Praying For Healing

(Matthew 8:16-17 NKJV) When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, {17} that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."
God & Our Bodies

- God created our bodies: Genesis 1:26,27; Psalm 139:13-16
- God is FOR our bodies: 1 Corinthians 6:13
- God has purchased our bodies: 1 Corinthians 6:20
- God has made our bodies temples of the Holy Spirit who gives life to our mortal bodies: 1 Corinthians 6:19, Romans 8:1
- Our bodies are members of Christ: 1 Corinthians 6:15
- God will resurrect our bodies: 1 Corinthians 6:14, 15:12-55
- God will glorify our bodies and make them immortal: 1 Corinthians 15:49-54; Philippians 3:20,21, 1 John 3:1-3
The Devil & Our Body

- The Devil afflicts our bodies with death & disease
  Luke 13:10-16; Job 2:7; John 8:44, 10:10

- The Devil seeks to fill the body with evil and unclean spirits: Matthew 12:43-45

- The Devil seeks to defile the body via sexual immorality: 1 Corinthians 7:5

- The Devil seeks to enslave the body via its needs and its fleshly appetites:
  2 Peter 2:18,19 or drives the believer to ascetic extremes: Colossians 2:18-23

- The Devil is against the human body and hates it and accuses it - because it bears the image of God (James 3:9)
Healing Is.....

- Part of the spiritual battle for the human body
  Luke 13:10-16

- The outworking of the physical aspect of our redemption
  – Matthew 8:16,17

- A sign of the arrival of the Kingdom of God

- A practical manifestation of the Father's mercy and compassion towards His children
  Matthew 9:27, 15:22, 17:15, 20:30,31

- God's will being done on earth as it is in Heaven
  Matthew 6:10, Revelation 21:3,4
The world was made 'out of nothing' by the Word of God: Genesis 1:1-3, Hebrews 11:3

God calls things into existence that do not as yet exist: Romans 4:17

Nothing is impossible with God: Matthew 19:26, Mark 9:23

The material is formed out of the spiritual by the power of God's spoken Word.

Therefore healing is God's Spirit and God's Word working with power and authority to restore our bodies into the fullness of the image of God.
Jesus' Teaching On Healing - 1

- Jesus always saw sickness as something to be healed
  Matthew 4:23-25, 8:16,17, 9:35

- Jesus sometimes saw sickness as the direct work of the Devil: Luke 13:10-16

- Jesus sometimes saw sickness as the direct result of sin (but healed it anyway)
  Mark 2:5, John 5:14

- Jesus healed out of mercy and compassion:
  **Mercy:** Matthew 9:27, 15:22, 17:15, 20:30,31
Jesus' Teaching On Healing - 2

- Jesus often drew a connection between faith and healing: Matthew 8:10, 9:28, 29, 15:28; Mark 2:5; 9:24, 10:52
- Jesus saw healing as a manifestation of Divine authority and power: Matthew 8:9-13, 9:6, 10:1; Mark 3:15, 6:17; Luke 5:17, 6:19, 9:1, 10:19
Jesus' Teaching On Healing - 3

- Jesus saw healing as His 'doing what he saw the Father doing' and not as His own initiative: John 5:19,20, 36 ; 10:32,37,38; 14:10-12
- Jesus always healed what the person wanted healed: Matthew 20:32, John 5:6
- Jesus healed all who came to Him (Matthew 4:23-25, 8:16,17, 9:35) and never told anyone to wait or to suffer longer 'in order to build character'
- Healing was never bought for a donation or earned in any way - it was always a free gift and was not only for the pious - sinners were healed
- Jesus saw healing as a work that His disciples and His Church could also work. Matthew 10:1   Luke 10:1.9   John 14:10-12
How Jesus Healed

- He waited for the initiative from Heaven – and only did what he saw His Father doing: John 5:19,20, 36; 10:32,37,38; 14:10-12

- He sometimes asked people what they wanted: Matthew 20:32, John 5:6

- He healed by issuing a word of power, which was often a direct command such as: Be cleansed! Be healed! Little girl arise! Lazarus come forth!

Looking For Faith

- Phrases such as: 'your faith has saved you go in peace' or 'when He saw their faith' indicate that Jesus was looking for faith in those that He healed.

- Acts 14:9,10
- Mark 2:5, 5:34, 10:52, 11:22-24
- Luke 5:20, 7:9,50; 8:48; 17:6,19; 18:42
- Acts 3:16
Lack of Faith = Lack of Miracles

- Matthew 13:58
- Matthew 17:16-20
- Matthew 14:31
- Matthew 8:26
- Galatians 3:5
- Hebrews 11:6

- Faith is believing God and agreeing that He will do what He has promised, this is essential if we are to experience His power.

