



# THE PRAYER CLOSET

ENCOURAGING & EQUIPPING BELIEVERS IN PRAYER

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## SEEKING THE HEALING GOD

The last couple of months have been the toughest of my life. I've found myself walking through the darkest valleys of my life. In August, I stood up off a couch and blood filled one eye. I had bleeding behind the eye. I immediately went to a retina specialist. He began to work on me. Thankfully, the retina has been restored and is stable at this point.

A week later, my Mom suffered a stroke on both sides of the brain. It has left her paralyzed on her left side. She is able to speak and communicate. She is also able to eat. She is currently in a nursing home receiving physical therapy. We are waiting to see what the Lord will do in this situation.

I say all that to say that I've been wrestling with how to pray for healing. It has been months of seeking God and agonizing over this subject. It has become intensely personal for me.

In this issue of The Prayer Closet, I want to offer some insights on how to seek God for healing. I want to offer from prayers from Scripture to seek God for healing. Then I'll close out with some practical matters about praying for healing.

### Scripture Prayers

Father, You created \_\_\_\_\_. You formed him/her. You knit his/her inward parts in the womb. You alone know how to make what is right in \_\_\_\_\_'s body. You alone know how to heal \_\_\_\_\_. As his/her Creator, I pray that You would grant healing to \_\_\_\_\_. Let Your power envelop him/her and bring the healing that is needed (**Genesis 1:26; Psalm 139**).

You are the God of healing. Your name declares that You are the Healer. Your nature is to heal. I plead with You to be true to Your name and Your nature. I ask You to release healing into \_\_\_\_\_'s life. Reveal Yourself to be the God of healing by touching and transforming \_\_\_\_\_ (**Exodus 15:26**).

I praise You, O God that one of Your first revelations about Yourself is that You are a God who heals and makes whole. The essence of who You are is to heal and make whole. I plead in the name of Jesus that You would heal and make \_\_\_\_\_ whole (**Exodus 15:26**).

Father, Your Word says that You heal all our diseases. I plead in the name of Jesus that You will heal \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. Drive this completely out of his/her body (**Psalms 103:1-4**).

Father, I plead that You will heal \_\_\_\_\_ because of Jesus' work on the cross. By His death and the merits of His blood, I pray that You would grant healing to \_\_\_\_\_ (**Isaiah 53:4-5**).

Lord Jesus, You said "according to your faith, let it be to you." I pray that You would grant \_\_\_\_\_ the faith in order to believe Your Word for his/her healing (**Matthew 9:29**).

Lord Jesus, like the woman in the crowd who touched the hem of Your garment and was healed, I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ would reach out to You. Your healing virtue is available to those who reach out to You. I ask that \_\_\_\_\_ would experience

this healing power when he/she reaches out to You **(Mark 5:24-34)**.

Father, when doubt or unbelief starts to fill \_\_\_\_\_'s mind and heart concerning healing, I pray that he/she will focus on the words of Jesus, "Do not fear, only believe" **(Mark 5:36)**.

Lord Jesus, You have been exalted as Lord over all. This includes all sickness and disease. In the Your name and through Your power, I pray that You would remove \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_'s life **(Philippians 2:9-11)**.

Father, in Jesus' name and because of His blood, I plead that You would bind any evil spirits that are involved in \_\_\_\_\_'s condition. Bind the spirit of fear that says he/she will only get worse **(Matthew 16:19)**.

Father, I plead that You would remove any obstacle in \_\_\_\_\_'s that would prevent him/her from receiving healing **(James 5:16)**.

Father, I pray that You would pour out Your mercy and grace on \_\_\_\_\_ during this time of sickness. Let Your power sustain him/her until healing comes to his/her life **(2 Corinthians 12:9)**.

Father, in the midst of the pain with no outward improvements, enable \_\_\_\_\_ to be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in love and obedience for You. I plead that \_\_\_\_\_ will keep his/her eyes fixed on You, his/her Healer and Sustainer **(1 Corinthians 15:58)**.

