

Biblical Truths about Healing



- Does God still heal?
- Does God want everyone healed?
- How do you know God's will for someone's healing?
- Why couldn't Jesus or the disciples heal everyone?
- What about Paul's thorn in his flesh?
- Why didn't Paul heal his friend Trophimus?
- What about Job?
- Doesn't the Bible say that we will have sickness as a cross to bear?
- Are people not healed because of sin, lack of faith, or unbelief?

Does the Bible show the only reason Jesus or His disciples did not heal someone was because of the persons unbelief? Or is there more to it? If unbelief is the secret to someone's healing then any type of doubt or unbelief regarding other people not being healed in the Bible can plant a seed of doubt or unbelief in someone's mind.

Biblical Truths about Healing will prove or disprove the most common beliefs regarding healing. It is not based on personal views or ideologies passed on for years through churches.

This is all about what God says about specific issues regarding healing. Join me on this incredible journey through the Scriptures and learn what the Bible says the truths are about healing.

"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

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The following is a compilation of verses from the King James Version and others. Care was taken to reference the original Hebrew and Greek original words and their meaning to verify the intent of the verse(s).

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Introduction

We will use the Bible to explore, discuss and understand the most common beliefs and questions regarding healing. When we talk about healing, we are talking about both physical and emotional healing.

A lot of what we have heard, read and learned has been someone's personal views that they have used to justify someone not being healed. Those beliefs are not biblical and can put you into and keep you in bondage.

So let's start our biblical journey and learn what the Bible says about healing of both physical illnesses and emotional strongholds.

My Testimony

About 25 years ago, I was very sick and after multiple tests were completed, the doctor spoke to my wife and me and said I only had about 2 weeks to live.

I didn't understand the medical things he was saying, but my wife did because she is a registered nurse. The doctor said there is nothing they can do, but they will try to manage the symptoms to try to make me comfortable. I said if there is nothing you can do I'm going home. I am going to call friends that I know believe God still heals and ask them to come to my house to pray and I'm going to be better. The doctor put up quite a fuss, saying that he wanted me in the hospital. But I said I'm going home and if I'm not better in the morning I will call him and I will follow his instructions.

On the way home, I started calling everyone we knew that we felt confidently believed that God heals. I did not want to invite anyone that believed God only heals sometimes, or only if it's His will or if I met some unwritten qualifying factors for healing. I was not going to waiver on my position of who I was going to let in my house that evening.

A friend called back and said he had invited one of the elders in the church, a friend of ours. I knew the person well and knew he did not believe that God wants everyone healed. I told the friend to please call the person back and tell him I sincerely appreciate his willingness to come over to pray for me, but I would rather them do it from their home. The friend asked me why and I told them, "this is not a social gathering, it is not for coffee and donuts, this is not to play games, it is life or death. I am not playing around. I will not let anyone in my house that believes we do not know God's will about healing everyone, and that feels it's necessary to pray if it's God's will. The Bible states God's will for our healing." The friend said they understood, but admitted they know how serious the situation was and they were not completely sure if God would heal me and asked if they should stay home. I told them I love them, but yes.

The friends that came over knew what this meant and we prayed into the night time. I felt weak and fell in and out of sleep during the evening. As the last person left, I felt the

same, no difference. But I told my wife, “I am healed. The Bible says so. God says so. I am not going to accept anything less than God’s promise.”

When I woke up in the morning I felt fine. My wife and I went directly to the doctor’s office and waited for him to come in, in fact I drove there. He examined me and sent me out to have the test repeated. They came back normal. I was healed!!!!!!

The pastor of the church I attended saw the physical change in my health and I showed him the before and after test results. He sent me out to multiple churches around the Midwest to share my testimony.

But people at my church, even people I didn’t know, started approaching me week after week in the hallways, asking why am I demeaning sister so and so’s faith who is sick, or brother so and so who is in a wheel chair, or brother so and so who died. Who do I think I am saying they don’t have faith. I stressed “I never said that.” I explained the Bible says that by His stripes we are healed and what took place that evening at my house with other believers in prayer. It continued week after week. I was told I should count my blessings, and I was lucky, and I was blessed, and that God doesn’t heal everyone. Seeds of doubt and unbelief were being planted in my mind and repeatedly watered, by friends and well-meaning Christians.

I finally went to a couple of pastors and asked their advice on what I should do. Their response shocked me. They both said to basically stop talking about it. I couldn’t believe what I was being told.

The saddest thing to admit was I did. I stopped talking about it for 25 years until last year. People that have known me for years have been shocked to find out what happened and that I stopped sharing my testimony. I have nobody to blame but myself. I allowed people to verbally beat me into submission and I stopped talking about the greatest physical miracle God did in my life.

But I started talking about it and sharing my testimony again last year, only after suffering from a devastating eye condition that left me not being to read anything at all from both eyes with or without glasses. I couldn't read anything, so no books, no computer, no internet, I couldn't even make out anything on TV. A time came when I was basically just stuck in the house alone.

The condition started about 8 years ago and continued to get worse from internal damage in both of my eyes. I repeatedly went to the altar for prayer and to prayer groups expecting healing (at least in the beginning). I was shocked to hear Christian's tell me that I must have sin in my life, or I am being punished or God is preparing me for my next Spiritual promotion, maybe it's not God's will to heal me and I should probably start looking into support groups for the blind after all God doesn't heal everyone just look at Paul's thorn. It got to the point where I stopped going up for prayer.

Then last year I started remembering how I felt about 25 years earlier when I was given only 2 weeks to live. I had faith, I just knew the Bible said I was healed, I had no unbelief in the situation at all. I remembered how I felt back then and started seeking God to get back to that point of faith and get rid of all of the unbelief that had built up in my mind over the years.

Then in March of 2018 something miraculous happened. I looked up one day and I could see. I immediately called the eye specialist I was seeing and scheduled an appointment to find out what happened. The bottom line is he was stumped. While the severe damage in both my eyes was still there I was able to see right through all of the damage and scar tissue in my eyes and read 20/60 with my left eye when just a few weeks earlier I couldn't see anything on the eye chart and I read 20/30 with the right eye. That is one line above the 20/20 line. I continue to give God thanks for my healing and the complete manifestation of the damage in my eyes to be gone.

But I remembered the experiences from some of the churches I visited and the well-meaning people I spoke with and their attempt to convince me that I wasn't going to be healed. That pushed me to go on my own search for truth on what the Bible says about healing and not what man says. Through prayer and the Bible I discovered God still does heal and His healing is for everyone.

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Chapter 1 - How do we know God's will for someone's healing?

The Bible states that God has made provisions for everyone's healing.

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.” (KJV)

Do you realize that both salvation and healing are stated in the same Bible verse? In the same sentence? It is not two different things that are mentioned in different chapters or books of the Bible. Both salvation and healing are both part of the benefit and gift to us of Jesus crucifixion.

1 Peter 2:24 - Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
(stripes meaning the whippings Jesus received)

Again, both salvation and healing are stated in the same Bible verse, the same sentence. Because they are part of the same process. Through Jesus' crucifixion, we received the gift of our salvation and healing. All we have to do is accept and receive them.

Has that changed? Has God changed His mind on salvation? No. Then God hasn't changed His mind on healing either, because they are both involved in the same process of Jesus crucifixion.

