

Series: Divine Healing Series
Title: Session 20 – The Fruitful Ground
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The Main Law of the Kingdom

5. The Thorny Ground

James 5:16–18 (NKJV)

¹⁶Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

¹⁷Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.

¹⁸And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

1 Kings 17:1 (NKJV)

¹And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.”

1 Kings 18:41–45 (NKJV)

⁴¹Then Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain.”

⁴²So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees,

⁴³and said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” So he went up and looked, and said, “There is nothing.” And seven times he said, “Go again.”

⁴⁴Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, “There is a cloud, as small as a man’s hand, rising out of the sea!” So he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.’”

⁴⁵Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel.

- Notice in the passages above that the effective fervent and earnest prayer of Elijah was just a command that it would not rain, and it happened. Then when God wanted to bring rain again, Elijah’s prayer was not so earnest and full of faith anymore. He had to crouch and pray seven times to build himself into faith into what the word of God said.
- Nowhere in the Bible says that if you pray enough, you will get what you want. But it says that if you believe in your heart and not doubt, whatever you ask, you will receive.

Mark 11:24 (NKJV)

²⁴Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, **believe** that you receive them, and you will have them.

- You might say: “Oh, but that’s hard to believe and it takes a lot of time.” Yeah, you need to meditate day and night to always be prepared. You have to put the word of God in abundance inside of you. All life is spiritual. What you are today and where you are today, is what you believed and spoke yesterday.

Luke 10:38–42 (NKJV)

³⁸Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house.

³⁹And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus’ feet and heard His word.

⁴⁰**But Martha was distracted with much serving**, and she approached Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.”

⁴¹And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, **you are worried** (*marimna*) and troubled about many things.

⁴²But **one thing is needed**, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.”

- Martha wasn't distracted with adultery or something immoral, but with serving. And the Lord tells her: Martha, you are worried for so many things. But **ONLY ONE THING IS NEEDED**.
- With this ground, that powerful word of God which is settled in heaven, becomes unfruitful. Is that God's plan? No, Jesus makes it very clear. The word of God which was able to heal some people, will become unfruitful in this person's life with a thorny ground.
- The question is: Who's fault it is? Is that God's fault? Did God change His mind? Did God just decide to do something else because He has a special plan for you? “Even though I promised that I will take this problem away from you, I will let you go through it because I have something special for you. It's going to make you a better person!”
- We have all this logic and reasoning. I hear people saying all the time: “Now I look back and I understand what God was doing. God was teaching me that over there, and that over there...” I just can wait until we get to heaven and see these people trying to explain to God what He was doing.
- How can God say His word is going to come to pass and then have Jesus come and say that the word will become unfruitful? How can they both be true? They are. The word will always accomplish what was sent for, but maybe not in your life, unless you decide to receive it, and hang on to it tighter than anything anybody ever says, tighter than any thoughts that come to your mind, any reasoning or logic. You just say no to them and stand on the word of God. When the dust settles and the smoke goes away, there will be just me and the word still standing.

Psalm 91:7 (NKJV)

⁷A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But **it shall not come near you**.

- That's confidence in the word. When the psalmist talks about the thousands falling at his side, he's not talking about the enemy, but about his comrades, your team. Does God show favoritism? No, but who stands on the word, the anointing of God will protect him.
- Here you have this big army of Saul shaking before Goliath and the Philistines army and this little boy comes saying: “Guys, that guy doesn't even have a covenant with God. Come on! What's up with you? Give me some rocks.” When you know God, when you know what He said and believe it, you will do things that nobody else can do.

6. The Good Ground

Mark 4:20 (NKJV)

²⁰But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.”

- Notice that it doesn't say that these are the ones that got the good word. No, these are the ones that got the same word, but had a good ground, good hearts.

