

MINISTRY PRAYER TEAM TRAINING

OUR TEAM PURPOSES

1. To offer Altar Ministry that is both (a) safe and (b) helpful
2. To Aid in (a) repentance, (b) salvation, (c) healing, (d) deliverance, (e) and discipleship
3. To Love in the name of Jesus, those people seeking personal ministry

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Acknowledgments: Most of the material, though comes from the book, "Power Healing", by John Wimber and Kevin Springer. This outline is adapted from the Large Ministry Team (LMT) training sessions in 1993 by Bill Twyman while he was an associate pastor of Vineyard Christian Fellowship Anaheim.
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THE BIG SPIRITUAL PICTURE

THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PEOPLE IN THIS PRESENT AGE

1. People in this age live under the power and control of the prince of this age - Satan (Gal. 1:4, Eph.2:1-3, 1 John 5:19, 2 Tim. 3:1-5, 1 Cor 6:9-11)

a. Unbelievers, no matter how moral and ethical they seem, are blind, in darkness and unbelief (2 Cor. 4:3-4)

b. The effects of that condition are the marks of the ruler of this age in league with our fallen human nature, Galatians 5:19-2. People walking in this condition have the following things in their lives...

- Sexual immorality
- Debauchery
- Witchcraft
- Discord Fits of rage
- Dissension
- Envy
- Orgies
- Impurity
- Idolatry
- Hatred
- Jealousy
- Selfish ambition
- Factions
- Drunkenness
- Addictions
- And ALL SIMILAR things to these

When we minister - God's aim is to Set People Free From Conformity to the World and From Satan's Influence and be Transformed into the Image of Christ

(Matt 10:8, Col. 1:13,14, Roman 8:29)

- a. Deliverance and/or salvation
- b. Heal them from the effects of the enemy
- c. Lead them and nurture them in to a life with Christ

When we minister - God's aim is for them to WALKING IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Galatians 5:6, 13, 22-25,

Ephesians 5: 3-20

Romans 14:17

People walking in the Holy Spirit have the following things growing in their lives...

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self Control
- Righteousness
- Truth
- Thankfulness
- And ALL SIMILAR things to these

SAMPLES OF RESEARCH EVIDENCE

- **Do religious beliefs, worship attendance, serving others, and prayer play a role in speeding recovery from physical, emotional, or spiritual maladies?**

SOUTHERN MEDICAL JOURNAL [Vol 81, No.7 (July 1988) 826-29] published an impressive study by **cardiologist Randolph Byrd** at the coronary care unit at San Francisco General Hospital with 393 patients over a 10-month period. A computer assigned all of the patients to either a group that was prayed for by "born-again Christian" home prayer groups (192 patients) or to a group that was not remembered in prayer (201 patients) It was a randomized, double blind experiment in which neither the patients, nurses, nor doctors knew which group the patients were in.

The prayer groups recruited were given the first names of their patients as well as a brief description of their diagnosis and condition. They were asked to pray each day, but were given no instructions on how to pray. Each person prayed for many different patients, but each patient in the experiment had between five and seven people praying for him or her.

The prayed-for patients differed from the non-prayed for patients in the following ways.

1. They were five times less likely to require antibiotics.
2. They were three times less likely to develop pulmonary edema.
3. None of the prayed-for group required an artificial airway inserted in the throat and attached to a mechanical ventilator, while twelve of the non-prayed for group required this support.
4. Fewer patients in the prayed-for group had cardiac arrests and fewer died.

GEORGETOWN MEDICAL SCHOOL PROFESSOR, Dr Dale A. Matthew.

At the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he presented a review of 212 studies and concluded that three-fourths showed a positive effect of religious commitment on health. He is the author of the book, The Faith Factor

- The Need For A Spiritual Program. Dr. Dale Matthews in his book The Faith Factor (page 186), quotes epidemiologist Jeffrey Levin that the "frequency of worship-service attendance is the bellwether religious variable, the one that has been shown most often to have a pronounced impact on the health of patients in the studies."
- Dr Matthew's book includes four chapters on spirituality, "Developing A Spiritual Program", "Prayer", "The Riches of The Bible", and

A DARMOUTH MEDICAL SCHOOL study, noted by Dr. Matthews, tracked how patients' own prayers helped them recover from bypass surgery. The death rate after six months was 9%. For churchgoers, however, the rate dropped to 5%. None of the "deeply religious" patients died during that period.

JOURNAL OF GERONTOLOGY: Medical Sciences [Aug 1999 issue] published a study by Harold G. Koenig, M.D. of Duke University Medical Center examining almost 4,000 North Carolina residents ages 64 to 101.

"People who attended religious services at least once a week were 46 percent less likely to die during the six-year study. When we controlled for such things as age, race, how sick they were and other health and social factors, there was still a 28 percent reduction in mortality," he says.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY, April 1998: 155(4):536-542 "Religiosity and Remission of Depression in Medically Ill Older Adults"

A study of depressed, physically-ill older adults (patients with a double diagnosis). The more religious a patient was, the more quickly they recovered from depression. Recovery from serious illness is often prolonged by depression. Many other studies have looked at religion's role of preventing depression, but this landmark study looks at religion's role in recovering from depression.

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR THE INTEGRATION OF HEALTH AND SPIRITUALITY

Psychiatrist David Larson, along with Harold Koenig M.D., presents evidence that religious people are actually healthier than the general population, both mentally and physically.

The following are some titles of articles they have produced

- Spirituality Helps Curb Substance Abuse
- Factors Fostering Forgiveness: New Study Shows What Works
- Religious Mothers Have Healthier Babies
- Higher Levels of Religious Activity Linked to Lower Blood Pressure
- Less Fear of Death, Better Coping Among Religious
- Elderly Church Attendees Have Healthier Immune Systems
- Faith Without Medicine Can Be Deadly
- Faith is a Factor in Divorce Recovery
- Divorced men show a dramatic increase in cancer rates.
- Church Attendance Helps Marriages to Last
- Faith Helps Women Cope with Cancer

Duke University Studies have shown the following...