In Mark 16: 15-20 Jesus spoke His final words to His disciples after death and His resurrection. Consider how important these words are if they were His final words, His final thoughts, and His final commands.

Mark 16:15 – 20 says: “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name

shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

Verse 17 says: “And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” Jesus is stating irrefutably that specific signs will follow those that believe, that means everyone that believes, it didn’t say some. It was not just the apostles or disciples. Jesus said it for everyone that believes.

The Bible is boldly stating that God’s will is for His children to be healed, whether it is a physical or an emotional issue, or whether it is a common cold or a spiritual attack initiated by the devil’s forces.

Everyone that came for healing and believed was healed in the Bible. Jesus came to do the will of God, so everything Jesus did represents God’s will, His perfect will.

John 6:38 Jesus said: “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.”

2 John 5:19 “Jesus gave them this answer: “Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.”

Jesus, the apostles, and disciples healed everyone that came to them and believed. The only exception was the man who brought his son with seizures to the disciples. They couldn’t heal the boy, but Jesus healed him. There are two very important lessons included in those verses that most churches ignore.

Matthew 17:15 – 20 “Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him. Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

There are two very important points in these verses:

1) If we have faith as a grain of mustard seed we can move our mountain, i.e., we can overcome our challenges, struggles, problems, health issues, etc.. We already have more than a mustard seed size faith, because as believers, we have the Spirit of God living in us. We have the faith of God at our disposal. We do not need more faith. We need to learn how to use the faith that is in us and get rid of our unbelief. Unbelief will render fleshly faith ineffective, powerless, and useless.

2) Please notice that when the disciples could not heal the man’s son, they didn’t say, “Oh well, I guess it wasn’t God’s will for the boy to be healed.” They didn’t say to the boy’s father, “you or your son must have sin in your lives.” What they did was wonder why. They wondered, “what are we missing, what did we do wrong?” Verse 19 says: “Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief:”

They didn’t try to make excuses. They asked Jesus why they couldn’t do it and they listened to His answer. They wanted to grow to do God’s will.

There are a few other important points I want to make regarding healing.

Mark 8:22 – 28: “And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out

of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly. And he sent him away to his house, saying, back into the town or tell it to anyone in the town. Why? Because the town of Bethsaida was filled with unbelief and their unbelief can put doubt in his mind and cause him to Neither go into the town, nor tell it to any in the town.”

Notice Jesus had to lay hands on the blind man twice. The first time got the man partially healed, where the blind man saw men as trees, walking. The second time, the man saw everything clearly. The reason for this is unbelief. Notice Jesus told the man to go home and do not tell anyone. It is being implied that the man could develop unbelief, question his healing and maybe lose his healing because of the unbelief in the people in Bethsaida. Jesus actually chastised the town of Bethsaida about their sinful unbelief.

Matthew 11:21 - “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes

Unbelief is the devil’s biggest weapon against believers. If he can plant a seed of doubt and unbelief, our fleshly faith is rendered powerless and useless. We will talk more about this later.

As this has shown, EVERYONE that desired healing and believed were HEALED in the Bible, not just some, but everyone.

No matter what someone tells you about never being able to know God’s will about healing, don’t believe them. They are wrong. God made His will perfectly clear. In fact He put His irrevocable will in writing, it’s called the Bible.

Chapter 2 - Unbelief and Faith

Fleshly faith is based on our own personal strength, will power, determination and effort. Jesus said all it takes is faith the size of a grain of mustard seed to move your mountains (your problems, health issues or challenges).

Matthew 15:19-20 “For verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove, and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

Fleshly faith is subjected to worldly elements, namely doubt and unbelief. Even a small amount of doubt and unbelief will render fleshly faith ineffective, powerless and useless. This is shown throughout the Bible. The problem is you never know how much unbelief is really inside of you.

The fact is, any amount of unbelief could affect your faith. Unbelief even the size of a grain of mustard seed can affect your faith. The Bible shows that unbelief affected the people needing healing, the people laying hands on them and even daily situations.

Even the apostles and disciples suffered from unbelief and they walked and talked with Jesus. They suffered from doubt and fear. Fear is a manifestation of unbelief in God’s promises, His word, and His covenant.

Let’s look at what the Bible says about unbelief. Jesus could not do many miracles and healings in some towns because of their unbelief.

“And He did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief” Matthew 13:58

Jesus told the disciples that they could not heal the man’s son with seizures because of their unbelief.

“then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief” Matthew 17: 19-20

When Peter got out of the boat and started walking on the water toward Jesus, the wind blew and distracted him. When he realized what was happening, he became afraid, he developed doubt/unbelief and started falling into the water.

“And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.” Matthew 14:29-30

When the apostles were in the boat with Jesus, they encountered a storm. They became afraid. They woke Jesus up because they were afraid, that fear was unbelief that Jesus would protect them and take care of them.

*“the disciples went and woke him, saying, “Lord, save us! We’re going to drown!”
Matthew 8:25*

When Jesus healed the blind man from Bethsaida, he told the man to go home and not return to the town of Bethsaida or tell anyone there about it. That was because the city of Bethsaida was filled with unbelief and doubt and the people could plant seeds of unbelief in him. Jesus chastised the people in Bethsaida saying, that if the miracles performed in their city were performed in other cities the people would have repented and believed.

“And he sent him away to his house, saying, Neither go into the town, nor tell it to any in the town” Mark 8:26

“Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes” Matthew 11:21

Imagine unbelief as snow. You look through a window of a house and see a very slight amount of snow on the grass, but not even enough to cover the sidewalk or street. When you go outside you notice a very slight amount of snow has covered your car windshield. As you walk by your

car, you run your finger over the windshield and the slight layer of snow comes right off, so you think it's no big deal. But when you get inside your car you realize, it affects your vision. You can't see through the windshield to drive. It might be a very small amount of snow that one swish of the windshield wipers will clear away. But, until you get rid of it, your vision is no longer clear and it renders your big powerful 4,000 pound car powerless, useless and ineffective of completing its purpose of getting you to your destination. But just one swish of your windshield wipers can eliminate the snow on the windshield that is stopping you from driving and moving forward.

Look at your windshield wipers as your shield of faith "with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one." If you do not use your windshield wipers, you cannot get rid of the snow stopping you from driving and moving forward. If you don't use your shield of faith to extinguish the flaming arrows of unbelief then what happens? Unbelief, can stop you in your tracks, rendering your faith powerless, useless and ineffective.

Even if you have more than a grain of mustard seed size faith, even a small amount of unbelief can still render your faith powerless, ineffective and useless.

The point is fleshly faith is just that, it is faith of the flesh. It is based on our own personal strength, our own personal will power, and our own personal determination and that is not the faith that we are supposed to be using.

2. Faith of the Holy Spirit Living in You – We live in an entirely different phase of the Bible than the people we read about in the Old Testament and some of the New Testament when Jesus walked the earth. When Jesus died he provided for us to receive the Holy Spirit. Every one of us as believers received the Spirit of God when we got saved. The same Spirit that created the heavens and the earth, day and night, separated the waters from the dry land and rose Jesus from the dead lives in us. Every one of us have the authority and power and faith of God living in us. This is a game changer!

To fully understand this let's quickly review the phases of the Bible. First let's clarify there is only one God throughout the Bible and Jesus's crucifixion was the ultimate sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. This was a game changer for all who believed from that day forward.

