

We remember with grateful hearts the last week of Jesus' life on earth, and thank our Heavenly Father for His mercy, forgiveness and gift of new life!

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)



Easter 2021

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The Power of God Working in My Life

A Testimony by Raida Juan

My name is Raida Juan, a war survivor, refugee and an immigrant. God loves me so much but His love, mercy and grace has been present throughout my life without me taking notice at the time.

The most significant events that have blown my mind were during the war in my country, Sudan. The enemies who sought to kill us were very close, separated only by a river. By God's grace they did not see us and we were able to exit safely.

Read the full story by downloading the Free eBook of testimonies to pass along at www.HealingConference.info



Raida will be Guest Speaker in October for the OSL Online Conference Call www.oslRegion8.org/online.htm

On the Calendar

OSL Online Conference Calls

March 21



Kathy Belicki

**Memory for Trauma:
A Primer**

https://oslregion8.org/kathy_belicki.htm

April 18



Carol Ward

Encounters with Deliverance

https://oslregion8.org/Carol_Ward.htm

Watch for Kathy's article in Mar/Feb SHARING

An Unwelcome Memory: A Healing Journey

https://oslregion8.org/Sharing_MarchApril%202021.pdf

THE FIX FOR TODAY'S CRISIS OF FAITH

Colin C M Campbell, PhD

Recently, I viewed videos of two surveys that dealt with the catastrophic decline in membership in the mainline churches. One was reviewed by a Baptist preacher, the other by a Roman Catholic bishop. The results of both surveys pointed to the same conclusion. The respondents said that whether they attended church or not made no difference to how they dealt with the issues that they faced in their daily lives.

Digging a little deeper into the surveys' data revealed some reasons for their opinions. In the Baptist survey, for many their faith basis was theological. Their spiritual state rested on the reassurance of having been "justified by faith." Some were highly suspicious of those claiming to have had supernatural experiences. In the Catholic survey, the respondent's experience of God was limited to their experience of Church.

In both cases, those highlighted in the survey had no understanding of how to bring God's Presence into their everyday lives. They felt little call to live as a sacramental presence to build the Kingdom of God. And if they had, they would have been poorly equipped spiritually to do it. Fixing the situation requires that we take a long step back and establish some premises.

First, we are spiritual beings; the thoughts that enter our minds have three origins, not one. Clearly, one obvious origin lies in the interplay between our sensed experiences and the memories and lessons stored in our subconscious. But there are two other sources that our sophisticated post-Enlightenment intellectuals deride as being either idolatrous or superstitious. These sources are the Holy Spirit and the enemy spirits. Thoughts from the Holy Spirit are called "charisms" and those from the enemy spirits consist of various forms of deception and temptation.

We are called to subject the thoughts from ourselves to the discernment of the Holy Spirit and to resist the wiles of the enemy spirits, a process called "theosis" by our Orthodox friends, "divinization" by our Catholic friends and "Life the Spirit" by all of us.

Let us return to the matter of how to apply these insights to the issues of daily life, the matter at hand. Every day, we are called on to make decisions and commit to acts that will determine for good or ill, the outcome of our lives. For those of us seeking to do the will of God, every act has two parts: the part that we do and the part that God does. Both parts are aspects of the one, single act. It is the result of a combination of the natural and the supernatural. The term for such a combination is sacrament. As "fully God and fully man," Christ was the sacrament that saved the world. By adoption into his body we become the sacramental presence that builds the Kingdom of God.

But practically, how do we do that? Answer: We do it by setting aside time to bring the daily issues of our lives to God in prayer. No doubt the persons in the survey tried that and seem to have been unsuccessful, for it is easy to pray badly. Jesus realized that. He warned his disciples not to pray as the pagans do, "with vain repetitions." And yet, there are plenty of Christians who pray this way!

In finding a way out of the difficulty, it is helpful to recall the distinction between the part that we play and the part that God plays in our prayers.

For many, their prayers are exclusively prayers of petition and in situations in which we are truly helpless God answers such prayers. At such times, we are unable to play our part, unless God takes the initiative and plays his part, by changing our circumstances for the better.

However, there are many more situations in which we are called to decide to play our part. If we are reluctant to do so, our prayers should be ones of confession and intention. When we truly intend to live the Christian life, prayers of petition are unnecessary. We will be acting in the power of God's Presence and grace will flow automatically.

