

WARM UP | Over the past 40 years I have been privileged to pray for many thousands of people to be healed. I have seen many healed and yet others have not received their healing. It has been interesting to note that some of the best healings I have seen have occurred among people who are poorly educated and have not had their worldview affected by a lot of secular humanistic training.

For example, I see healings much more frequently in people who are living in the Pacific Islands or in parts of Africa or India. These people have an uncomplicated faith and an inherent spirituality, and as they believe, the power of God touches them mightily.



READ | Isaiah 53:4-5; Hebrews 11:6; Matthew 6:14-15
1 John 5:14-15

BACKGROUND | One of the principal reasons we do not receive healing from God is that we do not trust Him to heal us. For example, when somebody says something hurtful about us or curses us then we immediately raise our own defences instead of leaving it to God to deal with the situation. Our response to hurtful situations can be to get angry and feel justified in refusing to have anything to do with the person who has hurt our feelings. As a result we take their problem upon ourselves and hold onto their sin.

As Jesus said, *"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."* (John 20:23)
Too often we retain the sins of others by failing to forgive. Then a root of bitterness takes hold in our lives and we wonder why we have physical problems such as arthritis, unexplained pain and possibly other major illnesses. We do it our way instead of God's way. (Matthew 5:44-45)

QUESTIONS

- 1 Why is the scripture in Isaiah 53:4-5 so important for our healing?
- 2 How did Jesus Christ demonstrate that He had fulfilled this scripture?

3 How would you go about praying for a sick person?

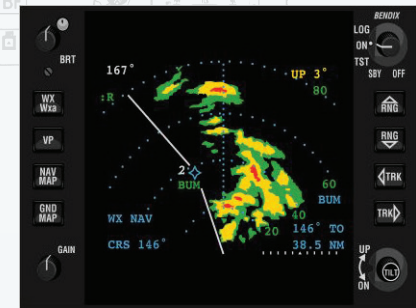
MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER

What do I need to apply from what I have learned from this study?

IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER

CONSIDER THIS

One of the ways in which Jesus Christ demonstrated that He was the Messiah was by healing so many who were sick. He has given us a Helper, the Holy Spirit. All we need is the faith of a little child and the presence of God will fall upon us as we pray for others.



WRAP UP

There are sick people all around us who are crying out for help. They may be a neighbour, a friend, a relative or a person we have just met. They could be undergoing the trauma of having learnt that they have a serious health condition. They may have never understood the love of God and how they can become a Christian. This provides a wonderful opportunity for us to demonstrate that God is love.