Phase 1

In the Old Testament people lived under the Law. God saw how His children were falling short of obeying the law, but God had a plan.

Phase 2.

God sent Jesus to us as the ultimate sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins. Jesus ministry brought teaching about the new relationship with God and the promises to come. His ministry brought power and authority to His disciples and followers. However, the people still relied on their own faith, will power, determination and direction at that time because they did not have the Holy Spirit yet.

Phase 3.

Through Jesus's crucifixion as the ultimate sacrifice for all people's sins that believe in Him and repent, the believers received another incredible gift. We received the gift of the Holy Spirit living in us (this is God living in us). That means the power and authority, righteousness and faith of God lives in us, so He can flow in us and through us because we have become God's vessel to do God's work on earth. God loves us so much that he allowed His own son Jesus to die for us, to guarantee us everlasting life in heaven and not in hell.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” John 3:16 – 17

Please understand, Jesus said that God loves you as much as He loves Him.

“I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me”. John 17:23

Do you really understand that? God loves you as much as He loves Jesus. God would never do anything to cause you pain or sickness in your life. It wasn't God who caused you the sickness or physical issues, the loneliness and insecurity in your life, it was the devil. God has provided you an escape from the devil's evil plans, through His Holy Spirit, but you must learn how to dwell in the presence of the Holy Spirit, to listen and follow the Spirit's direction.

When we accept Jesus, we receive the wonderful gift of salvation, healing and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus promises the Holy Spirit in John 14.

“If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”

John 14:15 – 18

The Bible says there are both fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit. These fruits should radiate from a believer.

Galatians 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”

Jesus tells us about the gifts of the Spirit:

“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another

the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.” 1 Corinthians 12: 4 - 11

Some churches wrongly teach that the gifts of the Spirit have expired and are no longer necessary. They base this belief on a very wrong perception of 1 Corinthians 13: 10-12. They believe the verse stating “But when that which is perfect is come” refers to the Bible, but as you read the verses, it doesn’t say, or refer to the Bible at all. What it refers to is Jesus returning, for Jesus is the perfect one.

“But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.”

1 Corinthians 13:10-13

Some churches wrongly teach that the gifts of the Spirit, healing and casting out demons ended when the apostles died. This is not true. In fact Jesus clearly states that believers will do the same things He has done and even greater things because He is going to the father and that these signs, i.e. casting out demons and laying hands on the sick and they shall recover shall follow those that believe.

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

John 14:12

Jesus doesn’t put an expiration date on his promise. It is a promise, so either you accept it or you are calling Jesus a liar. I know that is blunt, but this isn’t a game. You must hear, know and accept the truth if you are going to be set free and that means from wrong teachings or beliefs.

We should not be relying on our own authority, power, righteousness or faith because they are basically worthless. We should be relying on the Holy Spirit. Jesus said when the Holy Spirit

comes into us, we will be able to do the same things He has done and even greater things. In Mark 16 Jesus said these signs shall follow them that believe.

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

Mark 16: 15-20

Those were Jesus last and final words on earth to his disciples before ascending into heaven. Consider that, His final words, how important must those words be? Jesus could have given any type of instructions to His disciples, but those are the words, the instructions, the commands that Jesus chose for His last words. He said “these signs shall follow them that believe” not only until the end of the year, or until the apostles died, and not just for some people, but for all that believe. Jesus didn’t put an expiration date on His instructions or commands. Jesus said “these signs shall follow them that believe”, that is everyone that believes, forever.

Even though the Holy Spirit automatically enters us when we get saved, the Spirit doesn’t automatically start operating and flowing through us. He can’t because God gave us free will. That free will allows us to listen to or ignore God. It allows us to allow the Holy Spirit to flow through us to others or to basically keep the Holy Spirit locked up inside us like imprisoned.

The problem is no one might have taught you how to walk in the authority of the Holy Spirit and experience the love of Jesus in your life and impart that love to others. Most churches and most ministers don't teach this, because no one taught them. In fact some churches actually deny the power of the Holy Spirit. Some churches say it's new age, satanic or mystical teachings and scare believers to deny the power of the Holy Spirit.

We, in our fleshly selves, can block the Holy Spirit from operating. How can I be so sure? The reason the Holy Spirit enters us is as the comforter and operate through us as His vessel on earth to do God's will. If we were all allowing the Holy Spirit to completely flow through us to do God's will, we would be seeing incredible miraculous signs of it every single day, in every country, in every state and every city. But we don't see the Holy Spirit flowing because we, God's own children, are blocking the Spirit from flowing through us. As I mentioned earlier, it is like holding God's Spirit captive in prison. Is that what you really want to do?

It is up to us to get close enough to God to be able to allow the Holy Spirit living in us to defeat the spiritual strongholds in us and to allow the love of Jesus/God to heal our physical bodies. It is up to us to believe, accept and receive the gift of healing that Jesus suffered so terribly to provide us.

We do not have to and we should not be relying on our own strength, will power, righteousness or faith. We should be relying on God's strength, God's power, God's righteousness, God's faith, etc. That is why God came to live in us. He came to empower us as His vessels on earth.

I am not saying we are personally a God. I am saying we are a vessel for God's Spirit to flow in us for our own benefit and through us for other people's benefit.

We have to stop trying to do things in the flesh and start accepting we have the power and authority of God living in us. It is that power and that faith that can and will change your life.

Hopefully, you have learned how strong of a force unbelief is and how it can render someone's faith powerless and ineffective. So it is imperative to get rid of all unbelief. So we will address the most common reasons or excuses people have used why someone wasn't healed, so you can see what the Bible says about those reasons or excuses. In other words, if the Bible proves a specific reason you have heard on why someone wasn't healed is not true, then you should cast that thought from your mind. My goal is to prove through scripture that every one of the reasons or excuses you have been told about people not being healed in the Bible is not true. Because any little doubt you have about a specific situation is doubt and that is unbelief.

Chapter 3 - What about Paul's thorn in his side?

A lot of people wrongly believe that Paul's thorn in his flesh is referring to a sickness or illness or physical problem including me until recently. But that is not accurate.

2 Corinthians 12:7 "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure."

Let's take a look the Scripture verses immediately following that one to give a clearer look at what Paul is talking about.

In 2 Corinthians 12: 8 –10 Paul says:

"Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Notice Paul said that God told him "My Grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in WEAKNESS". Then Paul said he boast about his weaknesses and he delights in insults, hardships, persecutions and difficulties. Nothing about any type of sickness, illness or physical problem. Insults and persecutions can only come from one source, people. People causing him a problem. People were the cause of his thorn in his side/flesh.

The phrase thorn in the side/flesh/eye was used multiple times in the Bible and it always meant the same thing. In fact, God used it when he was talking to the Israelites at the Promised Land in Numbers 33

Numbers 33:55 – “But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell.”

To gain a complete understanding about what was taking place in that scripture verse, let's go back and look at the prior verses. In Numbers 33:50-55

“On the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho the LORD said to Moses, Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you cross the Jordan into Canaan, drive out all the inhabitants of the land before you. Destroy all their carved images and their cast idols, and demolish all their high places. Take possession of the land and settle in it, for I have given you the land to possess. Distribute the land by lot, according to your clans. To a larger group give a larger inheritance, and to a smaller group a smaller one. Whatever falls to them by lot will be theirs. Distribute it according to your ancestral tribes. But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell

Notice that the words Thorn in your sides is speaking of people, the inhabitants of the land being a problem to them, it has nothing to do with a sickness or illness or physical problem.