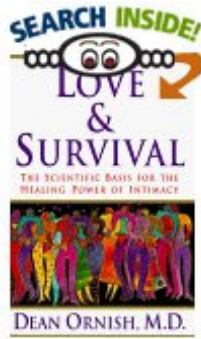
- **Studies relating to physical health.** Greater religious involvement has been associated with lower blood pressure, fewer strokes, lower rates of death from heart disease, lower mortality after heart surgery, and longer survival in general.
- **Studies relating to mental health.** People who are more religious experience greater well-being and life satisfaction, less depression, less anxiety, and are much less likely to commit suicide. Therapies for depression and anxiety that incorporate religious beliefs in treatment result in faster recovery from illness than do traditional therapies. (Example AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY, April 1998: 155(4):536-542)
- **Cost-benefit studies.** Heart-surgery patients who are religious have 20 percent shorter post-operative hospital stays than nonreligious patients (1987). Hospital stays are nearly 2-1/2 times longer for older patients who don't have a religious affiliation (1997). Heart-surgery patients assigned chaplain intervention showed an average two days shorter length of stay, or about \$4,200 cost savings per patient (1995).

INCLUDING PRAYER FOR HEALING

- Do you pray when trying to recover from an illness?
- Do people in your congregation request prayer when they are sick?
- Does your church have a phone or email "prayer chain?"
- Does your congregation have times available or worship services when you can get prayer

HEALING POWER OF INTIMACY

“Our survival depends on the healing power of love, intimacy, and relationships. ...I am not aware of any other factor in medicine - not diet, not smoking, not exercise, not stress, not genetics, not drugs, not surgery - that has a greater impact on our quality of life, incidence of illness, and premature death from all causes. ...Whatever promotes isolation, separation, loneliness, loss, hostility, anger, cynicism, depression, alienation, etc.. often leads to illness and suffering. Anything that promotes love with intimacy, connection, and community is healing. Loneliness hurts. Intimacy and community matter.” -Dr. Dean Ornish MD



The notes to chapter two cite 120 studies!

The Harvard Mastery of Stress Study

Russek & Schwartz have done a number of very important 35 year follow studies

- Perceptions of parental caring predict health status in midlife: a 35-year follow-up of the Harvard Mastery of stress? *Psychosomatic Medicine*, 1997, 59(2):144-49
- Narrative descriptions of parental love and caring predict health status in midlife” *Alternative Therapies in Health and Medicine*, 1996, 2:55-62

An amazing 91% of participants who did not perceive themselves to have had a warm relationship with their mothers 35 years earlier had serious diagnosed diseases in midlife (Including coronary artery disease, high blood pressure, duodenal ulcer, and alcoholism), as compared with only 45% of those who perceived themselves to have had a warm relationship. All (100%) of the participants who rated both their mothers and fathers low in warmth and closeness 35 years earlier had diseases diagnosed in midlife.

THE JOHN HOPKINS STUDY

In the 1940's over 1,100 male students were tested for “Closeness to Parents” and have been followed. Those who later developed cancer were more likely to have described a lack of closeness to their parents than their healthy classmates.

The predictive value of this test did not diminish over time and was not explained by other known risk factors such as smoking, drinking, or radiation exposure. The best predictor of any of the factors about who would get cancer decades later was the closeness of father-son relationships earlier in life.

John Hopkins Medical Journal, 1974, 134:251
Journal of Behavioral Medicine, 1982, 5(2):143-63

CONCLUSIONS

1. The people that frequently attend a faith community...
 - Have greater social networks and therefore greater social support.
 - Worship, adoration and prayer help participants cope with stress and illnesses and therefore contribute to mental well-being, help prevent depression and aid greater immune function.
 - People who cope well are less likely to drink excessively, smoke, or engage in harmful health habits.
2. God answers prayer and speeds return to health.
3. Churches that promote marriage/family health and teach loving parenting skills will promote health for decades to come.

DEVELOPING A HEALING CLIMATE IN YOUR CONGREGATION

1. Expectancy.

More healing happens in when we live in an environment of expectancy. Even Jesus, Himself, was unable to perform many healings in his home town of Nazareth, because of their unbelief (Mark 6:1-6).

Is prayer for healing seen only as a last resort? How can we foster an atmosphere in our congregation that expects God to answer prayer concerning healing of spiritual, relational, emotional or physical difficulties?

2. Multi-Discipline Approach.

More healing happens when people are encouraged to take a complimentary approach to spiritual, medical and counseling resources. Are prayer and regular worship, lifestyle, proper diet, counseling, healthy relationships, and medical science seen as synergistic for health?

Negative health effects can be found in either extreme of (a) ignoring the spiritual and psychological side of humans, and just considering the physical side of an illness or (b) depending solely on spiritual care and neglecting standard medical care.

3. Accessibility.

More people will ask for prayer - If it is available and not perceived as a bother. How available is healing prayer in your congregation? How does one access healing prayer in your church? Can a person get prayer for healing at any the weekly services? How often does your church offer a healing service?

4. Equipping Classes.

More people will pray for others when they have had some training and become comfortable with it. How equipped is your

parish to provide healing prayer? How wide is the circle of people trained to pray with others?

Some churches develop a "Prayer Team" of both men and women gifted in praying for the different categories of healing.

Key qualities needed are compassion, a regular devotional prayer life, and sensitivity to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

For a sample Prayer Team training manual see Appendix.

5. Fostering Loving Relationships.

People that live in loving, supporting relationships are healthier. Love is emphasized as the "main thing" about Christian living again and again in the Bible. Mark 12:30-31; John 13:34-35, 17:21; Galatians 5:6, 14; 1Corinthians 13:1-3, 14:1, 16:14.

How connected are people to each other? Is the relational tone in your congregation one of unity, love, openness, joy - or is it one of aloofness, loneliness, or discord? Does each person have 3 to 5 friends within the parish? Are there small fellowship groups, service groups, or Bible study groups available where connectedness and support can happen?

6. Use Wisdom.

A. Respect your pastor and church leaders. If they is not in favor of healing prayer, you will gain little by directly opposing him/her. It is better to educate by occasionally passing on some books, tapes, videos that have helped you and praying God's blessings on him/her.

B. When introducing anything major and new to your congregation's culture, it may be wise to take a 2-3 year approach. Fast change without lots of explanation is upsetting to people.

