

... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover
[Mark 16:18]



Healing the **SICK**

HOW TO RECEIVE AND MINISTER
THE HEALING POWER OF GOD

NOAH SIMPE
BEDIAKO

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

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Introduction

In the ministry life of Jesus Christ, there were about six groups of people who followed Him. Much as in every ministry there will be these six groups;

1. Those who come to seek an occasion to accuse the Lord
2. Those who have come because of the bread that the Lord gives
3. Those who come because they have a family relationship with the Lord, yet will neither listen nor obey the word.
4. Those who have come to listen and to be touched.
5. Those who have been touched and follow the Lord to support Him financially with their substance.
6. Lastly those who are ordained to stay and to be sent.

This book is written for the last group, who are also the most important people in every mission. The Bible says in the Gospel of Mark that;

Mark 3:13-15 NIV

Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.

(14) He appointed twelve--designating them apostles--that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach

(15) and to have authority to drive out demons.

He called out twelve. He called them out of the multitude and designated them into offices- the apostolic, the prophetic, the evangelistic, the teaching, and the pastoral. Each of the twelve was called for a special reason. The Lord called, appointed, and ordained some as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. Although there are significant differences between these ministries and functions, fundamentally, He has called us to be with Him and to have power to do the following;

1. Teach and empower the nations for salvation, success and service
2. Heal the sick

3. Cast out devils
4. Raise offerings
5. Send people

The church must understand this great mystery.
This message is designed to empower us for
greater works.

God Bless you!

Causes of Infirmities

3 John 1:2-4

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.

[3] It gave me great joy to have some brothers come and tell about your faithfulness to the truth and how you continue to walk in the truth.

[4] I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

God's best for us is that we shall not be sick. God primarily has provided for our health. He has also secondarily provided for our healing just in case we are unable to maintain the health. If God intends that we would walk in health and never be sick, then why are we unable to walk in that promise. We are unable to walk in this promise simply because of our inability to manage the causal factors of infirmity.

WORKS OF DARKNESS

Many sicknesses have satanic causes. Direct demonic afflictions are the primary cause of infirmity. We can walk in divine health by dealing with the devil and fighting His venom with faith.

2 Corinthians 12:7 (Darby)

*And that I might not be exalted by the exceeding greatness of the revelations, **there was given to me a thorn for the flesh, a messenger of Satan that he might buffet me, that I might not be exalted.***

Though the English rendering of this Scripture, makes it seem that God was in alliance with the devil, the real story implies a different thing. God permitted the placing of the thorn in the flesh of the Apostle because He knew it could not hinder the manifestation of his destiny. Though the devil intended to use it to keep him from functioning as God wants him to, the Lord rather turned the table around by using it for Paul's good. The devil thought it for evil but God turned it for good.

It is important for me to state that, we don't need to pray for such thorns in the flesh, neither should we permit the infirmities to

stay, regardless of the causes. However, one thing that should be clear is that if the devils infirmity would not depart even after much sincere and faith prayer, then you must know that it cannot hinder your purpose.

God would not bother Himself to remove something for which He has already given you sufficient grace to handle. When Paul prayed, The Lord Jesus spoke to him saying “*my grace is sufficient for you*”

Do you remember the woman who was bent and could not stand straight for 18 years in the days of Jesus? Well, there was a woman according to Luke 13 that was bent and could stand upright for 18 years. Brothers, there could have been several medical reasons. Some doctors might mention big names like arthritis, cancer, meningitis, etc. But Jesus said it is the devil that had bound her. In fact, what could not be cured for 18 years was healed on one Sabbath day. Praise the Lord!

Luke 13: 16

And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?

The devil might have bound you too for so

many years, but the same power that healed that woman can heal you also. We have been commissioned to lay our hands on you. This commission empowers us to make you well in the name of Jesus.

There was this day several years ago in my grandmother's small village; I heard a story of a witch doctor killing babies by afflicting them with sicknesses. You may choose to discard this as mere superstition, but I do not. I would not take such a man for granted if I met him. He is a messenger of Satan and I must face him as a messenger of God. While such people are carrying out the devil's assignment, we must also arise and carry out our commission of laying hands on the sick and healing them.

SIN

If we deal with Sin, we have destroyed the power of infirmity. The second cause of infirmity is the twin brother of the devil himself; sin. Before sin entered into the earth, there was no sickness, in fact, at that time, whatever God had created was good. Once we learn to walk in righteousness, we have set out to walk in divine health.

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

This means that in the beginning the viruses were good, the yeast and the fungi, and the Chlamydia and the bacteria and all other pathogenic organisms were described in God's own words as good. Now, if they were good, then what happened? The truth is, the devil subjected all creation to rebellion. As we would later see, in Christ's own words, sin would bring worse things upon a man.

John 5: 14

Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

The phrase "*sin no more*" is the voice of grace. Grace beckoned on the man whose suffering was eased, to understand that, the only way to stay away from being infirmed again was to stay free from sin.

DISAPPOINTMENT

Deferred hope makes the heart sick; to walk in health, set your hope on God. Refuse to look at

the situation but at the cross. When you look at the situation you will become weary in your mind.

