

12 | HEALING, DELIVERANCE AND RAISING THE DEAD



Healing, delivering demons, raising the dead, multiplying food, punishing a storm - miracles were a hallmark of the ministry of Jesus and the apostles. These miracles happened everywhere, in the streets, in the synagogue and in the homes. The seventy-two disciples and the members of the future Ekklesia are also commissioned by Jesus to heal the sick. Jesus promises that miracles and signs will characterize believers. There are three points of interest that I want to pass along regarding signs and wonders. (*Mark 16:15-17*)

God's Spirit gives the power to heal, not us

Those who pray for healing and other miracles know where the power for the miracle comes from: from God, through the Holy Spirit. Jesus passed on the power He Himself had received from God to the apostles and the other disciples He had sent out. This group of people grew larger after Jesus' ascension because the Holy Spirit came. The Holy Spirit was available to all and was received by those who expected Him. (*Acts 13:1-3*)

We pray in the name of Jesus and for healing in faith

You may know that you have been chosen and called to do the same thing that Jesus, the apostles and other disciples did. In doing so, it is important that you know that your faith in Jesus has justified you. That means that you are standing right before God and that Jesus will flow His power through you to do those same miracles. He does it, you pass it on. Faith in Jesus is essential in this, with you, with the person seeking healing or with their friends. (*Acts 14:9-10*)

We may do what we see the Father doing

Jesus is our example in how He healed; He did nothing unless the Father told Him to. The apostles also depended on the speaking of God's Spirit. When the apostles started teaching their own disciples, they followed that example of dependence. They, too, allowed the word of God to go to the place and people where 'the ground' was ripe to do miracles. (*John 5:19-22*)

I have also seen healings in the Ekklesia simply through the prayers of ordinary people like you and me. In this, it is important to create a safe environment where there is an expectation that God can heal, but people can also move on with dignity in their difficult circumstances if God does not (yet) heal. I therefore advise against always continuing on the track that God wants to heal completely at all costs - I have seen the disappointment of those who were not healed. In this, too, we can stand side by side and encourage each other precisely when things continue to storm.

EXERCISE:

1. Which of the three areas of concern do you need to work with in your life?
 - a. Do you know that power comes from God, or do you doubt God and His power?
 - b. Do you know who you are, and especially who you are not, namely the person who has to do everything yourself?
 - c. Do you have experiences of God speaking to you to do a miracle?
2. Ask the Holy Spirit how you can get started on one of the focus areas and share it with someone around you.
3. Resolve to step out in faith. In that, ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to people or situations that need His miracle.
4. Describe whether there have been moments of healing, deliverance and raising of the dead in your Ekklesia.



LESSON LEARNED:

You have been justified by Jesus. Now nothing stands in the way of stepping out in faith and praying for healing.