ATTITUDES IN A CHURCH CULTURE THAT FOSTER HEALING

| Lack of Healing Resources | Health Promoting | Unhealthy |
|--|--|--|
| <p>1. No Expectation that God answers healing prayers.</p> | <p>High Expectation When you pray, then God blesses in some way.</p> | <p>Blame the sick person if nothing seems to happen.</p> |
| <p>2. Rely on Medical treatment only. Unconnected to spiritual resources.</p> | <p>Integrated Approach Faith Community. Prayer. Lifestyle. Proper diet. Counseling. Healthy Relationships. Medical Treatment.</p> | <p>Prayer alone. Lack of Medical Resources.</p> |
| <p>3. Prayer for Healing is unavailable or hard to access</p> | <p>Prayer Easily Accessible Every week a person could receive prayer if they desire.</p> | <p>Privacy Invaded.</p> |
| <p>4. No Training offered on how to pray for people.</p> | <p>Regular Training Classes each year.</p> | <p>Health and Healing talked about so often that people are tired of it.</p> |
| <p>5. Aloof relationships. Unconnected with each other. Discord within the congregation.</p> | <p>Supportive Relationships Well connected with 3 to 5 friends in the church. Making contact with each other throughout the week.</p> | <p>So "tight" together that it is hard for newcomers to fit in.</p> |

A. EXPECTATIONS OF PRAYER MINISTERS

1. Available

Isaiah 6:8 - "Here am I. Send me!"

- Arrive early and stay late so as to be available to visit and pray with people.
- Seek out newcomers and visit with them
- Keep alert In case the Holy Spirit points someone out to you to visit and pray for.
- Try to accomplish tasks and church business on other days and by phone - so you can be available

2. Knowledgeable

Prov. 14:18 - "... the prudent are crowned with knowledge."

- Leading someone to Christ
- Healing of relationships
- Prayer for wisdom & guidance
- Wisdom about repenting of sexual sin
- Helping a backslidden Christian
- Prayer for the infilling of the Holy Spirit
- Dealing with demons
- Knows the various small groups presently going on to refer people to
- Knows the various brochures available to give a person
- Able to refer the person to various gifted persons

3. Exceed Their Expectations

Matt. 5:41 - "go with him two miles"

Follow up with a phone call or note in the mail during the week.

4. Sensitive

John 15:12 - "Love each other as I have loved you."

- Use wisdom--introduce yourself
- remember your feelings & thoughts in your early days
- try not to speak above the language of the listener
- sensitive about when to pray out loud in tongues
- sensitive about when & where to touch the person.

5. Trained

2 Tim. 2:2b "...entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others."

- Regularly read your Bible
- read helpful ministry books
- attend helpful seminars and training events

6. Disciplined in Upright living

Titus 2:11-12 "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say 'no' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age."

Stable in your Christian walk

Gentle with others

Wholesome Living, Purity

Not a gossip

1 Peter 3: 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

B. REQUIREMENTS TO SERVE

1. Born-again believer in regular attendance at Providence V.C.F. and in agreement with our doctrine, vision, and values.

2. Willing to receive oversight from pastor & elders.

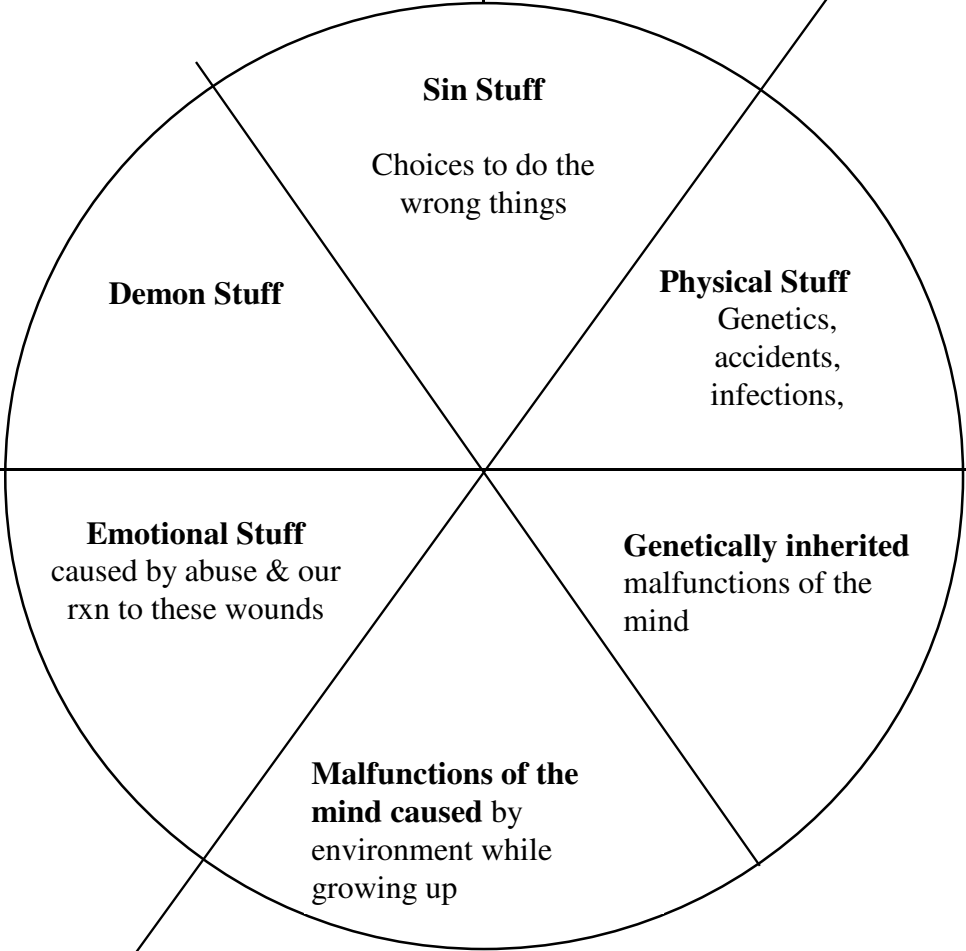
3. Participated in the Training Workshops and any Ministry Team meetings.

4. If appropriate, willing to be an a learner attached to a Team Member. Most people begin in Homegroups.

Note on Friends: Friends may pray for one another, whether or not they are on members of the ministry team.