- The faith (or unbelief) can be in those praying, or in the one receiving the healing.
Lack Of Healing

- Doubt & Unbelief: Matthew 13:58, James 1:5-8
- Major sin especially with respect to holy things such as Communion: 1 Corinthians 11:29,30
- Rage, anger, bitterness, hatred, hardness of heart and other means of resisting the Spirit who heals Acts 7:51, Ephesians 4:28-31, 1 John 2:11
- Poor teaching on healing and on the supernatural aspects of the Christian faith generally
- Manipulative behavior, trying to force God's hand, or trying to do it by human means or even by occultic means such as hypnosis
Removing The Unbelievers

- Mark 5:35-43, Luke 8:50-56
- Mark 8:23
- Acts 9:40

If there was an atmosphere of doubt, scoffing or negativity, or if there was deep grief that might hinder healing then Jesus and the apostles would either put the people out, or take the person to be healed aside from the others.

He only took his main apostles (Peter, James and John) with Him on such occasions.
Matthew 10:7-8 MKJV  And as you go, proclaim, saying, The kingdom of Heaven is at hand. (8) Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. You have received freely, freely give.

1. *Heal The Sick* – normal healing

2. *Cleanse The Lepers* – cleansing, acceptance, re-integration into society

3. *Raise The Dead* – giving life back to people

4. *Cast Out Demons* – authority over the evil and unclean spiritual realm
Can We Do This Stuff?

- **Mark 16:17-18 ASV** And these signs shall accompany **them that believe**: in my name shall they cast out demons; they shall speak with new tongues; (18) they shall take up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall in no wise hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

- **John 14:11-14 ASV** Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. (12) **Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do**; because I go unto the Father. (13) And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (14) If ye shall ask anything in my name, that will I do.
Seven Key Steps

1. Pray, asking Jesus for the power and authority to heal to be given to you for that hour and for that person. Bind evil spirits.

2. Ask the person what is wrong and also ask them what they desire as an end result. Seek for faith, encourage faith.

3. Anoint with oil, forgive sins, and then take authority and command the desired and perfect end result into being in Jesus' name. (James 5:14-16)

4. Listen for anything the Holy Spirit might be saying to the person in the situation. Pray for discernment in the process.

5. Check to see what is happening for the person.

6. Don't take "No" for an answer. Keep praying until the result is achieved or it's obvious that nothing is happening.

7. Give the person any directions that you feel that God is saying to them about their healing.
The Healing Service

- Be considerate of the sick folk in attendance, keep the service short and relatively quiet and make sure that the premises are wheelchair accessible, including the restrooms. After the service have a 'cup of tea and fellowship' time for emotional support & encouragement.

- Emphasize the love of God for them, faith and the healing Scriptures, demonstrate graciousness, kindness, and gentleness and create an atmosphere that is healing in itself.

- Do not force everyone to come up front, particularly if they are older or have arthritis etc. Instead ask such folk to raise their hands and go to them with anointing oil and a prayer team of two or three faithful Christians.

- Do not diagnose people, or ask lots of intrusive medical questions or recommend herbal or pharmaceutical solutions. You are not there to be a doctor or pharmacist! Just pray!
Healing At Home

- Call for the elders of the church
- Anointing with oil
- Prayer in faith & authority
- Confession and forgiveness of sins
- Fervent prayer
- Righteous elders
- Elijah authority based on a word / revelation from God (1 Kings 17:1)

James 5:14-17 HCSB  Is anyone among you sick? He should call for the elders of the church, and they should pray over him after anointing him with olive oil in the name of the Lord. (15) The prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. (16) Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The intense prayer of the righteous is very powerful. (17) Elijah was a man with a nature like ours; yet he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the land.
Repentance

- Sometimes healing is released only after some hindering sin is dealt with such as if:
  - There has been involvement in drugs or the occult or idol worship or in gross sexual immorality
  - There is a major stronghold of bitterness, resentment or unforgiveness
  - There has been fraud, dishonesty or major mis-treatment of another human being
  - A general time of confession with a pause for personal repentance to take place can be very useful if done the right way in a healing service.
Most healings in modern times seem to occur in 'high-faith' environments such as worship services, widespread revivals and in places where people readily believe in the supernatural.

Many believers may need to be encouraged in their faith through worship, reading and memorizing the Scriptures, and watching videos and hearing testimonies of healing.

There may also have to be teaching on healing and on the supernatural realms.