

THMinistry.org

We continue steadfastly in prayer, and in the
ministry of the word.

Acts 6: 4 ASV

Welcome to Bible Study and Prayer
IS THE TRUTH IN YOU?

Wednesday 14 June, 2017 A.D.
(Anno Domini – In the year of our Lord)

Wednesday 20 Sivan, 5777

THMinistry.org

- Righteousness is relationship with God and man.
- The LORD took away all sickness, and put no evil diseases upon thee. Deuteronomy 7: 15 KJV
- Is sickness on earth because people do not know His word, having too little faith to receive blessing?
- Do they make Him a liar?
- Is that sin?
- Is the truth in them or are they liars?

THMinistry.org

- All of us know that we should be praying. Yet prayer is not practiced with any regularity, fervency, or quantity. Why are we not praying like we should?
- Cynicism undergirds our resistance to this divinely ordained practice. We think to ourselves, *God does not actually answer prayers. Why should I bother? Everything will turn out the same anyway.* This is the reason Wednesday night Prayer and Bible Study meetings are barren.

THMinistry.org

- If we thought God answered prayers, Bible Study would be full, as long as food is on the table and everything is in order, we are confident that we have everything handled. We are not desperate enough to pray!
- Health concerns are the primary topic of prayer. Such prayer is not bad, but significant issues are usually absent.
- Are we praying for the renewal of our minds, the transformation of our deceitful hearts, are we praying for repentance and revival?

THMinistry.org

I pray, that your love may abound, Philippians 1: 9
more and more in knowledge and all discernment.

Philippians 1: 9

So that ye may approve the things that are
excellent; Philippians 1: 10

that ye may be sincere and void of offence

Philippians 1: 10

unto the day of Christ. Philippians 1: 10

THMinistry.org

Being filled with the fruits of righteousness,

Philippians 1: 11

which are through Jesus Christ, Philippians 1: 11

unto the glory and praise of God. Philippians 1: 11

Amen and Amen

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. I John 2: 18 KJV

THMinistry.org

- Text: I John 1: 6-10 KJV & I John 2: 4 KJV

If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

THMinistry.org

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

THMinistry.org

- "Thy faith hath made thee whole" (Matthew 9: 22).
"According to your faith be it done unto you"
(Matthew 9: 29). "Woman, great is thy faith: be it unto
thee even as thou wilt" (Matthew 15: 28). These were
the words of the Master when He trod the
shores of Galilee.
- It was faith that made the believer whole in
Bible days, and it is faith to reach up and touch
the hem of the Master's seamless dress that
can make us whole today. For "if ye have faith

THMinistry.org

as a grain of mustard seed," said Jesus, "ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place, and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you" (Matthew 17: 20).

- In order to get to this living, active, mountain-moving faith in Jesus Christ, you must get on believing ground. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. (See Romans 10: 17.) To rightfully understand and feed upon the Word, the heart must be given to the Lord Jesus. We must be

THMinistry.org

washed in the precious blood, be born again, and be no longer children of darkness but children of light.

- "Well, if the Lord heals me, I'll believe and be converted," we hear someone say.
- But, dear one, this is not the attitude in which to come to the Great Physician, Jesus. He did not heal the sick under those conditions when He was on earth. Healing was not received first and faith afterward, but faith first and then

THMinistry.org

healing, for He said, "Thy faith hath made thee whole" (Matthew 9: 22). But to a sinful nation who seeks a sign, no sign will be given. (See Matthew 12: 39.) Neither can one bargain with the Lord and exchange service for healing. Many forget their vows and promises to God after the answer has come.

Be Born Again

- Positively, the first thing to do is to be genuinely

THMinistry.org

born again – not for the sake of being healed but because of real heart conviction for sin and the wooing, all-conquering love of Jesus Christ.

- Many have been not a little surprised and filled with questions when, in our meetings, we have listed a complete surrender to Jesus - a change of heart and a bright salvation experience – as one of the conditions required for us to pray for the healing of the sick and afflicted. But, you see, it is Jesus and not us

THMinistry.org

whom the afflicted must look to for healing. It is to Him that they must pray.

- Think for a moment how could a sinner pray to the Lord for healing? If he were really honest, he would have to pray something like this:
- Oh, Lord Jesus, I am a sinner. I know You have long been knocking at my heart's door and that I have never been willing to let You in. Even now, I am unwilling to deny myself or to take up my cross and follow You, but while I am not

THMinistry.org

ready to live for You or to repent of the coldness and sin that grieves Your heart – and though I am rejecting You and unwilling to do anything for You – I would like You, please dear Lord, to do something for me. Please heal my broken body so that I may go out and better enjoy the world. Heal my eyes so that I can the better see the moving pictures. Open my deaf ears that I may enjoy the devil's jokes and gossip. Heal my crippled hands so that I can play cards or work

THMinistry.org

for my own selfish ends, and heal my feet so that I might dance and run in worldly paths!

