

Leaders Notes – Session 3

Title:- **Physical Healing**



Introduction: For many people today within the western church there is a struggle to understand, accept or believe for Physical Healing. Physical healing is so clear either it has happened or it has not! It is a simple fact where as with emotional healing some cure can be claimed whether or not it has taken place, with physical healing this is not the case. **EXAMPLE:** - If you have a blind person or someone with cancer before you and you pray for them. Very quickly it will be diagnosed whether there has been a healing or not whatever you claim!

Discussion: Why do you think people can struggle to have faith in physical healing? (Feedback on flipchart)

Teaching Point 1 - Problem – A faithless worldview.

For most of us who have grown in western society our minds have been shaped by a very materialistic and scientific worldview. This by definition means that we are cynical about anything that cannot be seen or is supernatural. The problem that we have then is that our upbringing and education actually militates against a biblical worldview that declares that God can and does minister to people on a supernatural level. While most Christians in the west believe that God CAN heal, (after all He created all things and therefore nothing is impossible for Him) that problem is that they cannot believe that He actually WILL heal. We find that our world view can leave us very skeptical over what God can do.

Quote:- George Bernard Shaw – took a tour of the shrine at Lourdes in France. With great delight and excitement the guide showed him a pile of crutches and declared that many people had been healed. Sarcastically Shaw replied, “ that is fine, but a few wooden legs would be more convincing!!”

Discussion: For us as Christians what do you think the challenges are to praying for the physically ill?

Teaching Point 2 - Physical Healing – A faith stretching exercise.

When we come to pray for people in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, it is important to recognize that for God nothing is more difficult then anything else for Him to do.

What the Bible Says: Matthew 8 v 14 – 1, Matthew 15 v 29 – 31

Praying for the physically ill or sick is a faith stretching experience. Because of this God has provided a quickening of faith at the point of prayer if we are prepared to allow God to quicken our faith and give us an assurance of what He is about to do. In 1 Corinthians 12 v 9 we see that one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is the gift of faith. This gift is where the Holy Spirit releases a person to have complete confidence and assurance in what God is about to and will do as He releases a supernatural work of His Kingdom.

Sometimes when we come to pray with people who have challenging conditions to our faith levels we need to ask for this supernatural release of real faith into our lives.

Teaching Point 3 - Learning to Listen.

When we come to the place of prayer we need to both listen to what the person is saying and what God is saying in response. The reason for this is because the Lord already know what is wrong with the person and already fully understands the root cause of the problem. It may seem obvious what the problem is but the cause of the problem may be something different. There are a number of causes for physical ailments and conditions.

Demonic activity - Sinful lifestyle and unconfessed sin – Test from God – Naturally occurring germs and viruses.

To pray effectively we need to allow the Holy Spirit to show us and give us discernment what the root cause of the illness is and then use the appropriate prayer in response.

Discussion: What different ways do you think God can speak to you in ministry situations?
How do you think we can develop our skills in listening to God’s direction?

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