

# Supernatural Healing

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## WHAT JESUS DID YOU CAN DO

Jesus tells us in the Gospels that we can do the very things that He did while he was here on earth:

“Truly I say to you, He that believes in me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I am going to my Father.” (John 14:12)

Think about it! Jesus did some pretty remarkable things: like opening blind eyes and deaf ears, restoring withered limbs and raising the dead, to name just a few. And He says that we can at least do the things He did, if not greater things. Such promises, however, do nothing but make one wonder why we hardly ever hear of such miracles anymore. Is it that His word is mistaken? Or could there possibly be something wrong with us in our understanding of what it means to do His works? I’m inclined to believe the problem is with us.

There have been times over the last few decades when many of these signs have occurred. Usually, though, the signs and wonders of our age have happened at great evangelistic meetings led by famous and gifted ministers such as William Branham, T. L. Osborne, Oral Roberts, Kathryn Kuhlman, and R. W. Schambach.

It does seem, however, that Jesus’ promise must refer to more than just a few of the more gifted ministers of our day. If you noticed, He said it applied to all who, “believe in Him.” If you “believe in Jesus,” than that promise is for you! I trust this booklet will add a new dimension in your Christian experience. I’m grateful to many writers, including John Wimber in his book “Power Healing,” for a number of the ideas presented in this booklet.

## THE THIRD WAVE

Perhaps you’re saying to yourself, “Yes, I believe that promise is for everyone, but I have no idea how I personally can go about doing any of those things Jesus did.” If this is how you feel (and I suspect it is), I have good news for you. In these last days, God is breaking fresh bread of revelation for His people. There’s a new move of the Spirit happening in the church right now unlike any other move in the history. Some are calling it the “Third Wave” move of the Holy Spirit. The Lord is graciously opening the scriptures to His people as He’s never done before. The mighty signs and wonders found in the book of Acts are beginning to happen once again. This time, however, every believer will be able to participate. In the last days, we’re told in the second chapter of Acts, God will pour out His Spirit upon everyone: sons, daughters, young men, old men, servants, handmaidens, everybody!

The KEY to this fresh move of the Spirit can be summed up in just a few words: (as is true with so many of the deeper things of God), “wait on the Anointing!”

## WAITING ON THE ANOINTING

We’re told in Isaiah that God’s anointing breaks every yoke of bondage (Isaiah 10:27). The anointing that empowered Jesus (see Luke 4:18, Acts 10:38) is the same anointing that can empower you. Jesus told His disciples in the last chapter of Luke to wait in Jerusalem to be endued with “power from on high.” Elisha was not able to do the works of Elijah until he was clothed in his predecessor’s mantle. So it is with you. Until and unless you are walking under the unction of God’s anointing, you really can’t do much worthwhile for the Lord.

If this is true, then it’s essential to learn how to operate under the Holy Spirit’s anointing. First, let’s consider how important the anointing is. Suppose a terrible traffic jam occurred right in front of a policeman’s house. After listening to the blaring horns for a while, the officer decides to go out and clear up the mess. However, since he was in a hurry, he went out in his Bermuda shorts and a T-shirt. Instead

of responding to him as they usually do when he directs traffic, the horns kept blaring and people started yelling at him to get out of the way. Then it dawned on him: "I'm not in uniform. I can't do anything out here on the street without my uniform." After retreating into the house, he returns in his familiar blue policeman's uniform. Instantly, the horns stop and everybody begins to carefully respond to everything he says.

The anointing of the holy Spirit is your uniform. Without the anointing, you're as helpless as that policeman directing traffic in his Bermuda shorts. But when you're clothed with the Lord's unction and power, nothing can stop you. When you speak to an illness or disease, it must respond! When you rebuke the enemy, he must flee! He's not fleeing because of you, but rather because he sees the anointing draped over your shoulders - the mantle of Jesus' authority. It's as if Jesus were leaning over you telling the evil one to depart. Consider the following verse:

"Jesus said, "Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." (Mark 11:22-24)

A "mountain" is a Jewish metaphor for an obstruction or problem that's blocking one's way. Jesus tells us here to "have faith in God." However, this kind of faith definitely requires an anointing. That has to be what Jesus is referring to here. Only under an anointing can you "not at all doubt" in your heart. In effect, we're promised here that nothing shall be impossible to those operating under the power of anointed faith!

