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Ministry Team Playbook

AN NCCB RESOURCE



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NCCB Ministry Team Playbook



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Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations in this publication are from the Holy Bible, NIV Version The use of selected references from the various versions of the Bible in this publication does not necessarily imply publisher endorsement of the versions in their entirety.

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DIVINE HEALTH IS THE INHERITANCE OF EVERY BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER.

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- Andrew Womack (2002) God Wants You Well.

FOREWORD

This training manual is aimed at being a reference book for the NCCB ministry team. It was based on training conducted at the end of 2021 and has been collated by Claudia & Cameron McGregor, elders and leaders of the NCCB Ministry team. This document is intended for ministry team members and those who have a desire to become a part of what God is doing. To have a playbook for easy referral that reminds us of our values, our model and God's desire to always heal even when we don't feel like it.

Section 01 Foundations Introduction

We live in a time when God is still advancing His kingdom:

- A time when He is still loving and drawing people unto Himself,
- A time when He is still healing and restoring people,
- A time when He is still engaged in signs, wonders and miracles.
- A time when He is still bringing freedom.

Freedom and healing are His wonderful ideas, not ours!

IF WE WANT TO BE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF WHAT GOD IS DOING, WE NEED TO BE REVEALING HIS GOODNESS TO A WATCHING WORLD. THE MIRACULOUS HEALING POWER OF GOD RELEASED INTO A HURTING WORLD IS DOING JUST THAT, POINTING PEOPLE TO HIS GOODNESS.

Mt 10:7-8 Jesus says, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, [a] drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give."

How incredible that He invites us to come alongside Him and be a part of seeing heaven's reality manifest here on earth. God has chosen to partner with His people - there is no plan B, you were born for such a time as this! If we do not step into this, then the blind and deaf are not going to get healed on this earth.

Thank goodness we are not just biding time as believers waiting to go to heaven. Jim Baker jokes if that were the case, we would only need 2 ministries - evangelists and assassins. Evangelists to get us saved and assassins to send us on to heaven. Instead, God has called us to a life filled with purpose and seeing His kingdom established.

As we prepared this training manual there were three key areas the Holy Spirit was highlighting to us.

- Key 1: We felt that the Holy Spirit is wanting to release the priesthood of ALL believers to operate in the supernatural. So many people feel disqualified; maybe because they aren't healed themselves or because they don't know everything there is to know. Or maybe you have just never tried it! The good news is that Jesus is the one who qualifies us - you are not disqualified, healing the sick is for all believers! In fact, Jesus says that to anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. Even greater works than he did we will do to those who believe (John 14:12).
- Key 2: That ministry would never feel like pressure to perform or become a burden. Rather that we would minister from a place of joy! Realising that in our own strength we cannot heal anyone or set them free is rather freeing. We get to partner with God who can and wants to touch people, so we are free to operate from a place of joy.
- Key 3: Holy Spirit is wanting to renew our thinking around what is possible and streamline us into greater effectiveness.

We trust that as you go through this training manual that the Holy Spirit would speak clearly to you and fill you with courage! Jesus has asked us to do the impossible with him. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the leper and open blind eyes - all of which are impossible without the power of the Spirit. As we seek first his Kingdom & his righteousness, we bring forth the kingdom solutions for every problem that we face. Not by might, nor by power, but by the Spirit. Our starting point is always Jesus. Jesus is **PERFECT THEOLOGY.** If we want to know what God's will is, what He wants to do - we can look to the life of Jesus. We clearly see through the life of Jesus that God's will is to bring salvation, restoration, and wholeness to people. He healed everyone who came to him! He also made it clear that this was something for each believer to take hold of.

I think we are all in consensus that it is God's will to save, we see that all over the New Testament. **Rom 10:9** "If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

The word **saved** in this scripture is the Greek word **sozo** and we see this word used over 100 times in the New Testament. When we look at the definition of **sozo** it goes beyond purely salvation. It means to be saved AND healed AND delivered! All 3 are included! So, if we read that verse again - *"If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved, healed, and delivered." God wants us to embrace that in this life we get to live in wholeness, health, and freedom. It's ours. 1 Peter 2:24 tells us that by the wounds of Jesus we were healed. And we get to bring other people into a space where they can experience that too.*

AND THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE - THE ANSWER IS JESUS, AND WE CARRY THE ANSWER AND SOLUTION INTO EVERY SINGLE SITUATION WHICH WE GO! WE CARRY HIM INTO EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE. WE ARE NEVER WITHOUT A SOLUTION. SO WHY DON'T WE SEE MANY SIGNS AND WONDERS IN THE CHURCH TODAY? WHY ARE SO MANY CHRISTIANS LIVING WITH



SICKNESS AND DISEASE?

HINDRANCES TO HEALING

Jesus taught us that there are two things that hinder and shut down the power of the word of God – **1) Unbelief** - think of when he went to minister in Nazareth – he said he could not do many miracles there. **2) The traditions of man**. As humans, we like to complicate things and do them our way.

IT IS POSSIBLE WE MAY HAVE Some thoughts or beliefs that Are hindering the fullness of What god has for US.

The Holy Spirit is wanting to free us up and bring us back to ministering the simplicity of Christ – the good news of the kingdom.

In Mark 8:22-26 (AMP) it tells us see Jesus led the blind man out of his village. A village that was known for its unbelief. He heals the man and then sends him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village."

Why did Jesus tell him not to enter the village? Because unbelief stops up the wells and hinders the supernatural. Do you know that there is such a thing as a believing unbeliever and an unbelieving believer? We want to be believing believers. We want to kill off any wrong thinking that is going to hinder the supernatural in our lives.

Wrong thought 1: Maybe it's just not God's will to heal?

Thoughts include maybe I am *meant* to be sick, maybe healing is just for a select few. We will hear ourselves praying 'Lord if it be your will to heal me' prayers.

If we don't settle this one it is going to be impossible to pray with faith because we will always be doubting whether we are praying something God is on board with. James 4:15 is used as the basis for praying about whether something is God's will. Yet that verse is speaking about making presumptuous plans and not about healing. When it comes to healing God's will is clearly revealed.

Inherently we know that sickness is not right, otherwise we wouldn't go to the doctor or take medicine to feel better. Instead, we would pray prayers asking the Lord for more sickness. Asking for the sickness to last even longer so that we could get maximum benefit from it. We don't ever pray those prayers because we know that they cannot be true. God's will was made evident through Jesus.

Wrong thought 2: Sometimes God chooses not to heal because of some mystery.

And we quote – "His ways are not our ways" we conclude that God therefore chooses not to heal some people. Yet Isaiah 55:8-12 speaks about Israel who were unrepentant not about the New Testament believer. Jesus never demonstrated an inability to heal because of some mystery. We never see Jesus saying, "I don't know why I couldn't heal them, it must be a mystery!"

He made full payment for the victory over **every** sickness and disease 2000 years ago. That transaction was paid **in full**. Why would God now choose not to heal some people?

Wrong thought 3: I am a special exception.

But you don't understand my story.... We don't need to! The word of God still applies to you! Do not let people convince you that they are the exception and cannot be healed.

Wrong thought 4: It might not be God's timing for me to be healed.

The right time was when people came to Jesus. He called that faith. Jesus **never** postponed a healing in the name of timing! He never sent someone away saying can you come back in 2 weeks?



Jesus never said, "Sorry I am not feeling like it's the time for you to be healed or I am not being led to heal you right now." In the same way we do not need a leading or feeling when we have a command – heal the sick! Jesus never turned someone away who came to him. We never see Jesus asking the Father – what about this person Father, is it okay if I heal them?

Wrong thought 5: Healing is not for today and miracles passed away with the last apostle.

