

GOD
STILL
HEALS

Discussion Questions

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WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT HEALING?

1. Express your initial response to the subject of divine healing.
2. What experiences have you had with healing?
3. Read Psalm 46. What does it say of God's relation to our suffering?
4. What reasons are there for believing that God still heals?
5. Have you ever felt condemnation or false guilt in the area of healing? Describe that experience.
6. Ask God to open your heart to the reality of his healing power.

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DO WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THIS?

1. Why does the issue of divine healing make us uneasy?
2. Is healing merely a biblical phenomenon or is it present today?
3. Describe the difference between spiritual healing and physical healing.
4. How does the prayer request list of your local church read?
5. Are you moved by compassion to fulfill the mission given by Jesus or is it duty?
6. Compile your own prayer request list and begin praying through it daily.

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AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO FINDS HEALING HARD TO BELIEVE?

1. Have you seen or experienced healing lately? Share your stories with one another.
2. What is a passage of Scripture that has spoken to you in the past concerning healing?
3. How has fear affected your pursuit of healing?
4. List specific fears that you have pertaining to healing.
5. Besides fear, what hinders you from praying for healing?
6. How difficult is it for you to trust the sovereignty of God in the midst of life's mysteries?
7. Record specific times that God has answered your prayers, and praise him for his faithfulness.

WHY IS HEALING SO MISUNDERSTOOD?

1. What level of skepticism do you have concerning healing?
2. How have poor models affected your view of healing?
3. Have you ever remained silent on the topic of healing for fear of being misunderstood?
4. What view of healing do you hold (denial, historical, occasional, normal)?
5. If healing is the will of God, why do some never receive healing?
6. Share your reservations concerning healing as a group. Encourage each other as you work through these issues.

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WASN'T HEALING ONLY FOR THE EARLY CHURCH?

1. What are the benefits of God listed in Psalm 103?
2. What is the original context of the Isaiah 61 passage Jesus quotes in Luke 4?
3. Did the disciples possess the same power as Jesus in dealing with sickness and demonic affliction?
4. How do we participate in the kingdom of God in the *here and now*?
5. What will healing be like in the *there and then* kingdom of God?
6. Explain the difference between deliverance and healing. Can people need both?
7. Does it seem to you that God has ceased healing people?
8. Pray for an outpouring of God's healing power to happen in your group or in your church.

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ISN'T IT ONLY IN HEAVEN THAT PEOPLE ARE TRULY HEALED?

1. How has the kingdom of God come but not yet fully come?
2. Can healing occur when there is a lack of the presence of the kingdom of God?
3. What does abundant life entail?
4. What power and authority did Jesus transfer to his disciples and ultimately us?
5. Since the kingdom of God has not yet fully come, can complete healing happen here on earth?
6. Do a word study on the phrase *kingdom of God (heaven)* using Bible dictionaries or commentaries, and discuss in depth the many facets of this kingdom.

DOESN'T GOD USE SICKNESS TO TEACH PEOPLE?

1. Can God use sickness to form our characters without being the source of the sickness?
2. Who is responsible for sickness in the world?
3. How does illness keep us in the Devil's power?
4. In what ways does God teach us his principles and will?
5. If God allows a certain occurrence to happen, is that the same as willing it to happen?
6. What have you learned in the midst of sickness? Express this with the group.

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IF YOU HAVE THE GIFT, WHY NOT EMPTY THE HOSPITAL?

1. Describe a person you have known who had lost all hope.
2. How has the environment of hospitals affected your prayers for the sick?
3. In order to join him, what is the best way to discern where the Father is working?
4. How is God's will reflected in his timing?
5. Plan a hospital visit for your group to plant new seeds of hope.

IF HEALING WAS REAL,
WOULDN'T IT BE INSTANTANEOUS?

1. Why do you think it seems like the Bible records more instantaneous healings than gradual?
2. What is the significance of Jesus spitting into mud twice to heal the blind man in Mark 8?
3. Is it possible that some healings are both instantaneous and gradual? How would you explain this?
4. Have you experienced a lengthy delay while praying for healing? How long was the delay?
5. Purity of heart is a main theme of healing. Examine your motives concerning healing and confess them to one another.

WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO AREN'T HEALED?

1. How do you interpret the statement from Job 1:21, “The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away”?
2. Is God’s goodness predicated on the abundance of his blessings or the holiness of his being?
3. How does God blend divine providence and free will in the format of a broken world?
4. What do you think was the purpose of the “thorn in the flesh” of Paul?
5. Do you feel your trust is stronger in the wisdom of doctors and medicine or in the healing power of God?
6. Why have some people who you pray for gotten better while others have not?
7. Update your group’s prayer request list, adding any praises or new requests.

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HOW CAN I RELEASE GOD'S HEALING IN MY LIFE?

1. Are there any blockages in your life holding back God's healing power?
2. Can you think of a time, biblical or present, when physical healing preceded spiritual healing?
3. How is the giving and receiving of forgiveness connected to healing?
4. Are there people in your life who you need to forgive?
5. Are there situations in your life in which you need to receive forgiveness?
6. Take the steps necessary to forgive those you need to forgive. Open your heart to receive forgiveness from those who need to give it to you.

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IS IT TRUE THAT SIN CAUSES DISEASE?

