

A person may be overwhelmed by the Spirit's presence during prayer even to the point to falling over. If it seems likely that this may happen you may want to have them sit down or have a person assist you in the prayer process by gently helping them down. This phenomenon does not necessarily mean that you should stop praying. Often deep works of healing occur in this manner and can be facilitated by your continuing prayers and ministry.

Step 5. Post-Prayer direction (What should they do now?)

This step allows God to provide additional guidance to continue a healing, avoid further illness, or deal with issues brought up during the prayer session. This is not intended to be a counseling time. During this step God may reveal His wisdom or a prophetic word for the circumstances or problem.

Questions for further discussion:

1. How would you describe the "Kingdom Mandate" in your own words?

2. Have you been praying for the sick on a regular basis?

How long?

3. Looking over the five aspects of Healing and the Kingdom (pages 2-4), from the "already / not yet" perspective: Which of these areas have you experienced in the "now"?

4. Have you had other "present tense" Kingdom experiences in your life?

Memory Verse

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

Matt 6:9-13

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Understanding the Kingdom of God

God has established His rulership (Kingdom) in Christ on this earth. With Jesus' life, death and resurrection, the defeat of our enemies, sin, death and the devil has been insured. The war has been won! When the Kingdom of God comes in its fullness, every enemy will be subdued—even death will be swallowed in victory (I Cor. 15:54) and the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our Lord (Rev. 11:15). But now we are between the ages welcoming the power of the age to come and proclaiming the ultimate victory in Christ. We shall ultimately triumph but now the war rages.

The book of Hebrews describes this "between the ages" perspective like this:

*You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor and put everything under his feet. In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. **Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him.***

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.
Hebrews 2:7-9

Although in the negative context of a warning to backslidden believers, this dynamic of the Kingdom is clearly expressed as **the powers of the age to come**:

*(having) ...been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in the Holy Spirit, who have _____ the goodness of the word of God and **the powers of the _____***
Hebrews 6:4-5

Paul describes the fact that we are now in the Kingdom of God, and that now we are experiencing the blessings that will one day be complete..... But are presently not yet complete..... We are citizens of the "already and the not yet".

For he has _____ us from the dominion of darkness and _____ us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
Colossians 1:13-14

This chart depicts the process of moving from the Kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God in several familiar areas.

Satan's Domain. The Kingdom of Darkness	Jesus Christ King of Kings and Lord of Lords The Kingdom of God
Sin	>.....Forgiveness
Sickness.....	>.....Healing
Bondage.....	>.....Freedom
Separation, Pain and Broken Relationships.....	>.....Unity and Joy
Selfish Hoarding.....	>.....Cheerful Giving

Healing and the Kingdom of God

The New Testament Greek language uses several words to define this event. One of these is 'sodzo' also translated as 'salvation'. It is a broad picture of what happens when we are transferred from the Kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of God. Here is the arena of conflict as Satan's subjects are released from his control or power and brought under the authority and power of Christ. This same word 'sodzo' is often translated as healing in the New Testament. We see healing in the Kingdom of God as that process of restoration that affects every area of our lives.

Here are a few areas that are most central to us viewed from the 'already / not yet' perspective of the Kingdom.

1. Healing is forgiveness of sin.

Future: In the future all the effects of sin will be done away and perfect fellowship will be restored between God and man.

Jesus: In Jesus the full penalty for sin was paid. His blood was shed to open the way for us to become sons of God and joint heirs with him in His Kingdom.

Now!! Now we experience the blessed gift of the forgiveness of sin.
*If we _____ our sins, he is _____ and _____ and
 will forgive us our sins and purify us from all
 unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9*

Step 4. Prayer Engagement (the prayer)

Basic Posture

- Relax
- Help the person you are praying for relax. (High energy 'faith posturing', loudly speaking in tongues etc. can all be distractions)
- Wait on God
- Follow what God is doing.

*" I tell you the truth, the son can do _____
 _____ : he can only do what he sees the Father doing,
 because whatever the Father does the Son does also."
 John 5:19*

- Don't be afraid to let God work while you remain silent or pray in tongues,

"And when you pray , do not keep on babbling like pagans for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." Matthew 6:7-8

Watch What God is Doing

- During the ministry time you may need to re-interview the person. Ask them what is happening. Often healing is a process. When the Spirit is moving on a person bless what you see or otherwise know God is doing.
- Throughout the ministry time, remain sensitive to what the Father is doing. The direction of the prayer will often change from where it began. You may start out praying for a physical problem, but end up ministering to a past hurt instead. Often emotional or spiritual issues must be dealt with prior to physical healing taking place. Be open to direction from the Spirit.
- A prayer session may last from a few minutes to an hour. You know your prayer session is over when:
 - the Spirit tells you it is
 - the person tells you it is
 - you sense the anointing lift
 - you can't think of anything else to pray
 - you haven't made any progress after a reasonable time
 - you're too tired to continue

We must commit to a lifestyle as messengers of healing and restoration!

