

HAND IN HAND WITH JESUS TOWARD HEALING

Part 3 You Can Be Healed With Jesus

Mark 8:22-25 **SLIDE x 2**

Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him and begged Him to touch him. ²³ So 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.

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

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

There are hidden gems in this most unusual true story – little treasures that are encouraging, inspiring and informative – lessons showing us *how God works in our journey toward healing.*

PEOPLE TYPES

*So, to start with, we see in this story – as we did in the story of Blind Bartimaeus – **THERE ARE THREE PEOPLE-TYPES** –*

SLIDE *There is an unnamed blind man / There is The Lord Jesus / There is 'They'*

- *The Blind man – nameless – indicating he was probably considered insignificant and irrelevant to society around*
- *The Lord Jesus is The One who meets that need ...*

BUT WHO ARE THEY?

- *'They' are believers. Out of their compassion for this afflicted man 'They' bring him to Jesus ... and they believe Jesus can heal him.*

IT'S ONLY THE BELIEVERS THAT ARE MOTIVATED TO BRING A PERSON TO JESUS.

The only other similarity between the healing of these two blind men is – **both were healed from a personal encounter with Jesus.**

However, that's where the similarities between these healings ends.

THE METHOD OF HEALING THIS BLIND MAN IS **NOTHING LIKE THE METHOD BY WHICH BLIND BARTIMAEUS WAS HEALED ...**

- Bart cried out to Jesus ... this man didn't cry out at all
- Bart heard a word from Jesus spoken for him ... this man didn't hear nor was given a word
- Bart walked toward Jesus ... this man had to be brought to Jesus
- Bart was told his faith made him well ... this man had to have Jesus' spit in his eyes

This shows us, it's not a method that heals ...

It's A Man.

It's not following a formula that heals ...

It's following The Man

Yet inevitably we tend to make methods and formulas from what the Lord does among us. We analyse how something happened and duplicate the same formula – sometimes leaving God out of it altogether ...

I remember days when we'd sing a certain song and there would be a great sense of God's presence among us ...

But then we'd sing that same song to death trying to get the same result.

SO HERE WE SEE THE METHOD OF 'LAYING ON OF HANDS'

LOOK AT HOW THESE BELIEVER'S APPROACHED JESUS & THE HEALING OF THIS MAN...

Mark 8:22 **SLIDE**

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

They'd seen and heard that Jesus laid hands on people and they were healed

- *Matthew 8:2-3* Jesus healed The Leper by touching him
- *Matthew 8:14* Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law by touching her
- *Luke 4:40* Jesus touched and healed many people in Capernaum

They thought the method of touching was what brought about healing ...

THEY BELIEVED IN **JESUS' METHOD MORE** THAN THEY BELIEVED IN **JESUS HIMSELF.**

IT'S NOT THE METHOD THAT HEALS ... IT'S THE MAN **SLIDE**
THE METHOD IS THE MAN & FOLLOWING HIM IS THE FORMULA.

For an example –

There's THE 'METHOD' OF FORGIVENESS (See Supplementary)

It's because many of us have tried to **follow a formula** on our own, that healing never comes to pass for us ... which in turn leaves us discouraged and we give up.

If you're suffering from an ongoing affliction please let go of any preconceived ideas as to how you can or should be healed and seek your Lord – your Healer to lead you His way to your healing. He will! He did with me!

SEEK THE HEALER NOT THE HEALING

Like this blind-man's healing, your healing is **unique to you** and personal between you and Jesus. Don't let anyone tell you, you have to do things a certain way to be healed!

SEEK THE MAN ... FIND THE MAN ... FOLLOW THE MAN ...
HE WILL LEAD YOU THROUGH TO YOUR FREEDOM

THE FIRST THING JESUS DID WAS
JESUS TOOK THE MAN BY THE HAND

Mark 8:22-23 **SLIDE**

*Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him and begged Him to touch him. ²³ **So He took the blind man by the hand** and led him out of the town.*

HERE'S WHERE THE MAN'S HEALING BEGINS

Now Jesus didn't ask for permission to take this man's hand. He wasn't prim and proper and polite. Jesus wasn't meek and mild about it.

JESUS TAKES THE MAN'S HAND IN AUTHORITY & CONTROL

The word '**Takes**' (*epilabomenos*) is a very forceful word – 'TO SEIZE'

JESUS GRABBED HIS HAND WITH GREAT AUTHORITY

- **JESUS TAKES OVER FROM THE BELIEVERS!**

It's like Jesus said, 'Thanks Guys, but I'll take it from here.'