Prayer - Repentance
Returning to health in relationship with God
Returning to health in relationships with spouse, children, parents, relatives, church family, neighbors, co-workers

Deliverance
Repent of opening doors
Drive out the evil spirit(s)
Renounce & resist

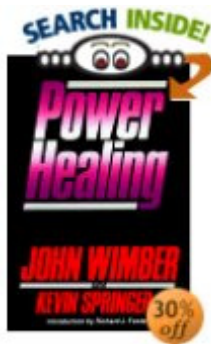


Prayer
Healthy lifestyle - diet, sleep, etc.
Physicians
Psychiatrists

Inner Healing Prayer - Various types of Prayer Counseling
Christian clinical psychologist &/or psychiatrist

TYPES OF HEALING

Although various categories of healing are mentioned for the sake of understanding, we seek healing for the whole person. This often leads to prayer for more than just need the person first presents. (This material is adapted from Power Healing, by John Wimber, Harper & Row, 1987)



A. Healing of the spirit. This is returning to health in one's relationship with God.

It is common for multitudes of people to live aloof from God and in league with their fallen nature. Many are involved with sexual immorality, discord, fits of anger, envy, impure thinking, intoxication, and similar things. (Galatians 5:19-21)

What happens to your health long term when such a lifestyle is lived and its guilt is not dealt with?

Healing here is the receiving of forgiveness and freedom from guilt, which Christ provides in response to repentance and faith (1 John 1:9).

For spiritual health to happen, the person needs to turn away from these things, come to Christ, and nurture a life walking in the Holy Spirit. This increases the love, peace, kindness, joy, truthfulness, thankfulness, forgiveness, self-control and similar things in a person's life. (Galatians 5:6, 13, 22-25, Ephesians 5:3-20, Romans 14:17)

Possible Stories To Use In Worship

- a. Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:1-24) - shame, guilt, hiding, fear
- b. King David's internal struggles after adultery (Psalm 32;1-7. Psalm 51:1-19)

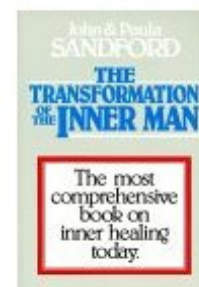
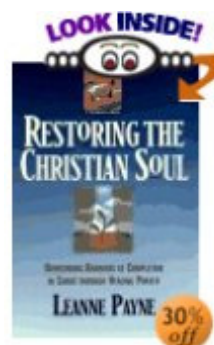
"When I declared not my sin, my body wasted away," Psalm 32:3
c. Nebuchadnezzar's sickness and healing (Daniel 4:19-37) - pride, the mental effects, disruption, then restoration of health and relationships
d. The Woman that anointed Jesus (Luke 7:36-50) - acceptance, forgiveness, release from social stigma

B. Healing of life's hurts. It is an inner healing from damaged emotions and painful memories. It is a returning to health in our emotional life. It is mending "the broken hearted" (Luke 4:18).

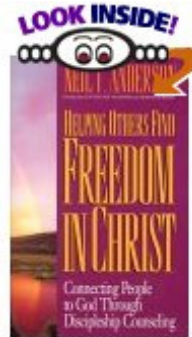
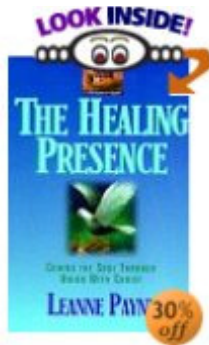
What happens when people are held down by the hurts of the past?

Hurts are often complicated by an unhealthy reaction (bitterness or sense of worthlessness) to the negative experience. The result of both the hurt and the reaction to it may affect our emotions, social relationships and physical health.

- Victims of abuse need to be removed from the harmful situation.
- The harm to children from sexual abuse is enormous. Many women are often unable to



- deal with these memories until their 40's.
- If bitterness is involved, healing comes when a person can forgive. Often improved physical health follows.
- If a sense of worthlessness is involved, healing often comes by meditating on our identity in Christ. (Neal Anderson's material is excellent here.)



Possible Stories To Use In Worship

- a. The unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:15-35, 5:23-24) -how unforgiveness will effect your life.
- b. Peter's denial of Jesus and the healing way Christ restored him (Mark 14:27-31, 66-72, John 21:15-22)
- c. Joseph sold into slavery (Gen. 37:19-28, 39:1-23, 43:6, 45:1-8, 50:15-21) Joseph's story tells of how reinterpreting unjust events in light of God's larger purposes is healing (Genesis 50:15-21, Romans 8:28).

C. Healing of the body. This is the partial or full return to normal body functioning.

- A person's spirit, mind, social relationships, emotions, and body are so interrelated that returning to health in one of these other areas can improve one's health and immune system.
- Occasionally substantial physical healing occurs as a result of prayer. The exact time it takes to return to health may vary from minutes to days to weeks. (scientists label it as spontaneous healing).

Possible Stories To Use In Worship -

- Note the variety of ways it happens.
- a. King Hezekiah's illness and healing. (2 Kings 20:1-11, 2 Chr.. 32:24-30) This story shows healing as the result of both prayer and medicine.
 - b. Naaman the leper (2 Kings 5:1-15) healed after laying aside his preconceptions and dipped himself in the river as an act of faith.
 - c. A blind man healed. (Mark 8:22-26) This story tells of a healing that took more than one prayer. It also involves the laying on of hands.
 - d. Peter's Mother-In-Law healed. (Luke 4:38-39) This story shows healing by speaking to (rebuking) the disease itself.
 - e. Healing by the anointing with oil. (Mark 6:13, James 5:14-16)
 - f. Aeneas healed by Peter. (Acts 9:32-35) This story shows healing through speaking to the person himself.
 - g. Paul's eye's healed through a series of prophetic dreams and the laying on of hands (Acts 9:10-19).

D. Healing of relationships. This is returning to harmony and mutual support as we interact with our spouse, children, parents, church family, or coworkers. It is repairing ruptured relationships (Matthew 5:23-24, 18:15-17).

Unhealthy relationships can be one of the factors complicating illness. When the other party does not want restoration, still a peace comes to the one that has done everything possible (Romans 12:18).

THE FIVE STEP PRAYER MODEL

This is a model to help a person get started with praying for the sick. Each person will develop their own style after praying for numerous people.

I. Step One: INTERVIEW...

"What would you like me to pray for?"

Silently evaluate the answer.

- They may not be in touch with the real problem or the connectedness of this illness with other problems.
- Evaluate in light of your knowledge of the Bible, of the person, of past experiences in praying for similar problems.
- Pray silently: "Lord, is there anything more I should know about this situation?"
- Evaluate supernaturally--in light of words of knowledge, visions, witness of the Spirit.
- Ask questions to confirm what you believe God is showing you.

