



PRAYERWATCH NEWSLETTER

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Healing Prayers

By Greg Dunn, Maranatha Chapel Prayer Coordinator

Spring 2004



The National day of Prayer is May 6th this year; it is the first Thursday of every May. And the theme is always something about the healing of our nation. This year the official theme is "Let Freedom Ring". Amen to that! Freedom to worship the one true God, freedom to pray wherever and whenever we want, freedom to be Christians without persecution or ridicule. Of course in America this freedom is and should be available to all, and all are not Christians, but it's my hope that if those of other faiths see our God in action, they will turn to Him for their salvation as well.

When those who don't believe or those of other faiths look at us as Christians what do they see? Are we significantly or even noticeably different from those around us that aren't Christian? Do those who are watching us, see God actively and powerfully working in our lives? Are there indicators that set us apart as different? There are supposed to be "signs" that mark us as believers in the Lord God of Israel and in His Son Jesus. The bible says in Mark 16:17-18, "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 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." Jesus is quoted here; it was one of His last statements before going to the cross for us, is it a true statement? Jesus said that everything about us as Christians should be somehow different; demons flee from us, our language is new, if wicked things bite us we will not be harmed, poison won't make us sick and we will pray for sick people and they will recover. Really! Now I am not advocating taking poison or playing with snakes to test God. We may get a chance to see these kinds of signs in our life just as Paul did on Malta (Acts 28:1-6) but I don't think we need to go looking for that kind of trouble. New languages (tongues) began with the new church and as long as people are coming to the Lord He will be giving them new gifts of communication and discernment. After all, being a Christian is altogether about having a complete two way relationship with the living communicating God. If you want a God who won't (or can't) talk with you, go see Allah.

It's that last sign that Jesus says will follow the believer that I want to focus on in this article. Jesus said: "... they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." Jesus said that those who believe in Him, will lay hands on the sick, pray for them and then they will actually get better! Go figure!

To put this in perspective I want to let you know that I am honored to be the prayer coordinator here at Maranatha Chapel. I believe in the power of prayer. I am nothing special but I have seen God heal instantly and miraculously through my touch and prayers and through the prayers of others. On the other hand, I am writing this article from home. I have been inflicted with a back injury for eighteen years and recently re-injured myself. As of this date I have been off from work for over a month and see no end in sight of either physical therapy or life altering pain. Where is this healing sign that should be following me? My first thought is that it must be following me very far back! So catch up already will ya!

The Bible says in James 5:14-15; "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. 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. Meaning no disrespect to brother James but: "Been there, done that! Over the course of my injury I have been prayed for by everyone short of Mother Teresa and the Pope. Why no healing? I believe its all about timing; God's timing. Jesus' healing ministry was and is 100% successful. When He walked the roads and paths of Israel He didn't heal everyone in Israel or in Jerusalem or even in Nazareth but He did heal absolutely everyone that the Father showed Him to heal. He had His daily marching orders and He obeyed them precisely. Jesus said; "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel (John 5:19-20). Jesus' secret of effective healing prayer was paying attention to the Father, as was every other element of His ministry;

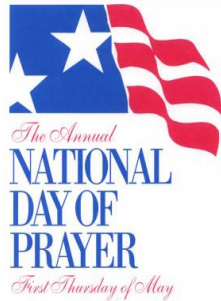
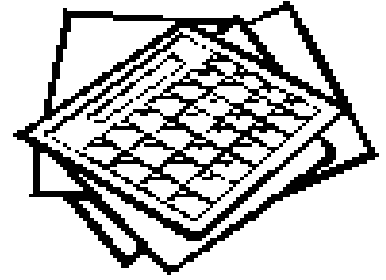
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Prayer Opportunities

- † **For Prayer**
Contact: Greg Dunn
(858) 613-7800 ext 110
- † **Emergency Prayer Chain**
Church Office
(858) 613-7800
- † **Sunday Morning Prayer**
Contact: Debra
(619) 886-3808
- † **Prayer Chapel (After Services)**
Contact: Greg Dunn
(858) 613-7800
- † **Moms in Touch**
Call for a location near you
(858) 486-4065
- † **Weekly Prayer Walk**
Contact: Christy
(858) 505-2566
Wednesday 5:00 pm
- † **Wed. Pre-Service Prayer**
Contact: Greg Dunn
(858) 613-7800 ext 110
Wednesday 6:15 pm
- † **College and Career**
Contact: Glenn Hirashiki
(858) 613-7800
Thursday 7:00 pm
- † **Wives in Prayer**
Contact: Tammy
(858) 385-0432
Friday A.M.
- † **Men @ Prayer**
Contact: Elmer Getz
(858) 675-0500
Saturday A.M.
- † **Prayer for Revival**
Contact: Candace
(858) 565-0314
Every Saturday, call for location