- Is Jesus partial here? Giving 30% to some, 60% to others and 100% only to a select few? No, He says there are different levels.
- Even for many of the people that are on good ground, only 30% of the things that God has said or sown, will come to pass. These are the people of faith like Joshua and Caleb. Now, did God decide for these people that He didn't want the other 70% of things to come to pass? No. It got stolen, or choked.
- You know some people just get thrilled about thirtyfold. If 30% of your prayers are coming to pass, you're doing pretty good by Christian standards, aren't you? But that says that 70% is not being fruitful and is not getting answers. 70% of your Christian walk is not bearing fruit. That's not good. It's better than most, but still not good.
- Jesus mentioned the hundred-fold on purpose, because He wants you to know it is possible. How do we know it's possible? Because there was a human being who walked on the earth and believed everything His God said and allowed everything His God said to come to pass in His life. That is Jesus, He walked by faith.
- When you have a mountain in front of you not moving, have you taken the stance that Jesus took? "I will not say anything, except what my Father said." Or you're saying: "Well, it seems like in this situation, if God wanted to move, it would have moved." You know that famous song Might to Save says in its chorus that God can move the mountains. Yes, that's true but He's no longer moving the mountains, He told you and me to move them and speak to them.

Hebrews 6:12 (NKJV)

¹²that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who *through faith and patience inherit the promises*.

- There is an element of faith and speaking, but there is also an element of patience in the process of inheriting the promises. It's the same way with a farmer, he sows the seeds and then he needs patience until he sees the fruit coming up.
- Let me give you a little tip. You must watch out for people who are making excuses for why the promises of God are not coming to pass. You have to be very careful. Actually what usually happens with those people is that they have a conflict inside of them, the Holy Spirit nags them to believe what God said, but because it didn't work, they feel the need to justify themselves out loud constantly.
- Let me tell you how you can know when you're actually hearing the word and not something else.

Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- The Bible says faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. If you come in and someone is preaching the word and you walk out believing the word more, than you heard the word. Because faith came in. But if you walk out doubting whether or not God's promises will come to pass in your life, more than when you walked in, I don't care how many Scriptures were read, I

don't care how many Greek words were parsed, you didn't hear God's word. When you hear God's word, you believe it more, you're bold, excited, full of joy, peace and hope.

- Jesus is helping us through this parable. He is pointing out all those things that take away our confidence and boldness in the word. If you could see God's plan for your life... it doesn't matter how many times you messed up, or what your background is, or what your socio-economic status is, it doesn't make any difference...you would just pass out. You wouldn't be able to handle the plan. And you say: could that be me? Yes, but it's going to take you standing on the promises. Everything you're going to do great for God, it's going to be by faith. It's not going to happen TO YOU.

Joshua 1:8 (NKJV)

⁸This Book of the Law **shall not depart from your mouth**, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For **then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

- This book will not depart from your mouth if you want to make YOUR WAY PROSPEROUS and if you want to have GOOD SUCCESS.
- There is a promised land for you here on earth, a Cannan. It belongs to you, it's yours. But you have to go get it by faith. Only Joshua and Caleb entered into it, while the unbelieving rest died in the desert. That is how most Christians are on earth, even though they don't go to hell.
- Whatever you do, don't let go of the word. It is a fight of faith, but it's a good fight of the mind.

1 Timothy 6:12 (NKJV)

¹²**Fight the good fight of faith**, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

- We are not boxing God in or forcing Him, He loves us and He wants to have what He said in His word. He is after the hundred-fold like any other farmer.

How to Minister Healing

1. Speaking and Laying of Hands

2 Corinthians 4:13 (NKJV)

¹³And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," **we also believe and therefore speak**,

- When we have faith and conviction, we speak words of life that bring healing and deliverance.

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)

¹²For **the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword**, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

John 6:63 (NKJV)

⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. **The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.**

- Our words are full of quantum power and cutting darkness and evil spirits, they are full of life,

when they are based on the Word of God (Rhema), they are full of faith, and full of the Holy Spirit.