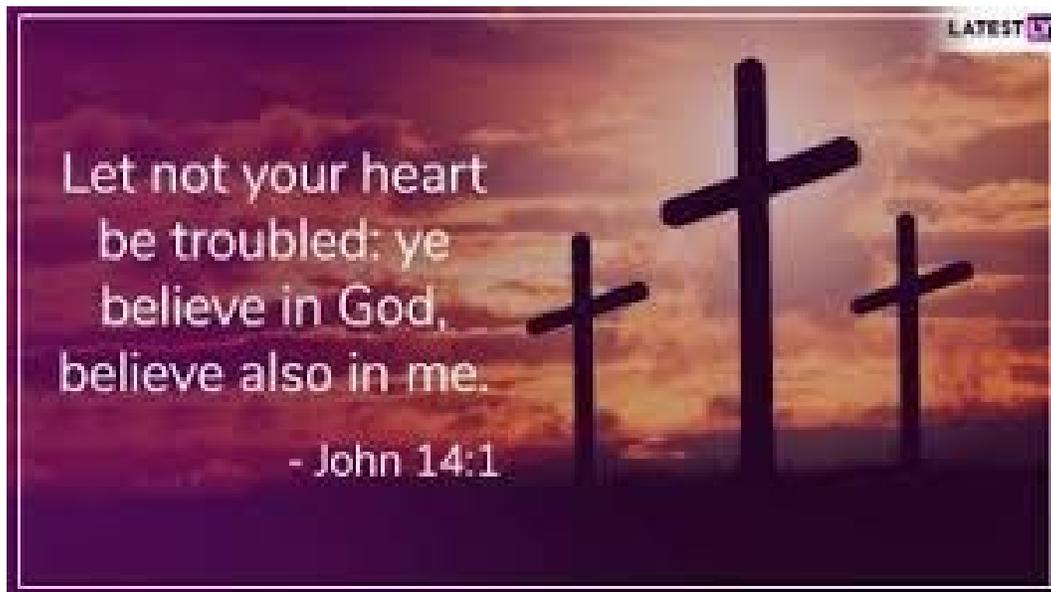
When I meet individuals who tell me that they cannot believe in God because the world is so bad, my usual reply is, "If the world is in such a bad way, what are you doing to make it better? If you try to make the world a better place, you will quickly find God. This is the best world that we have allowed God to make!"

If our prayers are limited to those of petition, then they have become unbalanced. I doubt that the sad respondents in the two surveys grasped the truth of Peter's insight, when he said, "God has called us to be a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, so that we may declare the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light." Peter found the gospel so central to the issues of his life that he was prepared to die for it – and he did!



Dr. Colin Campbell is former President of The International Order of St Luke the Physician Board of Directors, and was elected the current member for Canada on that Board. Colin is also Interim Director of OSL Region 8 (Ontario).

His recent book ***Theology for Charismatic Christians*** is available at https://www.amazon.ca/s?k=theology+for+charismatic+christians&ref=nb_sb_noss



HEALING IS SPELLED L*O*V*E

Rev. Al Durrance

Christian healing is the process through which Holy Spirit comes to Incarnate Jesus Christ in our flesh, that we might become His presence for those to whom He sends us in the world for which He died.

Healing is more than fixing the body, or the mind, or the soul, or the spirit, or the community, or our relationships. It is all of the above. To the extent that He has not yet completed that task, I need to seek healing from God. I am helpless without His grace. It is the difference between my ability and His will for me.

God's healing power is the manifestation of His infinite and unconditional love. What a wonder it would be if we could just grasp the depth of that love, and begin to receive it and walk in it. We would find that healing is something that we enter when we first encounter the Risen Christ, and it continues as we pursue the life that He has called us to live with Him.

PRAYER IS THE ESSENTIAL TO KNOWING GOD

We must begin with prayer as a conversation with Him that we might get to know Him and His will for us in His Kingdom. Prayer must be more than the method or technique we use to get God to do what we ask of Him. It is our becoming as little children coming to our Father seeking all that He has for us. Asking what we will in the sure trust that what He will give us is His love, and nothing else.

We take the time to ask and listen to what He is saying to us that we might let Him define His love in our life. That we might seek and receive the healing that He has for us in any given situation at any given time.

