Pain go!” or “Body, be healed!”
4. In faith, believe that the healing is done.
5. Depending on the situation, you may want to share more about the healing message, and more importantly, how God wants to not only heal their body, but give them total salvation. Look for practical ways to show them love right then and there if they are in need.

Lines below for notes:

Week 7 – Healing is in the Believer’s Job Description

Week 8 – Living the Life God Wants for You

To start, discuss the homework and Live It! assignments that your team decided to do this past week.

You Are Blessed!

Ephesians 1:3

³Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

2 Peter 1:3-4

³as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.

In Ephesians 1:3 and 2 Peter 1:3, notice the word, “has” That word is past tense, meaning it has already happened. Next, notice the word, “all.” Obviously, “all” means ALL! God has ALREADY blessed us with ALL spiritual blessings! We do not have to get God to bless us, we are already blessed with every blessing God has to give. As with all of God’s promises, we simply need to receive them by faith. Think of them like God’s brightly wrapped presents that are just waiting to be opened. We activate God’s blessings/gifts by faith, then develop them by doing.

Be a Blessing

In James 1:22, we know that we are to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. Believers must take the truth of the Word of God and apply it.

James 1:22

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

What does it mean to be a “doer” of the Word? Believers are to do what God said to do, which means making this earth look like heaven, one situation at a time. There are no sick, needy, or lost people in heaven, so our job is to spread the Gospel, take care of

the poor and needy and minister healing and deliverance until there is no more need.

If that seems like an overwhelming task, that's because it is! God wants us to be intentional about His work, taking it with us in our daily lives everywhere we go. That means that our busy lives do not revolve around us, they revolve around God's Will and giving to those around us. Be Jesus to the world!

James 2:14-18

¹⁴ What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what *does it* profit? ¹⁷ Thus also **faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.** ¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

As we go out to be "doers of the Word," it is important to remember that works have nothing to do with our salvation (getting to go to heaven), our right standing with God, or His blessings. He has already blessed us and loves us as much as He ever will, and no amount of our "doing" or "not doing" will change that. If we do good works with the motive that we will earn more favor, more blessing, or a better spot in heaven, this makes our works empty – the Bible calls them "dead works." With a right heart, we should do works out of a love for God and mankind because we are already blessed with every spiritual blessing. And as an added bonus, God promises to reward us for our good works done with the right motive.



Key: Be a Good “Hearer”

James 1:22 discusses doing AND hearing. Some believers think that in James 1:22, “hearing” is about listening to a minister preach from the Bible. They may have read the Bible and felt inadequate or confused, thinking others are much more spiritual and knowledgeable than they are. There is nothing wrong with listening to good Bible-based teaching, but God states that the Holy Spirit will help us understand all things. You need to read and understand the Bible for yourself! Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what each verse is saying. You will be surprised and excited to find revelation almost leaping out of the Bible and into your mind and heart.

Share the Gospel



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 14 – (3 minutes)

Preach the Gospel!

God decided what your worth is. You are worth Jesus to God because that’s what He _____ for you.

God didn’t see what you were, He saw what you _____ be.

The reason we go to witness is because _____ deserves who He died for, not because people don’t deserve hell. He gave His back for _____. It is not right that any person bear a sickness that Jesus has already bore, because if they bear it, it means He bore it in vain. That’s why we heal the sick; that’s why we witness.

Jesus’ top job for believers is to share the Good News of the Kingdom of God, which is salvation. If you have never shared your faith with someone, it may be a little uncomfortable at first. Know that God is inside you and you have been given everything you need to lay hands on the sick and make disciples. Fear of man has no place in you because God’s Holy Spirit gives boldness. Choose to be bold.

There is nothing more exciting and fulfilling to a believer than to witness to someone and lead them to make Jesus the Lord of their life. There is nothing better than being used by God to save a person from spending eternity in hell.

We are to bring in the harvest. It is God's job to prepare people's hearts. We are to be available and actively looking for opportunities to share with people that God puts in our path. It may be the planting, watering, fertilizing, or picking the fruit, but God wants us to do our part.

Be attentive to the Holy Spirit while sharing with others – share boldly! Do not worry about doing anything more than what God has directed you to do. As we step out in ministering healing to others, God verifies the message through signs. God will do His part to prepare their hearts, but we must also do our part to share the truth and confront lies.