II. Step Two: DIAGNOSTIC DECISION... "Why does this person have this condition?"

Is it because of an infection, an accident, an emotional wound, abuse, a broken relationship, guilt and shame, bitterness, occult involvement, or don't know.

Helpful questions

"When did the problem start?"

"How does this problem affect your life--your family, job, relationships?"

Ask yourself what feelings seem to be strong here?"

III. Step Three: PRAYER SELECTION..."What kind of prayer is needed to help this person?"

- **Petition** - "Lord, please heal Bob" - Or asking for assurance of God's Love, Comfort, Protection, Wisdom and Guidance
- **Confession & Forgiveness** - accepting forgiveness and release from guilt, letting go of bitterness

- **Authoritative prayers**

- a. Issue a command --"Be Healed", or "I break the power of this disease!"
- b. Rebuke a disorder --"Fever, Go Away", or "Pain, Be Gone"
- c. Rebuking a manifesting demon: "In the Name of Jesus, Stop it" - "In the Name of Jesus, Be Quiet and leave"

IV. Step Four-- PRAYER

ENGAGEMENT...Start praying, but Keep Your Eyes Open and Ask Questions if you want throughout the prayer...."How are we doing?"

- If you are going to lay on hands, ask the person's permission before you touch. Be discreet about where you touch the person. (Head, forehead, shoulder)
- If you anoint with oil, with your finger or thumb rub some oil on the person's forehead, and if appropriate hand and/or ears. "I anoint your with oil, a symbol of the Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus for your healing - body, soul, and spirit"
- Keep your eyes open. See what the Holy Spirit is doing. Take note of any effects. (warmth, tingling, heat, shaking, deep breathing, crying, peace) Sometimes you may want to ask - "You started shaking a moment ago; what did you sense?"
- The Holy Spirit can also bring up other areas of need. Be sensitive and continue - "What is going on? Are there other things you would like to pray about?"
- Pray again or End the process or shift directions depending on what's happening.
- Stop praying when--the person indicates it's over or when there is no more to say.
- Don't rush the process! More insight and healing seems to happen as we soak in prayer.

V. Step Five: AFTERWARD

...Follow-up & Referral

..."What should they do now?"

1. Remember that growth, health, and recovery are a process. Did we (a) Just start the process, or are we (b) In the middle of the process, or is this (c) the end of process.
2. They may need to fight negative mental whispers...saying that they have no hope...or discouraging them from getting further help. Helps are reviewing God's promises, listening to or sing worship songs, talking with a close accepting friend.
3. When healing apparently does not take place.
 - a. Give reassurance of God's and your love.
 - b. Do not discount the possibility of a delayed response.
 - c. Encourage in holy living, fellowship, devotions.
 - d. Offer future prayer--"Come back next week for more prayer."
4. Proper referral is also needed.
 - a. Participation in a Small Bible Study Group or a Service groups to facilitate spiritual growth, relationship, and social support.
 - b. Professional counseling or medical care, but know the professional's philosophy.
 - c. Classes that deal with specific needs
 - d. A place of outward focus of service if possible

MINISTRY TIPS

RESPECT and LOVE EACH PERSON.

- Be considerate regarding your perfume, bad breath, or body odor.
- If ministering to the opposite sex - Ministering in a mixed team of 2 or 3 works well.
- Be very careful about touch, and immodesty.
- Abused women usually do not want men to lay on hands, and may not be bold enough to refuse. (One 1 out of 4 adult women have had some kind of abuse)
- Be sensitive how loud you pray. Loud prayers (in English or tongues) may distract the person you are praying for, or the next person down the altar area.
- Do not force ministry. If the Spirit is not doing something, relax.

BODILY EFFECTS (crying, trembling, shaking, laughing, falling, etc.)

- We believe the bodily effects are usually that person's reaction or response to the manifest presence of God. We give each other the freedom to respond differently to God's overwhelming love, or healing, or anointing for service, or intercessory burdens.
- Occasionally, if the person is in need of deliverance, it could be a demonic reaction to God's presence.
- Or occasionally a particular needy person may almost unconsciously participate in a bodily way to gain acceptance.
- Don't project what God has been doing with you on to the person you are praying for. For example, if you've been laughing, don't pressure them to laugh. Find out what God is doing for them and bless it.
- Some people should be reassured that it's OK not to exhibit anything unusual when they receive prayer. It is not bodily effects we are after but changed hearts and lives empowered for service.
- If your hand / body is shaking, pray so as not to be a distraction to the person you are praying for...this could be with hands slightly away from the person.

FALLING OVER

- We prefer the term "falling or resting in the Spirit" rather than "slain in the Spirit" because it describes more accurately what is happening. Most of the time the person is soaking and communing in the strong presence of the Lord, and is conscious of what is going on around them. Occasionally, it is accompanied with the Lord speaking to them, a healing, or a vision
- If people fall or rest in the Spirit, its OK to keep praying for them. People sometimes want to get up way too quickly. But pray in such a way as not to disturb their communion with the Lord.
- Soak the person with the pray He leads you to pray. Usually they are Biblical prayers for.. freedom from temptation and evil, the fullness of the Holy Spirit, outpouring of God Love on the person, deeper insight, anointing for service, release of gifts.
- Be careful not to push people over. This is offensive and will backfire by causing people to grow resistant to the real thing. When a person's face is looking upward, pressure on the forehead or chest can feel like pushing!
- Some people have "fear of falling" issues that distract them from receiving what God wants to do. Help them to sit down or to fall carefully, especially if they have back problems, pregnancy, or fear of falling.
- If a person is standing, when you begin to pray. Keep your eyes open. Be sure someone is behind the person to catch them.

EVERYTHING IS CONFIDENTIAL EXCEPT:

- A. Where you ask their permission to share.
- B. Where you should morally or legally speak up ...child abuse, suicidal, or about to harm another person

PROPHETIC Do's & Don'ts

We desire prophetic ministry for each others strengthening, encouragement, and comfort (1Cor 14:1,5, Acts 2:17-18).

1. GLORIFY JESUS. All prophetic words are to stimulate love and obedience to Jesus - Rev 19:10, John 16:13-14, 1Cor 14:24-25.