- The only two ways used by Jesus to heal were:
 - Word of command – calling into existence by speaking/commanding
 - Laying of hands
- When you pray for a sick person you minister life from your spirit to the person's spirit and then it comes out to flesh. The Bible says in John 7:38 that from your belly will flow rivers of living water. It is not from flesh to flesh, but from your spirit to the person's spirit. There is a legal and a vital phase in healing: legal (command in the name of Jesus, and serve the eviction papers), and vital - release life into them.
- You don't necessarily need to touch the affected part. You can lay hands anywhere on their body, because life will flow in the affected part as well.
- You can also speak and command healing for a person at a distance, from different places, without actually touching the person. Example: Jesus and the centurion's servant. In our days, using the Internet and Skype we can talk to a person and even see her almost instantaneously on the other side of the planet. Why wouldn't that be true all the more in the spiritual realm if it's possible in the natural? In the spirit, there is no distance.
- When you lay your hands over sick people, the power can be released also according to the intention of your mind without saying anything. Actually Mark 16 says that will only lay hands over the sick without even saying anything, and they will recover. However, when you lay your hands your intention has to be with the hands and what you want to accomplish. Example: The woman with the issue of blood (12 years) in Mark 5:25-34), if she just touched Jesus like all the others, nothing would have happened. However, v. 28 tells us that she thought that if she just touched Jesus' garments, she would get well. So, she touched Him intentionally to get well, without saying anything, and she withdrew power from Jesus just by intention. The same happens when we minister: if we intend to release life and power through our hands, that's what happens.
- You can also heal people in mass if they are too many to minister to each one individually. God is big enough to heal 500 people at once without even touching them. Example: T.L. Osborn faced this issue once. He prayed only one prayer, then he reached out his hand and commanded healing over the whole crowd.

2. Faith and Perseverance

Mark 8:22-25 (NKJV)

²²Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him, and begged Him to touch him.

²³So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything.

²⁴And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking."

²⁵Then **He put His hands on his eyes again** and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly.

- First, we can see that Jesus laid His hands one time, but the blind man didn't see perfectly the first

time. So, Jesus didn't say: "This is what you get according to your faith. If your faith is just for this, you'll only see partially."

- Second, Jesus laid His hands a second time. If He laid hands twice, we can lay hands twice. Smith Wigglesworth said that if you prayed 100 times for a sick person, you prayed 99 times in unbelief. He was partially right. Plus, he is not the supreme example, Jesus is.
- When you pray to God for something and ask Him to do something (like regarding other people – intercession, or things regarding future), as a new creation you only need to ask Him once and then believe that He listened to you and thank Him. Otherwise, if you ask multiple times for the same thing, you will be in unbelief, as Smith said, because you're assuming God didn't hear you or He didn't do it. In the Old Testament, when people asked God to do something, they had to ask multiple times and implore God to intervene, because they were sinners (they were not sons) and didn't have any right to ask God to do something on their behalf. They were pretty much in the same state as the Syrophenician woman. God had to be convinced to intervene. But that it's not the case in the New Testament, because we are Sons. We don't need to implore God to do something for us. He told us to ask Him and He will be more than willing to do so.

Mark 11:24 (NKJV)

²⁴Therefore I say to you, *whatever things you ask when you pray*, believe that you receive them, and *you will have them*.

John 16:23–24 (NKJV)

²³"And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, *whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you*.

²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

- However, when we come to laying hands over sick people or commanding healing, we can command multiple times or lay hands multiple times. This is because the devil has ability which he abuses. He doesn't have authority, but ability and sometimes he is stubborn. And then is also the amount of power we are releasing when we command, depending on our level of faith (and confidence in the Word). If you release a small amount of power, you will have to lay hands multiple times until the person gets healed completely. During ministering, your level of confidence might grow exponentially and release all at once the amount of life needed to cure that sickness and expel the devil completely in one moment. When we command multiple times to sickness to go, we are adding to the previous commands, we're not starting over. You release more power every time you command. Example: It's a little bit like following a treatment with medicine. When you have an infection and begin taking antibiotics, the infection doesn't go away immediately, but with every antibiotic pill that you take, you are closer to complete healing. It adds to the previous pill.
- Let's say that any type of healing requires 100 units of faith. But for whatever reason, you're functioning only at 40 units of faith. So, what happens? When you lay your hands over the sick, they get a little better. When you minister, you are pouring life into the sick person out of your spirit. John G. Lake said that divine healing is a chemical reaction, it is a mixture of faith and power. You as a born-again believer received all the power you need without measure when you received the Holy Spirit (John 3:34). But that power is released only when faith in the word is applied to it. That means the power only works to fulfill those laws (decrees, words) that God has already put in place in the spiritual realm and only when someone is convinced of those laws (or has faith in those

