

Growing In Maturity: Understanding Prayers of Command

Command prayer is where we speak directly to the body part or condition to be healed in response to listening and obeying promptings of the Spirit in healing ministry.

Area of Clarity: Commanding Creation, Not the Creator

Area of Clarity: The Church Has No Universally Binding Prohibitions For Lay People

"Then the Saint put his hand on her head, and holding it there for a while, spoke these words, "I command thee, fever, to depart, and leave this creature of Almighty God:" and from that day forth the fever was stayed, and Maria was completely restored."

Area of Clarity: Honoring Local Authority

Growing In Maturity: Exousia and Evangelization

Any healing that happens is a participation in Jesus' ministry.

Mt 28: 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority (exousia) in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

"And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority (exousia) over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity...6 Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without pay, give without pay." Mt 10:1,7-8

Exousia and Evangelization: Lessons on Evangelization and Kingdom

Lesson 1: Context of Evangelization

My Principle: my participation in Jesus' authority to heal appears to increase in the context of kingdom evangelization. The greater the evangelization context, the greater I experience the Lord's healing authority.

Lesson 2: Kingdom

Proclaiming the kingdom is for the lost and for those who don't know they are lost

As you mature, you will find that your confidence will be less and less in simply following a prayer model, and more and more in partnering with Holy Spirit to preach the good news of the kingdom to people and then praying for their issues and conditions

Growing In Maturity: Honoring The Gift of Natural Medicine

Jesus the healer is not in competition with modern medicine. All authentic healing intervention ultimately comes from God.

"Make friends with the doctor, for he is essential to you; God has also established him in his profession. From God the doctor has wisdom, and from the king he receives sustenance. Knowledge makes the doctor distinguished, and gives access to those in authority. God makes the earth yield healing herbs which the prudent should not neglect." (Sirach 38:1-4)

As Christians, we desire to give people the best of Jesus and the best of modern medicine.

Growing In Maturity: An Interior Culture of Radical Gratitude and Praise

A response of praise and gratitude for the smallest of healings will guard you from developing a hard heart.

Homework

Journal: When healing ministry is not common, it's easy for the enemy to create stumbling blocks of confusion. For homework, take a moment and ask Jesus to highlight one of the "Growing In Maturity" topics that we covered in session 1 or session 2 for you to reflect on. Write a half-page to one page journal entry that summarizes the area of growth in your own words. Be sure to note why it's important for students of Jesus to grow in this area as they seek to faithfully respond to the Spirit.

Suggested Reading: *Healing - Bringing God's Mercy to the World*, Chp 11-12 (see syllabus for suggested reading schedule)