Throughout church history there have been documented accounts of miraculous healing. God is still healing today. For those who would like to do a more in-depth study of cessationism, Professor Jack Deere from Dallas Seminary explores this area in his book 'Surprised by the Power of the Spirit'.

Wrong thought 6: The reason you are not healed is because of (insert own reason)

Jesus never asked the people he prayed for to jump through hoops to receive their healing. Or to check off a list of to-dos. Legalism adds conditions to faith. No religious act, work or tradition needs to be followed before you can be healed.

Some people struggle to receive healing when they feel that they are responsible for the issue. So, drug addicts may feel that they are not worthy of healing because they willingly partook initially. Psalm 107 v20 says 'He sent His word and healed them, and rescued them from their destruction. God can and is willing to heal people even when they have been a participant and made poor choices.

Wrong thought 7: God is allowing this sickness to teach me something.

Maybe we think God is allowing this sickness to allow us to be a bit more like Jesus. Unfortunately, Jesus was never sick and isn't sick now. So how is that making me more like Jesus? Jesus never put sickness on a person, nor did he

leave sickness on anyone He ministered to. The thief (Satan) comes to steal, kill & destroy (John 10v10); Jesus has come that we might have life and life in abundance!

If we believe that sickness teaches us a lesson, what have you learnt? My guess is probably that you don't want to be sick anymore. Nobody learns well when they are sick.

Sometimes we think God is allowing the sickness to test or discipline the person. There is no verse in the New Testament requiring someone to pass a test before Jesus could heal them. Jesus didn't say: 'You must complete the quiz and balance on one leg and then you will be healed.' He never said to anyone that He could not heal them now because they were still in the middle of learning a lesson. God is good and He healed both the righteous and unrighteous without discriminating between them.

Wrong thought 8: Sickness is for God's Glory

In John 9 we see the story of the man born blind. The disciples ask Jesus whether the man was blind because his parents had sinned or because the man had sinned. Jesus responds neither! Rather that God's glory might be revealed through the man. Here is the part that we can miss – at this exact moment Jesus heals the man. He does not leave him blind! Now if the man being blind was what was bringing God glory, then Jesus would not have healed the man, he would have left him blind!

Sometimes it's easier to live in the space of spiritual poverty and less than what Jesus paid for. And we then say it's all for His glory. He doesn't however glory in our sickness - His glory is in our restoration. Cancer, sickness & disease of any kind are not blessings in disguise. Even if you find Jesus in that time, please do not mistake that for God's will or that it came from Him.

Jesus never reveals a purpose for sickness, he never hesitates to heal.

Wrong thought 9: God is allowing this disease because He is sovereign & exercises absolute control.

Well maybe God didn't cause the sickness, but he allows it because of His sovereign will on earth. Yes, He is Sovereign (independent, supreme rank /power) – but there's a difference between being in *control* and being in *charge*. One just needs to look at the world to see that God's will is not being done on the earth completely. People still do unspeakable evil to others.

If we believe that everything is out of our control and unchangeable then why do anything? Why pray, why have faith, why hope for anything? It wouldn't then matter what you do, the outcome will not change.

Instead, God moved in his sovereignty by sending us with all authority and giving us his Spirit to partner with Him. We are co-heirs and co-operators in redemption. God isn't allowing sickness, we as the church are allowing sickness.

Wrong thought 10: I am not healed because I don't have enough faith.

ALL YOU NEED IS BIBLICAL MUSTARD SEED CHILDLIKE FAITH -WHICH IS PLENTY! WHERE DOES FAITH COME FROM — "FAITH COMES BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD". (ROMANS

10:17). KENNETH HAGIN SAYS WE NEED TO KEEP HEARING AND HEARING AND HEARING THE WORD OF GOD TO STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH. NOTE THE CONTINUOUS "-ING" THAT DENOTES PRESENT TENSE, WE NEED TO CONTINUE HEARING AND NOT ADOPT AN ATTITUDE OF 'OH WELL I HAVE HEARD THIS ALL BEFORE.'

In summary, there is no hindrance to healing unless you believe there is! However, we must want to renew our minds and get so clear that this is God's will, and He is 100% for people getting saved, healed, and delivered.

INVITATION TO THE FEAST

The starting place for any kind of ministry is a relationship with God. Anything born of works or outside of intimacy with Him will be illegitimate. For God so loved the world. And He SO loves me, and He SO loves you. His invitation to us is that we would encounter the adventure of His incredible love for ourselves and feast on all that he has to offer. That we would not be continually pouring out a feast of His love and kindness to others at the expense of receiving the feast He has prepared for us. We don't want to be a people who burnout because we have nothing left to give. We are choosing to receive what He has for us first, so that we can minister from a place of overflow. He not only knows your name and the number of hairs on your head, but He lavishly loves you. He has countless thoughts towards me that are loving and good and kind and patient. {Ps 139:17-18}

It's hard for us to tell other people about how good God is, how kind He is, how close and involved He is if we are not experiencing that firsthand for ourselves. We can't give what we haven't received. We don't just want people to come and get a generic prayer, we want them to encounter the love of God. I know there are some of you thinking that's great, but let's skip to the good stuff. But without this foundation, the good stuff won't be good for long, and it won't bear lasting fruit.

We want you to ask yourself this question – "What are people getting when I minister to them?"- are they getting a rote prayer, are they getting head knowledge or are they getting an impartation. We may know a lot, but we can only impart what we have received for ourselves. We would like to be able to impart the peace of God to those who are anxious, the love of God to those who are feeling alone and hurting. We want them to have a tangible encounter with Him because its overflowing from us.

What else happens when we find ourselves in the presence of the Lord? There's a softening that happens in our own hearts. We feel loved and safe. When we encounter people, in the same way that we are encountered by our Father, they begin to feel safe and loved and it allows a space for their hearts to soften to what God is wanting to do.

MINISTERING FROM JOY AND FREEDOM

Freely you have received, freely give. The order is important, first we receive and then we give. We don't need to perform! We don't have to make a miracle happen, thank goodness because we can't. We can minister from rest and joy because we carry Jesus, and He carries the solution. We don't have to make things happen, we get the privilege of partnering with God and allowing Him to do the work

When healing happens, we know it's God who did the work. But then equally so if we don't see healing

take place, we also don't carry this burden or sense of failure. Our response is to go back to God and ask Him for more revelation of His goodness and the price He paid.

Too many people burn out from the pressure, we want to build sustainability and longevity in our team. This story from Randy Clark is so helpful in providing perspective around this area.

A LESSON FROM JOHN WIMBER

"So I (Randy Clark) went to this Methodist Church in Texas, and I was a Baptist pastor at the time in 1984 and I made four or five trips to Texas to see John and follow him around that year trying to learn. And he said just follow me around and then when you are done ask me questions. So I am following him around and this first night, in a big Methodist Church, every person he prayed for, got healed, bar none, everybody he prayed for no matter what it was, they got healed. I was so excited. I said who would not want to do this if this were so exciting!

But the next night, same church. Every person they prayed for, not one got healed. Now I do not know if that ever happened again. Maybe it was just for me that God set this up, I do not know. So, on the way after it's over, I'm following John and I said John, I got a question! He turned and said let me tell you what your question is. I said OK. He said you want to know why everybody got healed last night and nobody got healed tonight? That is your question, isn't it? I said, 'Yes, that is my question!'. And he looked at me and he spoke. 'You still do not get it.' And I remember saying obviously not, because I didn't get it. But what he said in this night of failure was so encouraging to me.

He said, "I didn't have any more faith last night than I have tonight. And I don't have any more sin in my life tonight than I had last night. Last night people got in front of me and I said, come Holy Spirit, stuck my fat hand out, blessed whatever I felt God was doing, and everybody got healed and I didn't go to bed thinking I was a great man of God.