2. PURSUE LOVE. All prophetic words are to flow out of love for the person - 1Cor 13:2

3. BE RICH IN THE WORD OF GOD. All prophetic words are tested by the Word of God and are to conform to sound doctrine -Titus 1:9

4. AVOID YOUR OWN SYMPATHY OR DESIRE.

The closer you are to a person, the more likely your natural knowledge of the situation, your prejudices, or your sympathies will color the prophecy. A slightly different situation is prophesying a word to someone who wants one, but God has not given anything to say.

5. BE VERY CAUTIOUS ABOUT "DOMESTIC AREAS" - It is very common to be mistaken in the area of having children, about romance and marriage, and about whether a person should move or not.

God usually wants to give guidance in these areas directly to the persons involved in other ways than through prophecy.

6. IN NEGATIVE ISSUES - PRIVATELY FIRST! Matt 18:15-16. If possible, we are to avoid correcting or embarrassing a person in public!

7. EXPECT YOUR PROPHECIES TO BE EVALUATED. 1Cor 14:29, 1Thess 5:19-22.

Some prophetic people get defensive or "huffy" about this. Avoid getting overly dogmatic. (James 3:13-17) Instead, you are to deliver the word, let the person and leaders evaluate it, and let God back it up.

Part of God backing it up - is His giving confirmation through additional people (1Cor 14:29, note -"every city"-Acts 20:23).

8. DO NOT VIOLATE SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY.

If you have direction or correction to give to a family, church, or business, then give the word to those responsible for the direction or correction — that is the leader(s) of that family, church, or business, not to the whole family, or whole church, or employees.

9. AVOID COMPETITIVENESS or envy with other prophetic persons. Trying to out do each other, Trying to have more words than another person, Speaking to establish their own glory instead of God's.

10. PREMATURE DELIVERY.

- speaking before you are clear on the revelation
- speaking, when the revelation was for you to intercede about it
- speaking when the person would not be able to handle the message yet (John 16:12)

11. DO NOT OMIT THE CONDITIONS WHEN GIVING A PROPHETIC PROMISE.

Many promises from the Lord come in the form of "If you..., then I will..." They have conditions to be fulfilled before they will come to pass.

12. REVELATION - INTERPRETATION-APPLICATION

- "Revelation" is the original raw data - the dream, vision, inner voice, impression, etc.
- "Interpretation" - what does the raw data mean? (see Jeremiah 1:11-15)
- "Application" - What should I do about it and When should I do it?

Prayer for Direction

The promise of guidance is one of the many made to us in the Word of God. As a result, many times of prayer ministry will involve praying with people in order to help them discern God's will for their lives.

Praying with people who need guidance requires a willingness to listen to God and to them as well as a willingness to probe deeply enough to understand their true needs and motives.

When praying for guidance, be open to words from God for the person. God will often confirm things to him or her through things that seem small or insignificant to you.

God has already revealed most of His will for how we should live. People are often confused about God's will because they have failed to obey these explicit commandments:

1. God's will is that we be filled with the Spirit, abstaining from drunkenness and being filled with thankfulness (Eph. 5:17), and fleeing sexual immorality (1 Thes. 4:3).
2. God's will is that we refrain from gossip and be willing to serve others. (Is 58:9b-11).
3. God's will is that we come to Him in faith, believing that He will answer us with wisdom greater than our own (Ps. 143:8; Prov. 3:5-6; James 1:6-8).
4. God's will is that we submit our minds (opinions, dreams) to Him so that we can discern His will (Rom. 12:2). This comes from the humility (Ps. 25:9) and teachable attitude (Prov. 18:15) that comes from a healthy fear of God (Ps. 25:12,14; Prov. 9:10).
5. God's will is that we be willing to do what He says (Jn. 5:30b). It is often helpful to ask if the person has failed to do something which God has instructed them to do.

6. God's will is that we be willing to wait patiently for His answer (Ps. 27:14; Prov. 14:29).

Sometimes, people need to make wise decisions in areas that are not spoken of in the Bible. The following scriptures provide a set of guidelines for godly decision making.

1. Will it benefit me spiritually, mentally, and/or physically (1 Cor. 6:12)?
2. Will it bring me under its power (1 Cor. 6:12)?
3. Will it hurt others (1 Cor 8:13)?
4. Will it glorify God (1 Cor. 10:31)?

Leading Someone to Christ

1. Explain God's Love for them as an individual

John 3:16 - God made a great effort and sacrifice to establish a way for every man to have renewed relationship with Himself.

1 Timothy 2:3-6 - God's ultimate desire is that none should perish.

Romans 6:8 - God loves them even while they continue in their sinful lifestyle.

2. All men have a need for salvation, for all men have sinned.

Romans 3:23- The reality is that all men have sinned and therefore stand in need of God's mercy and grace.

1 John 1:8 - We need to accept responsibility for our sin.

3. God has a remedy for sin.

Romans 6:23 - Death is the result of unrepentant sin, but eternal life is the reward for the repentant person.

1 John 1:12 - Our repentance is based upon a belief in Jesus' sacrificial death for our sin and in His being worthy to die for us since He is the Son of God.

4. You can be saved now.

Romans 10:13 - It is as simple as making a request to be forgiven based on the work that God has accomplished through Christ's work on the cross.

Lead them in a simple prayer that included these elements:

1. acknowledgment of their sin and need for forgiveness
2. belief that Jesus died for that sin
3. acknowledgment for a personal reception of Jesus' atoning work
4. acknowledgment of Jesus as their new-found Lord and Savior

Assurance as a new believer

Romans 10:9, John 5:24; 20:31 - On the basis of their confession of Jesus as Savior and commitment to daily make Him their Lord, new believers can be assured of their inclusion into the Kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18 - Yet, it must be remembered that salvation is a process. Being a new convert does not make you instantly perfect. Therefore, it should be explained that salvation is a process in which God leads us into deeper relationship with Himself and into greater freedom from sin.

Prayer For Being Filled or Empowered with the Spirit

Empowering, or being filled with the Spirit for the purpose of ministry, is a Christian's birthright. Jesus promised that we would receive the Holy Spirit for just this purpose (Acts 1 :4-8).

The Bible records a number of instances where believers were filled with the Spirit for the purpose of service (Num. 11:24-29; Judges 14:6; 1 Sam. 10:5-13; 19:23-24; Jn. 20:21-23; Acts 2:1-13; 4:8; 4:29-31; 7:55-56; 8:14-19; 9:17-22; 10:37-38; 10:44-46; 19:1-7).