Prayer Event Calendar



Thursday, May 6 National Day of Prayer

For information about the event closest to you call:
858-756-7282
Or email at: www.ndpsandiego.org

Thursday May 13, 7-9 am

First Annual North County Prayer Breakfast
California Center for the Arts, \$25 per person
For information call: 858-385-0225 or email: info@ncpbsd.com



Ongoing Sign-ups 365 Days of Prayer

Sign-up to pray and fast for Maranatha's
Pastors and Staff- sign-up for your day at the
prayer table in the foyer.

A SELECTION OF HEALING RELATED SCRIPTURES FROM THE GOSPELS

"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. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."
John 14:12-14

Matthew - 4:23, 8:3, 8:7, 8:13, 8:15, 8:17, 9:6-7, 9:22, 9:25, 9:28-29, 9:35-36, 12:13, 12:15, 12:22, 13:15, 14:14, 14:35-36, 15:28, 15:30, 19:2, 20:32-34, 21:14.

Mark - 1:31, 1:34, 1:40-41, 2:11, 3:5, 3:10, 3:15, 5:34, 5:41, 6:5, 6:13, 6:56, 7:26-30, 7:32-35, 8:22-26, 10:51-52.

Luke - 4:39-40, 5:12-13, 5:15, 5:17, 5:24, 6:9-10, 6:17-19, 7:9-10, 7:21, 8:2, 8:36, 9:42, 10:9 (Jesus healed all the sick that were there), Luke 11:8 (Persistence in prayer) 13:12-13, 14:3-4, 17:14-19, 18:41-43, 22:51.

John - 4:47-53, 5:6-9, 9:6-7, 11:4 (actually the whole chapter 11),

"And all things, whatever you ask in prayer, believing (if you have faith and do not doubt), you will receive." Matthew 21:22

He was prayed up and walking in the Spirit. Maybe we should try more of that , you think?

I previously mentioned timing. There are two sides to a healing miracle; the timing of the healer and the timing of the healed. God moves His servants to be at the right place at the right time. And He also moves those who need healing to be there as well. God puts the meeting together, to most benefit us and to most glorify Him; it's a "win – win" situation. The Bible is filled with examples of these healing encounters. Take Blind Bart for instance; he was just hanging out and ended up being at the right place at the right time, called out to Jesus for healing and he was instantly healed! (Mark 10:46-52) Then look at the dancing man in Acts 3:1-16. Peter and John show up and wham! This guy who was lame from birth is hopping around like a frog on a griddle. This guy expected no more than a coin and look how much more than a coin he ended up receiving! It was timing. It was time for God to get some glory. As you look at all the healing encounters in the bible you see one pattern. No pattern at all! Every healing is different; every healing required faith but usually not on the part of the one who needed the healing. Sometimes it was an intercessor that had faith, a friend or a relative that knew God could heal and hoped He would, right then. Some times it was the person who needed healing who sought out a healing touch and sometimes nobody believed nothing, faith was up to Jesus or His representatives.

I believe God still deserves glory, I believe He still heals. I believe that if we seek to listen and are willing to obey, those who need a touch from God and those who are willing to be used by God, will get together somehow at just the right time and wham! God is glorified. So keep the faith, trust God at all times and look for that strategic moment; at just the right time, when it gives God the most glory and you the biggest blessing, He will heal us.

My Healing Story: By Pam Zuker

This healing story is difficult for me to write, it brings back memories of desperation. But it also brings back memories of what God has taught me through all of it. It is my prayer that whoever reads this will be encouraged to 'stand' for their healing. As I discovered, every person in the New Testament that came to Jesus for healing was healed.