This is the Christian life. Praying and seeing His Kingdom come (His will be done) on earth as it is in heaven! (Luke 11:2)

It is equally important to realize and acknowledge that it is not “us” who does the healing anymore than it is “us” who can bring someone to Christ. It is, however, “us” working in conjunction with the Holy Spirit, acting in faith and discerning the activity of God in any given circumstance. Jesus says the John 5:19, “the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing (Jn. 5:19 NLT). This must likewise be our mode of operation. We are not the initiators. Jesus himself states that he did nothing of his own initiative (Jn. 8:28 NAS). This principle directs us to a total dependence on God, with us only acting on what we believe to be God’s will based on the word of God and an intimate communion with God wherein he enables us to “see what the Father is doing”.

John Wimber of the Vineyard Christian Fellowship movement developed a five step model for prayer that has been helpful to many engaged in this ministry. This model of prayer helps remove some of the religious stigma often associated with “faith healing”. It is based on many of the ministry practices of Jesus and has proven a wonderful tool to help believers develop the habit of prayer for the sick.

The Wimberian Five Step Model of Prayer

Step 1. Interview (What is the problem?)

Ask questions that will help you understand how to pray such as:

- Why do you want prayer?
- What do you want God to do for you?
- Where does it hurt?
- How long has it been hurting?
- Is it hurting now?
- when did it start hurting?

Step 2. Diagnostic Decision (What is the cause?)

As you gather information during the interview process, you should be listening for answers with both your natural and your spiritual ears. The Lord will reveal information to you regarding the cause of the problem on both levels. The natural information will come through the answers to the questions you ask during the interview, the supernatural through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Step 3. Prayer Selection (How should I pray?)

1. Prayer directed toward God
2. Prayer directed by God
Command of faith / Pronouncement of faith

But you know that he appeared so that he might _____ our sins. And in him is no sin. I John 3:5

See Matthew 26:28 and Romans 8:1, 8:31-34

2. Healing is restoration from sickness.

Future: There will be no sickness in heaven.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more _____ or _____ or _____ or _____, for the old order of things has passed away.” Revelation 21:4

Jesus: Over and over again Jesus showed us it was the Fathers will to heal the sick:

Aware of this, Jesus withdrew from that place. Many followed him, and he _____ all their sick,.... Matthew 12:15

Now!! We have been empowered to heal the sick by Jesus. This is part of a disciples job description:

_____, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. Matthew 10:8

3. Healing is deliverance from demonic power and influence.

Future: Evil will be bound and totally driven out

Jesus: At every turn Jesus was confronting and overcoming evil powers and setting the captives free.

.....how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and _____ who were under the power of the _____, because God was with him. Acts 10:38

The reason the Son of God appeared was to _____ the devil's work. I John 3:8

See Mark 1:23-27

Now!!: This marvelous power over the devil is for all believers.

And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will _____; Mark 16:17

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. John 14:12

4. Healing is growing in the community of the king.

Future: In the future we will have perfect relationships with one another.

Jesus: Jesus gave us the power of His Spirit and the ability to love as he loved.

"A new command I give you: _____. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

Now!! We experience the love of God in our hearts for one another. A supernatural demonstration of God's presence.

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we _____. I John 3:14

5. Healing is sharing God's abundance with the needy world.

Future: There will be no need in heaven.

Jesus: Jesus shared the good news with the poor. Fed the multitude with a boys lunch (John 6: 1-13) and even turned water into wine at a wedding (John 2: 1-11).

Now!! Now God has promised to meet all our needs and to prosper us in all of life enabling us to reach out to the world in word and deed, especially remembering the widow and orphan. See Galatians 2:10, James 1:27, Proverbs 19:17, 21:13

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having _____, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8

As a believer, you have experienced many of these aspects of the Kingdom in your life. Growing into maturity as a Christian demands that we be engaged in the process of expanding His rule to others in these same areas. This is the work of the ministry or, more specifically, the continuation of Jesus' ministry. All of our gifts, calling and the unique expression of His design in us must contribute to the task at hand: Seeing Jesus expand His Kingdom in us and through us. Let us drink deeply from this healing presence as we work to advance His Kingdom rule.

Therefore:

We must understand what the will of the Lord is (Ephesians 5:17)

Healing and the Will of God.

The Bible presents numerous events showing that it is God's intention to bring healing where there is sickness of any sort. This is the testimony of scriptures and certainly the will of God as displayed in the life of the Lord and of his disciples.

Mark 2:9-12, Matthew 10:8, John 14:12

The Scriptures view sickness as bad and in many cases having its origin from the source of evil himself, the devil. Acts 10:38

Jesus regarded healing as a manifestation of his kingdom in as much saying that where the Kingdom is there is healing.

But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the _____ has come upon you. Matthew 12:28

In perhaps, the greatest declaration on healing of all, Jesus proclaims the royal purpose of his mission in the words of Isaiah 61:1 & 2 quoted in the gospel of Luke:

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to
1. _____
He has sent me to
2. _____
and
3. _____,
4. _____,
5. _____." Luke 4:18-19*