Proverbs 13:12 (Darby)

Hope deferred maketh the heart sick; but the desire that cometh to pass is a tree of life.

Visit the psychiatry or a mental hospital in your city today and find out for yourself what brought many of the people there – disappointment. The heart is infirmed and weakened as their hopes and aspirations are dashed. I understand that there is an increase in the number of cases of heart failures and attacks. More and more people who have migrated into our cities are stressed, depressed and lonely. This is as a result of their dashed hopes.

They could not stand the fact that their aspiration did not stand. Disappointment brings grieve. It is a major cause of lunacy. This is the more reason why we need to preach hope and inspire men on.

Lift up your eyes to the cross and be inspired by the man on the cross. The cross is our victory and hope.

INDULGENCE

Avoid indulgent living. Practice healthy eating habits. Practice moderation in all things to stay healthy.

This is a major cause of infirmity in our days. Indulgence is a terrible kinsman of sickness and many disease conditions. Imagine how many people have been infirmed by their indulgence. Come to think of it, what are the main causes of diabetes, hypertension, stroke, gout, obesity?

We live in a time when men are given to food, pleasure, alcohol and all kinds of indulgence. Our mode of living has created more trouble for us. Count how many young people in your own locality have gone mad through substance abuse. People are on rampage and use drugs that destroy their own bodies.

Read about the causes of cancer from medical journals. Obesity has become the battle for our nations to fight, all simply due to indulgence. Over indulgence in sex, obscenity and lewdness have created much problems now than in any other generation.

ABUSING THE BODY

Sometimes we abuse the body through disobeying the natural laws of health; good exercise, enough sleep, proper eating, and recreation.

Biblically, the following people who were not healed, happened to Christian leaders;

EPAPHRODITUS - A LEADER IN PHILIPPI

Epaphroditus, Apostle Paul's companion nearly died because of the work of Christ.

Philippians 2:25-30 NIV

(25) But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs.

(26) For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill.

(27) Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow.

(28) Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety.

(29) Welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and

honor men like him,

(30) because he almost died for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me.

TIMOTHY - A BISHOP AND EVANGELIST

1 Timothy 5:23 NIV

Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

TROPHIMUS - PAUL'S TRAVELING COMPANION

2 Timothy 4:20 NIV

Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus.

PAUL - AN APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES

Galatians 4:13-14 NIV

As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you.

Even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you

welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself.

OTHER CAUSES

Do not fret because you still feel weak after doing all these: some of the things that happen are so that the glory of God might be seen in difficult times.

Though God is not the cause of any disease, He might permit certain conditions that may afford Him the opportunity to show forth His glory. Consider the story of Lazarus and Job.

John 11:2-4 (Darby)

It was the Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.

(3) The sisters therefore sent to him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

(4) But when Jesus heard it, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified by it.

We recognized that though God was not the author of Lazarus's infirmity, He took advantage of the situation to show forth His glory. God

is an expert when it comes to that. I see God healing you to show forth His glory. Do not fret because you still feel weak after doing all these, because some of the things that happen are so that we might work the works of God.

Christ says of uncommon calamities, that they are not always to be looked on as special punishment of sin; sometimes they are for the glory, and to manifest His work. Though Jesus taught that sickness was caused by sin, here He clarifies that such as these are that the works of God might be manifest

John 9:1-7

(1) *And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.*

(2) *And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?*

(3) *Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: **but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.***

(4) *I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.*

(5) *As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.*

(6) When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

(7) And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

This man was born blind and Christ's assertion alludes to the fact that God made it so that we might work the works of God. Jesus Christ hence magnified His power, in making the blind man see. Human reason cannot judge of the Lord's methods, He uses means and instrument that men despise; in the case of this blind man, it was dust.

He went to the pool blind, wondering and wondered at, yet he came back seeing. Attending to the ordinance of Christ's appointment have enormous benefits; many souls came to Him weak but return strengthened, many came doubting but left satisfied, some came mourning but they returned rejoicing, the blind came and went back seeing. Irrespective of the cause of the infirmity, Christ healed all who that came to Him in faith. Why not come to Christ today and receive the manifestation of your healing

too.

Dearly beloved, I would do my best in the grace of God to impart the healing anointing through this book. It is my prayer that as you read this book, the Lord would impart your spirit and release into your being the grace and anointing of healing.

Does God Still Heal the Sick?

Yes, God still heals the sick. He actually wants to heal each one of us.

Mark 16:17-18 NIV

*And these signs will accompany those who believe:
In my name they will drive out demons; they will
speak in new tongues;*

*(18) they will pick up snakes with their hands; and
when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt
them at all; **they will place their hands on sick
people, and they will get well.***

As long as there are believers, there will be healings. Healing is a sign that follows those who can believe the gospel. The Lord still heals the sick. He still heals the sick through **His word, His power, and His wounds.**

In Exodus 15:26, He said,

“If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD

your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you.”

God is still in the business of taking away the diseases of Egypt from among His people. As long as we are paying attention to the commandments of the Lord, He is committed to taking away all the diseases of Egypt.

GOD'S WORD

Psalm 107:20 (NIV)

He sent forth his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave.

GOD'S POWER

Luke 5:17 (NIV)

One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick.

