

ATTACHMENT FIVE: SIGNS AND WONDERS AS WE PREACH THE GOSPEL

Healings are a great way in which the power of God is displayed, and will support the Gospel message that we preach.

Jesus told his disciples to go and preach the gospel and to heal the sick.

“And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.” **(Matthew 10:7-8)**

“Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and heal the sick.” **(Luke 9:1-2)**

The Apostles also prayed:

“Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, ‘by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the Name of Your Holy Servant Jesus.” **(Acts 4:29-30)**

In this teaching I will be looking at a number of things that can help us to preach the gospel with more power and to see healings being a consistent part of our ministry to others

1) WE NEED TO HAVE COMPASSION FOR THE LOST

(This comes from Jesus being our FIRST LOVE – When we have Christ’s compassion we preach with passion and pray with conviction for the sick)

“And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.” **(Matthew 14:14)**

“And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” **(Matthew 9:35-36)**

2) WE NEED TO SPEND TIME WITH JESUS

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.” (Acts 4:13)

- **Anointing comes from our relationship with Jesus**
- **Prayers need to be inspired by the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26-27)**
- **God sets up divine appointments (We need to be led by the Holy Spirit)**

“And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother’s womb, who had never walked. This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, “Stand up straight on your feet!” And he leaped and walked.” (Acts 14:8-10)
- **We need to involve Jesus in all of our life and commune with Him always**
- **We need to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)**
- **We need to learn to listen to the still small voice of the Holy Spirit**

Jesus said,
“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” (John 14:26)
- **We should seek to worship the Lord in Spirit and Truth (John 4:23-24)**
- **It is all about the heart and having Christ’s love for the lost and hurting**

3) WE ALL NEED TO HUMBLE OURSELVES AND GIVE GLORY TO GOD

- **The apostle Peter gave all the glory to God when he healed the lame man**

“Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon’s, greatly amazed. So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our power or godliness we had made this man walk?...His Name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.” (Acts 3:11, 12 &16)

- **We must always give ALL the glory to God**

The apostle Paul said, “Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” **(1 Corinthians 10:31)**

- **As Christians we descend to greatness. God’s Kingdom is an upside down Kingdom. The more we humble ourselves the more God can raise us up to do great things for Him**

Jesus said, “But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whoever exalts himself will be abased, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” **(Matthew 23:11-12)**

4) WE NEED TO MEDITATE ON THE SCRIPTURES RELATING TO HEALINGS AND MIRACLES (We need to get them into our spirit. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God)

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” **(Romans 10:17)**

5) DON’T ALLOW YOURSELF TO SPEND TIME WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE SCEPTICS AND SPEAK AGAINST HEALINGS (They will quench the fire in your belly and dilute your faith)

In Psalm One we read,

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.” **(Psalm 1:1-3)**

WE MUST BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHICH PEOPLE SPEAK INTO OUR LIFE

6) BE ASSURED THAT JESUS HAS GIVEN ALL BELIEVERS THE AUTHORITY AND POWER TO HEAL PEOPLE AND TO DELIVER PEOPLE FROM STRONGHOLDS IN HIS NAME

- *Just as Jesus commissioned His disciples to preach the gospel and to heal and deliver people (Luke 9:1-2), so has He commissioned all believers*

“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” (Mark 16:17-18)

7) OUR OBEDIENCE TO GOD’S WORD IS ALSO A KEY TO SEEING GOD’S POWER OPERATING IN OUR LIFE IN A GREATER WAY

- We must be faithful in the little things
- Our obedience helps us to continually hear the Lord’s voice clearly
- Partial obedience is disobedience
- Delayed obedience is disobedience
- Doing the Lord’s will but murmuring is also disobedience
- **God is looking for an army of Christians who will be radically obedient to His call on their lives, and who will be men and women of faith**
- We need to have a childlike faith and dependency on God
- God will only pour out His Glory through Holy Vessels. (People who have a desire to be disciplined in both their actions and thought life) We must continually aspire to become more like Christ and to allow the Holy Spirit to do a work of change in our lives. This change in our life comes through obedience as we learn to walk in the Spirit.
- This does not mean legalism, but freedom in the Spirit as we allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct our lives. Having a repentant heart and short accounts with the Lord is the key to walking a victorious Christian life and to growing in Christlike character.

8) **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING CONTINUALLY FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**
(Refer to Receiving the Holy Spirit Teaching)

9) **SIGNS AND WONDERS WITH THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL**

AS WE PREACH THE GOSPEL WE CAN ALSO EXPECT SIGNS AND WONDERS TO FOLLOW THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL

In the gospel of Mark we read,

“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My Name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” **(Mark 16:17-18)**

“And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen” **(Mark 16:20)**

In the book of Acts we see the signs and wonders that accompanied Philip’s preaching in the city of Samaria,

“Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralysed and lame were healed. **AND THERE WAS GREAT JOY IN THAT CITY.**” **(Acts 8:5-8)**

Jesus went about healing everywhere,

In the book of Acts we read,

“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” **(Acts 10:38)**

In the gospel of Matthew we read,

“Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.” **(Matthew 9:35)**

Jesus said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works that these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. *If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.*” **(John 14:12-14)**