A chief reason so few people operate in the supernatural anointings of God is because they've been taught to believe that His miraculous power is somehow conditional upon their own faith. The current teaching is that if one can somehow "work up" or "pray up" or "seek harder" for this kind of faith, then maybe it'll come to him. This kind of teaching, frankly, leaves most folks pretty discouraged. If a person's healing depends solely on their faith (whether on the part of the pray-er or the pray-ee) then it follows that great healings would accordingly require great faith. I'm not sure what it means to have 'great' faith or how to go about attaining it, and I certainly don't feel it in most instances where it's most needed. Therefore, I find myself pretty discouraged at times and tend to settle for lesser healings to go with my self-perceived, lesser faith. Have you ever felt the same way?

## GOD ANOINTS YOUR WEAKNESS

Paul lays down an important principle in his epistle to the Corinthians:

"He (Christ) said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." (2 Cor 12:9)

Notice, when Paul acknowledges his weakness, in fact "boasts" about it, that's when Christ's power rests on him. He's talking about the anointing! It's only when you concede and recognize your weaknesses that the supernatural anointing to do the works of Jesus comes upon you. Are you are willing to admit that you are nothing and can do nothing apart from God's sovereign intervention and power? Do you really believe that all of your good intentions, pious prayers and sincere efforts are useless in bringing about any of His works? This is the testimony of scripture. Look up the following verses and you'll see that apart from Him you can think nothing edifying, know nothing profitable and do nothing at all without His power and ability: (2 Cor 3:5; 1 Cor 8:2; John 15:5).

In fact, Paul tells us in Romans that we really don't even know how to pray:

"The Spirit helps our weaknesses, for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit makes intercession for us....." (Romans 8:26)

Until you truly recognize your own weakness, vanity and self-centeredness, you'll never come to that point of humility necessary to be clothed with His anointing. Humility is the KEY word in this Third Wave move of God's Spirit. The days of the one-man show are over. God's beginning to pour out His anointed power

on His humble and lowly ones. This is one thing that truly causes Jesus to rejoice, when the “babes” begin to move in supernatural power (Luke 10:21).

When you realize that you really don't even know how to pray, then it follows that when you do pray, you'll tend to do so with more humility. Rather than launching out and praying everything that might come into your mind, just invite the Holy Spirit to come and reveal to you what He wants. Then, pray what you sense He's saying. That's the secret to operating in His power!

#### DON'T PRAY FOR RESULTS

Many times, when praying for the sick, you may not feel a lot of faith. Often, your mind will be wrestling with doubts, fears that nothing will happen, and other types of harassments from the enemy. Don't despair! This is perfectly normal. In fact, it's usually a sign that something exciting is probably going to occur; if not, why would the enemy be bugging you?

Praying for the sick is often like entering a duel with an unloaded gun - as far as your feelings are concerned. But that's all right. You don't necessarily have to feel anything to be effective. The answer to any pre-prayer attack from the enemy is simply this: don't go into a ministry situation “looking for results.” Now, this may sound strange, but consider this: when you pray for someone who's ill looking for results, then your faith tends to be directly proportionate to the results you're achieving. This may be good at times, but more often than not, you'll find yourself increasingly discouraged when your expectations are not met.

So, the answer is, don't pray for results - pray out of obedience and love. Christ commanded us to love our neighbor. More specifically, He told us to pray for him when he's sick (see Mark 16:18). When you enter a ministry situation moving in simple obedience to Jesus' command, then you will succeed regardless of the “results.” For all you know, the results achieved may be exactly what the Lord had in mind in that particular time of prayer.

Paul said in Galatians that “faith works by love.” This is a powerful spiritual principle. Understanding and applying it will greatly affect your success in supernatural ministry. When someone asks me to pray for their sick child, I always go asking the Lord to come with His anointing and healing. Sometimes He comes with great manifestations of His healing power, and sometimes He does not. I know that if there isn't a complete healing, then I can be thankful that I've at least had the opportunity to love the family and encourage them to continue to seek the Lord for His supernatural intervention.

If the child is healed, praise God! If the child is not healed, or if there is just slight improvement, praise God! When you approach ministry from a posture of love and compassion, then God is usually far more likely to intervene in your behalf - because He is far more likely to receive the glory. If healing is approached looking for results, then the glory of the healing may be another notch in your belt rather than glory to the Lord.

To sum up: enter every healing session determined to love and care for the person, regardless of what happens. When you take your eyes off the results and put them on Jesus, you'll often find the very results you desire! (see Matthew 6:33).

#### DO ONLY WHAT YOU SEE GOD DOING

One day, while walking through a crowded section of Jerusalem, Jesus singled out one man in the crowd, went to him and healed him. Later, when confronted by the religious leaders about this, He said that He only did the things He saw His Father doing and only spoke the things He heard His Father saying. (see John 5:19, 30).