Joshua used the same words in the book of Joshua 23.

Joshua 23:13 – “ Know for a certainty that the Lord your God will no more drive out any of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the Lord your God hath given you.”

To gain a complete understanding about what was taking place in that scripture verse, let's go back and look at the prior verses. In Joshua 23: 7 – 23 Joshua was speaking to the people:

“Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. But you are to hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have until now. The LORD has driven out before you great and powerful nations; to this day no one has been able to withstand you. One of you routs a thousand, because the LORD your God fights for you, just as he promised. So be very careful to love the LORD your God. But if you turn away and ally yourselves with the survivors of these nations that remain among you and if you intermarry with them and associate with them, then you may be sure that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations before you. Instead, they will become snares and traps for you, whips on your backs and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land, which the LORD your God has given you.”

Notice that the words Thorn in your eyes is speaking of people, a nation being a problem to them, it has nothing to do with a sickness or illness or physical problem.

In the book of Judges an Angel of the Lord used the same words.

Judges 2:3 - Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.

Again, let's go back and look at the previous Scripture verses to fully understand what is being talked about. Judges 2: 1 – 3 says:

“And an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I swore unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you. And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice: why have ye done this? Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare unto you.

Again, the words Thorn in your sides is referring to people, inhabitants of the land being a problem to them. Nothing at all mentioned about sickness, illness or physical problems.

Understand God, Joshua and an Angel of the Lord ALL used the phrase about the thorn and in every situation it referred to people being a problem, nothing anywhere referring to a sickness, illness or physical problem . When Paul used the phrase about a thorn in his flesh he was talking to God and using the exact words that God had used. Paul knew exactly what he meant when he said it to God and God knew exactly what Paul meant when Paul said it.

There is no reference of the word thorn as a sickness or illness in Strongs Exhaustive Concordance for verse 2 Corinthians 12:7.

So how did this all start? I would imagine years and years ago, someone was not healed when they were prayed for and the person that did the praying pride was embarrassed and it pushed him to say something as an excuse. So they might have created a falsehood saying, well Paul wasn't healed from the thorn in his flesh. Unfortunately most people didn't research it to see what it really meant. I didn't either until recently. The false teaching was repeated over and over again through the years.

Chapter 4 - What about Paul leaving Trophimus sick?

2 Timothy 4:20 – “Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.”

First of all, nowhere in the Bible does it say that Paul prayed or laid hands on Trophimus and could not heal him. Second, it doesn't say that Trophimus was seriously sick or if he just had a sore throat. Third, let's seriously consider Paul's character. Is there any reason to believe that Paul would leave a friend seriously sick if it was within his ability to go to him and heal him? Let's look at the whole chapter and not just a few words. The chapter is showing us that Paul was near the end of his ministry, which means the end of his life.

2 Timothy 4: 6-7 “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith..”

1) Paul died around 67AD. 2) The book of 2 Timothy was written about 67AD, so Paul in fact was at the end of his life. Now let's look at Paul's situation when he wrote 2 Timothy. According to the Bible's overview, Paul was in prison. Paul had been arrested before he had a chance to meet with Trophimus and pray for him and obviously he couldn't leave prison to visit Trophimus. That's why Paul had to leave Trophimus sick in the town, because he was in prison.

Chapter 5 - Does God make people sick or allow them to be sick to teach or punish them?

Here are some other statements you might have heard someone say as a reason or excuse why a person didn't get healed: The person doesn't tithe. The person has been disobedient to God, the person doesn't go to church, the person doesn't volunteer enough, the person drinks alcohol or smokes cigarettes, Etc.

There is not one example in the Bible where Jesus or any of the disciples did not heal someone and say "sorry, but your name is on the Do Not Heal list, because you are being punished", or any of the other reasons stated above.

There is NO Biblical basis for any of those statements as it pertains to healing. There is not one example in the Bible where Jesus or the disciples did not heal someone because of any of those reasons. They are excuses made up by someone to justify why a person didn't get healed and take the attention off the person that was doing the praying.

So ask the person WHERE in the Bible does reference anything like any of those excuses? It doesn't. They are made up excuses, and no one that makes those statements can substantiate it. People keep repeating the same false teachings. Too many people out of pride and arrogance feel it's necessary to try to state reasons or excuses why someone is not healed when they prayed for them and created these false teachings. Do not believe them.

Satan loves this type of false teaching, because if someone can plant a seed of doubt or unbelief in your mind, you will probably NEVER be free and healed. Because as soon as too many hours go by without you seeing the physical manifestation of your healing, that one thought, that simple single thought will pop up in your mind and there you have it, doubt and unbelief are alive and rendering your faith powerless and ineffective.

As you can probably tell, I am very passionate about this. Because I have been a victim of people repeating these seeds of unbelief. Not one person has been able to verify any of them and they will never be able to.

So let me be blunt, because your healing or someone you love's healing might be on the line, the next time someone tries planting seeds of doubt or unbelief in your mind, rebuke it immediately.

That means there is no evident, no proof, so it is not true, if you are going by the Bible as your foundation for proof and accuracy.

Chapter 6 - What about Timothy taking wine for his stomach?

Why did Timothy have trouble with his stomach? The answer to that is water.

1 Timothy 5:23 “Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach’s sake and thine often infirmities”

Back in Jesus’ day, during the Roman Empire, and in the days of the old west in America, people drank wine, beer or alcohol because a lot of the water was contaminated with bacteria and would cause stomach sickness. They didn’t have water filtration systems back then. Have you ever heard of Montezuma’s revenge about drinking water years ago in Mexico? Wine was a common way of helping stomach issues from water born bacteria in those days. So Timothy was being given common sense advice.

Chapter 7 - Are children born with sickness or health issues because their parents sinned?

No, every person that Jesus, the apostles and disciples healed were sinners. Every one of us are sinners. According to the Bible, every person from Adam and Eve to you and me are all sinners. So if that was the case every child would be born with some type of illness or disease. Yet, even though we are all sinners, every person who came to Jesus, the apostles and followers for healing and believed were healed.

Romans 3:23 says: “ For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”

John 9:2-3 says: “ And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.”

I have heard ministers refer to this scripture verse to explain why someone is still sick or that it's not God's timing. But the Bible is not saying that the person was still blind because it wasn't their time to be healed. The Bible is saying the man was still blind because Jesus had not prayed for the man yet. The Bible is saying now that Jesus is going to pray for the man's healing, the man will be healed.

Chapter 8 - Is sickness part of our cross to bear?

No, an example of picking up your cross is found in Matthew 16: 24

Matthew 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. (KJV)

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to follow Me [as My disciple], he must deny himself [set aside selfish interests], and take up his cross [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me...” (AMP)

The cross in this verse means struggles, problems, being beaten, arrested and persecuted as the apostles were. How could God say that you must be willing to bear your cross of sickness and illnesses, when He has shown beyond the shadow of a doubt that He wants His children healed in multiple places? Nowhere in the Bible does it refer to a cross to bear as a sickness.

