

Remnant Life Church
March 9, 2014

“The Power to Heal”
I Corinthians 12:9

Truth #1 – God desires all of His creation to walk in perfect health.

- How do we know this given what we see around us?
- He created us that way at the beginning

Truth #2 – Because of sin we will not walk in perfect health again until we are with Jesus in heaven.

- Sickness and disease, because they were initiated by sin, cannot be in heaven and the presence of God
- Aging, the deterioration of the body, will also be absent in heaven

Truth #3 – God still moves today to heal miraculously in accordance with His divine will.

- The miracles of healing did not cease when Jesus returned to heaven

Truth #4 – God often chooses to perform those miraculous acts today through us, His children.

- The ministry or gift of healing can be found operating all around the world
- Can this place become a place of healing?

God wants us to have the confidence in our walk with Him to believe that it is normal and natural to pray for the sick and see them healed.

Healing in the Scriptures

- Disease and sickness are inseparably united with sin
 - Sin brought sickness and disease into our bodies
 - Because of sin Moses warns the people of Israel of the consequence of sin and what it has brought to man
 - We have a choice to obey God or live according to the ways of the world which are contrary to God
 - **Deut. 28** we read of what the curse of disobedience is
 - Within that are all the afflictions of our bodies brought by sin
 - Individual sin does not necessarily bring sickness as punishment
 - **John 9** – The disciples ask Jesus this question
- Jesus paid the price for that curse
 - **Gal. 3:13** - *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.”*

- **Col. 2:14** - *having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.*
- The first account of healing is in **Genesis 20** when King Abimelek and all the women of his household are stuck with impotency because of Abraham and Sarah.
- **II Kings 5** Naaman is healed of leprosy through Elisha
 - God heals in many ways that do not require our involvement
 - God also does not require man's fanfare to accomplish His will
 - Most often the hysteries of man's efforts are his desires to be seen and noticed
- Throughout the NT Jesus heals the sick and diseased – 23 of 35 miracles
 - He would at times ask the person if they had faith and believed
 - There was almost always some sort of physical contact
 - God is a God of physicality
 - Our culture's insistence on personal space is yet another way that we continue to separate ourselves from who God created us to be
 - **Matt. 20** – 2 blind men asked Jesus to be healed
 - He asks them what they wanted Him to do
 - They answered in faith
- The disciples also saw people healed who they prayed for
- Jesus commissioned others to heal the sick as well
 - 12 Disciples – **Matt. 10:1**
 - 70 other followers – **Luke 10:9**
 - All believers (that's us!) – **Mark 16:15-18**

1) What makes people shy away from praying for people to be healed or being prayed for their own healing?

- Many are concerned that they will look foolish if after the prayer nothing happens right then
 - God is not obligated to heal
 - He heals because He loves us
 - **Ex. 2:24-25** – God cared for the Israelites in their slavery
 - **Matt. 14:14** – Jesus saw the large crowd and had compassion on them (feeding of the 5000)
 - He heals to accomplish His purpose
 - This purpose may be unknown to us
 - The timing is NEVER known to us

2) How do we pray for one another?

- a) Christians should always be ready to pray for healing or make a way for that prayer to be prayed – **James 5:14**
- b) Everything you pray should be in Jesus' name – **John 14:13**
- c) Pray a faith-filled prayer – **Mark 11:24; Matt. 9:28-29**

- d) Pray with respect for that person
- What their need is
 - Where they are in their walk with the Lord
 - Their comfort level with contact (ask)

If there is anyone here today that would like prayer for sickness or a physical healing come to the front after I pray and dismiss everyone.