This is the secret to all supernatural ministry. As you learn to recognize what the Lord is wanting to do and begin cooperating with the moving of His Spirit, you'll see far more effectiveness in your prayers. The problem in many ministry situations is that the person doing the praying has some pre-conceived agenda. While he may indeed succeed in achieving his own goals, he often misses the greater thing that the Holy Spirit wanted to do. It's only as you learn to flow in the moment by moment promptings of the Spirit that you best serve the one you're praying for.

Let's consider an example. One morning, after our daily prayer meeting, a man requested prayer for a headache he'd been having for over two days. As we gathered around him, I reminded everyone to first ask the Lord what it was that He wanted to do in this situation, even though the man knew exactly what he wanted - to see his headache go!

So, we invited the Holy Spirit to come and guide us. We then waited quietly for about five minutes or so. This can seem like a long time when you're waiting in silence. (It has taken discipline to learn to do this.....to resist the temptation to just launch out praying before we sense what the Spirit has in mind.)

After a while, one of the ladies said that she kept hearing the word "unforgiveness" over and over in her mind. I then asked the man if he was holding bitterness or resentment against anyone. After a moment or two, he acknowledged that he had been holding a grudge against a certain person. I told him that if he was hoping to receive any healing from the Lord for his headache, he needed to forgive that person, as the Lord wouldn't even forgive him his sin until he did (see Matthew 6:15). He then prayed and in a few words forgave that person. As he did, his headache began to leave. In another minute or two it was completely gone!

This example illustrates the principles being discussed. We never really know what the Lord may be wanting to accomplish in a person's life in even their simplest requests for prayer. While the man wanted his headache gone, God knew that it was his resentment that brought it on. If we'd not waited on the Lord, he would have continued holding resentment in his heart and probably would not have been healed. The lesson here is that humility, weakness (as well as patience) are necessary if you hope to see the supernatural intervention of the Holy Spirit. You may be thinking at this point, "I understand what's being said. But how can I hear the Lord's voice like that lady did who kept hearing the word "forgiveness" over and over in her mind?"

#### MOMENTARY ANOINTINGS FOR MOMENTARY NEEDS

Let's consider what was happening there. As we waited on the Lord, that lady began to move in one of the "gifts" of the Holy Spirit, as listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10. She was operating in the "word of knowledge," or the ability to know something that could not be known apart from direct revelation of the Spirit.

Unfortunately, there's a lot of misunderstanding about these gifts today. Simply put, however, the gifts of the Spirit are "momentary anointings for momentary needs." When confronted with a particular ministry need, the Holy Spirit always comes with an appropriate anointing to take care of the need, according to His will. For instance, He wanted that man to deal with his resentment, so He moved on that lady with a "word of knowledge" to help him see the error of his ways. Let's look at another example.

Once, in a meeting, a lady came and requested prayer for a severe ache in her right jaw that had been there for many years. A number of us gathered around and invited the Holy Spirit to come and heal her. It had been a long day for me, and I remember feeling quite tired. In fact, it was all I could do to keep my mind on what we were doing while we prayed.

After about five or ten minutes of waiting on the Lord, I received a distinct impression that I was to look in her eyes. As I did so, I had one of the most amazing experiences of my life. Suddenly, this cloak of power came over me and I felt as Jesus probably felt when He tenderly looked into the eyes of the lame on the side of the road. It was an amazing sense of power. After I looked into her eyes a few moments, she let out a cry and was completely and totally healed. The pain instantly vanished. Then, a few moments later, that powerful sense of anointing lifted off of me and left the room. I remember thinking, "No, come back!"

This story illustrates how the gifts of the Spirit operate, as momentary anointings for momentary needs. A powerful sense of Jesus' power came over me for just the moment it was needed. Then it left. All of the glory went to Jesus, as I felt spent with no energy after the encounter. Let me give you another illustration.

Suppose you come home at the end of the day and discover water all over your kitchen floor. So, you crawl under the sink to see what's wrong. Sure enough, it's a leaky pipe. After seeing the problem you lift

your hand and a wrench instantly materializes in your hand. You then proceed to tighten the pipe. After it's tight, the wrench disappears.

This is what God's supernatural gifts are like. They are the tools to accomplish the job. They are momentary anointings for momentary needs. If someone needs to repent of a hidden sin or attitude, the Lord may manifest the gift of wisdom or knowledge to help them confess and find freedom. If someone is sick, the Lord may come with a gift of healing. If someone is discouraged, He may come with a prophetic gift to encourage and strengthen. If a particular evil spirit is at work, the Lord may release the gift of discerning of spirits so that the enemy can be exposed and cast out.