1. Who is the true source of disease?
2. What is the relationship between sinful choices and illness?
3. Why does the West sharply separate the physical world from the spiritual?
4. What is the context of David's anguish in Psalm 31?
5. Following the guidance given in the epistle of James, confess your sins with one another and pray together for God's healing.

WHERE DO I NEED TO GO FOR HEALING?

1. Discuss the health of your local church.
2. How do we harmonize our differences to unite as one body, as the church?
3. What characteristic, from the ones listed in this chapter, would your church be known by?
4. How can you help your community increase its health?
5. Have each member of your group invite someone in need of healing to join you in a church service.

DO I HAVE ENOUGH FAITH TO BE HEALED?

1. In terms of faith, how small is too small?
2. While faith is essential for healing, is it a guarantee of healing?
3. How does the faith of those praying affect the person in need of healing?
4. Can the strong faith of the one praying for another outweigh the weak faith of the person in need?
5. How do we reconcile moments of immense faith with a lack of healing?
6. Read Hebrews 11 and study the meaning of faith.

WHAT IS MY ROLE IN BRINGING HEALING?

1. Is healing only a special gift that some possess and others do not?
2. What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
3. How do we understand God better by looking at the life of Christ?
4. With God doing the work of healing, what role should we play?
5. Discuss what role you have been currently playing in the act of healing. Has it been the proper role?

DO I HAVE THE SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY
TO PRAY FOR HEALING?

1. How do we know when to request God's will or when he is calling us to declare it?
2. If God is the ultimate power of the universe, how does Satan have authority presently on earth?
3. Describe Jesus as the last Adam.
4. Why doesn't healing occur more instantaneously, if our authority comes from God?
5. Do you feel authoritative when you pray for healing? How can you pray with more confidence?

HOW DOES MY SPIRITUAL LIFE AFFECT MY PRAYERS?

1. What spiritual disciplines are helpful in unleashing God's healing power?
2. Following the example of Jesus, how can we keep our eyes on the Father?
3. How do you know when a sensing is from the Holy Spirit or when it is just heartburn?
4. In what ways do you hear God?
5. Examine your spiritual life. Has it been affecting your prayers for healing?

IF I NEGLECT MY HEALTH,
WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM GOD?

1. When is praying for healing presumptuous, and when is it an act of faith?
2. Is it ever appropriate to demand healing?
3. What kind of “skill power” is needed for healing?
4. Ask yourself the question, “How are illnesses in my life attached to unhealthy habits I have?”
5. How can you encourage each other to live a healthier lifestyle?

ARE DEMONS REAL?

1. Discuss different theories of what demons are.
2. How does demon affliction differ from demon possession?
3. What are a few entry points for demonic affliction?
4. How should you pray for deliverance? Does this way of prayer change when dealing with healing?
5. What are ways to measure a successful deliverance?
6. Looking at Luke 10:20, what fact should we truly rejoice in?

CAN SICKNESS HAVE A SPIRITUAL CONNECTION
FROM ONE GENERATION TO ANOTHER?

1. What are familial spirits?
2. Explain the corporate vision of sin detailed in this chapter.
3. How much more expansive, reaching over multiple generations, is God's blessing compared to his judgment?
4. How does one break free from the cycle of "trans-generational" sins?
5. Ask God to reveal anyone on your prayer request list dealing with sins of a previous generation.

HOW LONG SHOULD I WAIT TO BE HEALED?

1. Why do some healings take longer than others?
2. What causes us to struggle with staying persistent in prayer, especially in the arena of divine healing?
3. How is perseverance a matter of faith?
4. Does an illness, even the death, of a famous healing evangelist affect the power of his or her message?
5. Share stories of times when healing came after long periods of persistence.

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WHERE DO I BEGIN?

1. Discuss what the process of gradual healing looks like today.
2. Have you ever felt as David did in Psalm 69:1–3? Share this time with the group.
3. What are the promises of God that David speaks of in Psalm 41?
4. What is the result of consecrating one's life to the Lord?
5. List certain attitudes that obstruct clear, direct access to the Lord. Have you struggled with any of these attitudes?
6. How is the typical prayer service at your church formatted?
7. In what ways can your group focus its attention on living in the overwhelming presence of God?

HOW DO I PRAY FOR THE SICK?

1. How have your prayers for the sick been effective? In what ways have your prayers been ineffective?

2. Detail John Wimber's five steps to healing prayer. Are these steps you have been taking?

3. Considering the different types of prayer, which one do you find yourself using the most? Which one do you find yourself using the least?

4. How does prayer change after healing has occurred?

5. Pick two people from your prayer request list and follow Wimber's five-step outline. Record your results.

WHAT SHOULD I SAY WHEN I PRAY?

1. Have you ever felt at a loss for words when praying for healing?
2. List several passages of Scripture that are especially pertinent to healing.
3. Out of the pertinent Scripture passages you listed, choose a few to memorize and pray through.
4. How can the Word of God be used incorrectly?
5. Write your own prayers based on the Scriptures you are going to memorize, and share them as a group.

CAN IT REALLY BE TRUE THAT GOD STILL HEALS?

1. What is meant by the idea of the excluded middle?
2. Have you ever struggled to accept the overlap between the spiritual and physical world?
3. Why do you think the Haitian culture easily blends the spiritual and physical?
4. How has your faith in the power of healing prayer grown after reading this book?
5. Share new stories of God's healing touch and pray with confidence for more.