

Praying for People

I am amazed sometimes that many people don't offer or are unsure of how to pray for someone, so they just plain dumb don't do it! To start with, this is a very wrong way to think, just because you maybe never have prayed for someone, or you feel you don't know how is a thing that will stop you forever from praying for someone! You need to start somewhere!! A lot of the times where I have encouraged someone to step out and just lay hands on a person and pray for them from their heart, I have seen amazing results. Most times when I listen to how the person prays I think to myself wow, hope God knows what they are trying to say, and yet every time I have seen God move with that prayer, it kinda made me jealous too!!

So how do you pray for someone? Easy, put your hand on them and pray!! As simple as that!!! Haha, sorry, it really is that easy, but let me give you some tips on what I do, you may not do the same, but at least it may help you a little bit. So you are talking to someone who you feel you want to pray for them, first thing is, be as blunt as a butter knife and ask, Can I pray for you, they will either say yes or no, they won't bite your head off, that includes non Christians too! I have found that Non Christians are more polite in declining than some Christians!! Ok, so someone says yes please..... From here it is simply up to God, not you..... You can place your hand upon there body (ask first if you can place your hand on them) if they are of the opposite sex, I usually place my hand upon the back of their neck, why I don't know, but do not place your hand upon the torso of someone of the opposite sex, use their shoulder maybe, or the top of their head, give no reason for the person to feel uncomfortable.

Pray what is on your heart or mind, usually a good start is to thank the Father for his healing power, or the opportunity to be able to pray for the person, I always begin with something like this. Then it is even simpler, you can say "Father you know what needs to be done in this persons life, you know what needs to be healed and I ask that you touch them with your power and heal them in Jesus name"! That's it!! Well that is how simple it can be, you can build on it from there. It is a good idea if you know a verse of scripture about healing to state that as well, you don't have to know where it is, just quote it or even paraphrase it.

Don't get into any hocus pokus about demons and devils and the likes unless God specifically shows you something. To many people blame the devil and cast out the spirit of this or that when all that happened was the person had an accident and broke something, it really turns people off when so called preachers or whoever try to cast out a devil, sometimes it may be needed, but make sure you are right first, because you will only do more damage to the person you are praying for, they will walk away disillusioned and broken again, and most times not healed.

You don't have to pray for half an hour, you don't have to pray real loud, nor do you have to tell God what he has to do, the Bible clearly states ask and you shall receive, simply ask God to touch the person. So where does all the yelling screaming and demanding come into it that you see or hear others do? I really got no idea whatsoever, everyone has their ways and reasons I suppose but not everyone is the same! Although in saying that, you need to understand that you do have authority in Jesus name!

The Bible tells us in the Gospels that we will cast out demons, heal the sick and raise the dead, and we need to realise sometimes we may have to "tell" a sickness to leave a person, maybe some preachers get their ideas from this, but like I said everyone is different. It helps to know some scripture about healing and authority so here is but a small list for you. **Healing - Mt 10v1-8; Mk 3v13-15; Lk 4v18 goes hand in hand with Isiah 61v1-3; Lk 9v1-6; Lk10v8,9; Authority - Mt20v25; Lk9v1;** Don't copy anyone, don't pray like some people do and make it all eloquent and sound right, pray believing God that he will move on your prayers, again you don't have to pray out loud so everyone can hear you and you make yourself look spiritual because God watches your heart not so much as what you say.

You need to take the first step though and ask a person if you can pray for them. Yeah sure you may not feel like it or maybe you may be all nervous, I have prayed for hundreds of people and I still get nervous at times. So maybe your next question is what if they don't get healed? So What! That is not your problem, let God deal with it, it may not be the right timing for some reason or another, the best thing is don't even think about "What if God don't" because that is not faith. Faith is trusting and relying upon God, that is all faith is, so just pray for the person and trust God, there is no super spiritual power or feelings or chills down the neck needed, just simple hey God touch this person!

I have prayed for people and they have gotten healed, I have prayed for people and they have dropped dead too! (At a later date of course). I have even prayed over a coffin and believed God to raise the person from the dead, they stayed dead too! Just as well, I don't think I would have been able to explain it real well to the family and friends who were at the funeral and I was the last to see the body during a viewing. That may

have caused a stir!! Although it would have been nice! Jesus told us to go and pray for them, heal them, so you do that part and leave the rest up to God, just be obedient.

Do we heal the sick? No! It is maybe our prayer, but it is by the power of the Holy Spirit of God. Is it a lack of faith if they don't get healed? No! There can be numerous reasons why not, most people I have seen get healed have been healed over a period of time, but definitely healed by God as there was no explanation. Is it the persons fault or lack of faith they don't get healed? No, not necessarily have a read of **Jn ch 9**. These sort of questions should not even be asked when praying for someone, there is nothing wrong with asking but do it when ya not referring to the person in need, then when you ask it, go and study the Bible and find out why not? The Bible talks about us perishing due to lack of knowledge.... Go get some knowledge but with it get wisdom too, I love proverbs, I would have to say it would be my favourite book of the Old Testament.

The Bible tells us to study and show ourself approved, have a read of it in **2Tim 2v15**, and have a think about it for a while. Operating in the kingdom of God is supposed to be the easiest thing to do, man has made it difficult with rules and regulations and who can and who can't, just do it!