



Beyond the Sermon
A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Healing - A Promise for Today

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme

Why Can't Jesus Heal Me?

Prayer Focus

God, thank you for your many promises in the Bible. You always have my best interest in mind and you want to see me enjoy this life I'm living as your child. No matter how and when I experience your faithfulness, I will continue to praise your name and give all glory to you. Thank you Jesus, Amen.

Key Truths

Some theology suggests that it is God's will to heal *sometimes*, but not *always*. However, Jesus came to demonstrate God's will. He said, "If you've seen me, you've seen the Father." In every situation He encountered, He revealed God's will to us. Jesus never told people sickness was punishment from God, that they had to fix their character, or that they needed to suffer for God's glory.

Sin brought sickness and evil in the world. Some sicknesses are demonically influenced, but not all of them are. We can get hung up on condemning a devil when in reality sometimes the sicknesses we experience can indicate something that needs more attention in our bodies, or simply the fact that we need more rest in our busy lives. We can end up being too connected to the world and not enough connected to God, and anytime that happens wrong things are bound to happen.

At times, we fall into the trap of believing that nothing occurs outside the will of God, yet we know this isn't entirely true. There are plenty of things that take place that are not the will of God, because *people* have decided to make them so. Sovereignty goes beyond simply just having power or control; it encompasses self-governance. God's will is laid out in scripture, reflecting healing, wholeness, salvation, and closeness with Him, but the enemy also has an opposite will and influence over the Earth for us to be aware of. It's always God's will that we be healthy, whole, and restored.

Having faith doesn't mean we won't ever have doubts. Faith and doubt often show up together. There are three different types of unbelief: ignorance (when we know nothing), natural unbelief (from what we see), and religious unbelief (from learning incorrectly). All of these can keep us from receiving what God has for us, but we have the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus said, "will guide you into *all* truth." He's the one we can trust.

Faith and unbelief can coexist, but our goal is to maximize belief and let faith and the truth do their job. Effective gospel preaching and teaching can help overcome unbelief, but it's the truth of Jesus and the Spirit of the Lord being Lord in our lives that bring freedom to be all that God created us to be.

Practical Application

All we need is faith the size of a mustard seed. God laid out His promises for healing in scripture. Now, we can live with the assurance that God has our best interest in mind and desires us to experience freedom. When sickness tries to take over, we are instructed in the Bible to *resist the devil, and he will flee*. What can this look like for us? Speaking to the enemy and commanding him to leave, staying planted firmly in the word of God, and growing our relationship with the Father. You may be sick right now, or still healthy, but you can always engage in your relationship with God and embrace His truth for your life. Spend time today in that relationship.

Reference Verses

- Matthew 17:14-20, 8:16-17, 26:39, 11:12
- Hebrews 1:3
- Acts 10:38
- Romans 5:12
- Mark 9:17-27, 6:5
- Revelation 12:11
- Psalms 78:4, 103:2-5
- Isaiah 53:5
- Exodus 15:26
- 2 Timothy 2:26
- John 10:10-11
- Luke 13:10-17

Declarations

- Sickness is never from God
- I am fearfully and wonderfully made
- God has a loving nature and desires for me to live life in freedom

What's Next?

Experiencing God's healing power requires intentional steps of faith, spiritual growth and service. Healing isn't just physical restoration but also a heart that trusts God's promises, prioritizes spiritual and physical well-being and extends His love to others. By following these principles you can position yourself to receive God's healing and be a vessel of His power in the lives of those around you.

1. Cultivate a Heart of Faith: Faith is the foundation of receiving healing. Start by understanding God's will – He wants to heal and His Word is full of promises of restoration. Study Scripture, meditate on His truth and align your beliefs with His Word. Overcome unbelief by identifying your doubts and replacing them with faith

building practices like prayer, Scripture meditation and surrounding yourself with other believers. Speak God's Word over your life and declare His promises of healing and wholeness with confidence.

2. Prioritize Spiritual Health: A healthy relationship with God strengthens both your spirit and body. Spend time in prayer and Bible study daily and allow His presence to renew your faith. Make wise choices for your physical health by eating nutritious food, getting enough rest and exercise – these support both physical and spiritual vitality. Protect your mind by filling it with uplifting content, avoiding negativity and eliminating things that weaken your faith. A healthy mind and spirit is an environment for God's healing power to work in your life.

3. Engage in Acts of Service: Serving others is a powerful way to experience and share God's healing presence. Look for opportunities to bless others through acts of kindness, encouragement and prayer. Pray for those who are sick believing God can and will heal. Support ministries that focus on healing whether through intercession, medical missions or support groups and be a part of God's work of restoring others.

By following these steps you'll open your life to God's healing power and grow in faith. Remember healing is a journey – it may not always be immediate but God is faithful. Trust His timing, remain steadfast in your faith and keep seeking Him with expectation. As you do you'll see His power at work in your life and in the lives of those around you.

Scripture References

Healing: A Promise for Today

Matthew 17:14-20 NKJV And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him." Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

Hebrews 10:9 NKJV " I have come to do Your will, O God."

Hebrews 1:3 AMPC He is the sole expression of the glory of God [the Light-being, the out-raying or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God's] nature...

Romans 5:12-14 MSG You know the story of how Adam landed us in the dilemma we're in—first sin, then death, and no one exempt from either sin or death. That sin disturbed relations with God in everything and everyone...

Matthew 8:16 NKJV When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick...

Acts 19:12 NKJV ...so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

Mark 9:17-19 NKJV Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not." He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall bear with you?"

Revelation 12:11 KJV And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Mark 9:19-23 NKJV He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

Mark 6:5 KJV And he could there do no mighty work...

Mark 9:24 NKJV Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

Matthew 8:16-17 NKJV When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."

Isaiah 53:4 LESSER But only did He bear Himself, and our pains he carried.

Isaiah 53:5 Rotherham ...By His stripes, there is healing for us.

Isaiah 53:5 MOFFATT ...The blows that fell to Him have brought us healing.

Isaiah 53:5 YOUNG ...By His bruise, there is healing to us.

Isaiah 53:5 AMPC ...the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being for us was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him we are healed and made whole.

Psalms 103:2-3 NKJV Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases...

Exodus 15:26 NKJV "For I am the Lord who heals you."

Matthew 26:39 NKJV ...fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

Matthew 11:12 NKJV ...the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

2 Timothy 2:26 NLT For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...

Matthew 11:12 JUBILEE From the days of John the Baptist until now, life is given unto the kingdom of the heavens, and the valiant take hold of it.

Matthew 11:12 TYNDALE ... and they that go to it with violence pluck it unto them...

Matthew 11:12 WEYMOUTH The violent have been seizing it by force.

Luke 13:10-16 NKJV Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?"

Galatians 3:29 KJV And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.