GOD'S WOUNDS

Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

(5) But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

OUR CONNECTION TO GOD'S HEALING POWER

Faith is our connection to healing.

Mark 5:22-25, 35-36 NIV

(22) Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet

(23) and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live."

(24) So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him.

(25) And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years.

(35) While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler.

“Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher any more?”

(36) Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.”

The powerful Scriptures show us how faith connects to our healing;

Mark 2:5 NIV

*When **Jesus saw their faith**, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”*

Luke 8:48 NIV

*Then he said to her, “**Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.**”*

Luke 17:19 NIV

*Then he said to him, “**Rise and go; your faith has made you well.**”*

Luke 18:42 NIV

*Jesus said to him, “**Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.**”*

John 9:35 NIV

*Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “**Do you believe in the Son of Man?**”*

Acts 3:16 NIV

By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

Acts 14:9-10 NIV

*He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, **saw that he had faith to be healed** (10) and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.*

WHY SOME PEOPLE ARE NOT HEALED

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

It is God's decision who He wants to heal.

UNBELIEF

James 1:6-8 NIV

But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

(7) That man should not think he will receive

anything from the Lord;

(8) he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

PRESENCE OF ROOTS

There are times when the sick have some evil roots in their lives that they are trying to conceal.

James 5:14-16 NIV

Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.

(15) And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven.

(16) Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

IGNORANCE

Some people assume that God always heals instantly, and if they don't receive their healing immediately, then they stop praying.

Preparing to Heal the Sick

DESIRE THE GIFTS OF HEALINGS

1 Corinthians 12:28-31 NIV

And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.

(29) Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?

*(30) **Do all have gifts of healing?** Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?*

*(31) **But eagerly desire the greater gifts.** And now I will show you the most excellent way.*

Praise the Lord! He has set some in the church to operate the gifts of healings. As I read this passage, the inspiration of God prompted me to

take note of the rendering – the plurality of the *gifts* and the *healings*. This connotes the fact that there are several forms of healings.

Experience shows that different evangelists show forth different manifestations of the gift of healing. Some have a special grace to minister to people with hearing defects, other see more eye defects healed, and some evangelists also heal lameness with considerable ease. There are also instances when a single minister manifests different graces in different meetings.

We would soon come to understand that because Christ Jesus was anointed without measure, He healed every infirmity that came His way. Bible says that He healed all that came to Him in faith irrespective of the kind of malady they had.

Matthew 4:23-24 (Darby)

And Jesus went round the whole of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the glad tidings of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every bodily weakness among the people.

(24) And his fame went out into the whole of Syria, and they brought to him all that were ill, suffering under various diseases and pains, and those

*possessed by demons, and lunatics, and paralytics;
and he healed them.*

We are however not anointed without measure but as the church steps out in faith and authority, we are able to manifest the totality of the grace of healing. It is important therefore that as a church, each one of us should step out and exercise his or her 'franchise'. It is important therefore that we state some truth about the gifts of the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 DARBY

(4) But there are distinctions of gifts, but the same Spirit;

(5) and there are distinctions of services, and the same Lord;

(6) and there are distinctions of operations, but the same God who operates all things in all.

(7) But to each the manifestation of the Spirit is given for profit.

These truths are clearly stated by Paul, the apostle. He teaches that there are;

DIVERSITIES OF GIFTS

Diversities of gifts but the same Spirit

Diversities, means that for the same gift there are various forms of it. Hence there are various forms of the main gifts of the Spirit but by the same Spirit.

We need to understand that though there is only one Spirit in all the gifts, they may be different forms and types. It is therefore important that you do not stereotype your gift. Mine may not look like anything you have seen before, the Spirit is the same but the gifts come in many different forms.

DIFFERENCES OF ADMINISTRATION

Differences of administration but the same Lord

There are very many different ways the various gifts are administered by the same Lord. For each gift, there are different instructions and rules that came with the different ways they are given. Please do not do it my way, your

instructions might be different.

For Samson, his instruction was to have no razor upon his head, and no fermented thing in his mouth. And we read of how he could sleep with harlots and still move the gates of cities, but Saul's instruction was different; "*destroy the Amelekite utterly*"

When Jesus Christ administered the gifts, He gave His own set of rules. It is therefore important to keep to the rules and commission.

DIVERSITIES OF OPERATION

Diversities of operation but the same God works in all

MANIFESTATION TO THE PROFITING OF ALL

In a nutshell, people must be blessed by your wonderful gift. This is what the Holy Spirit wills

1 Corinthians 12:11

But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

We must recognize and understand our gift, its

kind of administration and operation. We must be careful not to be stereotyped nor become a carbon copy of another minister. We may learn from others though; we just have to understand our uniqueness. It is important we allow our uniqueness to stand out. Rise up and bless your generation. God is with us.

Inasmuch as it is true that we have been given the gifts of healing for the benefit of many, they would not just happen, certain conditions may have to be set in place to guarantee our success with the manifestation of the operation of the gift. This may be compared to buying a gun from a shop. If you are not taught the proper way to use it, you may have a gun alright but you might not be able to use it, or even harm yourself or others.

BUILD UP FAITH

Spend time and study the word.

John 15:7-8 (Darby)

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall come to pass to you.