And tonight. People got in front of me. I stuck my hand out and said come Holy spirit and tried to bless what I thought might be happening and nobody got healed. But I'm not going to bed tonight feeling like a great failure of God. I did the same thing both nights. The rest was God. I am just going to go to bed, I am going to go to sleep. And tomorrow I'm going to get out of bed, and we are going to do it again." That changed my life. That perspective of how real it was, this is what the ministry is...

It is like obedience, showing up, praying, knowing you cannot do anything, but God can. But in that realisation, it does create this hunger. I've got to hear from God, you want to learn from God. You want to learn about the ways of God."

WHEN WE MAKE THE FOCUS **RESULTS DRIVEN – HEALING DRIVEN, AND WE FORGET THAT** LOVE IS THE HIGHER GOAL HERE, WE CAN EASILY STEP INTO A **PERFORMANCE MENTALITY. THEN WE BEGIN TO THINK THE POWER** WE WALK IN IS BECAUSE OF HOW MUCH WE READ OUR BIBLES AND **FASTED AND PRAYED. WHILST** THOSE ARE GOOD THINGS IN THEIR **OWN RIGHT, IT'S SIMPLY NOT** TRUE. WE NEED TO BE CAUTIOUS THAT OUR IDENTITY IS NOT IN OUR **DOING BUT IN OUR BEING - WHO** HE HAS MADE US TO BE. THEN NO MATTER THE OUTCOME, WE WILL **CONTINUE TO PRESS IN.**

Section 02 The Ministry Team In Operation

Core Values of the Ministry Team:

We believe that our ministry team should carry a heart for people and for our city. These are the values that we would like our team to carry:

- A team of people who believe it is always God's will to heal.
- Who operate in the realm of impossibility.
- Who are wildly in love with God.
- People who are prepared to risk for His glory, not according to a formula.
- Who minister from an overflow of intimacy with God.
- People who believe the answer in Jesus is bigger than any problem. Helping people to encounter the finished work of the Cross that is seeing people saved, healed, and delivered.
- Who see themselves as sons & daughters of a King, bringing heaven to earth.
- Who know the light in us is greater than darkness out there. (What is easier to do - shout and scream at the darkness out there, or turn the light on?).
- A people who are prepared to give up their reputation and give God the full glory.
- It is a team who have a desire to bring people into an experience with The Father's love and with Holy Spirit - our comforter and encourager.
- Who love people well by honouring & respecting them always. It says we can perform mighty miracles but if it is not from a place of love, we have achieved nothing, we have missed it!

What the Ministry Team is NOT:

- All about you. It's not a platform for you to become famous or push your own way of ministering. This is a place to serve and love people in humility and it's about Jesus. You need to be willing to submit to leadership and follow the guidelines for ministry that we are laying down in the training. A fitting example of this was shared by Jim Baker: "Thinking that someone got healed because of you and what you did is like the donkey riding into Jerusalem with Jesus on his back and thinking everyone is clapping for me." God gets the glory!
- Not the place where we preach at people.
- Nor do we rebuke or correct them.
- A space to give specific directional words like, "You're going to move to Canada in February." See the section on prophetic guidelines. Rather let direction and correction go through the eldership team.
- Finding and exposing people's sin.
- A counselling ministry. If needed, you can refer them to their connect group leaders or an eldership couple for deeper ministry.
- This is not about you having to make something happen and perform.

What qualifies us to Minister?

You may not feel qualified to be laying hands on the sick and seeing the power of God flow through you. You might look at your history and think how is it possible, but that is exactly it.

GOD IS NOT LOOKING FOR PERFECT PEOPLE, BUT FOR THE RIGHTEOUS AND AS RANDY CLARK SAYS "GOD DOES NOT CALL THE QUALIFIED HE QUALIFIES THE CALLED" (POWER TO HEAL 2015). IT IS THE POWER OF JESUS' BLOOD AND WORK ON THE CROSS THAT ALLOWS US TO BE RIGHTEOUS.

Mark 16: 17 "And these signs will **accompany those who believe**: *In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."*

The qualification is that you are a **believer**. There are many other helpful things we can add to that list like being baptized in the Spirit. Yet Jesus listed just one - believing in Him was the prerequisite.

Healing the sick is for the priesthood of ALL believers. The supernatural should overflow and leak out from the lives of believers. Ministering to the sick and hurting is not relegated to a Sunday morning only or to being on a team. Praying for the sick should be a very 'normal' part of our daily lives as we encounter a hurting and lost world.

No Formula to Healing

Ministering healing is not a technique or a ritual you follow - we need to be sensitive to God's voice and His leading. Jesus ministered in a variety of ways. He did not stick to a set script. We do not want to be driven by formulas- that is what witchcraft does. It takes the supernatural and reduces it into formulas. We are consistent in our character and our values, but we are flexible in our administration. We want to be Spirit-led which is dynamic in nature. You may pray for the same sickness in 2 people in 2 vastly diverse ways. And Jesus modelled that so beautifully.

When Jesus healed those who were blind, we see him telling one man to go wash, to another he speaks a word. He asks two if they believe that he can heal them. We also see Him making mud and applying it to eyes. The result was healing from blindness for all, yet no specific methodology was followed.

IT IS VITAL THAT WE LEAN NOT ON OUR OWN UNDERSTANDING BUT PRESS INTO THE HOLY SPIRIT EVERY TIME WE MINISTER.

Creating an Atmosphere of Honour

We want the people we minister to, to be met by the Father – He is genuinely happy to see them because He is always in a good mood! He is always loving; His tone of voice is always kind. That's what people should get from us. Chris Gore says, 'seriousness is not a fruit of the Spirit.' (Galatians 5:22) and we agree!

We want to create a space that's joy filled and where people feel safe and loved. It takes vulnerability to come up and ask for prayer. We want to honour that step of faith and the person. We don't honour the sickness or disease or burden, but we do honour and love the person.

We want to focus on what is the answer that Jesus has for them, because He is always bigger than the problem they have.

WE WANT TO BE CAREFUL THAT WE DON'T WANT TO SPEND TOO MUCH TIME TALKING ABOUT THE PROBLEM! GET A BRIEF SYNOPSIS. OTHERWISE, YOUR FAITH WILL BE LIKE A DEFLATING BALLOON.

Ask the Holy Spirit how He wants to minister to this person. He knows what they need! We then want to pray redemptive prayers that speak to the answer, not the problem.

The people you are ministering to need to know that *healing is not dependent on how good or worthy* they are of receiving. You are not healed because you are good or bad but because Jesus loves you andwants to heal you.

We **never want to shame people or accuse** them because that's what the enemy is already doing. Release the opposite spirit. Release peace where there is fear. The fruit of the Spirit are weapons because the enemy does not have any of them. Sometimes if we just remain patient, the enemy will just give up because he has no patience.

Creating an Atmosphere of Faith

We want to create an atmosphere of faith and expectation in the people we are ministering to. A place where we believe that nothing is impossible and that everything has been paid for by the blood of Jesus. Past tense. We are here to redeem what has been paid for. We pray from a place of victory, not for victory, we are on the winning team because Jesus is bigger than the problem.

If you know of a testimony of healing for that specific thing - share it so you can boost the person's faith that God is able to heal them. It says the prayers of a righteous man are powerful and effective. So, we need to have confidence that *every time* we pray something happens. We never see Jesus telling his disciples what to do if your prayers are unanswered. Why? Because He was confident that His prayers were always answered.

Chris Gore says it another way: "*it's impossible to pray and have nothing happen*". You may not see what's happening, but something is happening. People are coming for prayer because they are wanting a supernatural encounter. Let's not meet them with a natural encounter. This isn't the space for counselling or wise advice, potions or lotions. Recognise what may be a conversation over a coffee versus a ministry moment.

