

## **The Word on Healing**

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: Divine Healing

**Text: Matthew 8:5-10, 16-17**

Before people can have a steadfast faith for the healing of their body they must be rid of all **uncertainty** concerning God's will on the matter. Appropriating faith cannot go beyond one's knowledge of the revealed will of God. Scripture plainly teaches that it is just as much God's will to heal the body as it is to heal the soul. Until we know what God's will is, there is nothing on which to base our faith.

Faith for the appropriating of God's promised blessings is knowing and **acting** on God's Word. **Romans 10:17** The Word understood by the mind and hidden in our heart is the foundation of a **renewed** mind that makes steadfast faith possible. **Romans 12:2** You cannot live beyond what you know and you will never activate what you do not truly believe. External results from prayer are the results of an inner work of God's life-transforming Word.

Jesus said that the Word is **seed**. **Luke 8:11** Until a person seeking healing, or praying for someone else's healing is sure from God's Word that it is God's will to heal, they are trying to reap a harvest where there is no seed planted. Farmers understand that no harvest will happen if there is no seed planted, no matter how much they "believe." Belief is not fantasy that we wish to be true. Faith understands the process of reality. It is not God's will that there be a harvest without the **planting** of a seed. **John 8:32-36, (8:33 in KJV)** Satan is always messing with the seed. Adam was the first seed that was corrupted and brought in sin. Satan wants us to forget the reality of the seed for our salvation and our healing. **Psalm 107:20** This healing happens through both the received written Word and through Jesus Christ, the **Living** Word.

For each sick person to know that it is God's will to heal them it is necessary for the seed to be planted in their **mind** and heart. It is not firmly planted until it is known, received and trusted. No one can become a Christian before they know that it is God's will to save them. It is God's Word that is planted, watered and trusted that heals both the soul and the body. God can't save the soul of a man before the man himself knows God's will in the matter. Salvation is by **faith** that is trusting in the **known** will of God. Being healed is being saved in the physical sense.

The prayer of faith that heals the sick is to **follow** the planting of the seed of the Word. Many people pray "if it is your will", the word 'if' leaves room for **doubt**. Doubt is not planting the seed it is hardening the soil to receive the seed. **Romans 1:16** The Gospel is the **power** of God unto salvation in all of its phases, physical and spiritual: To those who **believe**. You can only believe or reject what you know. **Acts 16:31** The Gospel never leaves a person in **uncertainty**. The Word will always tell you what God's will is concerning a thing.

The spiritual and the physical parts of the Gospel are not able to be applied to our life by prayer alone. Seed is powerless until it is planted. Many times we are quick to pray for people who have no understanding of God's Word. We need to help people who say "pray for me" to ask instead "teach me".

We must know what the benefits of the Word are before we can appropriate them by faith. **Psalm 103:1-5** It is like having an insurance policy but not realizing that it covers a rental.

After having an understanding of the Word our attitude towards sickness should be the same as our attitude toward sin. Our purpose to have our body healed should be as definite as our purpose to have our soul healed. We should not ignore any part of the Gospel. Christ bore both our sin and our sickness and it is His will that we are delivered from them both.

Not all healing is instantaneous, a great deal of healing is progressive. During the time between committing the healing of our body to God and the completion of our healing we must learn to hold onto our confidence. **Hebrews 10:35-36** We must learn to refuse to allow our faith to be affected by the temporary things that at the moment contradict the eternal Word of God.

#### Comprehensive Instructions to receive healing: - Proverbs 4:20-22

The Word of God cannot be health to either soul or body before it is heard, received or attended to. The Words of God are only life to those that find / discover them. If you want to receive life and healing from God, take time to find what His Word says. The flesh of many people today is unhealthy because they failed to find and attend to that part of God's Word that produces healing. When we do what we are told in the scriptures, His Word is made health to all our flesh. God gives three specific ways to "attend" to His words:

- You must have an attentive ear. We must attend or show up and pay attention to what His Word has to say.
- We are to not take our eyes off of the Word. It is God's Word that we are to keep our focus on. Not our sicknesses our fear or even the symptoms. Whenever our eyes are on the symptoms and our mind is occupied with them more than with God's Word you have the wrong kind of seed in the ground.
- Whatever seed you choose to plant into your heart is what is going to grow. Too often we take these things to heart more than we hide His Word in our heart. Our heart is to be the good ground on which the seed of His Word grows. You cannot raise a harvest of faith from a seed of doubt. It is impossible to sow tears and reap wheat.

It is important to understand that nothing can take the place of the seed, not even prayer. Prayer is not the seed the Word is the seed. The only purpose of God's promises is their fulfillment. They are all a revelation of what He is eager to do for us.