(8) In this is my Father glorified, that ye bear much

fruit, and ye shall become disciples of mine.

Let the word build faith in you. You must determine to grow into great faith.

God has dealt or given to every man a measure of faith by which He walks with Christ.

Obviously, since we all do not know Christ at the same level, we would all not minister using the same methods. Some ministers know God more intimately than others, but we must all grow in the grace. We can grow in the faith by hearing and staying in the word. *“Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God”* (Romans 10:17). The amount of God’s word we have vary largely from one minister to the other, hence it is not in vain that James, the apostle said that *“if any is sick let him call the elders”*.

James 5:14-15 (Darby)

*Is any sick among you? **let him call** to him the elders of the assembly, and **let them pray over him, anointing him with oil** in the name of the Lord; (15) and **the prayer of faith shall heal the sick**, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he be one who has committed sins, it shall be forgiven him.*

He did not say call **babies**, he said call the **elders**

in the church. What does he mean by elders? He means people who by constant use have their senses exercised, not necessarily those who are old but those who are matured in the use of the word.

Hebrews 5:12-14 DARBY

For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have again need that one should teach you what are the elements of the beginning of the oracles of God, and are become such as have need of milk, and not of solid food.

(13) For every one that partakes of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe;

(14) but solid food belongs to full-grown men, who, on account of habit, have their senses exercised for distinguishing both good and evil.

Now, why would he desire us to call elders? Because of the diversity and complexity of the gifts and grace of healing. It is a ministry that is fired up by compassion and mercy and not for showmanship and faultfinding. I must also say that, we would have much success if each one of us thinks soberly and operate according to His measure of grace.

ACTIVATE THE GIFT

Spend time with God in prayer to activate the gift and the grace of healing.

As ministers, we must grow in the grace of healing. Though God gives the grace and the anointing according to the measure of the gift of Christ; we must determine to grow in it. The anointing must increase and grow.

Ephesians 4:7-8 DARBY

But to each one of us has been given grace according to the measure of the gift of the Christ.

(8) Wherefore he says, Having ascended up on high, he has led captivity captive, and has given gifts to men.

Another way to say this is, “the amount of Christ in you determines the depth and thickness of the oil”. Christ is the word of God, so how much time you spend in the word would determine how much of Christ would be in you, and therefore, how thick His anointing upon your life would be.

How much word you know is not the same as how much is in you, how much of the word you walk in. Depending on the grace and the

measure of the gift of Christ will enable us to do great things.

The grace and gifts of healings can be activated in your life through relating with the anointed.

RELATE WITH THE ANOINTING

Maintain a close relationship with an anointed man. According to the testimony of many world evangelists, they became anointed after other anointed men imparted their lives; sometimes by the laying on of hands. In Reinhardt Bonnke's book, *Evangelism by Fire*, he records that one of the Jeffery brothers prayed for him after Bible college. Pastor Benny Hinn talks of how he came to be anointed because of a relationship with Katherine Kulman. The apostles became anointed because they stayed with Christ.

Mark 3:14-15 (Darby)

And he appointed twelve that they might be with him, and that he might send them to preach, (15) and to have power to heal diseases, and to cast out demons.

As we stay and follow anointed men of God,

we learn of their ways and are imparted. Three simple ways to maintain this relationship are:

Follow their words closely. Receive their messages with humility and just soak it in. As you soak these messages daily, you are literally receiving from his spirit.

They should be able to speak into your life as fathers.

Learn their way of living and emulate their good attributes

One thing you should remember is that every man has his own flaws. It is important to avoid their errors while you emulate their good examples.

Because every man also has flaws, the man you follow will not be perfect. Do not be too surprised when you discover certain hidden things about them.

As you follow the man of God closely, you will receive from him and see the healing grace. The power that emanates from his clothes, words and voice will affect your life. I see the healing anointing come upon you now. Open your spirit in faith to receive something when a man of God lays hands on you to impart the anointing.

The key to receiving is in expectation and faith. A man cannot receive anything supernatural or from God without faith. Absolute faith is a requirement for receiving from God.

James 1:6-8 DARBY

but let him ask in faith, nothing doubting. For he that doubts is like a wave of the sea driven by the wind and tossed about;

(7) for let not that man think that he shall receive anything from the Lord;

(8) he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

As the man ministers, open up your spirit, and tell yourself, "I will not go back the same". Determine to receive something. Do not just read this book, open your spirit and receive the anointing. I am impacting the power of God right now, take it in the name of Jesus! Do the things you could not do before and see God heal you now.

WAIT ON GOD

Wait on God in fasting, prayer and feed on the word of God as it is taught in the Bible and by seasoned men of God.

Matthew 17:21 (Darby)

But this kind does not go out but by prayer and fasting.

Our Lord Jesus lived a life of prayer and fasting. He spent hours of the night in the mountains with the Father. This led to the release of the anointing upon His life. He has as a result recommended this practice to us as a way to receive power from on high to handle the challenges of life.

ACT OUT YOUR FAITH

Just start praying for the sick as you trust God to use you and he would use you.