- Oh, no, those might not be the exact words uttered by the petitioning sinner's lips, but it would be the language of the heart, would it not? And, after all, it is upon the heart that the Lord looks, and it does not seem possible that the Lord could answer that prayer for the honor and glory of His own dear name, does it?

THMinistry.org

Make an Out and Out Surrender

- Give Him your heart, freely and gladly. Drink deep from the joyous wells of His salvation till your heart overflows with the rich fullness of His love. Then come crying:
- Dear Jesus, my Savior and my Lord, Your name do I worship and adore. By your blood I have been redeemed. My whole heart and life flows out to You in gladness and surrender for service

THMinistry.org

great or small. Take me and use me, I pray. But, oh, dear Lord, this body is sick and frail. I come to You for healing and strength, that I may serve You better and help lead souls from darkness into light. Heal my eyes, that I may read the blessed Book; my ears, that I may hear the preached Word; my hands, that I may minister in loving deeds to those in need; my feet, that they may run to do Your bidding, Savior dear. Humbly, I ask in faith for Your own glory. Dear

THMinistry.org

Lord, I do believe and take Your promise now.

- There is quite a difference in the heart language of those two prayers, is there not? And it does seem as though one could pray this latter prayer with much more assurance and confidence.
- Do not seek salvation for the sake of being healed; but after seeking and finding the Savior, then come for deliverance from sickness and pain that you may henceforth live for Him who

THMinistry.org

died for you.

- Having read of the miracles of healing our Lord has performed, people often rush into the meetings from distant places, saying, "Pray for me quick, Sister; I have to catch a train or leave for home tomorrow." But they have not sat long under the preaching of the gospel till, when asked if they feel that they are now ready to go to the altar for prayer, they almost invariably reply, "Oh no, let me wait a day longer, I have a

THMinistry.org

few more letters to write asking forgiveness, a few more things to make right, a couple of more bills to pay, and so forth." Bless the Lord, the Spirit has been working in their hearts, and instead of rushing pell-mell without thought or preparation into the most holy and righteous presence of the King of Kings, asking His pure, nail-pierced hands to be laid upon their sinful selfish bodies, they are coming now with clean hands and a pure heart, entering humbly under

THMinistry.org

the covering of the precious blood.

Do Not Come On Your Own Merits

- "But I have been such a wicked sinner," some other heart may cry. "My life has been wasted. Would He ever hear my cry? Would He save, heal, and baptize me with His precious Holy Spirit? Am I not too sinful, sick, and broken of body and soul?"
- Indeed, He will hear your cry, dear one.

THMinistry.org

He came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance. You are just the one whom He will hear. When Jesus walked this earth, none was too sinful for Him to save, none too sick for Him to heal.

- And it has been a noticeable fact that the new convert, filled with humility and a sense of his own unworthiness, often receives healing much more quickly than those who have been Christian workers for many years and who now

THMinistry.org

come of their own merits, filled with a sense of their own goodness and importance.

- "Why I am Mr. So-and-so. I've done this, that, and the other for the Lord for so many years, and I am sure that He will heal me." But oh, it is not upon our own merits, righteousness, or even service that we can claim the promise; and righteousness of Jesus that we must plead. Coming in humility, we find, that, in

THMinistry.org

deed, when we are weak, then we are strong, for He resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. (See I Corinthians 4: 10; James 4; 6.)

- "Have you faith that Jesus will heal you now?" we often ask the sick who come for prayer. When dealing with old Christians, we frequently meet the following complacent, self-satisfied answer in a tone that would indicate that they almost resented the fact that we felt the necessity of such a question:

THMinistry.org

- "Oh my yes! Why I have always had faith."
- "How long have you been ill, Sister, and crippled up in the wheelchair?"
- "About ten years."
- "And yet you say, in an offhand, assured way, with a little wave of your hand, 'Oh yes, indeed, I have always had faith.' Why don't you see my dear, that if you really had faith – that is, the

THMinistry.org

instantaneous, mountain-moving faith for the fraction of a second – the work would be done, and this captive body would be free? Get out of that self-satisfied, boastful complacency and – in humility, heart searching, and earnest prayer – draw near with sincerity and unfeigned faith unto the Lord."

The Difference Between Passive Faith and Active Faith

- Having been converted, having made peace

THMinistry.org

with the brother who had something against you, as far as it is in your power, and having put your all upon the altar in sacrifice, you are now coming to Christ for healing.