The biblical witness to the infilling with the Spirit may be summarized with four statements:

1. It is an event distinct from, but sometimes concurring with, salvation.
2. It is usually accompanied by some kind of objective witness. This witness may include tongues, prophecy, boldness, or some other observable manifestation.
3. Being filled with the Spirit should result in a more consecrated life and more effective service.
4. A "spiritual experience" which does not result in greater love for the Son and corresponding service, or witness is either immature or inauthentic.

Practical tips on praying for the infilling of the Spirit:

1. Make certain the person is converted. The Holy Spirit will only fill believers (2 Cor.5:5; Eph. 1:13-14).
2. Make certain the person has confessed any known sin (Acts 8:22-23). Unconfessed sin can block the flow of the Spirit in a person's life.

3. Explain that the purpose of the infilling of the Spirit is for service. Ask whether the person is prepared to give his or her life in service to the Lord. Be prepared to talk with them about right motives (Ja. 4:2b-3) and doublemindedness (Ja. 1:6-8).

4. Try to understand their church background (liturgical/Pentecostal/evangelical) to help them through the "teaching barriers" in their theology.

5. Help them to understand God's willingness to give the gift of the Spirit (Lk. 11:13).

6. Remove the mystique from the gift of tongues.

- 17,000 languages & dialects - best linguists speak 20, recognize 100 or so.
- 17,000 doesn't include "dead" languages, such as Sanskrit, kione Greek, Latin, Etruscan, Mayan, Aztec, etc..
- Some languages such as African click languages and sign languages don't sound like it to us.
- Tongues come when we speak -- "they began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4; 10:46; 10:6) It is controllable; there are some situations you are to keep it quiet (1Cor 14:28).

Dealing With Fallen Christians

God's greatest desire is that His children would live lives free of sin. But the reality is that we all fall far short of His desire. Often when we fall into sin we find it difficult to forgive ourselves.

But God has made provision for us to find continued forgiveness in His Son (1 John 2:1-2).

1. Acknowledge the area of sin.

1 John 1:8 - No man is free of the guilt of sin in this present life.

1 John 1:10- To deny the reality of our sin is to deny the truth of what God has said. That in itself is sin.

2. Confess the sin to God

1 John 1:9 - The process of salvation begins with repentance for past wrongs against the purposes of God and continues in the same vein. God has called us to admit our failure to Him. He will grant His people pardon in response to their honesty and contrition.

3. Make restitution to those who have been harmed by our actions.

Luke 19:8 - The fruit of repentance is a changed life. Zacchaeus' repentance came with a practical understanding that his sin had injured others. As a result, he became responsible for his past actions. He made restitution where his injury required it.

Prayer for Sexual Sin

1. One time sin

A. Confess and acknowledge as sin to God (1 John. 1:8)

B. Ask for forgiveness -- (1 Jn. 1:9) God's forgiveness is extended to the one who has committed this sin, as well as any other. Even though it may feel like it, this is not an unpardonable sin.

C. Renounce any further participation in this sin. - God's intent is that we repent of our sins, which involves a change of behavior. It means ending all ungodly relationships.

Ask forgiveness for using your body unrighteously, then dedicating that part of the body to the Lord to be an instrument of righteousness (Rom. 6:12-14).

D. Breaking the power - Lead the person into a prayer that breaks any power that this sin allowed control over his/her life.

E. Filling of the Holy Spirit - It is extremely important to pray for the Spirit of God to fill the persons after pulling out any potential stronghold.

2. Compulsive behavior

A. The Holy Spirit has led this person into a conviction of their lifestyle, so go ahead and lead them through the steps of a one time sin above.

B. The root cause of this person is deeper than just the sin itself. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to the person any area that needs to be dealt with at this moment. (Ps. 51:6; Eph. 5:13,14; Matt. 15:13)

C. Compulsive sexual sin almost always needs more help in addition to prayer at the altar. Afterwards refer the person to in-depth prayer counseling, and getting involved in a weekly small group for strength and growth.

Prayer For Reconciliation

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. Matthew 6:12

We are to forgive one another as Christ forgave us (Eph 4:32, Col. 3:13). This means that we are to extend mercy to those who have violated us to some degree in our relational contact with them.

To withhold this forgiveness frustrates the flow of God's mercy toward us (Lk. 11:4, Mk. 11:25, Mt. 5:23-24).

When unforgiveness is found in one's heart, it must be dealt with ruthlessly, even when it is somewhat justified. So what sort of process should we take someone through?

1. Recognize the problem of unforgiveness.

Matthew 5:23 - A person must take responsibility for his part in the incident. Usually there are two sides to every problem. At the very least, one must acknowledge the heart attitude of unforgiveness to himself and to God.

2. Ask God for forgiveness in regard to this attitude.

Have them state their desire to be healed of this heart attitude and ask God to give them clear guidance as to how to bring healing in the relationship and in their heart.

3. Be reconciled to the brother or sister.

Matthew 5:24 - They need to take appropriate steps toward reconciliation with that brother or sister. It is important to do the work of repentance in order to bring healing to the relationship and to the attitude of one's heart.

It is important to remember that forgiveness is a process and often takes time and energy in its practical outworking.

Ministry to Marriages

In the course of your prayer ministry you will encounter a variety of marriage needs ranging from:

- Newly married going through the first stages of disillusionment.
- Couples that have been married for years who have developed either autocratic marriage lifestyles or single marriage lifestyles.
- People that have a short term communication block to no communication at all for years.
- You can encounter people everywhere from being distant to being involved in an adulterous affair.

Someone that comes up for prayer usually approaches you and God from their felt need. They can be feeling:

- Hopeless - their marriage has no life, no hope
- Fearful - of the loss of the marriage
- Angry - from abuse, hurt, fear or frustration
- Depressed - from hopelessness, guilt
- Anxiety
- Indifference - from sin or years of hurt and hopelessness
- Confusion

The most common marriage problems today are:

- a. Communication
- b. Sex
- c. Finances
- d. Relatives

After prayer at the altar, offer a variety of levels of help:

1. Find a mature marriage couple for them to talk further with.
2. The pastor is always will to meet with couples.
3. There are some good marriage counselors available in the Valley.