Father, You are full of mercy and compassion for \_\_\_\_\_. He/She is suffering and needs Your healing. Because of Your unfailing mercy and compassion, I plead that You will release Your healing power in \_\_\_\_\_'s life. I ask that You would heal \_\_\_\_\_ as a concrete expression of Your mercy and compassion **(2 Corinthians 1:3; Lamentations 3:22-23)**.

Father, the Lord Jesus Christ has taught me to ask, seek, and knock. I ask You to grant healing to \_\_\_\_\_. I seek You for the release of Your power into his/her life. I am knocking for the

blessing of physical and spiritual wholeness in \_\_\_\_\_'s life **(Matthew 7:7)**.

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus for You to heal \_\_\_\_\_ so that You might be glorified. Grant healing to \_\_\_\_\_ so that people might praise You and honor You for Your love, compassion, and power **(John 11:4; Acts 4:21)**.

Just as the people who brought the blind man of Bethsaida, I bring \_\_\_\_\_ to You. I lift him/her up to You in prayer. I beg You to touch him/her. I plead with You to grant healing in his/her life **(Mark 8:22-25)**.

Father, I believe that You are willing to heal. I believe that You have the power to heal. Because of this, I pray that You would heal \_\_\_\_\_. In faith, I plead for the release of Your healing power in his/her life **(Matthew 9:2, 15:28)**.

O Lord my God, I plead that \_\_\_\_\_ would cry out to You and that You would heal \_\_\_\_\_ in response to his/her cries to You **(Psalm 30:2)**.

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that You would send Your Word and heal \_\_\_\_\_. Deliver him/her from \_\_\_\_\_ **(Psalm 107:20)**.

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that You would strengthen \_\_\_\_\_ on his/her bed of illness. I plead with You to sustain him/her on his sickbed. I pray that You would grant Your healing in Your time and way in his/her life **(Psalm 41:3)**.  
Father, I pray that You would heal \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ so that he/she can declare Your mighty works to others **(Psalm 118:17)**.

Father, You are the God who has the power to take sickness away from \_\_\_\_\_. I plead in the name of Jesus that You would remove \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_'s life **(Exodus 23:25)**.

Father, I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ would not be wise in his/her own eyes and that he/she would shun and avoid evil. Let this bring health to

\_\_\_\_\_’s body and nourishment to his/her bones (**Proverbs 3:7-8**).

Father, You give power to the faint and You give strength to those who have no strength. Father, \_\_\_\_\_ has no strength and is faint because of his/her illness. I plead that You would grant power and strength to \_\_\_\_\_ (**Isaiah 40:29**).

Father, \_\_\_\_\_’s body has been bought with a price, the precious blood of Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_’s body belongs to You. This disease/trauma is trespassing on Your property. I plead in the name of Jesus that You would evict this disease or trauma from \_\_\_\_\_’s body (**1 Corinthians 6:19-20**).

## Practical Guidelines For Healing Prayer

The following are some practical suggestions on praying for healing. These guidelines can assist you in your intercession for those who are sick.

- ◆ *Pray in faith that God will heal the person.* When you pray for healing, be bold in your asking. Believe God for the healing in the person’s life. God’s name and nature reveal that He is a God who is willing and able to heal. This is a powerful motivation for praying for healing. Don’t be intimidated or afraid to pray for healing. It is in God’s hands. He is the One who heals. Your responsibility is to pray to Him for the release of His healing power. Cry out to Him in faith for healing in the life of the person.
- ◆ *Be submissive to the Holy Spirit’s leadership when praying for healing.* As you pray in faith for healing, be sensitive to the Spirit’s leadership. He can and will grant you insights that you will need to intercede for this person. He can reveal areas that you need to cover in your praying for the sick person. Ask Him to make you sensitive to His leadership as you pray for healing.
- ◆ *Pray for the removal of any hindrances to healing in the person’s life.* Just as there are hindrances to prayer, there are hindrances to healing. I am well aware of the horror stories that circulate concerning this subject. You have probably heard

