

MIRACLES OF HEALING

BLUEPRINTS
OF THE CHURCH
SERMON RESOURCE

Our Liturgy

The Lord is here — His Spirit is with us.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is — there is Freedom!

CONNECT

— 15 MINUTES

How have you sensed Jesus inviting you to greater diligence in being part of the countercultural community of the church?

How have you been aware of his invitation to diligence in word, worship, prayer and fellowship? The unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace?

REVIEW

— 30 MINUTES

Have you ever experienced or witnessed a miracle of healing?

Read Acts 3:1-11

- What stands out to you?
- Do you think something like this could happen today?
- What, if anything, would keep you from stepping out like Peter did?

Healing is a sign of the Kingdom of Heaven breaking into our broken human experience. It is the manifestation of the restoration of the fall begun by Jesus and commissioned to His followers

- Matthew 10:1 — Authority to heal has been given to followers of Jesus; *exousia* = authority, power, right, liberty, jurisdiction
- Luke 10:1-12 — The mandate extends beyond the 12 apostles. What clear instructions speak to you?
- 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 — gifts, including healing and miracles, are given by the Spirit to believers
- Acts 4:1-4 — because of the healing miracle, people believed that Jesus rose from the dead. Miracles point to the truth of who Jesus is
- Miracles lead to conversions seventeen times in the book of Acts!



Disappointment can lead to poor theology around healing.

- Matthew 12:38–40
- There was a demand to prove His authority
- Jesus called this “evil and adulterous.” He was addressing the rebellious heart that will only receive Him on their own terms.
- Disappointment with God can lead us into the trap of offence with God and rebellion to His authority.
- What did Jesus say was the ultimate sign of His authority?
- Our hope and salvation lies in the truth of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Even those who are healed ultimately suffering human illness and weakness again in their lifetimes.
- 2 Corinthians 12:8–10 — Christ can also be glorified when we are faithful to Him our suffering; this is also a signpost of the Kingdom of God

Framework for Healing — there is no formula, but Acts 3 offers us a framework.

- Pay attention to the prompting of the Spirit. The lame man was familiar to Peter and John, but this day they sensed the invitation of the Spirit to minister to this man.
- v. 4–5 They looked at the man, made eye contact; honour the humanity of the person, made in the image of God. We bring emotional and spiritual healing when we serve another with the love of God.
- v. 6 Acknowledge that you have nothing of yourself to give, all power and authority comes from Jesus and in His name
- v. 6 Peter spoke with authority. He didn’t petition Jesus to heal the man, rather he used the authority delegated to him to speak to the infirmity.
- v. 7 Peter gave him a hand. Lend strength to the suffering one! Always test the healing. Ask the person if they notice any difference. Celebrate any changes and keep on praying!
- v. 9–10 Give praise and glory to God!



APPLICATION

— 20 MINUTES

- Bring your disappointments to God and ask Him to restore your hope.
- Confess and repent of any and all unbelief.
- Ask the Spirit to increase your faith! 1 Corinthians 12:7-11. Faith is one of the spiritual gifts we are to earnestly desire.
- Step out in faith and pray for healing. Start with everyday ordinary things. Nothing is too big or too small for Jesus to heal.
- All believers are commissioned with authority for healing. James 5:13-15 also instructs us to specifically ask the elders to pray for healing. You are welcome to contact an elder for prayer!
elders@westlifechurch.ca

Going Deeper:

- Pastor Michelle highly recommends the book **The Familiar Stranger by Tyler Staton** if you want to learn more about experiencing the person and work of the Holy Spirit.
- Check out **this clip of the lame man being healed from Testament**, a modern retelling of the book of Acts created by Angel Studios. Allow it to activate your faith and expectation of healing. Let it fuel your hope in the goodness of God and what it could look like in your sphere of influence.