words, or confidence). Healing power is released out of your innermost being through confidence in the Word. Faith acts like a light switch. The moment you enter a dark room and flip the switch, the power that was already flowing there, goes to the bulb and lights the room. Let's go back to our example. For whatever reason (distraction, tiredness, etc) I can only release 40 units of power. In that case, I will have to command again and release another 40 units, which makes it to 80 units. Then you command a third time and the person gets healed completely. When you release life, it goes right into the sick person and drives out sickness. The more you can add to it, the better.

- There might be sick people coming to you and telling you that they were prayed for by the best ministers. What can you do differently? But the truth is that the other ministers might have poured in a measure of life and that person is very close to complete healing. And when you minister, then you fulfill that small portion which is left, and the person gets healed. In reality, all these ministers worked together to get that person healed.
- While you minister to the sick, there might be thoughts of doubt coming to your mind. Don't think that only because you have those thoughts (which are actually temptation to doubt), you are already in doubt and everything is lost. Example: When you fast, it is impossible to not have temptations to eat. That doesn't mean the fast is broken. The fast will be broken when you actually eat. In the same manner, you are in doubt only when your actions begin aligning with those thoughts of doubt, meaning that you avoid laying hands on sick people or stop doing it.
- Notice also that when we minister to the sick, we don't ask God to heal the person, because He has already healed us all by Jesus' stripes. But we heal the person in the name of Jesus and by the Holy Spirit. He has already given us healing, we just need to work it out on us and people by faith. T.L. Osborn said: "Never ask God to do what He has already done." He also said: "Don't ever ask God to do what He told you to do." Jesus told the disciples and implicitly to us in Mathew 10:8 to go heal sick, raise the dead and cast out devils. It's our responsibility.

Matthew 10:8 (NKJV)

⁸**Heal the sick**, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

- Jesus never asked God to heal anyone. He just either laid His hands on those people or simply said: "Be healed." He told demons: "Go"
- In this fight with sickness, we don't cancel the use of medicine. Medicine will not cancel faith. Genuine faith will work regardless. If you prayed for some time and nothing visible happened, but you know some medical treatment that you can take to fix the sickness, then go ahead and use it without any guilt. Live to fight another day. I am saying that especially when it comes to children. Don't exercise your faith on your children. Give them the medicine they need if prayer did not work immediately.
- The devil will try to put you in a corner to make a commitment not to take medicine. Or he will try to make you refute somehow the law of fact in order to make the law of faith work. It will not work, but when it does not work, and your commitment is broken, it damages or destroys your faith. Quitting medicine does not make faith work better neither cancels faith.
- The bottom line is that in ministering to the sick we need to persevere and stand on the word until

we see the sickness gone.

- John G. Lake said: “Faith is not a puffing up, but a settling down.” The fight of faith is the fight to rest in God’s word. Whenever you hear a person saying: “I know God is going to heal me”, that is one of the biggest statements of unbelief, because “going to” is always future. 1 Peter 2:24 says that by His stripes, we WERE (past) healed. Healing was provided in the gospel, in the same salvation that Jesus brought from sin. If you had the same doubts about salvation, you would not get anybody born again. If you need healing or if you want to minister healing, you will have to settle ONCE AND FOR ALL the fact that healing as far as God is concerned is a DONE DEAL. It is an established thing in the spiritual and invisible realm.
- Be aware that when you start speaking faith, be confident and bold about the word of God, usually to the religious people around you, it will sound like arrogance and pride, but it is not necessarily so. Speaking faith means having confidence, which can be confused with arrogance. However, it is not confidence in yourself, it is rather in Jesus and His word.