I believe this is another situation where people that were prayed for and did not receive their healing were given an excuse. An excuse that literally planted a seed of doubt and unbelief about God’s promise to heal them and satan then built on that seed and put the person in a prison of false beliefs

Chapter 9 - What about Job?

The story of Job is based on satan appearing to God along with the sons of God. God tells satan about how perfect and upright a man Job is and that he fears God and hates evil. Satan responds by challenging God saying Job is only that way because God has a hedge of protection around him, but if God removes that hedge, Job will curse God to His face. Job endured tremendous challenges and pain but he did not sin or curse God.

This situation only took place one time in the Bible and it was between God and satan. We live in a different situation than the people in the Old Testament. We have an entirely different covenant than they did. Jesus dying on the cross changed everything. We now have the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of God) living in us as believers.

Job 1: 6 – 11 and 22 says “Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.”
“In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.”

Chapter 10 - Do doctors heal people with surgery or medicine?

This is more of a difference on the meaning or interpretation on what healing means. If you mean can doctors or medicine “make people better”? The answer is yes. If you mean doctors and/or medicine is considered a healing or miracle by Biblical standards. The answer is absolutely no. There is not one example in the Bible of Jesus, the apostles or disciples sending a person to a doctor for surgery or getting medicine to get cured. Jesus, the apostles and the followers healed them all. According to the Bible, sending someone that came to them for healing and believed to a doctor was not ever a consideration to them, was it?

A Biblical healing is a Biblical healing, as stated in the Bible “by His stripes you are healed”, not by medication or surgery . Doctors perform medical scientific procedures. Those procedures and/or medicine or treatments can absolutely cure some health related problems, but it is not a miracle. Claiming a doctor healed you is insulting and ignoring the suffering and crucifixion that Jesus endured. Do you believe the Bible means “by His stripes we are healed” until scientist can invent antibiotics or doctors perform surgeries? Then we don’t need Jesus for healing anymore? That once scientist created super drugs and surgeries the stripes and beatings that Jesus received were no longer valid, they are worthless and not necessary? Nowhere in the Bible does it state anything like that and again, that is ignoring Jesus’ crucifixion.

Am I saying that Christians should not go to a doctor? No, I would never say that. I am not a doctor and would not consider telling you what you should do. But for me, if I have Jesus in my life, if I have the Holy Spirit living inside of me, then I have all of the healing power I need. HOWEVER, if I am not at a place spiritually where I can receive my healing yet, I am not going to sit home and die. I will go to the doctor and continue to seek God until I get to the point where my healing that Jesus suffered for can manifest in my body.

Chapter 11 - Why does God allow people to be sick and not intervene?

God has already intervened. He did it about 2,000 years ago when Jesus was crucified.

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.” (KJV)

1 Peter 2:24 - Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

God has made a way for our salvation and our healing, both physically and emotionally. That means healing for physical ailments including health issues and functioning body parts, for breaking emotional strong holds of: anger, bitterness, unforgiveness, pride, jealousy, greed, fear, loneliness, insecurity, discouragement, depression, confusion, doubt, anxiety and much more.

Remember, the same Spirit that created the heavens and earth, separated the water from dry land, created day and night, that rose Jesus from the dead lives in you. It is not about your righteousness. You have the righteousness of God living in you. You just have to learn how to use it. You have all of the faith you need. You have the faith of God living in you. You just have to learn how to use it. You have the same authority and power that rose Jesus from the dead living in you. You have to learn how to allow the Holy Spirit to flow through you.

Remember, God provided for your healing over 2,000 years ago when Jesus was crucified, so do not let Jesus' suffering go to waste. Accept it, reach out to God, accept and receive your healing. You do not have to beg God to heal you. He already has. You do not have to cry out to God to heal you. He already has. You do not have to ask God to heal you. He already has. You have to get rid of your unbelief and rely on the faith of God to accept your healing.

Chapter 13 - Can the devil or his demons affect people's health?

Absolutely, spiritual warfare is real. The Bible mentions the word satan, devil, demon, evil spirit, etc. over 100 times. It is real. Remember how many times that Jesus cast out demons from people that were sick and the people were then healed? We, as followers of Jesus, have authority over the devil and his demons.

Following are just some examples of demons being cast out of people in the Bible.

In Matthew 8: 28 – 32

“When Jesus arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. “What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time? Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding. The demons begged Jesus, “If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs.” He said to them, “Go!” So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water. Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.

In Luke 8: 27 - 33

“When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torture me!” For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” “Legion,” he replied, because many demons had gone into him. And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. 33 When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

In Acts 19: 13

“Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, “In the name of the Jesus whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.”

In Mark 1: 21 – 25

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!” “Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

In Matthew 17:14 – 18

“When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. “Lord, have mercy on my son,” he said. “He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him.” “You unbelieving and perverse generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.” Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment.

A very overlooked statement Jesus made during this interaction with the disciples was in verse 21, this kind only comes out by prayer and fasting. Let’s go back und read verses 20 and 21 together so you can get the full meaning.

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting. Matthew 17:20 - 21

Why couldn't the disciples cast out the demon and heal the boy? Jesus said because of their unbelief. They might have had faith but apparently they also had some unbelief and Jesus was teaching them that some demons are stronger than others. That it takes them to be praying and fasting to draw closer to God to allow His healing power to flow through them. It's not about the disciple's power they are only a vessel.

I want to clarify that demons are not expelled or cast out because of the act of fasting and praying. The act itself is powerless as shown in the Isaiah 58. God literally chastised the people of Judah because of how they were fasting. They were just going through the motions fasting, complaining that God was ignoring their fast. They did not use the time of fasting to draw closer to God to push down their fleshly ways. They continued to act out the same way. The Bible says that is not why God created fasting. What fasting and prayer does is push down the flesh, to allow the individual to draw closer to God, to connect on a more of a spiritual way.

Remember Jesus' last words before ascending into heaven, in Mark chapter 16: 17 – 20, what would follow those that believe:

“And these signs will accompany those who believe, In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

The words were meant for everyone that believes, through the end of time. They were meant for you and me, and for your children and your children's children. They did not end.

But you might be wondering why don't we see more healings or more miracles? It is because we are missing something. Unfortunately, most Christians just make excuses for the lack of results. But they should be seeking Jesus and asking why, asking what are they missing, just like the disciples did when they couldn't heal the man's son that had seizures. The apostles asked Jesus why and Jesus said they couldn't heal the boy because of their unbelief. Keep in mind it's not me saying that, it's Jesus saying that.

Romans 12:2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Chapter 13 – The love of Jesus sets us free

We must understand the importance of the love of Jesus in our lives. First you must fully comprehend what that love is based on. Jesus suffered terribly. He was tortured, beaten and whipped. He was nailed to a cross, think about that. Jesus endured the agonizing pain of having large nails pounded through His feet and hands. He did this because He loves us. It is that love that provided for our salvation and healing.

It takes more than just saying you understand. We must allow that love to saturate our mind and heart. It is that love that brings healing. It is that love that brings peace of mind. It is that love that brings completion. We must learn how to release the love of Jesus and His healing power to flow through us. We must learn how to release the love of Jesus in the people we are praying for and laying hands on for healing.

How do you understand and receive the true love of Jesus in your life? First of all you received it when you accepted Jesus as your Savior. But have you really accepted and internalized His love? Are you walking in the peace and love of Jesus? You can't show other people the love of Jesus until you are experiencing it yourself. The love of Jesus is the key to everything.