Once we have prayed for the person, we should always ask them to check it out if they can. Many times, people get healed as they begin to activate their own faith and test out the problem area. Did they feel anything happening, has anything changed, do they feel any different? Can they move a part they couldn't before, is their pain less? This is where their faith really gets engaged because it requires action on their part.

What happens when I have prayed and asked them to test it and they can'tsee a change? Pray another time and this time focus on praying some declarations of healing over the person. Then check again if they are feeling anything happening. If there is any change at all we want to focus in on what God **is** doing, moving into a space of thanksgiving. It puts the focus on what God is doing and takes the focus off what is not happening which can really squash faith. Even if nothing appears to be happening right now, when our goal is for them to experience the love of the Father, we can't fail because His love never fails (1 Cor 13:8).

Often times what happens is that a person may have come up for one thing, but God is doing something else so be mindful of other areas the Lord may be speaking into.



Expectation

As we begin to see God breaking through in the little, it starts to build some faith and expectation. We want to keep coming with expectancy and growing in that expectation! That not only is God present, but He is also working in our lives. Not presumption! Rather a healthy expectation because we know it is His will to see people restored and walking in wholeness.

How Do We Pray?

We pray from heaven to earth as sons and

daughters, not from earth to heaven as orphans. Orphans must beg – please do something, please give us food. We don't have to beg God or plead with Him for that which is already His will – He has already shown us His will. We pray from a place of abundance, and we have the backing of heaven.

If we think it's our prayers that heal, we'll probably pray a long time. It's not actually our prayers that heal people. Jesus Christ is the Healer! So why do we spend so long praying for someone? It's usually because we don't have the confidence that God is going to heal the person. Pray shorter prayers and then ask them to check it out if they can. Ask them if they feel anything happening. Again, not formula driven – we can pray with someone for extended periods of time if the Holy Spirit is leading us to, but the prayers need to be faith filled!

How long do you carry on for if nothing appears to be happening?

Again, we want to be Spirit led. But when you find yourself trying to make it happen and feeling the burden to try harder or strive then stop. If there is still joy and you are feeling to continue that's fine but just be aware of whether the person wants to stay and pray for an extended time.

How do we end a time of ministry?

It is obvious but if they are healed - you can stop. If they are not obviously healed, you don't want to go "Oh well better luck next time". No, you want to encourage them to continue to have faith and not overly focus on the symptoms. Just because they still have symptoms does not mean that healing is not taking place.

MIRACLES TEND TO BE INSTANT; HEALING CAN OFTEN BE PROGRESSIVE. MANY TIMES, THE HEALING CAN TAKE PLACE AS PEOPLE SLEEP OR OVER A FEW DAYS OR WEEKS EVEN. WE DON'T WANT THEM TO LEAVE DISHEARTENED, WE WANT TO KEEP THEM IN A PLACE OF FAITH AS THEY GO.

We want to encourage people to keep pressing in for healing. Like the woman with the issue of blood pressed into the crowd. That **whilst** they are waiting for a complete healing, encourage them to get into the word to build their faith; and to keep coming back for prayer because we want to stand with them and contend for their breakthrough.

Practical Tips for Ministering

- It's usually helpful for them to close their eyes. But helpful for us to not close our eyes. We need to see when God is doing something.
- We don't need to shout at people or speak loudly. We want to protect and honour the person. Even if there is a demon manifesting! Authority is authority whether it's whispered or shouted. We don't need to shout.
 - Please don't push people over.
 - Always check if it's okay to lay hands on them.
 - Please don't tell them to stop taking their medication or not listen to their doctor.
 - People may share some very personal information with you please keep that info confidential unless they are criminal acts in which case find an elder and get them involved.

- It's always a good idea to minister to people of the same gender, otherwise grab someone to pray with you or to take over.
- Think to yourself would I like someone to pray over me or minister to me in this way. Please give the person your full attention when you are praying for them. Don't be looking around and waving to people or looking at your phone.
- It's helpful to think practically about what clothing you would be comfortable ministering in. You don't want to be held back from ministering fully because you don't feel comfortable kneeling to pray for someone's knee or foot.
- Have fun!

LOVING PEOPLE WELL

HOW DO WE BECOME EXCELLENT IN LOVING PEOPLE? IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT LOVE IS ALWAYS THE HIGHER GOAL AS WE SEE IN THE LETTER TO CORINTHIANS:

1 Cor 13: 1-7 then v8 (TPT) If I were to speak with eloquence in earth's many languages, and in the heavenly tongues of angels, yet I did not express myself with love, my words would be reduced to the hollow sound of nothing more than a clanging cymbal. 2And if I were to have the gift of prophecy with a profound understanding of God's hidden secrets, and if I possessed unending supernatural knowledge, and if I had the greatest gift of faith that could move mountains, but have never learned to love, then I am nothing.

3 And if I were to be so generous as to give away everything, I owned to feed the poor, and to offer my body to be burned as a martyr, without the pure motive of love, I would gain nothing of value.

4 Love is large and incredibly patient. Love is gentle and consistently kind to all. It refuses to be jealous" when blessing comes to someone else. Love does not brag about one's achievements nor inflate its own importance. 5Love does not traffic in shame and disrespect, nor selfishly seek its own honour. Love is not easily irritated or quick to take offense. 1 6Love joyfully celebrates honesty and finds no delight in what is wrong. 7Love is a safe place of shelter, for it never stops believing the best for others. 13:7 Or "it never loses faith." Love never takes failure as defeat, for it never gives up. 8 Love never stops loving. It extends beyond the gift of prophecy, which eventually fades away. It is more enduring than tongues, which will one day fall silent. Love remains long after words of knowledge are forgotten.

Love extends long after words of knowledge are forgotten. People will forget how you prayed but they will remember whether they were loved well.

1 Cor 13:13 (TPT) Until then there are 3 things that remain – faith, hope and love. Yet love surpasses them all. So primarily let love be the beautiful prize for which you run.' We want to bring all three - **faith, hope and love** when we minister.

DO WE WANT TO SEE GREATER BREAKTHROUGH? THEN WE NEED TO LOVE PEOPLE WELL.

When we can be trusted with people's hearts the Father can trust us with more. People should come away from our time having experienced some of the good news of Jesus – that it is not about us trying harder or being better. Its Him who brings the breakthrough, and His grace is sufficient for us. We want to take the focus off us and off the person and the story they are telling themselves and direct our eyes to Jesus.

COMPASSION VS. SYMPATHY

Jesus ministered from compassion when he saw people who were sick and oppressed. Compassion means "to suffer together" or a feeling followed by an appropriate action. He desired to restore them to a place of wholeness (Matthew 14:14 and Matthew 20:34).

COMPASSION IS CENTRED AROUND KNOWING THE ANSWER AND WHEN YOU KNOW THE ANSWER YOU CAN MOVE PEOPLE AWAY FROM THE PROBLEM.

When we are problem focused and spending more time focusing on the problem, we tend to move into sympathy. Sympathy, instead of pulling us towards the answer, pulls us into the circumstances and the hopelessness etc that are in that space. We want to walk in compassion not sympathy because Jesus really is bigger than any problem and He has given us, you and I, the authority.

MINISTERING TO CHILDREN PRAYING FOR KIDS CAN BE SUCH A JOY- THEY HAVE SUCH SIMPLE FAITH, AND THEY TAKE WHAT YOU ARE SAYING AS THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH!

How do we minister to children? Does it just look the same as the way we minister to adults? It is not a one size fits all! When we pray for children, they may not necessarily be comfortable with being prayed for by standing and raising their hands.