That takes practice just as it took practice for us as children to learn to talk with our parents so they could show us their love and what they had for us. We do not learn to pray by reading a book. We learn to pray by praying, just as we learned to talk by talking and listening. As we find our bond with God anchored in His love for us, we find that we are on the sure foundation of Christian healing.

The healing of our spirit begins as we come to know God in part and continue to draw closer to Him as He reveals more of Himself to us in His love. Knowing God is the healing of our spirit, and it opens the way to receive His healing love into the rest of our lives.

DECISION IS ESSENTIAL TO HEALING

The question Jesus asked the man at the pool of Bethzatha must be answered by all of us. "Are you willing to be made whole?" Jn 5:6 It is important that we make a decision about whether or not we are willing to be healed on God's terms which are not necessarily our own. We have to make the decision to trust God completely.

We need to know two things. What would it cost us to become well and able to function? Do we dare entrust our life to God until we know He loves us, just as we are, warts and all. When we are willing to be healed, and trust God to love us infinitely as well as unconditionally, we are ready to ask, and we are ready to pursue God until we find His healing touch in our lives, or we find out how He intends to use our diseases to prove His love for us. Are we willing to trust Him with our disease, that He might heal us?

MORE THAN A BODY

Healing does not begin when we have exhausted all other resources for the healing of the body. It doesn't even end when the body is miraculously healed. It ends when we are complete. When the body is not healed, perhaps we need to seek healing of the soul, the inner healing that removes the stress that so often causes the body's ills.

I recall a young woman who had an issue of blood. Prayer did not bring healing. When she asked the Lord, He said, "Make your confession." When she made her confession, she was healed before she left the church.

I recall a woman who suffered from narcolepsy. She did not respond to our intercession. When we prayed for healing of her memories and cast out a spirit of anger, she was healed.

Anyone who has heard Jim Glennon, the well known teacher of healing from Australia, knows that unforgiveness lay at the heart of his disease. It was when he determined to forgive those against whom he had unforgiveness that he received his own healing, and has shared that knowledge to set others free around the world.

Often the physical diseases we have are symptoms of something wrong in other areas of our lives.

PERSISTENCE IS ESSENTIAL TO HEALING

As we begin to come into a knowledge of God and His love for us, we do not seek to find our relief and leave His presence. We continue to draw close to Him. We continue to ask Him to show us the sources of disease within us that we might bring them to Him for His healing touch.

When I am not healed in my initial quest for healing, I seek God's direction for my prayers. Agnes Sanford taught that we should begin with a prayer for His guidance as to how to pray, and then we should pray the prayer of faith to release the healing power of His love for ourselves or the one for whom we are praying. If we did not see His hand at work in the person's life, we seek further direction until we do see His presence manifested.

The blocks to healing seem to be some form of block to the flow of His love. When we pray amiss, we try to open the wrong door, and we need to be set straight. When we fail to forgive, we need to forgive. When we live in our own guilt, we need to confess our sins and receive His forgiveness. When we fail to bring any disease to our Father, we need to dare to trust Him enough to ask in the first place.

The faith requirement is not demanding. It takes only enough to bring us into the presence of His faithfulness. It is important to ask, to invite God to come into our lives where He will not impose without our invitation. It is important to steadfastly seek His will knowing that He loves us, and seeks to pour His love out for us and into us.

It is important to pray, as Jesus has taught us, not "if it be thy will", but "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else," that we might receive His healing love to make us whole, and prepare us for His use as His Body in the world. Christian Healing is the transformation that we seek in God's will that must continue until He has made us every bit whole.

We will find our healing in a community of people who are devoted to seeking God's healing power and love. We will find it in a community where we are devoted to seeking His will in prayer and in sharing with one another the touch of His hand in our lives.

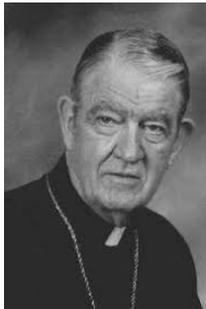
When two or three or ten or twenty or a hundred are gathered in His Name, He is there in their midst, the same yesterday, today and forever. He is there reaching out to give to

us the love that makes us whole. He is there to reach out through us to touch those who are in need of His healing love.