You must seek God, draw as close to God as possible through reading the Bible, prayer and worship. It is not a matter of works, i.e. if you do this, this and this then God will do something for you. It is a matter of seeking God first and foremost for the relationship, for the spiritual connection and to seek after God's unconditional love. It is God's love that will set you free!

You must bask in the presence of your loving God. But most people do not understand what that means and do not understand the real benefits of it. It could mean to immerse yourself in God's word, prayer, worship or to be in complete silence to hear from God. You will not know that until you can hear from God. But to start you should immerse yourself in God's word. It is the living word of God. Read it as if God wrote every word just for you and expect His Spirit to flow through you. Bask in the glory, warmth and love of God.

Most of us want the benefits of basking in God's loving presence, but we say we don't have the time to read the Bible more, pray more or worship God more. So we try to convince ourselves we are doing enough. We try to justify our lack of time with God by volunteering for things, helping an elderly lady cross the street, letting a car pull out in front of us from a parking lot while we're stopped by a traffic light, or singing Christian songs in the car but not to worship God but because we like the melody. We go to church on Sunday and write notes on the church bulletin and then spend time talking to our friends, etc. But we ignore spending more time with God, which is the only way we can get closer and bask in God's loving presence. Does God see some people as fake Christians with a spray bottle tan type of relationship with Him?

Most Christians are going through the motions. Maybe they never experienced the full and complete love of God. Maybe they experienced it years ago, but something happened and distracted them and now they're comfortable and just going through the motions.

In the book of Isaiah. God basically chastised the people who were complaining because they were fasting and praying and God had not answered their prayers. God basically told them their fasting was lip service. It was not a sincere gesture. It wasn't from their hearts. They were only doing it because it was something they felt they should do. Maybe they thought if they did "A" then God will do "B" for them. God told them their hearts had not changed, they were acting the same way as they always did, even while they were fasting.

Following is an example in the book of Isaiah of how people acted and what God's response was when the people cried out to God because they were fasting and they felt God didn't notice.

"Why have we fasted," they say, "and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed?" "Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please and exploit all your workers. Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife, and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today."

Isaiah 58: 3 – 4 NIV

“Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness^[a] will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. Isaiah 58:8 NIV

“Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.” Isaiah 58: 9

“And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.” Isaiah 58: 11

God in the book of Revelation said:

“So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.” Revelation 3:16

Chapter 14 – Should we re-examine the way we are praying for people?

The main reason people quit praying for someone's healing is because they get discouraged and give up. Thoughts of doubt enter their mind of "it" didn't work. That is unbelief. If you are spiritually ready and truly believe God's word, if you truly believe God's promises, then you would not stop until you saw that person healed. Maybe you have to leave and go home to get sleep, but then you would go back the next day and continue praying, until the person receives their healing.

You will find times when either you or someone else has built their sickness into something so big that they believe in their minds it is bigger than God, even if they don't want to admit it. They can build that sickness or ailment into something that overwhelms their thoughts because it has gone on for so long, every day, day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, to the point where it overwhelms their mind with unbelief. I know because I experienced that same thing with my eye sight. After so many years of being prayed for, of going up to the altar at different churches, of buying every CD, DVD, Book, etc. I could on healing and see no change in my eye sight, discouragement and unbelief builds up. It can become a subconscious stronghold of unbelief without even realizing it.

There are times when someone might simply lay hands on a person and the love of Jesus and His power and authority just flows through them and the person is immediately healed. There are other times when people might be praying for hours or days for someone before the healing power of Jesus and His love is released in the person and the individual receives their healing. Sometimes even more time is needed.

The Bible clearly shows there are only four reasons that someone is not healed. As the Bible has shown, it is not God's fault or God's will that the person remains sick.

Following are the only two Biblical reasons someone is not healed.

- Does the person laying hands on an individual have any amount of unbelief? For example when the disciples couldn't heal the man's son with seizures. Jesus healed the boy and told the disciples they couldn't heal him because of their unbelief.
- Does the person that wants healing have any amount of unbelief? For example when Jesus could do no mighty works in His own country, except that He laid His hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. The Bible shows us that even Jesus didn't heal people that had unbelief.

The Bible shows us there are two other things to consider:

- Is the person laying hands on someone allowing the love of God to flow through them to the individual, allowing God's healing power to flow into the other person? Jesus healed people through His compassion and love. It is not about how loud you pray, or how much you grit your teeth or clench your fist. It's about the love of Jesus flowing through you to the sick person.
- Is the person laying hands on someone in need of healing using the power and authority of God to cast out any unclean spirits/demons when necessary? As the Bible showed numerous times. The Bible shows us multiple times that demons can be at the root of someone's illness. The Bible also shows us that some demons have greater strongholds than others and require the person to fast and pray to get closer to God to be able to cast out the demon.

Could it be a combination of them?

It is important to make sure the person being prayed for and the person laying hands on them is free of unbelief.

An important lesson from over 100,000 healings.

There are many people who have had incredible healing ministries. God has moved through many people to heal others in an incredible way. But there is one person who really stood out as

different his name was John G. Lake. That's because it wasn't just him, he started a healing school and trained many other people on the Biblical principles of healing. In fact they have over 100,000 documented healings. The information on John Lake said a hospital in Spokane, Washington where his healing school was located actually closed for weeks or months because people weren't sick. It went on to say the city launched an investigation into his school's claims and later cancelled it saying they were true.

What stood out most to me about the story of his healing school was before the students graduated they were each given the name of a terminally ill person and told to go and pray for the person and do not return until the person is healed. WOW. They said, some students came back in hours, some in days and some longer.

I don't know why they implemented that, but it stood out to me because they didn't just do a 30 second prayer and leave, or a 30 minute prayer and then have donuts and coffee. The students had faith and believe the sick person would see the physical manifestation of their healing. The student would pray and read the person the Bible and at night go home and sleep and come back the next day and pray and read the person more from the Bible for as long as it took for the person to experience their physical healing manifested.

Could John G. Lake's experience in business give him a unique understanding of human nature? Could John Lake have known that if the person praying stopped before the individual received the physical manifestation that even if the sick person had faith and no unbelief when the student left, it was just a matter of time, maybe hours or days before doubt and unbelief would start taking root again. So the students had to keep praying and praying and read the sick person the word of God, because faith comes from hearing the word until the person was free of unbelief and experienced the physical manifestation of their healing.

I believe what they were doing, whether they realized it or not was destroying any seeds of doubt or unbelief that might be in the sick person.

So what can we learn from that?

Chapter 15 - MLMs and Healing?

Human nature has a lot more to do with answered prayer and healing than you probably ever considered. We know the Bible says we must have faith and that any amount of unbelief can render our faith powerless and ineffective. Have you ever considered human nature's impact on faith and unbelief, and someone's healing or their relationship with God? When most people see something they believe is possible to accomplish, they might believe at that time by faith that they can do it too. But as hours, days or weeks go by with no promising results, doubt and unbelief set in, then discouragement, then they lose their faith that they can do it.

Let me explain this in more detail.

From a prayer/healing stand point. When someone is being prayed for, they might have faith and no unbelief while they are being prayed for that they are healed. But what happens a few hours or days later if the physical healing hasn't manifested? What happens to their faith and level of unbelief when they realize nothing has changed? How long can a person withstand satan's continued attacks of doubt and unbelief on their minds, before they start wondering are they really healed? How long will human nature hold out when our eyes see the old symptoms or our body feels the old pain? Unbelief is just minutes away at that point.