- Come with radiant, active faith; pray earnestly; pray believing, doubting nothing, and you will feel the mighty hand upon your life. His power will thrill your being, and the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will quicken your

THMinistry.org

mortal body. (See Romans 8: 11.)

- "Just what do you mean by 'active' faith? Is there more than one kind of faith?" I hear someone ask.
- Yes; there is passive faith, and there is active faith. There is an instantaneous faith that takes the promise now. There is a steady, unwavering faith that can stand the test and, through the vision tarry, wait for it, growing daily in strength

THMinistry.org

as young trees grow in stature. The one with passive faith says, "I will be prayed for, and if it is His will to heal me, I will be restored to health" – but right there is an if, a small if in itself, but a most mighty stumbling block to faith.

- Had the woman with the issue of blood sat by the wayside, saying, "Well if it is His will to heal me I am willing, I will just sit here at ease, and if He happens to come to me and heal me, all right; if not, all right, but I will make no great

THMinistry.org

effort until He does," do you think she would have been made whole? It was her active faith that pressed through the throng and touched the Master's robe that brought about her healing.

- Passive faith just stands there and lets someone else do all the praying, hoping to be healed and willing for it, if it comes, but making no real effort to reach out and take it by active faith. Hope, however is not faith, though many

THMinistry.org

mistake the one for the other.

An Example of the Difference Between the Two

- Let me tell you the true story of something that happened in one of our meetings that exemplifies the difference between active and passive faith.
- During the great revival campaign in the Memorial Hall of Dayton, Ohio, the Lord graciously poured out His Spirit upon us in a most marvelous way. Thousands were seeking

THMinistry.org

the Lord as their Savior, Healer and Baptizer.

- The auditorium was packed almost to suffocation. The basement also was filled. Policemen and firemen were struggling with the multitudes that thronged the streets outside. Healthy friends who carried the sick and had been crowded out had, in desperation, resorted to cutting out the basement windows and passing in their afflicted on beds to those within.

THMinistry.org

From early morning until late at night, the throngs continued to strand. And now, within the building, on the great platform, prayer was still being offered for the sick.

- Many mighty healings were resulting. Deaf ears were unstopped, and the lame had been made to leap for joy. As quick as one row of supplicants was prayed for, another would take its place. We who were praying for the sick

THMinistry.org

turned now to the new row.

- The first man with a stout walking stick in his hand, whose limb was held painfully and straight before him. The man appeared to have absolutely no burden of prayer but was sitting up straight in his chair, gazing about him with wide open eyes, watching the workers and the people as they came and went. I looked at him searchingly with the thought that it is ever

THMinistry.org

uppermost in the mind when praying for the sick: Has he faith – active, mountain-moving faith? I was afraid that he did not.

- Second in the line was a dear lady with a child perhaps three or four years of age seated upon her lap. One arm was pressed tightly about the child; the other raised to heaven. Her lips moved in audible prayer, and tears flowed down her cheeks. Her face – there was no doubt as

THMinistry.org

to faith there!

The Man with the Cane

- Addressing first the elderly man with the inexpressive face and the open eyes, I asked, "Well, Brother, dear, have you faith that Jesus will heal you now?"
- "Why, I certainly hope He will," he made answer.

THMinistry.org

- "But, Brother, have you only a 'hope so faith? No assurance from the Lord?"
- "Why, why I thought perhaps I could be healed; I certainly hope so."
- "Just what is your greatest reason for desiring healing, Brother?" I asked trying another track.
- "Why to be rid of the pain, of course," he answered testily.

THMinistry.org

- "But isn't it even just a little bit so that you could serve the Lord and work for Him with all your heart and strength?" I persisted.
- "W-e-e-ll, I suppose so." He spoke hesitatingly, without conviction, as though the thought were foreign. The man had a hard selfish face, and we could not help wondering whether he had ever made a real sacrifice for the Lord Jesus in his life.

THMinistry.org

- There was nothing to do but to offer a prayer for the man, of course. But, oh, that living, vital faith one so covets when praying for the afflicted seemed to have been sinking away down out of sight, and all we could do, after we had prayed, was to turn to the man and say, "According to your faith be it done unto you."
- "Now Brother," we tried to smile bright encouragement, "do you take the promise?"

THMinistry.org

Come! Rise to your feet, in Jesus name. If you but have faith, you can walk from this platform straight and strong and every bit whole, leaving your cane behind you."

- As I spoke, I succeeded in getting him to his feet; faith was springing up in my own heart, and I had the assurance that, even now, if he could but grasp the promise, he would be made whole.

