

Consider-ables w/Max Lucado

How to Pray for Healing

by Max Lucado

We can come to our heavenly Father and ask him to heal us, because he wants us to be whole. He wants us to be whole, not just in our spirit and soul, but also in our body. Remember, the big idea of the Bible is to reestablish the Garden of Eden, to take us back to the way we were. Adam and Eve, they didn't struggle with bursitis or spinal issues or crick in the neck. So wherever there is a sickness, there is an opportunity for God to display his glory. And where we get tangled up is at when is God going to display his glory? And to what degree are we going to be healed?

In the book, I talk about we've gotta begin by remembering that sickness is under the domain of God. He didn't create it, but he still has authority over it. So in the book I say you can expect to be healed. Will you be healed immediately? I hope so. Will you be healed gradually? That happens quite often. But all of us will be healed ultimately, and it's not a cop-out to say that our healing will happen on the other side of death. That's the ultimate healing. We can take absolute assurance that healing will come. If he heals you gradually, that means this particular affliction is being used for his glory, for the development of your character, maybe as a sermon. One of the men in our church has struggled with a muscular issue for many, many years. But boy, he is such an example. All of us admit people who inspire us through their affliction. So that could be part of their testimony.

But God is still healing them. And then all of us will be healed ultimately. So it's essential during prayer to talk to God about what hurts us physically. It really is. And to let God speak to that to comfort us, to bring wisdom into that part of our lives.



Responsive Reading: Psalm 40:9-10

ALL: I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation.

A-F: I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

G-M: I have not hidden your saving help within my heart.

N-S: I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation.

T-Z: I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness.

ALL: Let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever!

Lesson: Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you.

Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly.

It is the Passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Gospel: John 1:29-36

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ..."

Gospel . . . (cont'd)

This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."

And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

Upcoming Events

Sermons on the Web...

We are recording the Sunday sermons and publishing them to the church's website. It is hoped that those who are unable to get to church on Sunday for any number of reasons will at least be able to get the weekly message. Look for the link on the home page, right column near the bottom.



We are all invited to celebrate Lila Larson's 80th birthday at an open house being held next Saturday, the 25th, from 1:00 to 5:00 at the Linwood Senior Center (just north of Sunnyside Lutheran Church).



On February 9th we will have a representative of the Isanti County Sheriff's Office give a presentation on church security. The sheriff has been very responsive to our request we should fill the church in appreciation!



The Gideons will be here to present their ministry during the service on Jan 26th. Salem has supported their mission with both prayers and money for years; please consider being a part of the support this year.



Salem is glad overjoyed to welcome the following new members: **Deb and Brian Hoppe, Doug and Linda Miller, and Joann "Fritz" Wheatley. Yay!**

Upcoming Events ... (Cont'd)



The **Women's Bible Study** meeting every-other Wednesday – next meeting January 29th -- until Lent starts (1/29 and 2/12) (Ash Wednesday is February 29th).



Meets every third Saturday starting January 18th at 8:30am!



Salem's annual meeting will be held on Feb 2nd after the service. Please plan on attending to hear the annual reports, elect board members, and suggest benevolences/tithing recipients.



We are looking for someone to coordinate the kitchen supplies and purchasing of them when necessary. Thank you to Joan Butler who has 'unofficially' done this for many years.



Watch for the newsletter to come via email; it will be sent out in the next week!



We aren't too far away from Lent, which means our Wednesday night Soup/Sandwich suppers (6pm) and learning/prayer service (7pm) will start up again! These will start on Feb 26th with an Ash Wednesday service. For the remainder of Wednesdays of Lent, Pr. Rob is looking for input on the topic. Possible topics are on the development and an overview of the Bible, on the sacramental nature and acts of our Church, or on the content of the Confirmation Process. Other suggestions are also welcome. Please offer your preference to Pr. Rob.

Calendar...

- ✓ Annual Meeting – February 2nd following service
- ✓ Isanti County Sheriff here to present safety information