CHAPTER 4

Ministering Healing

Healings manifest in atmospheres characterized by expectancy. There are times when people believe God can heal but not in your particular meeting. If the people have not come to be healed, do not pray for them. When people have faith in God, they are expectant of healing in that meeting but not through you, do not pray for them.

I had an experience when in a meeting; there were so many people in the prayer line so the guest speaker asked all the pastors to heal them. Apparently, many of the people did not know of my ministry and I could tell that many of the people did not want me to pray for them. They would dodge my line. Brother I just went back and sat down. This is because I cannot do what Christ could not do.

Mark 6:1-6 DARBY

And he went out thence and came to his own

country, and his disciples follow him.

(2) And when sabbath was come he began to teach in the synagogue, and many hearing were amazed, saying, Whence has this man these things? and what is the wisdom that is given to him, and such works of power are done by his hands?

(3) Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James, and Joses, and Judas, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended in him.

(4) But Jesus said to them, A prophet is not despised save in his own country, and among his kinsmen, and in his own house.

(5) And he could not do any work of power there, save that laying his hands on a few infirm persons he healed them .

(6) And he wondered because of their unbelief. And he went round the villages in a circuit, teaching.

Until then Jesus had healed everybody that came to Him. Unbelief was the only thing that stopped the flow. In fact, after that experience, when He sent out the twelve, He sent them to places they would be accepted.

People must believe that you are anointed to heal before you can heal them. It is this faith that links them to the power deposited in you.

That is the reason why your opening statement in any place where you are not known should be what you are called and commissioned to do.

Jesus Christ opened His ministry by quoting Isaiah 60:1-4 and said “today it is fulfilled”. (See Luke 4 verses 1 downwards). Amos introduced himself as a gatherer of sycomore fruits until God called him to prophecy. He also stated what he was commissioned to do.

Amos 7:14-15

Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycomore fruit:

(15) And the LORD took me as I followed the flock, and the LORD said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.

CREATE A HEALING ENVIRONMENT

You must create the atmosphere of healing before trying to pray for the sick. The atmosphere would not automatically be available; you must create it.

Mark 5:22-24 DARBY

And behold there comes one of the rulers of the synagogue, by name Jairus, and seeing him, falls down at his feet;

(23) and he besought him much, saying, My little daughter is at extremity; I pray that thou shouldest come and lay thy hands upon her so that she may be healed, and may live.

(24) And he went with him, and a large crowd followed him and pressed on him.

Why did he put some people out, but brought other in? He was creating an atmosphere for healing. He was creating an atmosphere charged with the presence of the Holy Spirit and people full of faith and hope.

DISCERN OR INTERVIEW THE SICK TO ESTABLISH THE ROOTS OF THE INFIRMITY

Try to answer two questions;

1. Where does it hurt?
2. Why does this person have this condition?

This would help you to pray appropriately.

Mark 9:20-23 NIV

So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

(21) Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered.

(22) It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.

(23) 'If you can'? said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes."

TRANSFER THE HEALING VIRTUE

The following are three ways of transferring the healing virtue;

LAYING ON OF HANDS

You can lay your hands on the sick

Mark 16:18 (Darby)

they shall take up serpents; and if they should drink any deadly thing it shall not injure them; they shall lay hands upon the infirm, and they shall be well.

TOUCHING THEM WITH TOKENS

You may also transfer the anointing by touching the infirmed bodies with clothes and materials from your anointed body.

Act 19:12 (Darby)

so that even napkins or aprons were brought from his body and put upon the sick, and the diseases left them, and the wicked spirits went out.

When God decides to work great miracles, even the shadow of the anointed minister can heal the sick. This book in your hands is from the heart of an anointed man. It is a good material to heal the sick and minister this blessing.

ANOINTING THE SICK WITH OIL

James 5:14-15 (Darby)

*Is any sick among you? let him call to him the elders of the assembly, and let them pray over him, **anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord;** (15) and the prayer of faith shall heal the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he be one who has committed sins, it shall be forgiven him.*

Smear the oil on the sick. Now, some

theologians argue that this piece of Scripture means that after the prayer of faith, the sick could go for some medication. They make this assertion because in those days the olive oil was used in medicinal preparations and as a healing agent. I must however say that the oil would rather release the faith of the sick and the power of the Holy Spirit to produce the healing

WATCH TO SEE THE HOLY SPIRIT AT WORK

The Holy Spirit begins to work on the sick when we transfer the healing virtue.

Watch out for obvious signs like weeping, crying, praising, shaking, trembling, calmness, bodily writhing, and bodily distortion, falling over, laughter, or jumping.

Other subtle signs as slight trembling, fluttering the eyelids, faint perspiring, a sheen on the face, ripples on the skin, or deep breathing.

These are great leads to tell what the Holy Spirit is doing in the life of the people.

PRAYER ENGAGEMENT

Usually, I pray over the sick part with my hand laid there. I quote the Mark 16: 17-18, and then I thank God for honoring His word. In other instances, I am led by the Holy Ghost to rebuke the spirits or the infirmity to leave, and usually they obey.

SOMETIMES, JUST SPEAK THE WORD

This declaration is usually short and straightforward. This often works well in an atmosphere of great faith usually in mass crusade. Usually as we pray and declare the word of God, the inherent power of the word begins to be unleashed to work on the affected parts as you pray, just speak authoritatively and rebuke the spirits of infirmity to lose their hold.

