

What About Healing?

Sermon Notes by Pastor Matt DelBlanc

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One of the toughest questions I get as a pastor: Why didn't they get healed?

The temptation is often to comfort by contorting the Word

Lowering expectation

Stirring apathy

What does the Bible say?

DON'T LET EXPERIENCE BE YOUR GREATEST TEACHER

Jesus was a healer

Among an overwhelming number of references and stories

***Read them all in detail with an open heart

- **Matthew 4:23 (ESV)** ²³ And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing **every disease and every affliction** among the people.
- **Matthew 8:16–17** ¹⁶ That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and **healed all** who were sick. ¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the **prophet Isaiah**: “He took our illnesses and bore our diseases.”
- **Luke 5:17–18** ¹⁷ On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And **the power of the Lord was with him to heal**. (The Spirit of the Lord is upon me) ¹⁸ And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus,
- **Luke 9:1–2** And he called **the twelve** together and gave them **power and authority** over all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to **proclaim** the kingdom of God **and to heal**.
- **Luke 10:1** After this the Lord appointed **seventy-two others** (beyond the apostles) and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. Verse 9 **Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’**

Jesus Followers Were Too

- **Mark 16:15–20** And he said to them, “Go into all the world and **proclaim the gospel** to the whole creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs **WILL** accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸ they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; **they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.**” ¹⁹ So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰ And they went out and **preached** everywhere, while **the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.**
- Case Closed! Healing is for today
 - We are believers of the same Jesus
 - No Bible college degree required to understand or a certificate required to practice
 - Why do we keep looking for a way around the clear words of the Bible to excuse our present state of powerlessness
- **Acts 4** A crippled man
- **Acts 5:16** The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were **ALL** healed.

The Bible is Frustratingly Void of Formulas

- Laying on of hand
- Spoken word
- A touch
- Anointing with oil
- Rebuking of unclean spirits -Some sickness is demonic in source
- Cloths and aprons
- Shadows
- Spit
- Washing with water

It's about walking in relationship

Why are we not healed?

- First thing is there are more references to healing than there are attempts to answer why not
 - Spend more time convincing yourself than dwelling on the why not
- No Desire to Get Well

- Jesus asked a lame man 'Do you want to get well?' **John 5:6**
- Has your identity taken root in your condition?
- We Don't Ask
 - **James 4:2** You do not have because you do not ask.
- Dull hearts, hard of hearing, closed eyes
 - **Matthew 13:15, John 12:40**
 - **Acts 28:26–27** ²⁶ “ ‘Go to this people, and say, “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” ²⁷ For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’
- Double Mindedness
 - **James 1:5–8** ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.
 - Not perfect faith but single minded faith
 - We often rest in the back up plan rather than God’s plan to heal
 - **Mark 9:24** ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”
- Sin
 - **James 5:16** Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

#1 Reason - Lack of Faith

Matthew 17:14–20 ¹⁴ And when they came to the crowd, a man came up to him and, kneeling before him, ¹⁵ said, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly. For often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. ¹⁶ And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered, “**O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.**” ¹⁸ And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was healed instantly. ¹⁹ Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁰ He said to them, “***Because of your little faith.*** For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and ***nothing will be impossible for you.***”

Unbelief/ Lack of faith can stop Jesus from working

Matt 13:58 & Mark 6:5 Jesus' Hometown Disadvantage

He did not and could not do mighty works there

Unbelief is associated in that passage with:

- Familiarity
- A diminished view of Jesus' divinity
- Offense

In the Same way you had Faith for Salvation you Can have faith for healing

It's a response to hearing the gospel

1. God Loves you
 - He actually is a good Dad
2. Sin is the Problem
 - Sickness is a result of sins entry into the world in the Garden
 - It's not God's best or His plan
3. Jesus is the Answer
 - **1 Peter 2:24** ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.
4. Faith is the Key
 - **Galatians 3:1–6** O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. ² Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ³ Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? ⁴ Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? ⁵ Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— ⁶ just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?
 - **Romans 4:20–21** No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but **he grew strong** in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.
 - **Hebrews 6:11–12** ¹¹ And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹² so that you

may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through **faith and patience** inherit the promises.

The scriptures are clear...

Jesus Heals

He is healing through His church today

Faith is the key to **receive** the promise

Will we allow experience or the revealed word of God be the final word on healing in and through our lives?

There is so much more we could cover:

Gift of healing

Gift of faith

What now?

James 5:14–18 ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, 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, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.