

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Healing In the City August 6, 2024 Suzi Armstrong

Healing and health are essential to life. If a person is lame, sick, diseased in their heart, lungs, kidneys, bones, joints or any other place in their body, life is greatly limited, painful, and difficult. Sickness takes away your strength. Sickness can eat away at your resources and even isolate you from your family and friends. Jesus healed multitudes of people as He went from city to city. Many were in need of healing. Many came to Jesus to get healed. The life of a city is changed as people are healed. More resources become available because they are not needed to deal with sickness. Natural energy and enthusiasm increase. Less stress and increased energy. The opposite of sickness in being good health – strong in body and spirit. Physically able to do and to be. Unhindered, ready to move. Not slowed down by pain or infirmity. What a benefit and blessing it is to be healed in your body and in your mind. It is a strength and blessing to a city or region. Contagious diseases, plagues, and pandemics that bring sickness and disease can shut a city or a nation down.

The power of God can be felt by the physical body. Sickness and disease can be miraculously healed. Scripture tells us that God can heal all of our diseases. Psalm 30 says “Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.” In Matthew it says that healing is the children’s bread.

Matthew 4.23-24 NIV

²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and **healing every disease and sickness among the people.** ²⁴ News about him spread all over Syria, and **people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them.**

- What impact on the regions and cities when people are healed – the dynamics of living are changed.
- Cities change.
 - John G Lake was a famous healing evangelist in the late 1800’s and early 1900’s. He lived in Spokane, Washington. So many people were healed through his ministry in Spokane that the hospital in the city was shut down because there were not enough sick people.

Matthew 8.14-15 NIV

¹⁴ When Jesus came into Peter’s house, he saw **Peter’s mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever.** ¹⁵ **He touched her hand and the fever left her,** and she got up and began to wait on him.

Matthew 14.14 NIV

¹⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, **he had compassion on them and healed their sick.**

Acts 5.15-16 NIV

¹⁵ As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter’s shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. ¹⁶ **Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.**

Acts 19.11-12 NIV

¹¹ God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, ¹² so that even **handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.**

Matthew 10.1, 7-8 NIV

¹ Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and **gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.**

⁷ As you go, **proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'** ⁸ **Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.**

- God has given Christians a charge and the authority to heal the sick.

1 Peter 2.24 NIV

²⁴ "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; **"by his wounds you have been healed."**

- Jesus's body was broken, and His blood was shed to release redemption and healing.

Mark 16.17-20 NIV

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."**

¹⁹ After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and **he sat at the right hand of God.** ²⁰ **Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.**

- They shall progressively feel themselves getting better and better, until are well and healthy.
- Bringing life and blessing to city, to the people, releasing the provision of God.

People who are healthy and feel well are more buoyant in their spirit. They live life with gusto. They are productive and enjoy the pleasures and work of life. They are better parents. What change this brings to a city!

BUOYANT IN THE SPIRIT

Christina Wilson

BOLD as a lion. (Proverb 28.1) **U**NSPEAKABLE joy full of Glory. (1 Peter 1.8) **O**RDAINED strength. (Psalm 8.2) **Y**EARNING for more. (Psalm 42.1) **A**DMONISH one another. (Colossians 3.16) **N**EWNESS of life, walk in it. (Romans 6.4) **T**RIUMPH in praise. (Psalm 106.47)

INSTRUMENTS of righteousness. (Romans 6.13) **N**OURISHED up in the Word of Faith. (1 Timothy 4.6)

TRUST in the Lord with all your heart. (Proverb 3.5) **H**UMBLE yourself before God. (1 Peter 5.6) **E**VERLASTING to everlasting, bless the Name of the Lord. (Psalm 106.48)

SANCTIFY by the Word. (John 17.17) **P**RAY without ceasing. (1 Thessalonians 5.17) **I**MITATORS of God as beloved children. (Acts 6.7) **R**UN with patience the race that is set before you. (Hebrews 12.1) **I**NHERIT the promises through faith. (Hebrews 6.12) **T**HOUGHTS of the righteous are right. (Proverb 12.5)

PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

Father, we thank You for making provision through Your Son Jesus Christ for healing. You are the Healer and Life-Giver in our City and our Nation. You are the True God above all other gods. We exalt Your Name; You are holy and righteous. Even as Jesus had compassion upon the people and healed them, we as Your Church lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. We believe in Your power to restore health and well-being. We proclaim to Detroit that the Kingdom of God is here, and the sick shall be healed! Lord, You are the hope and desire of Detroit.

We decree Jeremiah 17.14: Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me and I shall be saved, for you are my praise.