Please bear with this example, it will make an important comparison at the end:

Back when I was in my early 20s I joined a multi-level marketing company (that is a company where you sell products and you can recruit/sponsor other people to join your team and you make a commission when they sell a product).

After I attended the first meeting, I was excited. I saw the big picture, I believed that their message and product was good and that it was possible for me to be successful at it. Every Saturday morning at a meeting the company paraded people in the front of the room to give them their weekly commission checks. This added credibility that it was real and built people's faith that it worked. Most people would generally stay excited after attending one of the meetings through the day and even the evening. But, with no other interaction between the new recruit and the company eventually after a few days if the new recruit didn't see any personal results they

would start having doubt and unbelief and then within weeks, they would quit. This is human nature pure and simple.

Well-meaning friends would add seeds of doubt and unbelief by telling the new recruit “not to get their hopes up”, “this will never work for them”, “who are they kidding they can’t do something like that” and other discouraging statements. The friend might be thinking they are helping the new recruit from being discouraged and mean well. That’s not the point, my point is how their words can immediately create seeds of doubt and unbelief in the new recruit’s mind that they can’t overcome it.

Once unbelief pops into our mind if we don’t immediately rebuke it, the Bible shows it will render our faith powerless and ineffective.

My point is that most people cannot continuously fight off the attacks of doubt and unbelief on their own strength.

The multi-level company I joined back decades ago (FYI I am not doing that anymore) realized human nature and the power of faith and unbelief. They realized how human nature works. The company held meetings on Monday and Wednesday evening and Saturday morning and stressed for people to attend as many as possible. Why? To keep the people surrounded by positive successful people that would encourage them and not discourage them. To continuously build up people’s confidence that the opportunity was real and it could happen for them.

To explain why I see such a strong comparison between that and church, I want to share what happened. When I started with that company my first 12 appointments all cancelled on me that includes friends and family members. Their response was “what could I know about those products I was just a car mechanic”. That was very discouraging. I saw my chance of making the money the company talked about going right down the toilet. But I still believed in the products, so I kept going back on Monday, Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. It took me almost 4 months to make my first sale, but I didn’t give up. I was discouraged a lot. Unbelief was almost a constant companion during that time. But attending the meetings helped restore my faith in the program and got rid of the unbelief, even if it was for only a few days.

Most people that signed up around the time I did and even after I did became discouraged and quit before I even made my first sale. My point is they started doubting if they could really do it and then unbelief took over and they quit. Unbelief is a powerful force.

But what in the world made me stick around with that discouraging start? What made me stick around for months and not quit? I went to every meeting. Every Monday and Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. I had people at those meetings to share my concerns with that encouraged me, and supported me. I didn't realize it until years later, but that connection every few days made all the difference in the world to me. It helped me fight off any discouragement, doubt and unbelief. I also want to stress, it didn't consist of 2 minutes of talking and then donuts and coffee. There was a specific agenda, a specific purpose when people talked to each other. To help encourage each other by sharing success stories.

The relationship with church and prayer.

Once I started going to church (after meeting my wife) I immediately talked to them about the importance of developing a weekly and even daily connection between church members. A connection to help support each other, pray for each other and encourage each other. I was shocked at how many pastors felt it was unnecessary that Sunday service was enough. I was even told not to do it on my own, because it could interfere with people's commitment to Sunday service.

Now a days the Multi-Level marketing companies go even further with daily conference calls or video conference meetings to keep people connected. They serve a specific purpose to reinforce the belief in the person that the opportunity is real and the products are great and they can do this. They will share how to ideas and success stories about different people whether brand new or that's been around for years successes.

Now compare that to our typical journey as a Christian and our journey of healing. We go to church on Sunday and go up to the altar for a quick 30 second prayer. That usually does more harm than good (I will explain this statement later). Or we go to someone's house for prayer and

the group prays for 15 minutes or maybe 60 minutes and then all focus is changed to the donuts and coffee or pizza and socializing. What are we really expecting to see from these prayers?

Minutes, hours or days after the person is prayed for, the doubt and unbelief is back. In most cases this type of prayer process does not work and actually hurts the person's faith. The more someone is prayed for and sees no results, the more they start doubting, and thinking God will not heal them, maybe other people are healed but not them. Unbelief starts taking root and becomes a stronghold through an innocent thing like being prayed for.

Do you really believe a once a week or once a month prayer time is enough to connect with God so His Spirit can flow through you when you pray for someone or when someone prays for you? How has that been working out so far?

YES, there are people that have an incredible relationship with God and the Holy Spirit's healing power flows through them within seconds. But, MOST people have not developed that relationship with God and they shouldn't be trying to just copy someone else's healing ministry.

I am strongly suggesting that we understand and accept human nature and the fact the only reason the Bible shows for people not being healed is unbelief. Unbelief on the part of the person receiving prayer and the person doing the praying. It is imperative to eliminate all unbelief. The Bible shows in Matthew 17:21 that Jesus told His disciples that you get rid of unbelief through prayer and fasting. That does not mean that the action of praying and fasting automatically removes unbelief, or automatically cast out a demon. It is saying that fasting and praying provides an "opportunity" to draw closer to God on a spiritual level. It is the closeness of the relationship we have with God during those times that removes any unbelief. Remember God chastising the people In Isaiah 58 that bragged about their fasting but it didn't change anything about their relationship with God. Their fasting was just going through the motions.

What can we do to overcome and defeat thoughts of doubt and unbelief?

I would seriously suggest starting with fasting and praying and by following the lead of the Multi-level marketing companies and how they overcome the negative aspect of our human nature. They have a daily connection with other people to encourage each other and keep any

doubt and unbelief away. Why don't we create a daily 15 minute video or phone conference connection where we can pray for each other's prayer needs and encourage each other, build each other's faith and destroy any spirit of doubt and unbelief. Let's give God an opportunity to allow His healing power to flow freely through us and heal us according to His promises.

For more information on these calls visit our website: www.BiblicalTruthsMinistries.Com

Chapter 16 - Do you need a spiritual loading dose?

Most Christians whether they want to admit it or not (including me until recently) are going through the motions. Maybe they have no real prayer life or they don't spend any time in reading the Bible or they have gotten comfortable with a certain schedule and it's become a routine. For comparison, when people have an infection, a doctor will sometimes prescribe an antibiotic. Some of those antibiotic's instructions say to take an extra dose of the medication the first day. That's called a loading dose. The purpose of this is to get a grip on the sickness/infection and overcome some of its strength. The individual then continues on a standard dose following the doctor's recommendation. When we have an issue with unbelief or another spiritual stronghold, we might need a "spiritual loading dose" to overcome it. In other words our regular prayer and Bible reading schedule is not going to overcome the strength of the unbelief or stronghold. So we will need to increase our prayer time, Bible reading and fasting to get a grip and overcome it, just like the antibiotic does with an infection. It will take a greater amount of time with God to allow His Spirit to flow through us and flush out that unbelief or other stronghold.

I again want to stress Jesus own words to his disciples in Matthew 17:21. Jesus told the disciples they could not cast the demon out of the boy and heal him because of their unbelief and that to overcome it they needed to pray and fast. As I've stressed, the act of fasting and praying without sincerely seeking a closer time of reaching God is just an act. God wants a personal relationship with you not an act.