Matthew 8:6-8 (Darby)

and saying, Lord, my servant lies paralytic in the house, suffering grievously.

*(7) And Jesus says to him, *I* will come and heal him.*

(8) And the centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not fit that thou shouldest enter under my roof; but only speak a word, and my servant shall be healed.

Receiving Healing

You can receive healing by simply turning the valves open. The healing virtue is like oil that is flowing through a conduit. It is either leading to your life, or you may have to tap into it yourself.

Consider the woman with the issue of blood; she was not the reason why Christ was there, yet she tapped into His healing virtue. She was not waiting for anybody to touch her but she tapped into the conduit.

The following will help you to be able to receive the content of the conduit;

HAVE FAITH IN GOD

Mark 5:36 (Darby)

But Jesus immediately, having heard the word spoken, says to the ruler of the synagogue, Fear not; only believe.

Jesus Christ requires of men to only believe and not fear. Fear would steal your faith and create doubt and since a man who is wavering cannot receive anything from God, it is better for the recipient to believe, have faith and not wavered.

James 1:6-7 (Darby)

but let him ask in faith, nothing doubting. For he that doubts is like a wave of the sea driven by the wind and tossed about;

(7) for let not that man think that he shall receive anything from the Lord;

Double mindedness would lead to a wild goose chase and will achieve nothing; you must only believe.

In the life of the Syria-Phoenician woman, we see how much the faith of the seeker counts. She had the laws changed for her sake because she demonstrated her faith.

The woman with the issue of blood she received her healing on account of her personal faith. Her faith made her whole. She was determined to touch the hem of Jesus' garment and be whole. And her faith made her whole.

Mark 5:25-34 DARBY

*And a certain woman who had had a flux of blood
twelve years,*

*(26) and had suffered much under many
physicians, and had spent everything she had and
had found no advantage from it, but had rather got
worse,*

*(27) having heard concerning Jesus, came in the
crowd behind and touched his clothes;*

*(28) for she said, If I shall touch but his clothes I
shall be healed.*

*(29) And immediately her fountain of blood was
dried up, and she knew in her body that she was
cured from the scourge.*

*(30) And immediately Jesus, knowing in himself the
power that had gone out of him, turning round in
the crowd said, Who has touched my clothes?*

*(31) And his disciples said to him, Thou seest the
crowd pressing on thee, and sayest thou, Who
touched me?*

*(32) And he looked round about to see her who had
done this.*

*(33) But the woman, frightened and trembling,
knowing what had taken place in her, came and fell
down before him, and told him all the truth.*

*(34) And he said to her, Daughter, thy faith has
healed thee; go in peace, and be well of thy scourge.*

This should be faith backed by actions. You must say I believe and act on your believe. If you believe you have been touched by the power of God, then you should step out to do the things you could not do before. As I speak now, just have faith and start doing whatever you could not do before. Act on your faith and see the manifestation. Take another look at James 1;

James 1:6-7(Darby)

but let him ask in faith, nothing doubting. For he that doubts is like a wave of the sea driven by the wind and tossed about;

(7) for let not that man think that he shall receive anything from the Lord;

A man that wavers shall not receive anything from God including the grace of the healing. The seeker must therefore believe enough to receive the healing when it is released. So many people have refused to receive because they doubted. They allowed the devil to feed their minds with doubt. Doubt is a thief; it steals our miracle.

HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE MINISTER

One day, two blind men came to Jesus to look for a miracle. Jesus asked them only one question; “Do you believe I can do this?!” You will have the faith to receive only what you can believe the vessel is able to deliver to you

Matthew 9:27-30 (Darby)

And as Jesus passed on thence, two blind men followed him, crying and saying, Have mercy on us, Son of David.

*(28) And when he was come to the house, the blind men came to him. And Jesus says to them, **Do ye believe that I am able to do this?** They say to him, Yea, Lord.*

(29) Then he touched their eyes, saying, According to your faith, be it unto you.

(30) And their eyes were opened; and Jesus charged them sharply, saying, See, let no man know it.

These men answered in the affirmative, and Jesus said “according to your faith be it unto you” and their eyes were opened.

This is to say that if their faith was contrary, then the story would have changed. Until you can believe in the vessel, you cannot enjoy the

blessings it is carrying.

We must have confidence in the minister to be able to tap into his anointing. I have always seen this truth manifest in my own ministry. Very often, people who travel long distances and tarry for many days in our healing camps receive their healing; they come in bound and go home save and liberated. They actually show and demonstrated their confidence in our ministry by traveling long distances by passing several other churches to come and be blessed in our ministry.

Matthew 9:28-30 (Darby)

And when he was come to the house, the blind men came to him. And Jesus says to them, Do ye believe that I am able to do this? They say to him, Yea, Lord.

(29) Then he touched their eyes, saying, According to your faith, be it unto you.

(30) And their eyes were opened; and Jesus charged them sharply, saying, See, let no man know it.

One thing I've realized is that I do not have trouble believing God with people who demonstrate this great confidence in my ministry.

At the Beautiful gate, as Peter spoke, the crippled man looked steadfastly at them and he was touched by the healing power of God.