## RECOGNIZING THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Jesus once told His disciples,

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.." (John 10:27)

The Lord wants you to become very familiar with His voice. In fact, few things are as important as learning to recognize and respond to the gentle voice of Jesus. Hearing His voice is the key to all supernatural ministry, for His anointing power is released when you learn to speak what you hear Him saying. Let's consider what it really means to hear His voice. Three verses show what's necessary to recognize and distinguish His voice from your own thoughts, or the voices of other spirits.

The Shepherd wants to lead you by the still waters in Psalm 23:2. We're told to be still and know that He is God in Psalm 46:10. And we find that God speaks in a still small voice in 1 Kings 19:12.

In other words, you must "still" your soul before the Lord if you hope to hear His voice. This is the KEY: spending time learning to be "still before Him." We have an acronym for what it takes to practically do this: "DDD," which stands for "daily disciplined devotions." Until and unless you are committed to meet and wait before the Lord each day, you'll never come to the sensitivities necessary to move in the supernatural power of God. One of the clearest illustrations of this is in Luke ten where we find Martha criticizing her sister Mary for sitting quietly at Jesus' feet. At the same time, we find Jesus commending Mary for doing so. In fact, He said that sitting at His feet was really the only thing that's needful.

## RECOGNIZING PHENOMENA

When you invite the Holy Spirit to come and minister, certain spiritual phenomena or "manifestations" tend to take place with the person being prayed for, and also with the person doing the praying. These phenomena do not necessarily have to happen. However, they usually do when the Spirit moves. By observing them you can recognize what the Spirit is doing in and through the person being prayed for. As you cooperate with God and bless what He's doing rather than moving forward in your own agenda, you'll notice an increase in supernatural results.

Phenomena on people being ministered to:

- sensations of heat or tingling (neck, hands, back, etc.)
- feeling like 'electrical current'
- radiance on the face
- brokenness, sobs, tears
- a wave or a weight on the chest
- trembling or shaking
- laughter
- fluttering of the eyelids
- groaning in the Spirit

Phenomena on people ministering healing:

- sensations of warmth (usually flowing from hands)
- sense of anointing
- inward witness of presence to heal

- a deep sense of knowing
- sometimes nothing at all

## KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN

It's important to pray for healing with your eyes open. Why? Well, when you invite the Holy Spirit to come and minister, you're expecting Him to do something NOW! Unless you're attentive to what's going on, how else can you recognize and respond to the phenomena that indicates His presence? Also, it's important to ask the person what he's feeling or thinking as you wait on the Spirit. Often the Holy Spirit will be talking with him about an issue that's quite different from the one you're praying about. Unless you ask questions, you may miss what God's doing entirely. The following are the types of questions that are good to ask:

- Are you feeling something?
- Are you sensing something?
- Is the Lord speaking to you?
- Are you sure you're not feeling something?

Let's consider another example to illustrate this. At a healing conference a woman came up and requested prayer. She'd been experiencing pains in her neck for some time and wanted healing. Several of us gathered around and invited the Holy Spirit to come and heal her. After praying in the Spirit a while and waited on Him to come with His anointing, one of the men asked her what was happening. She said, "Nothing." We prayed a few minutes more and he asked her again. She again said, "Nothing is happening." He then asked her a third time, "Are you sure you're not feeling something?"

Then she said "Well, yes, I'm feeling some tingling and warmth in my lower back." We then prayed for her lower back, even though she'd requested prayer for her neck. In a few moments she felt a great release of tension and pain that had been in that area. Then she said she felt the same sensations of tingling and warmth in her stomach. So we prayed for that. After another few minutes or so a burning pain that had been there left. We rejoiced, as it was obvious the Holy Spirit was leading this healing session. Finally, she began to feel warmth and tingling in her neck. God then healed her of the pain she originally requested prayer for.

By this time, there was a great sense of power and anointing all around her. When you touched her arm, it was like touching an electric wire. I'd never anything quite like it before, and I came away from that ministry session with some valuable lessons.

First, I saw the importance of persistence in discovering what the Holy Spirit was doing through the manifestations of phenomena. Second, I learned that as we cooperated with what He was doing, the healings occurred faster. Third, as different healings occurred in her body, our faith rose to higher and higher levels. Praise God for His faithfulness to do such a thorough healing for this woman, who came complaining of an ache in her neck.