Let me start by saying that the Lord has called me to be an intercessor. I did not ask to be an intercessor; the Lord blessed me with this gift and task. Because this is a gift and task from the Lord, this is not a hard job or burden for me because He has made it easy and enjoyable to spend hours alone with Him praying for myself and for others. I have found that the job of praying for others is easy compared to the agony of praying for myself when physical healing is needed. I learned this grueling lesson a few years ago when I set out to intercede for a person who had noticeable demonic activity in their life.

It was no coincidence that at this time my own symptoms of disease began to appear. I went to the doctor, yet they could not diagnose anything; instead, they gave me a large dose of antibiotics! The symptoms continued; got worse and became debilitating. I was off from work for many weeks. Through much prayer I kept hearing that the Lord was promising to heal me. He gave me these promises: **Matthew 8:7, Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him."**

Matthew 8:17, This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases." Isaiah 53:5, "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."

I claimed these promise as well as doing everything in my power to live and eat right but I was still not feeling well and the symptoms continued; I sought the doctors' help again. Many tests later, they could find nothing. During this time, I continued to seek the Lord (I felt like a child constantly tugging at the hem of His garment, never giving up), what does it say in His word? **Hebrews 11:6 ...But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.** He then told me in prayer not to go back to the doctors because "they will not know what is wrong with you." And to confirm this, He gave me **1 Corinthians 2:5 "...that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men, but in the POWER OF GOD".**

During my illness, I sought many to pray for me and over me anointing me with oil. I sought my family, my husband, my friends, my prayer partners and my pastoral friends. We fasted and prayed and repented for my healing; my symptoms lessened. But I was still not well. Then, one morning during prayer, the Lord revealed I was in sin. He gave me **Matthew 13:14-15 "...Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the heart of this people has grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their heart and turn, SO THAT I SHOULD HEAL THEM."**

I was floored; I asked the Lord, what could my sin be? He revealed to me that my sin was something that can often happen to intercessors. My sin was thinking that I needed some heavy hitters in the prayer department to pray for me! Special people, people who are unusually gifted in the Spirit, who are powerful in the prayer, "prayer specialists". This is not what the bible says to seek for; it is not men who heal us, it is the Lord. The bible says in **James 5:14-15 "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. 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.” My sin was that I went for prayer to everyone except those in authority (church elders) over me. I repented before the Lord, and made an appointment with the elders of the Lord’s choice and repented in front of them. They were gracious to me, prayed for me and anointed me with oil.

My strength returned soon after that, but some symptoms still hung on. I again sought the Lord for permission to go back to the doctors. Again He told me ‘no’. He said “don’t be like Abraham who almost lost his promise when he took up with Hagar”. He had promised to heal me, but I was impatient. I continued to ask. And then, a few days later I was listening to a morning radio program and the teacher said “if God has given you a promise, don’t be like Abraham, who almost lost his promise when he took up with Hagar...”! If that weren’t enough, the same day, now in the afternoon, another radio program, a different channel and a different teacher, same theme. The teacher said “Hold fast to the promise God has given you and remember the lesson of Abraham who tested God by taking up with Hagar before his promise was manifested.” Okay, okay, I am not that hard of hearing. I did not return to the doctor! I was healed shortly after that and the problem has never returned. This might seem unconventional to some in the church, but I obeyed His word and was healed. I still see a doctor when necessary, but I have learned to ask the Lord first before I run out to seek man’s help.

Perhaps you have an illness that just won’t go away. Have you gone to your church elders? They are waiting for you to come forward after each service. They are on call to meet with you throughout the week. Do not be proud. Do not put your confidence in man, trust God’s word and His promises and be healed.

Praise Reports!

Taken from the praise reports placed in our weekly offerings.

God Heals!

“My Mom’s eyes are totally and completely healed...thank you Jesus!”

“Last week I put in a prayer request concerning my aunt’s cancer; for her comfort and healing. Her cancer has disappeared entirely! Praise to God!”

“Two weeks ago the doctor found a mass, Praise the Lord, my more recent MRI showed nothing!”

“Thank you Jesus! Last week I went forward for prayer after the service, I was anointed with oil and Jesus lifted the darkness I was in. He healed me and set me free! All glory to our Lord Jesus Christ!”

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Prayer Watch is published on a quarterly basis. If you have a question, a comment, or an article on prayer you would like to submit, please contact Greg Dunn at Maranatha Chapel 858-613-7800 or email at: prayerwatch@maranathachapel.org