In another instance as Paul preached in Lystra, there was a man who was impotent in both of his feet. This man listened to the preaching in faith, and Paul was moved to minister to him. He actually saw his faith and was moved to minister to him.

Acts 14:8-10 DARBY

And a certain man in Lystra, impotent in his feet, sat, being lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked.

(9) This man heard Paul speaking, who, fixing his eyes on him, and seeing that he had faith to be healed,

(10) said with a loud voice, Rise up straight upon thy feet: and he sprang up and walked.

Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. The hearing must come before the healing. In the Gospel of Luke, we read that the people came to hear and to be healed.

Luke 6:17-18 (Darby)

and having descended with them, he stood on a level place, and a crowd of his disciples, and a

great multitude of the people from all Judaea and Jerusalem, and the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;

(18) and those that were beset by unclean spirits were healed.

OBEY THE WORD OF THE MINISTER

Be obedient to the declaration of the minister - do as he says.

There are times when receiving healing is not by faith, but by obedience. It is therefore important to do as the minister says. Naaman nearly missed his miracle because he did not even believe in what the prophet said but his healing was manifested as he obeyed.

2 Kings 5:9-14 CEV

(9) Naaman left with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house.

(10) Elisha sent someone outside to say to him, "Go wash seven times in the Jordan River. Then you'll be completely cured."

(11) But Naaman stormed off, grumbling, "Why

couldn't he come out and talk to me? I thought for sure he would stand in front of me and pray to the LORD his God, then wave his hand over my skin and cure me.

(12) What about the Abana River or the Pharpar River? Those rivers in Damascus are just as good as any river in Israel. I could have washed in them and been cured."

(13) His servants went over to him and said, "Sir, if the prophet had told you to do something difficult, you would have done it. So why don't you do what he said? Go wash and be cured."

(14) Naaman walked down to the Jordan; he waded out into the water and stooped down in it seven times, just as Elisha had told him. Right away, he was cured, and his skin became as smooth as a child's.

He just had to obey the instructions and nothing more. Have we not read? Obedience is better than sacrifice.

1 Samuel 15:22 (Darby)

And Samuel said, Has Jehovah delight in burnt-offerings and sacrifices, As in hearkening to the voice of Jehovah? Behold, obedience is better than sacrifice, Attention than the fat of rams.

If the prophet says shout, just shout like you

have no head. If he say jump, do not say I cannot; just jump. If he say roll, then roll. The only exception here is that you should not succumb to things that are immoral or unethical.

HOPE TO RECEIVE THE HEALING

You must believe that you can be well again.

Some people do not even attempt to minister healing to others or come to be healed because they don't even believe that they can be well again. However after believing God and the minister, you must also believe that you can be well again. Believe and see your situation changing.

This process however begins by accepting the fact that you are only infirmed but that it has never been the will of God to make you sick. You must also come to understand that healing can only come from the outside yourself, from God and not from within you. God is the only one who can bring about your healing.

The truth is that the woman with the issue of

blood could have given up after 12 years of futile search for healing, but when she heard that Jesus was passing by, she believed that she could be well again. You must believe that you will be well again, and the time is here and now. A lot of sick people do not even believe that they can be well again. Many AIDS patients have given up long before death came.

Men who can tap into the flow must have a firm conviction that they can be well again. This is one thing that made the man by the pool of Bethesda to receive his healing. Though he had been there for 38 years, he still believed that one day he will be well.

There is no harm in dying in faith. Many have believed and died in faith without receiving the end of the promise; they died believing. When Jesus came to the man by the pool, He just said stand up, take up your bed and walk! The man needed that strong conviction to make him attempt to do as Christ said.

When Christ asked Bartimeus what he wanted, he said “that I may see again”. He had the faith and that concrete conviction that he can see again. If I will receive it, then I must first believe it.

Overcoming Barriers

In the past couple of decades of faithfully ministering in the grace of healing, I have seen so many healing blessings. However, there are people I have prayed for who were not healed. I am sure every sincere minister of the gospel would tell you this same story.

Some of the people who sought for healing and were not healed went back devastated and disappointed. Some of them came forward very hopeful that they would go back liberated but that did not materialized. Many of them have walked up to me to ask why God did not heal them.

Truthfully, there are many reasons why some of the people are not healed. I am not sure I know for sure all the reasons but I will outline a few keys to overcome the barriers to healing. Understand though that healing is sovereignly the work of God. A few legitimate and truthful

keys to overcome the road blocks are discussed below;

DEAL WITH UNBELIEF AND FAMILIARITY

Deal with unbelief caused by a wrong belief system and familiarity with the minister.

There was only one time in Jesus' ministry that He could not do many miracles. This was when He went to minister in His hometown, Nazareth. Their unbelief killed the flow of the anointing. It is noteworthy that Christ had always told seekers to believe.

Faith has been and remains the greatest key to receiving from God. It is therefore important that we deal with unbelief. We can receive only if we believe. Lets read this account:

Matthew 13:54-58 (Darby)

And having come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, Whence has this man this wisdom and these works of power?

(55) Is not this the son of the carpenter? Is not his

mother called Mary, and his brethren James, and Joseph, and Simon, and Judas?