## GOD IS SO GENEROUS

Often, after sharing these principles of healing with different people, someone will invariably ask how one can know if the spirit that's at work is always the Holy Spirit. Cannot Satan come as an angel of light and deceive, even in the context of ministry? My response to this very valid question is found in Luke:

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:9-13)

Jesus says here that when you ask for the Holy Spirit, that's exactly what you get - the Holy Spirit! As long as your heart's right with God when you pray for someone's healing, you can be assured that the Lord will send His Spirit, and only His Spirit, to minister.

One of the exciting things about learning to pray effectively for healing is discovering how very generous and loving our Father is. He wants to heal you far more than you realize. One of the reasons we don't see more manifestations of the supernatural and the miraculous is because many people don't come to Him for His help and assistance. They run to the medicine cabinet or their pediatrician rather than the Lord. Now, that's not to imply that God can't use medicine or doctors. Not at all. The problem is simply that people turn to these things first, rather than inviting the Holy Spirit to come and do as He would.

It is such an incredible blessing to experience the Lord's healing power in your everyday aches and pains. He longs to give you His healing grace, if only you'll ask. Perhaps the reason so few ask is because they've never understood or been taught these basic truths of the ready availability of God's supernatural power of healing.

## HEALING IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Every believer has the authority to fight and resist the enemy of their soul in spiritual warfare. In fact, God has called every believer to become actively involved in the very real war that's going on all the time. When you begin earnestly praying for the sick, you will come under spiritual attack. Satan will retaliate whenever he can before losing ground and territory in a person's life, particularly in the area of physical healing. You need to know this before setting out to pray for the sick. Paul said,

"We are not unaware of Satan's schemes, lest he should gain an advantage over us." (2 Cor 2:11)

In spite of what many might say, there's nothing wrong with seeking to understand the strategies of the enemy, particularly if that understanding will help you gain an advantage over him. It's easier to defeat a foe when you know ahead of time his plan of attack. Satan will try to throw everything he can in the way of a believer who's moving in God's healing power. When the Spirit moves supernaturally, God receives much glory. This enrages the enemy. As a result, he specifically targets those who attempt to operate in the supernatural gifts of the Spirit. In fact, the devil often attacks before you pray for the sick, while you're ministering, and after you've ministered.

What may happen before you go to pray for the sick?

- Sudden depression or disinterest
- Anger, frustration or strife with person close by
- Circumstances to block you (flat tire, etc.)
- Feelings of unworthiness, inadequacy, inferiority

What may happen while you're praying for the sick?

- Distracting, confusing, unedifying thoughts
- No sense of anointing
- Subtle temptation to overdo it, to be a "super healer"
- Tendency to focus on the condition, bringing doubt
- Discouragement, "nothing is happening"

What may happen after you've ministered to the sick?

- Depression, exhaustion
- A sense of pride - "you are a potential Elijah"
- Confusing, mixed feelings
- Discouragement, especially when people aren't healed

## PRACTICAL APPROACHES

The following step by step approach will help you as you begin to pray for the sick. Don't look at these steps as a law or a set of rigid rules, rather consider them a guideline. While it's important that you have definite goals and directions when you minister in the Spirit, it's equally important that you're sensitive to

follow Him in whatever direction He may lead. The more you pray and experience God's anointing to heal the sick, the more the tension between these two things will balance out.

- (1) Determine nature of illness, where it hurts, etc. (ASK QUESTIONS!)
- (2) Lay hands on the person. (Be sensitive)
- (3) Invite Holy Spirit to come to heal, restore, mend, etc.
- (4) Pray in the Spirit or short statements while you wait (Don't be afraid to wait for several minutes in silence.)
- (5) Be expectant; anticipate His anointing. (BE PATIENT!)
- (6) Pray with eyes open and ask questions:
  - \* Are you feeling something?
  - \* Are you sensing something
  - \* Is the Lord speaking to you?
  - \* Are you sure you're not feeling anything?
- (7) Recognize phenomena and respond fervently as faith
- (8) Phenomena may not necessarily be present, but we can expect a 'release' in the spirit. If that doesn't happen, ask the Lord for 'discernment'; then when you've sensed stronghold, move in and bind, break, rebuke, etc.
- (9) Continue to pray until such time that it becomes evident that the Spirit has done all that He intends to do at this time. However, be very patient and allow Him the opportunity to confirm that with all involved.
- (10) Love on the person. Don't be afraid to ask exactly what healing or deliverance has taken place. Encourage him to come again for more prayer if that seems appropriate.

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed."  
(Isaiah 53:5)