

August 17, 2024

Small Group Guide: Does God Still Heal Today?

Opening Question:

Share a time when you or someone you know experienced healing (physical, emotional, or spiritual). How did it impact your faith?

Key Takeaways:

1. God is Jehovah Rapha - "The Lord who heals"
2. Healing in the Bible often points to spiritual healing as the primary focus
3. God still heals today, but for His glory and purposes, not ours
4. We should be cautious of those claiming personal authority to heal
5. Not being healed doesn't mean God doesn't care or isn't working

Discussion Questions:

1. How does understanding God's transcendence (His "bigness") affect our perspective on healing?
2. The sermon mentions that God's healing is often a "temporal benefit to an eternal truth." What do you think this means? How might it change our approach to praying for healing?
3. Discuss the difference between seeing God as a healer by nature (Jehovah Rapha) versus just someone who performs healing acts. Why is this distinction important?
4. How can we maintain faith and trust in God when healing doesn't come in the way or timing we expect?
5. The sermon warns against those claiming personal authority to heal. What are some ways we can discern between genuine spiritual gifts and potentially harmful claims?

6. Reflect on the clip from "The Chosen" shown in the sermon. How does the idea of God "writing a greater story" through our experiences of healing or suffering resonate with you?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, intentionally pray for someone you know who needs healing (physical, emotional, or spiritual).
2. Reflect on areas in your life where you need God's healing touch. Write these down and commit them to prayer, asking for both healing and the ability to trust God's plan.
3. Research a biblical account of healing you're not familiar with. Consider how it points to God's character and the broader message of spiritual healing.
4. If you're struggling with an unanswered prayer for healing, share this with a trusted friend or group member. Allow them to support and pray with you.

Closing Prayer:

Close the session by praying together, acknowledging God as Jehovah Rapha and surrendering to His greater purposes in our lives, whether through healing or other means.