This is where we, as believers, need to hand a person over to Jesus. We can bring people to Jesus in prayer ... or physically to church for ministry ...

But once there we need to back off – to let go – to hand them over to Jesus

When I was born, I was in danger of dying. My mother knelt and prayed, 'Lord, if you spare him, he's yours' and handed me over. Obviously I recovered and I'm here today serving Our Lord.

- **JESUS TAKES OVER FOR THE BLIND MAN**

LIKE US, THIS BLIND MAN NEEDED JESUS TO TAKE CONTROL ... BECAUSE –

- HE COULD NOT HELP HIMSELF / HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO ...
- HE DID NOT KNOW THE WAY TO GO / HE COULDN'T SEE FOR HIMSELF

*'... So take my hand, I need someone before me ... to show the way
'cause my own eyes are blind ...'*

(‘Lord I Choose to Follow’ - Steve Apirana)

- **JESUS TAKES OVER FOR US.**

It's strong and intrusive but, this is the pure grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ... doing for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

Jesus will take over your plight for you

There are no method's demanded here / there is no formula!

JESUS JUST TOOK OVER ... TOOK CONTROL OF THE SITUATION

This blind man needed Jesus to take charge.

He was a broken man.

He couldn't see.

He didn't know where to go.

He didn't believe ...

BUT JESUS GRABS HIS HAND IN AUTHORITY & TAKES CHARGE

'I could not believe because I could not see ... but you came to me in the night ... When the dawn seemed forever lost, you showed me your love in the light of the stars ...'

(Loreena McKennet)

JESUS IS THERE FOR US BUT HE'S THERE IN ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY

- IN REDEMPTION JESUS IS THE LAMB
- IN AUTHORITY, JESUS IS THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH

NB: THE SAME WORD IS USED WHEN JESUS GRABBED PETER BY THE HAND ...

Matthew 14:30-31 SLIDE

... [Peter] cried out ... 'Lord Save me' ³¹And *immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him ...*

It's the same Greek word – (epilabomenos) – *to seize*

Peter was out of his depth ...

Peter was in need of The Saviour –

JESUS TOOK CONTROL ...

And Peter was held and led back to safety with Jesus.

LIKE PETER ...

WHY DON'T YOU LET JESUS TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE

- You might be being sucked down into your circumstances ...
LET JESUS TAKE CONTROL
- You might be trying to fix your overwhelming circumstances
LET JESUS TAKE CONTROL
- You may only see doubts and fears crashing around you like waves ...
LET JESUS TAKE CONTROL
- You can't see anyway out?
LET JESUS TAKE YOU BY THE HAND & TAKE CONTROL

WE MUST ALLOW HIM TO TAKE OVER!!

JESUS LEADS THE MAN OUT OF TOWN

Mark 8:23 **SLIDE**

So He took the blind man by the hand and *led him out of the town*

...

Once again this is a much stronger phrase than 'Led Him' it is actually 'brought him' ...

This happened, as well, with a deaf man who Jesus also **took aside from the multitude** and healed. (Mark 7:32-35)

Jesus brought him out of his negative environment – *out of his familiar surrounds ... the sounds ... the smells ... all reinforcing his condition of hopelessness ...*

LET JESUS CHANGE YOUR ENVIRONMENT

JESUS LED HIM INTO A SAFER ENVIRONMENT OUT OF TOWN

WHERE WERE THEY?

Beth-saida – a bustling Town of fishing industry

Bethsaida means: "place of fish." Or 'Fishing house', a place in Palestine.

Fish represent most times unsaved people in the sea of the world.

JESUS LED HIM OUT OF THE WORLD'S DOMINATION & CONTROL

The heartless survival-of-the-fittest ...

Fear-based survival ...

The control of the more powerful ...

You can escape all this –

LET JESUS TAKE CONTROL

RIGHT PERSON 'BEFORE JESUS' ... WRONG ENVIRONMENT FOR HIS FAITH –

JESUS LED HIM INTO A MORE PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT -

A place where he could hear and feel and think and rest ...

Far from all the distraction of a bustling town

JESUS BROUGHT HIM TO A PLACE WHERE THE MAN WAS ONE ON ONE WITH JESUS ... LIKE BARTIMAEUS ...

HERE HE HAD A PERSONAL, PRIVATE ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

Hosea 2:14-15 Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

Therefore, behold, I will allure her and lead her to the wilderness, and [there] speak to her tenderly. ¹⁵There I will give back her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor into a gateway of hope. There she will [be able to] respond as she did in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of Egypt.

HOW IMPORTANT IS A QUIET ATMOSPHERE FOR US TO RECEIVE FROM GOD.