(56) And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then has this man all these things?

(57) And they were offended in him. And Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honour, unless in his country and in his house.

(58) And he did not there many works of power, because of their unbelief.

These people were familiar with the prophet and did not believe. They claimed that they knew Him and that His sisters were still living in their community. The people in His home country could not receive from the man because of familiarity.

I remember how at the beginning of my ministry, many of the people were not blessed. They despised me and were not blessed. This message can release upon you the healing unction if only you can believe. Faith is a key; it is in fact, a supreme key to receiving.

KNOW NO MAN AFTER THE FLESH

You can overcome the barriers to healing if you are careful not to despise the minister or get

offended in him.

You can receive the reward of a prophet only if you accept that prophet. A vessel you despise cannot bless you. Note that the sources of offenses are diverse. The people of Israel despised Jesus and were offended. They did not understand why God should use such a person. A person they knew.

Matthew 13:56-58 (Darby)

And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then has this man all these things?

(57) And they were offended in him. And Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honour, unless in his country and in his house.

(58) And he did not there many works of power, because of their unbelief.

Listen, the Bible says “*henceforth know no man under the flesh*”. If you want to be blessed, deal with offenses. Just open up and receive from the men sent by God.

GET PAST THE PAST

You should not be overwhelmed by how long the problem has lingered.

Sometimes, how long we have lived with the condition may affect our faith to receiving healing. This may make us doubt whether God would actually heal us. God is faithful. He actually keeps all His promises, even 400 year old promises. 400 years before Christ was born, the Father promised to give the world a Son; to redeem us, and He actually honored His word after 400 years.

Do not let your painful experience with other ministers blind you from the faithfulness of the Lord.

There are times when our experiences with other ministers make us fear. Even though you believe, you could also have certain kinds of reservations. Maybe some other ministers have swindled you and hence your fear. As the saying goes “once bitten twice shy”, but you have got to deal with that fear.

Bitterness and fear will rob you of the miracle. Free your spirit. Whatever could not happen yesterday can happen today. Amen!

SEEK MEEKLY

Remember! God will clothe the meek with salvation, deal with your pride and disobedience; Obedience is better than sacrifice.

2 Kings 5:8-14 (Darby)

(8) *And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his garments, that he sent to the king, saying, Why hast thou rent thy garments? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.*

(9) *And Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the doorway of the house of Elisha.*

(10) *And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.*

(11) *And Naaman was wroth, and went away and said, Behold, I thought, He will certainly come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of Jehovah his God, and wave his hand over the place, and cure the leper.*

(12) *Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them and be clean? And he turned and went away in a rage.*

(13) And his servants drew near, and spoke to him and said, My father, if the prophet had bidden thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he says to thee, Wash and be clean?

(14) Then he went down, and plunged himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God. And his flesh became again like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

Naaman came looking for a miracle but nearly missed it because of pride. His ego and self-importance nearly destroyed his chance of being well again.

When He came to the prophet he hesitated in doing what the prophet asked Him to. He had a set pattern of thinking. He thought there were better rivers in his country, but what he did not know was the fact that, it was not the best rivers that mattered but the word of the prophet.

Sometimes as people come in to be healed, they sit indifferently through the service until it is time for prayer. They feel too important; they think, "Ooh I am bigger than those who worship God but God must heal me". "Oh I cannot shout and jump but God must heal me". "Oh I cannot do this or that". Some arrogantly

ask “What has all this long preaching got to do with healing?” Well, it may not have anything to do with it but if that is the direction from the prophet, then follow it.

REPENT, CONFESS, GO, AND SIN NO MORE

Deal with your own sins by acknowledging them, confessing them and accepting God’s forgiveness. Go and sin more.

Sometimes the problem with many people is that they do not accept God’s forgiveness even when it is given. They keep bemoaning themselves and carrying the guilt. This guilt shuts them out of God’s presence. In fact, to accept guilt after God says you are free is implicitly saying “I do not trust God’s promise”.

The woman caught in adultery accepted the truth of her forgiveness. She refused to carry the burden of her sins anymore.

James 5:14-16 (Darby)

Is any sick among you? let him call to him the elders of the assembly, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; (15) and the prayer of faith shall heal the sick, and

the Lord shall raise him up; and if he be one who has committed sins, it shall be forgiven him.

(16) Confess therefore your offences to one another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed. The fervent supplication of the righteous man has much power.

Praise the Lord! The package of healing comes with the forgiveness of sin.

FORGIVE OTHERS

Forgive others who have wronged you. Forgiving others continually is key to our receiving healing from God.

LOOK FOR MANIFESTATIONS

Do not come looking for magic and tokens more than the manifestation. In 2 Kings 5: 10-12 we read that Naaman nearly missed it because he thought he knew what a true prophet should do to bring healing.

Sometimes we do not receive our healing because we are stereotyped in our thoughts. We think a prophet should do this or that. We must

however understand that there are diversities of operation.

It is not so much of the dramatizing and gimmicks but the manifestation produced. God is neither in the storm or the strong winds always. There are times He comes in a small still voice. Expect Him to heal you any way and anyhow.

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NOAH SIMPE BEDIAKO

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