

The Healing Ministry of Jesus

Read Matt 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them [his disciples], “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Jesus sent his disciple into all nations to make disciples and to teach all the things he had taught them. One of the things Jesus taught his disciples was the healing ministry. In Matt 10:5-8 we read that Jesus sent out the 12 to proclaim the good news, to cure the sick and cast out demons. Likewise, in Luke 10:9 Jesus sent out 72 of his disciples to do the same things.

So, the church today should be teaching and continuing the healing ministry of Christ, and note, it is the ministry of Christ, it is not something we can do apart from him. In Matt 28:20 he said, “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” This promise was not just for the Twelve, who did not live to the end of the age, it was to those who followed their teaching, the church.

The healing ministry of Christ was not a means of evangelism, to attract attention and get people saved. “For God so loved the world” (Jn 3:16). It is because of God’s love, that he heals, delivers, and saves. Christ has compassion on the sick and demonised, and that is why he ministers healing to them. On one occasion he healed 10 men with leprosy, and only one returned to give the glory to God for the miracle. God has compassion on human suffering. Healing has no ulterior motive other than relieving suffering. The love of God drives both the healing ministry and the proclamation of the gospel.

Christ said he would be with us always, and he sent the Holy Spirit, also called the Spirit of Christ, into every Christian. Paul wrote in Rom 8:9b, “... the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.” Christians are not only called to the healing ministry but given the Holy Spirit who does the healing.

Some Christians say that they don’t have the gift of healing. They point to 1 Cor 12:9, where Paul talks about some being especially gifted to heal. However, any Christian can be used in healing. We are all indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit has **all** the gifts. You can be used in any gift as the Lord has need. It is not about us, it is about **Christ in us**. Our part is to be available and obedient to the Spirit’s leading.

John Wimber in the 1980’s devised a model for getting Christians started in the healing ministry, called the **Five-Step Integrated Healing Model**. It is still used today in the Vineyard Churches, in the International Association of Healing Rooms, and in Randy Clark’s Global Awakening ministry. It is like training wheels to help you get started in riding a bike. You can find it in John Wimber’s book, **Power Healing**, and I have put a summary on my website, gospelfacts.au on the Resources page.

Derek Thompson, 11/9/26