How long should you spend with God? I can't answer that, it depends on how much unbelief or control the stronghold has on you or someone else. I can tell you this, the amount of unbelief and strength of the stronghold is probably a lot more than you realize. You will have to be willing to make a commitment of your time and energy. It might take one day, a few days, a week, a month or longer. It is not a matter of how long it will take God to break through. It is a matter of how long it will take you to allow the Spirit of God and the love of Jesus to flush out the unbelief.

I have been told some people got their breakthrough in a few hours, some took days, some weeks. It took me longer than most people, probably because I allowed so much unbelief to build a stronghold in me since I was given 2 weeks to live and then healed the next day and then

allowed people in church to convince me to stop talking about it. A lot of unbelief built up over those years and I wasn't even aware it was happening.

My personal Spiritual Loading Dose

After being encouraged by my daughter to stop seeking an answer for something to start focusing directly on God and my relationship with God. So I personally decided to go through the Bible in 30 days on audio, due to the severe damage to my eyes and very limited vision.

There are a couple of important points I want to stress. One is that I have been saved for over 30 years, but I have never been able to go through the entire Bible no matter how many times I tried. The other point is that I get distracted very easily. It was hard for me to concentrate on what I was reading or hearing for more than just a couple of minutes and then I didn't retain much of it.

My daughter had reminded me of something saying: "Dad you taught us to always seek the kingdom of God and it's righteousness first and foremost and God will take care of the rest". In other words Don't seek the healing, seek the healer.

I figured out how many pages I would have to listen to in the Bible to complete it in 30 days and then just referenced what Book and chapter I would have to read to for that day and the 2nd day, 3rd day, etc. I was going to start in Matthew and go through the New Testament and then the Old Testament. I didn't want to follow the typical read the Bible in a year instructions, and bounce back and forth between the New and Old Testament. I wanted to read straight through so I could capture the full meaning of what God was saying in each chapter and book.

So I started my journey. But it wasn't that easy. I started daydreaming a lot. Distractions and random thoughts popped up more than ever before. Just about 3 minutes after I started in the book of Matthew a random thought came to my mind that I need to get the oil changed on one of the cars. I became distracted trying to figure out how long it's been since the last oil change. When I realized I was distracted, I started the chapter over again. Then a few minutes later a thought came to my mind. I wonder if my wife wanted to go out for dinner because I have a taste for a pizza. When I realized I was distracted, I started the chapter over again. A few minutes

later I started thinking about when the license plates on my car expired and that I have to get an emission test done before I can renew the license plates. When I realized I had been daydreaming, I started the chapter over again. A few minutes later I started wondering how much the people that were doing the audio were being paid for reading their part. Yes random thoughts as silly as that were distracting me and yes I started the chapter over again.

I took a break after the first the first hour and started praying. I started asking God to help me concentrate, to help me have His word come alive in my life, and to help me have every word that I hear saturate my mind and my heart as if every word was written just for me.

By the end of the day I realized I had actually listened to more than I was scheduled to. I did the same thing over the next few days. I realized I was on track to finish the Bible in 15 days not 30 days. I realized over the next few days I was distracted and daydreaming less and less. What a difference from the first day.

On the 13th day of my 15 day journey through the Bible, God revealed incredible things to me about ME. God revealed specific strongholds that I didn't even realize were there. But once God revealed them, I could tell they were the root cause of some of my problems and struggles I was having. I realized they were also why I responded to things in certain ways. Strongholds of bitterness, unforgiveness, anger, fear, anxiety, unbelief and more were shown to me and then flushed away.

I did finish the Bible in 15 days, and God put it on my heart to start listening to the Bible again. This time to listen to a chapter a day for 3 days in a row so it really sunk in.

I have had so many people tell me they don't have 7 or 8 hours a day to listen or read the Bible and pray. If that's the case take a smaller loading dose. Commit to going through the Bible in 30 days. That will take about 2 or 3 hours a day of reading or listening. You have to give yourself a chance to be focused enough on God so that His Spirit can flow through you and work in you. Depending on how big the stronghold of unbelief is in your life, there could be a wall that you don't even realize exists that stops God from flowing through you. Everyone's time will be different. You might get your breakthrough the first day or in 7 days or 30 days. But the point is,

you will get your breakthrough if you do not quit. Spend time in prayer before and after you spend time in the Bible to hear from God.

Most people I talked to about this responded with I don't have 2 or 3 or 4 hours a day to go through the Bible. I said let me ask you a question and I want you to seriously consider it. If someone promised you 1 Million Dollars if you seriously focused on reading or listening to the Bible and completed it in 30 days, would you find the time?

Maybe you could make time for an hour in the morning, maybe an hour in the evening and then make up the difference on the weekend, but would you find the time to go through the Bible in 30 days? For 1 Million Dollars I'm sure you would. To be honest, what God can do in your life during that 30 days is far greater than 1 Million Dollars. What God can do in those 30 days is change your life in ways you would never imagine!

When you get done with your spiritual loading dose, God will direct you on what you should do on a daily basis with Him after that.

Chapter 18 – Get Started

- Do not seek the healing, seek the One that heals.
- Do not seek the blessing, seek the One that gives the blessing.
- Do not seek the answer, seek the One that gives the answers.

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

Matthew 6:33

Maybe you are ready to receive your healing right now or maybe it will take some time for your healing to manifest physically. Maybe you are ready to lay hands on someone and they will receive their healing right now. Maybe it will take time for you to reach the point where the love of Jesus and the power and authority will flow through you. But you will never know unless you are doing it. You will not all of a sudden have a feeling that you are ready. So do not wait for what you believe is the perfect time. The person you pass up praying for might be the first time you experience God flowing through you and they are healed. But if you don't take that step of faith, that person could remain in the bondage of their sickness or stronghold for who knows how long.

Hopefully you will reach the point of experiencing the love of Jesus and the power and authority flowing in you. All you need is you and God. You might not even need someone else to lay hands on you for your healing. I know you might be thinking that's not the way Jesus did it. You might be thinking Jesus or the disciples always had to lay hands on the person or pray for them, or claim their healing. That's true, but as we discussed earlier, we are living in a different time than the disciples were when Jesus was on earth. We have the Holy Spirit living right in us. That's all you need, you and God. The healing power of Jesus love is already inside you in the spiritual realm, the almighty power and authority of the Holy Spirit is already inside you in the spiritual realm. It's between you and God as a believer.

No matter what, remember you are already healed by the stripes Jesus received. Do not give up. Do not get discouraged. Do not entertain the spirit of doubt or unbelief for a second. If you start noticing those thoughts, start quoting and believing scriptures that assure your healing, such as: Isaiah 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24

“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.” Isaiah 53:5

“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.” 1 Peter 2:24

If need be, look up the verses in a different version so it will be easier to understand, believe and remember. Always give thanks to God for your healing such as: “Thank You God for providing for my healing. I accept my healing and in Jesus name I am healed.”

Your answer to prayer, your miracle is closer than you think.

Start your spiritual loading dose today and start allowing the love of Jesus to flow through you and flush out the strongholds that are holding you back from receiving your healing or being God’s vessel for other people’s healing.

God Bless you and enjoy the journey.