We want to create a space for them where they can receive from God and feel safe. It is often as simple as getting down to their level. It can be quite intimidating for kids if this big person is towering over them.

Be aware that children can be quite wary of strangers and people they do not know especially if they are between the ages of 6 months and 3.5 years old. Do not take it personally. You may just want to sit down and let them sit on their mom or dad's lap and you can sit next to them. We prefer parents to be present when younger children are being prayed for. Ask the child their name and pray for them by name. Think of the words you are using - If you are using words like fire in your prayers for the 3–7-year-olds, their imaginations are ticking over! They are imagining all sorts of things being on fire and they may become fearful. **So be aware of the words that you use and rather keep it simple.**

For the slightly older kids you really can engage them and their faith. Share testimonies of similar conditions being healed, often they will have never heard those. They may still think they are the only one with that condition! And ask them what they would like to be prayed for because sometimes they have different ideas to their parents.

MINISTERING TO PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

Again, if the person is in a wheelchair or needing to sit, try and get on their level. It is easier to hear what they are saying and see what is happening. Always ask the person what they would like prayer for. They may not be coming for ministry for the thing that looks the most obvious to you.

There has been a massive shift away from calling people by the name of their disability or condition worldwide. For example, you wouldn't say – this person is autistic, or he's Downs syndrome. You would say a person with autism or a person with Downs syndrome. Personally, we love the fact that it separates the person from the condition because that's what we want to do anyway. The condition is not their identity! Let's call out the Father's identity in them.



WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE What are they?

1 Cor 12:8 "To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit"

The passage above speaks about some receiving words of wisdom and words of knowledge. These words carry information that we wouldn't otherwise know naturally. It's something that's been supernaturally revealed to us that reveals the will of God. They can be answers to problems even in contexts like business or health. Some ground-breaking interventions have come from words of knowledge! In the area of healing these words point to God highlighting certain conditions and issues that He wants people to find breakthrough in.

What do words of knowledge do?

These words build faith in both the person praying and in the person being prayed for. People feel known by God and drawn into His invitation to receive breakthrough especially when words are highly specific. They reveal the Father's heart to unfold His glory.

How do you receive words of knowledge?

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas where He is wanting to heal or bring breakthrough. Words of knowledge usually come in one of the following ways & dont be put off if they come across in a strange manner:

1 Feel them in your body – you experience a pain that is not your pain. You may suddenly notice strange aches and pains in your body that were not there before. Sometimes these pains can be very quick and then gone, other times they may linger for a while. Usually if we acknowledge that there is suddenly pain in our left knee that was not there before and we ask the Holy Spirit to lift it off, if it is a word of knowledge they will typically lift quickly. Randy Clark very wisely reminds us that as we get older there are naturally more aches and pains in our body. So if this is your primary means of receiving words of knowledge, allow the Lord to also grow you into receiving these words in other ways as well.

- 2 Think them an impression/thought from the Holy Spirit that comes to you. E.g. I once had this phrase 'playing with fire' enter my thoughts at a gathering. A few weeks later one of the businessmen messaged to say that word had been for him. He was about to sign a contract that he wasn't sure about. After hearing that word, he felt God tell him not to sign the contract and a year later the other company was exposed for corrupt dealings. He was thankful to God for those three words!
- See them A mental picture. An example of this I was once ministering to a boy and I saw the picture of a Sheriff's badge. He started laughing and asking if I knew, I didn't! Turns out his surname was Sheriff.
 - Bethel shares a testimony of a child who drew a picture of a dinosaur eating a crab in their healing rooms. The boy felt to give it to a German gentleman who had come for prayer. This man had been diagnosed with terminal cancer and the word in German for cancer sounds just like crabs. Here was this crab being eaten by something so much bigger and more powerful! The man was completely healed!
- Say them You may hear yourself saying something you didn't intend to say. At times in conversation, you find yourself saying something very unexpected. Suddenly the tears start flowing because it has really spoken deeply to them and gotten straight to the heart of the issue.
- 5 Taste them The other day unexpectedly and for maybe 5 seconds I tasted cigarette smoke in my mouth. I am not a smoker but had tried it a few times at school many years ago. The taste was so vivid and then it was gone just like that. I felt the Holy Spirit say that He was wanting to heal someone of a cigarette addiction. Pay attention to those out of the ordinary moments and engage the Holy Spirit to see if He is wanting to reveal something to you!

6 Smell them – a familiar smell may lead you to be aware of a word of knowledge.

Words of knowledge can also be experienced. Don't be put off if they come across in a strange manner:

- **Dream them** You may dream specifics about a situation. Randy Clark shares testimonies of these ministers in Mozambique. He asked these gentlemen who have raised several people from the dead how they receive their words of knowledge and they said they normally dream them.
- 8 Emotionally feel them. For example, I have been in a shop before just going about my grocery shopping and upon turning into an aisle was overwhelmed with despair and hopelessness. I knew it was not from me, because in the earlier aisle I had felt hopeful and at peace. We can also discern spiritual atmospheres in a similar way so be mindful of that and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance to know which one it is, so that you know what to do.

How do we give words of knowledge?

- Humility is a safe place! E.g. 'I think I may have a word of knowledge. This may be wrong, but I had this feeling that ...x,y,z... may be something you are struggling with. Does that mean anything to you?' It takes faith to step out in obedience and faith when you only have a small snippet.
- Try to keep it as simple as possible and do not give too much detail or interpret too much. Especially when you are just starting with these words. As you grow you may hear more specifics.
- We need feedback to grow in this area as we step out there will be some trial and error but in going after feedback we begin to learn, and He may begin to reveal himself in other ways to us.

GUIDELINES FOR PROPHETIC

For most of us we know that there is good prophecy, and we know that there is a thing called false prophecy. But somewhere on that spectrum there is also poor prophecy. Sometimes we can get false prophecy and poor prophecy muddled up. False prophecy has an element of deception and manipulation to it. It is often to create a certain outcome that serves an agenda.

BUT SOMETIMES THE WORDS THAT WE GIVE PEOPLE CAN JUST FALL INTO THE SPACE OF POOR PROPHECY -PROPHETIC WORDS ARE FILTERED THROUGH OUR OWN HEARTS AND MINDS FIRST AND SO IF THESE FILTERS ARE A BIT MUDDIED THEN THE WORDS WE SHARE WILL BE COMING THROUGH THOSE FILTERS.

What muddies our filters – bitterness, resentment, jealousy, unforgiveness...So we need to prioritise keeping those wells pure. Proverbs says – guard your heart, for from it flows all the matters of life. We want to minister out of pure hearts with integrity, and be teachable, because we want to love God's beloved well!

Very often the prophetic gifting comes alongside the healing gifts. God loves to speak to His children and to encourage them so be open to what He is saying, even when we are ministering physical healing! **1 Cor 14:3** "But one who prophesies strengthens others, encourages them, and comforts them."

Whenever you are feeling to give a prophetic word to somebody, we want you to

'Take a S.E.C.'

And ask yourself-Is this going to *Strengthen*, *Encourage* and *Comfort* the person?

Would I like to get this encouragement? How can I share this word in a way that the person will feel loved and known?

We want to grow in not only **what** we say but also **how** we give words.

TONE MATTERS — IF I AM Shouting 'the father loves you' you are not likely to feel loved in that moment! In fact, you may even feel like he is angry with you. The tone should match the word.

If you feel like you have a revelatory or directional word. E.g. If you are going to be suggesting to someone to move to another country etc. Those are weighty words that need to be stewarded well with integrity and accountability. We should not rush into sharing words like that. If you feel like you have a word like that for somebody, then we ask that you spend time praying about it and then we ask that you run it via the eldership team first to protect you and those involved.

