

# LG - Does God Heal Today?

## Aim

To explore what the Bible teaches about God as a healer, how Jesus and the early church prayed for healing, and how believers today can approach prayer for healing with faith, humility, and persistence.

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## Introduction

Healing is one of the most talked about and sometimes confusing aspects of Christian faith. Many people have experienced answers to prayer for healing, while others have prayed sincerely and not seen the outcome they hoped for.

The Bible presents God as a God who heals, yet also acknowledges that we live in a world still affected by suffering and brokenness.

Tonight we will explore what Scripture says and reflect together on how we should pray for healing today.

## Opening Question

Have you ever experienced or witnessed something you would describe as healing from God?

(Allow a few people to share briefly if they are comfortable.)

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## 1. God Reveals Himself as a Healer (Exodus 15:26)

In this passage, God introduces Himself to Israel after rescuing them from Egypt.

“I am the LORD, who heals you.”

Healing is not presented merely as something God occasionally does. It is part of who He is.

God’s healing in the Bible includes:

- Physical healing

- Emotional restoration
- Spiritual healing from sin
- The future promise of complete restoration

God's character as healer continues throughout Scripture.

## Discussion Questions

1. What does this verse reveal about God's character?
2. Do you think God still heals today? Why or why not?
3. Can you think of an example when God has healed you or someone else?

## Reflection

Sometimes healing is dramatic and immediate. Other times it comes through doctors, time, or emotional restoration. God may work in many ways.

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# 2. Jesus Commissioned His Followers to Heal (Matthew 10:5–8, Mark 6:12–13)

When Jesus sent out His disciples, He instructed them not only to preach but also to heal the sick.

They were participating in Jesus' mission of bringing the Kingdom of God.

Mark describes how they obeyed:

- They preached repentance
- They drove out demons
- They anointed the sick and healed them

Healing ministry was therefore part of the early mission of the church.

## Discussion Questions

1. What does this passage suggest about how Jesus expected His followers to minister to people?
2. Do you find it difficult to pray for healing? Why?
3. Is it easier to be prayed for than to pray for someone else? Why might that be?

## Reflection

Many Christians feel hesitant to pray for healing because they fear disappointment or feel their faith is not strong enough.

But the disciples themselves were learning as they went.

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## 3. Faith, Forgiveness, and Healing (Mark 2:1–12)

In this story, friends bring a paralysed man to Jesus by lowering him through the roof.

Several things stand out:

- The friends showed **bold faith**
- Jesus first addressed **forgiveness of sins**
- Then Jesus healed the man physically

The passage shows the deep connection between spiritual restoration and physical healing.

However, it does not mean that **all sickness is caused by personal sin**.

## Discussion Questions

1. What do you notice about the faith of the paralysed man's friends?
2. What role do you think community plays when someone is seeking healing?
3. Do you think repentance from sin is always relevant when praying for healing?

## Reflection

While sickness is not always caused by sin, Scripture does sometimes encourage self examination and repentance as part of coming to God for healing.

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## 4. Prayer for Healing in the Church (James 5:13–16)

James gives practical instruction for believers.

When someone is sick they are encouraged to:

- Call the elders of the church
- Be prayed for
- Be anointed with oil
- Confess sins if necessary
- Pray with faith

The passage emphasises **community prayer, repentance, and faith.**

## Discussion Questions

1. What stands out to you about the instructions in this passage?
2. If you feel you don't have the faith to ask God for healing, what do you think you should do?

## Reflection

Faith is not about having perfect confidence. Often it simply means bringing our need honestly to God and trusting Him with the outcome.

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# 5. When Healing Doesn't Happen

One of the hardest realities is when we pray and healing does not occur.

The Bible does not promise that every prayer for healing will be answered immediately.

However, Scripture encourages persistence and trust.

## Discussion Questions

1. If you pray for someone and they are not healed, how does that make you feel?
2. What further steps could you take?
3. What role do patience and persistence play when praying for healing?

Possible responses may include:

- Continuing to pray

- Seeking prayer from others
  - Trusting God's wisdom
  - Supporting the person practically and spiritually
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## Key Truths to Remember

1. God reveals Himself as a healer.
  2. Jesus encouraged His followers to pray for the sick.
  3. Healing can involve spiritual restoration as well as physical healing.
  4. The church community plays an important role in praying for healing.
  5. Persistence and trust are important when we do not see immediate answers.
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## Practical Application (Optional Prayer Time)

Invite the group to spend some time praying for healing needs.

This may include:

- Physical illness
- Emotional pain
- Family situations
- Spiritual struggles

Encourage people to pray simply and compassionately.