of ministers or evangelists telling people that they did not have enough faith to be healed. These ministers and evangelists place the blame on the person for a lack of healing in his or her life. This adds even more pain to the sick person. This is unfortunate and regrettable. The sick person needs ministry and encouragement, not accusation and ridicule. Yet, at the same time, it must be stated that there are hindrances to healing. We must develop a balance between ministry and encouragement and lovingly confronting any hindrances to healing. There are certain things that hinder a person from receiving God’s healing power. We cannot ignore the fact that certain factors can hinder a person from receiving healing. An example is unforgiveness. As you pray for healing, plead that God will enable the person to remove any hindrances to healing. Pray for the removal of these things so that the person can receive healing.

- ◆ *Persist in praying for healing.* Do not become discouraged if healing does not take place immediately. Do not give up praying for the person. Sometimes God is pleased to heal instantaneously. Yet, there are times when His healing is a process—it happens over a period of time. Continue to plead in faith for the person.
- ◆ *Pray that grace and strength would be given to the person until healing does come.* While the person is sick, plead that God would sustain the person. Ask Him to work in the person’s life through this time until healing does take place. Pray that His work of sanctification will be advanced and deepened in the person’s life.
- ◆ *Remember that God’s healing is sometimes heaven.* There are times when God is pleased to heal in this life. Yet, God sometimes heals by taking the person into heaven. He then gives the ultimate and eternal healing.
- ◆ *Keep your faith fixed on the Healer and not on the healing.* God is more important than the healing. An individual’s relationship to God is a priority over the healing. Both the sick person and those praying for him or her must seek the Healer first and foremost.
- ◆ *Immerse yourself in the Word of God.* Praying for healing must be based on the Word of God. Dig into God’s truth for His claims, His commands, and His promises. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide

you to texts or verses that will give you insight on how to pray in this particular situation.

- ◆ *Praise God as you pray for healing.* Praise releases God's power. God declares that He will be enthroned in the praises of His people (**Psalm 22:3**). He will reveal His power as His people praise Him. When the praise goes up, the power comes down. This is a crucial element in praying for healing. The power of praise was introduced to Dick Eastman during his daughter's illness. She was in bed with a temperature of 104 and it was rising rapidly. "Recalling the victory of Judah in **2 Chronicles 20:22**, I began to sing a song of praise over Ginger. Instantly the fever broke and sweat actually began to pour down her forehead into my hands." Eastman shared this experience at a later date on television. A young woman saw it and recalled it at a crucial point in her own life. She was in the hospital about to be operated on for a potentially life-threatening situation. Her fever started to rise and her vital signs were rising sharply. She asked the nurse for permission to have her family come in and sing songs of victory. It was quickly granted, and as the family began to sing, blending their voices in a song of victory, her vital signs began to drop, as did her fever. As the song ended, her temperature was 98.6. God had met them in their song (*Love On Its Knees*, Dick Eastman, Fleming H. Revell Co., 1989). When you pray for healing, praise God for victory. Glorify Him for what He will do in the person's life.

## Prayer Closet News

I realize that it has been awhile since you have received the Prayer Closet newsletter. It is my hope and prayer that we can get back on track with this issue. I'd appreciate your help in the following ways:

- Please pray with us that we will continue to be faithful to the Lord and this ministry. Ask the Lord to give help and direction as we seek to equip and encourage believers and churches in prayer.
- Please share the newsletters. We long for this material to get in the hands of as many people as possible for God's glory and the help and good of His people.
- Please consider helping us financially. We are still working on our facility along with producing our newsletters and materials. You can give by Pay Pal or by check or money order.
- Please pray for my ministry and me.

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