In these ministry times we are also not wanting to give words of correction. Take this testimony for example. 'Many years ago I was going through a tough time and feeling quite distant from God. I knew my attitude was not great. We were invited to a worship event somewhere and a well-known prophet walked up to me. I braced myself in the moment for a rebuke - but instead he took my hands and prophesied one line over me about my future. No rebuke. I deserved a rebuke but instead God met me with His goodness and kindness. And do you know what happened? My attitude instantly shifted, and I repented. When I saw the bigger picture, I came into agreement with what God was speaking.' Our Father is kind and redemptive. When we are deserving of a rebuke, instead of meeting us with shame and accusations He loves to meet us with his goodness and kindness.

If the Holy Spirit is showing you a weakness or sin issue in a person's life, maybe it's that they are bitter or they have a problem with lust; that is really the starting point for something redemptive! We don't want to stay in that place and expose the person's weaknesses or sin. E.g. God showed me you are bitter! We always go higher and ask, 'Father, what is your redemptive word for this person?' We have always found He has one - **every time!** The enemy loves to accuse, expose and shame people. But love covers over a multitude of sins.

GOD IS SPEAKING A FUTURE AND A HOPE, HE IS SPEAKING IDENTITY TO HIS PEOPLE AND THOSE THINGS THAT WE SEE ON THEM BEGIN <u>TO</u> FALL OFF THE PEOPLE AS THEY GET A GLIMPSE OF HIS KINDNESS AND WHO HE HAS MADE THEM TO BE.

CASTING OUT DEMONS

The enemy wants us to focus on the person being ministered to in their current state and he paints a picture of hopelessness. He wants us to intimidate us, but when we ask God for a picture of the person restored and in freedom it is easy to speak to that.

Freedom is a beautiful thing. These are not just stories that were from Bible times. People are still getting set free today. It is an incredible thing to see people who have been set free from the demonic go on to have lives they may not otherwise have had. To get married, have children, start businesses, walk into the fullness of their destinies.

WE WANT TO ASK GOD FOR A PICTURE OF THESE PEOPLE WALKING IN FREEDOM, SO WE DON'T GIVE UP!

As children of the King we have an inheritance in the kingdom. Co-ruling and co-reigning, bringing the Kingdom of Heaven on to Earth; bringing Kingdom light into a system of darkness.

Mt 8:16 "When evening came, they brought many to him who we're under the power of demons and he cast out the evil spirits **with a word** and restored to health all who were sick."

Acts 5:16 says, "Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil spirits, and all of them were healed."

It does not matter if the demon is in the person, on them, or simply afflicting them, and some people have different beliefs on these, but the goal and outcome should always be the same:

TO GENUINELY LOVE THE PERSON, TO INTRODUCE THEM TO THE



FATHER'S HEART, AND TO HAVE THEM SET FREE!

We are not looking for demons when we pray for people. Never just assume that there is something demonic going on with a person. Sometimes as you are praying it may become clear that there is something demonic going on and sometimes the person will start behaving in a certain way that we call manifesting. Now some people can have strange movements when the Holy Spirit touches them and so we always want to ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom as to what is happening.

Practical Tips for setting people free from the demonic:

- Demons desire as much attention as they can get, often causing a scene, but they are not worthy of our attention. You can command them to submit and be quiet in Jesus' name. Since the person is our focus, if possible, take them to a private place where the demon does not have the opportunity to publicly embarrass them. The enemy wants to humiliate them, but we want to protect the person.
- Simple deliverance can be put like this

"SHUT UP AND GET OUT IN JESUS NAME."

- Talk to the person and find out his/her name. Do not talk to the demon, we do not need to know their testimony of darkness. If the demon talks to you, simply tell it to be quiet and that you want to talk to the person. Get the person's attention and eye contact. We are not the 'Demon Resources Department' wanting to interview the demon.
- Look them in the face and give them a Father's blessing – e.g. You are the beloved; you are fearfully and wonderfully made in His image.
- Affirm who they are and what they were created for. We need to get back to understanding our identity. Tell them who they are. You are chosen, you are dearly

loved, you are created for a purpose. You will never free someone by shaming or embarrassing them.

- Do not speak to the darkness They are already hearing the negative, do not reinforce the lies of the enemy and accusations he is throwing at them.
- Christ came to DESTROY the works of the devil and defeated him when He rose from the dead. We should live out of that truth.
- The only power a demon has in my life is what I am willing to give it.

EPHESIANS 4:27 SAYS DO NOT GIVE THE DEVIL A FOOTHOLD.

- The word 'give' means you had it to start with, otherwise you would not be able to give it. We do not want to let him have any space in our lives.

How do we give the enemy space - it is ONLY through agreement!

- When the spirit of Truth comes it often shifts a person's agreements and as they come into alignment with what God is saying about them, the agreement is broken and the enemy needs to shift. You can rebuke the darkness all day or you can just switch on the light. The truth shall set people free.
- We are not fighting with the devil. There
 is no need to raise your voice since you are
 speaking to the person and not the demon.
 Sometimes it's as simple as saying 'you
 can go now this person never needs you
 again!' Simply turn on the light!

AUTHORITY IS AUTHORITY. WE NEED TO ACT LIKE WHO WE REALLY ARE. WE DO NOT NEED TO WRESTLE WITH STUFF THAT IS ALREADY DEFEATED.

Understanding our authority is vital! Michael Dalton shared this testimony:

A friend of his who was a pastor had an issue where his daughter was being troubled by demonic spirits. They would play with her in the house and despite the dad's best prayers they would not leave. So he asked his friend Michael to come at 16:00 on the Monday to see if he could help. On Monday he arrives at their door and his friend says to him, 'strangest thing it seems like the spirits are gone'. When they ask the little girl about it she replies: 'Yes, they left this morning, they said they heard the man coming at 4pm has the authority to send them away." She then asks, 'Daddy why did you not have the same authority?'

Michael Dalton went on to say,

'THEY (THE DEMONS) KNOW I DON'T MESS AROUND; I DON'T JUST TELL THEM TO LEAVE A PERSON ALONE, I TELL THEM TO LEAVE MY CITY AND TO NEVER RETURN.' WE REALLY NEED TO GRASP THAT ALL AUTHORITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO US! WE ARE NOT POWERLESS! WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN FULL AUTHORITY AND IT'S TIME WE STEP UP AND SEE FREEDOM IN OUR CITY!

2 Cor 10:3 "for though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵ We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God and take every thought captive to obey Christ."

Breaking down strongholds

Strongholds can exist in our lives but we can be unaware of them. They often go under the radar until we begin to grow. So if we are seeing these come to the surface, it is often because we are growing in that area. We can think of strongholds as a structure made from bricks, those bricks can be either truth or lies that we have believed. The enemy comes at us with a lie and if we agree with it, then that lie is given permission to remain e.g. I am stupid, I am useless, I always fail. I can never do.... And over time if we keep believing those lies whether it is a lie about yourself or a situation or another person, then he has built himself a stronghold in that area. And often when there are strongholds it attracts the demonic. It does not mean the demon is in the person, it just means there is an element of demonic influence over that area of thinking because they have your ear in certain spaces of thinking. The areas you are believing lies about.

The same thing happens with truth, we can build strongholds of truth in our hearts and minds, and they become areas that are hard for the enemy to come against, because over time those strongholds are fortified cities and his attacks on those areas are futile. Now if we pray for someone and we command the demons to go - what happens to the stronghold? Well, some of them are demolished in an instant but often some of those bricks, those lies remain – and we need to dismantle those strongholds by replacing illegitimate thoughts with truth.

Take captive the lies and put in truth. Occupy that space with truth so the enemy does not have a place to return to. It is helpful to find someone who can walk a road with a person who has been delivered, to disciple them and get the truth into their hearts as soon as possible.

