

Introduction:

- We have covered in this series on healing:
 - 210428 The Causes of Sickness And Disease – If I know what cause sickness, I live towards prevention and respond to it accordingly.
 - 210505 Misconceptions About God Regarding Healing – for lack of understanding, many have believed lies about God and shut themselves out of God’s provision for their healing. In short they believe wrongly.
 - 210602 Healing Is Found In Redemption – If we can see from God’s word what He has done for us then we can trust Him for our healing.
 - God’s Will Is To Heal - Many people struggle over the question: “Is it God’s will to heal?”
- Tonight: Faith and Healing. Ultimately when it comes to healing it comes to exercising our faith to be healed. I remember contending for my own healing from allergies. I also remember healings that came through the laying on of hands from others. This I know:
 - *“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”* (Hebrews 11:6, ESV)
 - *“Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.”* (Mark 11:23, ESV)

I. Faith Is Not An Option

A. According to scripture, faith is a necessity. It is not an option.

1. The woman with the issue of blood. *“And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”* (Mark 5:34, ESV)
Your faith has made you well.
 - a) What made this woman whole? Jesus?
 - b) According to Jesus it was her faith in Him. Your faith has made you well.
2. Two blind men. *“Then he touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith be it done to you.”* (Matthew 9:29, ESV) According to your faith be it done to you.
 - a) Two blind men come to Jesus and they ask to be made well.
 - b) He asked them, “Do you think I am able?” Yes! Then according to your faith ...
3. The centurion with paralyzed servant. *“And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed at that very moment.”* (Matthew 8:13, ESV) As you have believed.
4. Three times Jesus declares that it was ‘their faith’ that brought about the answer to prayer.

5. In Nazareth he could only do a few miracles... Mt 13:58 because of their unbelief. So the reality is: It was their faith, combined with the power of God through Jesus, which brought about their healing. IE. Faith becomes the receiver through with the power of God comes to a person.
- B. Two things that build our faith are (my last two messages): Healing is found in redemption through Christ and it is His will to heal us.
1. By His stripes we were healed! Tells me that Jesus was scourged in order to provide healing for me. Healing is in His redemption of all who believe.
 2. He was scourged 39 lashes upon His back for my healing! How could I ever question His willingness to heal me?
 3. My faith, with those two revelations alone, should begin to be very solid in the realm of healing.
 4. The fact is: We were healed at Calvary! The work was finished there. God only asks that we believe! *"Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.""* (John 6:29, ESV)
 5. Finished work!
 - a) *"... and with his wounds we are healed."* (Isaiah 53:5, ESV)
 - b) *"... By his wounds you have been healed."* (1 Peter 2:24, ESV)

II. To Build Our Faith God Sent His Word

- A. God sent His Word so that we could and would believe in Him.
1. God sent His Word, His Son into the world. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* (Jn 1:1, ESV) If you have seen Jesus you have seen Father.
 2. The nature of the Word *"so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."* (Isaiah 55:11, ESV)
 3. *"He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction."* (Psalm 107:20, ESV)
 4. Gods word lets us know what to trust Him for.
- B. God watches over His word to perform it.
1. Jer 1:12 *"Then the Lord said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it.""* (Jeremiah 1:12, ESV)
 2. He is not going to lie to us. *"God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?"* (Numbers 23:19, ESV)
 3. He promise to heal all our disease just as He forgives all our sins. Ps 103:2-4
 4. *"I will not violate my covenant or alter the word that went forth from my lips."* (Psalm 89:34, ESV)

5. God has obviously done His part for us. All the promises are conditioned upon faith. Faith is the activator of the promises. If we waver, James says we can't expect to receive. James 1:6-7
- C. Again, Mt 8:13 *"as you have believed, so be it done for you."*

III. Have Faith To Be Healed

- A. You can't let anything else take the place of your faith. Some people think that if they can just get into the right prayer line then some else's faith will heal them. This is not scriptural. The gift of healing will not take the place of your own faith. IE. Don't you think that Jesus when He returned to His home town used all the gifts he had to get people healed??? Yet He could only do a few miracles. Mt 13:58
 1. Paul in Lystra meets a crippled man. Acts 14:9-ff.
 2. He perceives the man has faith and commands him to get up. And he does, healed!
 3. When Jesus healed the woman with the issue of blood, Mk 5:34, He did not say My gifts have made you well. Your faith has made you well.
 4. If you get healed on someone else's faith, will you be able to keep your healing? Faith is necessary in not only receiving your healing—but in keeping it as well.
- B. Webster's dictionary defines faith as "complete confidence in a person." We are to have complete confidence in God.
 1. God gives faith to everyone who wants it bad enough. The price: read the Word, faith come from hearing the word Ro. 10:17. Meditate on the word. Joshua 1:12-20. Walk in obedience and holiness...free from condemnation! *"Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;"* (1 John 3:21, ESV)
 2. We must do our part.
 3. Faith works by love. Gal 5:6
- C. Abiding in Christ is grounds for faith. Jn 15:4-11
 1. When I remain in Him then He remains in me.
 2. The assurance of resting in Christ is sure to give us confidence before Him in asking Him anything.