THMinistry.org

- "Come Brother! Forget the cane, lean upon the Lord, and walk in Jesus name!"
- "Oh-h-h! But I couldn't walk without the cane, Sister! My limb has been sore so long," he cried in a startled voice, without even trying to walk, and taking a tighter grasp upon his cane.
- We groaned within our spirits, and the man, clinging to the stick, hobbled away. Only a

THMinistry.org

moment, however, could be spared in following him with a regretful gaze. Hundreds of others were waiting for prayer – hundreds who have real active faith.

The Mother and the Paralyzed Child

- Next in line was the mother with the little daughter who had been afflicted with infantile paralysis.

THMinistry.org

- The mother's lips were still moving in prayer, as, with closed eyes and tear stained cheeks, she clasped her child to her breast and rocked gently to and fro with an intensity of emotion and faith that appeared to be obvious to all surrounding. I scarcely needed to ask the question here, "Mother, dear, have you faith that Jesus will heal the little darling now and make her walk and run again?"

THMinistry.org

- She opened eyes that were red with weeping but in which glowed a light kindled by the taper of faith, and she cried, "Indeed, I have faith, Sister. I have prayed through. I just know that it will be done. This paralysis must go. My child will walk, in Jesus name."
- Ah, what blessed faith had she! Jesus spoke of those like her, saying, I have not seen such faith; no, not in all of Israel." With every word

THMinistry.org

she uttered, we could feel our own faith mounting. No long prayer needed here! The praying had been done in advance.

- "According to your faith be it done unto you. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, be made whole!"
- "Put the little darling down on her feet, Mother dear. Dry your tears and take your little girl by the hand. She will walk." And she did too. Only

THMinistry.org

Mama went too slow, and the pretty little darling let go the mother's hand and ran and danced across the platform, perfectly whole. What a novelty it was to have that paralyzed side paralyzed no longer! How grand to use that little foot! She would run a little, then stop short, lift up the foot, look at it inquiringly and approvingly, then skip some more, like a little lamb gamboling in the field, then stop again and turn the foot in all directions, gazing at it delightedly, before she ran and danced some more. The

THMinistry.org

delighted audience laughed and shouted and wept all in the same breath.

- The happy mother lifted up her clasped hands and cried, "Oh, Jesus! I just knew You'd do it! I just knew it! And oh, I thank You Lord, I will give You my love, my strength, my all, and ever bring her up in Your paths, dear Savior."
- Do you see the difference, dear one? Here was a woman with active faith. She cried, and the

THMinistry.org

Lord heard her; and according to her faith received.

Don't Lose Faith if Healing Is Not Instantaneous

- Very often the Lord heals His children instantaneously, and yet there are some who are healed gradually and begin to mend from that hour. In these cases, active faith is necessary more than ever.
- This was exemplified by our dear Sister Fraga,

THMinistry.org

whom so many have learned to know and love. She came to the meeting on crutches. She was frightfully deformed, with dislocated hips, which had been out of their sockets for years. When prayed for, she reached out to Jesus in simple, childlike faith and said that she could feel the hips snap back into place. She let the crutches fall from under her arms and, declaring that she was healed, walked away, something she had not been able to do before.

THMinistry.org

- But, though the hips were gradually going back into the sockets, the body was still far from straight, and we used to catch our breath when Mrs. Fraga rose to testify (as she tended to do at each testimony meeting) and declare that she was healed. Then, gradually, day by day, as this precious sister turned her house into a home of prayer, brought her husband to Jesus, prayed with sinners at the altar, and went out for miles to pray and bring others to the

THMinistry.org

meetings, her lameness began to disappear.

- When we saw this dear sister one year after she had been prayed for, and she was as trim and as straight as a girl. She was still ministering to the sick and afflicted, walking for miles with perfect ease, for as she said, "only those who have been in trouble, bound with braces of steel and leather, tortured by crutches and pain, could ever fully sympathize and yearn

THMinistry.org

with such a full heart to help those who walk in the path of affliction.

- Here again was active faith that stepped out on the promise, even as Peter stepped out on the water and walked to meet the Lord. This woman had held fast through sunshine and tempest, believing that He who had begun the good work was also able to perfect it. (See Philippians 1: 6.)

THMinistry.org

Have Faith in God

- Remember that faith is not always accompanied by feeling. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, evidence of things not seen. (See Hebrews 11: 1.) Whether you are healed instantly or gradually, hold fast to the promise. In the Bible we read of some who came to Jesus and were healed as they went. (See, for example, Luke 17: 12-14.) Just so today,

THMinistry.org

there are some who see little visible indication of healing at the moment they are prayed for. But this is the very time to have faith and to hold fast. If they should wait a moment or so, without feeling any great surge of healing power, and then walk away with downcast face, saying, "Oh, I was prayed for a moment ago, but I feel no different; I guess this is not for me," then, according to their faith will it be done.

