

# YOUR HEALING DOOR



## Introduction

In July 1977, doctors removed a cancerous growth from my neck. The primary surgeon was certain more surgery would be required, including the removal of my thyroid and possibly my voice box, depending on how far the cancer had spread. Obviously, the diagnosis struck fear in my wife, Janice, and me and caused us to seek the Lord earnestly. While we were in prayer, the Lord gave us specific instructions to have three individuals pray for me so that I would be healed. After following these instructions, I went to a hospital in Houston, Texas, for tests to determine how far the cancer had spread and how extensive my surgery would be. After three days of testing, the doctors could find no trace of cancer in my body. Needless to say, they were very puzzled.

The Lord had healed me supernaturally, and I have been cancer-free ever since. Praise God!

One year later, our 15-month-old son, Michael, was afflicted with a juvenile muscular/arthritis condition. He was unable to crawl or turn his head. Most of his joints were swollen twice their normal size, leaving him in tremendous pain. The doctors gave us no hope that Michael would ever improve. Instead, they said if this condition continued to progress our son would

never walk and probably would not live past 10 years of age. This time, as we sought the Lord, He directed us to saturate ourselves in His Word and to speak the Word daily over Michael. After three months, Michael crawled. Three months later, he walked for the first time!

Michael's healing was more of a process than mine had been the year before. God's direction to my wife and me was different for both situations, but the results were the same.

## Healing is not just a ministry for the specialists.

Over the years, we have seen similar results in many lives that have been attacked by some form of sickness or disease. In each case, as the opportunity permitted, we encouraged individuals to take time to seek the Lord and follow His instruction for them. And scores have found healing—just as Janice and I did for myself and our young son.

God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34). He does the same for anyone who will trust Him and believe His Word.

The passion and purpose behind the writing of this book are two-fold. First, it is to encourage faith and restore hope in the hearts and minds of people—Christian and non-Christian alike—who are shackled with the bonds of chronic illness or have received a terminal sentence from medical science. Second, it is to restore confidence in average Christians to function in healing ministry. Jesus, the Head of the church, has commissioned His body to lay hands on the sick (Mark 16:18). Yet, many have allowed themselves to become “sidelined” from this important ministry because of some personal failure to either receive or impart healing in the past.

John Osteen makes the following assertion about healing ministry in the church: “Ministering to the sick is not optional.

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It is your responsibility to bring healing to the sick.”<sup>1</sup>

John G. Lake makes a similar statement: “The apostles were called to go into all the world and make believers in every section. The signs were to follow the believers, not the apostles only.”<sup>2</sup>

I believe the Lord is calling every member of His church from the sidelines and back onto the field of ministry—including the ministry of healing. Let me give you some Scriptural basis for this. Matthew 4:23, New King James Version, says,

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

According to this Scripture, Jesus’ ministry included teaching, preaching, and healing. Clearly, one third of His ministry involved healing the sick. If that is true of Jesus’ ministry, then it is also true of the ministry of His church—you and me—today.

“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 will he do...” (John 14:12, NKJV).

“So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you...’” (John 20:21, NKJV).

These are powerful verses. If they are true, then you and I can do the same works that Jesus did, because He sent us to do the same things. What did He do? He preached, taught, and healed the sick. Where does that leave you and me? It leaves us with the responsibility to get involved in healing ministry, like it or not.

Healing is not just a ministry for the specialists. It’s not just relegated to the crusade or television evangelists. It is also not

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1 John Osteen. *How to Minister Healing to the Sick*. (Houston, Tx.: John Osteen Publications, 1981), 8

2 John G. Lake. *John G. Lake: His Life, His Sermons, His Boldness of Faith*. (Ft. Worth, Tx.: Kenneth Copeland Publications, 1994), 376

limited to the medical profession through their skilled hands and care. Thank God for healing evangelists and for doctors and nurses. We need them. Many of us would not be alive today

## One wisdom key can open a healing door for you!

without them. But what about others like you and me, who have been assigned to be His healing agents in the earth? How many more people would be well today if all three of these means of healing worked together: evangelists with special healing ministry, doctors and nurses who have been trained in medical science, and members of the body of Christ laying hands on the sick as Jesus commanded?

First Corinthians 12:9 tells us there are gifts of healings (plural) available to the church. The goal of this book is to share practical wisdom keys my wife and I, and others we know, have discovered that have opened the doors of healing for people. Because God is no respecter of persons, these wisdom keys are available to you and will release healing for you as well. They apply both in receiving healing for you and in ministering healing to others. Many sincere Christians generally believe in healing, but they do not understand how to activate it or walk it out in their own lives on a consistent basis. In the following chapters, we will identify 12 wisdom keys and describe how they can be applied to unlock healing doors for you and those you minister to.

You don't have to activate every key to receive or impart healing. One wisdom key can open up a healing door for you! Get ready to unlock your healing door and take action on the knowledge you receive in the following chapters.