



1. This we believe: Jesus Christ is our 'Great Physician' – He is our Healer.

- A. We believe that divine healing is the power of the Lord Jesus Christ to heal the sick and the afflicted in answer to believing prayer; that He who is the same yesterday, today and forever has never changed but is still an all-sufficient help in the time of trouble, able to meet the needs of, and quicken the body into newness of life, as well as the soul and spirit in answer to the faith of them who ever pray with submission to His divine and sovereign will. (from our Foursquare Statement of Faith)
- B. What does it mean 'to believe?' (*Gk .pisteuo*- from the same root word translated 'faith')
1. think to be true; be persuaded (mental agreement)
 2. place confidence in; trust in God to do something (action, beyond merely intellectual)

2. Why do we believe?

A. The Bible and God's Promises

1. Jesus healed...

- a. *When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses." (Mat 8:16-17)*
- b. *Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus' feet, and He healed them. (Mat 15:30 + many others)*

2. People were healed as the apostles prayed in Jesus' name (following His ascension to heaven)

- a. *"...by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. (Acts 4:10)*
- b. *Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed. (Acts 5:16)*

B. Jesus said 'divine healing' would continue...

1. *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. (John 14:12)*
2. *And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover. (Mark 16:17-18)*

C. Personal Experiences

1. Think about times the Lord has healed you...
2. Recent examples...

3. And these signs will follow those who believe... will you 'believe?'

A. Believe that God can and wants to heal people.

1. Be willing and available to pray.
2. *"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed..." (James 5:14-16)*

Healing today accomplishes the following:

1. It brings glory to God and reminds us that He is all-powerful (Matt 9:8; 15:31; Luke 7:16, 13:13; John 11:4-45)
2. It reveals God's compassionate character (Matt 20:24; Mark 1:41; Luke 7:13)
3. It frees one to be whole in order to better minister and serve (1Cor. 6:9-20)
4. It builds faith in both the recipient and the observer (Mark 5:35-43)
5. It reveals the workings of God (John 9:3, 11:1-4)
6. It fulfills the promises of God in the Bible (Matt 8:16-17)

Why are some people not healed when prayed for?

1. Seeking the healing before salvation – there is no scriptural promise of healing for those who have not received Jesus as Savior, although God does choose to sometimes heal the unsaved (Matt 5:45)
2. Seeking healing for the wrong reasons – such as selfishness or 'worldly pursuits' (James 4:3)
3. Focusing on a human minister rather than the Lord (Acts 3:4-6)
4. Disobedience, unconfessed sin or unbelief (Psalm 66:18; James 5:15-16)

Scripture References undergirding belief in divine healing.

1. *"He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."* (Mt. 8:17)
2. *"For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'?"* (Mt. 9:5)
3. *"And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."* (Mk. 16:17,18)
4. *"Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."* (Acts 4:29,30)
5. *"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed..."* (James 5:14-16)