

DIVINE HEALING

Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And He healed every kind of disease and illness. Matthew 4:23 (NLT)

Jesus said... "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works... so that the **Son can bring glory to the Father**. John 14:12-14 (NLT)

HOW TO UNDERSTAND, AND ENGAGE, GOD'S HEALING POWER:

1. It's God's call (to heal or not to heal) and He always has a reason.

Biblical reasons why God may choose not to heal:

a. When it may <u>hurt</u> us more than <u>help</u>. (pride)

Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. 2 Corinthians 12:8-9 (NLT)

...So, to keep me from becoming proud, I was given a thorn in my flesh... So, I am glad to boast in my weakness, so that the power of Christ can work through me... 2 Corinthians 12:7&9 (NLT)

b. When our motives are wrong.

One day some teachers of religious law and Pharisees came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, we want you to show us a miraculous sign to prove your authority." But Jesus replied, "Only an evil, adulterous generation would demand a miraculous sign; but the only sign I will give them is the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights. Matt. 12:38-40 (NLT)

c. When it interferes with God's bigger plan.

"Put away your sword,"... "Don't you realize that I could ask my Father for thousands of angels to protect us, and He would send them instantly? But if I did, how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that describe what must happen now?" Matthew 26:52-54 (NLT)

d. When does, and did, God heal? When it advances His greatest hope. (Redemption)

2. It will require faith. (trust)

"What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "Anything is possible if a person believes." The father instantly cried out, "I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!" Mark 9:23-25 (NLT)

3. The most important healing is spiritual.

Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven." ... So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!" Luke 5:20 & 24 (NLT)

Going deeper on your own: Read Matthew 8:5-15 slowly out loud. Make notes of anything that speaks to you. Answer the following questions: Who was asking for healing? Who was he asking it for? What did Jesus need to do in order to heal the servant? What does this tell you about what the Centurion thought of Jesus and His power? What do you think the conversation was like when the Centurion got home? What do you think the affect was on everyone in his household? Do you believe God's power is limitless and unbound by time and space? If you do not believe, accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior today and allow the healing to begin.