Ministry to the Divorced

1. Identify the need. Dealing with the divorced you can also find people in various need situations and levels.

- a. Just separated or separated couples but not divorced for years
- b. Divorced for years--Others effectively dealt with the problem and processed through

2. Four basic questions divorced people in crisis have:

- a. What does God think about me?
- b. What am I going through emotionally?
- c. Am I going to get through this and what is my future?
- d. What happened to my marriage?

3. There is usually a two year crisis period a divorced person goes through that involves many or all of the following ...Denial, Anger, Grieve, Bargaining, Depression, at times suicidal, and Acceptance

4. During this period it's the wrong time to get into relationships (rebound marriages). Instead focus on healing, recovery, growth, trust in God, gather information.

5. Other needs

- A. Loneliness
- B. Forgiveness
- C. Dealing with change and stress
- D. Identity and self-image
- E. Finances
- F. Jobs and careers
- G. Single parenting
- H. Sex
- I. Guilt, shame

Prayer For Deliverance From Evil Spirits

A. Steps Leading Up To Deliverance

1. Value Team Ministry - Whenever possible delay ministry until a small team can be present, rather than doing this alone.

Collective power, authority, & gifts,
Collective observations of evasinary tactics,
Rest,
Protection,
Builds disciples and draws them into ministry,
Builds relationships,
Back-up prayer

2. Prepare yourself for this ministry by the following:

- A. Confession/restitution of your own sin (Ps. 24:3)
- B. Prayer and fasting maybe needed (Mk. 9:29)
- C. Have clear relationships...good relationships with your mate, others...understand why each person is present

3. Give the person priority not the demon.

The object of deliverance ministry is not to torment demons, but to help needy people who desire to be free. Be loving, not militant. Dignity for the person is more important than tormenting the demon. Past models of deliverance traumatized the person with long shouting ordeals.

4. If the spirit is manifesting, make the spirit be quiet. Take authority over it, make it submit in the name of Jesus. Be persistent. If necessary ask others that may be stirring the spirit up by praying loudly or touching the person to stop. We do not value talking to demons ... they lie. Jesus commanded demons to "Be quiet." The demon's name is normally not important. Only once (in a very severe case) did Jesus demand the demon's name.

5. Establish and maintain communication with the person. Call them back to consciousness or control of themselves. As much as possible, we want to have the active cooperation of the troubled person. You may

have to maintain this by additional commands for the spirit to be quiet and submit in the name of Jesus. Be loving and encouraging to the person. It is helpful to maintain eye contact. (Mat. 6:22; Acts 3:4; 13:9)

5. Ask the person what he wants to be free from. Are you trying to break any undesirable habits without success? Be sure he actually wants to be free before go ahead. Do they have any conviction that they need help? Do they have any intent on changing their life-style?

If the person does not want help or wants to continue his present lifestyle - Be kind, pray with him, but do not expel any

demons! It is useless and usually harmful to expel a demon in the following cases because they will come back and bring more with them.

- against the oppressed person's desire
- if the person is unwilling to change the life-style that caused the oppression

Explain this to the person. Matthew 12:43-45.

6. Make sure the person has decided to follow Jesus. If he is not a Christian, he will not have the Holy Spirit to help him stay free. This should be explained. Perhaps you can lead him to Christ. If he does not want to become a Christian - you can pray for his healing of hurts, but do not cast out any spirits.

7. Interview the person, looking to "open doors" that the person may have allowed or pursued through which demons could trouble him.

a. start with the bondage the person wants to be free from

b. sexual sins - premarital, extramarital, mental/visual

c. relationship sins - "Did so-in-so hurt your feelings?" hatred, fear, rejection, abandonment, abuse, his emotional responses and inner vows, father, mother, childhood issues, someone else, - the purpose is to expose the places where forgiveness is required and healing

is needed.

d. dark spiritual experiences - occultism, false religions, cults, secret lodges, drugs and alcohol, idolatry, any agreements made with satan or spirits.

e. areas of deliberate repeated transgressions or rebellions

7. Lead the person in "closing the doors."

a. Forgiving each person who has caused hurt or led him into wrong conduct. Forgiveness should be specific, item by item. Every hurt the person has mentioned and for each one the Holy Spirit brings to mind. Specific forgiveness brings greater freedom. It should involve blessing the offending person for God's best.

b. Repenting of each of the person's own sexual sins, anger or bitterness sins, or occult sins, asking for God forgiveness.

c. Renouncing and breaking the power of -
outloud and firmly
— any evil vows or curses made (ie. to never forgive so-in-so, secret lodge oaths)
— the spirits involved - it helps to name the area of bondage - in the name of Jesus.

d. Sometimes it is helpful to dedicate the body to the Lord (Rom. 12:1-2). Praying over each body section--renouncing any unrighteous use of that part, asking forgiveness if that part has been used unrighteously, then dedicating that section to the Lord to be an instrument of righteousness (Rom. 6:12-14).

e. Today - Rid the home of all wrong objects, books, videos, magazines, statues, music. End all ungodliness in relationships (unmarried sex, intoxication by drugs or alcohol, lying, abuse, dishonest or questionable monetary gain, romantic relationships with non-Christians, etc.)

THE ACTUAL DELIVERANCE

8. Simply command the spirit(s), in Jesus name, to come out and never return. It is not necessary to send them somewhere. If the doors have been effectively closed, they will leave fairly quickly. If it is a long battle, that is a signal that not all doors have been closed.

When you think you have finished, ask the person if there are other spirits to be dealt with. Wait on the Holy Spirit. A sense of freedom, peace, or burden lifted is usually experienced when one is delivered.

9. Ask the person to praise and thank Jesus for deliverance. If the person can not do this, it is a signal that there are more doors to be closed, and spirits to be expelled.

10. Ask the person to pray for the Holy Spirit to fill him, to fill all the places formally occupied by evil spirits.

Follow-up

- A. Reassure the person (they aren't weird, God loves them)
- B. Prepare them to deal with counterattacks
- C. Pray for healing of related cases
- D. Remind them of the benefits of communion, and worship
- E. Remind them that they need fellowship multiple times during the week. You call them in the next day or two.
- F. Remind them of the benefits of personal growing in Christ through reading, meditating on, and memorizing the Word, and through prayer
- G. Teach them to renew their mind (Rom. 12:2; Col. 3:2)