Section 03 – Where To Next? Pressing Into God For Healing

There are two avenues by which healing takes place. The first takes place under the ministry of the anointing. This could be God touching someone directly, or someone praying for you whilst operating in the gifts. The second avenue is by activating our own faith through hearing the word of God.

Whilst we tend to think of the first as the more familiar way, a significant percentage of people are healed through pressing into the word of God. Both are important to know when helping people to press in to receive healing and also in maintaining their healing.

Kenneth Hagin says when we are new believers or don't know better, we can often get healed on the faith of another. As we mature in our faith God wants to bring healing through us activating our own faith.

The testimony of Shawn Bolz, a well-known prophet in the States is an incredible story of standing and pressing into God for healing. When he was young, he damaged his back in a car crash and had 3 slipped discs and 2 that were degenerating, as a result he was in massive amounts of pain. Doctors had told him he would soon end up in a wheelchair. He counted that he was prayed for over 200 times and that is only from when he started counting! The average person may continue for maybe 10 times and then give up on healing. But Shawn was so desperate for God to heal him. At around the 200 mark he decided that was it, he was never going back to get prayed for. He had had enough of people praying for him with bad theology or trying to do inner healing on him so he could get healed. Now at this time he was teaching a prophetic class and there was one guy in the class who just could not seem to hear from the Lord. And the day Shawn decides he is not getting prayed for anymore this man arrives at his house, and he says I have a word! And it's for YOU!!! Shawn is obviously thrilled because this guy was just not able to hear clearly before. And the word goes like this:

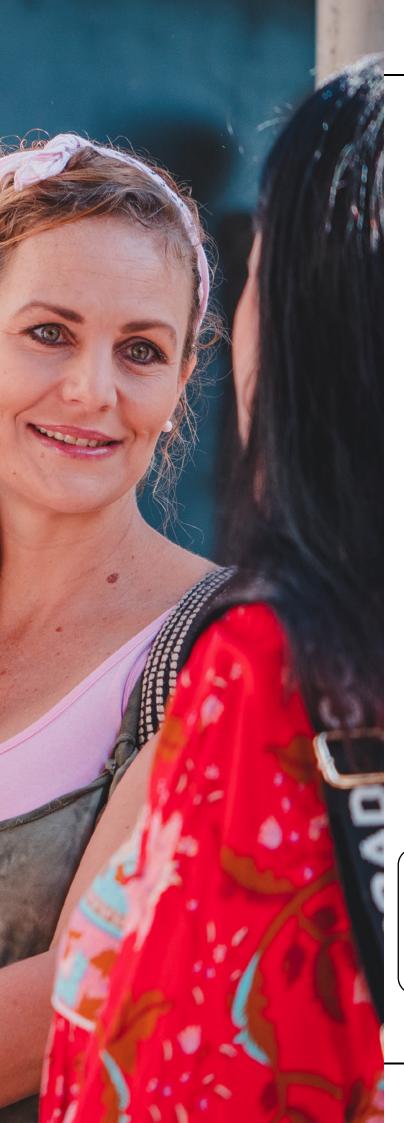
BECAUSE YOU HAVE HARDENED YOUR HEART AND ARE NOT WILLING TO GO BACK FOR PRAYER YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE HEALED'. SHAWN AT ONCE REPENTS AND HE DECIDES HE IS GOING TO BE LIKE THE LADY WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD WHO PRESSED THROUGH THE CROWDS TO TOUCH JESUS.

And in his heart, he is wondering 'I wonder how many times I will need to get prayed for, how many times I will need to push in to touch the robe of Jesus?' The very next day he finds himself in a meeting where someone has a word of knowledge about a young man with a back problem and he realises it's about him. And he gets healed, the very next day! THAT TESTIMONY IS WONDERFUL BUT IT'S ALSO CHALLENGING, WE SO OFTEN FEEL LIKE WE HAVE DONE OUR PART WHEN WE HAVE BEEN PRAYED FOR 10 OR 20 TIMES. WE WANT TO BECOME A PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO PRESS IN FOR HEALING. LIKE THE LADY WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD WHO RISKED IT ALL AND PRESSED THROUGH THE CROWD, WE ARE PRESSING IN FOR ALL THAT HAS BEEN PAID FOR AND NOTHING LESS.

WE DON'T WANT TO ACCEPT SEATS IN ECONOMY CLASS WHEN A FIRST-CLASS TICKET HAS BEEN PAID FOR.

We will say it again, we want our people to understand that we cannot accept less than what Jesus paid for! When an individual gets breakthrough in an area, that breakthrough is about more than them! It becomes a breakthrough for our community and for our city. As people all over our city begin to hear the testimonies of sickness and disease falling off people in this space, people will come for healing but also get saved and delivered, lives will be restored, destinies put back on track.





What does a culture of pressing in look like?

WE DO NOT WANT PEOPLE TO FEEL LIKE THEY CAN ONLY COME ONCE FOR PRAYER.

We want people to know that they are not alone in this. We create this culture as a team by encouraging people to keep coming until they see the breakthrough. We want to press in for healing with them. That together we are going after healing and freedom as a community, it does not matter what sickness or issue they have.

We will take God at His word and it is no mistake that Healer is one of God's names "Jehovah Rapha" (Exodus 15:26).

We are also wanting people to leave with a resource of scriptures and truth around healing that they can meditate on daily as they press into Jesus.

WE WANT THEM TO BUILD SOME FAITH MUSCLES, BECAUSE FAITH COMES BY HEARING AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD.

Prov 4:20 (AMP) "My son, pay attention to my words and be willing to learn; Open your ears to my sayings. 21 Do not let them escape from your sight; Keep them in the centre of your heart. 22 For they are life to those who find them, And healing and health to all their flesh."

WHEN THE WORD OF GOD WHICH IS LIVING AND POWERFUL BECOMES SO PART OF US THAT SICKNESS SAYS I CANNOT TAKE THIS ANYMORE AND LEAVES! WHO IS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH - JESUS (HEBREWS 12:2). SO, IF YOU NEED MORE FAITH - SPEND TIME WITH HIM!

STANDING IN HEALING

We need to help our people and ourselves to know how to stand in that place of healing and to know what to do if the symptoms return. There often, if not always, comes a moment where the enemy says "But did God really ... Did God really say, did He really heal you? "

Most people are not prepared for this. They are on a high after just getting healed and life is all rosy and they do not know how to respond if their symptoms return. And if they are not expecting it when that first little lying symptom shows up, they are hit by this wave of disappointment. Followed often by a wave of shame because now they have told all these people -I thought I was healed but I guess not...

The enemy is looking for agreement in that moment because when we give it to him, the symptom gets to stay. Instead, we should stand and do what Jesus did in the desert – respond with truth. "I am not taking that sickness back, Jesus has healed me, it's done, and I will not accept whatever it is back."

HOW DO WE MAINTAIN HEALING?

1 GRACE

It is important to understand that everything changed at the cross. When Jesus hung on the cross, He cried out with a loud voice, "It is finished" (John 19:30). When we do not understand that healing is 100% by God's grace then we will always refer to our works (law) to decide whether we feel we are worthy to be healed. Even on our absolute best day of faith, we still need to remember that it is by His grace.

2 RESPONSIBILITY

- Act 3:6 Rise up and walk." When we are healed there is a responsibility to rise and walk out our healing. Often healing only comes in response to an action of faith like doing something that you were not able to do. However, sometimes people would rather stay sick, they are comfortable with their disease/injury because it has become a part of their identity. When someone gets healed, it changes things - They might have to change their lifestyle, or get a job, or give up the financial benefits of being sick. If you minister to someone like this, it is important that you explain to them that sickness can no longer identify them. Our identity should be in Christ alone and what He paid for on the cross. Jesus redeemed us from the curse by becoming a curse for us (Galatians 3:13). Our identity is in Him.