THMinistry.org

Remember, faith is not feeling, and trust is not trace. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who is at this very moment measuring and testing the quantity and quality of your faith.

- Cling to the words of Isaiah: "With his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53: 5). Lift your heart to Jesus and say, "By Your own suffering at the whipping post, You bore my sickness and pain. My eyes are upon You, dear Lord. By faith I lay hold of the promise. The work is completed in You. Complete it now in me, O Lord."

THMinistry.org

Step Out Boldly upon the Promise

- Pray through before you come to Christ for healing. Then come with perfect faith in Jesus and His power to heal. When you lay aside that cane or those crutches, after prayer, do not put one foot out hesitatingly and say, "Um, now I wonder, could I take a step on that foot? I wonder if I could bear my weight on it? It's been a pretty sore foot! Now let's see...I'm going to

THMinistry.org

try."

- No! No! That is not faith!
- Do you suppose that Peter ever would have been able to walk on the water to meet his Lord if he had put one foot rather dubiously on the wave and said, "Let's see now...I wonder if that water will bear my weight? I know that the Lord bade me come, but this water is pretty soft, and I'm pretty heavy, but I'll try it and see"?

THMinistry.org

- Why, no; he would have sunk in a moment! It was faith that kept Peter up – faith in Jesus. As soon as he got his eyes off the Christ and fixed them fearfully upon the tempestuous waves, or the circumstances with which he was surrounded, he began to sink.
- According to your own faith, it will be done to you. Do not fix your eyes upon your own condition or surroundings. Fix your eyes on

THMinistry.org

Jesus. Have faith and walk to meet Him in gladsome love and service, and the answer will come.

Going Home to Heaven

- "But suppose that it is not His will to heal me? Suppose He wants to take me home to heaven?"
- Well amen! That is a different matter. Your coronation day is at hand. Blessed are those

THMinistry.org

who die in the Lord.

- Paul was in a strait as to whether it was better to stay in order to serve and minister unto his brethren or to depart, declaring to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. (II Corinthians 5: 6-8.) If the savior has spoken to your heart and is calling you home, hallelujah, there is nothing to fear, if your heart is washed in the blood of the Lamb. For you, death has lost its sting, and the grave its victory. (See I Corinthians 15: 55.)

THMinistry.org

When you pass through the waters, the Lord will be with you, and the waters will not overflow. (See Isaiah 43: 2.)

- But we do believe that the Lord's little children do not need to die screaming with convulsions and pain. We read of our fathers that they "fell asleep." (See, for example, Acts 13: 36.)

THMinistry.org

Safe in the arms of Jesus,
Safe on His gentle breast;
There by His love protected,
Sweetly my soul shall rest.

Fanny Crosby, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," 1868

- If you have the blessed assurance that the Lord is calling you to that golden shore, you will of course, be longing and ready to go; but if, on

THMinistry.org

the other hand, you still have years to spend below, there is work to be done. Thousands on every hand are perishing in sin. You can be quickened and healed and made every bit whole through Jesus' mighty power, and you can then go forth into service, great or small, be it at home or abroad. You may become a soul winner for the Master, that when He calls you, you will not be empty-handed.

THMinistry.org

- In gazing upon the sinner who has just given his heart to Jesus and, in his illness, is very near the other shore, this verse always comes to mind:

Must I go, and empty-handed,
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?
Bring no soul with which to greet Him,
Lay no trophies at His feet?

Charles C Luther, "Must I Go and Empty Handed," 1877

THMinistry.org

- How can I covet at least a few months of service for those who, when the last summons comes, will "come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves." (See Psalm 126: 6.)
- Oh, the multitudes we have seen come to Jesus for healing! Our ears still ring with the glad shout of the blind when they received their sight and cried aloud, "Oh, I can see! I can see. Dear people, dear Jesus, I can see again."

THMinistry.org

We still see the overjoyed, almost rapt, expressions of those whose deaf ears were suddenly opened, so that they were liberated from a tomb of silence and enabled to hear the songs of praise to Jesus and the voices of their loved ones. Again we can see the lame, leaping and fairly dancing for joy, their crutches, braces, and canes being thrown away. Hear the testimonies of those whose cancers and tumors have melted away.

THMinistry.org

- Step into Bethesda's pool by faith today, dear heart, and your faith will make you whole.

You are invited to join us!

*Lord willing,
we continue stedfastly in the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and
prayers every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.*