Be Ready!

It is important to have a good basic plan for sharing your faith with another person so that you can be ready at any moment. The following Scriptures are a good start in putting together a biblical way to explain salvation to an unbeliever. There are many more – feel free to add verses as your team discusses them.

Romans 3:23

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 10:13

¹³ For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."



Listen to Audio Teaching Track 15 – (4 ½ minutes)

With healing, we don't just "try it." You have to make a commitment to _____ before you get results.

We don't lay hands on the sick _____ we see them healed, we lay hands because the _____ tells us to.

There is no such thing as a "closed heaven" to a _____. A Christian is the conduit of heaven to the world. Heaven was open the day the Spirit of God came to dwell in _____, and technically it was open on the day of Pentecost.

"If you have enough _____, there is no problem you can't fix."

You have power!

You have the power of faith. _____ will get more done than most people can imagine.

If you get to a point where your faith can't get it done, step over into the Baptism of the Spirit and receive _____.

Between faith and the Holy Spirit _____, you can get done whatever needs to be done.

Conclusion

Things to remember

- Ø It is ALWAYS God's Will for people to be saved and healed. Throughout the Bible, forgiveness of sins and healing go together.
- Ø Good things are from God and bad things are from the devil.
- Ø The price for every healing has already been paid. It is a promise of God to all believers. He has already said, "Yes" to every one of His promises.
- Ø God put His Holy Spirit in believers at the time of salvation. This same Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead and has worked every divine healing that has ever occurred. That Spirit is in YOU!
- Ø God has promised us much more than healing. He has promised us divine health.
- Ø Healing will usually only happen when someone ACTS in faith on a promise of God.
- Ø The ultimate goal of healing is to show people the goodness of God and draw them to making Jesus Lord of their lives.

Now What?

Today is the day to start walking as a child of God.

- Ø Who will YOU show Jesus to Today?
- Ø Tomorrow?
- Ø The Next Day?

Mark 16:15-18

¹⁵ And He said to them, "**Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.**"¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.¹⁷ **And these signs will follow those who believe:** In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**"

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.** ¹⁹ **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations,** baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

Jesus commanded us to go and do what He did, and He gave us everything we need to be successful. Jesus gave us His name, the Holy Spirit, His power and authority to accomplish His will on earth.

Luke 10:19

¹⁹ Behold, **I give you the authority** to trample on serpents and scorpions, **and over all the power of the enemy,** and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Matthew 16:19

¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and **whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.**”

It Is Our Job

Exodus 14:15 - 16

¹⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, “**Why do you cry to Me?** Tell the children of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶ But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry *ground* through the midst of the sea.

In Exodus 14:15, God was basically saying, “Moses, why are you crying out to Me? I have given you the authority, so YOU go do it!” And God says the same thing to us today.

Discussion Questions

With your team, discuss how to share your faith. Partner with one of your teammates, and using a role-playing technique, practice sharing the Gospel with the other person. It is a great idea to start by sharing part of your personal testimony, along with Scripture.

With your team, discuss 2 Peter 1:3-4. Write at least five statements that this passage is making about the life that God wants for us.

1 Peter 1:3-4

³Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

Digging Deeper

Consider the importance of love in all that you do (Ephesians 3:17-19), to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you maybe be filled with all the FULLNESS of God.

Ephesians 3:17-19

¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— ¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

You need to be rooted and grounded in love so that you may be filled with ALL the FULLNESS of God. Think about that: ALL the FULLNESS of God. This is a treasure worthy to be sought by all believers and the key is LOVE. Discuss in your group and write your thoughts below.

Now consider 1 Corinthians 13: 1-3

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ² And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

The Bible talks about how important it is that we walk in love. Discuss.

Live It!

Ask God to put at least one person in your path this week that needs to hear the salvation message. Using the bullet points you developed in the Homework section, share your faith. Don't worry if they do not accept Jesus as their Lord when you finish talking to them. Your job is to be obedient and available, planting a seed in their heart.

Live It! – The Next Step

Think about several people who you have laid hands on, witnessed to, or discussed divine healing with. Invite them to come to Life Team next week.

The purpose of your Life Team is to grow up into Christ (yourself AND others). Our goal is to preach the gospel to everyone!

Mark 16:15

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

Matt 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.