That is what the Order of St. Luke is about. It is not about meetings and rules. It is about gathering in His Name and prayer for ourselves and one another. It is about letting the church know that Jesus Christ is still healing the sick today that they might walk with Him in wholeness.

We begin with the decision to seek. We study the Scriptures, and we practice prayer until it becomes like breathing in the Kingdom of God. We seek to bring our own hurts to Him, and we seek to bring His love to comfort others who hurt. There is not a single one of us whom God cannot use to work His will when we are willing to make ourselves available to Him.

He does not always use our strength, Paul would point out that it is in our weakness that His strength is perfected. God is able to do miraculous things with a Word. That is how He created the universe. He has elected to use us as His Body in the world. He calls the weak and the needy to be His presence. God does not need our ability. He needs our availability. That is why healing is spelled **L*O*V*E**.



**In Loving Memory of Rev. Al Durrance
1927 – 2014**

"Father Al" was active in the healing ministry for over 56 years. He served as North American Warden (Director) of The International Order of St Luke the Physician. He traveled all over the U.S. and Canada as well as overseas teaching about Christian healing and was speaker for Camps Farthest Out. He wrote "Good Lord Deliver Us" and "Things That Go Bump In The Night"



MY FATHER AND YOUR FATHER!



John 20:17

Jesus said to her, "Don't hold me, for I haven't yet ascended to my Father; but go to my brothers, and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" (WEB)

The first resurrection message that Jesus declared is found in His encounter with Mary in the garden after He just rose from the dead. This first message encapsulates the entire New Testament mission and the reason why Jesus came to planet earth two thousand years ago.

Jesus died on a cross and rose from the dead so that His Father could become our Father! My encouragement to you on this glorious Easter Sunday is for you to keep the main thing the main thing! Jesus paid the highest price in order for you to be able to call Almighty God your real Abba! Father!

My prayer is that the reality of our new birth into our Father's Kingdom would become more real today than it has ever been before. Jesus' Father is now our Father and His God is now our God! Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Ephesians 2:4-9

4 But God, being rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up with him, and made us to sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus; 8 for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, that no one would boast. (WEB)

HAPPY EASTER! HE HAS RISEN!

Barry Adams <https://www.fatherheart.tv/>

In Everything Give Thanks

By Keith Bird

Scripture tells us “In all things give thanks” (1 Thessalonians 5:18). It is easy to give thanks when things are going well for us and when we have reason to express our gratitude to God, but what about those times when disappointment, heart-ache, frustration or fear looms its ugly head... are we expected to give thanks then?

Yes!

We are exhorted to give thanks “**in**” all things... not “**for**” all things. Whenever fear, frustration or bad news lights upon our spirits we have a choice. The enemy of our soul seeks only to kill, steal and destroy” John 10:10, but in the same verse, Jesus tells us, “I came that they may have life, and may have it more abundantly.

When we choose to focus on the bad news, frustration or fear, we are inviting more of the same and are serving the one who wants to kill our hope, steal our Joy, and destroy our faith.

When we choose to give thanks, we align our thoughts to trust in God, and are immediately reminded that God is with us; we are not alone even in the face of death, and that God will fight for us and sustain us:

- “Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.” Psalm 23
- “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Deuteronomy 36
- Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10
- Our focus of thanking God **in** our circumstances brings a sense of peace, calm and assurance.

It is human to become discouraged and frustrated. It is the way of the world and yes... even for the child of God we have times of discouragement and frustration... even fear. But it is **how we respond** that makes all the difference!

We are instructed in Philippians 4:6-7: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication **with thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God.” **And here’s the promise:** “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

“Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, **think about these things**. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me,...” **And again, here’s the promise:** “... and the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4: 8-9

To give thanks in every circumstance is a choice, and yes and sometimes also a sacrifice that goes against what we feel. May God richly bless you as you seek to trust and give thanks to Him, in all things!

Keith’s article and several others plus many inspiring testimonies of healing and God’s Provision and Grace like Raida’s testimony (see page 2) are available in the Free eBook published by St Luke’s Anglican Church in Calgary to encourage many during this time of pandemic. Download at <https://www.healingconference.info/> and pass it on!



Christ is Risen!
He is Risen Indeed!
Alleluia!

Happy Easter!

May God bless you and your loved ones and keep you safe.

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