

Wednesday, January 13

A healing encounter with Jesus involves faith that Jesus is capable of healing and will act on your behalf. Jesus demonstrated on multiple occasions his personal authority and power over illness and death itself. Today's stories include two people who showed ultimate faith in Jesus, knowing that just a word or touch from Jesus would be enough.

Mark 5:21-43

- The synagogue ruler and the woman with the issue of blood waited until all other options had run out before they contacted Jesus. In what had they put their faith instead?
- Jesus told Jarius, "Don't be afraid; just believe" (verse 36). In what circumstance do you need to take these words to heart and place your faith in Jesus to act?

Thursday, January 14

Jesus told his followers in John 14:12 that following his departure from Earth they would do what he was doing and even greater things. The Holy Spirit, dwelling in the lives of all followers of Jesus, carries on Jesus' healing ministry within each follower to bring life transformation. The Spirit also uses believers to bring about physical, spiritual, and emotional healing for others in Jesus' name, especially those with the spiritual gift of healing.

Acts 3:1-16

- According to Acts 3:16, what brings about healing?
- As a follower of Jesus, with whom could you share what you have - the hope that comes with a relationship with Christ?

Friday, January 15

A healing encounter with Jesus includes trust that God's bigger plan is constantly at work on your behalf. God's primary desire for you is your spiritual healing through a relationship with God - and that may or may not include physical health and well-being. For some, physical healing is the pathway to a mature relationship with God and transformation into God's image. For others, physical infirmities might be the route. In any and all circumstances God is always at work with a greater purpose in mind.

2 Corinthians 12:1-10 & Romans 8:28-39

- What was God's purpose in not answering Paul's prayer to have his "thorn in the flesh" removed?
- When God appears to be silent concerning an urgent request from you, how do you normally react? How can you develop trust in God during those times?

Saturday, January 16

Jesus told the ten lepers in today's story to "go, show yourselves to the priests" and be certified as healed and clean according to the Old Testament law. They stepped out in obedience to Jesus, even before they could physically see their healing, and "as they went" they were healed. Your call is to walk in obedience to Jesus, trusting his work is being completed within you - and give thanks for it.

Luke 17:11-19 & Psalm 103:1-6

- What attitude are you to have as you ask God for healing?
- What do you find most challenging about the concept of healing? Why?