3 HEALTH

- Our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit; let us look after it. You might be healed of diabetes it does not mean you should go on a massive overdose of sugar and sweets.

OUR TRUST IS NOT IN WHAT WE EAT OR DRINK, OUR TRUST IS IN MY REDEEMER.

- But we want to make sure that I am taking care of the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit, which is my body. To maintain health, we need to educate ourselves on healthy eating and begin to make healthy choices. We are called to co-labour with Him. Our health cannot simply be put on His sovereignty. He has given us free will and left it up to us to make healthy decisions for our lives.

4 FAITH

 There's nothing more that the enemy would like to do but to take away the manifestation of our healing, kill our faith, and destroy our testimony.

THE ENEMY COMES TO STEAL, KILL AND TO DESTROY (JOHN 10:10).

We must encourage the folk we minister to, to maintain their healing by faith. We get the truth in us. As we get into God's word, the truth is established in us, so when fear comes at us, we can humble ourselves and resist the enemy so that he must flee.

5 THANKSGIVING

- In Luke 17, ten lepers are healed by Jesus. However, only one came back to give thanks. The other nine still received their physical healing, but the one that came back was made whole - maybe this meant he even got some of his missing body parts back!
- We want to be like the one who came back to say thanks! Healing can come over a period and when we are thankful for the breakthrough no matter how small, it helps us to continue receiving. It is a posture of

heart that recognises and acknowledges His love and kindness towards us. If we want that next level of breakthrough and wholeness like the leper, let's keep ourselves in a lifestyle of recognising and acknowledging who He is, what He is up to and being thankful.

6 PEACE

 In Mark 5:30 the woman with the issue of blood touched Jesus' garment and was healed. At the end of the story Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has made you whole, go in(to) peace. There is an invitation to enter Jesus' wholeness found in the Prince of Peace.

LEADING THE PERSON TO JESUS

Basic steps to leading someone to Jesus:

- Focus on Jesus as God's Son and our resurrected Saviour. Explain the love of God and that Jesus was sent to restore us to the Father. (John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son.", Romans 10:9, Ephesians 2:8)
- Explain the promise of complete forgiveness, full acceptance, a brand-new creation, and eternal life
- when they come to Jesus.(2 Corinthians 5:17, John 1:12, John 6:40)
- Invite them to pray to confess their sins and give their life to Jesus. (*Matthew 10:32*)
- Encourage them to begin to read their Bible, get plugged into a church, and tell someone about their decision.
- Repentance in a Kingdom context is around understanding being in right-standing, not just about being sin-free.
- Encourage them to take the next step of getting baptised in water.

BEING BAPTISED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

A NATURAL OUTWORKING OF ANY FIRST-TIME BELIEVER IS TO BE BAPTISED AFTER SALVATION, FIRST IN WATER. "REPENT, BELIEVE AND BE BAPTISED".

We see that model throughout the book of Acts. But following that is the baptism in the Holy Spirit. A key area of the ministry team is helping new converts come to know the person of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

John 16:7 "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come"

To be empowered and effective witnesses we need the infilling of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:38-39 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 11:13 "...how much more will the heavenly father give you the Holy Spirit to those who ask"

With the baptism in the Holy Spirit comes authority, power and speaking in a heavenly language or tongues.

HOW MINISTRY TEAM WILL WORK

IT IS A PREREQUISITE FOR THIS TEAM THAT YOU LOVE JESUS AND THAT YOU LOVE PEOPLE.

- If you love Jesus and the supernatural but 'you can keep the people Lord' then this is not the team for you.
- Jesus tells his disciples this kind only comes out with prayer and fasting. – We want this team to be living a life where prayer and fasting are a lifestyle.
- This is not a once you are on the ministry team you will always be on the team. Feel the grace that if you are needing a break, and if we are feeling that we need to move people around on the team to give some people a break - do not get offended, we love you and we care for you.
- Come and talk to the team leaders, we will happily make ourselves available for a coffee. Let us build from a place of friendship and family, not from a place of function.
- Do not be afraid to receive ministry for yourself first if you need ministry. You need to feel loved and cared for.
- Don't be afraid to keep asking questions
 we are all learning, and that includes continually going back to God after you have ministered to anyone and asking Him

questions. Father – what worked in that? What did not work? Did I miss something in the moment? Did I do something well? Did that person feel loved?

Jesus sent His disciples two at a time to minister.

On a Sunday you will be partnered up in teams of 2 or 3. In your team you may have someone starting out and someone with some experience. This creates a safe space for us as a team to grow in our giftings and learn from each other. We have several trusted prophetic voices and experienced ministers in our team. Sons and daughters in the house who have stewarded their hearts and their gifts well over time. Ask them questions and embrace the opportunity to learn from each other and grow.

Be open to some feedback.

No one is perfect; we are all growing in our gifts and ministry. How do we ensure that we keep growing and don't get stunted in our growth? Feedback helps us grow.

After you have finished ministering as a team of 2 or 3 somebody will take down the details of the people. Then the whole team will get together again to address any questions and discuss what worked well and what did not work so well. It's important for us to be vulnerable and open in those times about how the ministry time went. Decide who will follow up with the people ministered to that week and record any testimonies.

HEALTHY MINISTRY CULTURE EMBRACES ACCOUNTABILITY AND RELATIONSHIP AND MOVES US AWAY FROM FEAR AND PERFORMANCE

Let us become students/apprentices in the school of Jesus's healing – watch, ask, learn, and then do it. Jesus taught the disciples. *Luke 6:42* - "Every student who is fully trained becomes like his master."

RECORDING A TESTIMONY

We want to steward the testimonies of what God is doing in our midst and elsewhere. Our heart is to do so with the utmost integrity and accuracy. Everywhere people are catching the vision of the value of the testimony and working to steward their own stories.

We want to steward the testimonies of what God is doing in our midst as they form part of our history and our story going forward. We want them to be stewarded with integrity and accuracy, so we recommend following these guidelines:

- Check if the person is okay with you sharing their testimony.
- Only say what you know is accurate and can be verified.
- If they have had previous medical help, please include that in the testimony.
- Be specific with details you do have and don't fill in "the blanks" you don't have.
- Don't film testimonies for social media. Better to give a written account without revealing the person's identity.
- Testimonies should glorify Jesus and not you as the minister.
- Share the testimony in a way that the person would be comfortable if they were in the room.

Let us not become like the Israelites who forgot the testimony of God in their midst. Keeping it and remembering what he has done is incredibly significant for us moving forward and taking territory. It is also key that we give God the glory for what He is doing! We don't want to rob God of His glory by withholding our testimony or by doing so poorly.

We will aim to capture each ministry moment on the NCCB online portal and when a healing is experienced then we would capture the testimony details.

CONCLUSION

"THE HEALING MINISTRY IS SOMETIMES THE THRILL OF VICTORY AND THE AGONY OF DEFEAT" RANDY CLARK. WE NEED TO BE A PEOPLE WHO DO NOT LOSE HOPE WHEN WE DO NOT SEE THE BREAKTHROUGH AT ONCE. INSTEAD, WE NEED TO REMAIN HUMBLE, EXPECTANT, AND FULL OF FAITH FOR MORE IN HEALING, MIRACLES, AND DELIVERANCE.

Where do we go to in the place of disappointment... it must be straight back to Jesus! Where do we go when we get the victory... straight back to Jesus! Our relationship with Him will always be more important than anything we could ever do for Him.

We hunger and thirst to see more of Him and His kingdom manifest on this earth! That we would see the glory of God covering the whole earth as the waters cover the sea **(Habakkuk 2:14)**.







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