HE KNOWS WHAT WE NEED.

Psalm 23:2

He makes me to lie down in green pastures ... beside the STILL waters.

And here His work of restoration begins.

An atmosphere of rest before restoration

- HERE YOU CAN HEAR HIS HEART SPEAK!
- HERE YOU START TO SENSE HIS PRESENCE
- HERE YOU START TO FEEL SAFE **IN THE GRIP OF JESUS' STRONG HAND**
- HERE YOU CAN LET YOUR ANXIETY GO & TRUST IN HIM

JESUS IMPARTS HIS ESSENCE INTO THE MAN

Mark 8:23-24 **SLIDE x 2**

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."

This is not as I was taught, that Jesus had to have two attempts of healing this man ... His first attempt didn't work properly so Jesus had to try again ...

That idea never sat with me!

As if The Son of God failed at anything ...

It's preposterous.

I believe it's the antithesis of this –

JESUS FIRST MINISTRY WORKED TOO WELL and this man began to have insight into other dimensions ... The spiritual dimension ...

THIS MAN RECEIVED JESUS ESSENCE ... HIS SPITTLE ...

*This was the pure essence of **the sinless Son of God**.
This in itself has the power to recreate ... to dissolve disease ... to cleanse all filth ...
This spittle was pure and holy ...*

What did it do?

THIS OPENED UP THE MAN'S SOUL & HE BEGAN TO SEE SPIRITUALLY ... TO SEE INTO THE SPIRIT DIMENSION.

Hebrews 11:3

The things which are seen were made from things unseen.

THIS MAN SAW SPIRITUALLY BEFORE HE SAW PHYSICALLY BEFORE HIS PHYSICAL HEALING WAS COMPLETE.

(See my book, 'What They Didn't Tell Me about Suffering' - 'Life at The Pace of Nature' Page 138 – 139)

HEALING HAPPENS IN ANOTHER DIMENSION INTO WHICH WE HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN & NOW BELONG.

THIS IS THE ETERNAL REALM OF FAITH.

JESUS BRINGS THE MAN BACK TO 'NORMAL LIFE'

Mark 8:25 **SLIDE**

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

ON OUR JOURNEY TO RECOVERY ... JESUS TOUCHES US SEVERAL TIMES & IN SEVERAL WAYS

IN THIS STORY JESUS TOUCHED THE BLIND MAN 3 TIMES

- 1. HE TOOK HIS HAND IN CONTROL**
- 2. HE TOUCHED HIS FACE GIVING HIM SPIRITUAL INSIGHT**
- 3. HE TOUCHED HIS EYES GIVING HIM PHYSICAL SIGHT**

SLIDE

Our road to recovery is often progressive with many reinforcing experiences along the way.

We begin our journey **hand in hand with Jesus** in surrender ... we walk with him in patience ... in peace at Jesus' pace.

LET JESUS LEAD YOU ...

LET JESUS MINISTER TO YOU IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS ...

I WILL FOLLOW YOU & BE HEALED

In the early hours of Friday morning, I drifted off into sleep and had a dream. In the dream a dear brother, Tony, who is having major health problems, was standing at my sink. He turned to me with communion wine in his hand and sang to me this song which I remembered when I awoke ... I wrote the song and this is the song.

I WILL FOLLOW HIM AND BE HEALED

I will follow Him and I'll be
Healed in the name of the Lord
I will follow Jesus

Hand in Hand with My Lord Jesus
He will heal all my diseases
I will follow where He pleases
He's my Healer Now

SLIDE

Supplementary

THE METHOD OF FORGIVENESS

*THIS IS a great divine principle ...
We must forgive others ...
But it is not a 'method' to healing ...
Let Jesus lead you to it ... through it ...
In His time ... in His way ...*

I WAS LED HERE ... TO A MOUNTAIN OF FORGIVENESS

(See my book, 'What They Didn't Tell Me About Suffering' Chapter 1 Pgs 15-20)

**BUT IT WAS THE LORD THAT LED ME THERE.
IT WASN'T A FORMULA FOR ME ...
TO ME IT WAS OBEDIENCE TO HIM & HIS WORD**

FORGIVENESS WILL NOT BRING HEALING ...

JESUS WILL

THE METHOD OF SEED PLANTING

"To conceive and give birth to the miracles you need, you must first plant God's Word like a seed in your heart. [This is 'the method' being advocated]

*Conception cannot take place without first planting the seed."
(Andrew Womack)*

We must meditate and chew over and align our thoughts with what God says for our lives.

A 'method' like this is always something we have to do ... a formula which takes the place of a personal encounter with Jesus Christ.